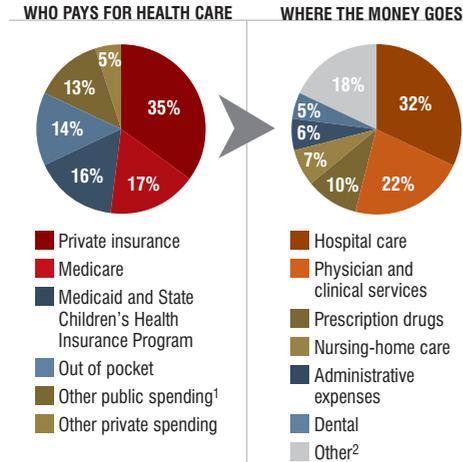


Price of health

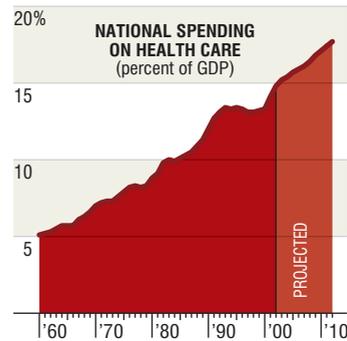
What Americans spend on health care—and what we get for the money

FOLLOWING THE MONEY When you itemize the national health bill, you find that government programs are our biggest source of funds and hospital costs far and away top our spending.



Notes: As of 2001. ¹Includes workers' compensation, public health, Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs and Indian Health Service spending. ²Includes other professional services, home care, durable medical products, over-the-counter medications, public health, research and construction.
Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

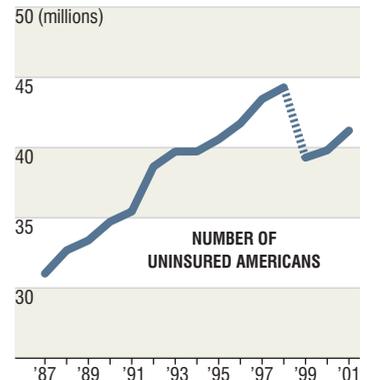
SPENDING ON THE RISE We already devote more than 14% of our GDP to health care. Even though the rate of growth is expected to slow, by 2012 that figure may top 17%.



Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

THE GROWING RANKS OF THE UNINSURED

In 1999 the official tally of Americans without health insurance dropped sharply, in part because the Census Bureau changed the way it counted them. But their numbers are rising again. At last count, as of March 2002, 41 million people had been uninsured for a full year.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey*.

13.9% was the average increase in monthly premiums for employer plans from spring 2002 to 2003

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation.

HOW THE U.S. COMPARES By some standards of health and well-being, we are unremarkable. Our average life expectancy lags that of many other developed nations, and access to basic care, measured by the number of acute-care hospital days, is typical. But higher prices and heavy use of technology mean that we devote far more of our economy to health care than other nations do; fortunately, our economy is also bigger than most.



Notes: Data are most recent available. Life expectancy is for a newborn. **Source:** Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.