



## Weekly Checkup

# Medicaid Accounts for 16 Percent of All Health Care Spending in U.S.

TARA O'NEILL HAYES | JULY 29, 2015

In 2014, national spending on health care products and services totaled \$3.1 trillion, or \$9,695 per person, and accounted for 17.4 percent of our gross domestic product (GDP).[1] Medicaid enrollment grew by 12.9 percent in 2014, while spending on the program grew by 12 percent (federal and state spending grew 17.7 percent and 3.4 percent, respectively) totaling \$503.3 billion and accounting for 16.3 percent of national health expenditures (NHE).[2] Average spending per beneficiary in Medicaid was 1.4 times greater than spending on individuals with private health insurance.[3] The chart below provides insight into where that money is going: a large share of the nation's spending on nursing and retirement care, home health care, and other residential and community-based services are paid for by Medicaid.[4]



[1] <https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Statistics-Trends-and-Reports/NationalHealthExpendData/NationalHealthAccountsProjected.html>