A FINANCIAL AND DISTRIBUTIONAL ANALYSIS

THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT:

THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT: A FINANCIAL AND DISTRIBUTIONAL ANALYSIS

- I. NATIONAL HEALTH EXPENDITURES
- II. IMPACT ON FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
- III. IMPACT ON BUSINESS
- IV. IMPACT ON FAMILIES

THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT: A FINANCIAL AND DISTRIBUTIONAL ANALYSIS

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NATIONAL HEALTH EXPENDITURES

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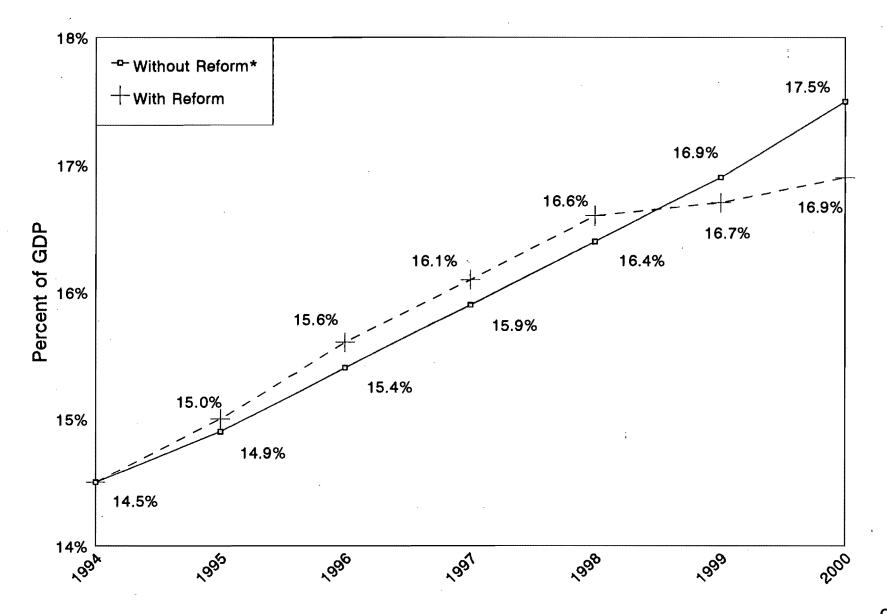
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NATIONAL HEALTH EXPENDITURES UNDER CURRENT POLICY AND THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT: 1994 - 2000

- Absent comprehensive reform, health care would consume 17.5 percent of GDP, or \$1.653 trillion, in the year 2000. [Charts I-A and I-B]
- Under the Health Security Act, health care will consume 16.9 percent of GDP, or \$1.597 trillion, in the year 2000. This is \$56 billion lower than if there were no comprehensive reform. [Charts I-A and I-B]
- Under the Health Security Act, there will be a short-term increase in national health expenditures. Between 1995 and 1998 national health expenditures will consume 0.1 percent to 0.2 percent more of GDP than they would have without comprehensive reform. By 1999, health care will consume a lower percentage of GDP under the Health Security Act than if there were no comprehensive reform. [Charts I-A and I-B]
- Over the entire period from 1994 to 2000, savings will exceed additional expenditures by \$37 billion. [Chart I-B]

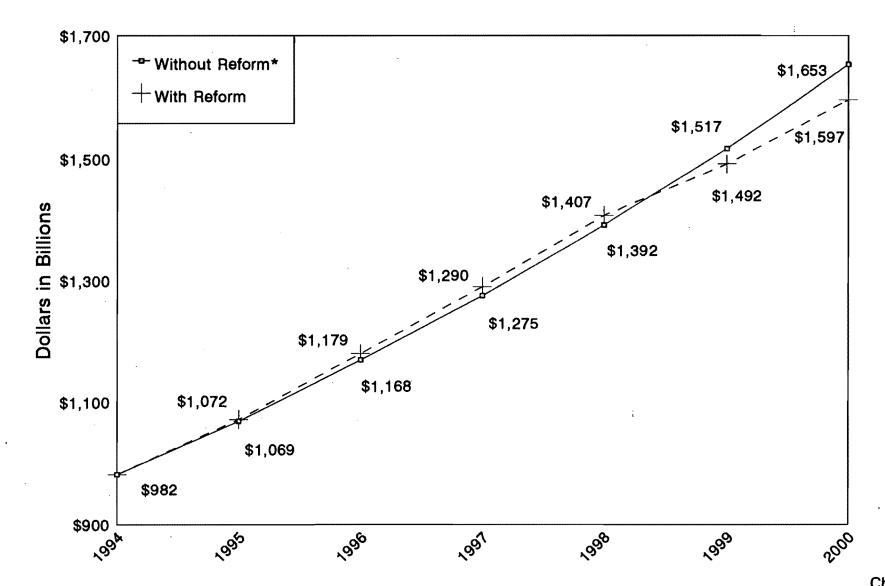
NATIONAL HEALTH EXPENDITURES AS A PERCENT OF GDP

Under Current Policy and the Health Security Act: 1994 - 2000



SOURCE: Administration Estimates. * CBO baseline with Administration's economic assumptions. Chart I-A

NATIONAL HEALTH EXPENDITURES IN DOLLARS Under Current Policy and the Health Security Act: 1994 - 2000



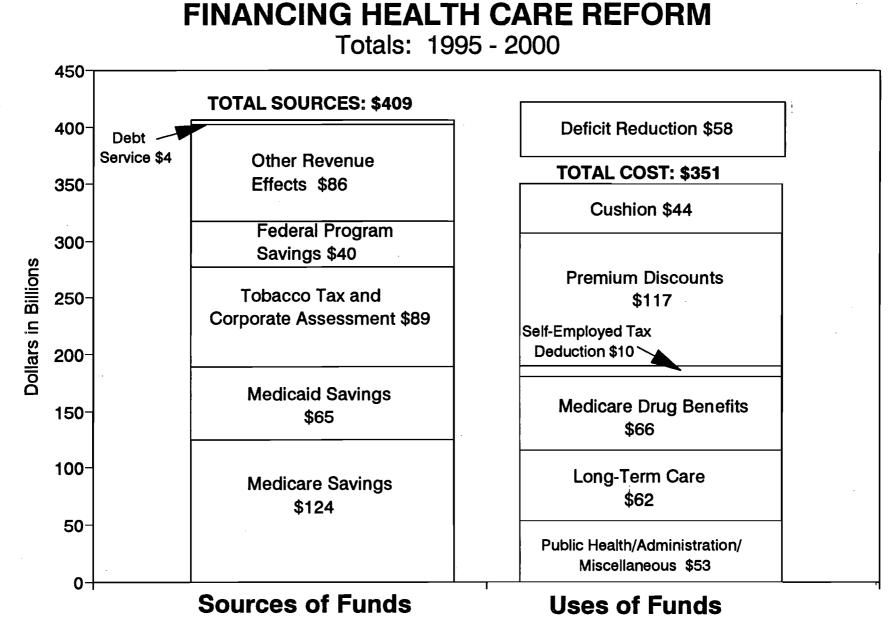
IMPACT ON FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

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FINANCING HEALTH CARE REFORM Totals: 1995 - 2000

- Under the Health Security Act, federal sources of funds (savings and resources) will total \$409 billion for the period 1995 to 2000. The total federal <u>cost</u> (expenditures) of health reform will be \$351 billion over that period. Thus, health reform will contribute \$58 billion toward deficit reduction in the first five years alone. [Chart II-A]
- The total estimated cost includes a \$44 billion discount "cushion", designed to ensure that there is adequate funding in the event of unanticipated economic or behavioral changes. [Chart II-A]



SOURCE: Office of Management and Budget Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chart II-A

MEDICARE PROGRAM UNDER CURRENT POLICY AND THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT: 1994-2000

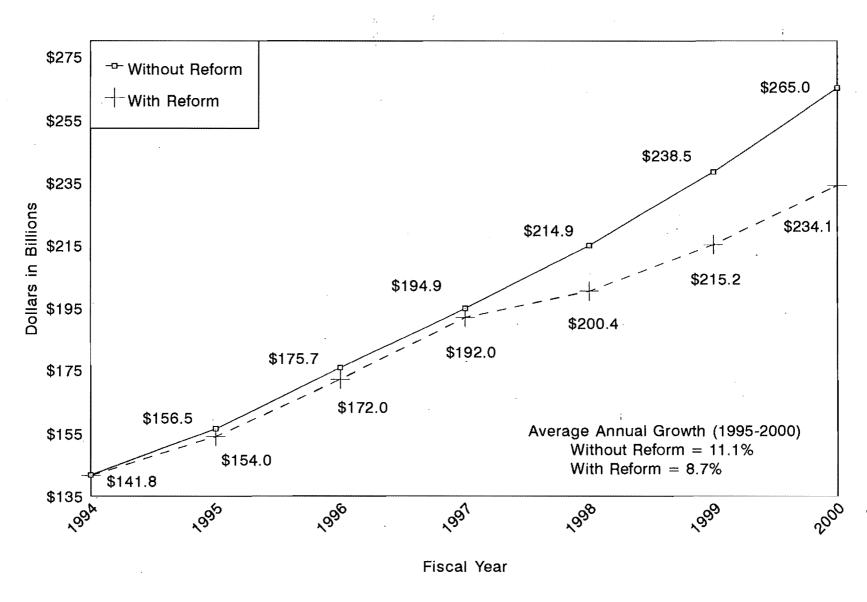
- Absent comprehensive reform, Medicare spending would grow at an average annual rate of 11.1 percent from 1995 to 2000. [Charts II-B and II-C]
- Including spending for the new prescription drug benefit, Medicare expenditures under the Health Security Act will increase at an average annual rate of 8.7 percent from 1995 to 2000. This is an average decrease of 2.4 percentage points due to the Health Security Act. [Chart II-B]
- Without spending for the new prescription drug benefit, Medicare expenditures under the Health Security Act will increase at an average annual rate of 7.2 percent for the same years. This is an average decrease of 3.9 percentage points due to the Health Security Act. [Chart II-C]
- Not including spending for prescription drugs, the Health Security Act will reduce Medicare spending by \$47.1 billion in the year 2000 alone. If spending for prescription drugs is included, Medicare spending will drop by \$30.9 billion in that year. [Charts II-B and II-C]

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- Only 13 percent of all Medicare savings will be financed by beneficiaries. These savings will result from provisions such as coinsurance for home health care and laboratory services. [Chart II-D]
- Beneficiaries with annual incomes over \$90,000 for individuals and \$115,000 for couples will pay higher Part B premiums.
- Older Americans will pay an additional \$11.00 a month for the prescription drug benefit.

