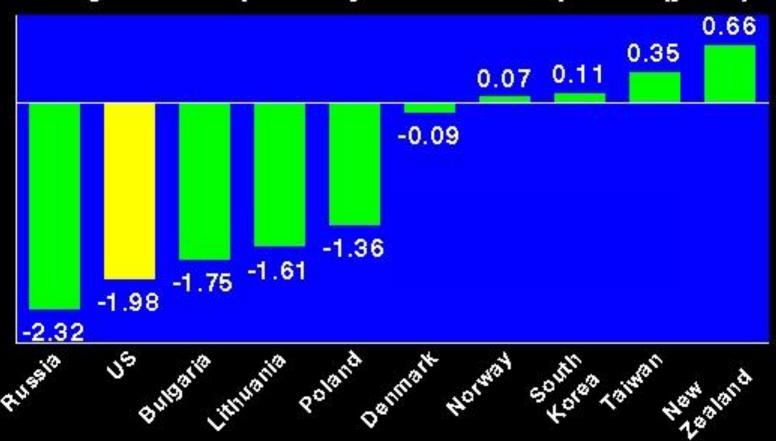


Slides prepared by Drs. Steffie Woolhandler & David Himmelstein, Faculty at the City University of New York at Hunter College and Harvard Medical School, and Research Associates, Public Citizen Health Research Group

Life Expectancy Fall from COVID-19: Greater in the US Than Anyplace but Russia

Change in life expectancy in 2020 vs. expected (years)

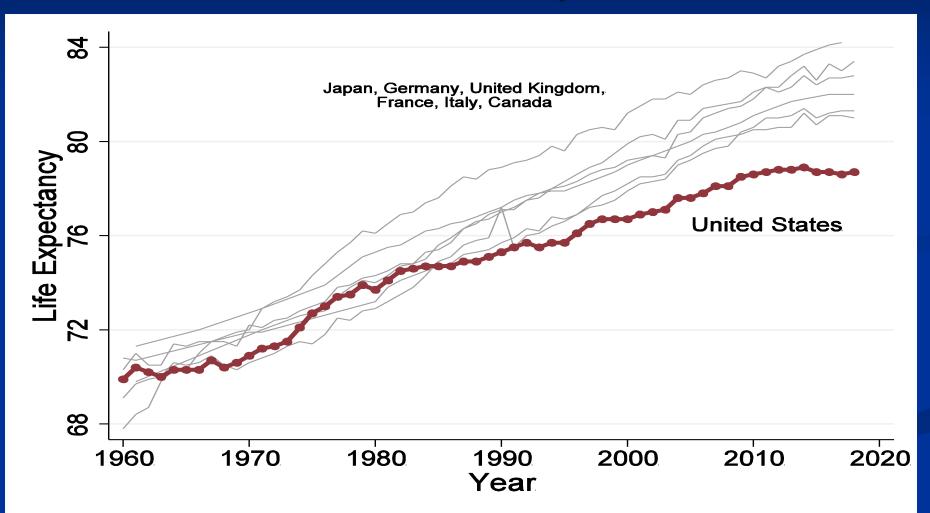


Source: BMJ 2021;375:e066768

Why was the U.S. so Vulnerable to COVID-19?

- Deteriorating health status.
- Weakened public health capacity.
- Increasing economic inequality.
- Racism that harms people of color and erodes support for safety-net programs.
- Wasteful health care system that prioritizes profitability over needs.

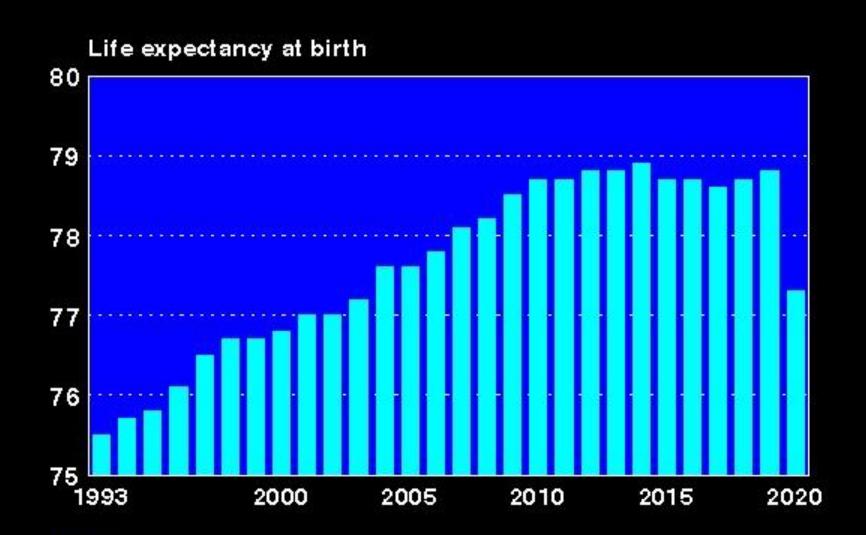
Life expectancy in the US and other G7 countries, 1960–2018



Source: J. Bor based on OECD 2020

Progress on Longevity Halted

Even Before COVID-19 Pandemic

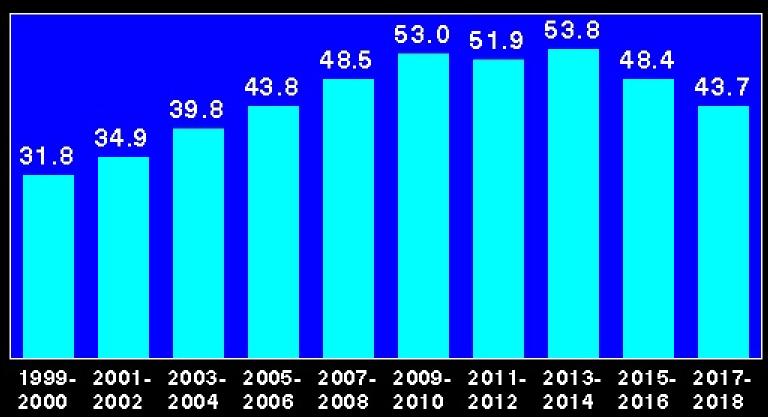


So urce: NCHS

Worsening Blood Pressure Control

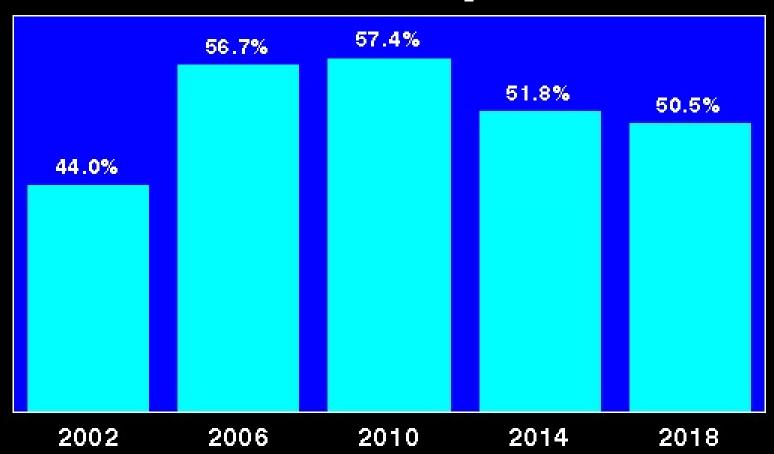
A Rising Share of US Adults Have Uncontrolled Hypertension

Percent of adults with hypertension whose BP was controlled



Diabetes Care is Deteriorating

% of diabetic Americans with Hgb A1C < 7.0%



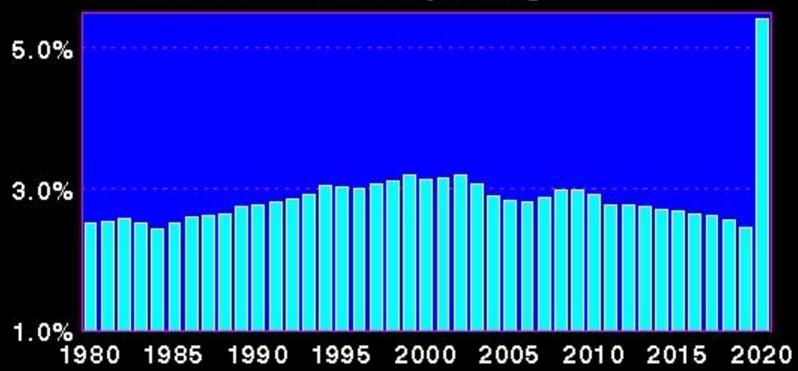
Source: NEJM 2021;384:2219

Note: Data are 4 year averages ending in year shown

Weakened Public Health Capacity

Public Health's Falling Share of Total Health Spending Left the US Vulnerable to COVID-19

Percent of total health spending

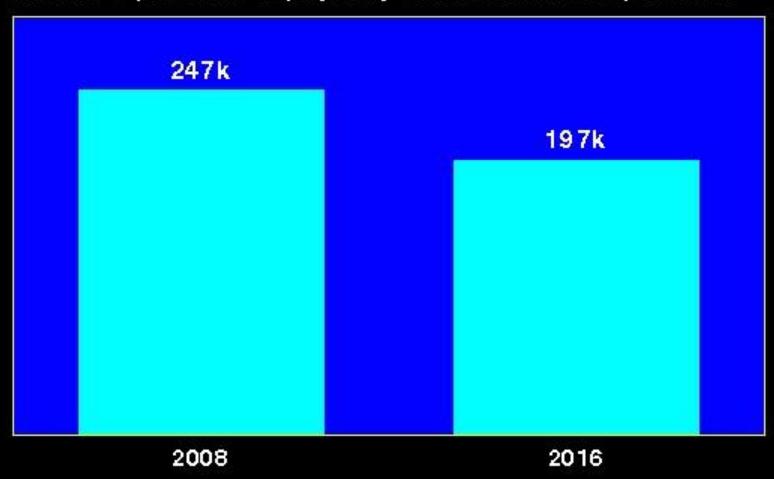


Source: Woolhandler/Himmelstein - Am J Public Health 2016;106:56 (updated) Note public health's share in Canada = 6.2%

Public Health Workforce Declined 20%

Frontline Personnel to Fight Epidemics

Number of personnel employed by state/local health departments



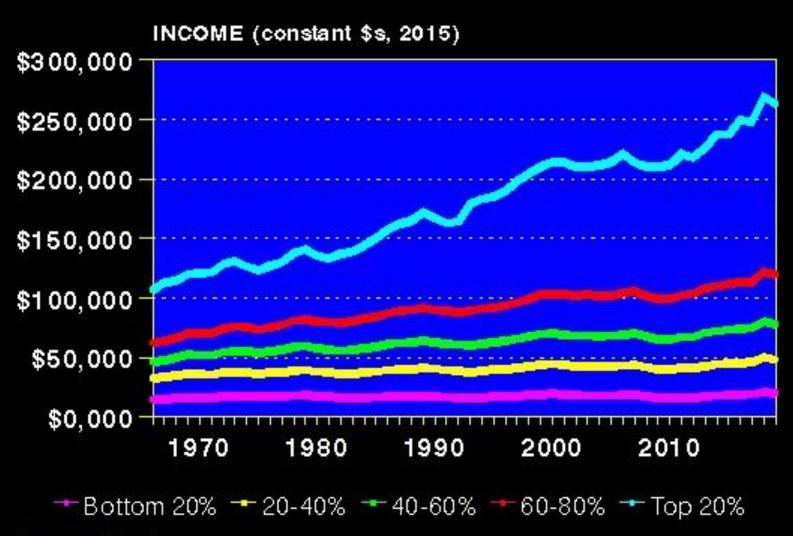
Source: Am J Preventive Med 2018;54:334

Trump Further Weakened Pandemic Response Capacity

- 2017 Hiring freeze at CDC left 700 vacant positions.
- 2018 Abolished Global Health Security team of the National Security Council
- 1600 government scientists have left positions since January 2017.
- Many key science policy positions (e.g. OSHA Administrator) remain vacant.
- Defunding WHO in 2020 A crime against humanity.

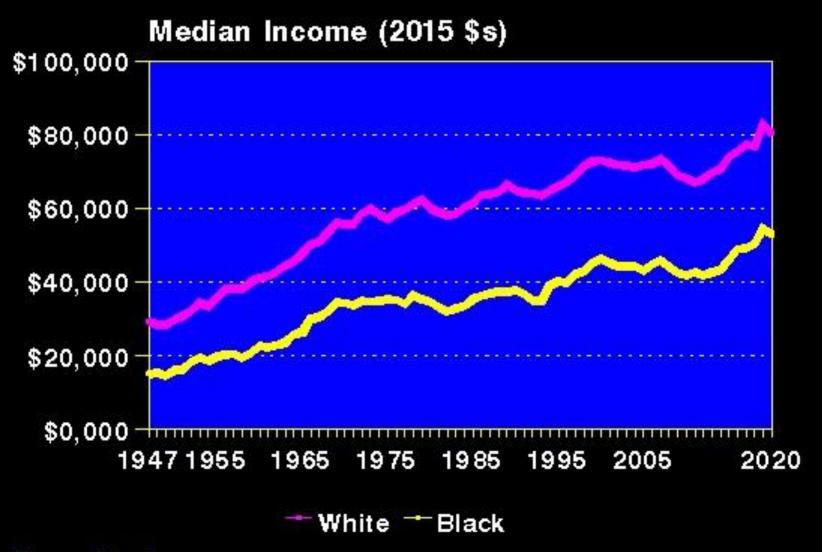
Increasing Economic Inequality

Mean Family Income for Each Fifth: 1966-2020 (Inflation Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of the Census

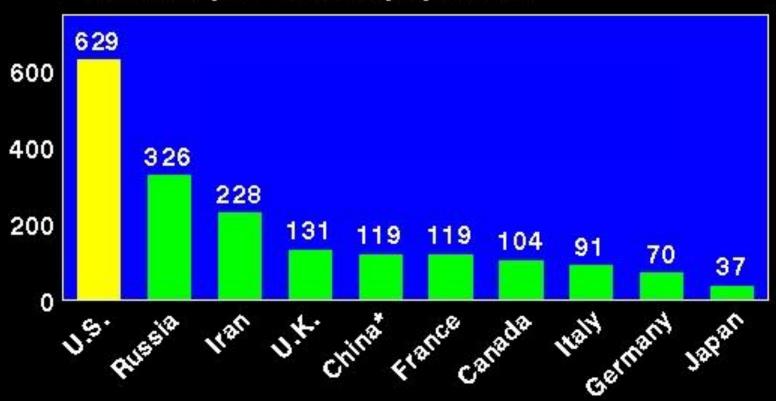
Median Family Income for Blacks and Whites: 1947-2020 (Inflation Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of the Census

Incarceration Rates

Prisoners per 100,000 population



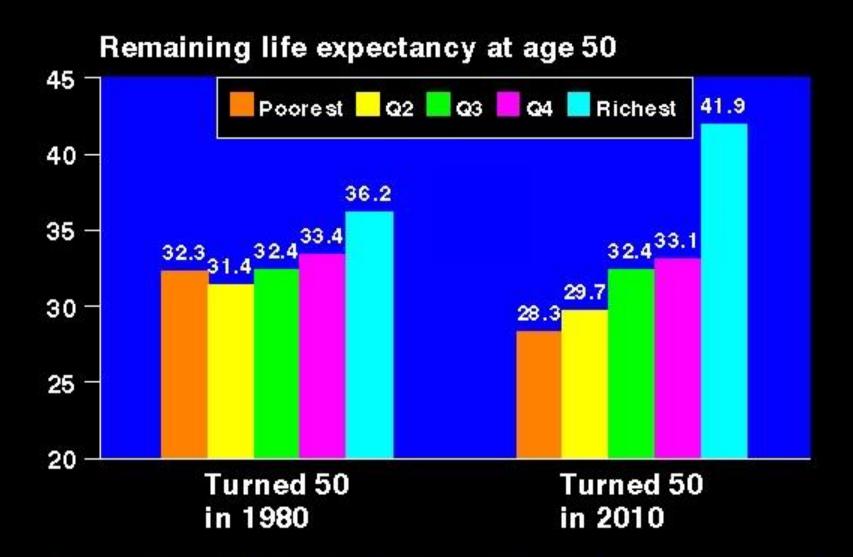
Source: Walmsley - World Prison Population List, 13th Ed.

* Figure for China includes only sentenced prisoners

Increasing Economic Inequality Harms Health

Growing Gap in Life Expectancy by Income

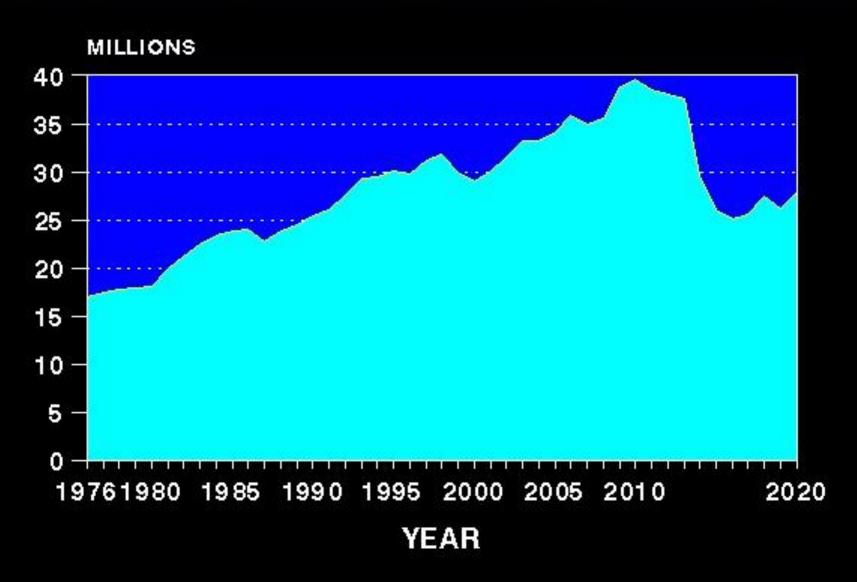
Dramatic Gains for the Wealthy, Losses for Lower Income



Source: Growing Gap in Life Expectancy by Income, National Academy of Sciences, 2015

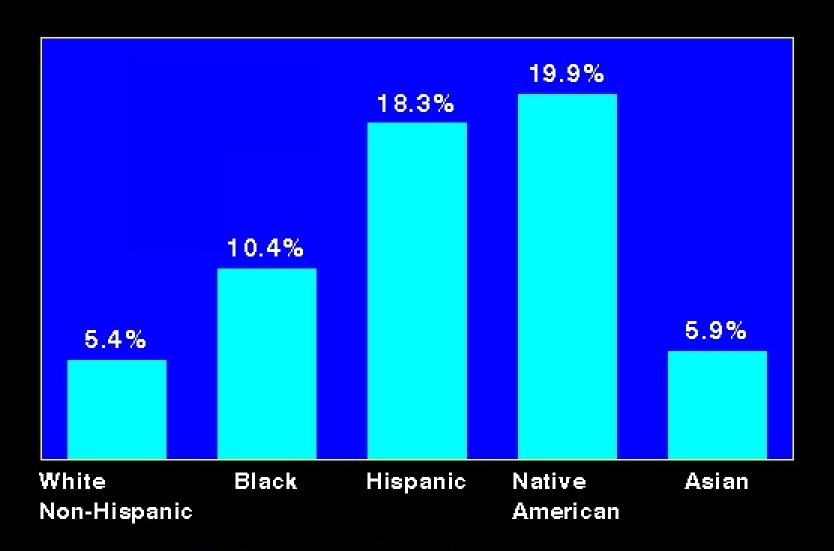
The Uninsured

Americans Uninsured All Year, 1976-2020



Source: Himmelstein & Woolhandler - Tabulation from CPS, ACS & NHIS Data Note - At time of survey, an additional 2 to 3 million are uninsured

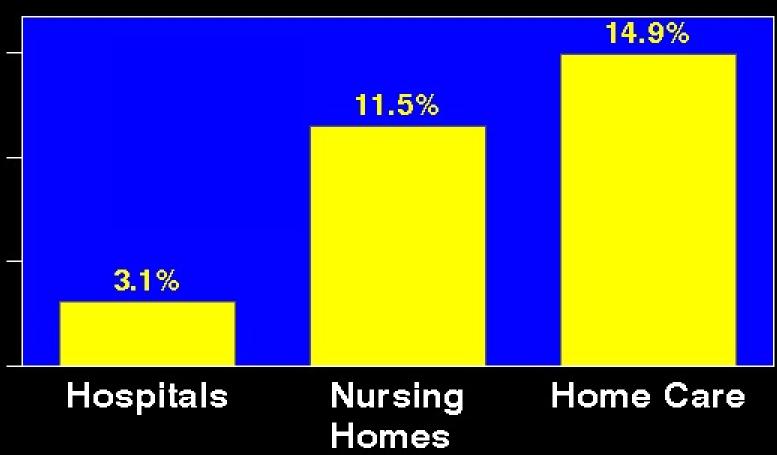
Percent Uninsured by Race/Ethnicity, 2020



Source: CPS (figure for Native Americans is for 2019 from ACS)

Many Frontline Health Workers Are Uninsured





Source: Himmelstein & Woolhandler, Analysis of data from 2019 Current Population Survey Note: 663,000 hospital, nursing home and home care workers were uninsured 70% of New York home care agencies do not provide PPE to employees

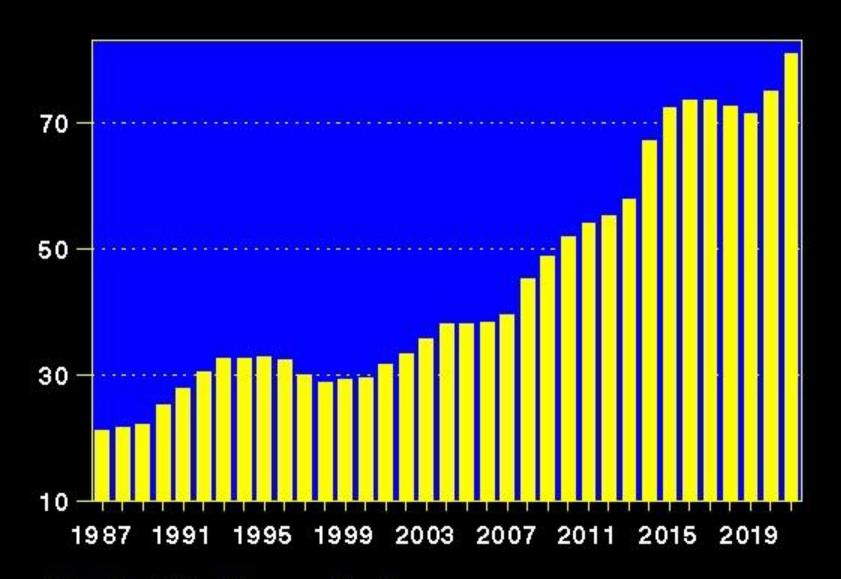
38,531 Deaths During 2019 Due to Uninsurance

State	% Uninsured	Excess Deaths
Texas	18.4	6,804
California	7.7	3,903
Florida	13.2	3,619
Georgia	13.4	1,817
Noth Carolina	13.4	1,504
New York	5.2	1,309
ше	0.00/	20 521
3.00 m () - 1 m		

Source: Woolhandler & Himmelstein, Ann Int Med 2017;167:424 - Based on 2019 ACS
Based on best estimate from multiple studies of 1 death per 769 uninsured/year, and # uninsured at time of survey

