



Why Colorado Needs Health Reform: By the Numbers

Our broken health care system forces families and businesses to struggle with skyrocketing costs and puts millions of Americans at risk of losing the insurance they have now. Here is how our broken health care system affects people in Colorado.

- 100 residents of Colorado are losing health insurance every day, and 14,000 Americans nationwide lose insurance daily.
- The average family premium in Colorado costs \$1,100 more because our system fails to cover everyone—and \$1,100 more nationally.
- Our broken health insurance system will cost the Colorado economy as much as \$4.2 billion this year in productivity losses due to the uninsured—and up to \$248 billion nationally.
- In Colorado there has been a 14 percent increase in the uninsured rate since 2007.
- 880,000 are uninsured today in Colorado.
- In Colorado the combined market share of the top two insurers is 53 percent, limiting employers' and families' health insurance options as well as the care they receive.
- The average family premium will rise from \$12,936 to \$22,073 by 2019 in Colorado without health care reform.
- In Colorado, without health care reform, 121,420 will have lost coverage from January 2008 to December 2010.
- In Colorado, 405,000 people would gain coverage as a result of the House health care reform bill by 2013, and 651,000 would gain coverage by 2019.
- A typical Colorado family will pay \$22,073 for health coverage in 2019 without health care reform.

In their own words

Elizabeth Stringer found a suspicious lump in January 2007. She was afraid of not being able to afford medical care so she did not see an oncologist until September. When she finally saw a doctor, she was diagnosed with cancer. In the nine months that passed between finding the lump and seeing a doctor, Elizabeth's cancer had progressed. As a result, her treatment has been lengthy and continues to this day. Elizabeth believes we need health care reform so that people are able do not have to live in fear of medical debt and can invest in preventative care for themselves.

Elizabeth, Boulder, CO

SEIU

Additional national statistics

- 128,000 small business jobs and \$84 billion per year can be saved with health reform.
- At least 62.1 percent of bankruptcies in 2007 were medical bankruptcies.
- The typical household will pay \$15,000 for health care this year—and they'll pay \$18,000 next year.
- The typical household will be paying \$36,000 for health care by 2020.
- We can save \$600 billion by modernizing our health care system.
- Twenty-five million Americans are underinsured, meaning that out-of-pocket health care costs absorbed 10 percent or more of a family's income or 5 percent of an adult's income.
- Almost 52 million Americans are uninsured.
- Approximately 87 million people—one in three Americans—went without health insurance for some period during 2007 and 2008.