

## Health Affairs - Costs and Access to Health Care

Written by Administrator

Thursday, 18 November 2010 17:04 - Last Updated Thursday, 18 November 2010 17:37

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A new paper in [Health Affairs](#) titled "How Health Insurance Design Affects Access to Care and Costs, By Income, In Eleven Countries" gives us some valuable insight into the US health care system in comparison to ten other developed countries (and it doesn't look good for the US).

"Overall, the study found significant differences in access, cost burdens, and problems with health insurance that are associated with insurance design. US adults were the most likely to incur high medical expenses, even when insured, and to spend time on insurance paperwork and disputes or to have payments denied."

[The Incidental Economist](#) put together a good analysis and a few interesting charts from the results in the article.

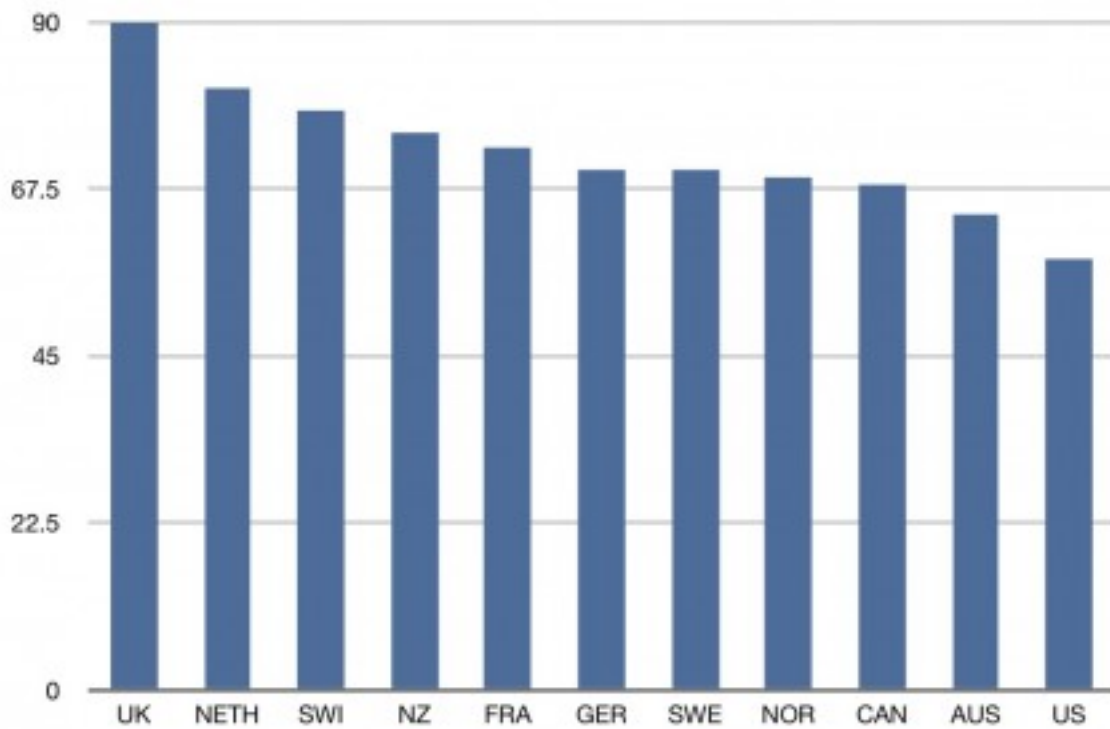
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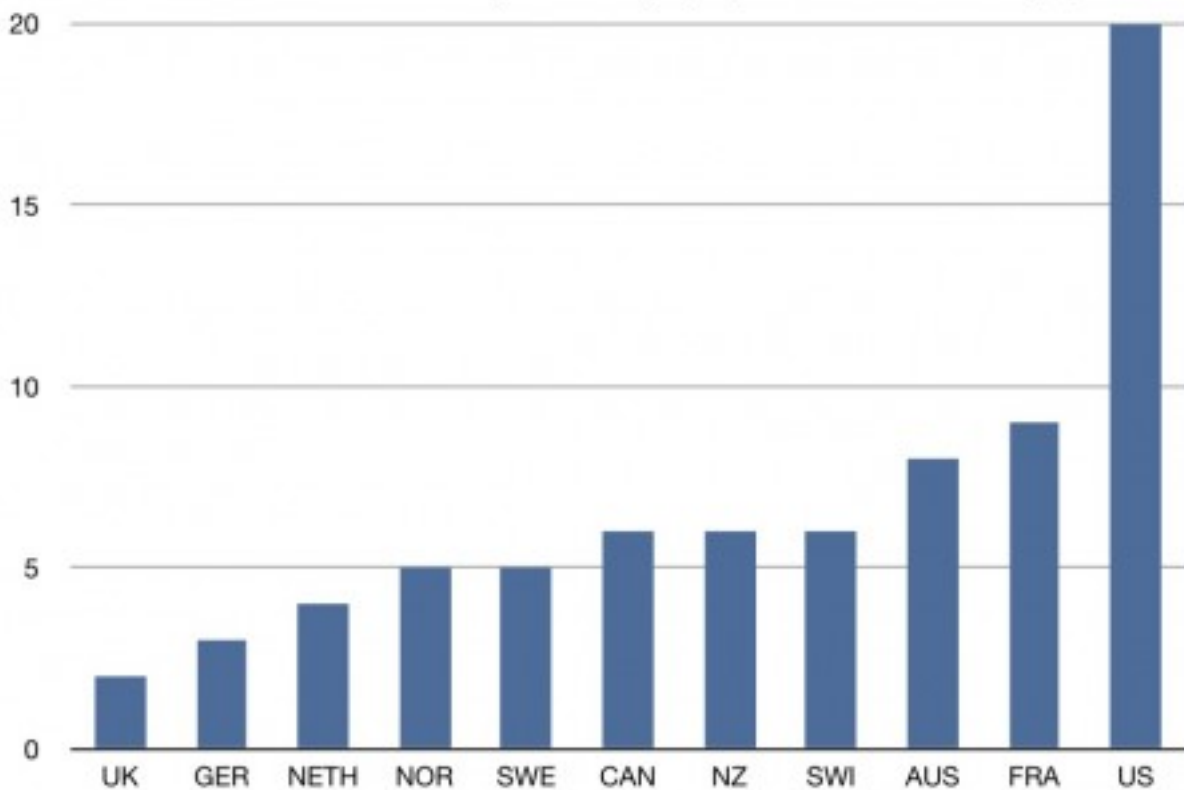
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### Percent of adults who were confident or very confident they could afford care if they needed it