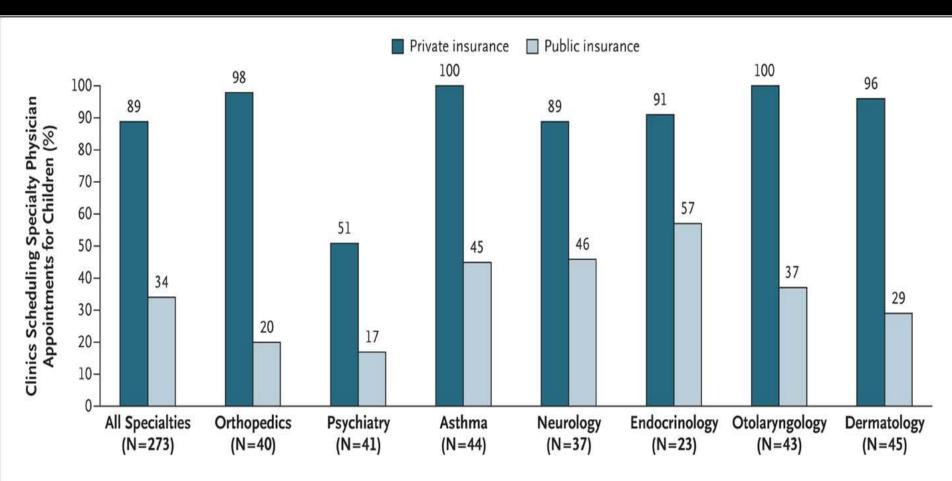
Medicaid: Poor Access, But Better Than Nothing

Medicaid Enrollment, 1987-2021



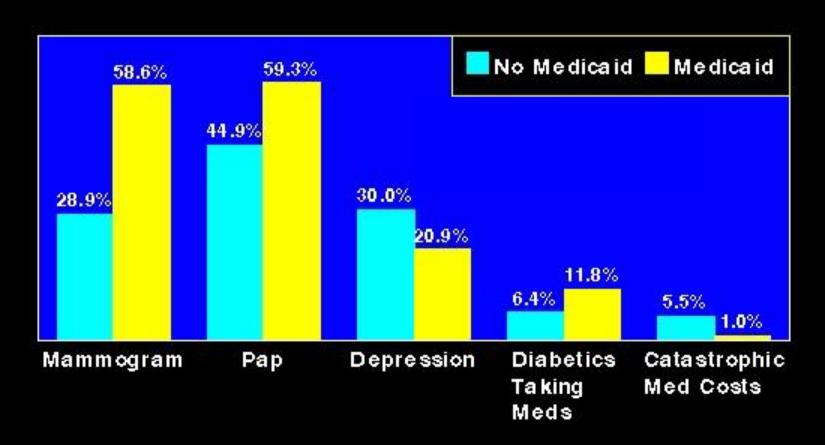
Source: Kaiser Foundation - Figures are for mid year

Many Specialists Won't See Kids With Medicaid



Medicaid Helps

An RCT in Oregon



So urce: NEJM May 2, 2013

Note: Catastrophic medical costs = out-of-pocket spending >30% of income

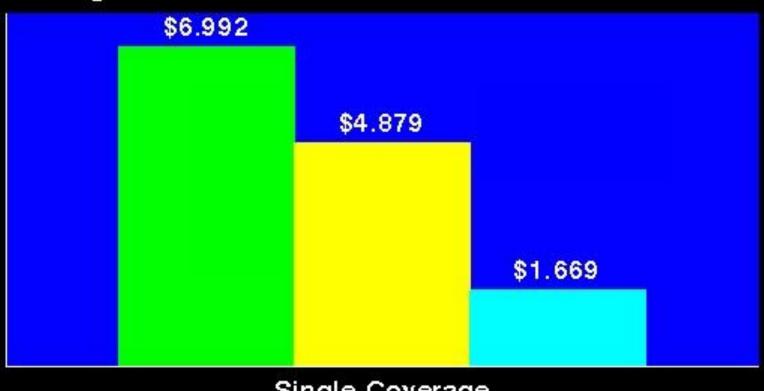
Depression = screened positive for depression using PHQ8

Under-Insurance

ACA Exchange Plans' Deductibles

Higher Than Average Job-Based Plan

Average deductible



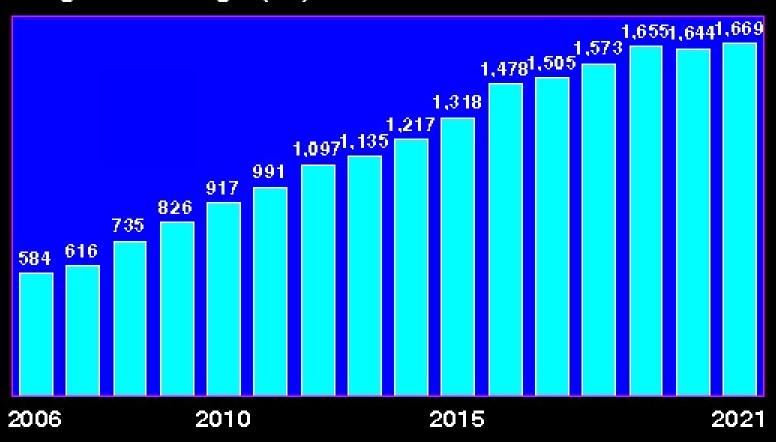
Single Coverage

Exchange Bronze Exchange Silver Average Employer Plan

Source: KFF and Kaiser Foundation 2021 Employer Health Benefits Survey

Average Deductible Rising

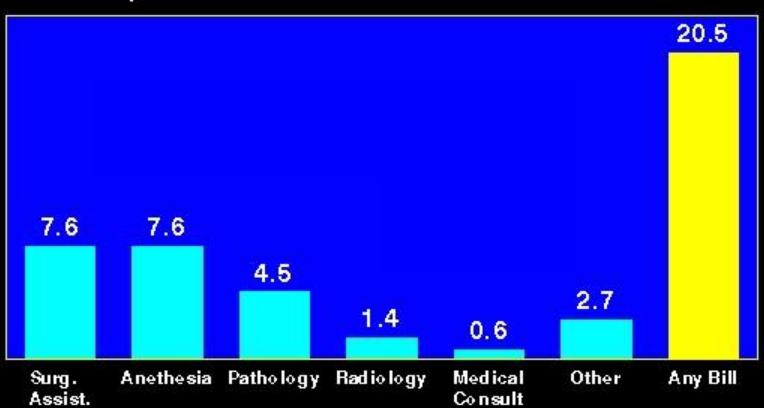
Average Deductible for Covered Workers, Single Coverage (\$s)



Source: Kaiser/HRET Survey of Employer-Sponsored Benefits

One Fifth of Privately Insured Surgical Patients Get a Surprise Bill

Percent of procedures with out of network bills



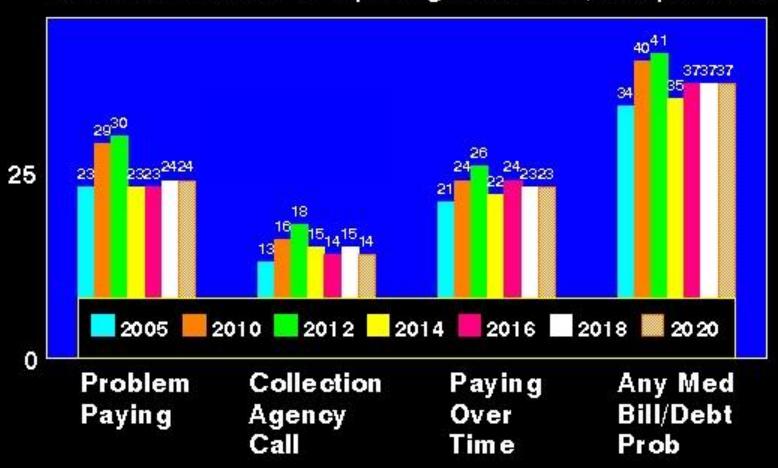
So urce: JAMA 2020;323:538

Note: All patients had surgery at in-network hospital with in-network primary surgeon

Average surprise bill = \$2,011

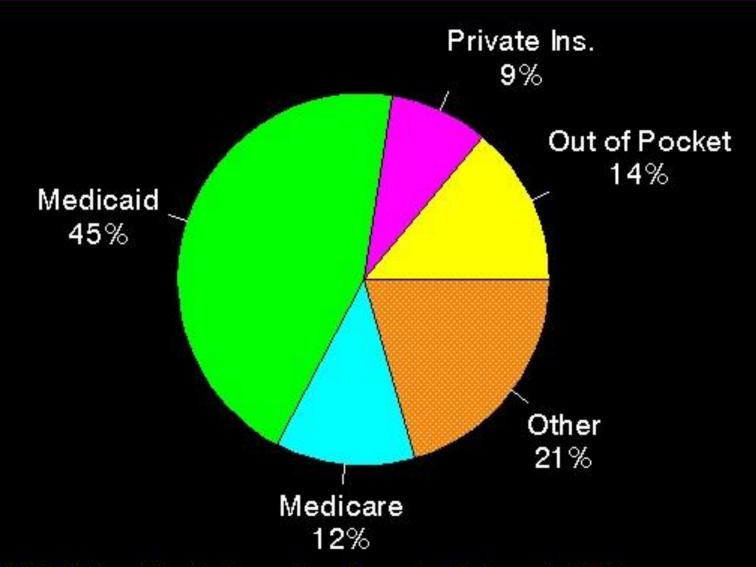
Medical Bill and Debt Problems, 2005-2020 No Better than in 2005

Percent of adults 19-64 reporting medical bill/debt problems



Source: Commonwealth Fund Biennial Health Insurance Surveys 2005, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018

Who Pays for Long Term Care?



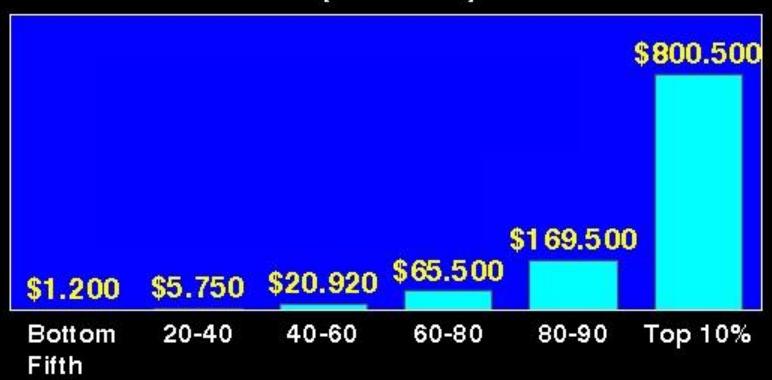
Source: NCHS - National Health Expenditure Accounts - Data are for 2021

Note - Includes spending for NHs + Home care + "other residential and personal care"

Under-Insurance Impedes Care, Worsens Health

Many Families Lack Assets to Pay High Deductibles

Median Financial Assets (Thousands)



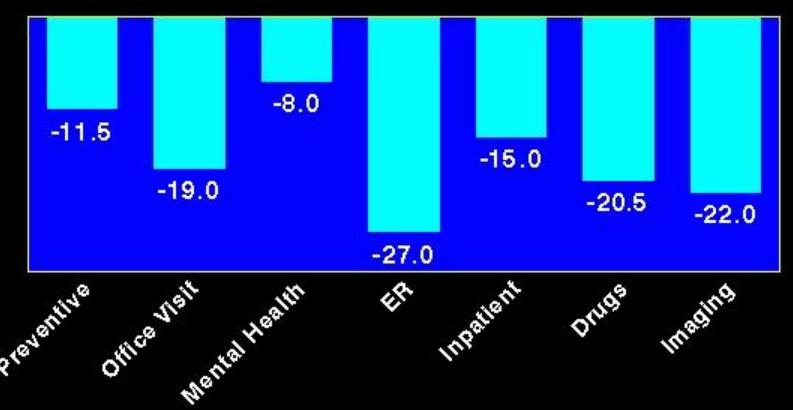
Income Quintile or Decile

Source: Federal Reserve Survey of Consumer Finance 2019

High Deducticles Cut All Kinds of Care

150,000 Employees Lost "Cadillac" Coverage No Evidence that Patients Shifted to "Higher Value" Care



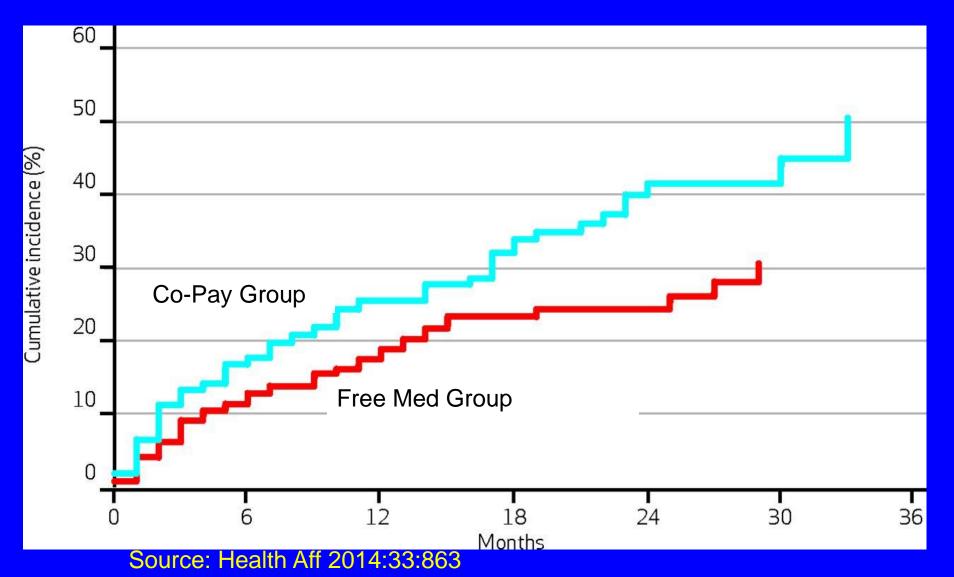


Source: Brot-Goldberg et al, 6/2015 - http://eml.berkeley.edu/~bhandel/wp/BCHK.pdf

Note: Finding's closely resemble those of Rand Health Insurance Experiment

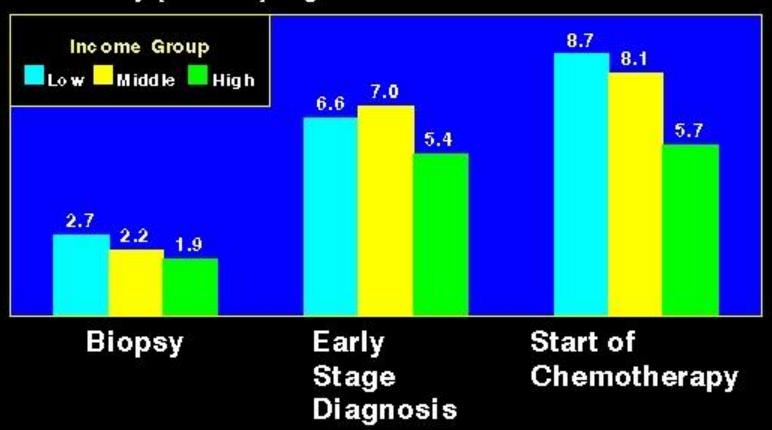
Note: Study found no evidence that patients shopped for lower prices

Medication Co-pays Increased Post-MI Vascular Events in Minorities – An RCT



High Deductible Plans Delayed Breast Cancer Care

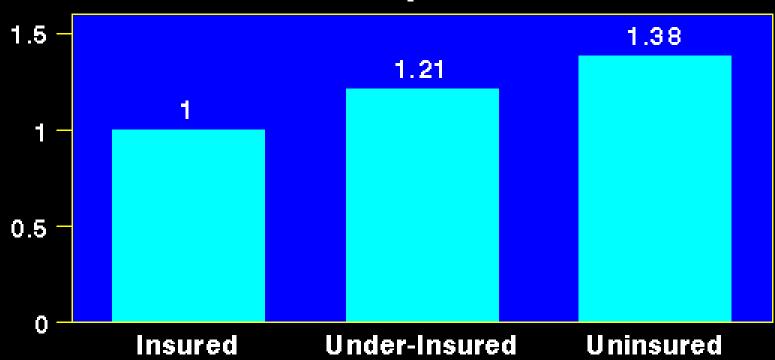
Extra delay (months) high vs. low deductible



So urce: Health Affairs 2019;38:408

Uninsured and Under-Insured Delay Seeking Care for Heart Attacks

Odds ratio for delayed care*

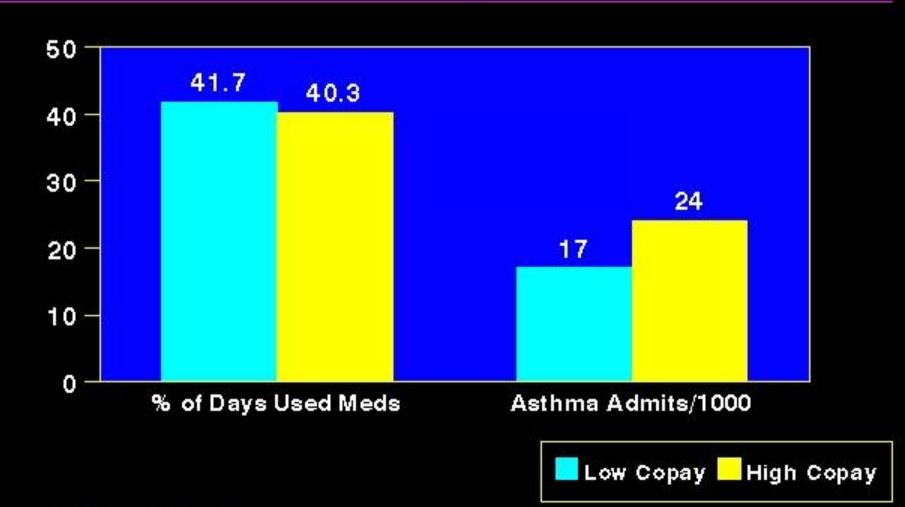


Source: JAMA April 15, 2010:303:1392

*Adjusted for age, sex, race, clin. characteristics, hlth status, social/psych factors,urban/rural Under-insured = Had coverage but patient concerned about cost

Higher Medication Co-Pays = Worse Asthma Outcomes

Children Age 5-18

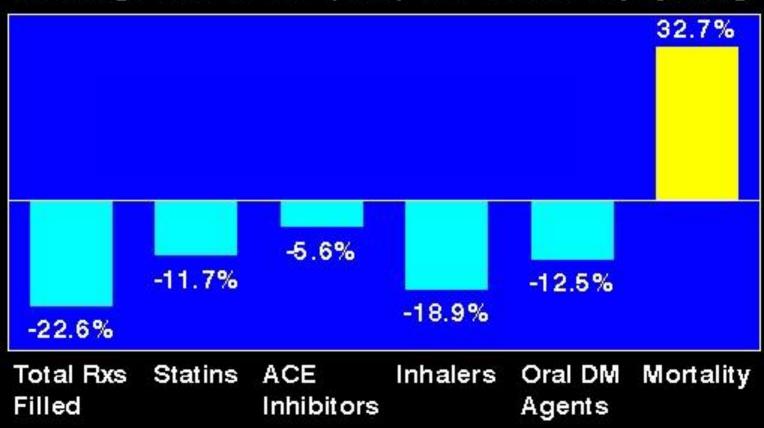


So urce: JAMA 2012;307:1284

Drug Copayments Kill

Quasi-Experimental Analysis of Medicare Part D Copays

% change with \$10.40 (34%) increase in copay/drug

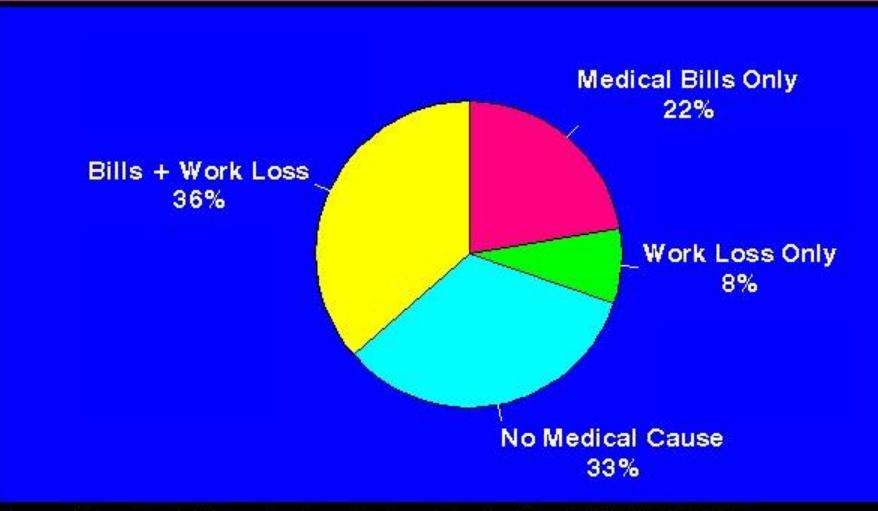


Source: "The Health Costs of Cost Sharing) NBER #28439, February, 2021
Many patients stopped all drugs; Reductions in use largest in patients on many drugs

Under-Insurance: A Leading Cause of Financial Distress and Ruin

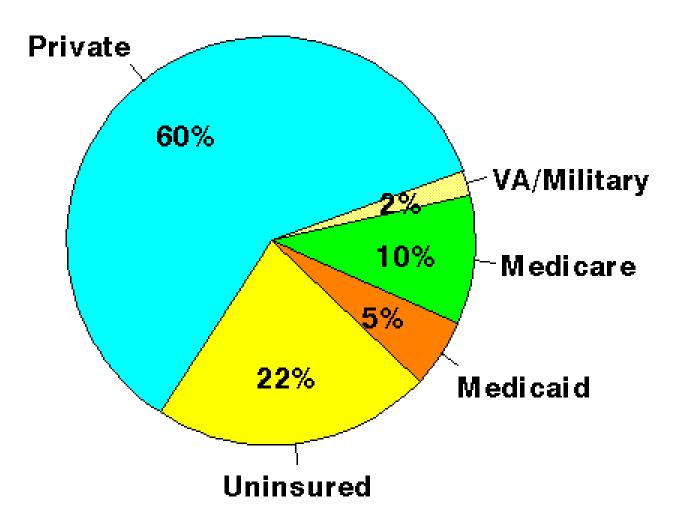
2/3 of Bankruptcy Filers Cite Medical Bills or Illness-Related Work Loss as a Cause

National Survey of Debtors, 2013-2016



Source: Himmelstein, Thorne, Lawless, Foohey, Woolhandler - AJPH 2019;109:431 Work loss = "work loss due to illness"

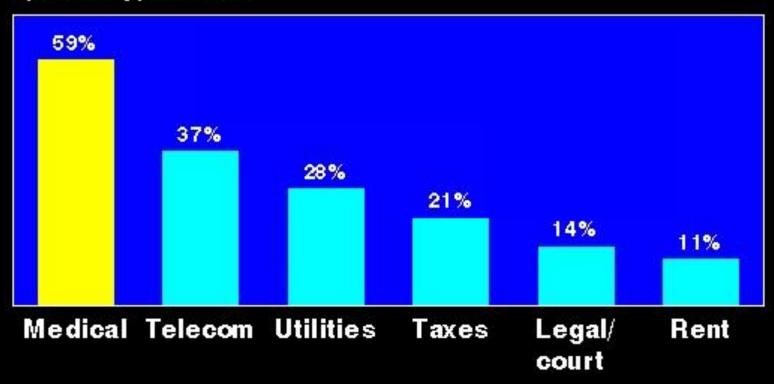
Most of the Medically Bankrupt Had Coverage



