

HOSPITAL CONSOLIDATION AFFECTS US ALL



Evidence shows that **hospital consolidation raises hospital prices without resulting in gains in quality.** High prices are the primary driver of high health care costs for the 180M Americans with commercial insurance. (KFF)



In 2020, people with private health insurance were on average charged **224%** of what Medicare would have paid for the same services. (RAND)



90% of hospital markets are considered highly concentrated. (KFF)

PATIENTS + CONSUMERS

HIGHER PREMIUMS

\$22,463/yr

In 2022, the **average premium for family coverage** was \$22,463 per year, an increase of 43% over the last decade. (KFF)

HIGHER OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS WHEN CARE IS NEEDED.



In 2022, nearly **one in three workers (32%) had a plan deductible of \$2,000 or more** (of workers with single coverage and a general deductible). (KFF)

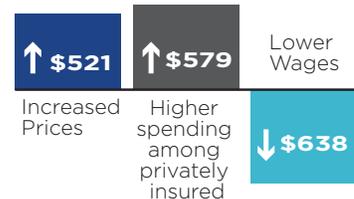
MEDICAL DEBT AND FINANCIAL STRAIN ARE KEY CONSEQUENCES OF HIGH PRICES.

100M

 Americans face medical **debt.** (KFF)

LOWER WAGES (RAND)

Researchers have found that hospital mergers lead to:



ACCESS



About four in 10 U.S. adults say they have **delayed or gone without medical care** in the last year due to cost. (KFF)



Health care consolidation also likely impedes patient choice and does not improve quality of care. Evidence suggests that powerful hospitals and health systems may reduce key, but unprofitable services, which increases travel distances and wait times, and reduces timely access to care for rural and low-income patients, particularly communities of color. (NIH)

EMPLOYERS



Employers pay for health care premiums as a part of employee benefits. After wages, **employers spend more on health insurance than any other employee benefit** (about 8% of total compensation). (CAP)



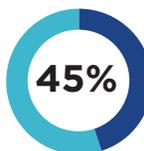
High and rising health care costs are one of the largest expenses for a business and depress businesses' profitability, ability to grow, hiring and compensation choices, and could even lead to business closures. (CAP)

HEALTH CARE WORKERS

CONSOLIDATION REDUCES WAGES FOR HEALTH CARE WORKERS AND LIMITS EMPLOYMENT CHOICES.



Health care consolidation depresses wages for the health care workforce, including nurse wages. (INET)



45% of primary care physicians in 2018 were subject to noncompetes in hospital employment contracts, which limit physician choice in employment and ability to change jobs over time. (JHR)