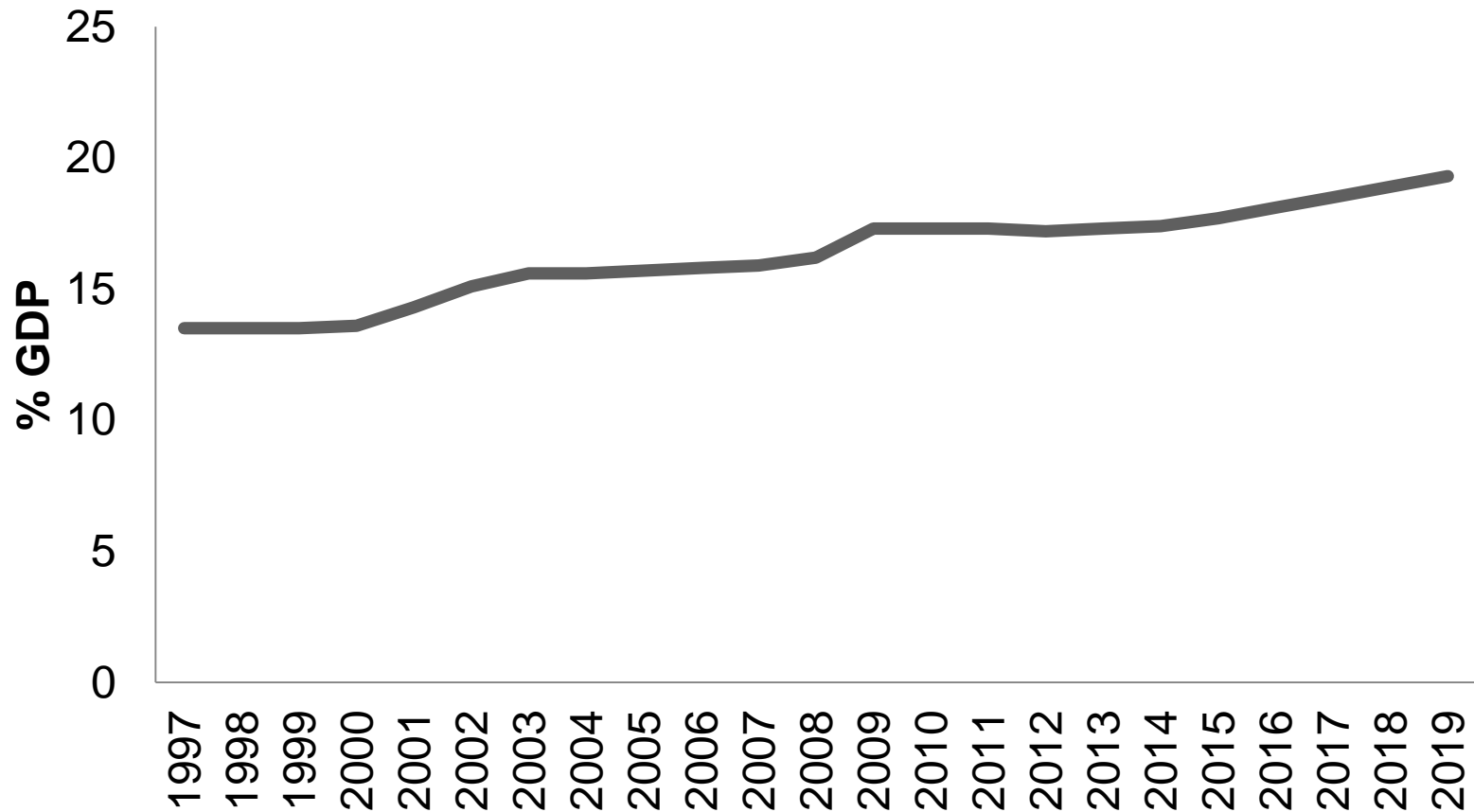


# **Health Policy 201 – Cost, quality and access**

Ellen Andrews, PhD  
CT Health Policy Project  
Fall 2011

# The problem -- cost

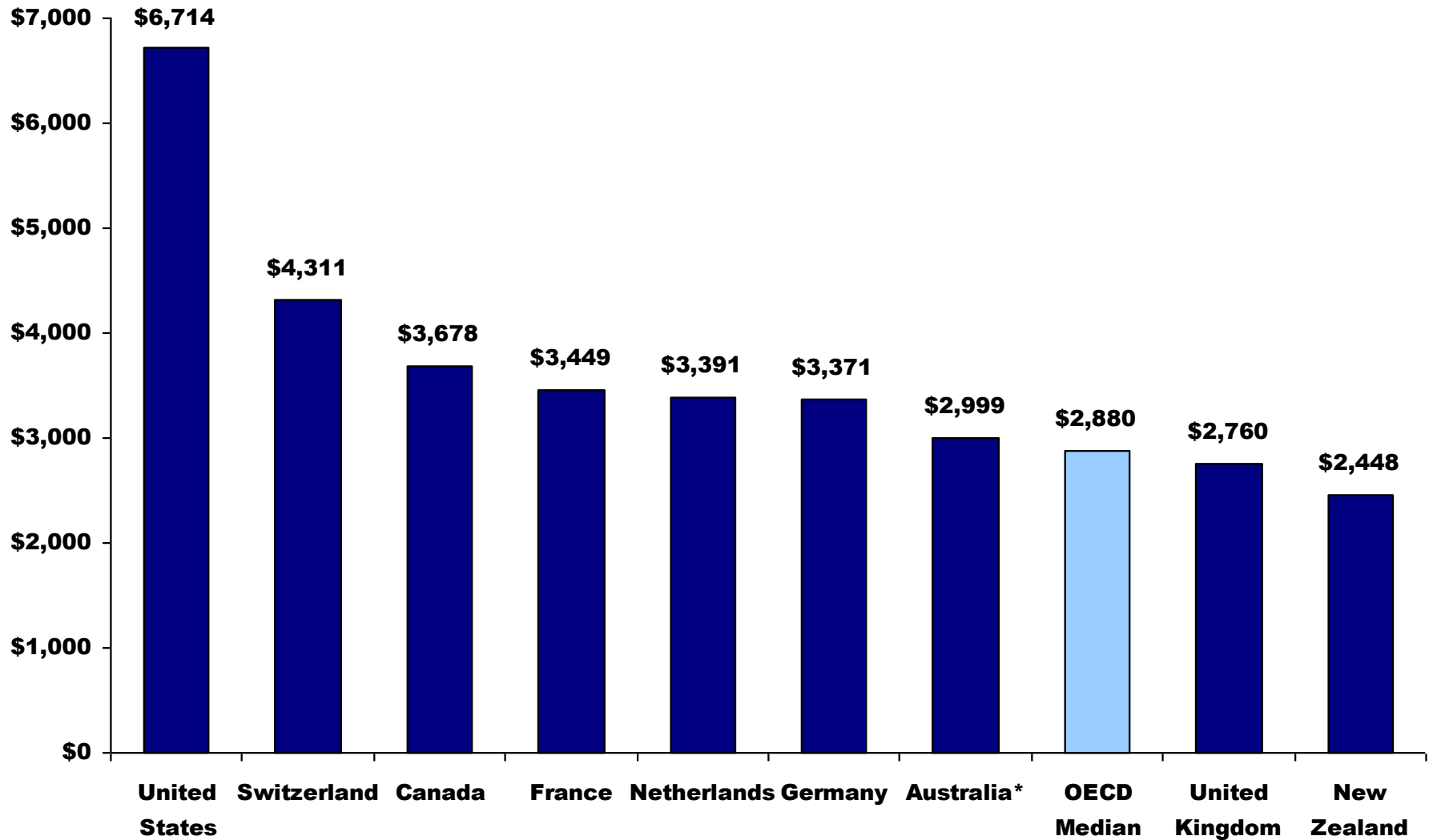
## US health care spending, as % of GDP



Source: CMS National Health Accounts

# Health Care Spending per Capita, 2006

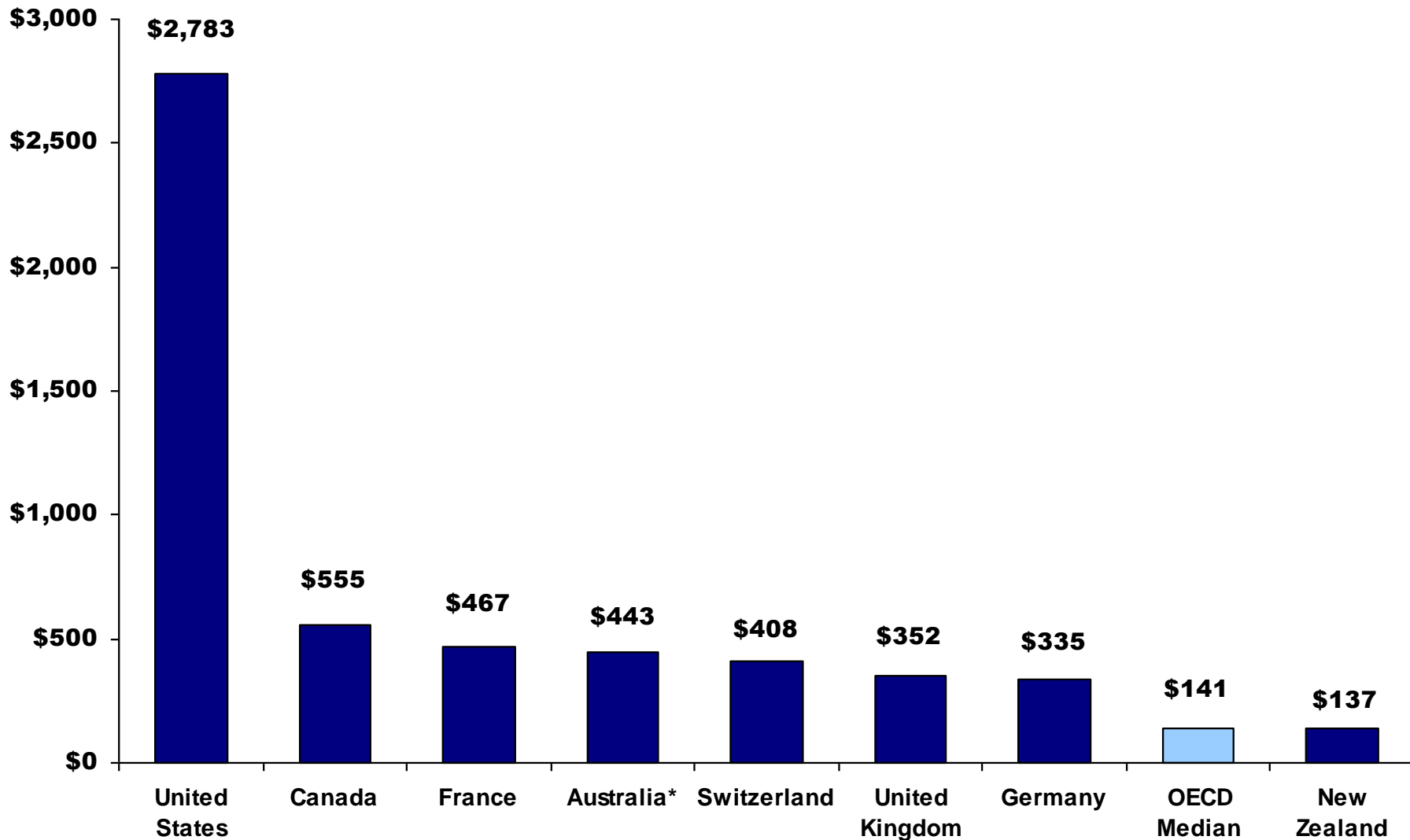
