

A NEW ERA OF RESPONSIBILITY: RENEWING AMERICA'S PROMISE

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 2010 Budget

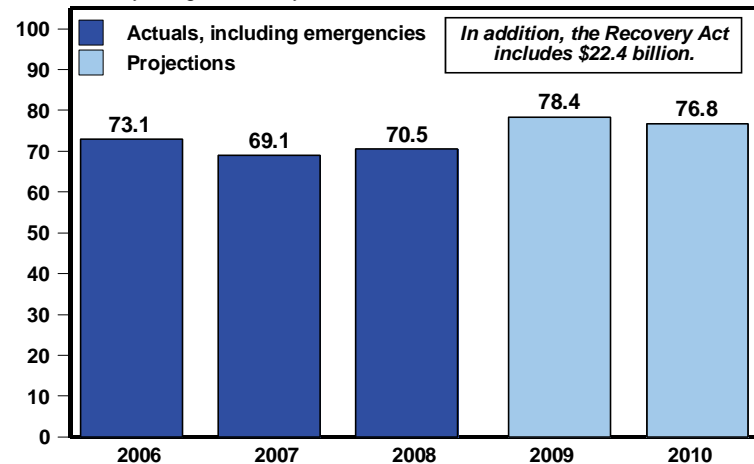
“We can go another four years with a broken health care system that's leaving millions uninsured, driving millions more to financial ruin, and making it harder for manufacturers to compete; or we can finally solve our health care crisis once and for all. We can guarantee health care for anyone who wants it, make it affordable for anyone who needs it, and cut costs for businesses and their workers.”

-- President Barack Obama

The Budget lays the groundwork for comprehensive reform of the American health care system, most notably by setting aside a reserve fund of over \$630 billion during 10 years to help finance health reform. The reserve fund is financed by re-balancing the tax code and achieving health care savings in three areas: aligning incentives toward quality, promoting efficiency and accountability, and encouraging shared responsibility. Even before this Budget was released, the Administration took major steps to bring the Nation closer to comprehensive health reform. In one of his first official acts, the President signed into law the reauthorization of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), which provides coverage for an additional four million uninsured children in CHIP and Medicaid by FY 2013. In addition, investments were included in the Recovery Act designed to help slow health care spending growth – which is the key driver of the nation's overall long-term fiscal gap. Specifically, the Recovery Act puts us on a path to modernize the health care system and to deliver better care while reducing unnecessary costs by investing in electronic medical records, improved information on what treatments and tests work best -- so-called comparative effectiveness research -- and an historic \$1 billion investment in prevention. The Budget builds on these investments and also supports families by providing additional funding for affordable, high-quality child care, expanding Early Head Start and Head Start, and creating the Nurse Home Visitation program to support first-time mothers.

Department of Health and Human Services

Discretionary budget authority in billions of dollars



Note: Amounts appropriated to the Social Security Administration (SSA) from the Hospital Insurance and Supplementary Medical Insurance accounts are included in the corresponding table in the SSA chapter.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Budget Highlights

MORE EFFECTIVE HEALTH CARE

Makes a down payment on health care reform. The Budget establishes a reserve fund of more than \$630 billion during 10 years for a reserve fund to finance fundamental reform of our health care system to bring down costs and expand coverage. The reserve fund is offset equally by new revenue and savings proposals that promote efficiency and accountability, align incentives toward quality, and encourage shared responsibility.

Accelerates the adoption of health IT. Building on the historic \$19 billion investment in the Recovery Act, the Administration will continue efforts to further the adoption and implementation of health information technology -- an essential tool to modernize the health care system.

Strengthens the health professions workforce. The Budget invests \$330 million to address the shortage of health care providers in certain areas.

Lowers drug costs and improves food and medical product safety. The Budget helps Americans to buy safe and effective drugs from other countries, establishes a new regulatory pathway to approve generic medicines, and strengthens efforts to make food and medical products safer.

Enhances HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment. The Budget increases resources to detect, prevent, and treat HIV/AIDS domestically, especially in underserved populations.

STRONGER MEDICARE AND MEDICAID

Strengthens program integrity. The Budget dedicates additional resources that will initially be targeted to improving oversight and integrity activities for the Medicare Prescription Drug Program (Part D), Medicare Advantage, and Medicaid.

Improves Medicare's sustainability. The Budget strengthens Medicare by encouraging high-quality and efficient care, and reducing excessive payments, working toward long-term sustainability so that beneficiaries can continue to rely on this critical program.

Expands the Medicare and Medicaid research agenda. New funding broadens Medicare and Medicaid research including new pilot projects to evaluate payment reforms, provides higher quality care at lower costs, and better aligns provider payments with costs.

FUNDING FOR IMPORTANT RESEARCH

Supports Americans with Autism Spectrum Disorders. The Budget provides \$211 million in HHS for research into the causes of and treatments for autism spectrum disorders (ASD), treatment, screenings, public awareness, and support services.

Being the doubling of funding for cancer research. The Budget includes \$6 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to support cancer research, central to the President's sustained, multi-year plan to double cancer research.

SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES AND YOUTH

Provides energy assistance to low-income families. The President's plan invests \$3.2 billion for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to help low-income families with their home heating and cooling expenses.