Insurance at Illness Onset

Medical Bills are Most Common Reason for Collection Calls

Percent of consumers receiving collection calls with specific type of debt

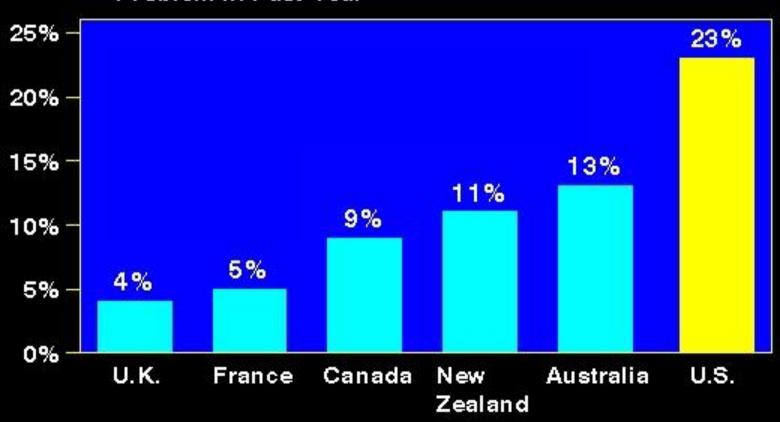


Source: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, January, 2017

Note: Medical collection calls were the only category which did not differ by income

Despite Medicare, U.S. Seniors Have More Cost-Related Access Problems

Percent of Persons > 65 Reporting Cost-Related Access
Problem in Past Year



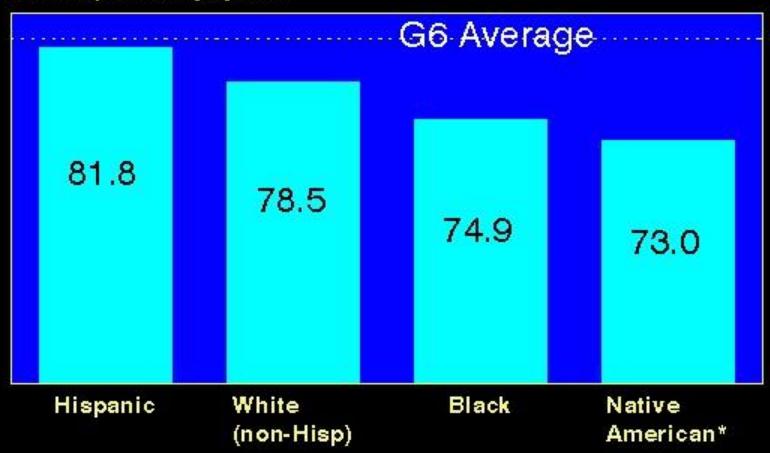
So urce: Health Affairs 2017; 36:2123

Racism Harms Health

Black and Native Americans Die Younger

But Life Expectancy for Every Group is Shorter Than Other G7 Nations

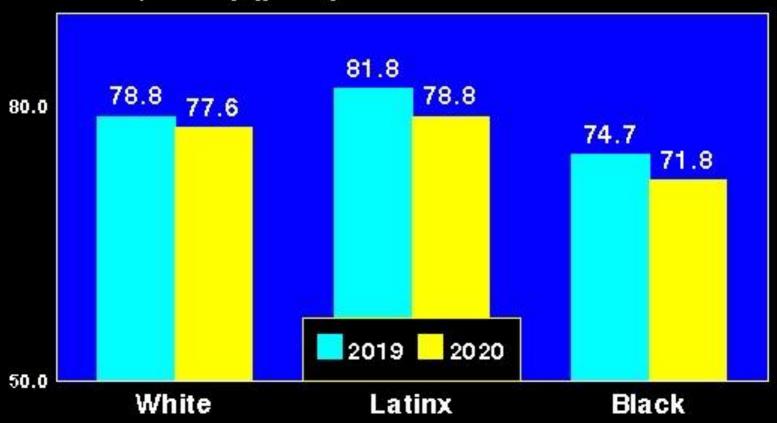
Life expectancy, years



Source: NCHS, IHS, OECD Other G7 nations = Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, UK

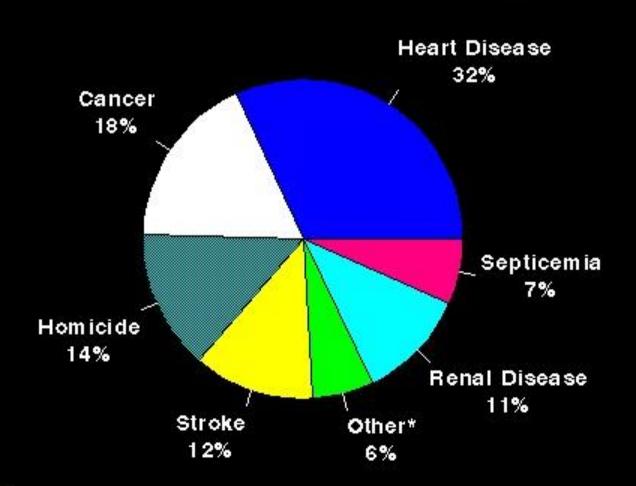
COVID-19 Has Sharply Reduced Black and Latinx Life Expectancy

Life expecancy (years)



Source: NCHS, 2021

Causes of Black/White Disparity in Adult Mortality

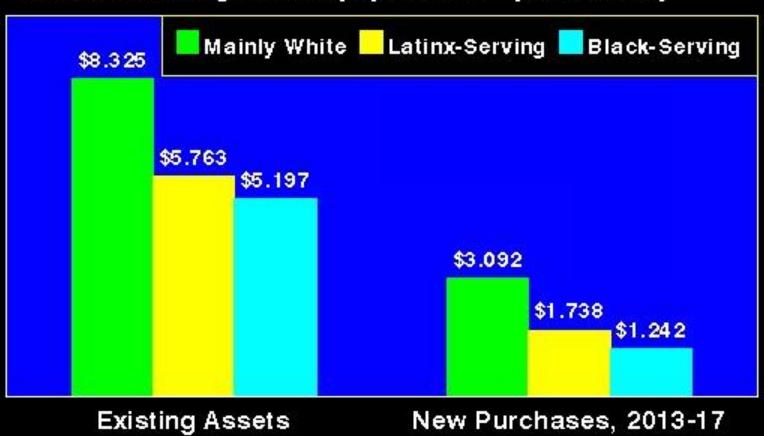


Source: MMWR May 2, 2017

^{*} Includes conditions (e.g. diabetes) for which Black death rates are higher and some (e.g. COPD, cirrhosis) for which Black death rates are lower

Black- and Latinx-Serving Hospitals Have Less Funding for Buildings and Equipment

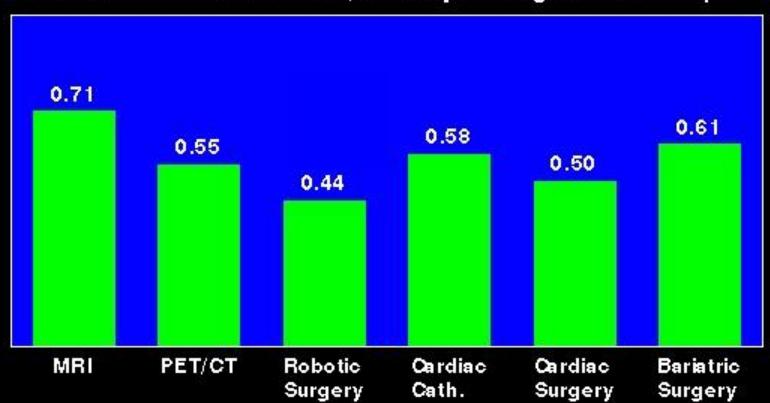
Value of buildings and equipment, \$s per bed day



Source: Gracie and Kathryn Himmelstein, Int J Health Services 2020 Black- and Latinx-serving = 10% of US hospitals with highest percent of Black/Latinx pts.

Black- and Latinx-Serving Hospitals Offer Fewer High Tech Services

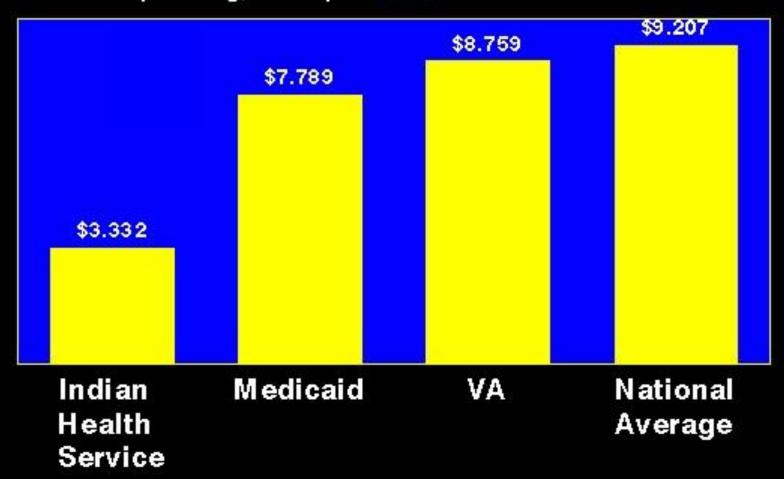
Odds that service is available, minority-serving vs. other hospitals



Source: Gracie and Kathryn Himmelstein, Int J Health Services 2020 Black- and Latinx-serving = 10% of US hospitals with highest percent of Black/Latinx pts. Odds ratios are adjusted for size, location, teaching status and ownership

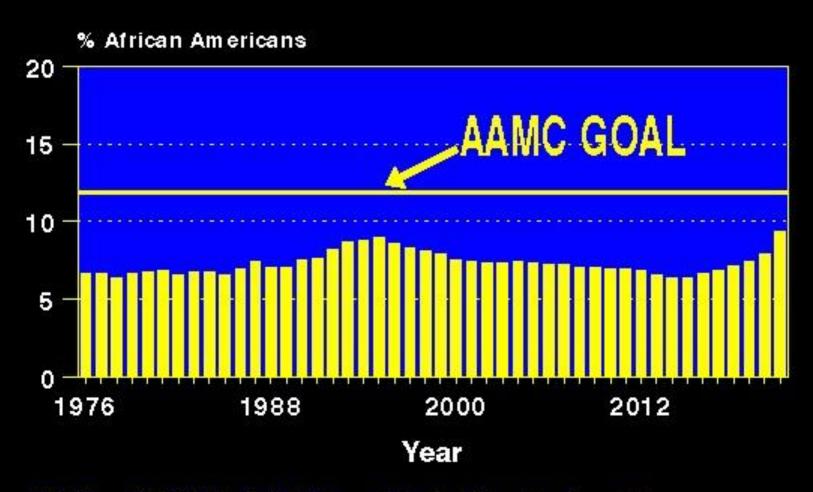
Indian Health Service, Grossly Underfunded

Medical spending, 2017 per user



Source: National Tribal Budget Formulation Workgroup, April, 2018
Note: Estimated spending shortfall, including facility upgrades = \$36.83 billion

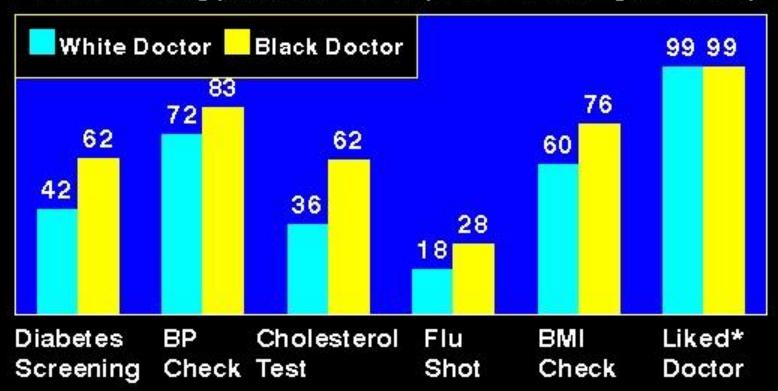
Black Enrollment in U.S. Medical Schools, 1976-2021/22



Black Men More Often Followed a Black Doctor's Advise: An RCT

Even Though They Gave Black and White Doctors Same Ratings

Percent following prevention advise (or recommending the doctor)



Source: American Economic Rev 2019;109:4071

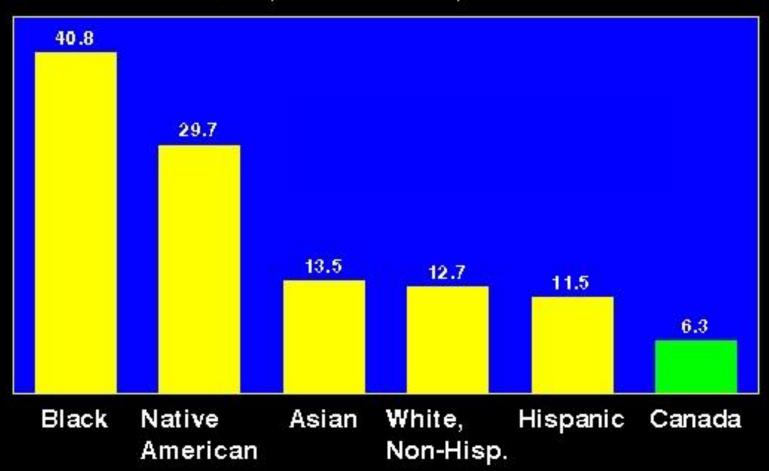
Authors estimate that universal availability of Black doctors could cut B:W CV mortality gap by 19%

* Liked = would recommend doctor to others

Race/Ethnicity and Maternal Mortality

Every Group in the US Does Worse than Canadians

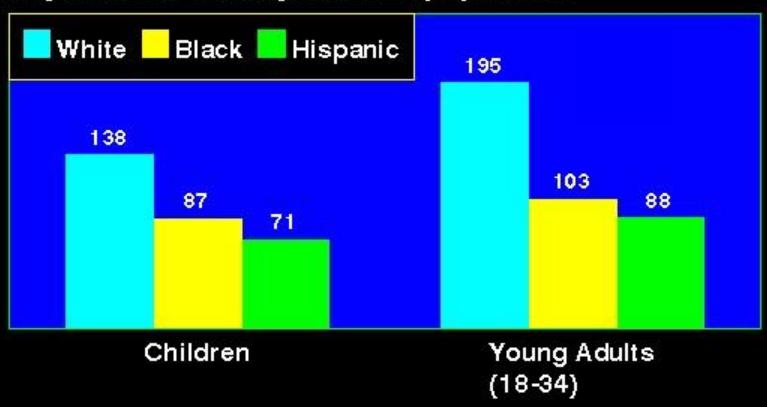
Maternal deaths/100,000 live births, 2016



So urce: MMWR September, 2019 and OECD

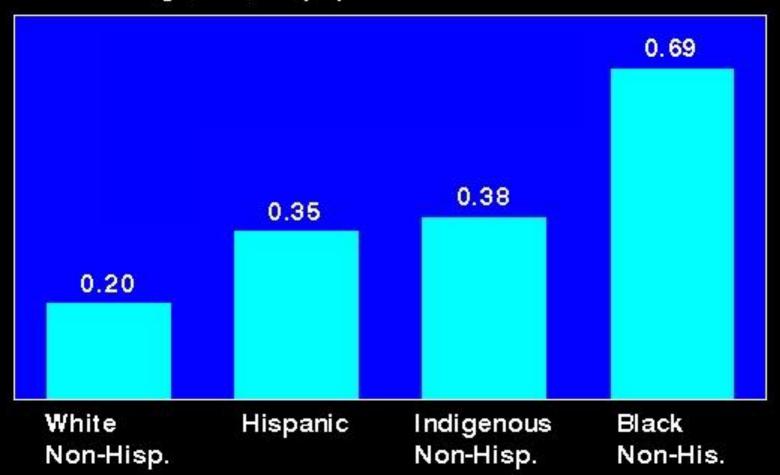
Minority Children & Youth Get Few Psychiatrist Visits

Psychiatrist visits/year/1000 population



Police Killings Target People of Color

Police killings/100,000 population



Source: Lancet 2021;398:1239

Note: The rate of police killings rose 38.4% between the 1980s and 2010s

Low Birth Weight Increased In Iowa After A Massive Immigration Raid

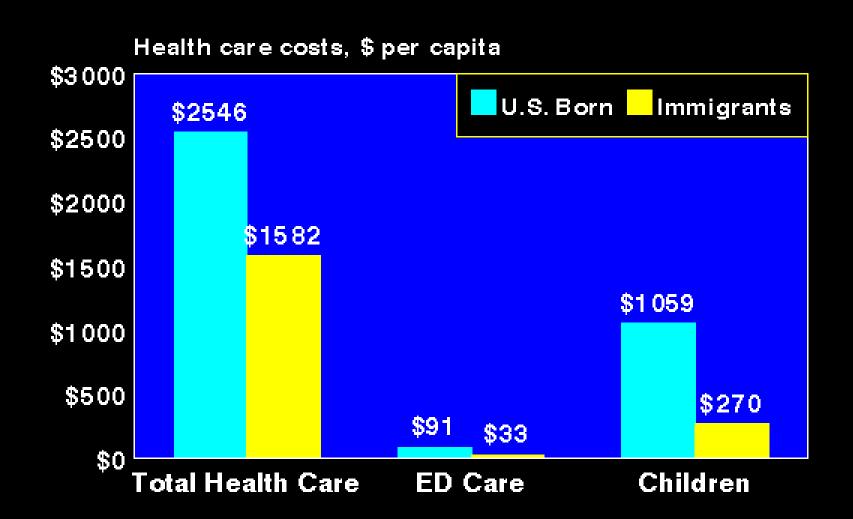
Relative risk of Low Birth Weight



Source: Int J Epidemiol 2017;839

Note: 2008 Postville, lowa raid was largest single-site immigration raid in history. 900 agents handcuffed and chained all Latinos at meatpacking plant

Immigrants Get Little Care

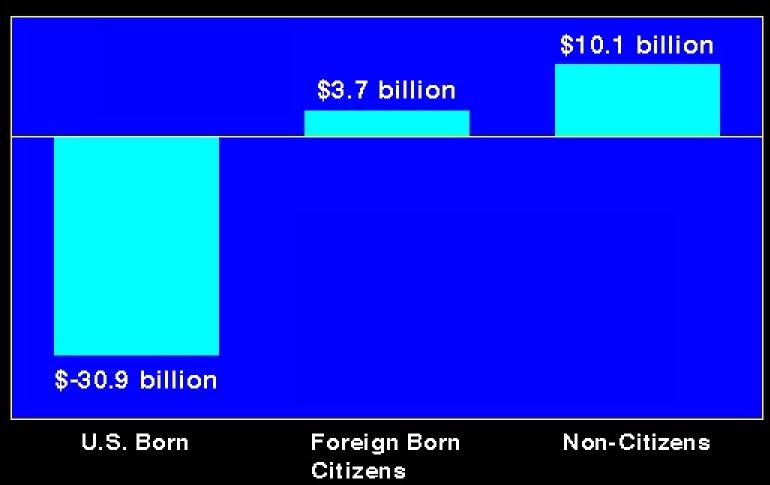


Source: Mohanty et al Am J Public Health 2005;95:1431

^{*} Adjusted for ethnicity, poverty, age, insurance status, patient/parent-reported health status

Immigrants Keep Medicare Afloat

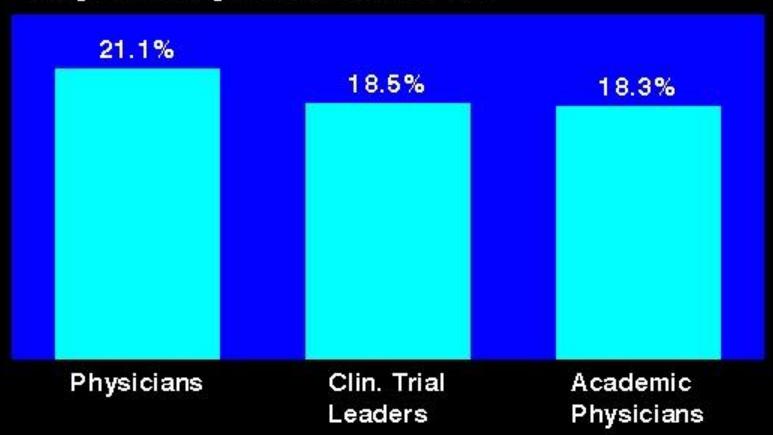
Net Contribution to Medicare Trust Fund, 2009



So urce: Zallman et al, Health Affairs 2013; 32:1153

Immigrants Play Vital Roles in U.S. Care, Science and Education

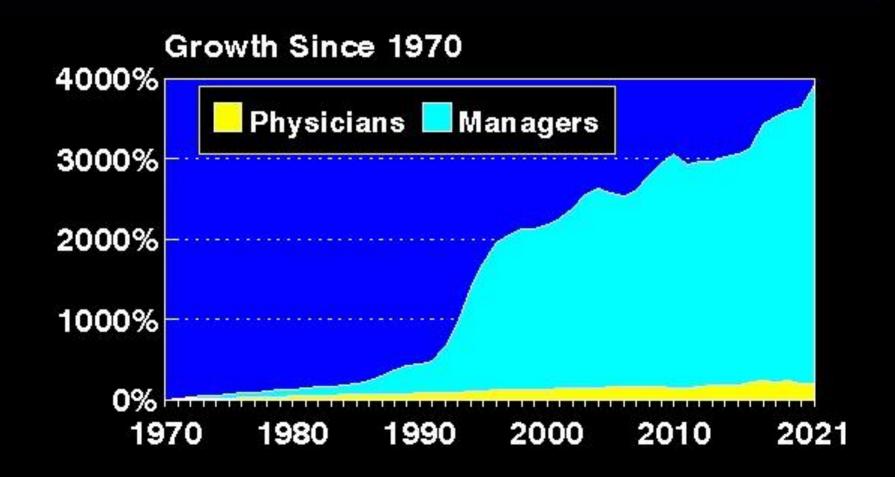
Foreign medical graduates' share of total



Source: Ann Int Med 2017;157:584

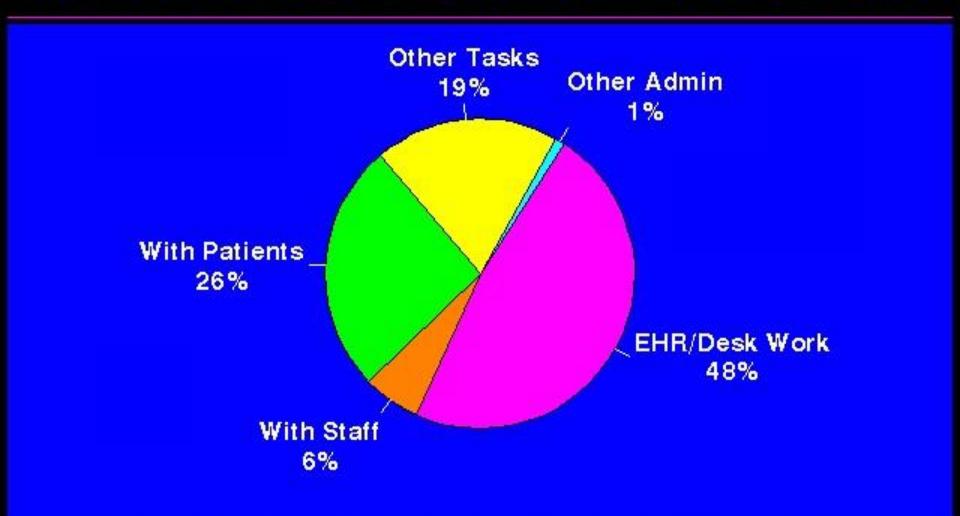
Administrative Overhead Rising

Growth of Physicians and Administrators 1970-2021



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics; NCHS; and Himmelstein/Woolhandler analysis of CPS Note - Managers are shown as 3 year moving average

