

# The Economic Benefits of the Affordable Care Act

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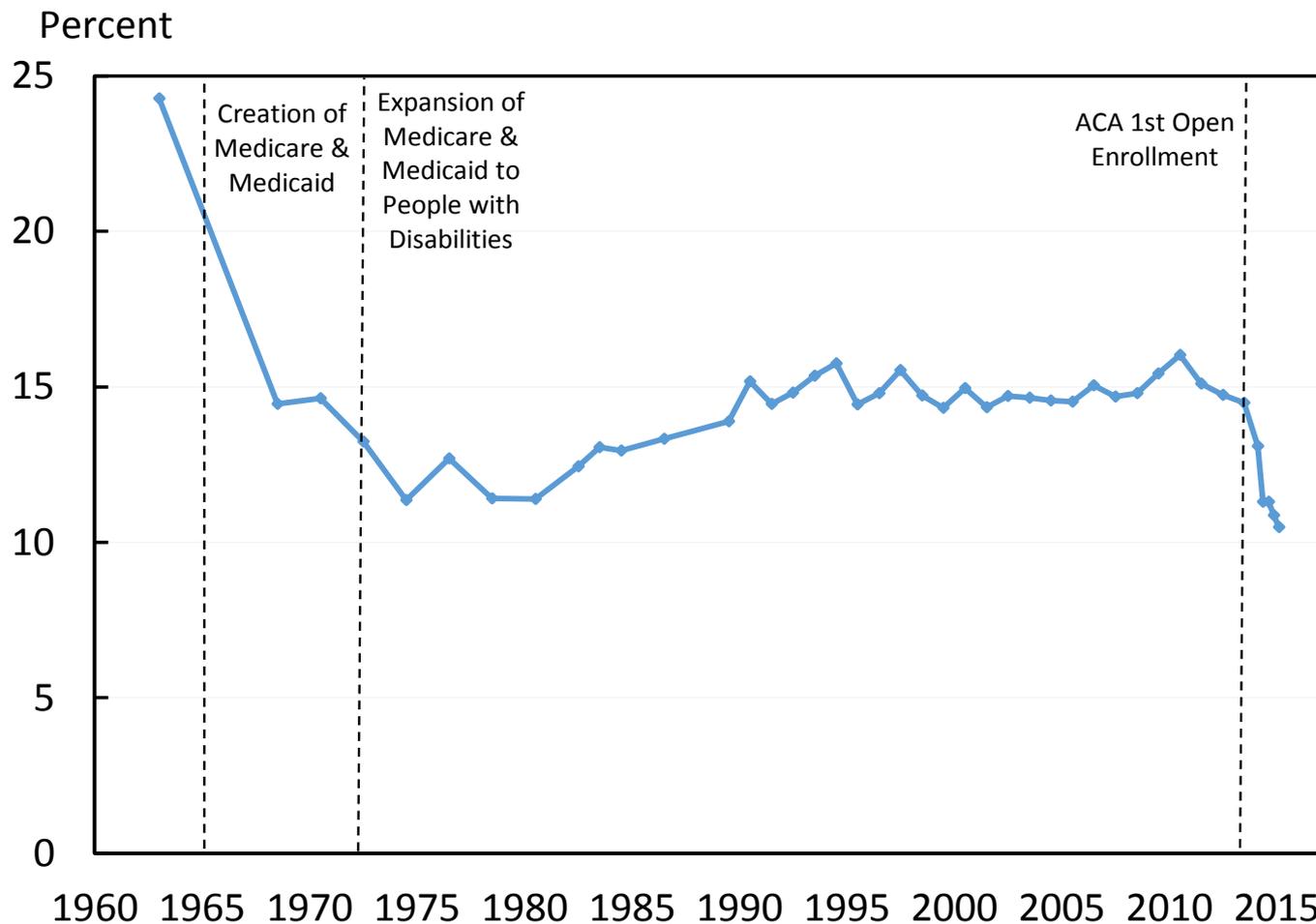


Center for American Progress

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# The Affordable Care Act Has Driven the Nation's Uninsured Rate to the Lowest Level Ever