### Percent of adults who had serious problems paying or were unable to pay medical bills



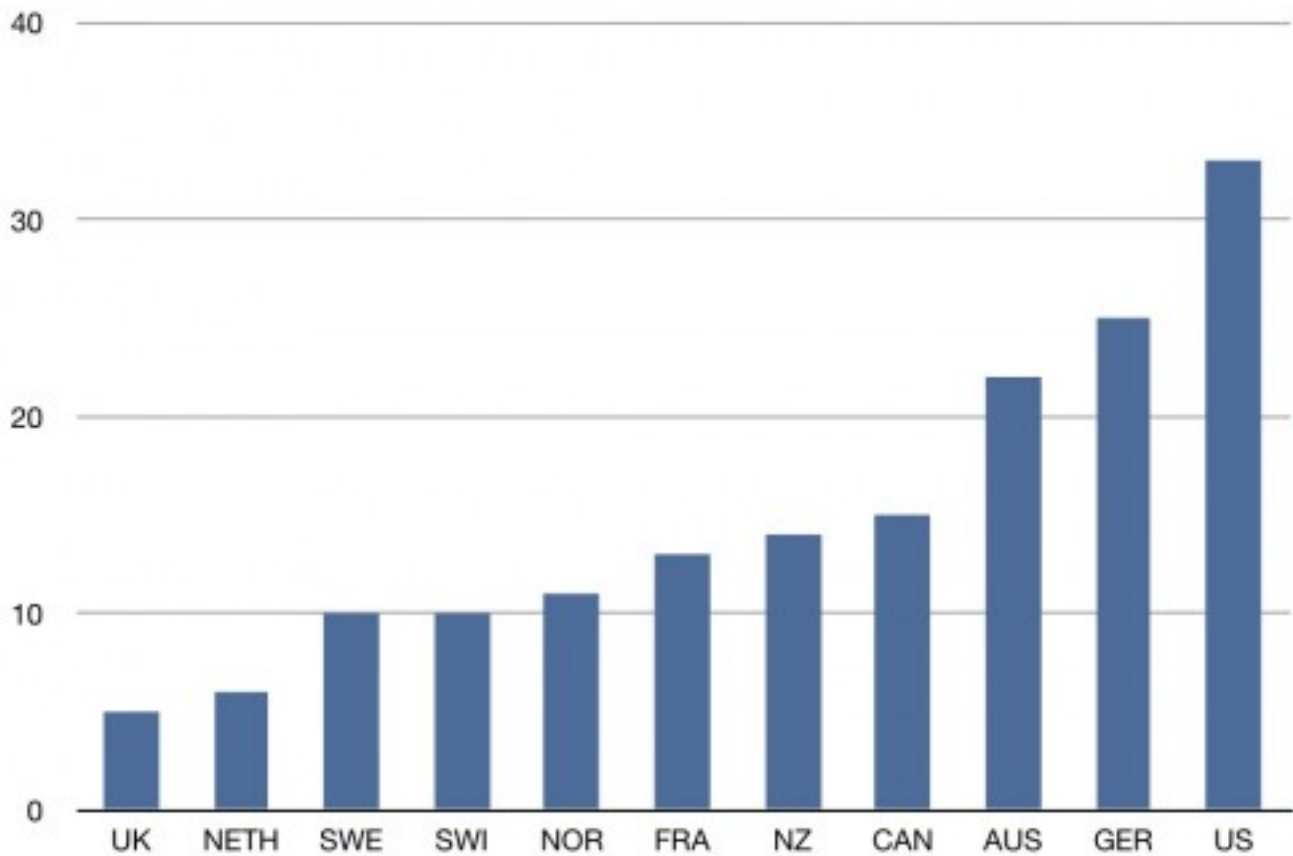
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**Percent of adults who avoided needed care or meds because of cost**



Your course will help you understand the efforts that have been made to reduce the health care costs of the United States. This is a very important issue for the United States and the world. The United States has the highest health care costs in the world, and this is a major concern for the government and the public. The course will help you understand the reasons for this and the efforts that have been made to reduce the costs. This is a very important issue for the United States and the world. The United States has the highest health care costs in the world, and this is a major concern for the government and the public. The course will help you understand the reasons for this and the efforts that have been made to reduce the costs.