THE MEDICARE PROGRAM* UNDER THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT

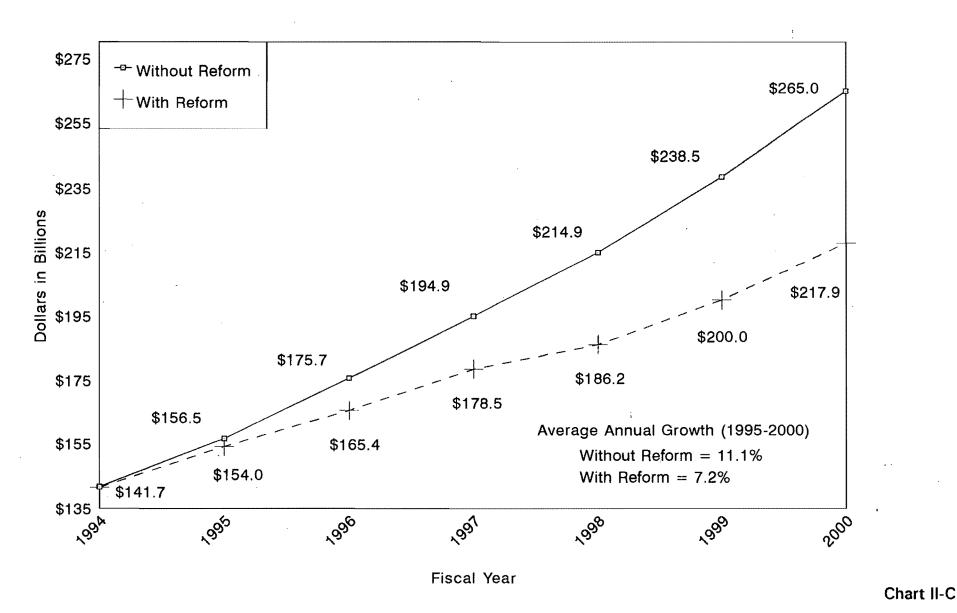
Growth With and Without the Health Security Act (With the Prescription Drug Benefit): 1994 - 2000



SOURCE: Office of the Actuary, HCFA. * Net of Offsetting Receipts The proposed Medicare drug benefit becomes effective in 1996.

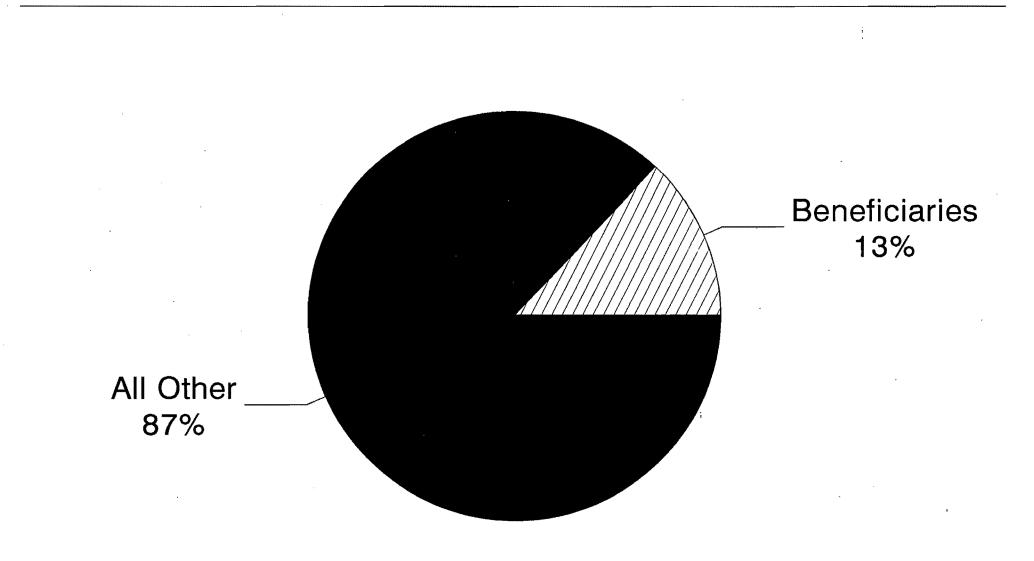
THE MEDICARE PROGRAM* UNDER THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT

Growth With and Without the Health Security Act (Without the Prescription Drug Benefit): 1994 - 2000



* Net of Offsetting Receipts

SOURCES OF MEDICARE SAVINGS Beneficiaries v. All Other: 1995 - 2000

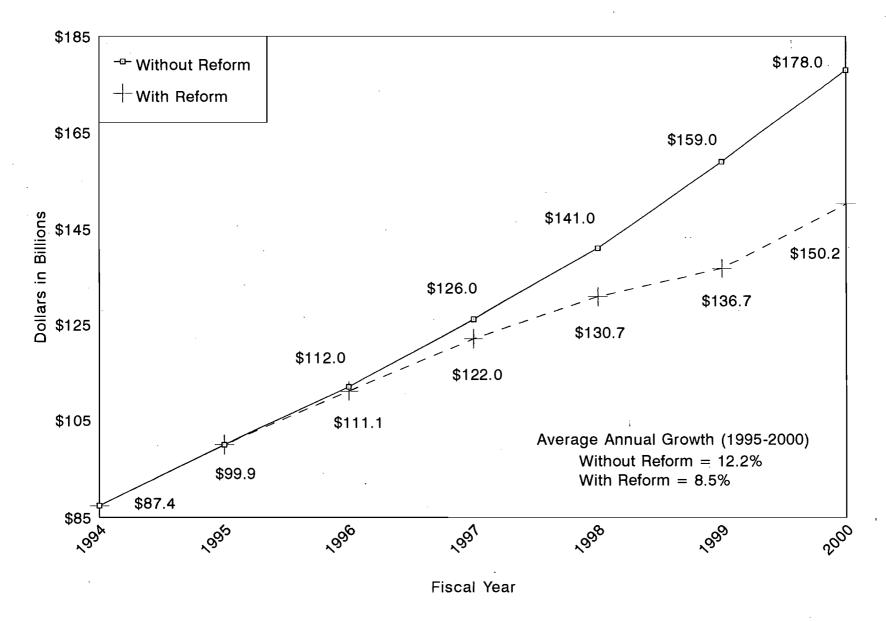


MEDICAID PROGRAM UNDER CURRENT POLICY AND THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT: 1994-2000

- Without comprehensive reform, federal spending for Medicaid would grow at an annual rate of 12.2 percent from 1995 to 2000. [Chart II-E]
- Under the Health Security Act, federal Medicaid spending will increase at an annual rate of 8.5 percent for the same years. This is an average decrease of 3.7 percentage points due to the Health Security Act. [Chart II-E]
- The Health Security Act will save \$27.8 billion in federal Medicaid spending in the year 2000 alone. [Chart II-E]

THE MEDICAID PROGRAM UNDER THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT

Growth With and Without the Health Security Act*



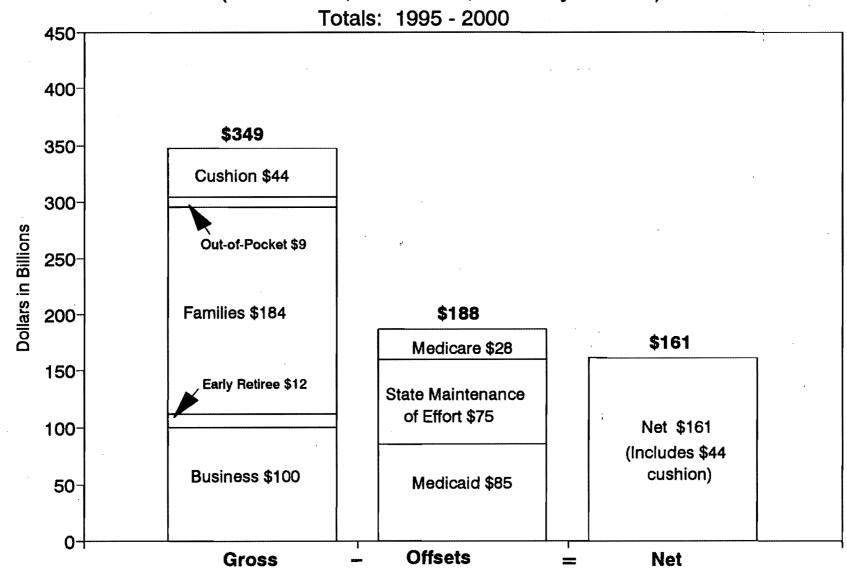
SOURCE: Office of the Actuary, HCFA. * Federal expenditures only. Chart II-E

COST OF DISCOUNTS For Families, Businesses, and Early Retirees Totals: 1995 - 2000

- The federal government will provide discounts totalling \$349 billion for the period from 1995 to 2000. This cost will be partially offset by \$188 billion which will be saved because some persons who used to be in public programs will move into alliances. Thus, the net cost of the discounts will be \$161 billion for the period from 1995 to 2000. [Chart II-F]
- The net cost includes a \$44 billion "cushion", designed to ensure that there is adequate funding in the event of unanticipated economic or behavioral changes. [Chart II-F]
- Excluding the cushion, about \$184 billion (60 percent of the total cost) will be used for premium discounts for families. About \$100 billion (33 percent) will be for discounts to businesses. Approximately \$12 billion (4 percent) will be for discounts for early retirees, and \$9 billion (3 percent) will be for individuals' out-of-pocket expenses. [Chart II-F]

COST OF DISCOUNTS

(For Families, Businesses, and Early Retirees)



SOURCE: Office of Management and Budget

Chart II-F

IMPACT ON BUSINESSES

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Absent comprehensive reform:

- Employer premium payments will increase from \$180 billion in 1994 to \$303 billion in 2000. [Chart III-A]
- This correlates to an increase in percent of payroll spent on health insurance from 5.8 percent of total payroll to 7.0 percent of total payroll, and an increase in per worker premium expenditures from \$1,540 in 1994 to \$2,473 in 2000. [Charts III-B and III-C]
- This represents an overall increase in premium payments of nearly 70 percent.

