



Why Washington 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 Washington.

- 390 residents of Washington are losing health insurance every day, and 14,000 Americans nationwide lose insurance daily.
- The average family premium in Washington costs \$1,300 more because our system fails to cover everyone—and \$1,100 more nationally.
- Our broken health insurance system will cost the Washington economy as much as \$4.7 billion this year in productivity losses due to the uninsured—and up to \$248 billion nationally.
- The uninsured rate is 12.4 percent in Washington.
- 808,000 are uninsured today in Washington.
- In Washington the combined market share of the top two insurers is 61 percent, limiting employers' and families' health insurance options as well as the care they receive.
- The average family premium will rise from \$13,199 to \$22,522 by 2019 in Washington without health care reform.
- In Washington, without health care reform, 110,540 will have lost coverage from January 2008 to December 2010.
- In Washington, 368,000 people would gain coverage as a result of the House health care reform bill by 2013, and 593,000 would gain coverage by 2019.
- A typical Washington family will pay \$22,522 for health coverage in 2019 without health care reform.

In their own words

As a food service worker in a hospital, Michael's workload has significantly gone up because of budget cuts. In fact, short-staffing is one of the biggest problems getting in the way of Michael's ability to do his job to the best of his ability. But even though he is working more, Michael's salary and benefits are such that he cannot afford to pay the percentage of his health care coverage. Luckily, Michael's wife has insurance at her job. But Michael wonders why someone in the health care industry should have to depend on his/her spouse's insurance to get quality coverage.

*Michael Ocampo, Woodinville, WA
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.

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