## Percent of Population Without Health Insurance, 1963-2015:Q1



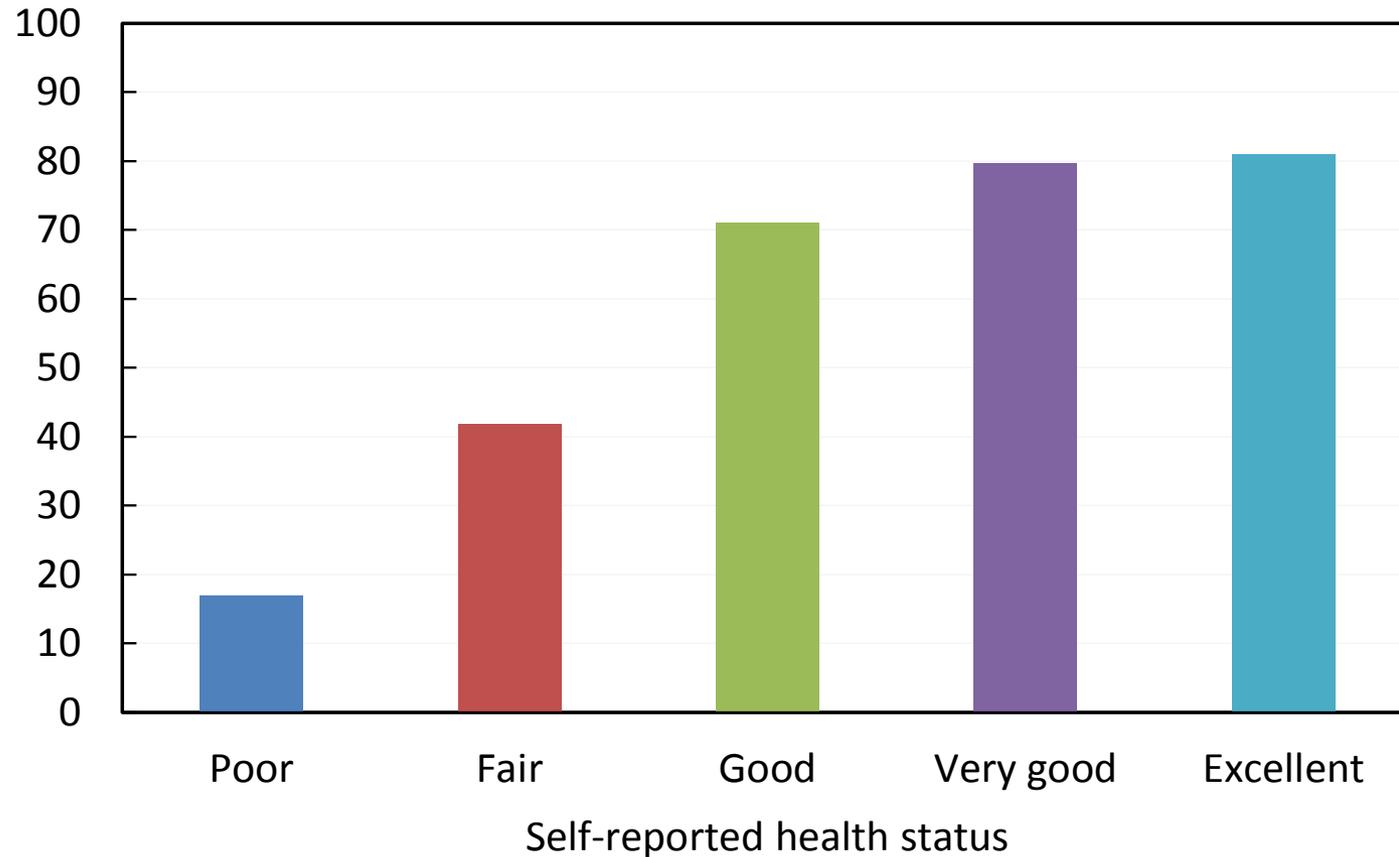
Source: CEA analysis of National Health Interview Survey, Cohen et al. (2009), Klemm (2000), and CMS (2009); ASPE analysis of NHIS and Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index data through March 4, 2015.

Note: Data are quarterly starting in 2014:Q1. Data for earlier years are generally either annual or bi-annual. The NHIS is the best tool for studying trends in insurance coverage, but because NHIS data are not currently available after 2014:Q3, Gallup data are used to extrapolate the uninsured rate through 2015:Q1.

# Improved Health Among the Newly Insured May Have Major Labor Market Benefits

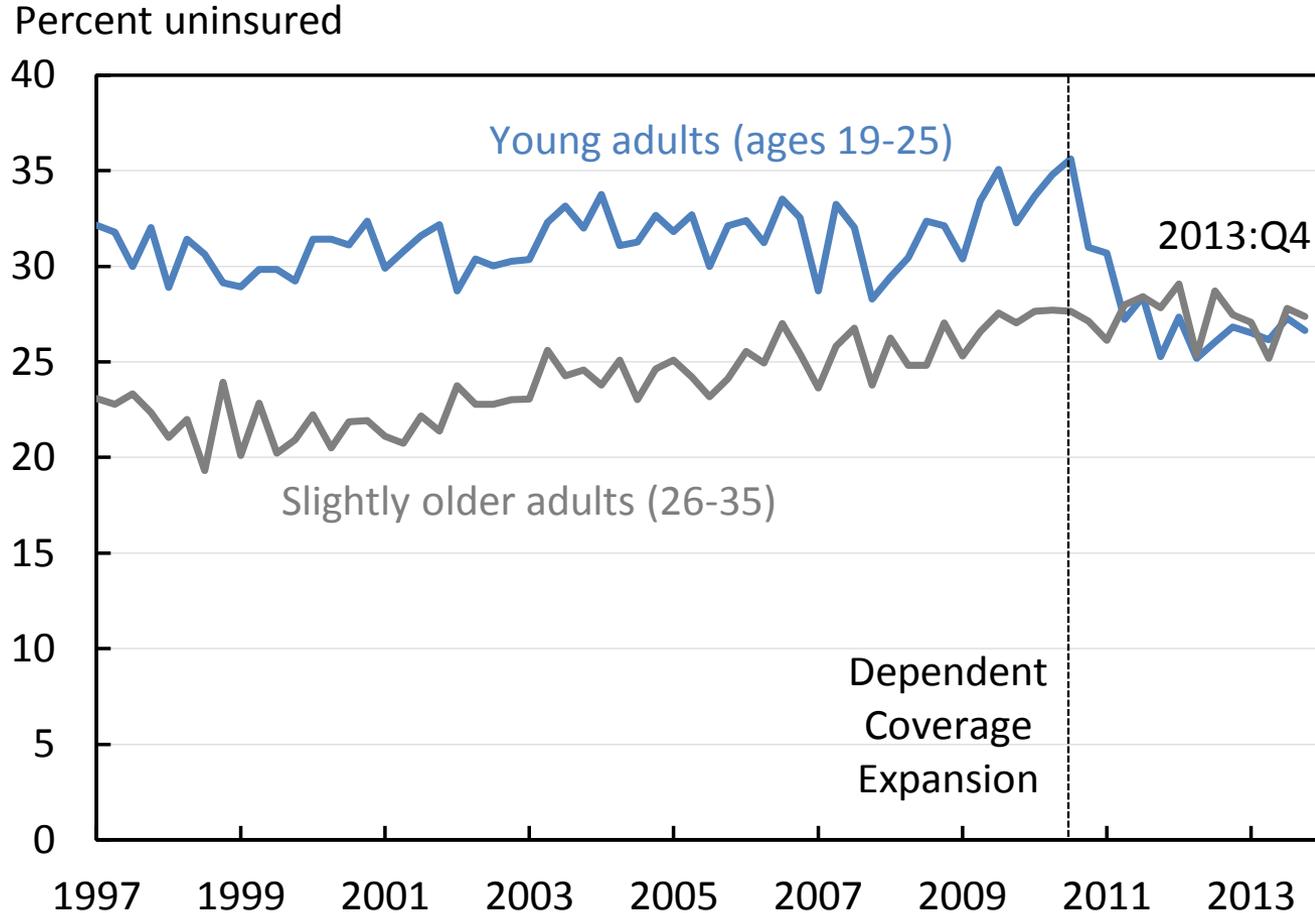
## Percent of Working Age Adults Employed by Health Status