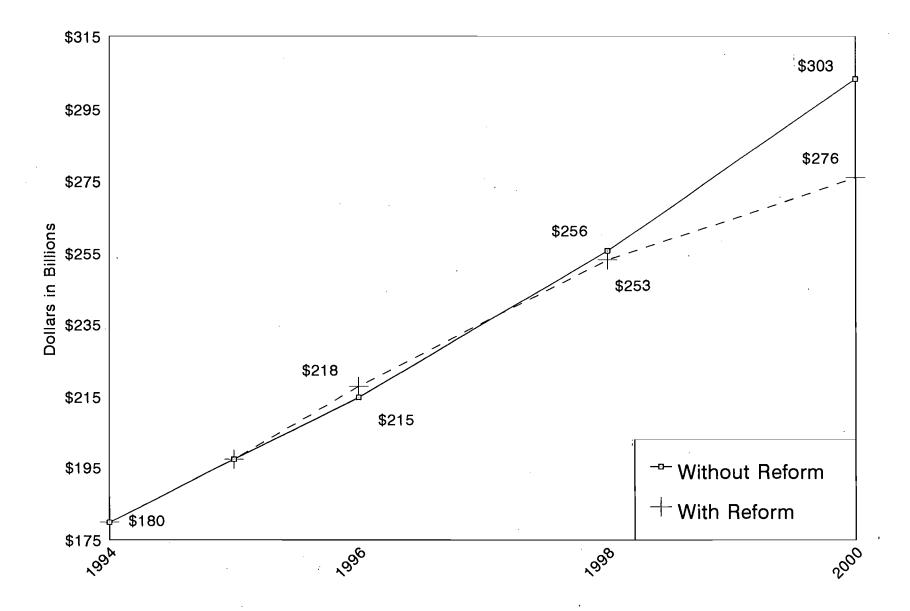
Under the Health Security Act:

- Employer premium payments will only rise from \$180 billion in 1994 to \$276 billion in 2000 -- \$27 billion less than would have been the case without reform. [Chart III-A]
- This correlates to a smaller increase in percent of payroll spent on health insurance -- only 6.4 percent with reform. [Chart III-B]

 Per worker premium expenditures increase at a slower rate, from \$1,540 in 1994 to \$2,245 in 2000. [Chart III-C]

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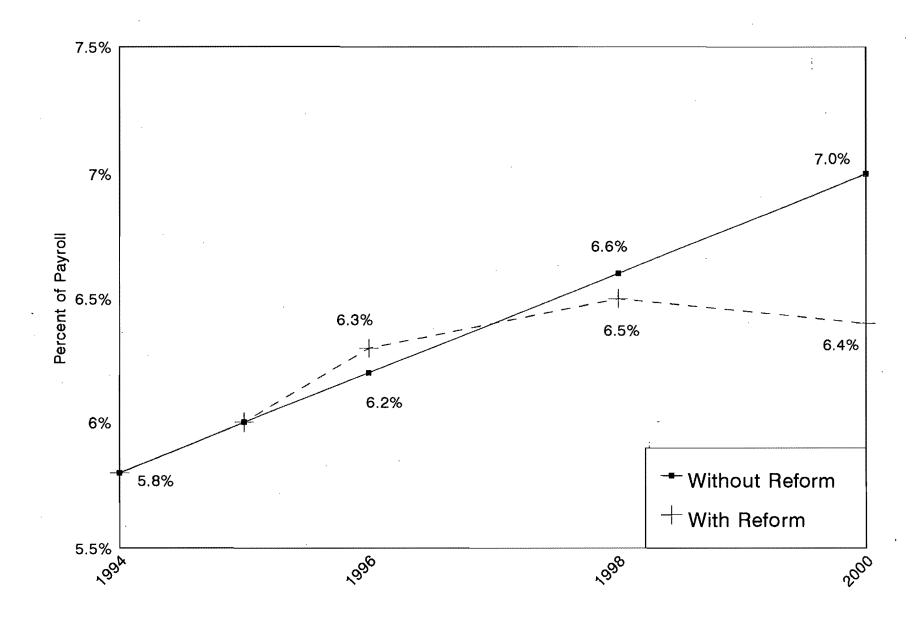
Annual Employer-Paid Premiums: 1994 - 2000



SOURCE: HHS and The Urban Institute's TRIM2 Model, benchmarked to HCFA's National Health Accounts. Includes premiums paid by public and private employers for covered services in corporate and regional alliances. Chart III-A

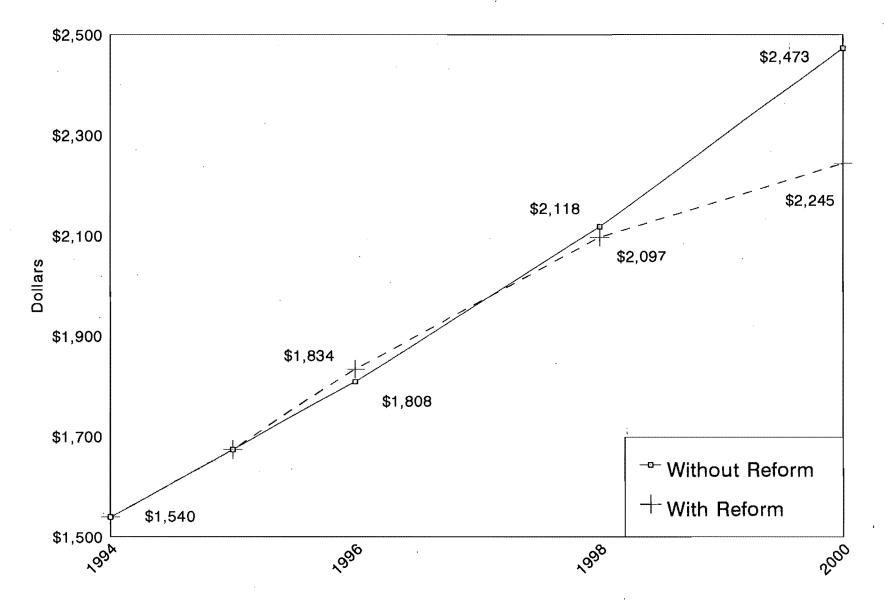
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Average Annual Percent of Payroll: 1994 - 2000



SOURCE: HHS and The Urban Institute's TRIM2 Model, benchmarked to HCFA's National Health Accounts. Includes premiums paid by public and private employers for covered services in corporate and regional alliances. Chart III-B

Average Annual Premiums per Worker: 1994 - 2000



SOURCE: HHS and The Urban Institute's TRIM2 Model, benchmarked to HCFA's National Health Accounts. Includes premiums paid by public and private employers for covered services in corporate and regional alliances. Chart III-C

EMPLOYERS' PREMIUM PAYMENTS UNDER THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT For Firms Currently Offering Insurance: 1994 - 2000

Absent comprehensive reform:

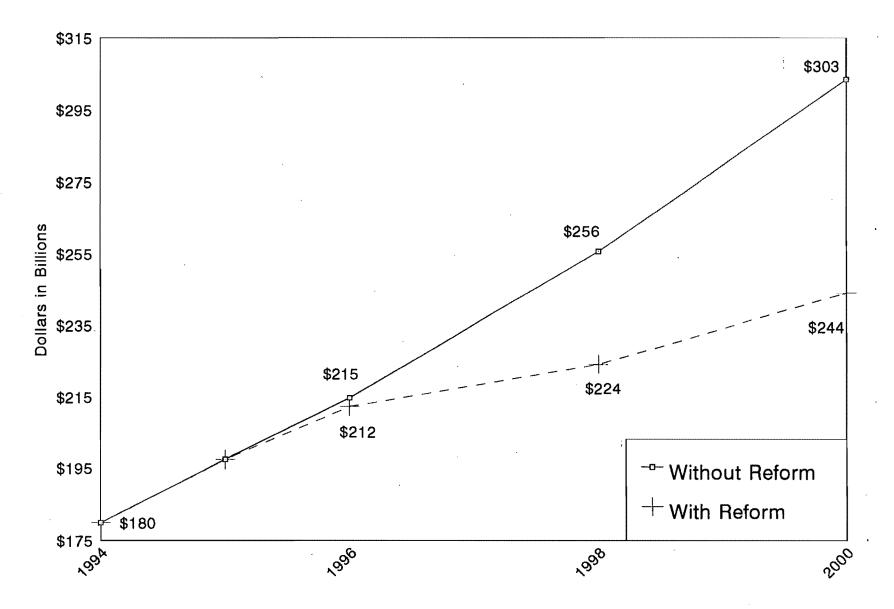
- Employer-paid premiums for firms that currently offer insurance would rise at a rate of approximately 70 percent, from \$180 billion to \$303 billion between 1994 and the year 2000. [Chart III-D]
- This results in an increase in percent of payroll spent on health insurance from 6.8 percent of total payroll to 8.2 percent of total payroll, and an increase in per worker premium expenditures from \$1,923 in 1994 to \$3,086 in 2000. [Charts III-E and III-F]

Under the Health Security Act:

- Employer premium payments will rise from \$180 billion in 1994 to only \$244 billion in 2000 -- \$59 billion less than would have been the case without reform. [Chart III-D]
- This results in a smaller increase in percent of payroll spent on health insurance -- only 6.6 percent with reform, versus 8.2 percent without reform. [Chart III-E]

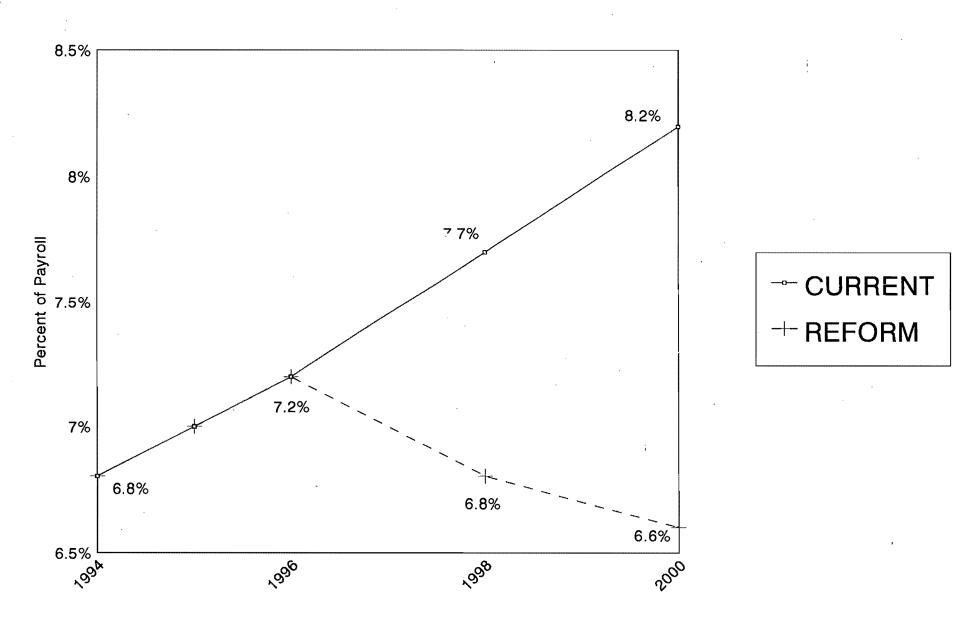
- Per worker premium expenditures increase at a slower rate, from \$1,923 in 1994 to \$2,481 in 2000, an overall increase of only 29 percent. This equates to savings of \$605 per worker in the year 2000. [Chart III-F]
- Under the Health Security Act, employers who now offer insurance will experience immediate savings.

