Long-Term Care
[Source: Alliance for Health Reform Sourcebook]

Fast Facts

- 70 percent of people age 65 today will need some long-term care in their lifetimes.¹
- Within 20 years, persons age 65 and older will comprise 20 percent of the U.S. population.²
- Of the 10 million Americans who need assistance with daily activities, 1.7 million live in the nation’s 16,000 nursing homes and approximately 520,000 live in assisted living facilities.³
- Fourteen percent of Americans age 85 or older live in nursing homes.⁴ A total of $207 billion was spent on long-term care in the U.S. in 2005.⁵
- Of total long-term care spending, Medicaid accounts for 49 percent, Medicare accounts for 20 percent, out-of-pocket spending equals 18 percent and private health and long-term care insurance makes up 7 percent.⁶
- There are 52 million unpaid caregivers who contribute an estimated $375 billion in value to the U.S. economy, and provide the majority of long-term care services.⁷
- The Community Living Assistance Services and Supports (CLASS) Act, enacted in the ACA establishes a new voluntary long-term care insurance program that will be federally administered.⁸
- ACA also establishes new home- and community-based services options and provides incentives to states to institute them.

¹ Prudential Research Report (2010). Long-Term Care Cost Study
² Ibid.
³ CDC/NCHS. “National Nursing Home Survey.” Table 1. Number of nursing homes, beds, current residents, and discharges.


Affordable Care Act
[Source: Alliance for Health Reform Sourcebook]

Fast Facts

- The health care reform law enacted in March 2010 will reduce the number of uninsured nonelderly people by an estimated 32 million.1 As a result of the reform law, 94 percent of nonelderly citizens and legal residents are expected to have coverage by 2019.2

- Some 23 million nonelderly people will remain uninsured by 2019, according to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO).3

- As of 2009, 50.7 million nonelderly people in the U.S. lacked health coverage, up from 46.3 million in 2008, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.4

- Nearly 80 percent of the uninsured in 2009 lived in families headed by workers.5

- In 2009, 18.1 percent of full-time employees and 28.7 percent of part-time employees age 18-64 were uninsured all year.6

- An estimated $2.5 trillion was spent on health care in the United States in 2009, nearly 17.3 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).7

- Health care reform is expected by CBO to save $124 billion over 10 years, and bring down the federal budget deficit by about one-half percent of GDP in the next decade.

- CBO’s preliminary analysis indicates that repealing ACA would increase federal budget deficits by about $230 billion in the period 2012-2021.8

- The United States lags behind other industrial nations in many health care quality indicators.9

- Researchers estimate that 30 to 40 cents of every health care dollar spent in the U.S. goes for poor quality care.10


8 CBO Director’s Blog. “CBO’s Preliminary Analysis of H.R. 2, the Repealing the Job-Killing Health Care Law Act.”