Percent of adults ages 25-64 who are employed



# The Affordable Care Act is Helping to Reduce Job Lock, Especially For Young Workers

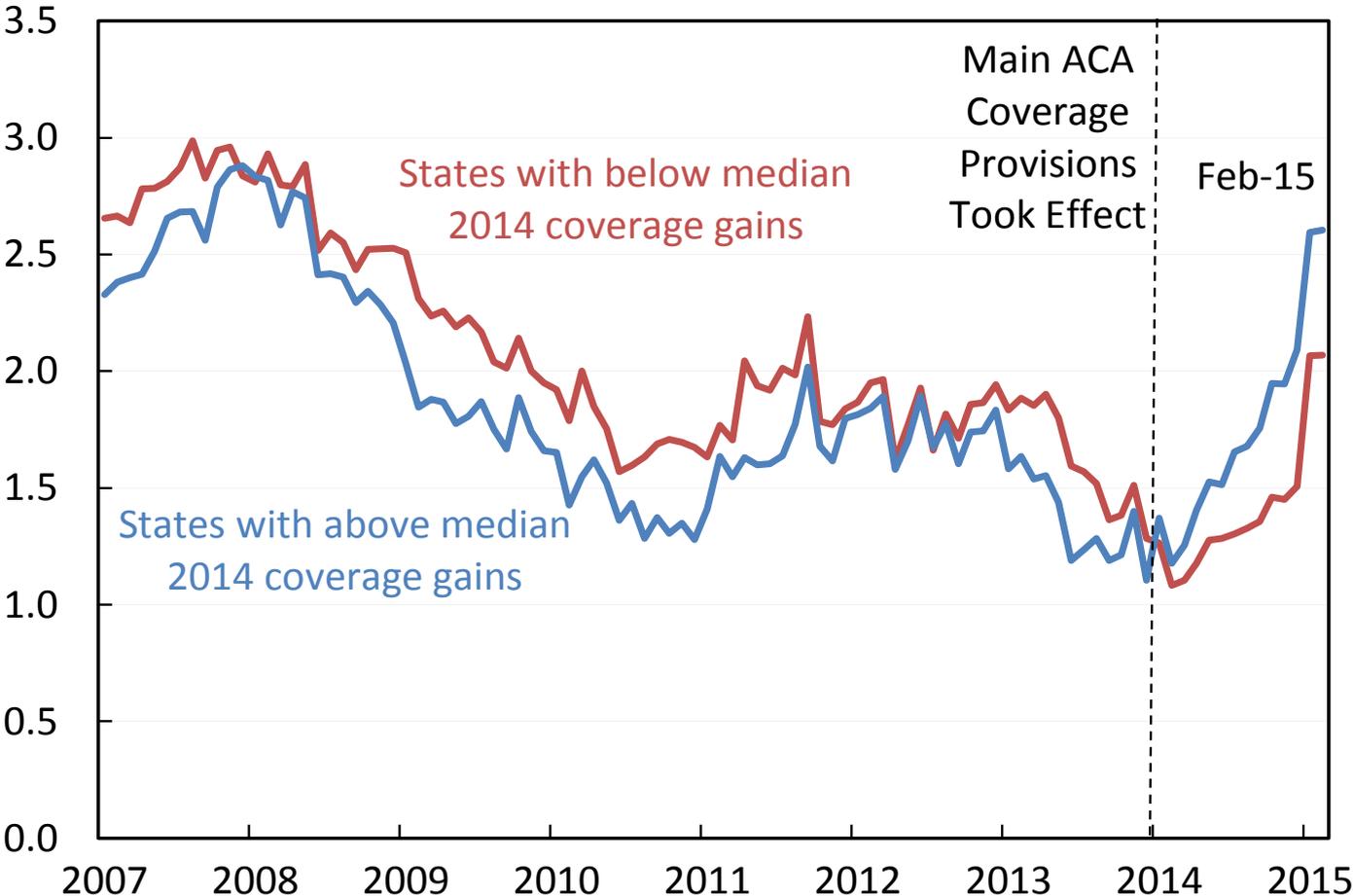
## Young Adult Uninsured Rates, 1997:Q1-2013:Q4