Adjusted for Differences in Cost of Living



\*2005  
Source: Commonwealth Fund, OECD Health Data 2008, "June 2008."

# Private Spending on Health Care per Capita, 2006

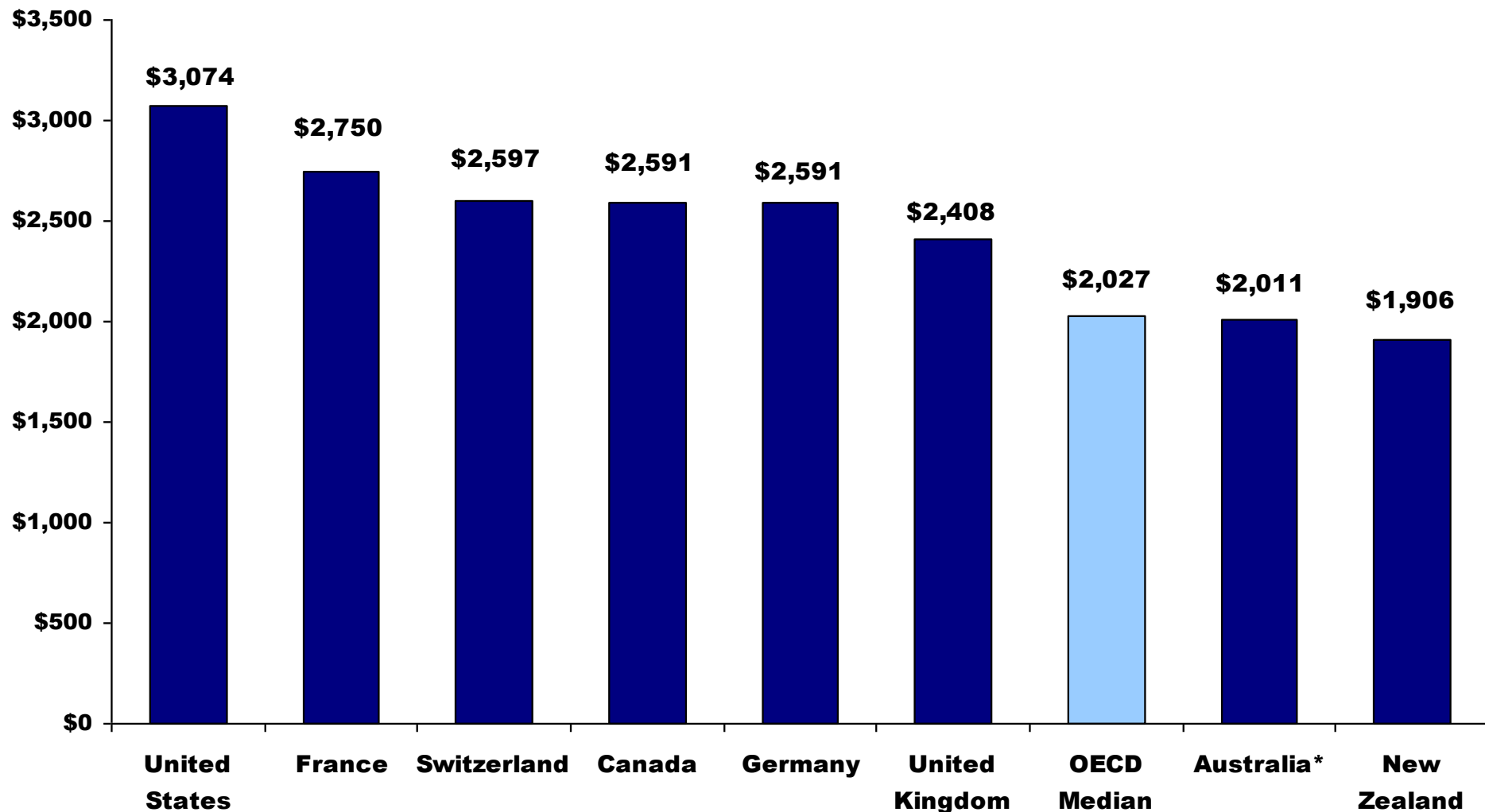
Excluding Out-of-Pocket Spending, Adjusted for Differences in the Cost of Living



Source: Commonwealth Fund, OECD Health Data 2008, "June 2008."

