# The Economic Case for Health Care Reform



Christina D. Romer, Chair Council of Economic Advisers

#### National Health Expenditures as a Share of GDP, 1980-2040



### Projected Annual Total Compensation and Health Insurance Premiums



### Projections of Total Spending on Medicare and Medicaid as a Share of GDP, 2009-2040



# Projected Percentage of the U.S. Population Under Age 65 without Health Insurance, 2000-2040



#### **Different Scenarios for Path of Health Care Expenditures**



#### **Estimated Family Income with and without Health Care Reform**



#### Reduction in the Federal Budget Deficit Due to Health Care Reform



#### Unemployment Rate Effect from a Reduction in Health Care Costs



### Per Capita Medicare Spending, 2006



Source: The Dartmouth Institute for Heath Policy and Clinical Practice. The Dartmouth Atlas.

#### Health Insurance Status of Non-Elderly Individuals in the United States, 2007



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2007.

#### Average Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance Family Deductibles by Firm Size, 1999 and 2006





## International Comparison of Health Care Spending as a Share of GDP, 2006



#### Female Life Expectancy at Birth, 2006







#### Impact on GDP of Improved Efficiency in Health Care and Increased Capital Formation due to Lower Deficits