# The Affordable Care Act's Coverage Expansion is Boosting Aggregate Demand

## Change in Health Care Services Employment

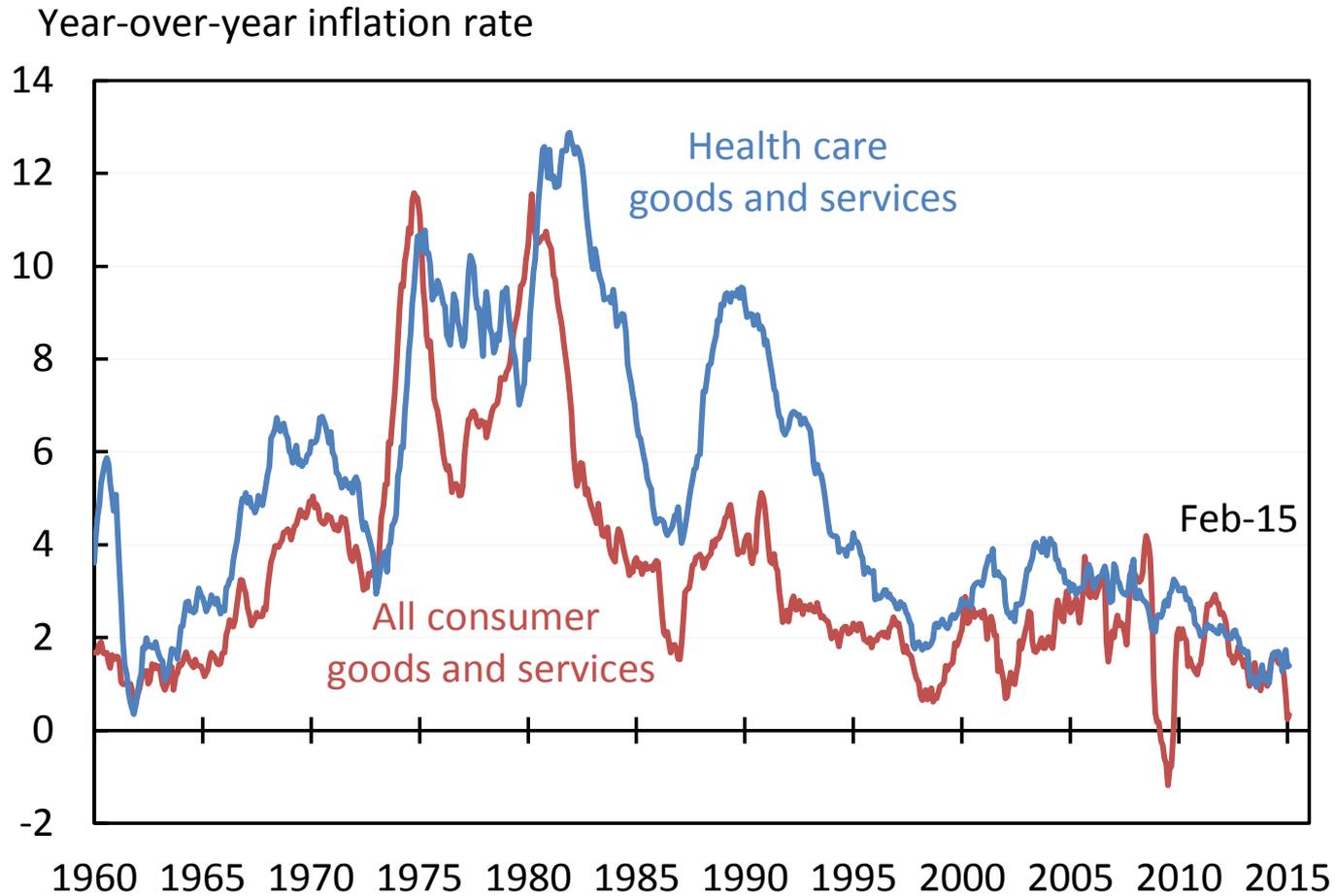
Year-over-year percentage job gain



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics; Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index; CEA calculations.  
Note: In most states, we include only employment in the health care services industry. For seven states, health care services employment is reported jointly with social assistance employment, and for these states we use the broader category. No data are available for New Mexico.