Annual Employer-Paid Premiums for Firms Currently Offering Insurance: 1994 - 2000



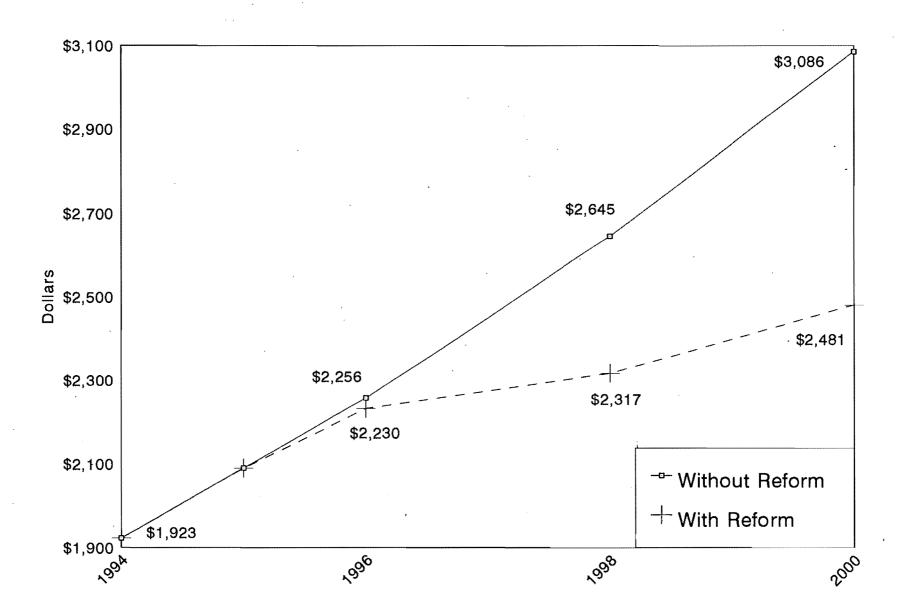
SOURCE: HHS and The Urban Institute's TRIM2 Model, benchmarked to HCFA's National Health Accounts. Includes premiums paid by public and private employers for covered services in corporate and regional alliances. Chart III-D

Average Annual Percent of Payroll for Firms Currently Offering Insurance: 1994 - 2000



SOURCE: HHS and The Urban Institute's TRIM2 Model, benchmarked to HCFA's National Health Accounts. Includes premiums paid by public and private employers for covered services in corporate and regional alliances. Chart III-E

Average Annual Premiums per Worker for Firms Currently Offering Insurance: 1994 - 2000



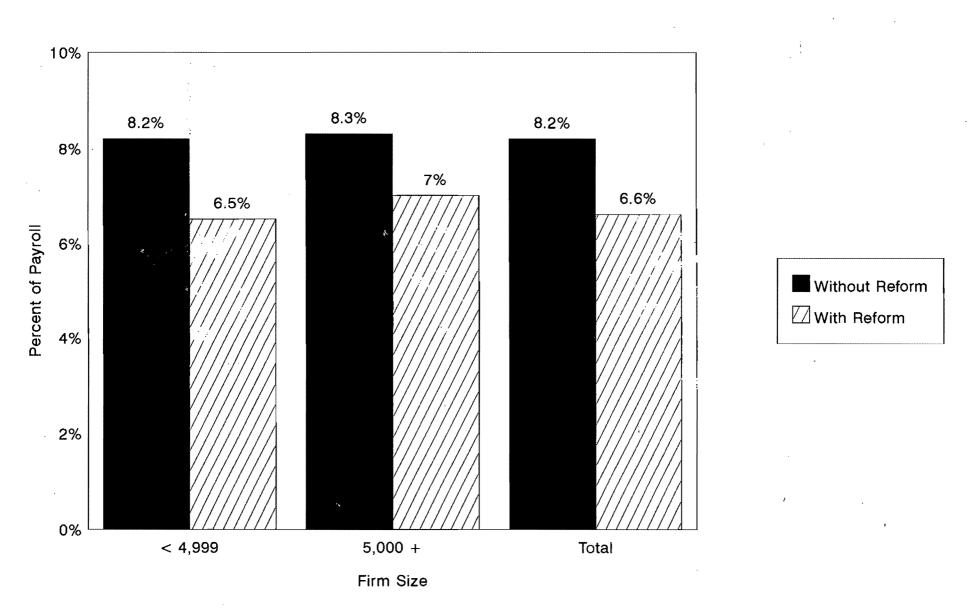
SOURCE: HHS and The Urban Institute's TRIM2 Model, benchmarked to HCFA's National Health Accounts. Includes premiums paid by public and private employers for covered services in corporate and regional alliances. Chart III-F

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EMPLOYERS' PREMIUM PAYMENTS UNDER THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT For Firms Currently Offering Insurance For Firms with Greater or Less Than 5000 Employees: Year 2000

- Firms with more than 5000 employees are eligible to form corporate alliances. Employees of firms with less than 5000 employees will enroll in regional alliances.
- Under the Health Security Act, the average employer that currently offer insurance will pay less, per worker and as a percent of payroll, on health insurance premiums for their employees than would be the case without reform.
- Firms with less than 5000 employees that currently offer insurance will save \$621 per worker in the year 2000 alone. They will spend only 6.5 percent of total payroll on employees' health insurance premiums. [Charts III-G and III-H]
- Firms with more than 5000 employees that currently offer insurance will save \$551 per worker in the year 2000 alone. They will spend only 7.0 percent of total payroll on employees' health insurance premiums. [Charts III-G and III-H]

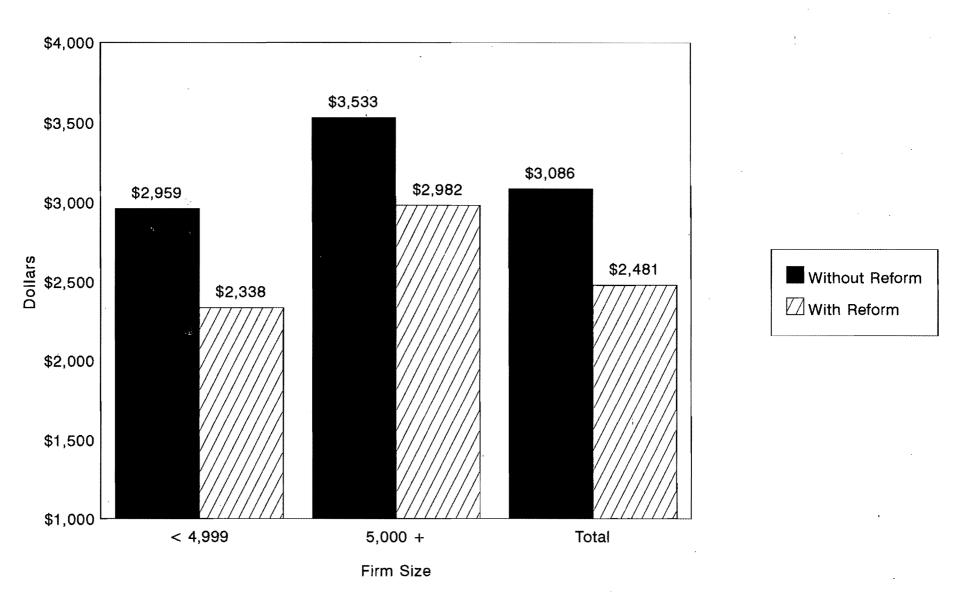
Average Annual Percent of Payroll for Firms Currently Offering Insurance For Firms with Greater or Less Than 5,000 Employees: Year 2000



SOURCE: HHS and The Urban Institute's TRIM2 Model, benchmarked to HCFA's National Health Accounts. Includes premiums paid by public and private employers for covered services in corporate and regional alliances.

