

What We Are Doing

The mission of the Peterson Center on Healthcare is to transform U.S. healthcare into a high-performance system by finding proven solutions that improve quality and lower costs, and accelerating their adoption on a national scale. We collaborate with key thought leaders and stakeholders across the healthcare industry, including providers, payers, employers, and patient groups.

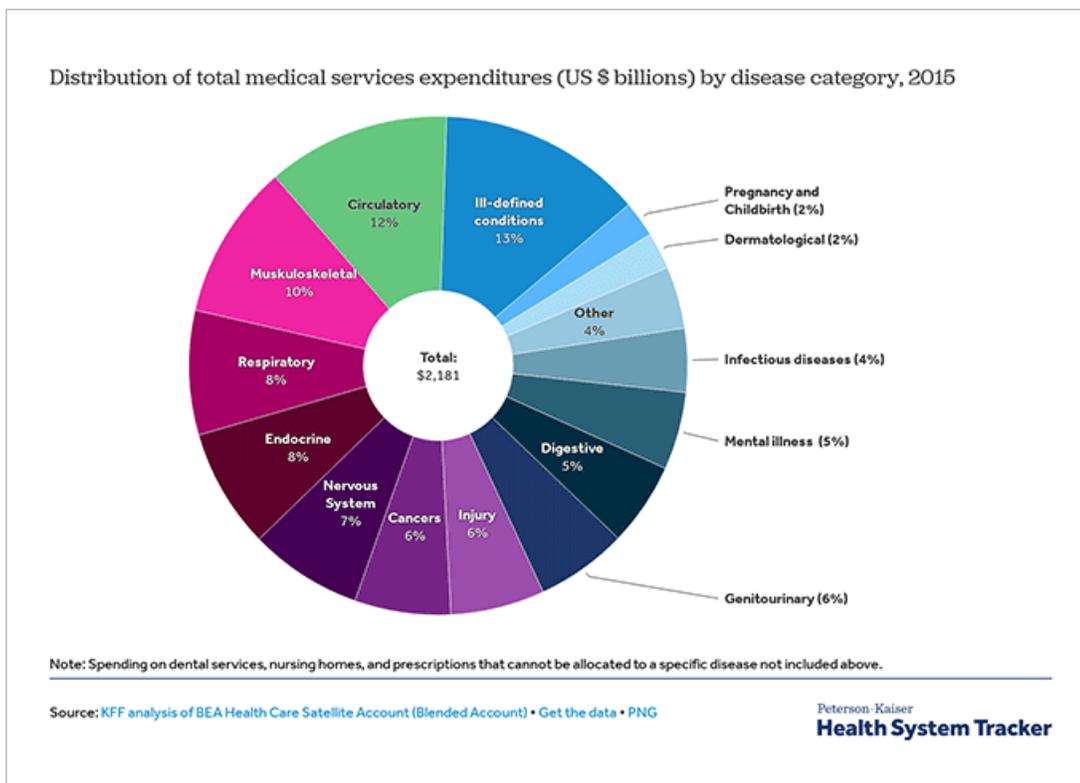
Monitoring the Performance of the U.S. Healthcare System



[1]

It is said that one cannot improve what one does not measure. To this end, we are working with the Kaiser Family Foundation to monitor how the healthcare system is performing in quality and cost. The [Peterson-KFF Health System Tracker](#)^[2] provides clear, up-to-date information on trends, drivers, and issues that impact the system. The Tracker also illustrates how the U.S. is performing relative to other countries and how different parts of the system are performing relative to one another.

The Center partnered with the [University of Washington's Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation](#)^[3] to analyze [drivers of U.S. healthcare spending](#)^[4] in order to forecast future spending trends. The project explored the various factors that have historically impacted healthcare spending, providing analysis that can guide future policies aimed at moderating the trajectory of healthcare spending and improving outcomes.



[5]

Finding and Accelerating Innovation in U.S. Healthcare

There are many healthcare providers across the country who already consistently deliver high quality healthcare at lower cost. A key aspect of our work is to find existing solutions through systematic analysis. We then rigorously validate and verify that those solutions are improving quality and lowering costs. Our work focuses on three areas:

- **Providers:** From [primary care](#) [6] to hospitals to specialty care, excellent providers are finding ways to improve quality and lower costs. We have partnered with Stanford University's Clinical Excellence Research Center, the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, the National Academy of Medicine, the Bipartisan Policy Center and others to identify what works, and help more providers adopt these solutions.
- **Payers and Health Plans:** When patients have more information about quality and costs, they make better decisions about their own care. Some insurers are prompting better choices through innovative re-design of benefits and health plans. Others are finding more productive management-labor partnerships that streamline information flow and lower administration costs. [We work](#) [7] with payers, employers, and patient groups to identify innovative benefit and health management solutions that improve quality and lower costs.
- **State-Level Systems:** States are well-positioned to develop and implement new ideas for improving quality while lowering costs. Through public-private partnerships, we capture the best of what is working at the state-level. We completed a project with the National Governor's Association and the National Academy of Medicine, who released an [online resource](#) [8] to promote knowledge-sharing and spark improvement around the country.

Monitoring Healthcare Performance [9]

The Peterson-KFF Health System Tracker provides data and analyses on how the U.S. healthcare system performs across the nation and relative to other countries.

[9]

Transforming Primary Care [6]

The Center's mission is to identify and validate models of care that improve quality at significantly lower cost and reduce the amount of time it takes to spread these models through the healthcare system. Our entry into healthcare transformation is also the entry point for many Americans into the healthcare system: primary care.

[6]

Improving Healthcare for High-Need Patients [10]

Americans deserve a healthcare system that provides high-quality care at a reasonable cost. The current system is failing many people, but especially those who have the greatest health needs and the fewest resources to pay for it.

[10]

Helping Employers Become More Effective Purchasers of Healthcare [7]

Beyond the obvious benefits that good health bestows on individuals, a healthy workforce is a tremendous asset to employers and to society as a whole.

[7]

Providing Best Practices and Tools to States [8]

The National Governors Association and the National Academy of Medicine, funded by the Center, identified promising state-based innovations that can potentially be replicated. The three organizations released an online resource to highlight those opportunities for healthcare improvement.

[8]

Fostering Patient Engagement [11]

Health outcomes, cost of care, patient experience and clinician satisfaction are all important indicators of whether the healthcare system is performing well, and we believe that OpenNotes can improve the system on all those measures.

[11]

Improving Data Transparency ^[12]

The Center has launched a partnership with the State of Rhode Island and Brown University to analyze spending data from the state's all-payer claims database to improve healthcare performance throughout the state.

[12]

Addressing Shortages and High Prices of Life-Saving Medications^[13]

The Peterson Center on Healthcare, Laura and John Arnold Foundation, and Gary and Mary West Foundation each commit \$10 million to Civica Rx, a not-for-profit generic drug company.

[13]



Learn how we're helping to secure a brighter future.

Visit The Peter G. Peterson Foundation

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Links

[1] <https://kff.org>

[2] <https://www.healthsystemtracker.org/>

[3] <https://petersonhealthcare.org/peterson-center-healthcare-supports-new-initiative-forecast-trends-us-healthcare-spending>

[4] <https://petersonhealthcare.org/price-and-intensity-identified-major-drivers-rising-healthcare-spending>

[5] <https://www.healthsystemtracker.org/indicator/spending/spending-disease-treatment/>

[6] <https://petersonhealthcare.org/transforming-primary-care>

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