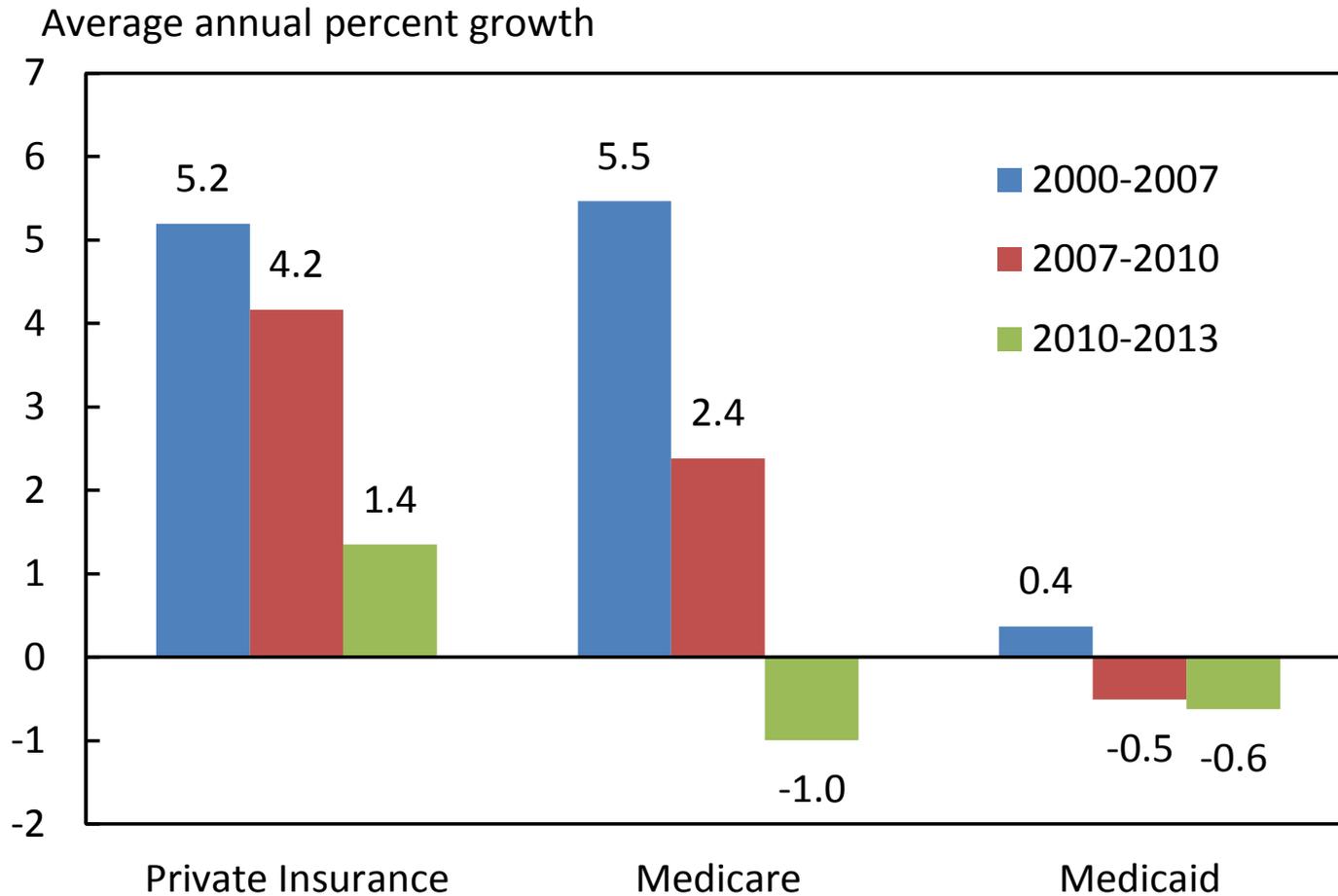
# Health Care Prices Have Been Rising at the Slowest Pace in Nearly 50 Years

## Health Care Price Inflation versus Overall Inflation



# Health Care Spending Per Enrollee Has Grown Exceptionally Slowly in Both the Public and Private Sectors

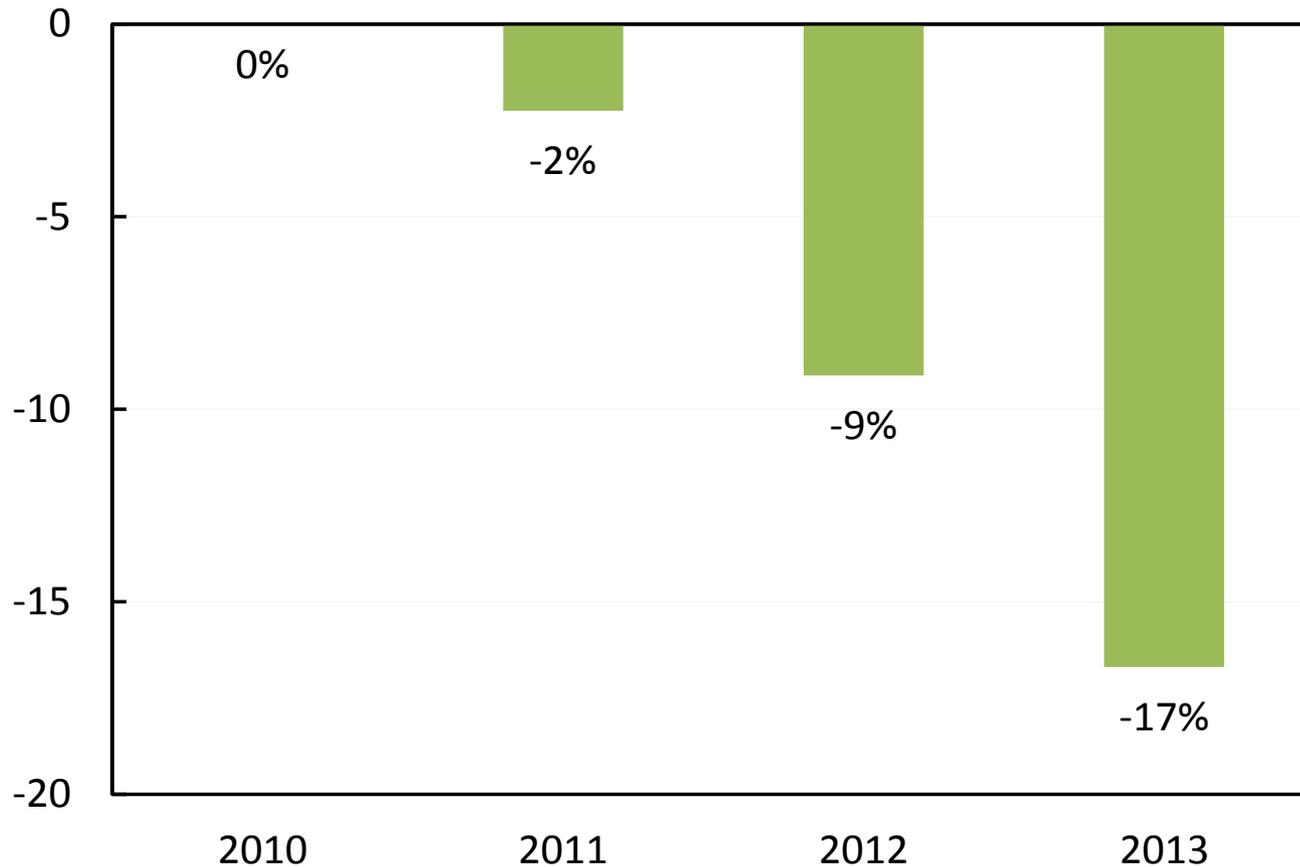
## Growth in Real Per Enrollee Spending by Payer