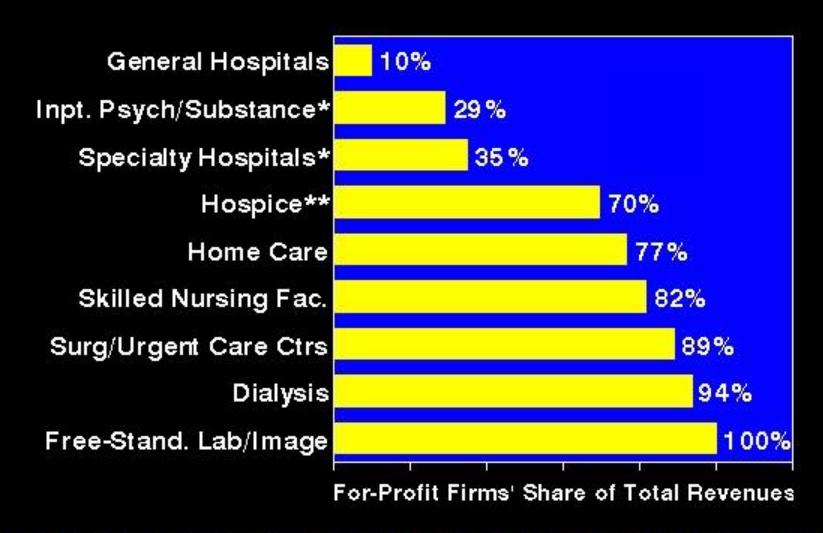
Doctors Spend Twice as Much Time on EHR/Desk Work as With Patients



Source: Sinsky et al. Ann Int Med 9/6/2016 - based on time/motion observation + home diary Note: Figures are percent of office hours - exclude the 1-2 hrs/night of home EHR/desk work

Investor-Owned Care: Inflated Costs, Inferior Quality

Extent of For-Profit Ownership



Source: Commerce Dept. Service Annual Surveys & MedPac. Data are Q1, 2019 or most recent available
* Data are for non-government-owned hospitals

^{**} Data are for share of establishments

Health Industry Profits, 2020

Pharmaceuticals \$52.4 bil

Insurers \$26.2 bil

Pharmacy/Lab/Benefit Mgr. \$19.7 bil

Equipment/Supplies \$11.5 bil

Providers \$6.7 bil

Distributors/Wholesalers \$6.4 bil

Source: Fortune 500, 2021

Note: Excludes firms not in Fortune 500 which account for substantial pharma profits

Health Care CEO's Pay, 2020

CEO	Firm		Total Pay
Amir Rubin	1Life (primary care)		\$199.0 mil.
Helmy Eltoukhi	Guardant (genetic profiling)		\$113.9 mil.
Mike Pycosz	Oak Street (primary care)		\$73.6 mil.
Javier Rodriguez	Davita		\$73.4 mil.
Ido Schoenberg	AmericanWell (telehealth)		\$69.3 mil.
Pablo Legorreta	Royalty Pharma		\$55.7 mil
Stanley Erck	Novavax		\$48.1 mil.
Michael Weiss	TG Therapeutics		\$32.5 mil.
Clinton Jones	GoHealth (insurance marketplace)		\$31.7 mil.
Samuel Hazen	HCA		\$30.4 mil
David Ricks	Eli Lilly		\$23.7 mil.
Larry Merio	CVS/Aetna		\$23.0 mil.
Kenneth Frazier	Merck		\$22.1 mil.
Albert Bourla	Pfizer		\$21.0 mil.
Robert Ford	Abbott		\$20.5 mil
Ronald Rittenmeyer	Tenet		\$16.7 mil

Source: AFL-CIO

Non-Profit Leaders Collecting Big Paydays From Pharma

Name	Position	Company	Board Pay 2017	Share Value
Robert Alpern	Dean, Yale	Abb∀ie	\$335,929	\$4.3 mil
Peter McDonnell	Dir, Hopins/Wilmer Eye	Allergan	\$449,941	\$0.7 mil
Tyler Jacks	Dir, MIT Koch Inst.	Amgen	\$343,998	\$1.1 mil
Julia Haller	Chief, Wills Eye Hosp.	Celgene	\$525,470	\$86.5 mil
Marschall Rung	Dean, U Mich.	Lilly	\$279,000	\$1.1 mil
Kevin Lofton	CEO, Catholic Hith Init.	Gilead	\$415,803	\$1.8 mil
Laurie Glimcher	CEO, Dana Farber	Glaxo	\$101,000	\$0.1 mil
Mary Beckerle	CEO, Huntsman Cancer	J &J	\$324,893	\$0.7 mil
Mark McClellan	Dir, Duke Hith Pol	J &J	\$284,893	\$1.2 mil
A E Washington	CEO, Duke	J &J	\$284,893	\$2.3 mil
John Noseworthy	CEO, Mayo	Merc k	\$234,167	\$0.3 mil
Chares Sawyers	Chair, MSKGC	Novartis	\$367,000	\$0.7 mil
Dennis Ausiello	Dir, MGH Ctr.	Pfizer	\$375,000	\$1.9 mil
Joseph Goldstein	Chair, U Tx Southwest	Regeneron	\$1,307,211	\$4.2 mil

Source: BioPharma Dive - "Directors who hold board seats and lead non-profits"

For-Profit Hospitals Cost 19% More

Source: CMAJ 2004;170:1817

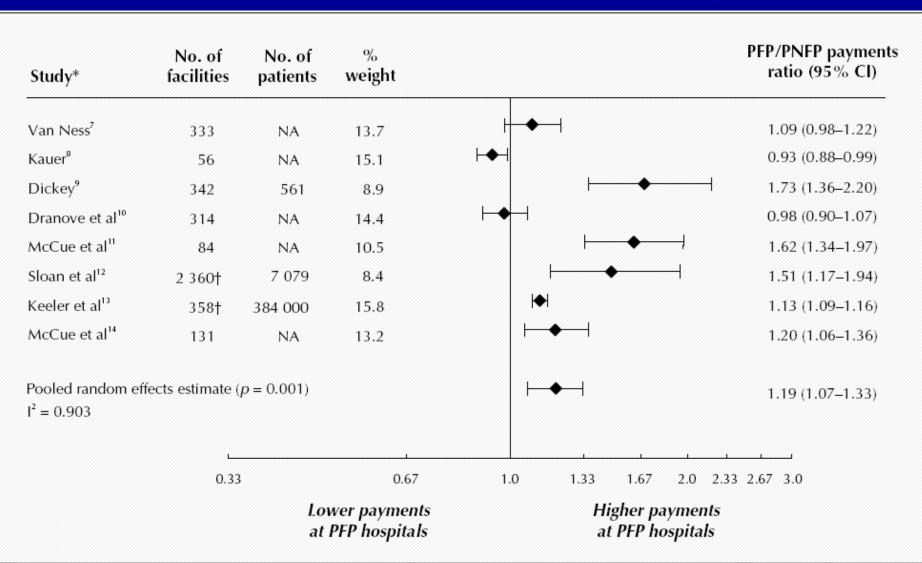
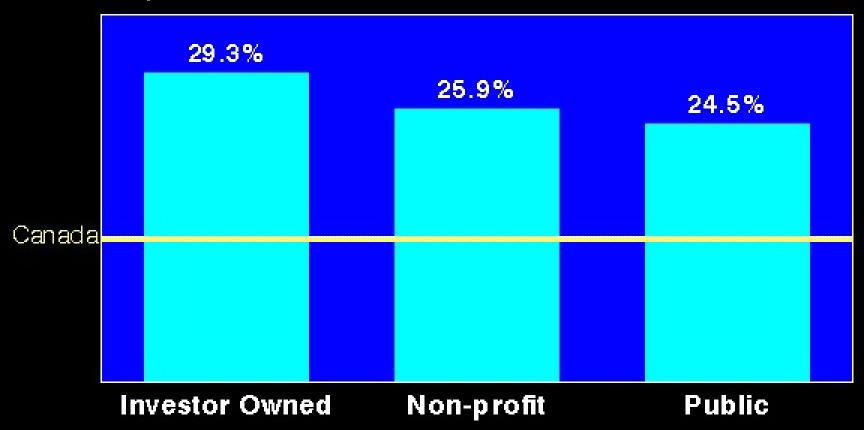


Fig. 2: Relative payments for care at private for-profit (PFP) and private not-for-profit (PNFP) hospitals. Note: CI = confidence interval. *The studies are in chronological order by midpoint of the data collection period. †Approximation from investigator.

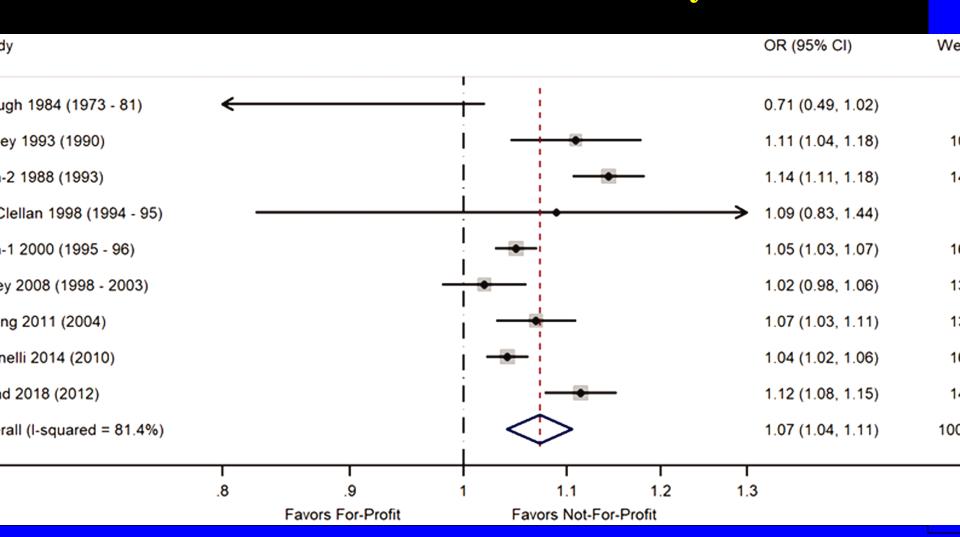
For-Profit Hospitals' Administrative Costs are Higher

% spent on administration



Source: Woolhandler & Himmelstein analysis of Medicare Cost Reports + Ann Int Med 2020

For-Profit Dialysis Clinics' Death Rates are 7% High 3800 Excess Death Annually



Source: Dickman, Mirza et al. Int J Health Serv 2021;51:371

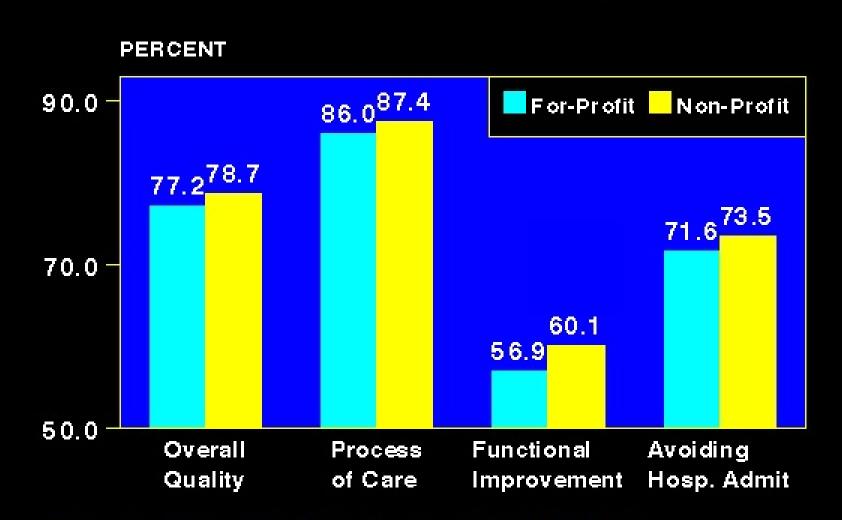
Investor-Owned Dialysis Clinics Discourage Transplants

Percent of dialysis patients placed on transplant list



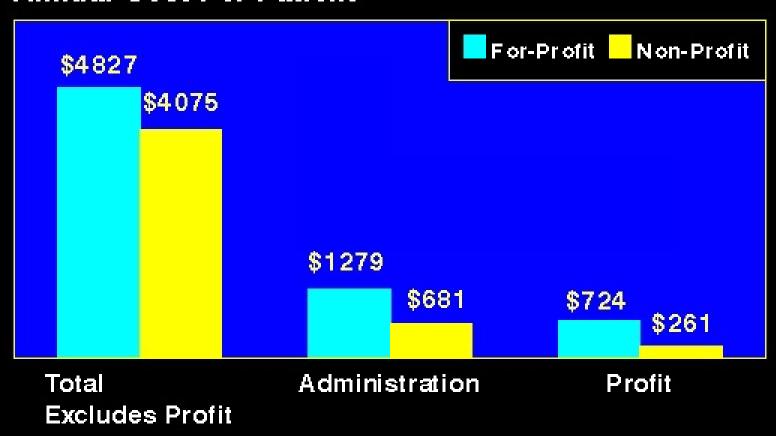
So urce: JAMA 2019;322:957

For Profit Home Care: Lower Quality



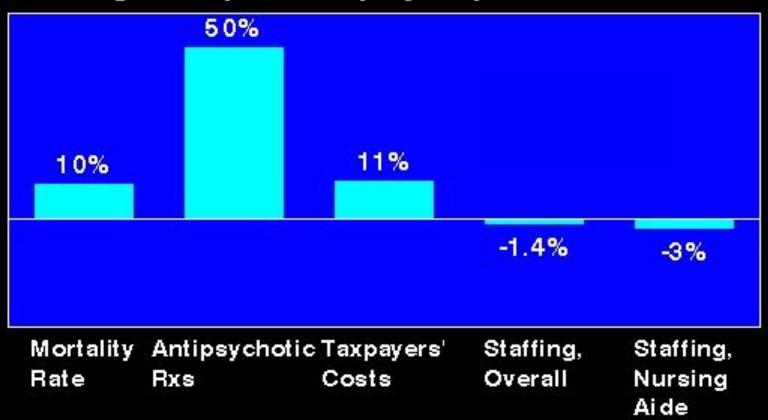
For Profit Home Care: Higher Cost

Annual Cost Per Patient



Private Equity Nursing Home Takeovers Harm Patients, Raise Costs

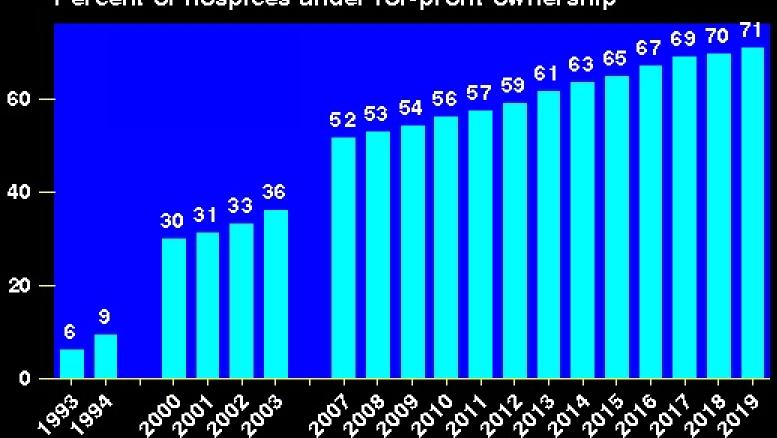
% change with private equity acquisition



Source: "Does Private Equity Investment in Healthcare Benefit Patients" NBER #28474, February, 2021 Note: Study used a within-facility DinD analysis + instrumental variable control for pt. factors

Hospice Goes For-Profit

Percent of hospices under for-profit ownership



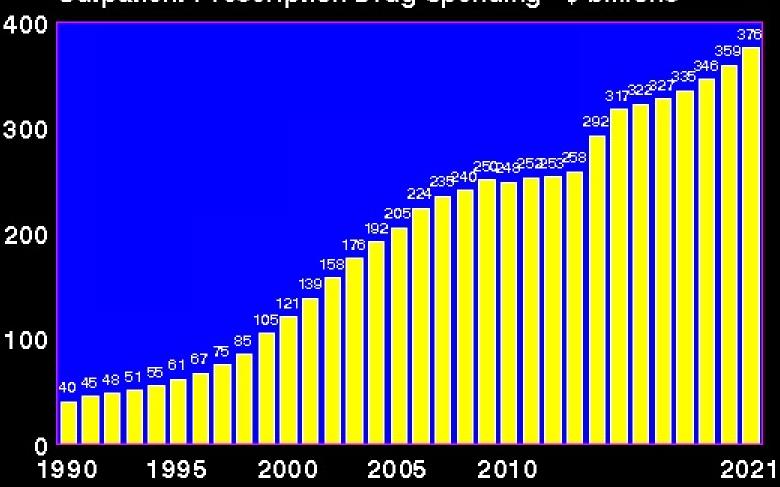
Source: MedPac Annual Report, 2021 and previous

Note: Profit rate: for-profits = 19.0%; non-profits = 3.8% Mean LOS: for-profits = 112 days; non-profits = 71 days

Drug and Device Firms' Inflated Prices

U.S. Drug Spending, 1990-2021

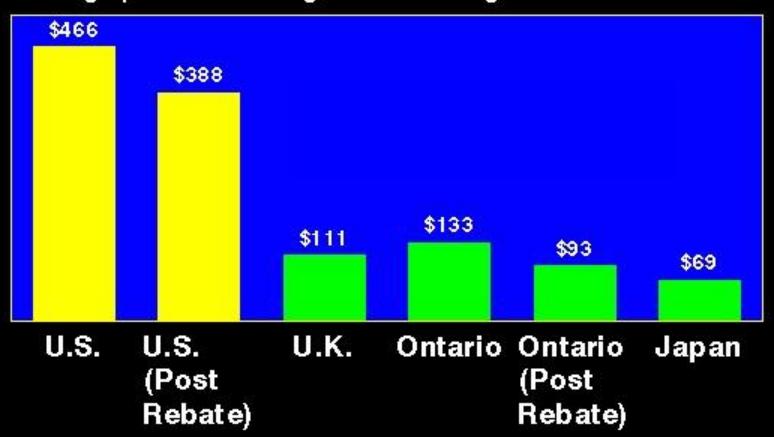




Source: CMS, Office of the Actuary - Note: 2020 - 2021 estimated

Medicare Part D Drug Prices are Several-Fold Higher than in Other Nations

Average price of 79 single source drugs

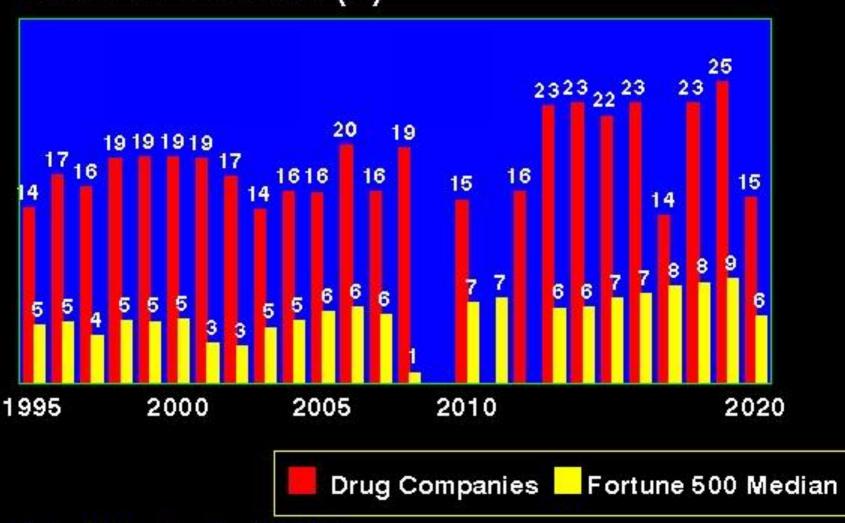


So urce: Health Affairs 2019;38:804

Note: Purchasing these 79 drugs at the UK price would have saved Medicare \$41 bil. in 2018

Drug Company Profits, 1995-2020

Return on Revenues (%)



Source: Fortune 500 rankings for 1995-2021

Pharma Firms Have Paid \$43.33 billion in Penalties Since 2000

Despite Fines, Profits Totaled ~ \$2 Trillion



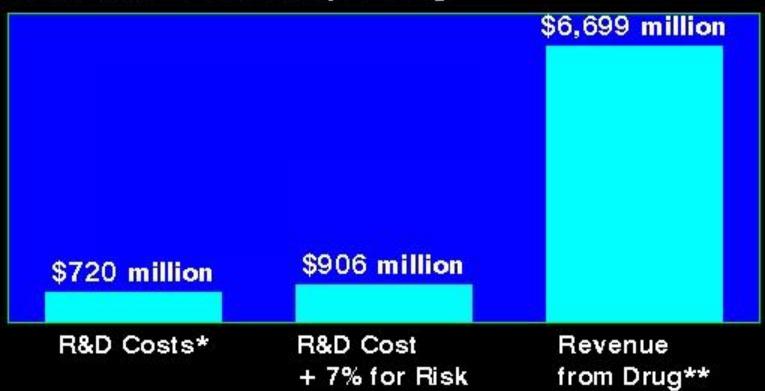
\$ billions in penalties since 2000

Source: GoodJobsFirst Violation Tracker - 8/2021 and JAMA 2020;323:834

Profits Dwarf Cancer Drug R&D Costs

Analysis of All Drugs Approved 2006-2015 From Firms With Only 1 Approved Drug

Mean cost or revenue per drug



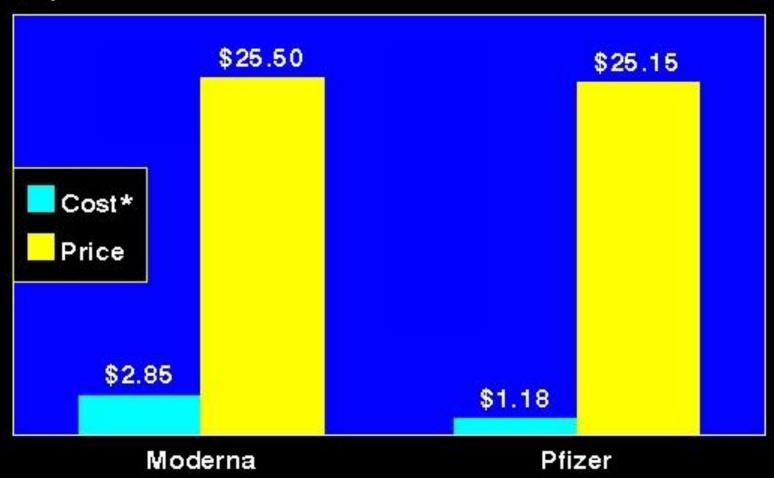
Source: Prasad et al. JAMA IM, online 9/11/2017

