

HEALTH CARE FACT SHEET

- 37 —America’s world ranking in terms of overall health-care system performance.
(World Health Organization—year 2000 data)
- 18 —percent of the gross domestic product the U.S. spent on health care in 2008.
- 7 —percent of gross domestic product that Japan spent on health care in 2008.
- 62 —percent of all U.S. bankruptcies directly caused by medical bills in 2008.
(source: Harvard Medical School study)
- 45 —percent of women who reported problems with medical bills in 2007.
(2009 Commonwealth Fund study)
- 47 —millions of Americans who had *no* health insurance coverage in 2008.
- 75 —percent of health care dollars spent on chronic diseases, most being preventable.
- 2 —percent of each health dollar spent on prevention programs nationwide.
- 66 —percent of American adults who are obese or overweight.
- 5 —percent spent on overhead (billing, administration) by Medicare and Medicaid.
- 30 —percent spent on overhead by private health insurance industry (estimate).
- \$24,300,112 —total compensation of Ron Williams, CEO of Aetna, in 2008.
- .05 —percent of NIH budget spent on CAM (complementary and alternative medicine).
- 38 —percent of adults using some form of CAM; 12 percent of children now use it.
(The National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine—2007)
- 70 —percent of drug trials funded by the manufacturers of the drugs under scrutiny.
- \$3 million—health-industry campaign contributions to Senator Baucus (D-Montana).
[Baucus is chair of the key Senate committee involved in the health-care legislation]
- 13 —number of protesters arrested during Senator Baucus’s recent hearings on health care.
- 85 —percent who say health care needs to be fundamentally changed or completely rebuilt.
(The New York Times/CBS News, June 15, 2009 poll)
- 60 —percent willing to pay higher taxes to make sure that all Americans are insured.
(The New York Times/CBS News, June 15, 2009 poll)
- 72 —percent who support a “competitive” insurance plan (Obama’s “public option”).
(The New York Times/CBS News, June 15, 2009 poll)
- 65 —percent who say that everyone should be “covered under a program like Medicare.”
(2007 AP-Yahoo poll)

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A Return to Healing:
Radical Health Care Reform and the Future of Medicine

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