# The Quality of Care Received by Hospital Patients Has Improved Since 2010, Corresponding to 50,000 Avoided Deaths

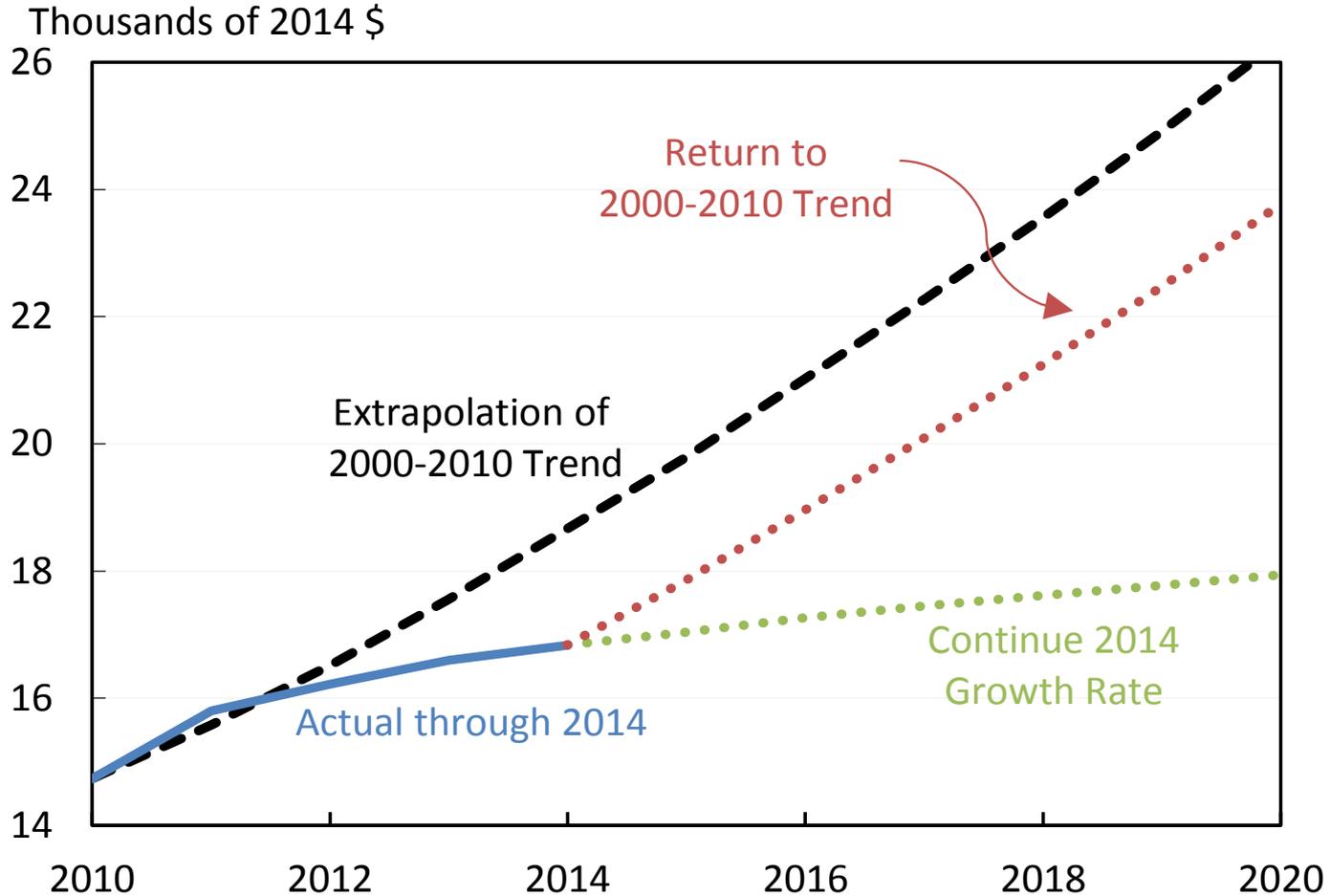
## Change in Rate of Patient Harm in U.S. Hospitals