^{*} Costs of all company R&D, including their non-approved agents

^{**} Total revenue from sales since approval - mean of 3.8 years

COVID-19 Vaccine Makers Jack Up the Price

\$s per vaccine dose

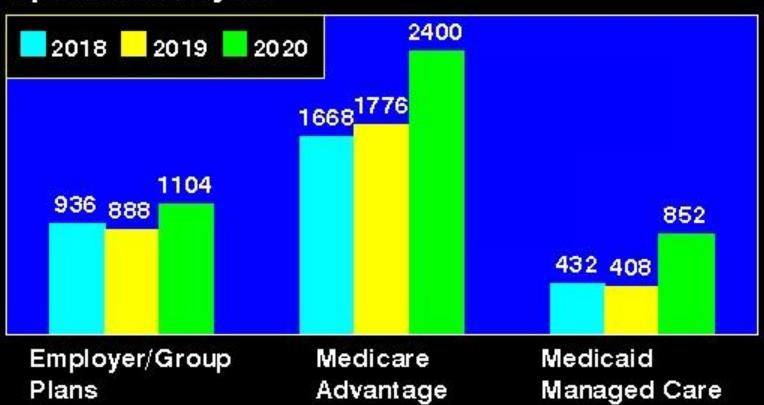


Source: Light & Lexchin. J Royal Soc Med 2021;114:502
*Cost figure includes estimated cost of materials + capital + personnel

Private Insurers: Middlemen Who Add Costs But Not Value

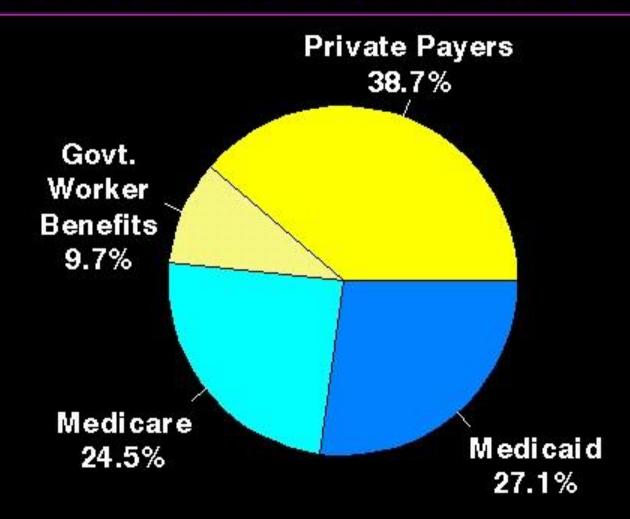
Private Insurers' Overhead/Profit Per Enrollee, 2018-2020

\$ per enrollee/year



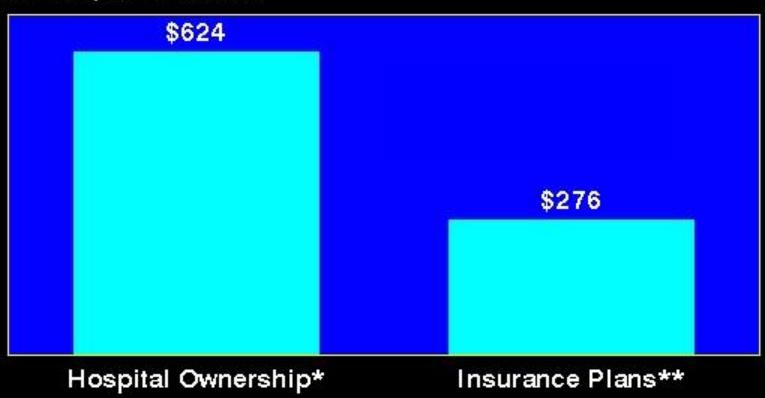
Source: Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of National Assoc. of Insurance Commissioners' data Note: Data are for January 1 - September 30, annualized

61% of Private Insurers' Revenues Come From Government Payers



Both Hospital and Insurer Consolidation Raise Premiums

Annual premium boost



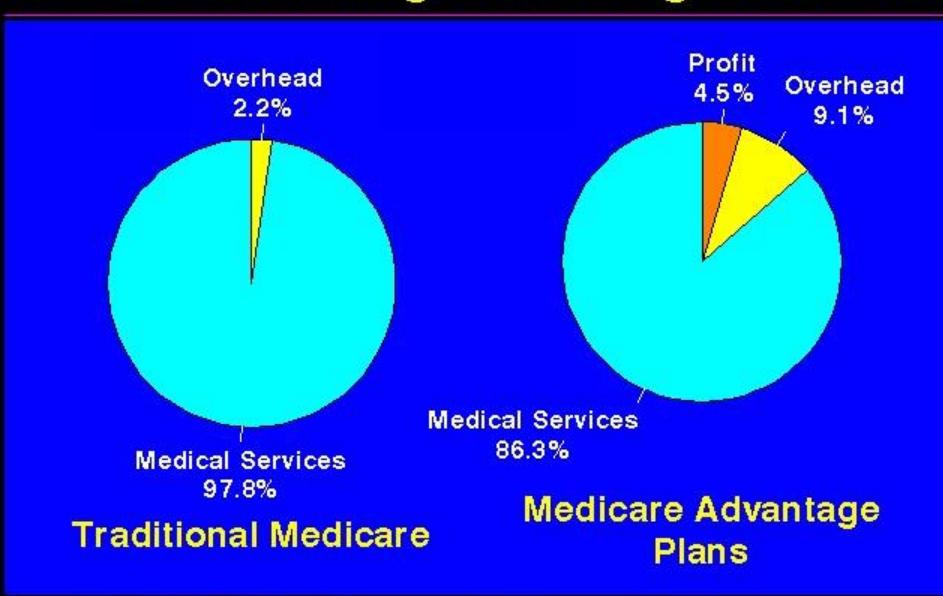
So urce: Health Affairs 2019:34:668

** Difference associated with the presence of one fewer insurer in region

^{*} Difference between regions with most and least concentrated tertiles of ownership

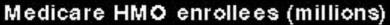
Medicare Advantage: Privatizing Medicare, Raising Taxpayers' Costs and a Public Option Preview

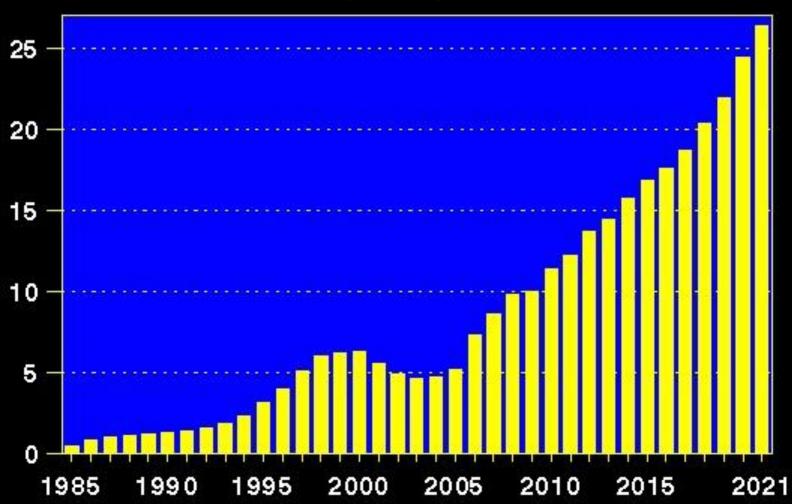
Medicare Advantage Plans' High Overhead



Source: GAO 12/2013 and Medicare Trustees report 2012 - Figures are for 2011 Note: MA overhead = \$905/enrollee; profit = \$447/enrollee; total profit = \$3.3 billion

Medicare HMO Enrollment, 1985-2021



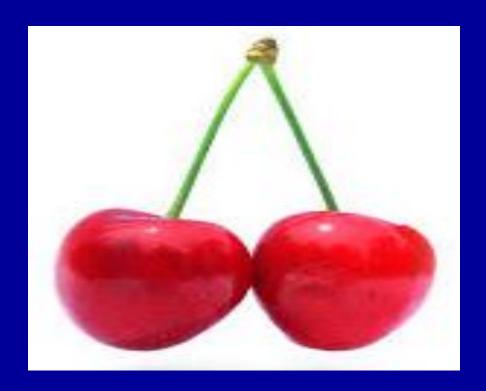


Source: CMS & Kaiser Foundation

How do Medicare Advantage Plans Outcompete Traditional Medicare?

- Cherry-picking + Lemon-dropping
 - o Exclude hospitals/doctors attractive to high-cost patients
 - o Benefit/formulary design
 - o Hassle factor
- Upcode + over-diagnose to game risk adjustment
- Outright cheating

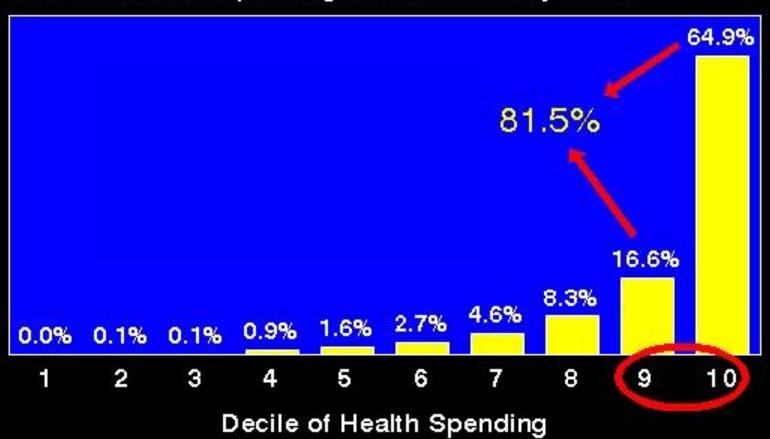
Medicare Advantage Plans' Strategies: 1- Cherry Picking



Marketing, network manipulation, benefit design

A Few Sick People Account for Most Health \$s Percent of Total Spending for Each Decile Among Non-Institutionalized Americans

% of total health spending accounted for by decile

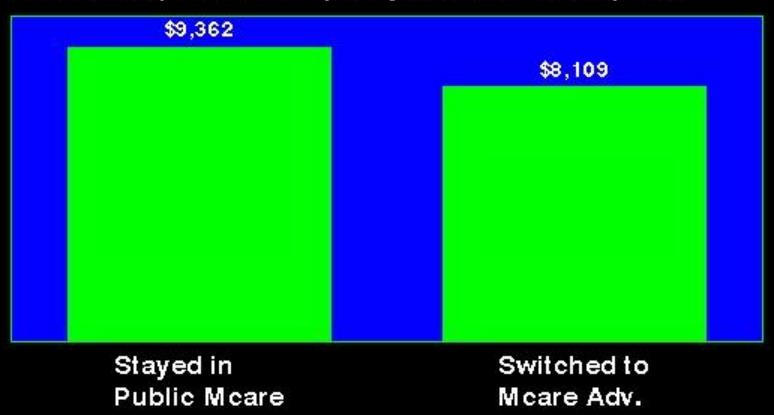


Source: JAMA 2016;316:1348

Medicare Advantage Enrollees Cost \$1,253/year Less Before Enrolling

MA plans selectively recruit low-cost enrollees within each diagnosis

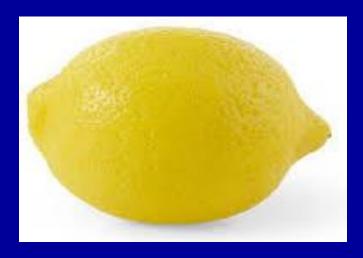
Medicare expenditures in prior year, risk-score adjusted



Source: Kaiser Foundtion May, 2019

Note: For example, difference for pts. with asthma = \$1410; depression = \$1198; arthritis = \$1371

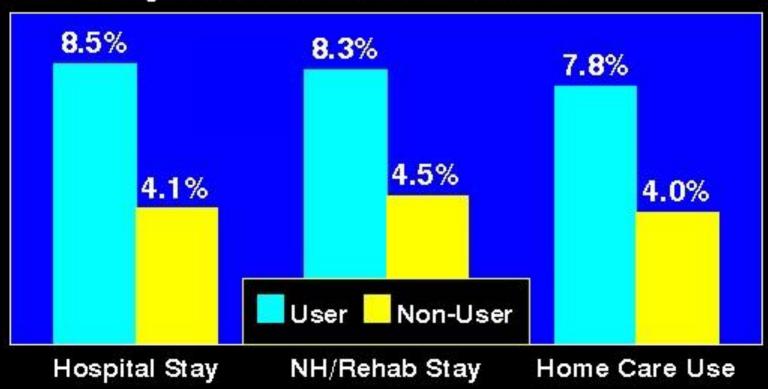
Medicare Advantage Plans' Strategies: 2 - Lemon Dropping



Network manipulation, benefit design, hassle factor

MA Plans Eject Patients Using Expensive Care

% switching from MA to Traditional Medicare



Source: Health Affairs 2021;40:469

Note: Data shown are for non-rural enrollees. Differences were similar for rural enrollees

Medicare Advantage Plans Skimp on Rehabilitation and Home Care

Decreased use relative to traditional Medicare*



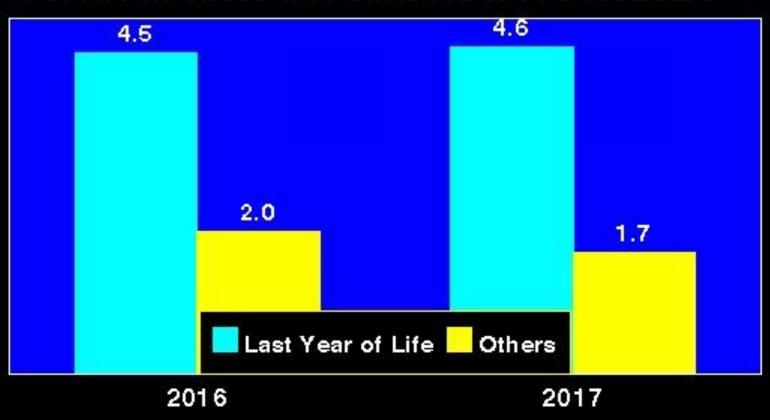
Source: Health Aff 2020;39:837

^{*} Difference in share of patients receiving service in 90 days after discharge, adjusted for demographic, clinical and hospital characteristics

Medicare Advantage Plans Disenroll Dying (Expensive) Enrollees

Last-Year-of-Life Switches Raised Taxpayers' Costs by \$912 Million

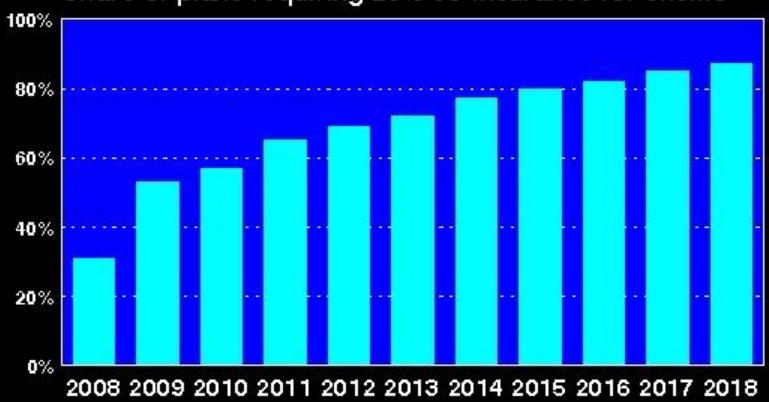
% of MA enrollees who switched to FFS Medicare



Source: GAO June 28, 2021

Medicare Advantage Plans Push Cancer Patients Out by Imposing 20% Co-Insurance for Chemotherapy

Share of plans requiring 20% co-insurance for chemo



Source: JGIM 2019;34:1119

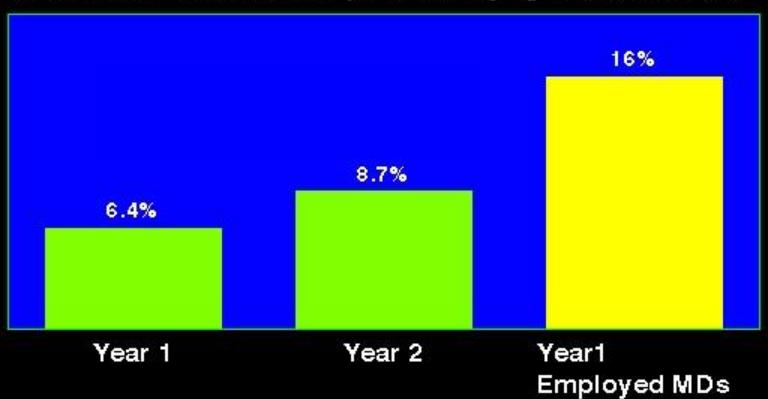
Medicare Advantage Plans' Strategies: 3 - Cheating



Medicare Advantage Plans "Upcode"

Risk Scores Spike Immediately After Patients Enroll; Biggest Jump in HMOs that Employ Doctors

% increase in risk score vs. patients staying in FFS Medicare



Source: NBER Working Paper # 21222

The 6.4% coding increase ups MA plans' payments from Medicare by \$10 billion/yr, ~\$650/enrollee. It is equivalent to 6% of all enrollees becoming paraplegic or 39% becoming diabetic.

Upcoding Boosts Advantage Plans' CMS-Paid Premiums

Same Patient, Different Coding

•	Base rate	\$3950	•	Base rate	\$3950
•	Uncompl. DM	\$1040	•	DM II with diab. CKD	\$3180
•	CKD	\$0	•	CKD stage 4	\$2370
•	Obesity	\$0	•	Morbid Obesity	\$2730
•	Depression	\$0	•	Major depression	\$3950
•	Chronic CAD	\$0	•	CAD with angina	\$1400

Total

\$4990

Total

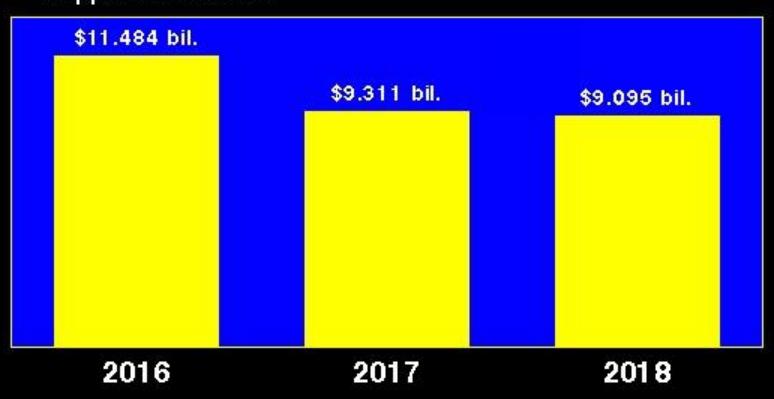
\$17580

SOURCE: SGIM FORUM, 2017

Medicare Advantage Plans' Claims for Unsupported Diagnoses

CMS Chart Audit (But CMS Only Pursued Recovery for 0.2% of Projected Overcharges)

CMS estimate of overcharges to Medicare for diagnoses not supported in chart

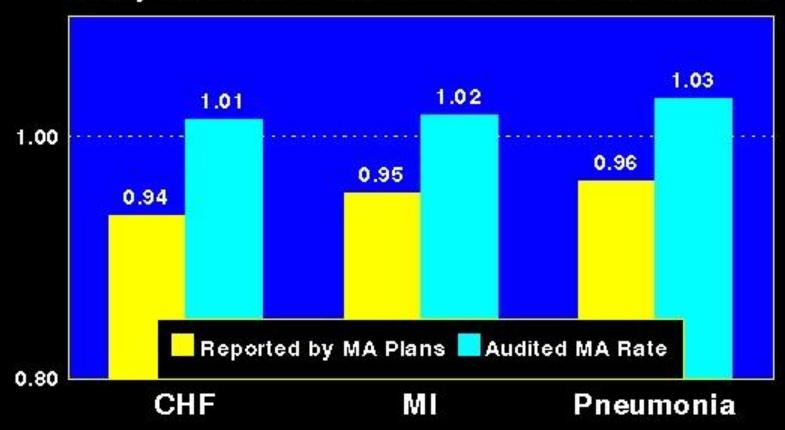


So urce: Kaiser Health News 7/16/2019

M.A. Plans Lie About Quality

Advantage Plans Report few Readmits
But Audit Shows Rates Higher Than FFS Medicare

30 day readmission rate relative to Traditional Medicare



Source: Annals of Internal Medicine 2019; 171:99

Medicare Advantage Plans Raise Costs

Less Spending on Care, More on Overhead

Monthly cost per benficiary, adjusted*



Traditional Medicare

Medicare Advantage

"Direct Contracting Entities" (DCEs) The Latest Medicare Privatization Scheme

- Traditional Medicare enrollees assigned to a DCE can't opt out.
- DCEs paid capitation similar to Medicare Advantage (MA).
- Many owned by insurance giants or for-profit startups.
- As in MA, overdiagnosis/upcoding key to profitability, e.g.:
 - ➤ Routine screening carotid ultrasounds (contrary to USPSTF guidelines); + test raises capitation \$2800/patients.
 - ➤ "Clover Health" offers PCPs \$30/visit bonus to use its upcoding software.
- Wall Street valuing DCE startups at \$87,000 per patient enrolled, anticipating windfall profits from Medicare.

Source: Gilfillan & Berwick, Health Affairs Blog 9/29/21

ACOs Warmed Over Managed Care





High Risk HMO Patients Fared Poorly in the Rand Experiment



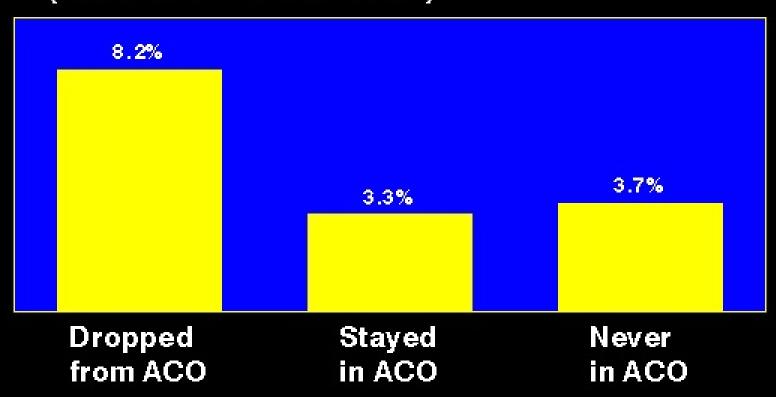
Source: Rand Health Insurance Experiment, Lancet 1986; i:1017

Note: High Risk = 20% of population with lowest income + highest medical risk.

