

FROM MEDICARE TO MEDICAID:

How long-term care destroys the savings of many elderly Americans

What is Long-Term Care?

LTC may be either assisted living, home healthcare or living in a nursing home.

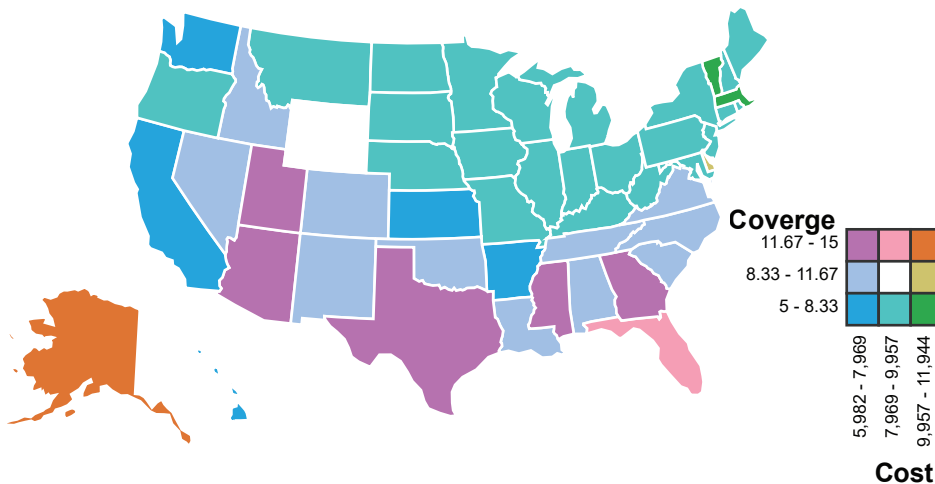
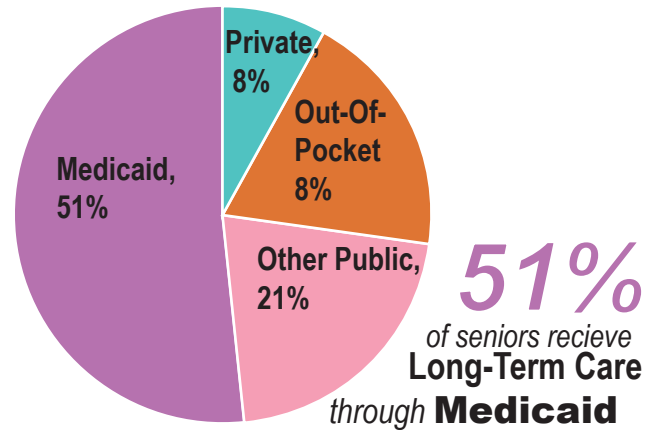
How do most Pay?

Some people are able to afford private long-term care insurance but they account for only 8% of seniors. 51% of seniors are able to be insured through the public Medicaid program, **but the income and assets of recipients must fall below a state threshold.** This leads 19% of individuals paying out of pocket for long-term care, with many finally qualifying for care only when they deplete their life savings, falling below the state poverty threshold.

The **Median Cost** of LTC is

\$90,000

For a Single year



How much do States Pay?

Because each state sets medic-aid eligibility, the cost of long-term care varies across states. This leads the percentage of people not covered to also vary across states.

13 MILLION

Americans **NEED** Long-term Care

-Only-

89,000 People

purchased **PRIVATE** LTC in 2016

What are the Alternatives?

In 2010, part of the Affordable Care Act included the CLASS Act, which offered citizens to enroll in a public option long-term care plan, but due to it's voluntary nature, CLASS was ultimately scraped.

Universal Coverage?

Many other countries have government run programs that provide long-term care to all their citizens. Germany for instance pays for **universal** long-term care though a **1.7 % payroll tax**. This could be a model for the US, enroll everyone in a public run plan, paid for by a small tax increase.

2/3 Can't Afford to buy ltc Coverage