Percent change in harm rate since 2010

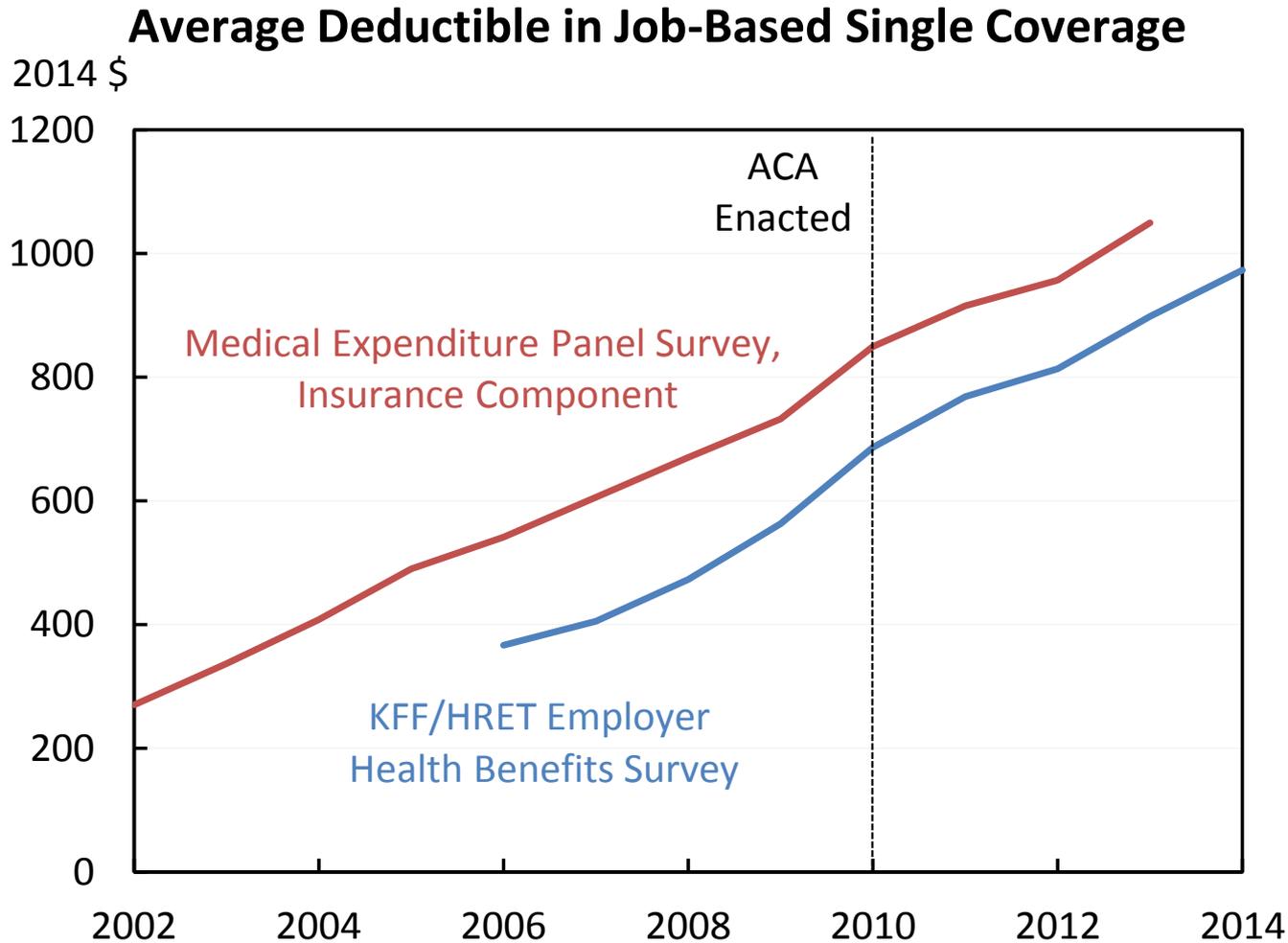


# The Average Family Premium in Job-Based Coverage is About \$1,800 Below the 2000-2010 Trend and Savings Could Grow in the Years Ahead

## Average Premiums for Employer-Based Family Coverage



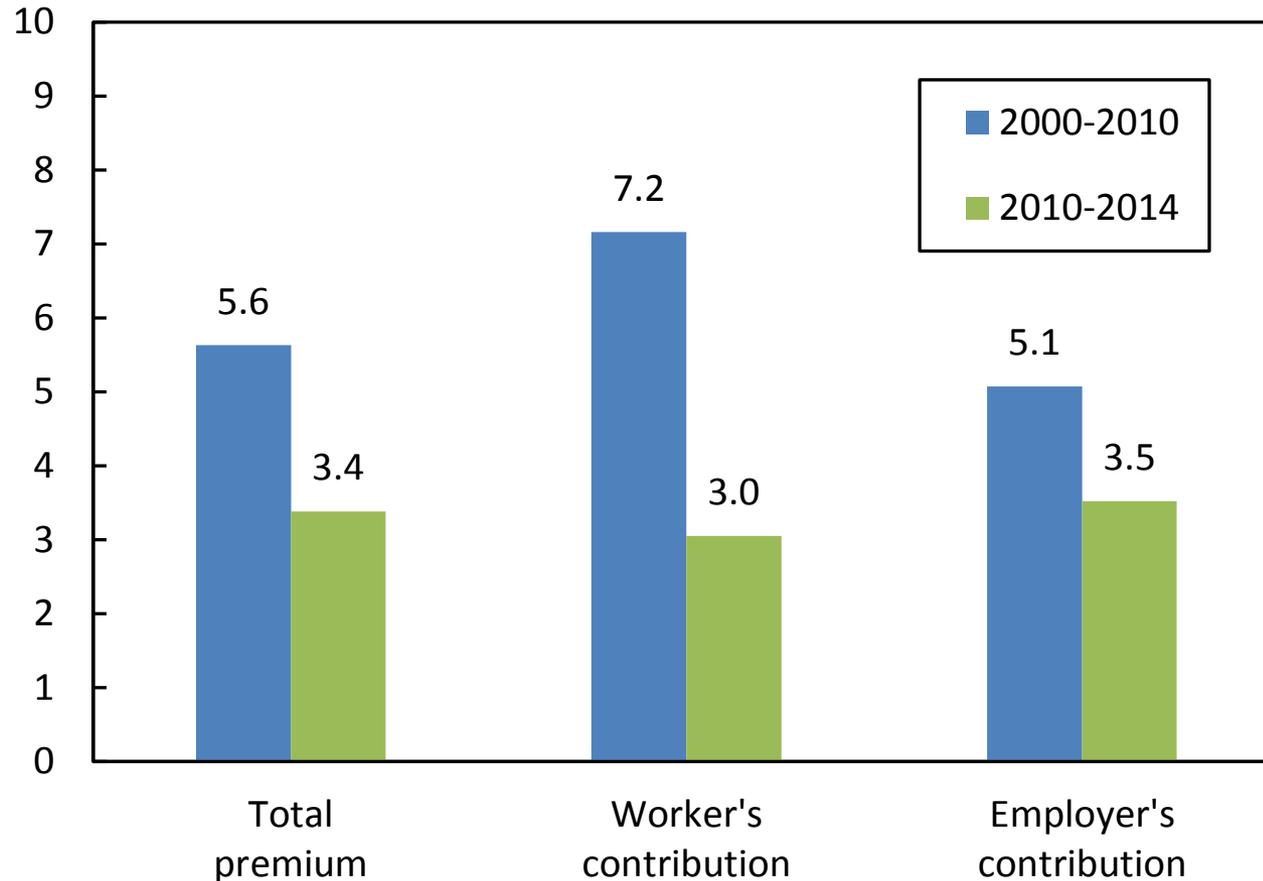
# Deductibles Have Increased in Recent Years, but No Faster than Before the Affordable Care Act