ACOs Got Rid of Patients in Deteriorating Health

For Patients Already Enrolled in ACO, Upcoding Doesn't Boost Risk-Adusted Payments So ACOs "Lemon-Drop" With Increasing Care Needs

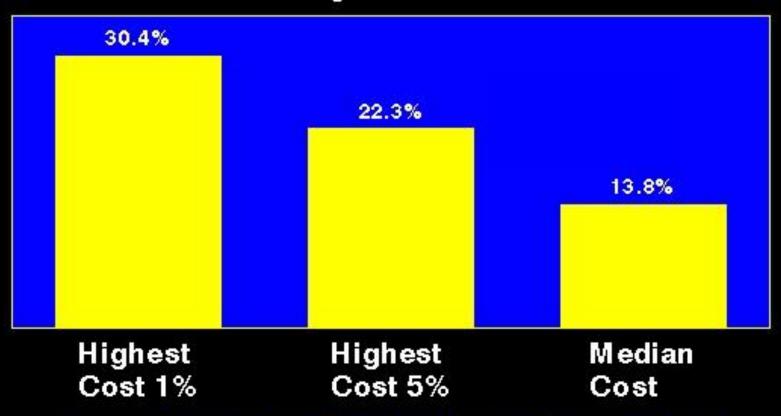
Change, 2012-2013 in risk score ("hierarchical condition codes")



So urce: Health Affairs 2019;38:253

ACOs Get Rid of High Cost Patients By Ejecting Their Doctors

Percent of doctors leaving ACO

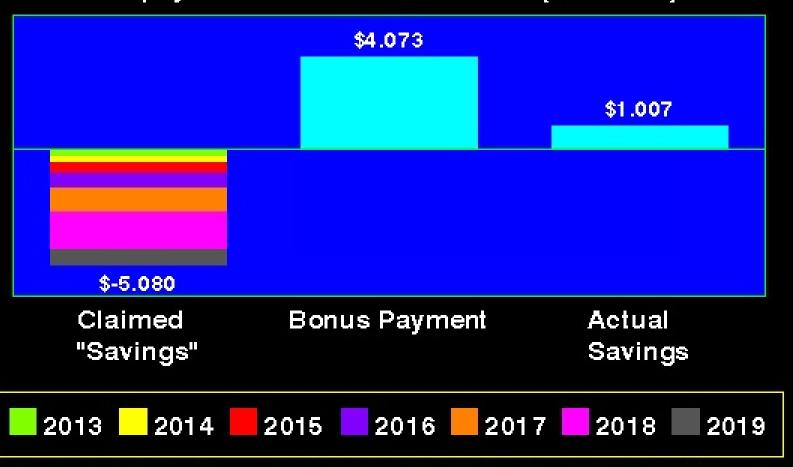


Doctors Rank According to Cost of Their Patients

ACO Savings = \$1.007 bil. Over 7 Years = 0.21% of Spending

MEDPAC Estimate: ACOs Increased Administrative Costs by \$10.6 bil.

Medicare payments to ACOs, 2013-2019 (\$ billions)



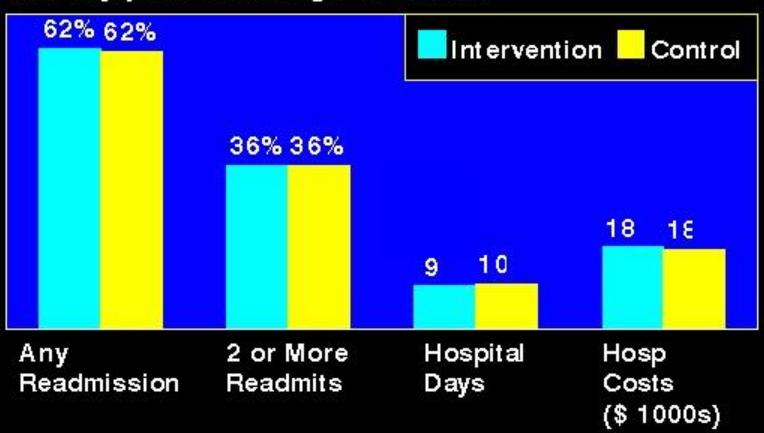
McKinsey: "The Math of ACOs"

- ~\$9 million/year/ACA spent on new data/analytics
- ~1.25% of total revenues for care management: Success depends on curtailing patients' use of care and steering enrollees to lower-price providers, NOT managing chronic conditions.
- Additional costs for "executive director, head of real estate, head of care management, and lawyers and actuaries"

Source: McKinsey & Co.. August 2020

Hotspotting Didn't Work - RCT Much Touted Camden Model Failed

180 day post-discharge outcomes



Source: N Engl J Med 2020;382:152

The Toxicity of Pay for Performance (P4P)

Medicare Quality Scores Penalize Doctors Caring for Poor Seniors

Score Difference = \$15,000 Lower Medicare Payments



Share of Poor Patients in Practice

(mean 22%)

(mean 7%)

Source: JAMA 2020;324:975

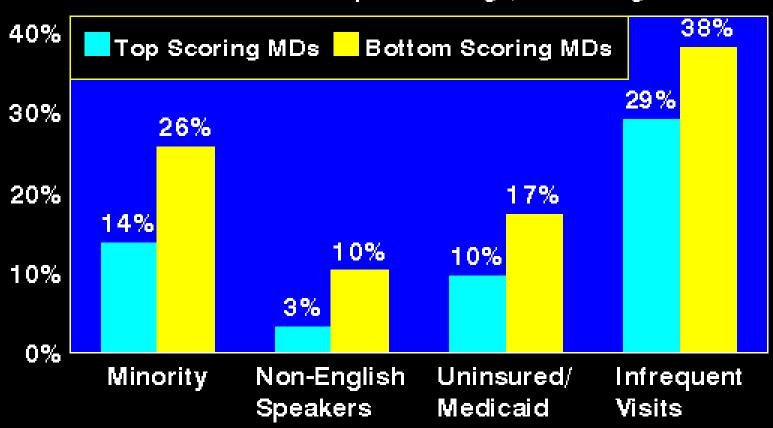
Note: Poor is defined as dual (i.e. Medicaid) eligible

(mean 52%)

Quality Scores Tell More About Patients Than Doctors

Harvard Docs with Poorer/Minority Patients Score Low

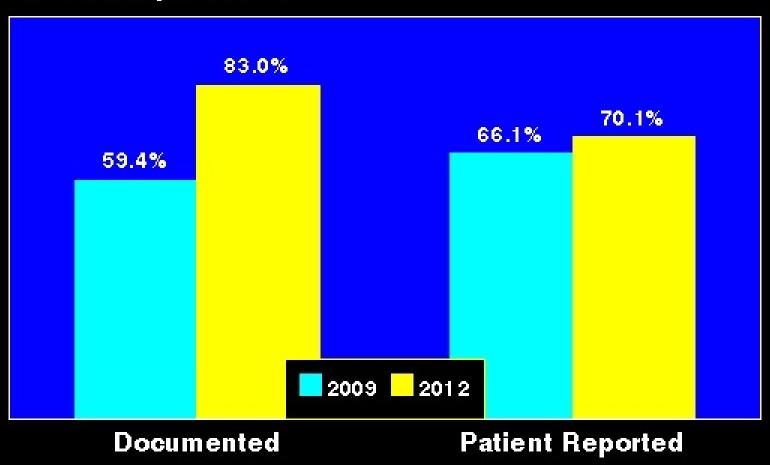
Patient characteristics in panels of high/low scoring MDs



Source: JAMA 9/8/2010:1107

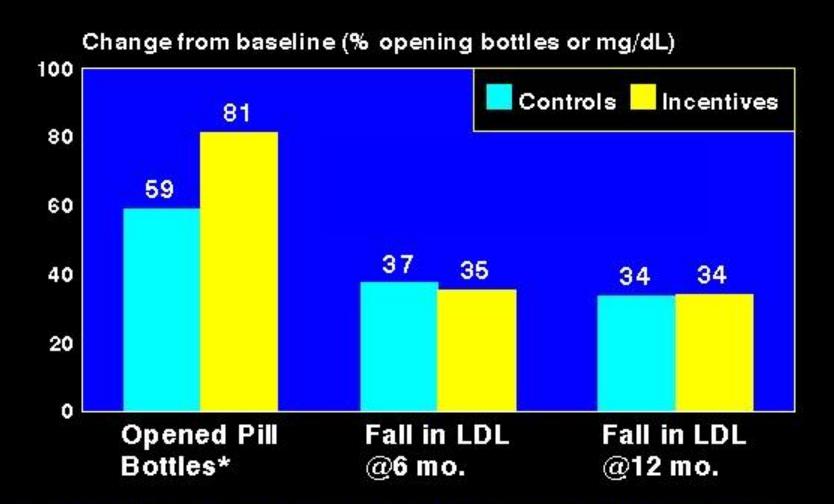
Performance Monitoring Increased Documentation of Alcohol Counseling, But Not Real Counseling Rate

Alcohol counseling rate among patients screening positive for unhealthy ETOH use



So urce: JGIM 2017;33:268

\$450 Incentive to Take Statins Improved Pill Bottle Openings But Not LDL-C Levels

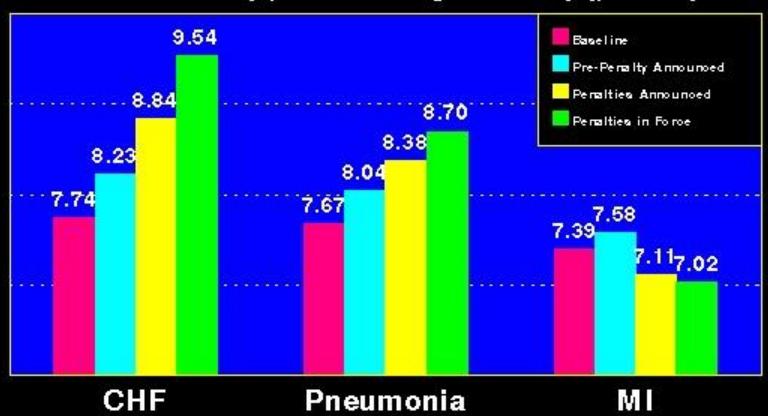


Source: JAMA Network Open 2020;3(10):e2019429 (RCT with 805 patients) *Percent of first 180 days with pill bottle opening

CHF and Pneumonia Death Rates Rose With Readmission Penalties

Big Penalties for Readmission, Small Penalties for Mortality

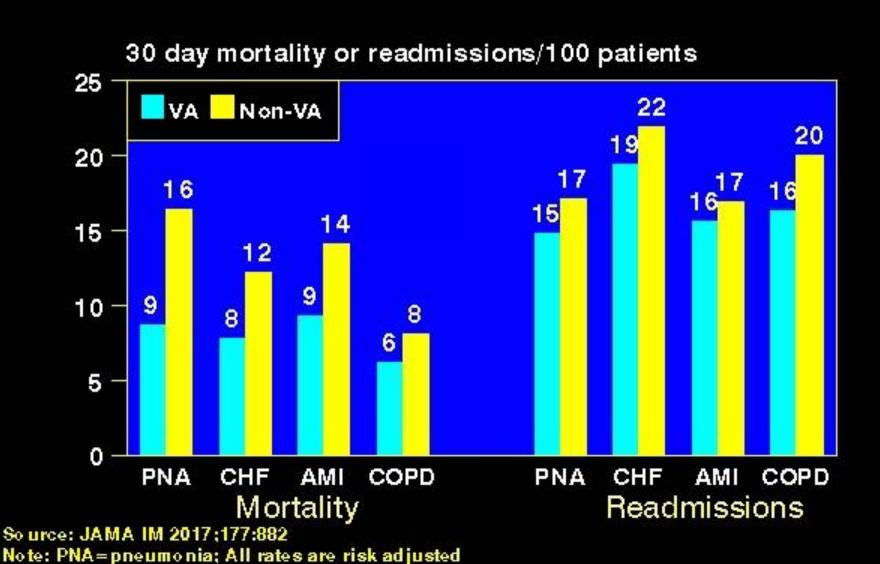
Time trend in 30 day post-discharge mortality (percent)



So urce: JAMA 2018;320:2542

Veterans Health Administration: Better and Fairer Care

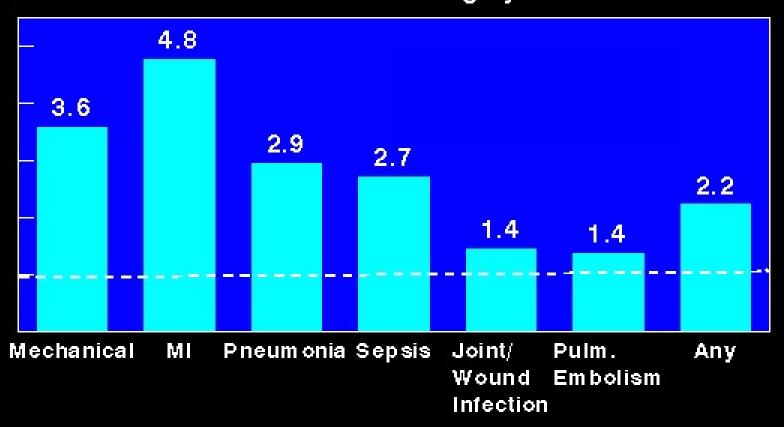
VA Hospitals Have Lower Mortality and Readmissions than Other Hospitals



VA-Paid Knee Replacement: Better at VA Hospital than Purchased Private Care

VA Privatization Worsens Care

Odds ratio for complication: VA-Purchased vs. VA-Delivered Surgery

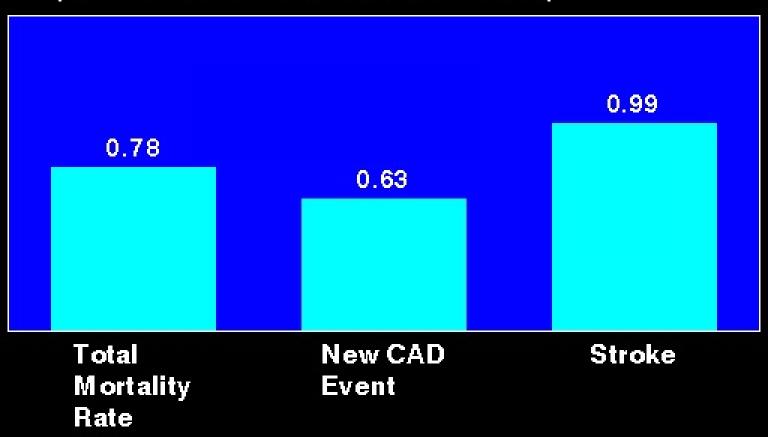


Source: Health Affairs 2021;40:1312v- Figure's are adjusted for multiple patient characteristics.

Blacks in VA: No Health Disadvantage

A Longitudinal Study of 3,072,966 Vets Cared for at VAs

Odds Ratio for Black vs. White Vets (<1 indicates lower rate for Blacks)



Source: Kovesdy et al. Circulation 9/18/2015

Mandate Model Reform: Keeping Private Insurers In Charge

"Mandate" Model for Reform

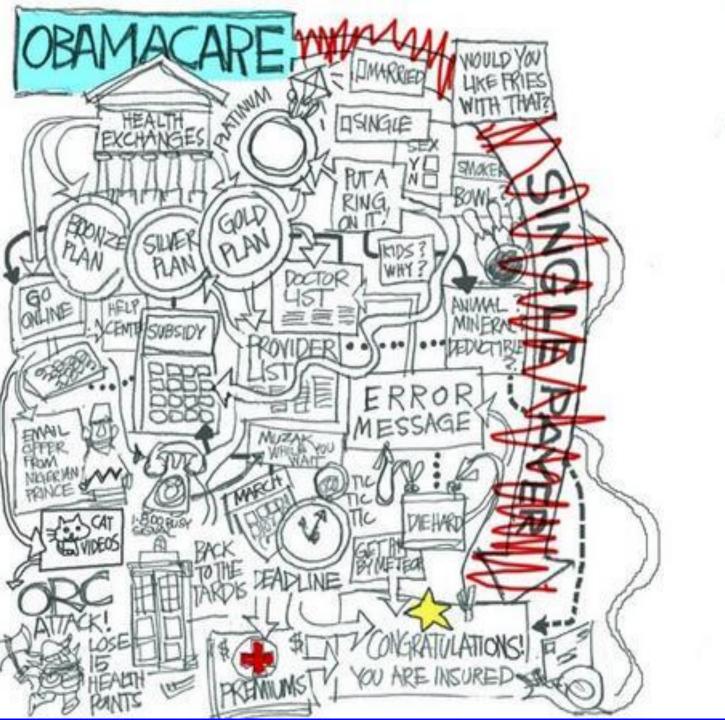








- 1. Expanded Medicaid-like program
 - Free for poor
 - Subsidies for low income
 - Buy-in without subsidy for others
- 2. Employer Mandate +/- Individuals
- 3. Insurance Exchanges



THE SIMPLE GOP PLAN FOR THE UNINSURED

THIS HOLKETE BUE PAGED

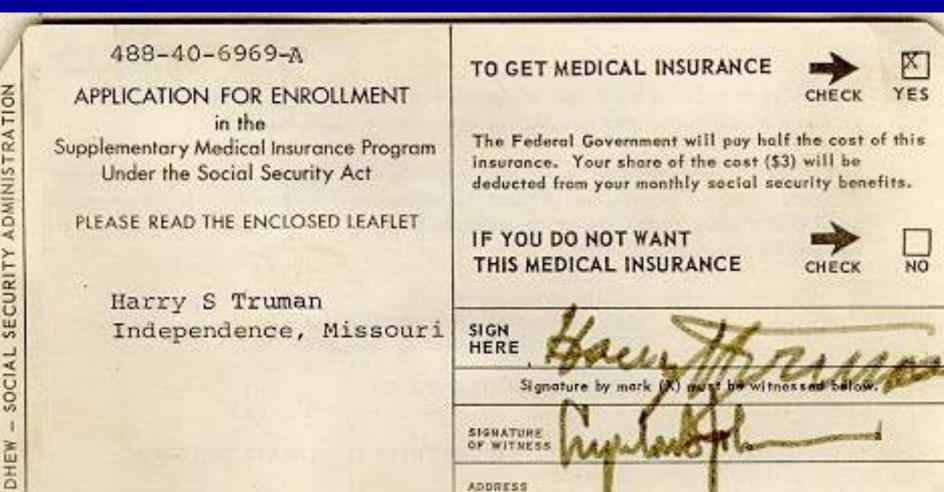


ADMINISTRATION SECURITY SOCIAL

Do not write in the space above

Medicare's "Software"

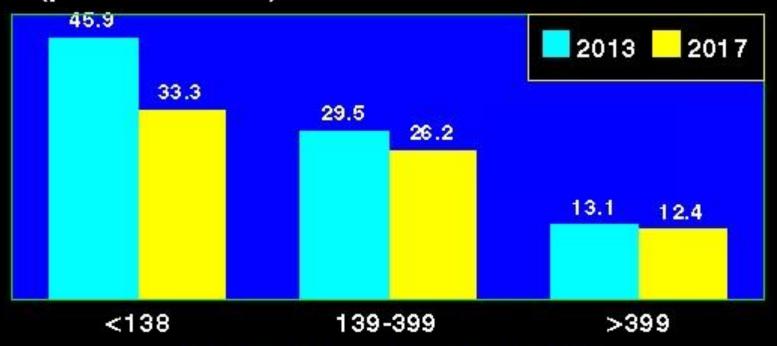
18.9 Million Seniors Enrolled Within11 Months



ACA Decreased Incidence of Unmet Medical Needs Due to Cost

Better, But Still Not Good

% of adults 18-64 reporting an unmet need (past 12 months)

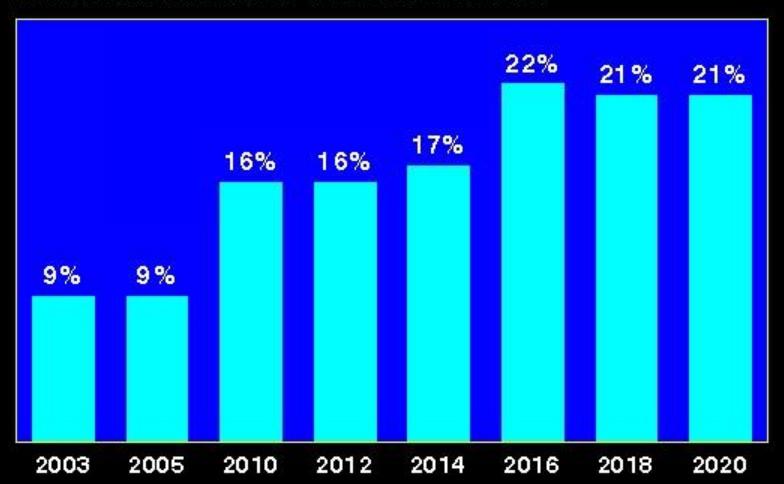


Income as % of Poverty Level

Source: Health Affairs 2017;36:1656

Under-Insurance Increased After ACA

Percent of adults 19-64 under-insured*

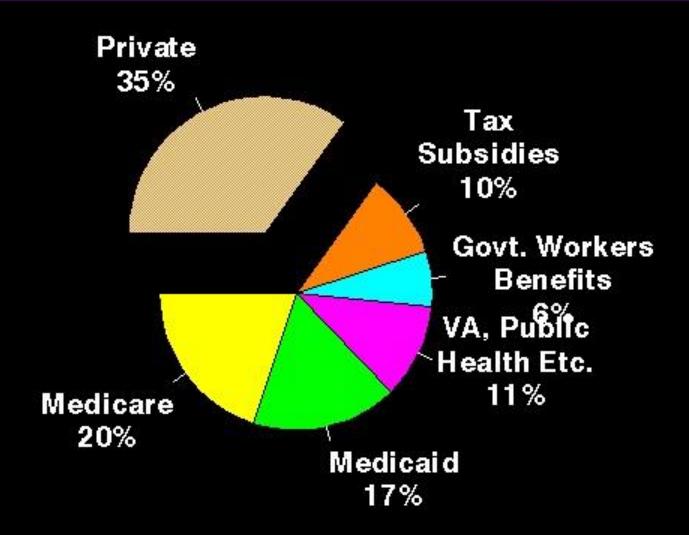


Source: Commonwealth Fund Health Insurance Surveys 2003-2020

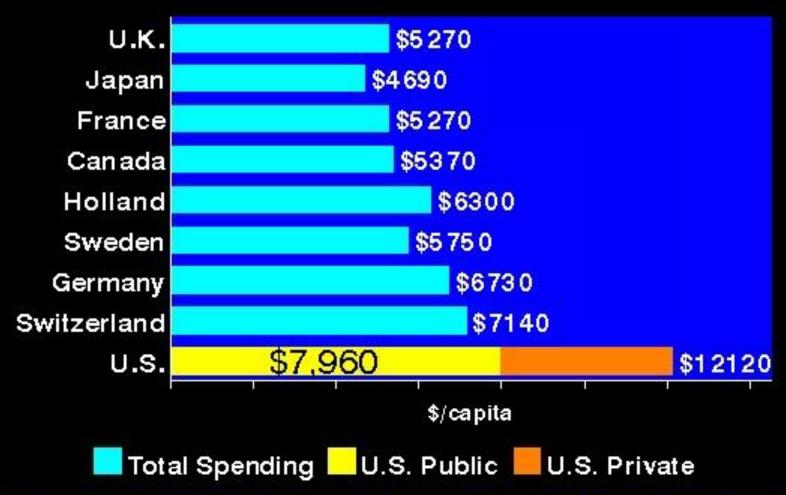
^{*} Under-insurance: Insured all year but OOP>10% of income (>5% if low income) or deduct>5% of income

American Taxpayers Already Pay More Than People in Nations With National Health Insurance

Taxes Fund 2/3 of Health Spending



U.S. PUBLIC Spending Per Capita for Health Exceeds TOTAL Spending in Other Nations

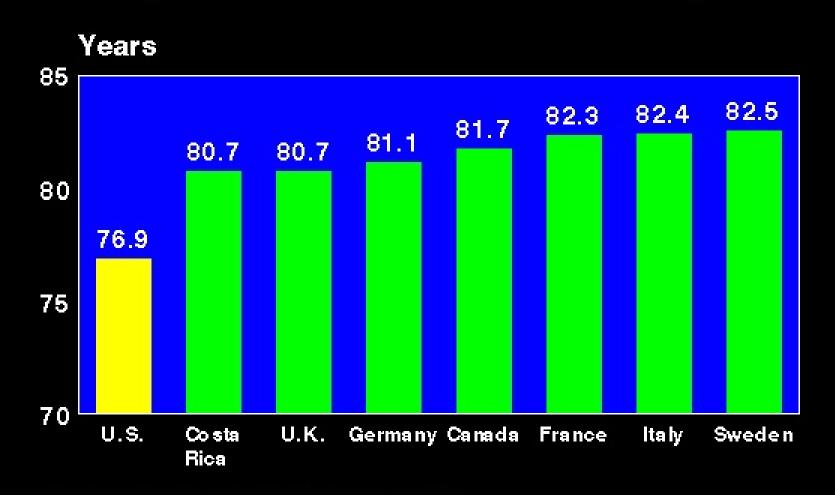


Note: Public includes benefit costs for govt. employees & tax subsidy for private insurance