Chart III-G

Average Annual Premiums per Worker for Firms Currently Offering Insurance For Firms with Greater or Less Than 5,000 Employees: Year 2000



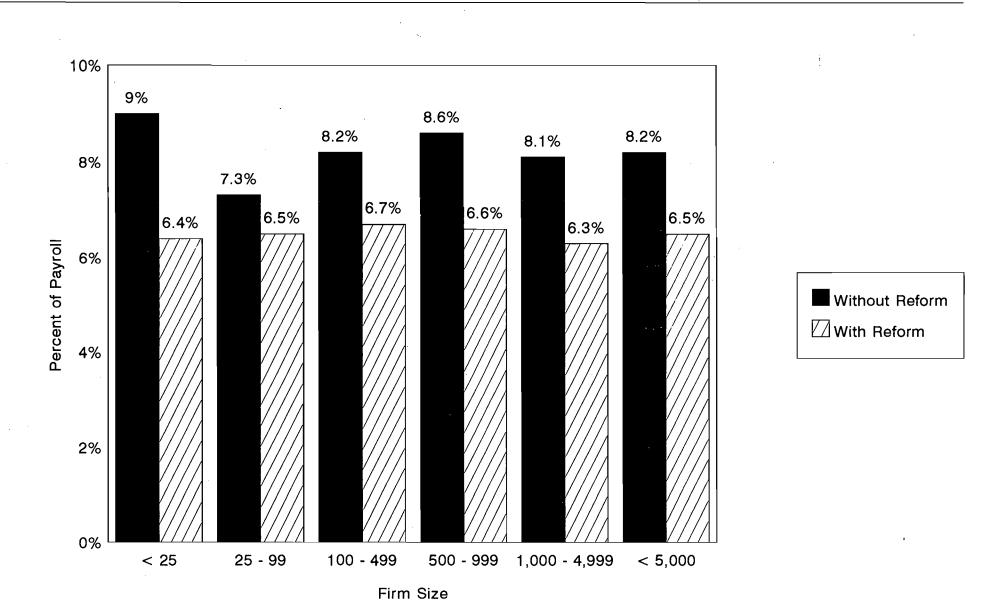
SOURCE: HHS and The Urban Institute's TRIM2 Model, benchmarked to HCFA's National Health Accounts. Includes premiums paid by public and private employers for covered services in corporate and regional alliances.

EMPLOYERS' PREMIUM PAYMENTS UNDER THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT For Firms Currently Offering Insurance By Firm Size: Year 2000

- On average, firms with fewer than 5000 employees that currently offer insurance will save, both as a percent of payroll and per worker, under the Health Security Act. [Charts III-I and III-J]
- Small firms with fewer than 25 workers will experience the largest savings as a percent of payroll under the Health Security Act. They will pay a full 2.6 percentage points less of their payroll - \$771 per worker on premiums after reform. [Charts III-I and III-J]

EMPLOYERS' PREMIUM PAYMENTS UNDER THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT

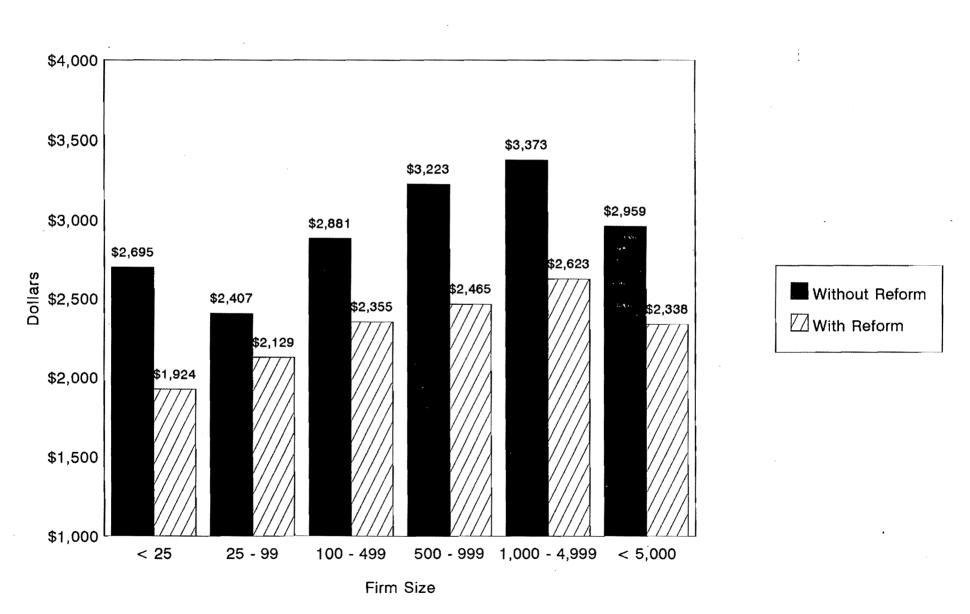
Average Annual Percent of Payroll for Firms Currently Offering Insurance By Firm Size: Year 2000



SOURCE: HHS and The Urban Institute's TRIM2 Model, benchmarked to HCFA's National Health Accounts. Includes premiums paid by public and private employers for covered services in corporate and regional alliances. Chart III- I

EMPLOYERS' PREMIUM PAYMENTS UNDER THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT

Average Annual Premiums per Worker for Firms Currently Offering Insurance By Firm Size: Year 2000



SOURCE: HHS and The Urban Institute's TRIM2 Model, benchmarked to HCFA's National Health Accounts. Includes premiums paid by public and private employers for covered services in corporate and regional alliances.

Chart III-J

IMPACT ON WORKERS AND FAMILIES

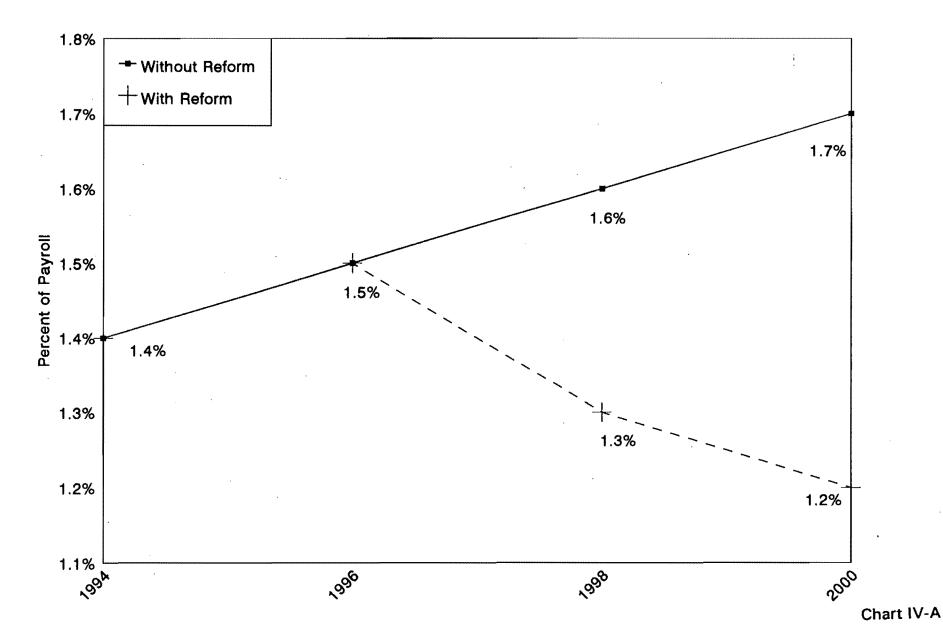
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WORKERS' PREMIUM PAYMENTS UNDER THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT: 1994 - 2000

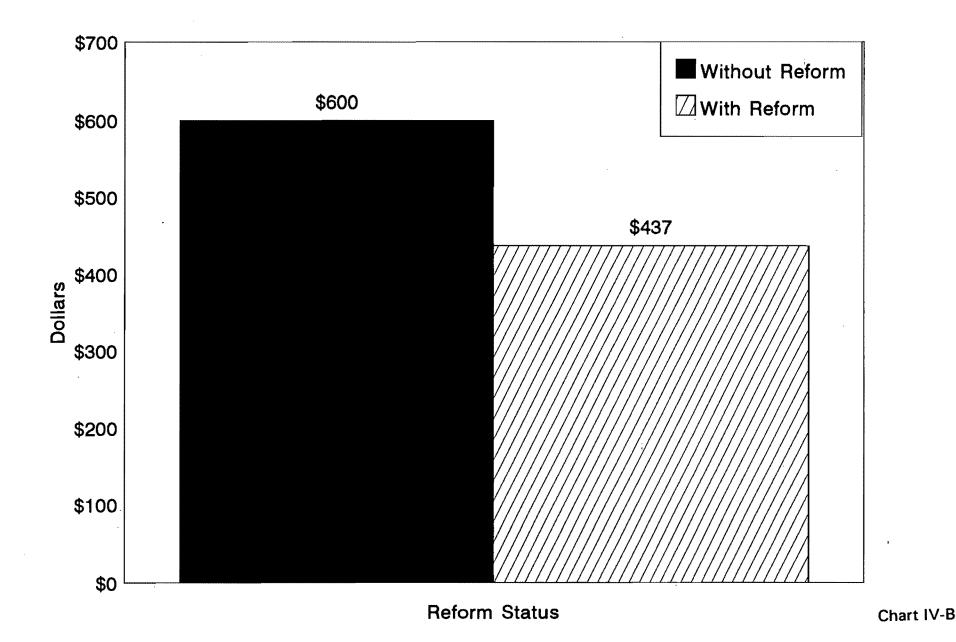
- Absent comprehensive reform, workers' premium payments would rise, on average, from 1.4 percent of payroll in 1994 to 1.7 percent in 2000.
 [Chart IV-A] By the year 2000, workers would contribute an average of \$600 each year for their share of their premiums. [Chart IV-B]
- As states phase in universal coverage under the Health Security Act, workers' premium payments will fall from 1.5 percent of payroll in 1996 to 1.2 percent in the year 2000. [Chart IV-A] By the year 2000, workers will contribute an average of \$437 per year for their share of their premiums -- 27 percent less than if there were no comprehensive reform. [Chart IV-B]
- Thus, under the Health Security Act, workers's premium payments will be 0.5 percentage points less of total payroll costs in the year 2000. [Chart IV-A]

WORKERS' PREMIUM PAYMENTS UNDER THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT Average Annual Percent of Payroll: 1994 - 2000



WORKERS' PREMIUM PAYMENTS UNDER THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT

