50+ Income in West Virginia vs. Rx Price Gouging

Americans are sick and tired of paying the highest prices in the world for prescription drugs. It’s outrageous to pay three times what people in other countries pay for the same medicines. The President and Congress agree we need to lower drug prices, now it’s time for them to get it done.

**IN WEST VIRGINIA**

The avg. annual cost of prescription drug treatment increased **26.3%** between 2015 and 2019, while the annual income for West Virginia residents only increased **10.4%**.

**National Rx Facts**

### 4.7 Drugs/Month:

The avg. older American takes **4.7 prescription drugs/month**, typically on a chronic basis.¹

### Highest Prices

**Americans pay 3x more** than other countries for the same brand name drugs.²

### Too Expensive

Avg. annual cost for one brand name drug, used on a chronic basis: ≈**$6,426** in 2019

That’s almost **$1,338 more than in 2015**.¹

### PhRMA Spends Billions on Ads

- PhRMA spent over **$161M for lobbying**³ and nearly **$6.6B for advertising** in 2020.⁴
- 2008–2018, PhRMA spent more on stock buybacks and dividends than on R&D.⁵

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**Sources & Notes:**

1) [https://www.aarp.org/rxpricewatch](https://www.aarp.org/rxpricewatch)
4) [https://www.fiercepharma.com/special-report/top-10-ad-spenders-big-pharma-for-2020](https://www.fiercepharma.com/special-report/top-10-ad-spenders-big-pharma-for-2020)

*Based on price associated with taking 4.7 widely used brand name prescription drugs. Income based on median person-level income.