# Public Spending on Health Care per Capita, 2006

Adjusted for Differences in Cost of Living



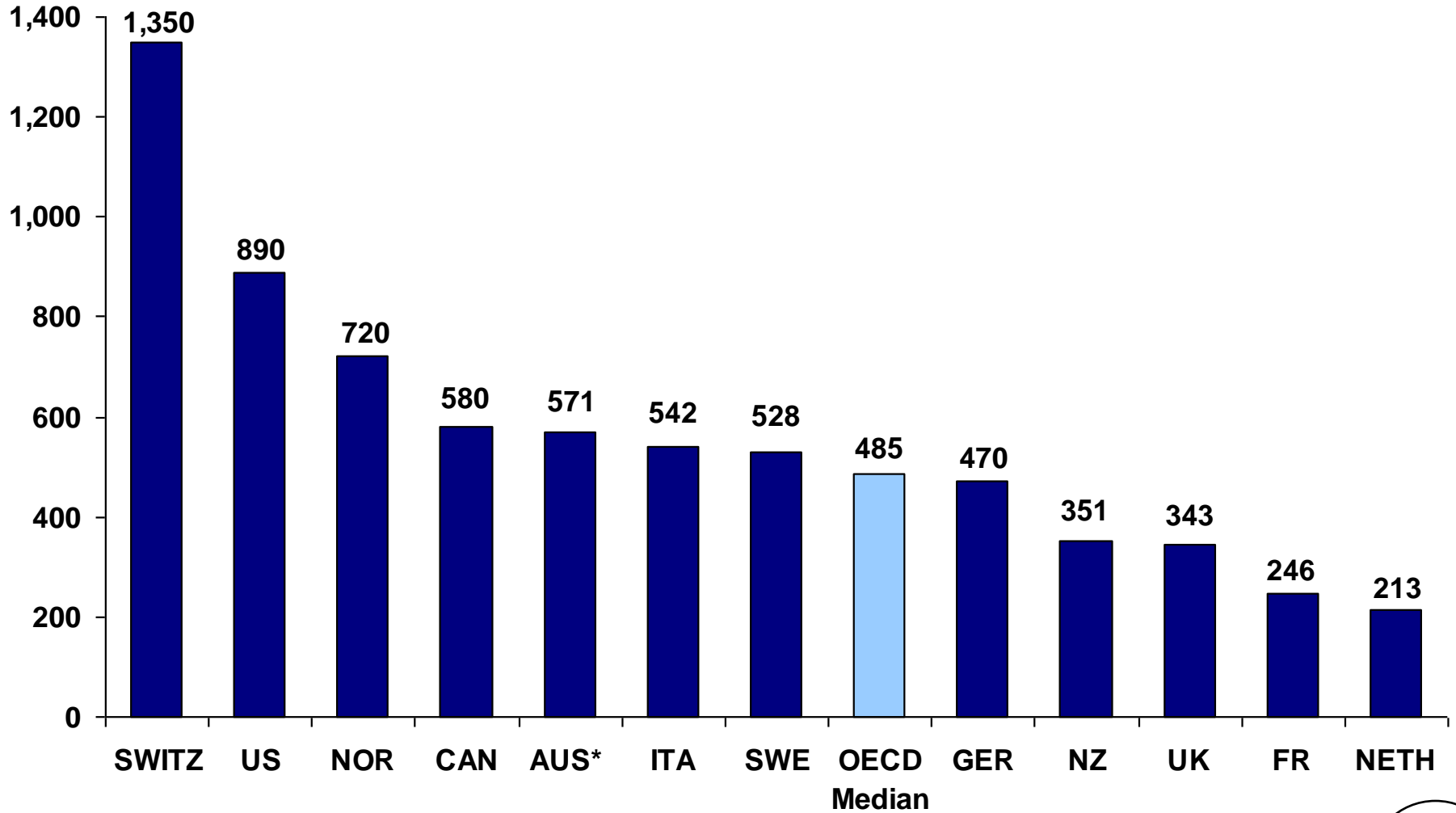
\*2005

Source: Commonwealth Fund, OECD Health Data 2008, "June 2008."

# Out-of-Pocket Health Care Spending per Capita, 2007

## Adjusted for Differences in Cost of Living

Dollars



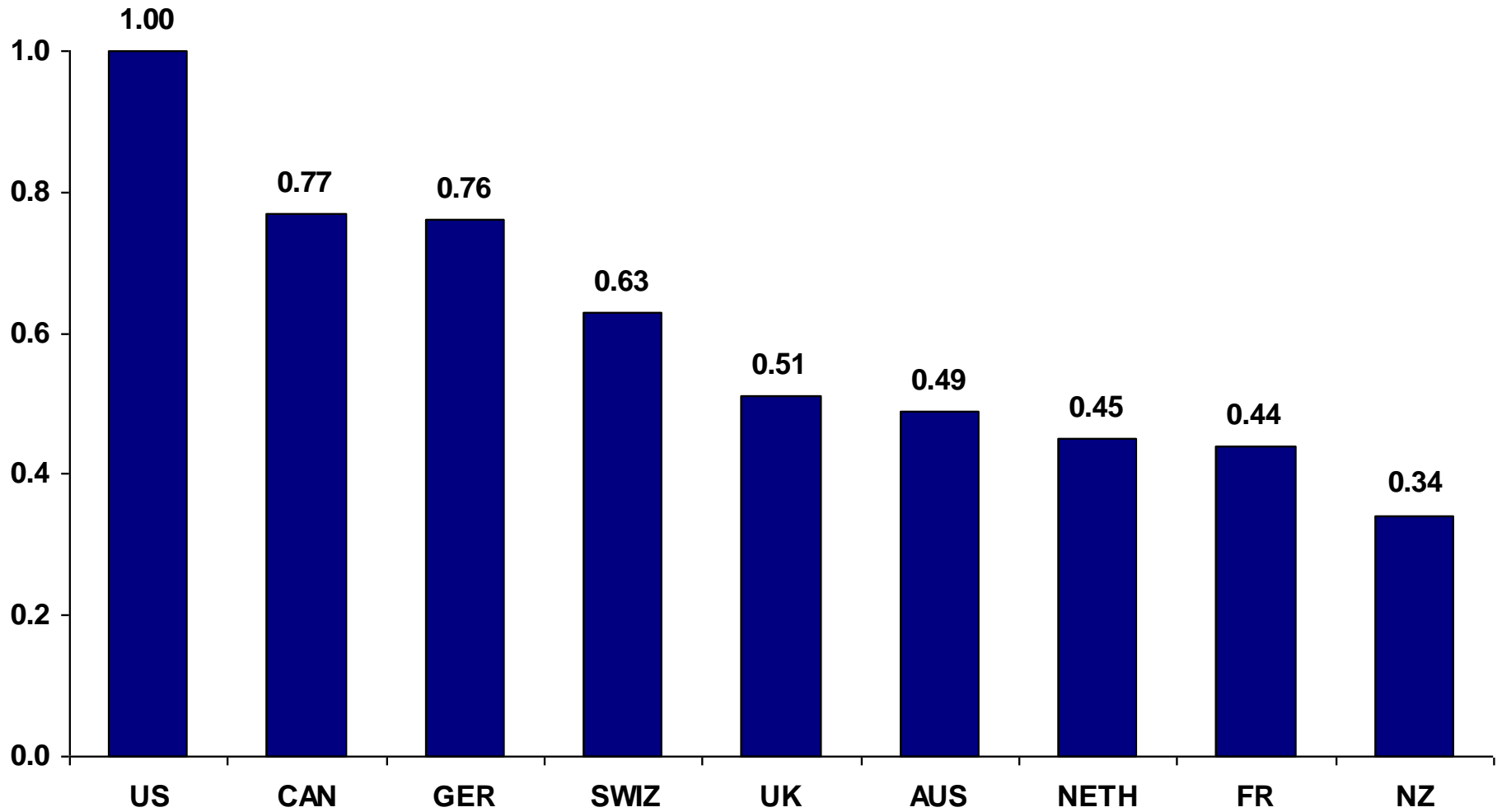
\* 2006

Source: OECD Health Data 2009 (June 2009).



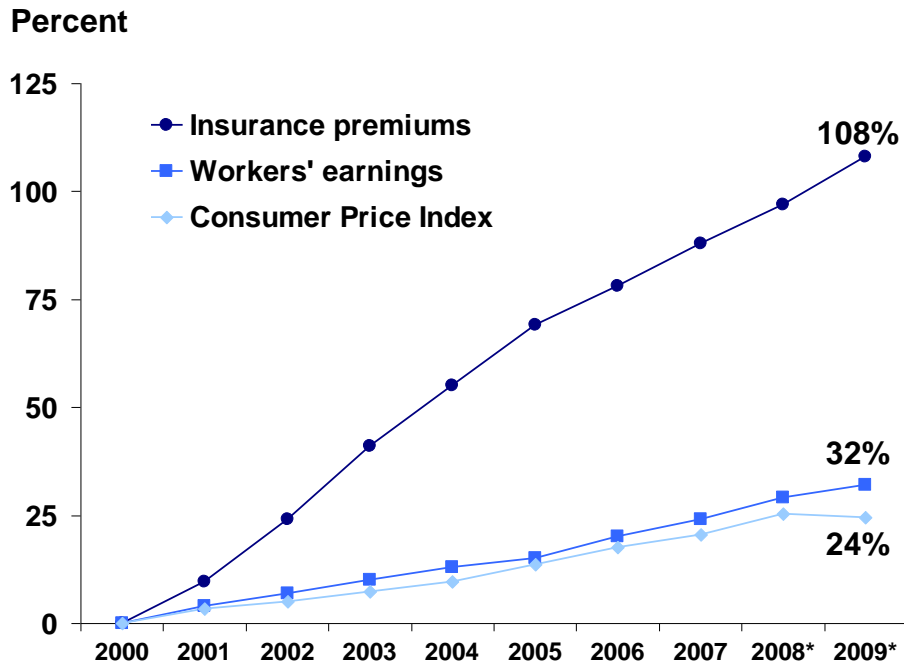
# Drug Prices for 30 Most Commonly Prescribed Drugs, 2006–07

