



## Why Arizona 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 Arizona.

- 280 residents of Arizona are losing health insurance every day, and 14,000 Americans nationwide lose insurance daily.
- The average family premium in Arizona costs \$1,700 more because our system fails to cover everyone—and \$1,100 more nationally.
- Our broken health insurance system will cost the Arizona economy as much as \$6.2 billion this year in productivity losses due to the uninsured—and up to \$248 billion nationally.
- In Arizona, the uninsured rate grew from 16 percent in 2000 to 19.5 percent today.
- 1,273,000 are uninsured today in Arizona.
- In Arizona the combined market share of the top two insurers is 65 percent, limiting employers' and families' health insurance options as well as the care they receive.
- The average family premium will rise from \$13,345 to \$22,770 by 2019 in Arizona without health care reform.
- In Arizona, without health care reform, 184,280 will have lost coverage from January 2008 to December 2010.
- In Arizona, 614,000 people would gain coverage as a result of the House health care reform bill by 2013, and 988,000 would gain coverage by 2019.
- A typical Arizona family will pay \$22,771 for health coverage in 2019 without health care reform.

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### In their own words

Carolyn Trowbridge became an R.N. in 1974 and worked in hospitals for the next 30 years. She specialized in dialysis for decades. Her work let her see the American health care system's ups and downs. She says the problems that she saw her dialysis patients face were really a “microcosm of the entire broken system.” According to Carolyn, kidney failure of the magnitude that requires dialysis is almost entirely preventable if people have access to health care during early stages. “Seventy-five percent of my patients had diabetes that had progressed to late stage because they had no health insurance and no access to care. For the uninsured, there is no basic system to identify and treat simple problems before they become expensive.” Carolyn says that the vast majority of the patients who she helped get dialysis were Americans of color—Latinos, African Americans,

and Native Americans in particular. She thinks this is because these populations disproportionately lacked access to appropriate health care and had jobs that did not offer benefits. Carolyn believes we need to fix our broken health care system, which allows for too much wasteful spending and preventable suffering.

*Carolyn, Tuscon, AZ*  
*SEIU*

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## 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.

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