Source: OECD 2021; NCHS; AJPH 2016;106:449 (updated) - Data are for 2020

The U.S. Trails Other Nations on Health

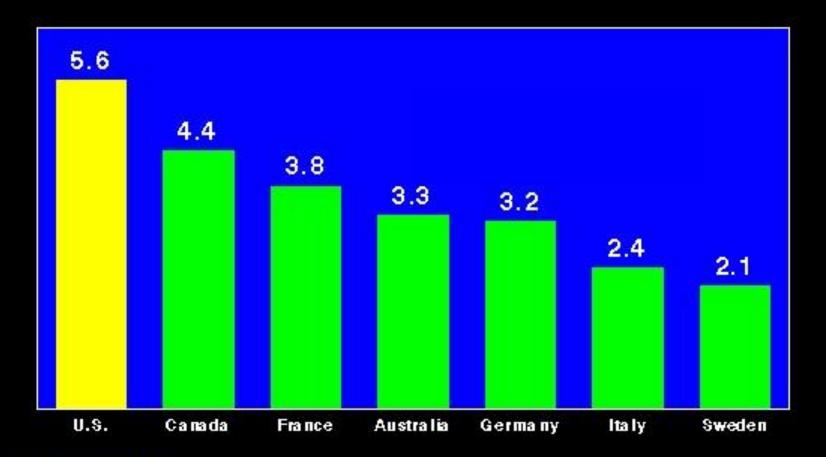
Life Expectancy



Source: OECD, 2021 and S. Woolf (BMJ 2021)

Note: Data are for 2020

Infant Mortality Deaths in First Year of Life/1000 Live Births

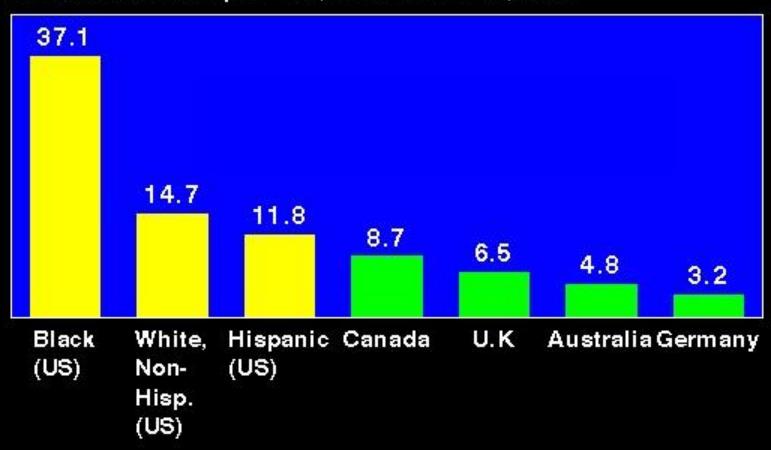


Source: OECD, 2021

Note: Data are for 2020 or most recent year available

U.S. Mothers at Risk Black Women at Highest Risk, But All Fare Poorly

Maternal deaths per 100,000 live births, 2018

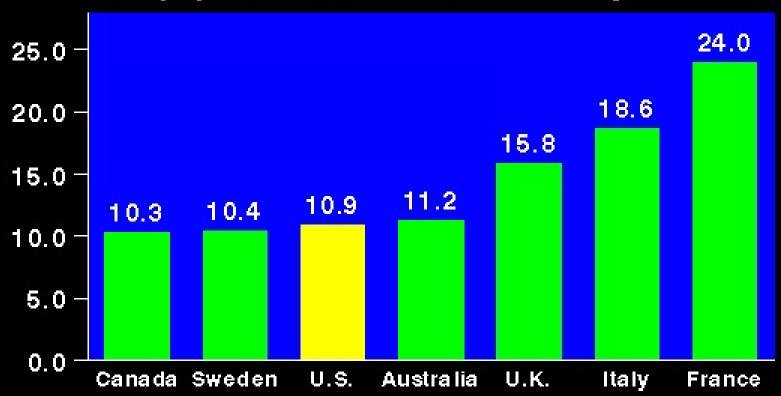


Source: CDC, January 30, 2020 and OECD 2020

High U.S. Costs Don't Result From Bad Health Habits, Aging or Overuse of Care

Smoking Prevalence

% of population >15 who smoke daily

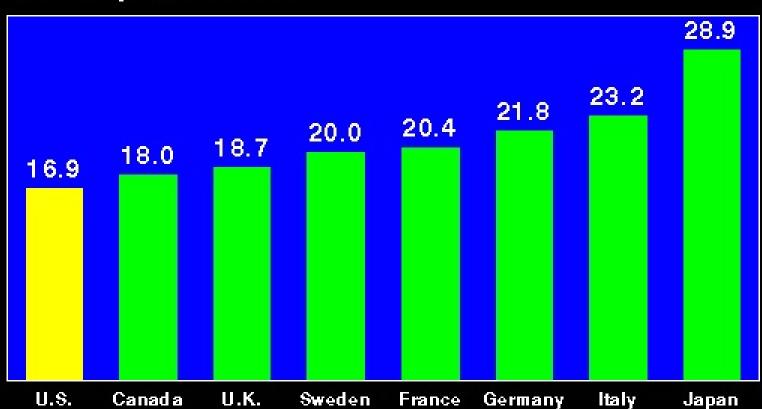


Source: OECD, 2021

Note: Data are for 2020, or most recent year available

Percent Elderly

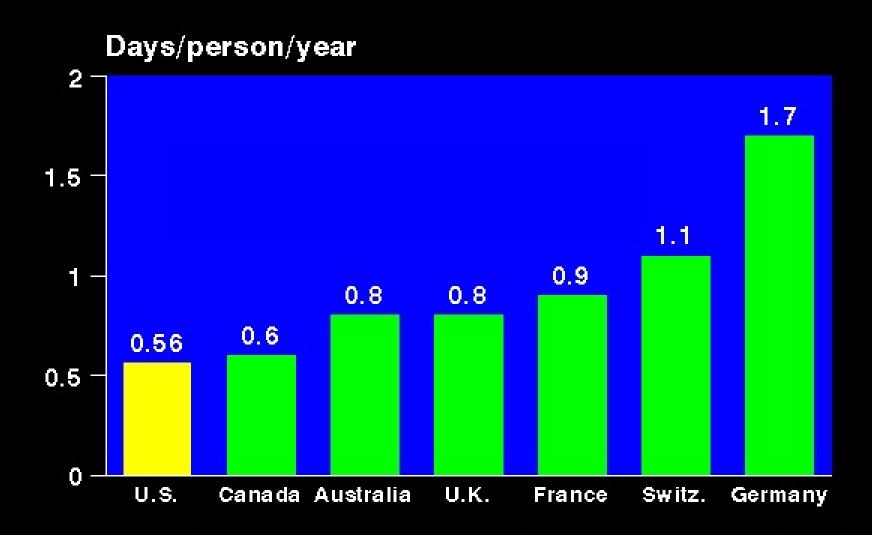
% of Population >64



Source: OECD, 2021

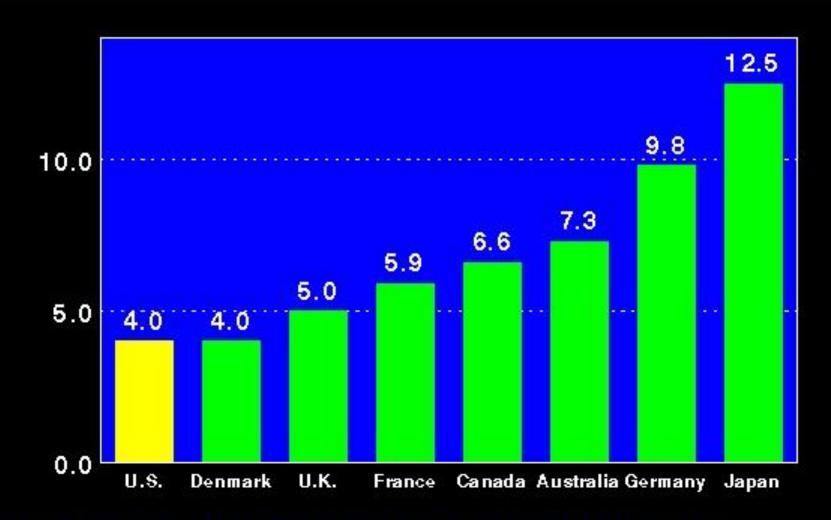
Note: Data are for 2020 or most recent year available

Hospital Inpatient Days Per Capita



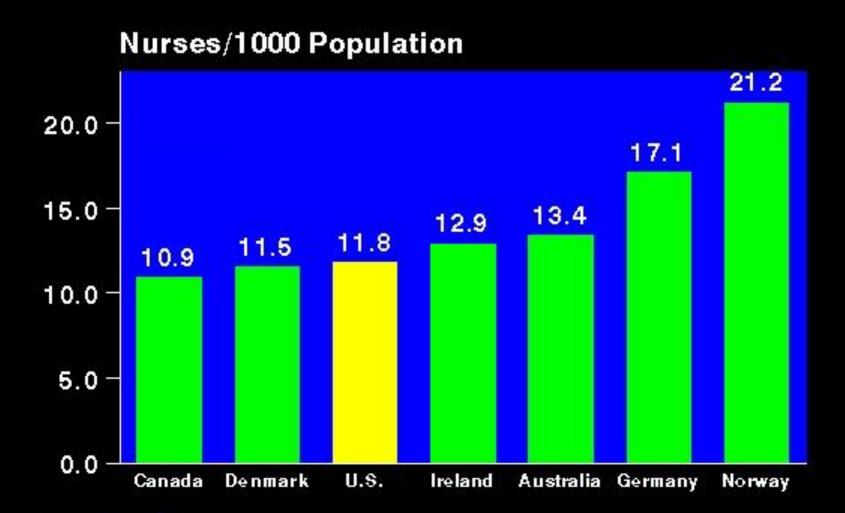
Source: OECD, 2021 & Kaiser Fdn. - Figures are for 2020 or most recent available

Physician Visits Per Capita



Source: OECD, 2021 - Data are for 2020 or most recent available year

Number of Nurses Per 1000 Population

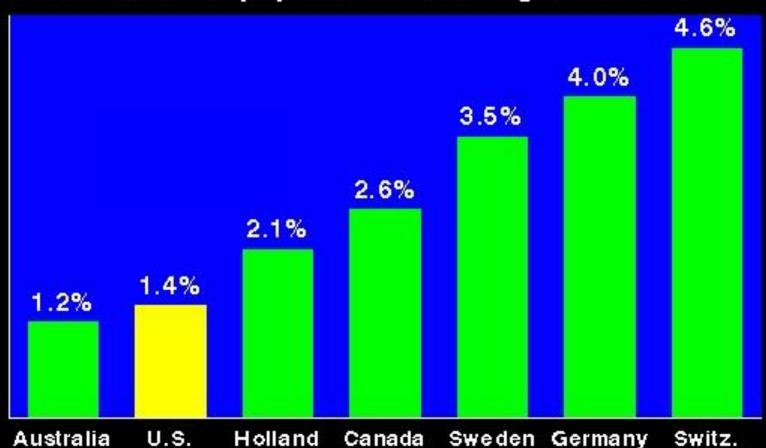


Source: OECD, 2021

Note: Data are for 2020 or most recent year available

Other Countries Provide More Long Term Care at Home

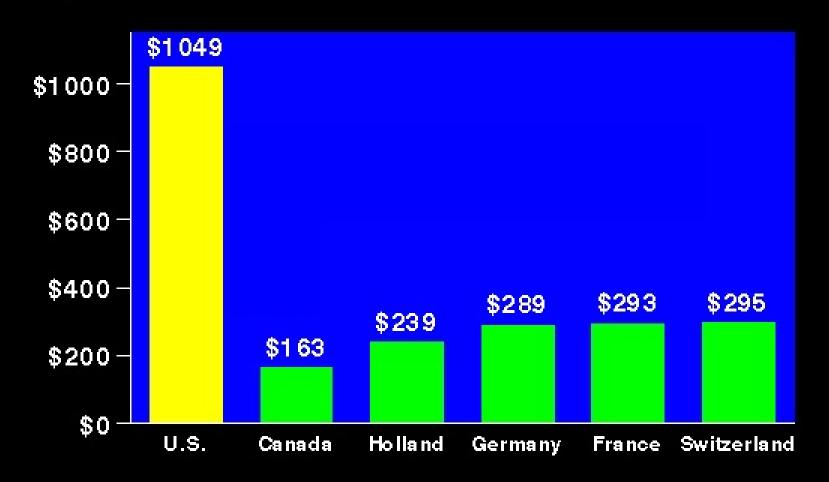
Percent of total population receiving home care



Source: OECD, 2021

Note: Data are for 2019 or most recent year available

Insurance Overhead



Source: OECD, 2021; NCHS; CIHI

Note: Figures adjusted for Purchasing Power Parity; data are for 2020 or most recent available

Canada's Single Payer National Health Insurance Program

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR CANADA'S PROVINCIAL PROGRAMS

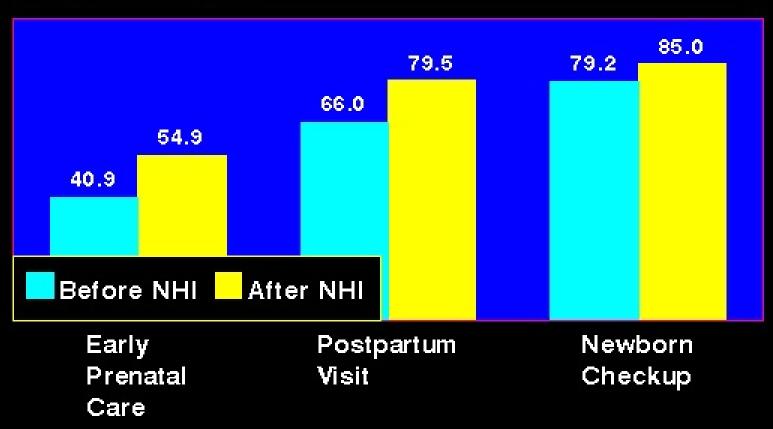
- UNIVERSAL COVERAGE THAT DOES NOT IMPEDE, EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, WHETHER BY CHARGES OR OTHERWISE, REASONABLE ACCESS.
- 2. PORTABILITY OF BENEFITS FROM PROVINCE TO PROVINCE
- 3. COVERAGE FOR ALL MEDICALLY NECESSARY SERVICES
- 4. PUBLICLY ADMINISTERED, NON-PROFIT PROGRAM





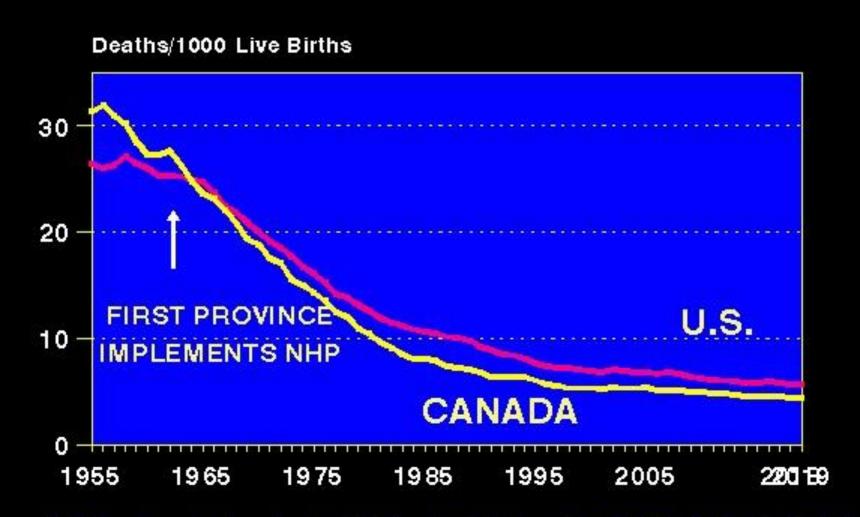
Free Care in Quebec Improved Maternal/Infant Care

Percent with visit



Source: NEJM 1974;291:649

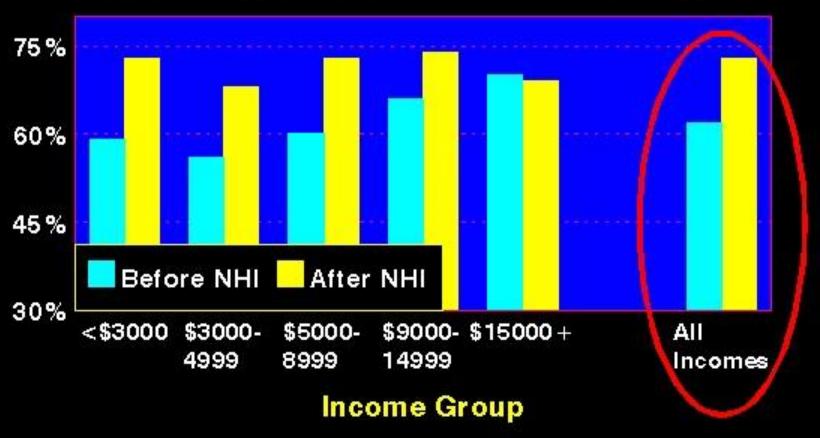
Infant Mortality U.S. & Canada, 1955-2019



Free Care in Quebec Increased Physician Care for Serious Symptoms

Biggest Impact on Poor and Middle Class



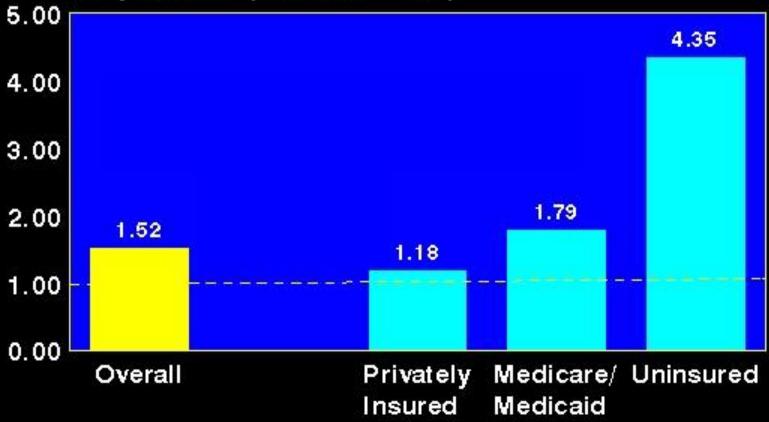


Source: NEJM 1973;289:1174

Cystic Fibrosis Patients Live Longer in Canada

Uninsured in U.S. Have Highest Risk of Death

Hazard ratio for death, U.S. vs. Canadian CF patients (Canada = 1.0)

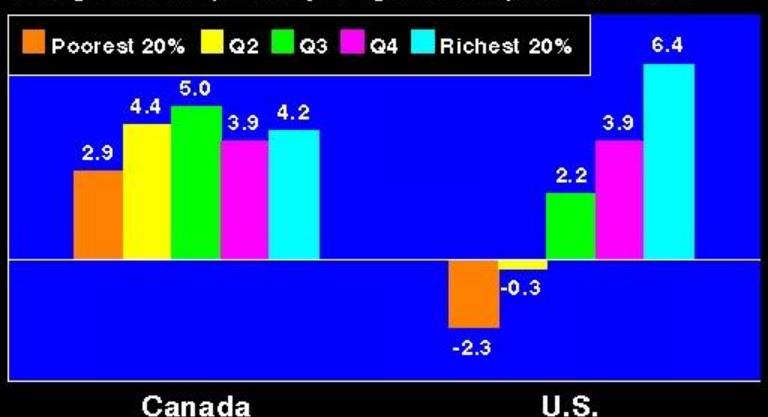


So urce: Ann Int Med 2017;166:537

Note: Hazard ratios are adjusted for multiple genetic and clinical characteristics

Life Expectancy Falling for Lower-Income Americans, Rising for All Canadians

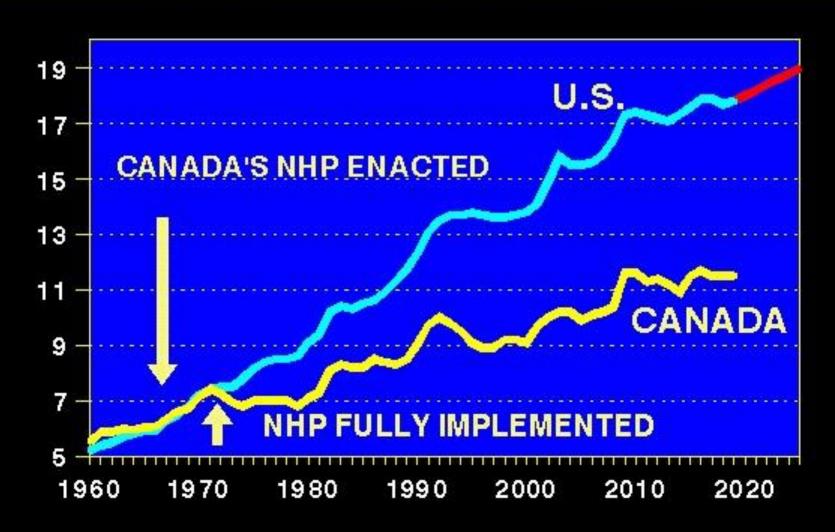
Change in life expectancy at age 50 over past 3 decades.



Source: Growing Gap in Life Expectancy by Income, NAS; Rich Man Poor Man, CD Howe Institute Data is non-weighted average of male and female figures.

