RAND Health Insurance Experiment

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RAND_Health_Insurance_Experiment>

Define the main factors of Healthcare costs

The price of healthcare continually rises above the overall price level (CPI)

2008 numbers

* $3.2 Billion spent
* 17.2% of domestic GDP in 2009, as a percentage, highest of industrialized nations
* 31% of all aggregate spending is for hospital care
* Public insurance covers 48% of costs
* Private insurance covers 33% of costs
* Consumers pay for the remaining 19% through deductibles, copayments, or direct payments

Rising costs can contribute to

* Reduced access to care
* Slow wage growth, use of part-time/temp workers, and outsourcing
* Personal bankruptcies
* Increased budget deficits

Data variables from MEPS

* 800