Average Annual Premiums per Worker: Year 2000

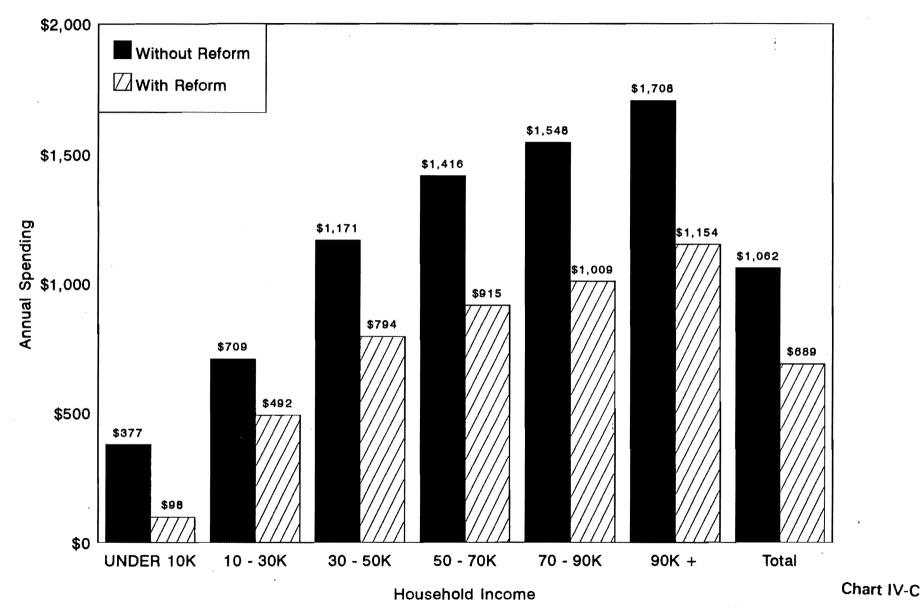


FAMILIES' PREMIUM PAYMENTS UNDER THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT: Year 2000

- Absent comprehensive reform, families' average annual spending in the year 2000 on health insurance premiums would be \$373 higher than under the Health Security Act (\$1062 versus \$689, respectively).
 [Chart IV-C] This translates to their spending 2.3 percent of income on premiums without comprehensive reform, as opposed to 1.5 percent under the Health Security Act. [Chart IV-D]
- Families with annual incomes between \$30,000 and \$50,000 would spend an average of \$377 more for premiums in the year 2000 if there is no comprehensive reform than they would under the Health Security Act (\$1171 versus \$794, respectively). [Chart IV-C] This translates to their spending 3.1 percent of income on premiums without comprehensive reform, as opposed to 2.1 percent under the Health Security Act. [Chart IV-D]

- All families, regardless of income, will save money on premium payments in the year 2000 under the Health Security Act. [Chart IV-E]
- On average, families with annual incomes between \$30,000 and \$50,000 will spend 1.0 percent of income less on health care in 2000 under the Health Security Act. [Chart IV-E, Chart IV-C]
- On average, the Health Security Act will save families 35 percent of their premium costs in the year 2000. Families with annual incomes between \$30,000 and \$50,000 will save 32 percent. [Chart IV-C]

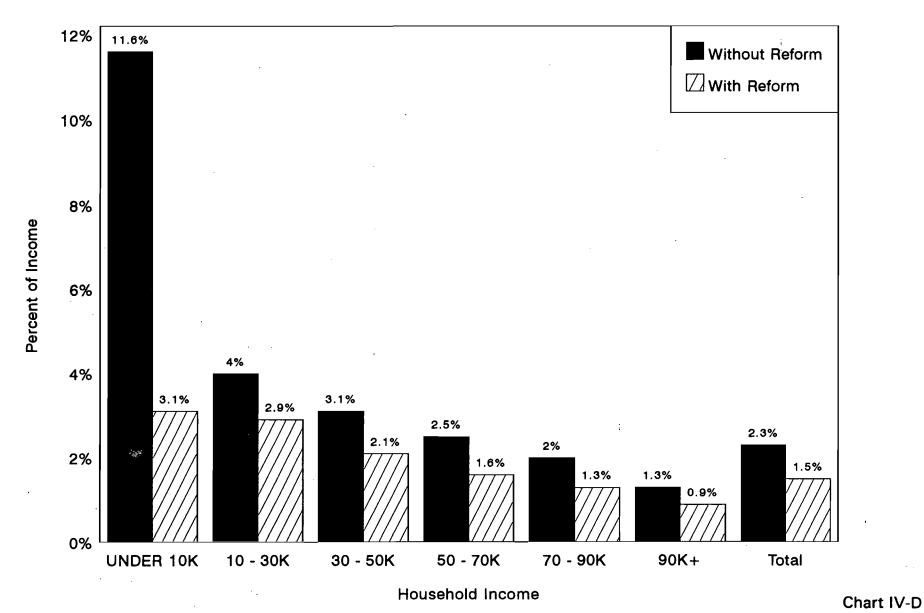
FAMILIES' PREMIUM PAYMENTS UNDER THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT Average Annual Premium Spending: Year 2000



SOURCE: HHS and The Urban Institute's TRIM2 Model, benchmarked to HCFA's National Health Accounts.

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FAMILIES' PREMIUM PAYMENTS UNDER THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT Average Annual Premium Spending as a Percent of Income: Year 2000

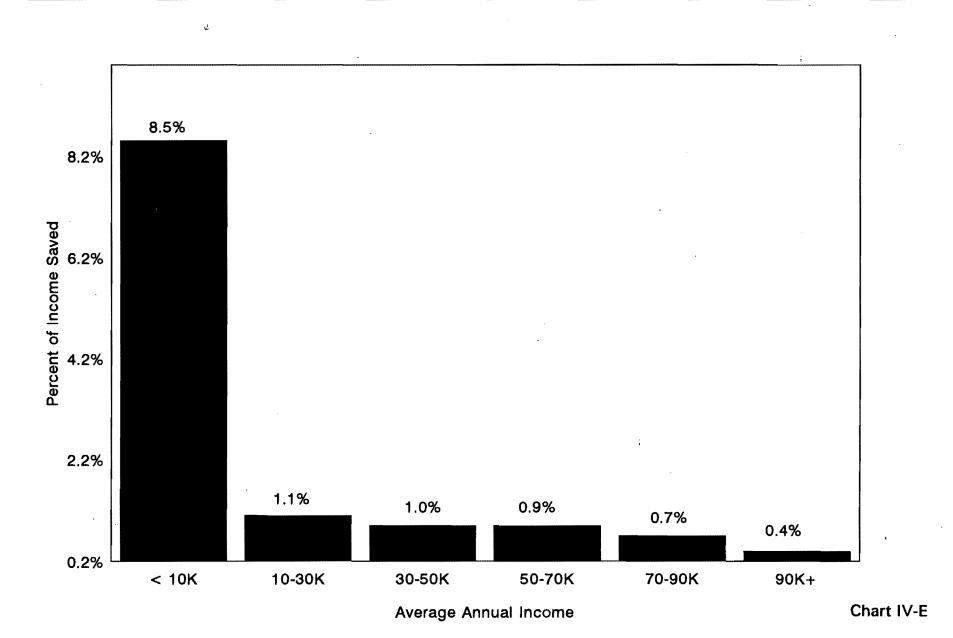


SOURCE: HHS and The Urban Institute's TRIM2 Model, benchmarked to HCFA's National Health Accounts.

FAMILIES' PREMIUM PAYMENTS UNDER THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT

Average Annual Savings on Premium Spending as a Percent of Income

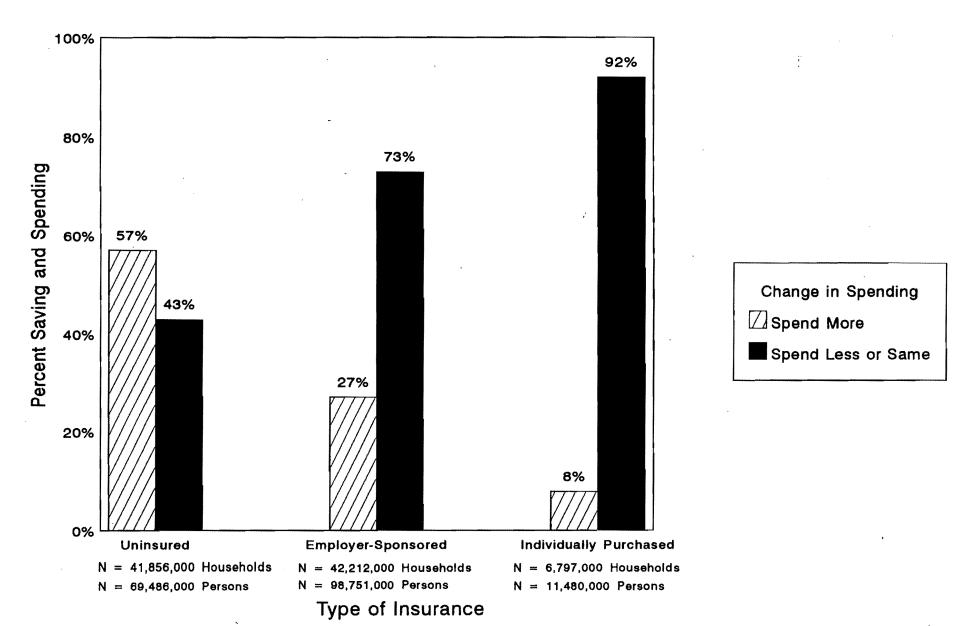
By Income Category: Year 2000



In the year 2000, under the Health Security Act:

- Of those families which are currently uninsured at least part of the year, 43 percent will spend the same or less for health care than they would if there were no comprehensive reform. [Chart IV-F]
- Of those families which currently have employer-sponsored insurance, 73 percent will spend the same or less for health care than they would if there were no comprehensive reform. [Chart IV-F]
- Of those families which currently purchase their insurance individually, 92 percent will spend the same or less for health care than they would if there were no comprehensive reform. [Chart IV-F]

FAMILIES' EXPENDITURES UNDER THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT Change in Health Care Spending: Year 2000



SOURCE: HHS and Urban Institute's TRIM2 Model, benchmarked to HCFA's National Health Accounts. Includes premium and out-of-pocket spending in regional alliances. Uninsured Includes 31.8 million persons uninsured part-year. Chart IV-F

FAMILIES' EXPENDITURES UNDER THE HEALTH SECURITY ACT By Current Insurance Type: Year 2000

Under the Health Security Act:

Employer-Sponsored Insurance

- 38 percent of all families which currently have employer-sponsored insurance will experience savings of up to \$1,000 in overall health care spending (premiums and out-of-pocket expenditures) in the year 2000. [Chart IV-H]
- 30 percent of all families which currently have employer-sponsored insurance will experience savings of <u>more than</u> \$1,000 in overall health care spending in the year 2000. [Chart IV-H]
- On average, families which experience savings in overall health care spending will enjoy a decrease of \$109 per month (\$1,309 for the year) in the year 2000. [Chart IV-G]
- 5 percent of all families which currently have employer-sponsored insurance will experience no change in overall health care spending (premiums and out-of-pocket expenditures) in 2000. [Chart IV-H]