US is set at 1.0

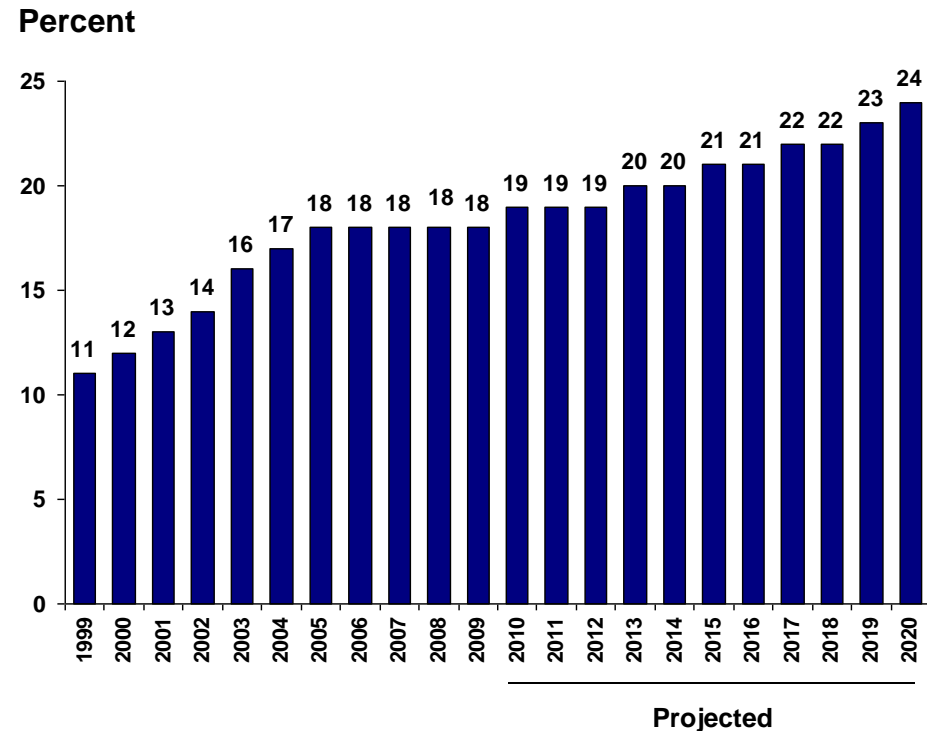


# Premiums Rising Faster Than Inflation and Wages

## Cumulative Changes in Components of U.S. National Health Expenditures and Workers' Earnings, 2000–09



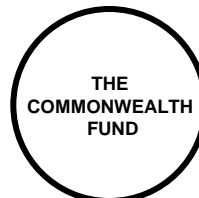
## Projected Average Family Premium as a Percentage of Median Family Income, 2008–20



\* 2008 and 2009 NHE projections.

Data: Calculations based on M. Hartman et al., "National Health Spending in 2007," *Health Affairs*, Jan./Feb. 2009 and A. Sisko et al., "Health Spending Projections Through 2018," *Health Affairs*, March/April 2009. Insurance premiums, workers' earnings, and CPI from Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation/Health Research and Educational Trust, *Employer Health Benefits Annual Surveys, 2000–2009*.

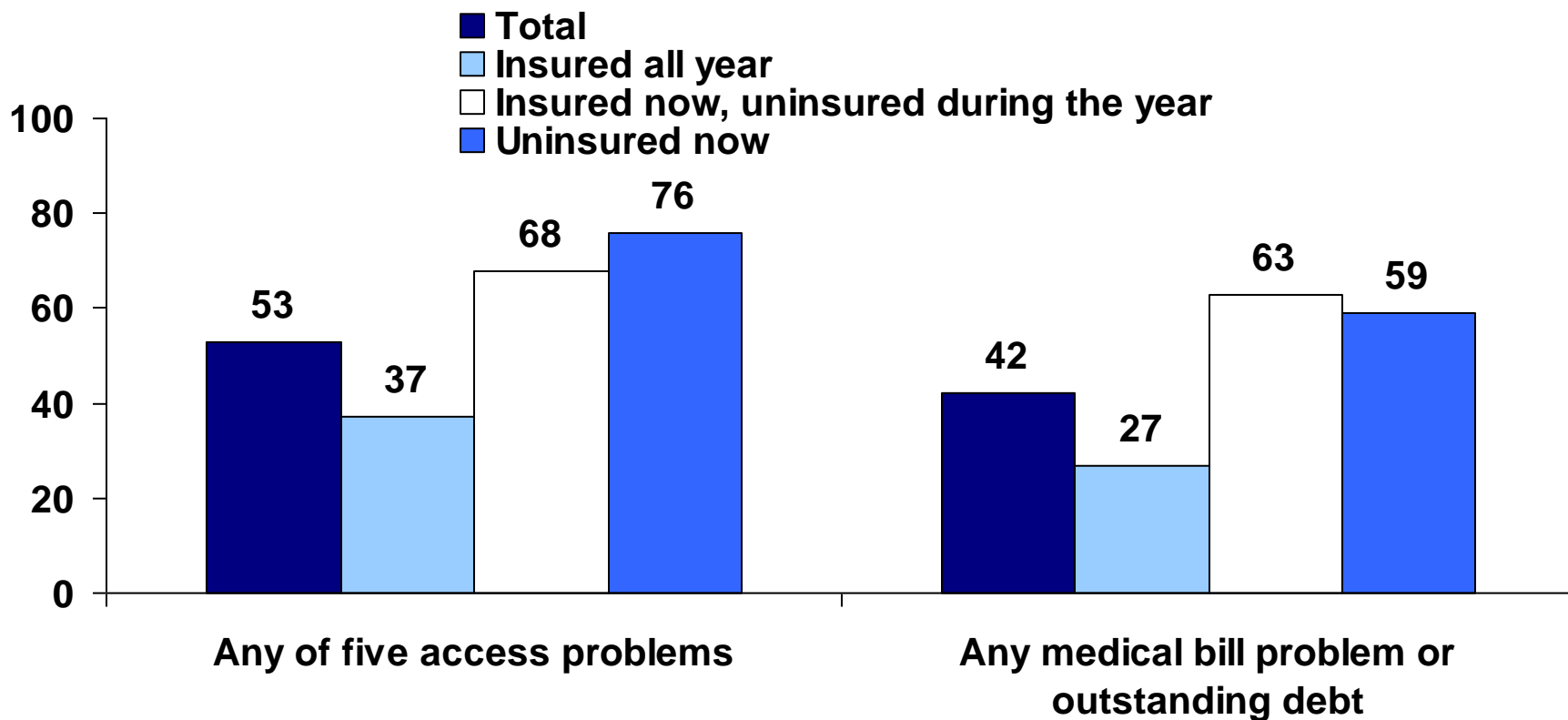
Source: K. Davis, *Why Health Reform Must Counter the Rising Costs of Health Insurance Premiums* (New York: The Commonwealth Fund, Aug. 2009).



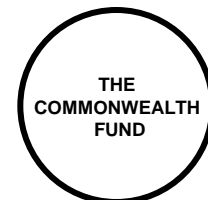


# Uninsured Young Adults Most Likely to Have Cost-Related Access Problems and Medical Bill or Debt Problems in the Past Year

Percent of adults ages 19–29 reporting cost-related access problems or medical bill or debt problems:

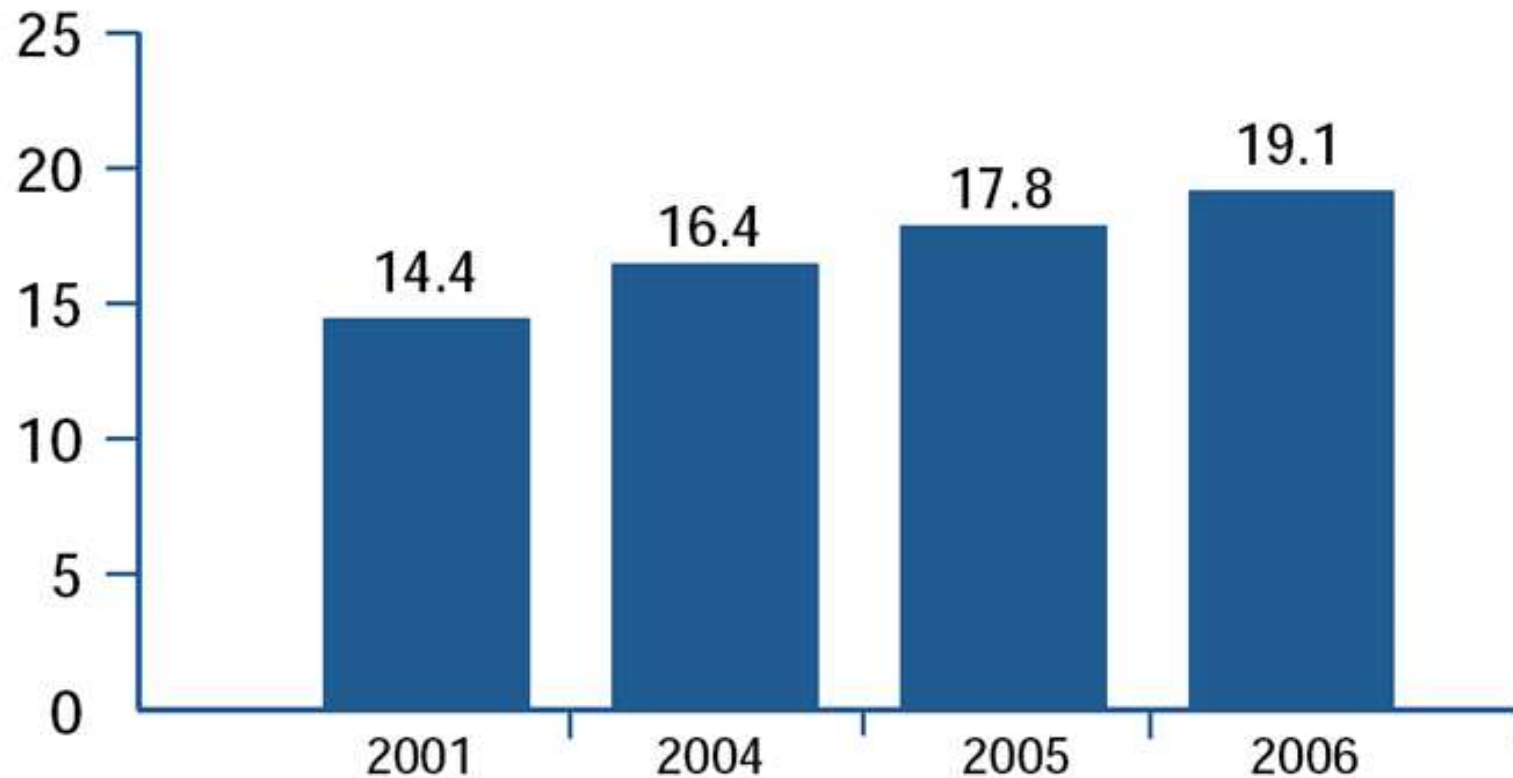


Notes: Access problems include not filling a prescription; skipping a medical test, treatment, or follow-up; having a medical problem but not seeing a doctor or going to a clinic; not seeing a specialist when needed; and delaying or not getting needed dental care. Medical debt or bill problems include not being able to pay medical bills; being contacted by a collection agency; changing way of life to pay medical bills; and medical bills/debt being paid off over time. Source: S. R. Collins and J. L. Nicholson, *Rite of Passage: Young Adults and the Affordable Care Act of 2010* (New York: The Commonwealth Fund, May 2010).



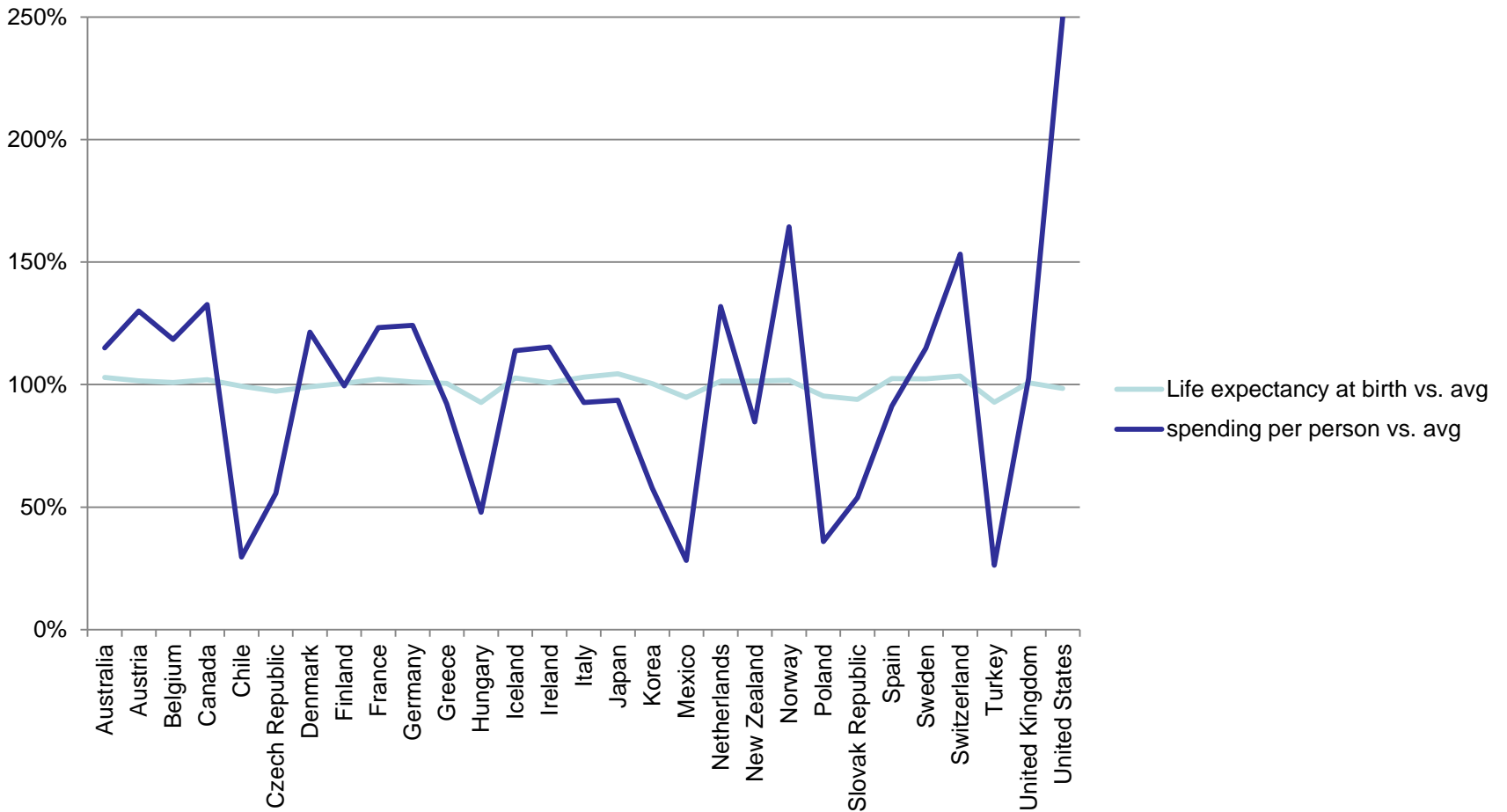
# Percentage of Americans with High Financial Burden from Health Care Spending, 2001–2006

Percent



Source: Adapted from P. J. Cunningham, "The Growing Financial Burden of Health Care: National and State Trends, 2001–2006," *Health Affairs Web First*, Mar. 25, 2010.