# Premium Growth has Slowed Even More Sharply for Workers Than For Employers

## Growth in Family Premiums for Job-Based Coverage

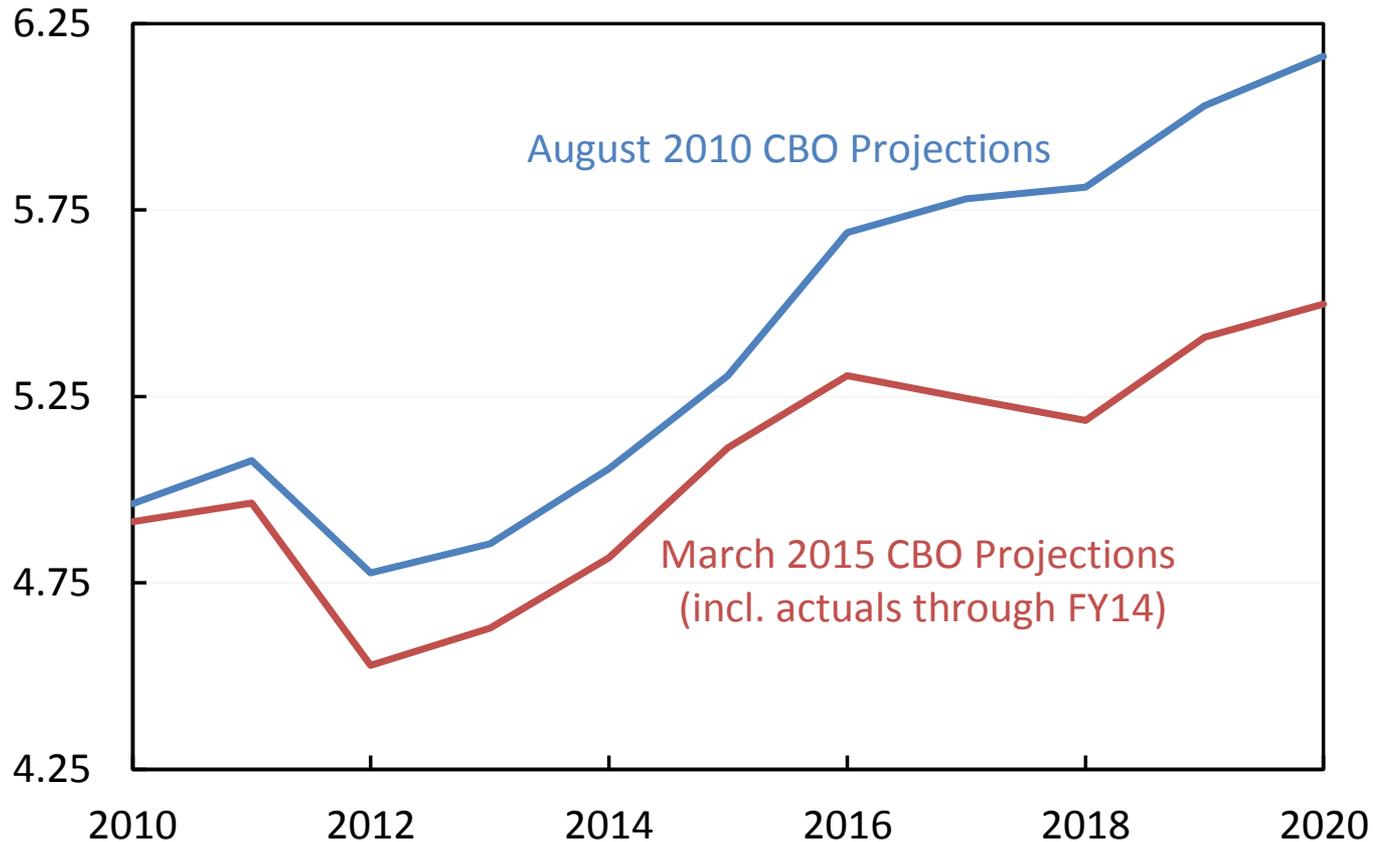
Annual percent growth, adjusted for inflation



# The ACA and CBO's Sharp Reductions in Health Care Spending Have Cut the Long-run Deficit Forecast More Than in Half

## CBO Projections of Spending on Major Health Care Programs

Percent of GDP



Source: Congressional Budget Office; CEA calculations.

Note: The August 2010 GDP estimates have been adjusted for major NIPA revisions in the summer of 2013. Without these revisions, the decline since August 2010 would be larger.