• Families which will be spending more on overall health care expenditures will spend on average an additional \$31 per month (\$367 for the year) in the year 2000. [Chart IV-G]

Individually Purchased Insurance

- The vast majority (85.9 percent) of families which currently purchase health insurance individually will experience savings of more than \$1,000 on overall health care spending (premiums and out-ofpocket expenditures) in 2000. [Chart IV-I]
- On average, families which experience savings in overall health care spending will enjoy a decrease of \$375 per month (\$4,501 for the year) in the year 2000. [Chart IV-G]
- Families which will be spending more on overall health care expenditures will be spending an average of an additional \$75 per month (\$903 for the year) in 2000. [Chart IV-G]

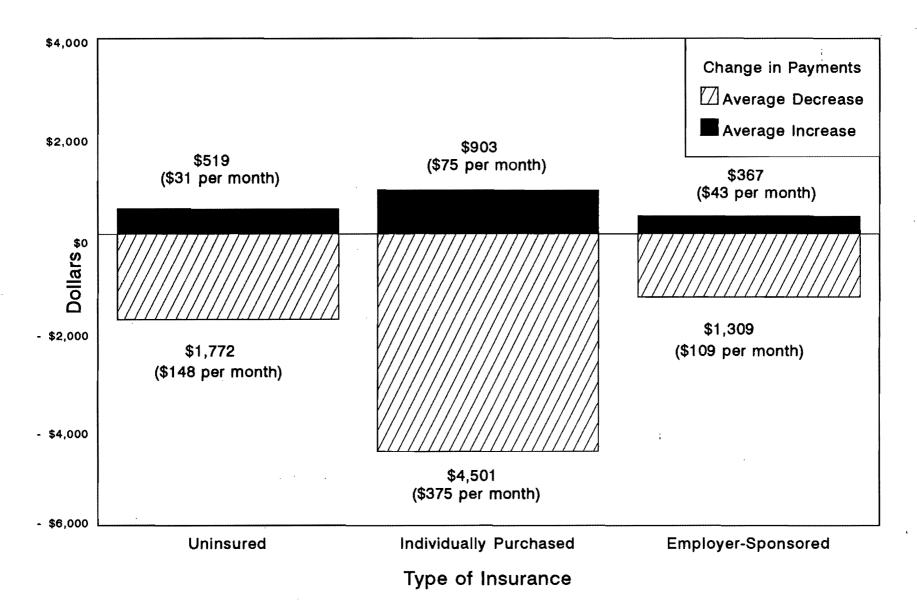
Currently Uninsured

• 28 percent of all families which are currently uninsured at least part of the year will experience some savings in overall health care

spending in the year 2000, due largely to reductions in high out-ofpocket expenditures. The **average decrease** will be **\$148 per month** (\$1,772 for the year) in 2000. [Charts IV-G and IV-J]

- 15 percent of all families which are currently uninsured at least part of the year will experience no change in overall health care spending in 2000. [Chart IV-J]
- Families which will be spending more on overall health care expenditures will be spending an average of an additional \$43 per month (\$519 for the year) in 2000. [Chart IV-G]

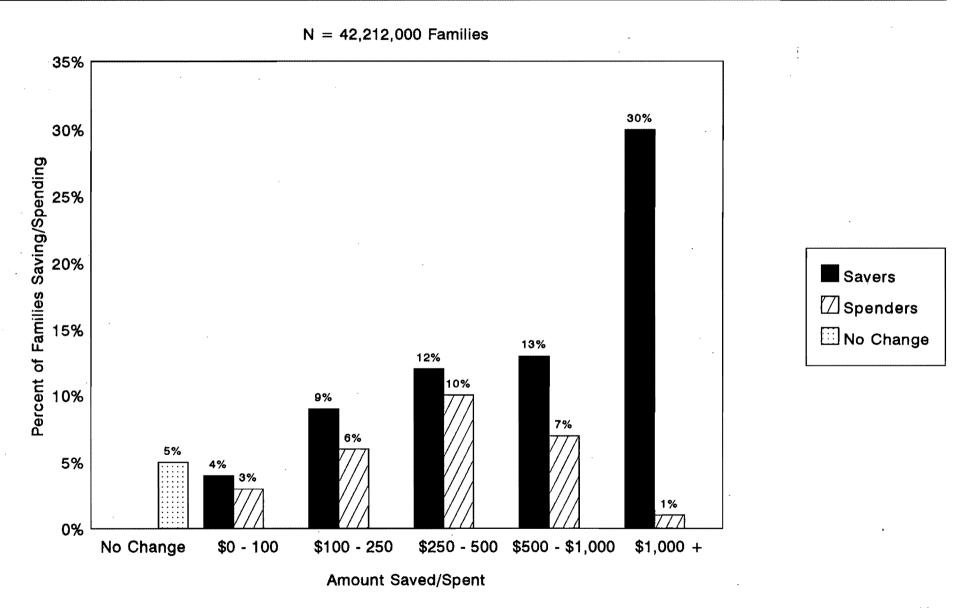
Average Annual Saving and Spending by Current Insurance Type: Year 2000



SOURCE: HHS and The Urban Institute's TRIM2 Model, benchmarked to HCFA's National Health Accounts. Includes premium and out-of-pocket spending in regional alliances. Uninsured includes 31.8 million persons uninsured part-year. Chart IV-G

Average Annual Percent Change in Spending

Families which Currently have Employer-Sponsored Insurance: Year 2000

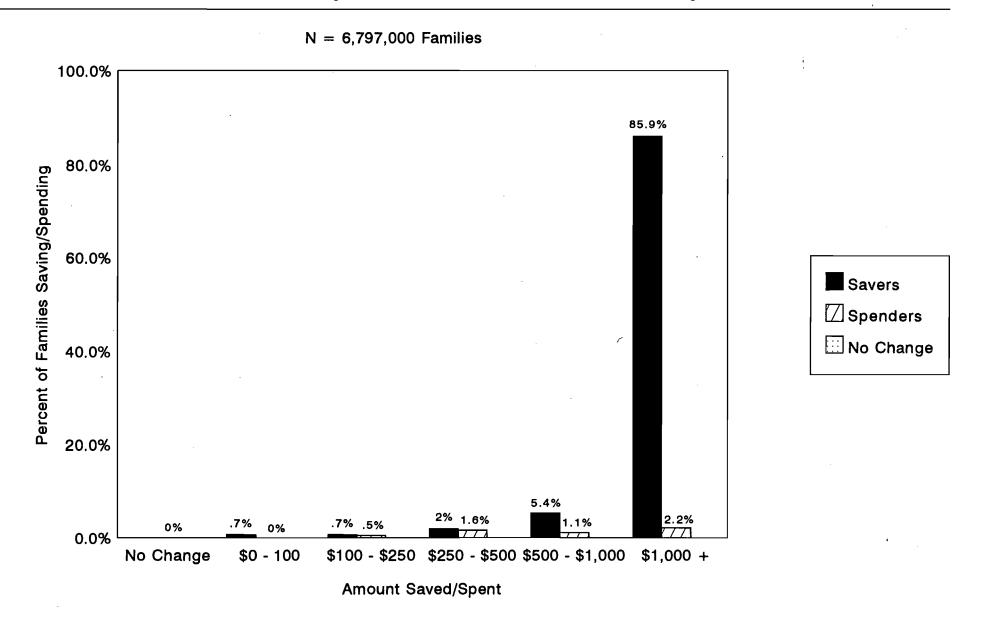


SOURCE: HHS and The Urban Institute's TRIM2 Model, benchmarked to HCFA's National Health Accounts. Includes premium and out-of-pocket expenditures for those in regional alliances. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Chart IV-H

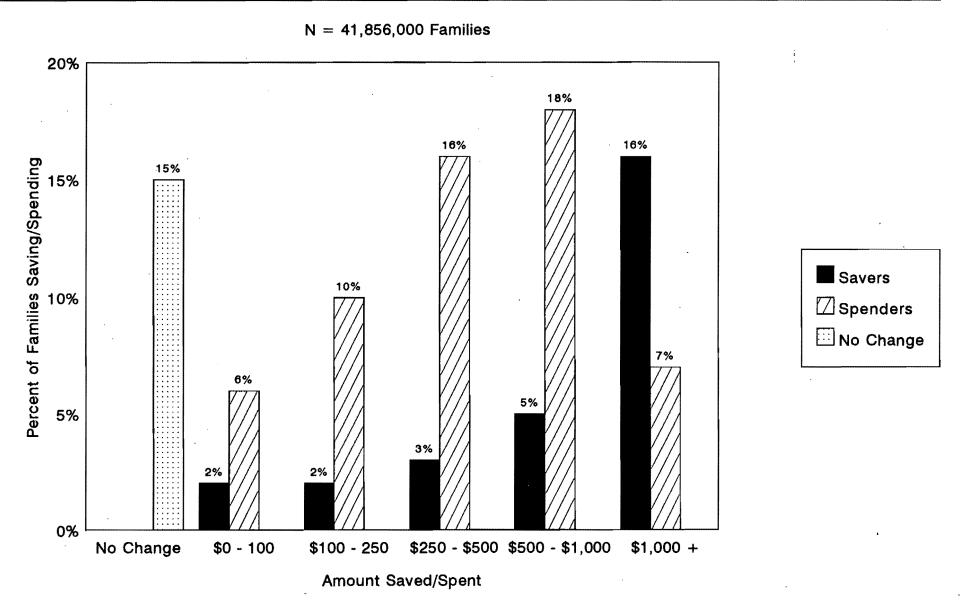
Average Annual Percent Change in Spending