# Life expectancy vs. health care spending, OECD countries 2007



# Cost as a barrier to care

CT adults who needed to see a doctor but could not due to cost in the last year

<b>&lt;200% FPL</b>	22%	<b>Insured</b>	6%	<b>White</b>	7%
<b>&gt; 200%</b>	6%	<b>Uninsured</b>	35%	<b>Black</b>	15%
				<b>Hispanic</b>	21%

Source: Commonwealth Fund 2009 State Scorecard

# The problem: quality

- Only 51% of CT adults over age 50 receive recommended screenings and preventive care
- 16.6% of CT residents with asthma had an ER or urgent care visit in the past year
- In 2008 there were over 47,000 hospitalizations in CT that could have been prevented with better access to adequate primary care
- From July 2004 through Sept 2009 and there were 1224 adverse events in CT hospitals, 116 of those patients died
- It is estimated that CT would save \$80 million if we could reduce preventable readmissions among Medicare patients to the rate of the five best states

# quality

Mortality amenable to health care among CT residents: (deaths/100,000 population)

White	72.3
Black	136.6

Source: Commonwealth Fund 2009 State Scorecard

# The problem: quality

CT adults age 50 and over who did not get recommended screening and preventive care :

<b>&lt;200% FPL</b>	62%	<b>Insured</b>	48%	<b>White</b>	48%
<b>&gt; 200%</b>	44%	<b>Uninsured</b>	62%	<b>Black</b>	55%
				<b>Hispanic</b>	52%

Source: Commonwealth Fund 2009 State Scorecard

# The problem: quality

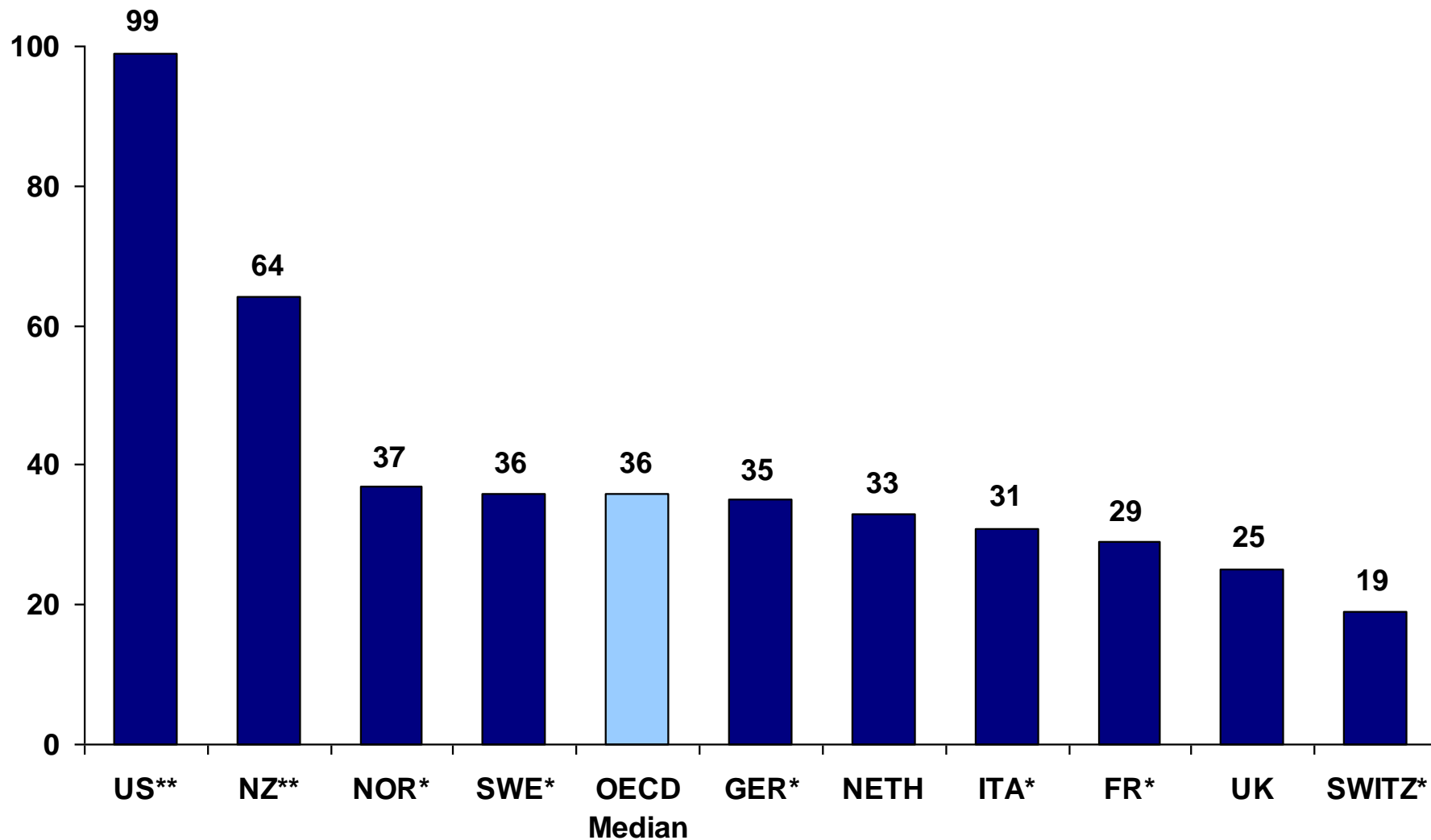
% CT adult diabetics who did not receive recommended preventive care

< 200% FPL	63%
> 200%	48%

Source: Commonwealth Fund 2009 State Scorecard



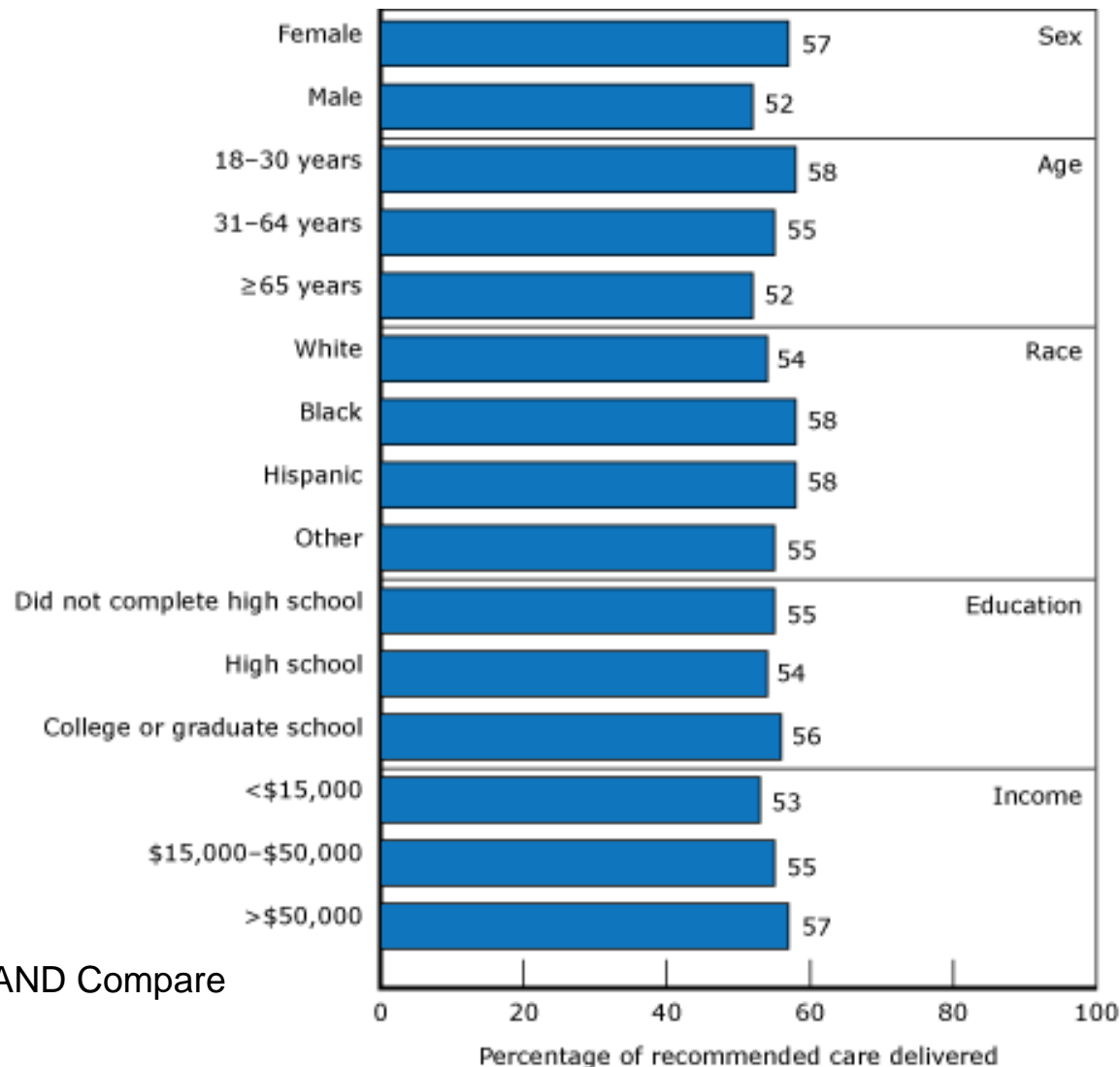
# Potential Years of Life Lost Because of Diabetes per 100,000 Population, 2007



\* 2006  
\*\* 2005

Source: Commonwealth Fund, OECD Health Data 2009 (June 2009).

