



## Why Wisconsin 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 Wisconsin.

- 230 residents of Wisconsin are losing health insurance every day, and 14,000 Americans nationwide lose insurance daily.
- The average family premium in Wisconsin costs \$900 more because our system fails to cover everyone—and \$1,100 more nationally.
- Our broken health insurance system will cost the Wisconsin economy as much as \$3.0 billion this year in productivity losses due to the uninsured—and up to \$248 billion nationally.
- In Wisconsin, the uninsured rate grew from 7.5 percent in 2000 to 9.6 percent today.
- 535,000 are uninsured today in Wisconsin.
- The average family premium will rise from \$13,471 to \$22,986 by 2019 in Wisconsin without health care reform.
- In Wisconsin, without health care reform, 70,000 will have lost coverage from January 2008 to December 2010.
- In Wisconsin, 233,000 people would gain coverage as a result of the House health care reform bill by 2013, and 375,000 would gain coverage by 2019.
- A typical Wisconsin family will pay \$22,986 for health coverage in 2019 without health care reform.

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### In their own words

My name is Geri Weitzel. I have worked for Fairview- Riverside Hospital in the Sterile Product Distribution center for 17 years. My husband has a renal failure. We got some bad news this week. He may have to get a liver transplant. We have already had to make a lot of changes because of how much money his health care costs. I pay close to \$200 out of every paycheck for health insurance and then another \$1,500 a year before I hit my yearly maximums. By the time I do pay the maximum, it's a new year and we start all over again. We ended up paying late, and they turned a collection agency on us. It's paid off now, but our house is in jeopardy.

*Geri Weitzel, Durand, WI  
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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