Medicare beneficiaries spend a lot of their own money on health care.

Beneficiaries in Original Medicare spent an average of $5,357 on health care in 2011. Half of all beneficiaries spent at least 18% of their income on their health.

### WHERE DOES THEIR HEALTH CARE MONEY GO?

Breakdown of the $5,357 spent on health care by the average Medicare beneficiary, in 2011:

- **Premiums**: $2,586
- **Long-Term Care Facilities**: $883
- **Doctor Visits**: $634
- **Drugs**: $517
- **Dental Care**: $294
- **Hospital Care**: $272
- **Other**: $171

### COMPARISON WITH OTHER HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES

in 2011

- **HOME**: $13,662
- **TRANSPORTATION**: $5,752
- **HEALTH CARE**: $5,357
- **FOOD**: $5,145

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**MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES IN FAIR OR POOR HEALTH**

-spent an average of $6,020 on health care

% in fair or poor health, by race/ethnicity:

- Hispanics: 46%
- African Americans: 37%
- Whites: 26%

**MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES AGE 85 AND UP**

- spent an average of $9,469 on health care

Half spent at least 29% of their income on health care

(more than twice as much as those 65 to 69)

**10% OF MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES**

-spent $10,000+ on health care

Of the beneficiaries in this group:

- 32% were in a long-term care facility
- 27% were 85 and older
- 92% had supplemental coverage
- 36% were admitted to a hospital

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Data source for healthcare spending: Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey, 2011 Cost and Use File. Beneficiaries in Medicare Advantage were excluded. Data source for other household expenses: 2011 Consumer Expenditure Survey. The figures are for consumer units (CUs) where the head of household was 65 & older.