Date are for Canadians turning 50 in 2000 vs. 1970 and for Americans turning 50 in 2010 vs. 1980

Health Costs as % of GDP: U.S. & Canada, 1960-2025

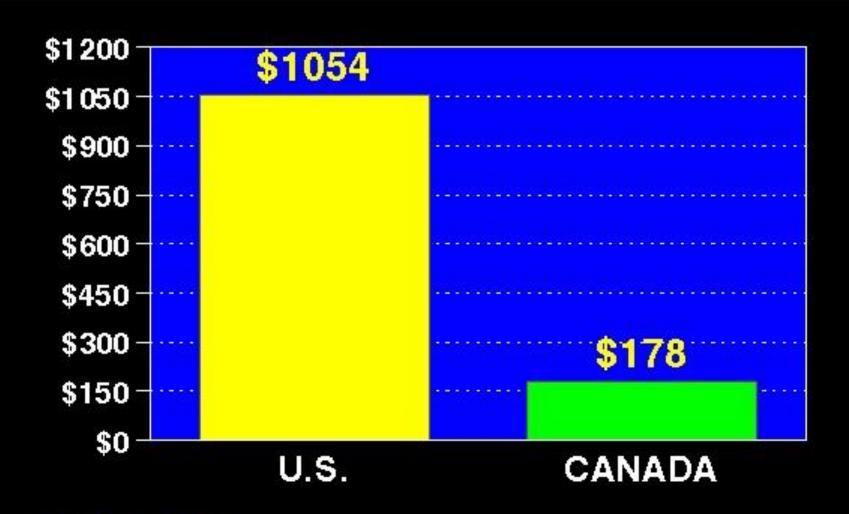


Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Inst. for Health Info., & NCHS/Commerce Dept

How Canada Controls Costs

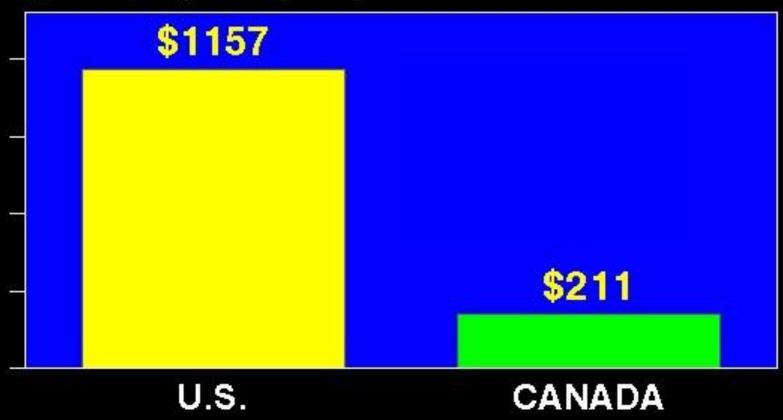
- Low administrative costs 16.7% of health spending vs. 31.0% in U.S.
- Lump-sum, global budgets for hospitals
- Stringent controls on capital spending for new buildings and equipment
- Single buyer purchasing reins in drug/device prices
- Low litigation and malpractice costs
- Emphasis on primary care
- Exclusion of private insurers

Insurance Overhead United States & Canada, 2021



Hospital Billing & Administration United States & Canada, 2021

\$ per capita (PPP adjusted)



Source: Himmelstein, Campbell & Woolhandler - Ann Int Med 2020 (Updated)

Hospital Financing: Medicare vs. Medicare



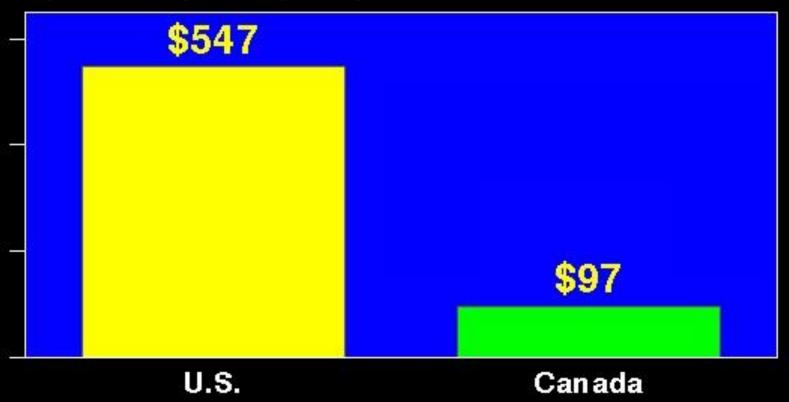
- Per-patient payments
- Capital and operating payments intermixed
- New investments funded from surplus/profit
- For-profits thrive



- Global budget
- Separate payment for capital
- New investments funded by government grants
- Eliminates opportunity for profitmaking

Physicians' Billing-Related Expenses United States & Canada, 2021

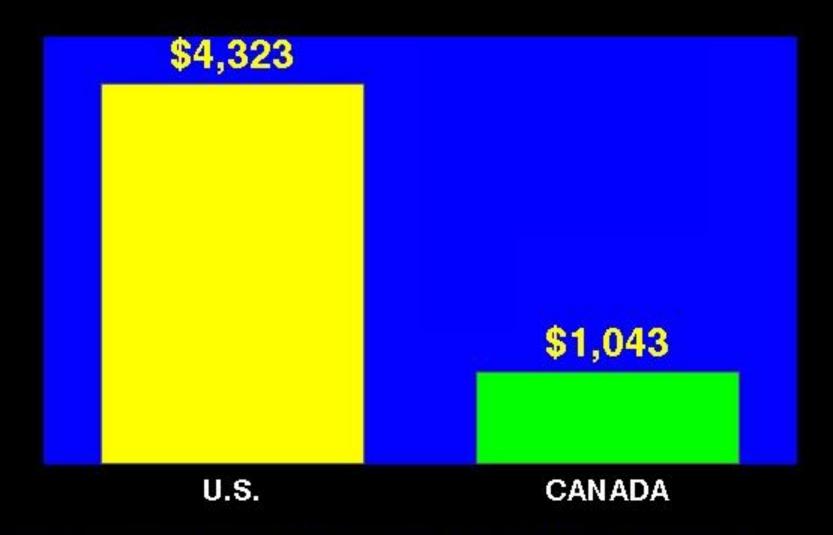
\$ per capita (PPP adjusted)



Source: Woolhandler/Campbell/Himmelstein Ann Int Med 2020 (Updated)

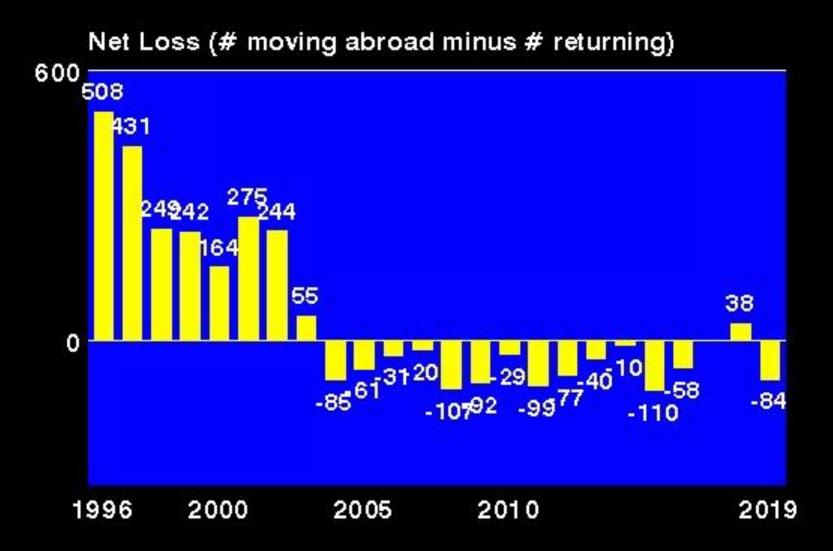
Note: Excludes dentists and other non-physician, office-based practitioners Note: Excludes non-billing-related costs for documentation compliance etc.

Overall Administrative Costs Per Capita United States & Canada, 2021



Source: Himmelstein/Campbell/Woolhandler - Ann Int Med 2020 (Updated)

Few Canadian Physicians Emigrate



Canadian Physicians' Incomes, 2018/2019

Average Clinical Payments Per Physician

Family Medicine	\$279,929
Int. Medicine	\$407,171
Pediatrics	\$296,010
Psychiatry	\$281,614
Dermatology	\$384,815
Ob/GYN	\$392,115
General Surg.	\$465,707
Thoracic Surg.	\$587,585
Cardiology	\$610,793
Opthalmology	\$791,406
All Physicians	\$347,464

Source: Canadian Institute for Health Information - figures are in Candian \$s

What's OK in Canada?

Compared to the U.S.

- Life expectancy 2 years longer
- Infant deaths 25% lower
- Universal comprehensive coverage
- More MD visits, hospital care; less bureaucracy
- Quality of care equivalent to insured Americans'
- Free choice of doctor/hospital
- Health spending half U.S. level

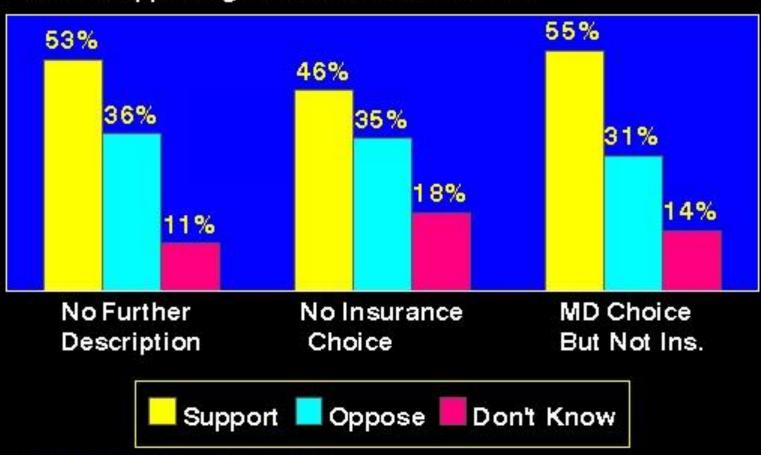
What's the Matter in Canada?

- The wealthy lobby for private funding and tax cuts;
 they resent subsidizing care for others
- Result: government funding cuts (e.g. 30% of hospital beds closed during 90s) causing dissatisfaction and waits for care
- U.S. and Canadian firms seek profit opportunities in health care privatization
- Conservative foes of public services own many Canadian newspapers
- Misleading waiting list surveys by right wing Fraser Institute

Medicare for All Enjoys Wide Support

Most Favor Phasing Out Private Plans if They Can Keep Their Doctor/Hospital

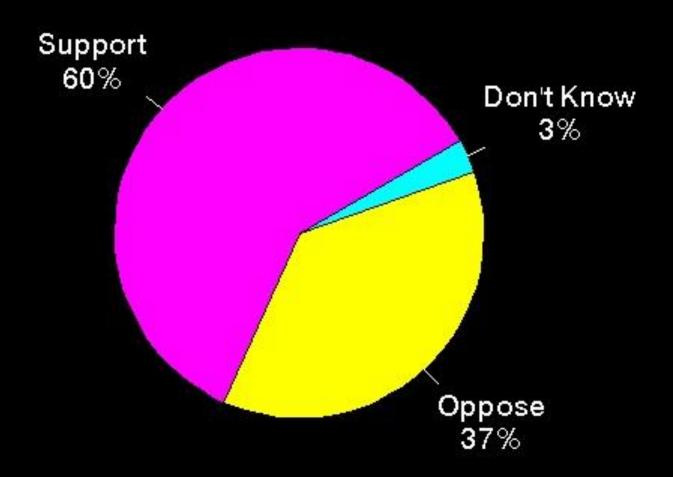
Percent supporting Medicare for All with . . .



Source: Morning Consult July, 2019

Note: Question asked about choice of doctor AND hospital

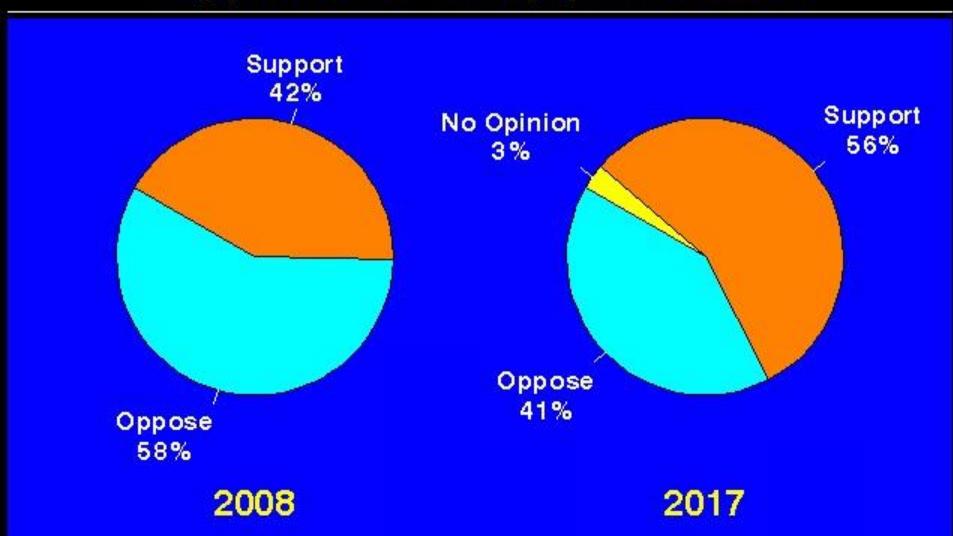
2021 Poll: 60% Want Medicare for All



Source: Commonwealth Fund/Harvard Public Health School Survey January, 2021

"Do you support/oppose changing our health care system so that all Americans would get health insurance from Medicare ... paid for by taxpayers ... often called Medicare for all"

Most Doctors Favor Single Payer Support Has Sharply Increased



A National Health Program for the U.S.

National Health Insurance

- Universal covers everyone
- Comprehensive all needed care, no co-pays
- Single, public payer simplified reimbursement
- No investor-owned HMOs, hospitals, etc.
- Improved health planning
- Public accountability for quality and cost, but minimal bureaucracy

FUNDING FOR THE NHP

SOURCES OF REVENUE

RECIPIENTS OF MONEY

Medicare & Medicaid

State, local government

Employers

Private insurance revenues

New Taxes

ZIO FOZO

Hospitals, operating
Hospitals, capital
HMOs

Fee-for-service MDs
Home Care Agencies
Long Term Care

SOURCE: NEJM 1989; 320:102

HOSPITAL PAYMENT UNDER AN NHP

- Hospitals remain privately owned and run
- Negotiated global budget for all operating costs. Operating funds cannot be diverted to capital.
- Capital purchases/expansion budgeted separately based on health planning goals



Global Operating Budgets: Key to Single Payer Savings

- Cuts hospital administrative costs.
- Eliminates disparities in profitability of patients.
- Banning hospitals from keeping surplus minimizes entrepreneurial incentives.
- Funding capital through explicit grants minimizes unneeded duplication of expensive services.

Prescription Drugs and Single Payer

- Full coverage, no deductibles/copays.
- Prices reduced by negotiations, national formulary, threat of patent revocation.
- Funding for public drug development, testing, and (when necessary) manufacture.
- Raise standards and FDA funding for drug approval, marketing and post-approval surveillance.
- Eliminate tax deductions for advertising; prohibit pharma-funded CME and guideline development.

Current Senate and House Bills Strengths

- Universal coverage, single public plan
- Comprehensive acute care benefits
- No copays for covered services
- Bans duplicative private coverage
- Exemption from Hyde Amendment
- Drug formulary and price negotiations

Current Senate and House Bills Concerns

- Both allow for-profit providers, with some constraints
- Senate bill: Adopts Medicare's needlessly complex payment strategies, raising administrative burdens/costs and perpetuating incentives for upcoding etc., focusing on profitable services, etc.

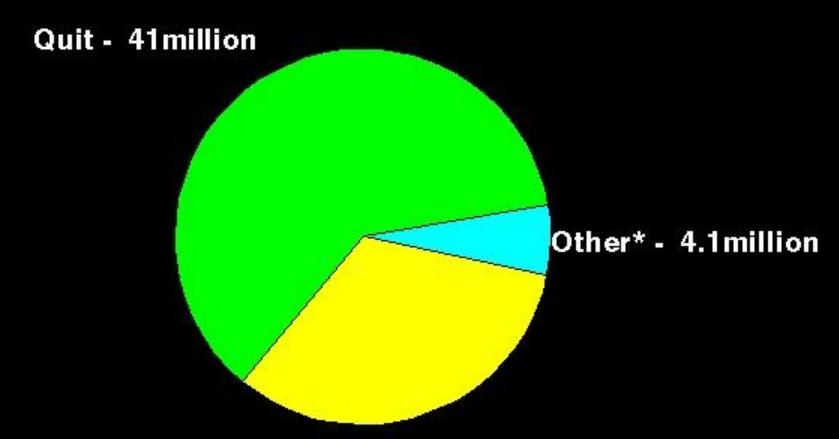
Single Payer Transition:

For Displaced Clerical and Administrative Workers

- All 400,000 health insurance workers and about ½ of the 2.6 mil. clerical/administrative employees in healthcare providers likely to be displaced total 1.7 million.
- Many likely to be redeployed in expanded clinical workforce.
- Funding for income support and job retraining modeled on WWII GI Bill.

66.1 Million U.S. Workers Separated from Jobs in 2018

Putting Job Displacement Due to Single Payer Into Perspective



Laid off/fired - 21.9million

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics - Job Opening and Labor Turnover Survey, January, 2019

* Other includes deaths, retirements, transfers, disability

Single Payer Transition: For Patients

- Every U.S. resident receives an insurance card.
- Full coverage for all medically necessary care, no copayments, deductibles or coinsurance.
- Prescription drug formulary, with alternatives covered when medically indicated
- Free choice of any participating provider or hospital.

Medicare for All vs. Medicare for More (e.g. Public Option)

Single Payer and Private Coverage

 Allowed: Supplemental non-competing – but can only cover benefits NOT covered by the public plan.

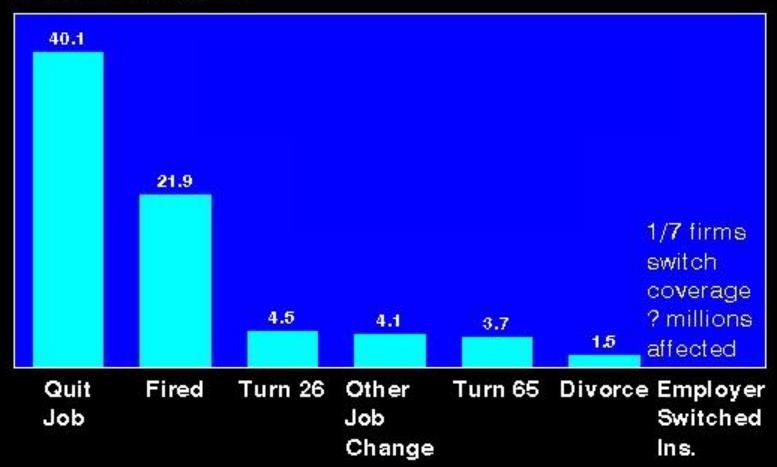
 Banned: Private insurance (including Medicare Advantage) duplicating public plan benefits – Key to administrative savings.

Public Option Rhetoric

- "Don't strip 150 million Americans of their private insurance; let them choose"
- "M4A means a giant tax increase"
- "If public is better, it will outcompete private insurance"
- "There's lots of ways to get to universal care"

Millions Lose Private Insurance Every Year

affected (millions)



Source: Bruenig - Jacobin Blog Post July, 2019

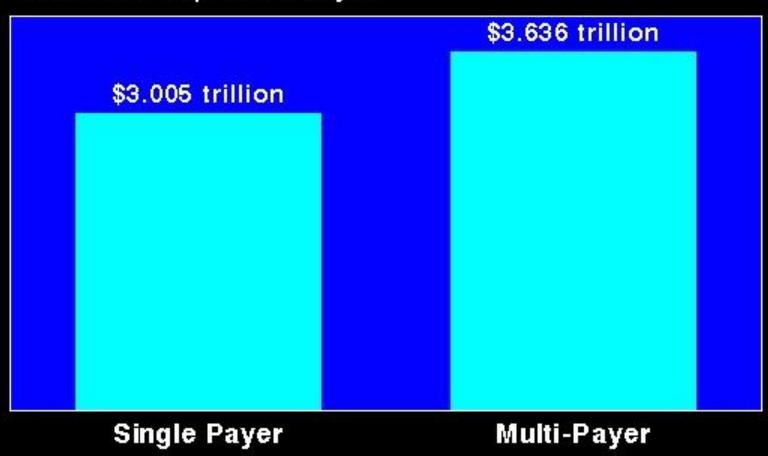
Other reasons for involuntary switch: Employer stopped offering coverage; coverage too expensive; policy holder died; hours dropped

Public Option = High Costs

- Less savings than single payer on insurers' overhead
- Multiple payers = no savings on doctor/hospital billing and administration.
- Private insurers will tilt the playing field (as under Medicare Advantage) raising system-wide costs and perpetuating network restrictions, cherry-picking, lemon dropping, upcoding, cheating.
- Higher system-wide costs (compared to single payer) assure political pressure for benefit cuts.

Single Payer Would Cost \$631 Billion Less Than a Universal Multi-Payer Reform

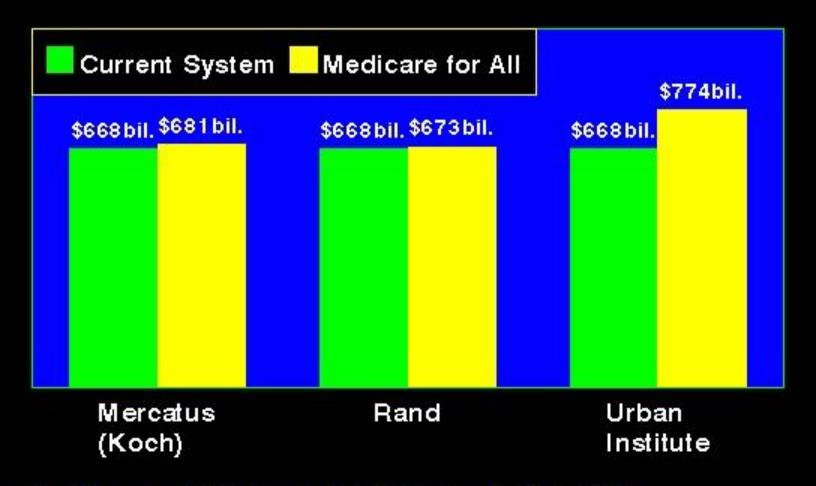
Total health expenditures/year



Source: Galvani & Fitzpatrick, Lancet 2020;395:1692

Total Payments to America's ~ 1 Million Physicians With and Without Medicare for All

Three Recent Estimates by Single Payer Skeptics



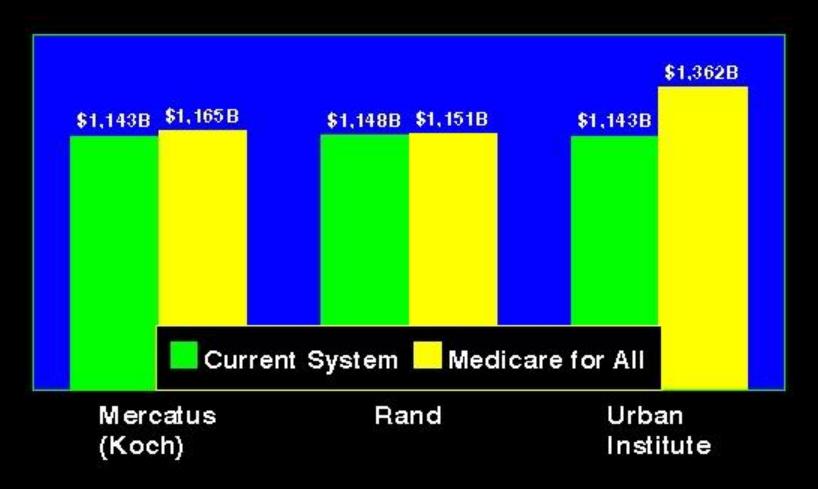
Sources: Rand Corporation (2019), Urban Institute (2016), Mercatus Center (2018)

Note: Percentage estimates from original studies, applied to 2019 total physician expenditures

Note: Urban argued that "physician incomes would be squeezed" even as payments rose by >\$100 bil.

Total Payments to America's ~5,500 Hospitals With and Without Medicare for All

Three Recent Estimates by Single Payer Skeptics



Sources: Rand Corporation (2019), Urban Institute (2016), Mercatus Center (2018)

Note: Percentage estimates from original studies, applied to 2017 total hospital payments

Note: Urban's 2019 estimate is similar to 2016 estimate overall, but lacks detail.



THE NEW

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

Your new National Health Service begins on 5th July. What is it? How do you get it?

It will provide you with all medical, dental, and nursing care. Everyone—rich or poor, man, woman or child—can use it or any part of it. There are no charges, except for a few special items. There are no insurance qualifications. But it is not a "charity". You are all paying for it, mainly as taxpayers, and it will relieve your money worries in time of illness.

"...There are no charges, except for a few special items"

"...no insurance qualifications"

An equal right to healthcare

Source: http://museum.hackney.gov.uk/object9232