# We are all getting less care than we should

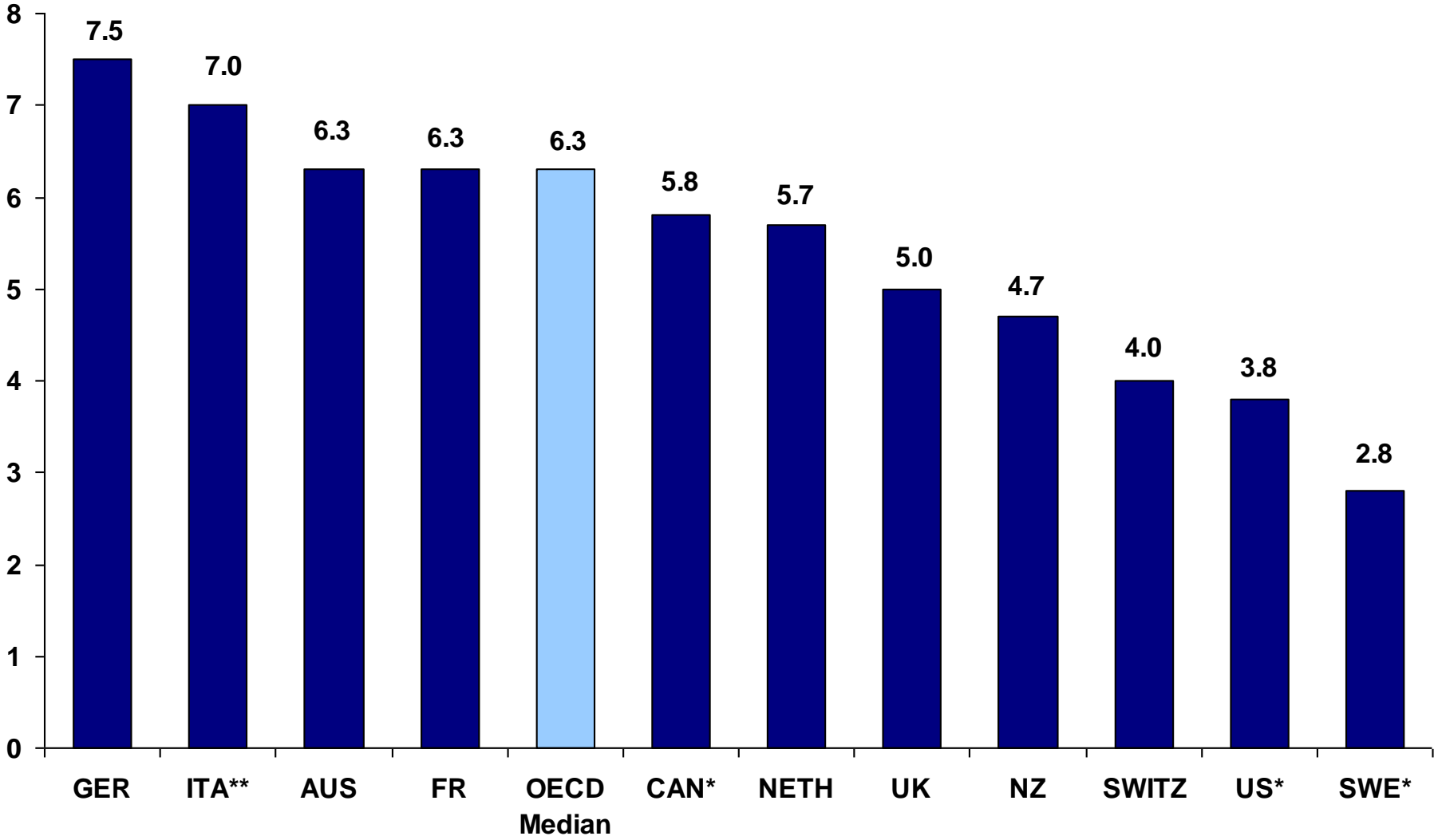


Source: RAND Compare

# The problem is both underuse and overuse of care

- Studies found that one third or more of common surgeries were not medically supported and may have harmed patients
- It is estimated that underuse of appropriate care is a larger problem (46% of recommended care delivered) than overuse (4%)
- Adherence to quality care standards varied significantly by condition from 78.7% of recommended care delivered for senile cataracts to only 10.5% for alcohol dependence

# Average Annual Number of Physician Visits per Capita, 2007

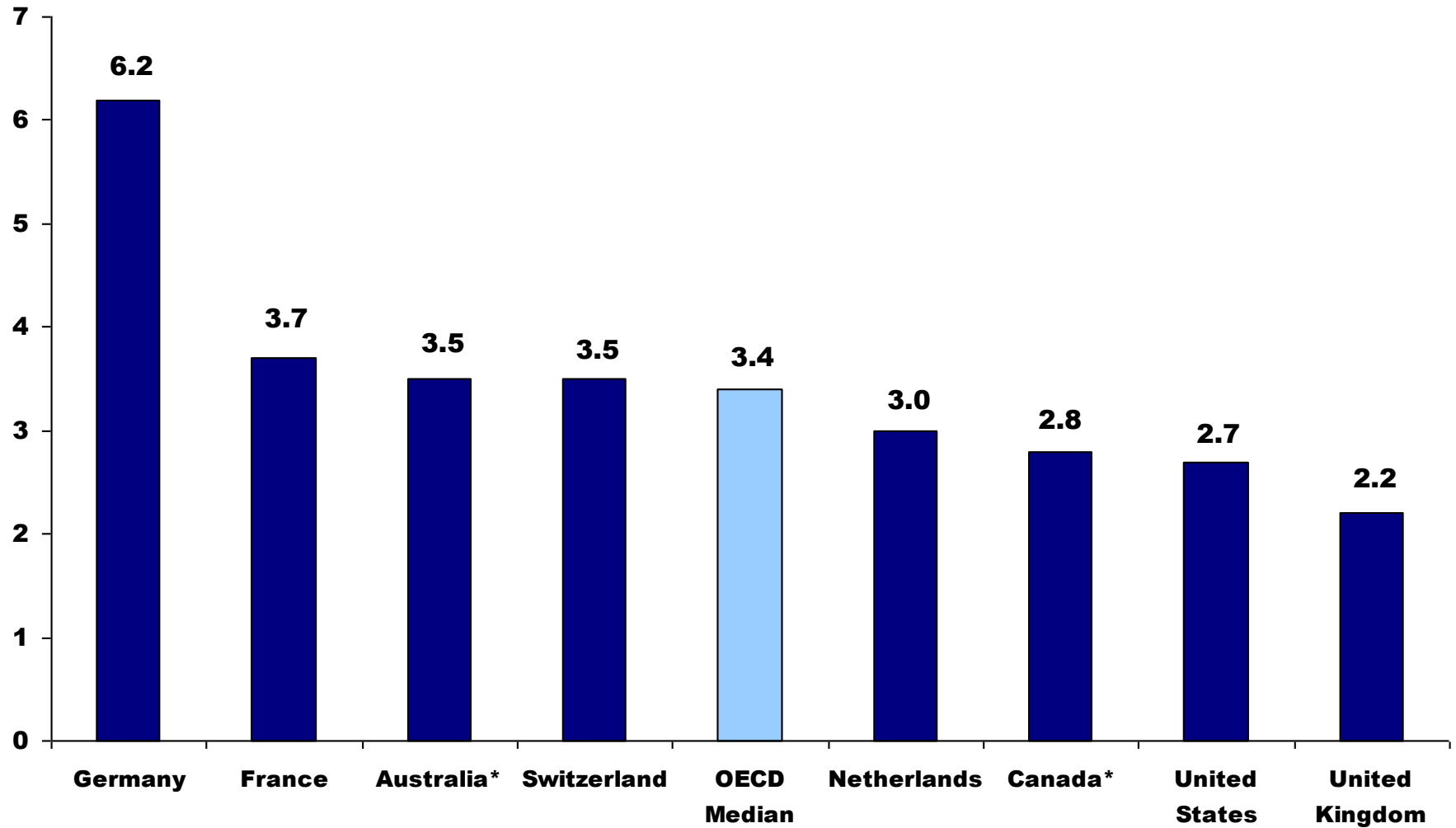


\* 2006

\*\* 2005

Source: Commonwealth Fund, OECD Health Data 2009 (June 2009).