Families which Currently Purchase Insurance Individually: Year 2000

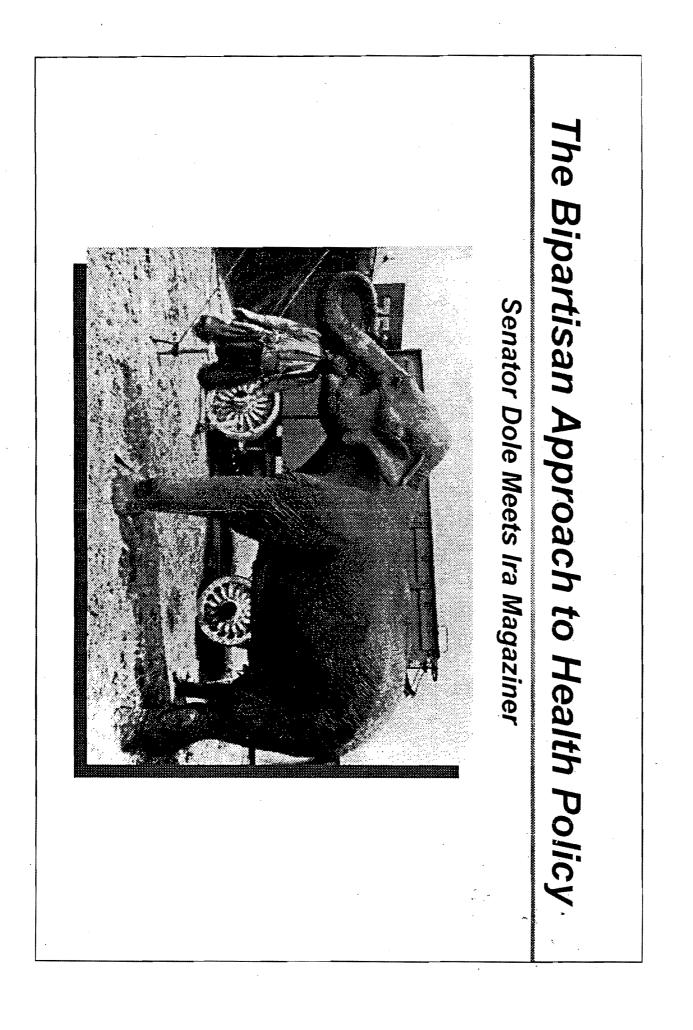


SOURCE: Center for Intramural Research, AHCPR. Includes premium and out-of-pocket expenditures for those in regional alliances. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Average Annual Percent Change in Spending Families which are Currently Uninsured: Year 2000



SOURCE: HHS and The Urban Institute's TRIM2 Model, benchmarked to HCFA's National Health Accounts. Includes premium and out-of-pocket expenditures for those in regional alliances. Totals may not = 100% due to rounding. Uninsured includes 31.8 million persons uninsured part-year.



The Rowland/Republican Substitute Bill Short-Changes Middle Income Families

Provides little help to middle income families

•This bill keeps one key element of the current system. The poor will always get health care, but the middle income will be left out in the cold. A middle income working couple that earned \$21,000 would get no help and would have to pay \$4600 a year - <u>or 22% of its income</u> for health insurance. Under the House leadership bill, this couple would pay only \$351.

•The Rowland/Republican substitute preserves the status quo: the poor get health care, the rich buy insurance, and the middle income families have to go it alone. For example, a typical middle income family earning about \$37,000 could face premiums of almost \$6,175 per year. This same family would pay \$1,065 under the House leadership bill.

Forces people with insurance to continue to pay for those without

•Without universal coverage, everyone is at risk of losing their insurance. Unpaid bills will be shifted onto those with private insurance. As experts have pointed out, universal coverage is the only way to stop people with insurance from paying for those without.

Without universal coverage, premiums go <u>up</u> for middle-class insured Americans

•In analyzing an earlier similar bill, the Congressional Budget Office found that insurance premiums would <u>rise</u> for middle-class Americans.

In its earlier analysis, CBO stated, "With a portion of the population remaining uninsured, per capita insurance costs for the insured population would be higher, compared with universal coverage." (CBO analysis, 5/94, p. 8)

Lewin-VHI found the same thing in its Catholic Health Association study. In analyzing the plan, it found that families would pay about \$200 more a year in insurance premiums than under universal coverage.

The Rowland/Republican Substitute Fails to Achieve Universal Coverage

The Rowland/Republican substitute will still leave close to 30 million Americans without health insurance. It will cover the poor but force middle income people to choose between no insurance or higher premiums.

Close to 30 million people will go without insurance

•Under this bill, half-measures and quick fixes leave every American at risk of losing their insurance. Initial estimates indicate that, under the Rowland/Republican substitute, close to 30 million Americans would have no coverage at all.

Middle income people will be left behind

•According to the Congressional Budget Office estimate of an earlier, similar bill, more than 80 percent of those who remain uninsured work and have incomes above the poverty level. Under the Rowland/Republican substitute, coverage for middle income people will be more limited than for the rich and the poor. (CBO analysis, 5/94, p. 17)

The cost shift continues, raising costs for those with insurance

•As long as millions remain uncovered, families with insurance will continue to pay for those without coverage. Businesses that provide insurance will continue to pay extra for those who ride free.

Insurance reforms without universal coverage won't work

•The <u>Wall Street Journal</u> says that "experts insist and real-life evidence shows" that insurance reforms "won't work without universal coverage." In fact, when one state recently enacted insurance reform without universal coverage, rates for some of the insured went up by as much as 35%. (WSJ, 6/15/94; WSJ, 5/27/94)

The Rowland/Republican Substitute Short-Changes Older Americans

The Rowland/Republican substitute takes significant savings from Medicare, and none of these savings is spent to guarantee new benefits for older Americans. No help with prescription drugs. No meaningful help with long-term care. Instead, Medicare money will be used to expand access to low-income individuals, not to help the older Americans Medicare was created to serve.

Raids Medicare to pay other bills

•The Rowland/Republican substitute takes billions from Medicare, but none of it is used to provide new benefits for seniors.

Provides no prescription drug benefit for seniors

•The Rowland/Republican substitute does not add prescription drug coverage to Medicare - leaving millions of older Americans with no help for the high cost of prescriptions. Prescription drug costs are the highest out-of-pocket health expense for most seniors, and the Rowland/Republican substitute would provide no help.

Provides no plan for long-term care

•The Rowland bill/Republican substitute does not contain any new long-term plan to help cover care in the home and community - where most seniors live and where most want to stay.

Threatens quality of care for older Americans under Medicare

•The Rowland/Republican substitute cuts Medicare reimbursements to hospitals and doctors <u>without</u> relieving them of the burden of uncompensated care. Such an approach is unrealistic and will <u>undermine</u> the quality of health care services for the nation's elderly.

Small Business Still Pays More Under Rowland/Republican Substitute

Under the Rowland bill, small businesses will still pay more for the same health coverage. It will leave small businesses without any guarantee that they will have affordable coverage - or any coverage at all if insurance companies refuse to cover them. And it won't level the playing field, so small businesses that do offer insurance will continue to pay higher rates while other small businesses that are competing with them will get a free ride.

No Discounts to Help Small Businesses Afford Coverage

•The Rowland/Republican Substitute bill does not provide any subsidies to help small businessess provide insurance.

Premiums are higher for small business

•According to the Congressional Budget Office's estimate of an earlier, similar bill, small businesses paid higher premiums than large businesses. In fact, CBO found that small businesses would pay over \$600 more a year than large businesses for the same family policy. (CBO analysis, 5/94, p. 18)

No end to cost-shifting

•Because the Rowland/Republican substitute leaves close to 30 million Americans without health coverage - many of them working in firms that do not provide coverage - small businesses that offer coverage will have to pay for costs of workers from businesses that are free riders. Consider for example, two gas stations across the street from each other: one that provides health coverage and one that doesn't. If any uninsured worker in the gas station that doesn't offer coverage ends up in a hospital emergency room and can't pay his bills, the hospital will just incrase the fees charged to insured patients, such as those of the workers in the other gas station. So the gas station that covers its workers ends up paying twice, which makes it even more difficult to compete with the guy across the street. And the Rowland/Republican substitute does nothing to stop this problem.

The Rowland/Republican Substitute Bill Doesn't Control Costs

Under the bipartisan bill, Americans will continue to face skyrocketing health costs. It will leave out clsoe to 30 million Americans and shift their costs onto those who currently have insurance. And middle income Americans will continue to face health insurance premiums that rise much faster than their incomes.

You can't have real cost containment without universal coverage

•Unless everyone is in the system, costs just won't come down. And the bipartisan bill falls 26 million Americans short of universal coverage. So under their plan we'll still have:

Cost Shifting: American families and businesses that pay for private insurance will still have billions of dollars of uncompensated care shifted onto their premiums.

Too Little Preventive Care: The millions of Americans who remain uninsured under Rowland will not have incentives to seek out costeffective preventive care that has been shown to reduce health costs.

Expensive Emergency Room Visits: The uninsured will still be forced to seek out care in expensive hospital emergency rooms at three times the cost of visits to a doctor's office. (HHS data)

No <u>guarantee</u> of cost containment for families, businesses and government

•The leadership of both the House and the Senate took cost containment seriously - and have mechanisms that guaranteed that costs would never skyrocket out of control again. The bipartisan bill, however, leaves Americans with no more protection against cost increases than they have today.

No real competition

•Insurance companies will continue to compete on who can cover the healthiest people instead of on price and quality as they would with a standard benefits package.

Unrealistic Financing: Rowland Makes Promises It Can't Pay For

The Rowland/Republican substitute promises to help families pay for insurance, but it funds are short the first thing that gets cut is help for families

The Rowland/Republican Substitute Bill Leaves the Insurance Companies In Charge

Under the bill, the insurance companies will still dictate the cost and coverage of the health care system. Without universal coverage and guaranteed choice, insurance companies - not buyers and not the free market - are in charge.

Abandons Effective Competition

•The Rowland/Republican substitute abandoned the principle that competition should be between insurers based on price and quality. Under this bill it is business as usual for insurance companies. They can exclude any benefits they want. When you choose a policy you better read the fine print.

You can still lose your insurance when you lose your job

•Although the Rowland/Republican substitute theoretically allows people to "take insurance with them" when they leave a job (portability), this provision only helps those who can pay the full premium themselves. That is not realistic for most people, since they can't afford \$5,600 a year, especially if they are out of work.

Does <u>not</u> eliminate lifetime limits

•You can still lose your coverage when you need it most. The Rowland/Republican substitute does not eliminate lifetime limits, so it cannot assure insurance companies will not terminate benefits at a critical time.

Does <u>not</u> eliminate pre-existing conditions

• The Rowland/Republican substitute limits, but does not eliminate, pre-existing condition exclusions. Under this bill, insurance companies would still be able to deny coverage for pre-existing conditions for six months, under certain circumstances.