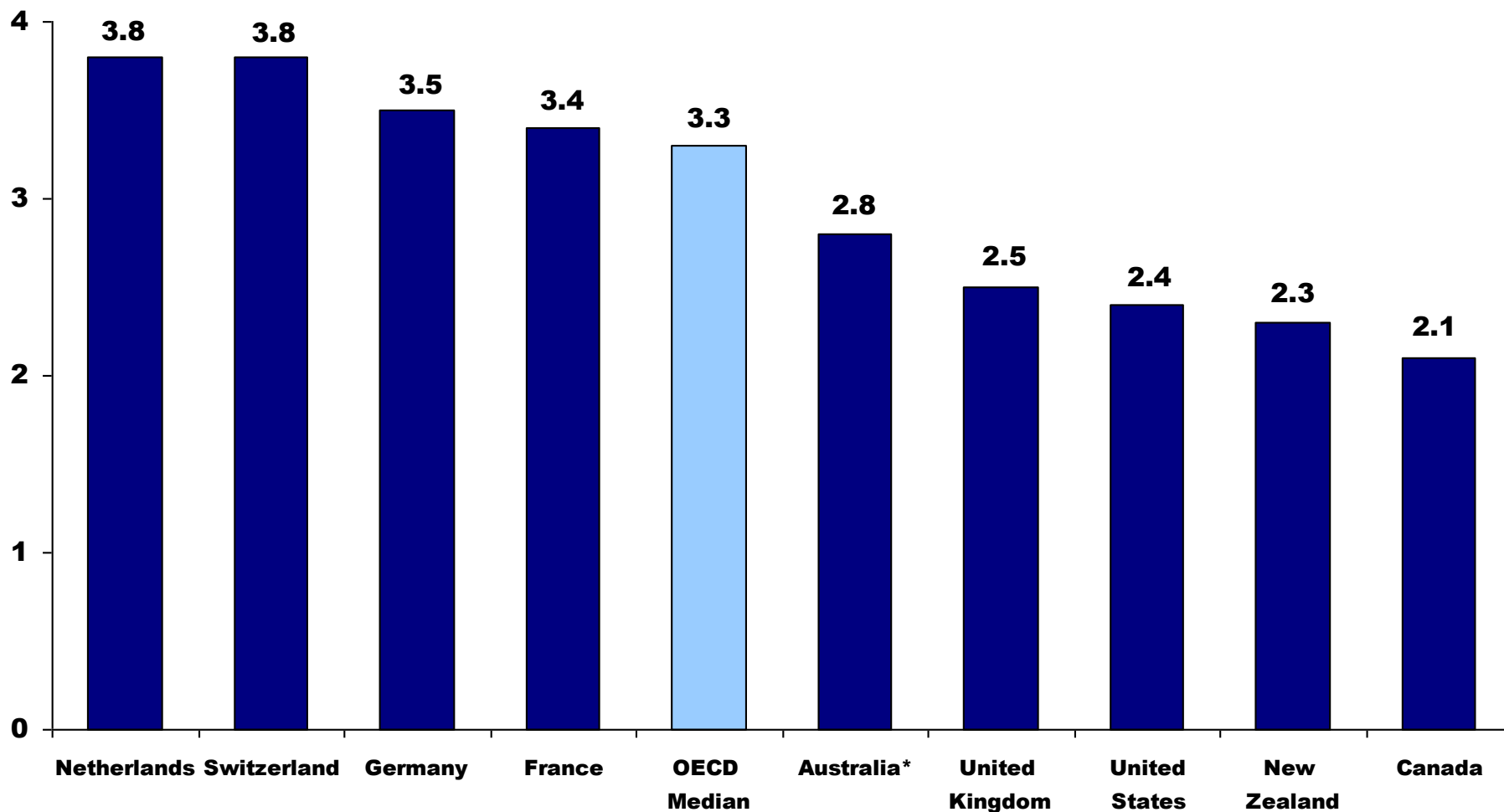
# Number of Acute Care Hospital Beds per 1,000 Population, 2006



\*2005

Source: Commonwealth Fund, OECD Health Data 2008, "June 2008."

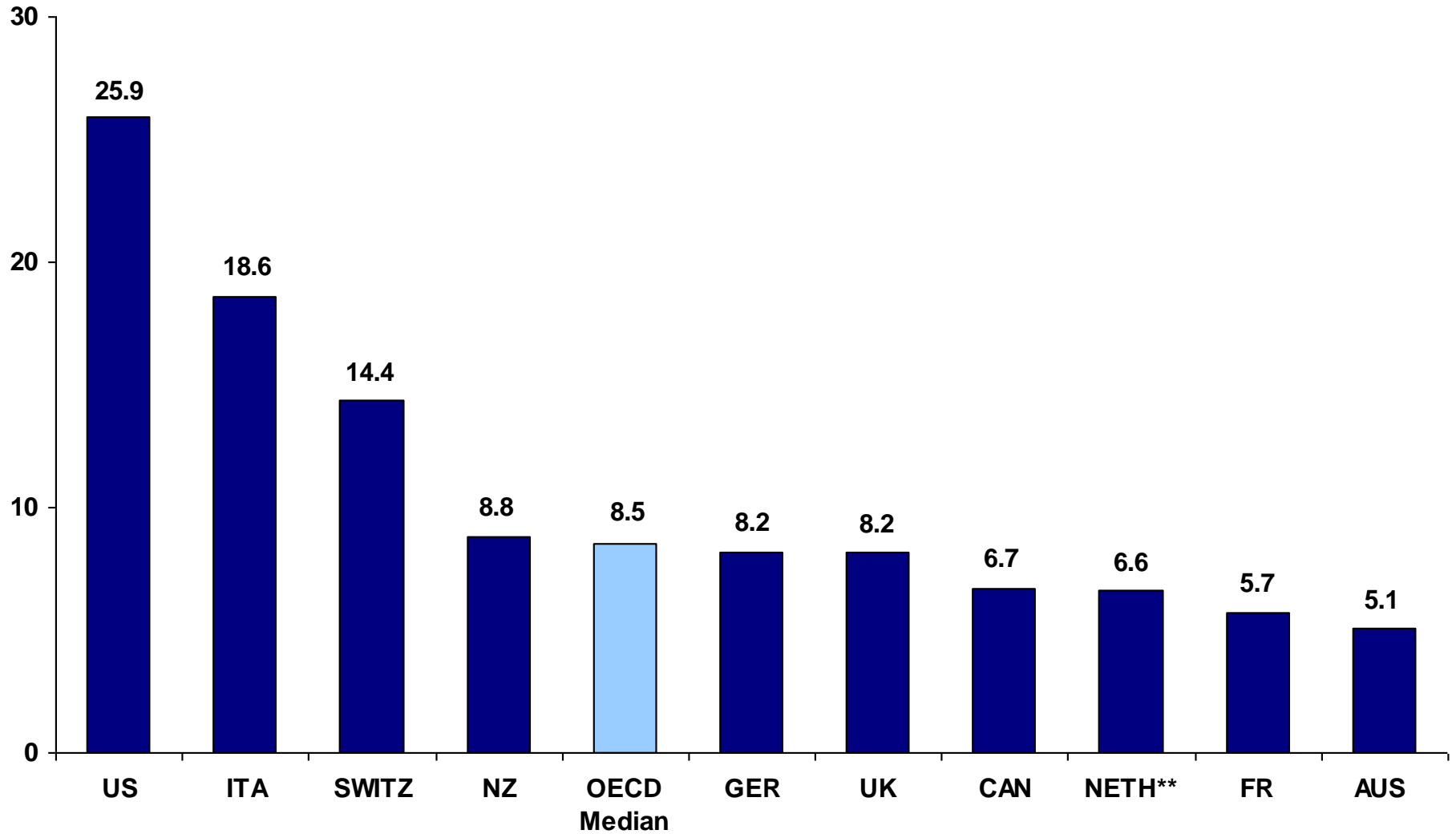
# Number of Practicing Physicians per 1,000 Population, 2006



\*2005

Source: Commonwealth Fund, OECD Health Data 2008, "June 2008."

# Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Machines per Million Population, 2007



\*\* 2005

Source: Commonwealth Fund, OECD Health Data 2009 (June 2009).

# The problem: access

US adults reporting difficulty getting care on nights, weekends or holidays without going to ER :

Below US average income	70%
Above income	60%

Source: Commonwealth Fund, 2006, The US Health Care Divide: Disparities in Primary care experience by income



# access

CT adult asthmatics with an ER or urgent care visit in the past year:

< 200% FPL	32%
> 200%	12.5%

# Cost-Related Access Problems in the Past Year

Percent	AUS	CAN	FR	GER	NETH	NZ	NOR	SWE	SWIZ	UK	US
<b>Did not fill prescription or skipped doses</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Had a medical problem but did not visit doctor</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Skipped test, treatment, or follow-up</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>22</b>
<b><i>Yes to at least one of the above</i></b>	<b>22</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>33</b>

