



ObamaCare Sticker Shock

Across The Country, Americans Are Seeing Their Health Care Premiums Skyrocket Due To ObamaCare

EVEN DEMOCRATS ARE UNABLE TO DENY THAT OBAMACARE IS RAISING PREMIUMS

White House Press Secretary Jay Carney Acknowledged That Americans Will Pay Higher Premiums Due To ObamaCare. "On Monday, White House press secretary Jay Carney acknowledged that some consumers would lose their 'substandard plans' and have to pay higher premiums because of the new health-care law." (Juliet Eilperin, "Carney Admits Some Americans Will Lose Existing Plans Under Health-Care Law," [The Washington Post's Post Politics](#), 10/28/13)

An Obama Ally To Fellow Democrats Over Rising Health Care Costs: "Dem Party Is F**d."** "An ally of the president begins to panic over ObamaCare fallout. Incoming from Democrats: 'Dem Party is F****d.' That was the subject line of an email sent to me Sunday by a senior Democratic consultant with strong ties to the White House and Capitol Hill. The body of the email contained a link to this *Los Angeles Times* story about ObamaCare 'sticker shock.'" (Ron Fournier, "Obama Takes Friendly Fire," [National Journal](#), 10/28/13)

- **Democrat Consultant: "We Will Own This Problem Forever."** "The Democratic consultant said none of this is news to him, but he wonders why Obama wasn't honest with Americans. He predicted surprise and outrage over higher costs and lesser coverage. 'We will own this problem forever,' the Democrat wrote." (Ron Fournier, "Obama Takes Friendly Fire," [National Journal](#), 10/28/13)

Democrats Are Coming To Realize That ObamaCare Is Raising Premiums

"Experts Say Sharp Price Increases For Individual Policies Have The Greatest Potential To Erode Public Support For" ObamaCare. "Although recent criticism of the health care law has focused on website glitches and early enrollment snags, experts say sharp price increases for individual policies have the greatest potential to erode public support for President Obama's signature legislation." (Chad Terhune, "Some Health Insurance Gets Pricier As ObamaCare Rolls Out," [Los Angeles Times](#), 10/26/13)

AMERICANS ARE FACING STICKER SHOCK UNDER OBAMACARE

CBS's Jan Crawford: "For Many, Their Introduction Into The Affordable Care Act Has Been Negative. A Broken Website And Now Cancellation Notices From Insurance Companies. Followed By Sticker Shock Over Higher Prices For The New Plans. It's Directly At Odds With Repeated Assurances From The President." (CBS's [This Morning](#), 10/28/13)

- **"Consumers Are Suffering From Sticker Shock..."** "Consumers are suffering from sticker shock;

a major cross-section of previously insured Americans are finding out that their plans are changing to conform with ObamaCare even though the president promised they wouldn't; evidence of customer satisfaction is anecdotal; and there's still no guarantee that the young 'invincibles,' who must make up 20 percent to 30 percent of the pool to make the exchanges work, will actually enroll." (Brett Norman and Jonathan Allen, "ObamaCare Headaches: More Than The Website," [Politico](#), 10/28/13)

THE MIDDLE CLASS WILL SHELL OUT MORE FOR THEIR HEALTH CARE COSTS

For Many Americans, ObamaCare Is "Driving Their Premiums Way Up – In Some Cases Doubling Them, Or More." "The few people who made it through the website are seeing their options for the first time, and some are not happy about what they're seeing. Those with lower incomes are eligible for substantial subsidies, but middle income folks making 400 percent of poverty or more don't get a thing, and the new insurance market rules are driving their premiums way up — in some cases doubling them, or more." (Brett Norman and Jonathan Allen, "ObamaCare Headaches: More Than The Website," [Politico](#), 10/28/13)

- **The Hike In Costs Are From New ObamaCare Mandates.** "Insurers say the price and cost hikes result from new benefit mandates, additional taxes levied as part of the law and a requirement that they can no longer deny coverage to people with pre-existing medical conditions." (Peter Frost, "ObamaCare Deductibles A Dose Of Sticker Shock," [Chicago Tribune](#), 10/13/13)

The Middle-Class Faces "Hefty Increases On Their Insurance Bills" Due To ObamaCare. "These middle-class consumers are staring at hefty increases on their insurance bills as the overhaul remakes the health care market. Their rates are rising in large part to help offset the higher costs of covering sicker, poorer people who have been shut out of the system for years." (Chad Terhune, "Some Health Insurance Gets Pricier As ObamaCare Rolls Out," [Los Angeles Times](#), 10/26/13)

- **In California, "Middle-Income Consumers Face An Estimated 30 Percent Rate Increase."** "But middle-income consumers face an estimated 30% rate increase, on average, in California due to several factors tied to the health care law." (Chad Terhune, "Some Health Insurance Gets Pricier As ObamaCare Rolls Out," [Los Angeles Times](#), 10/26/13)
- **Director Of UCLA's Center For Health Policy Research: "There Are Winners And Losers Under The Affordable Care Act."** "'This is when the actual sticker shock comes into play for people,' said Gerald Kominski, director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. 'There are winners and losers under the Affordable Care Act.'" (Chad Terhune, "Some Health Insurance Gets Pricier As ObamaCare Rolls Out," [Los Angeles Times](#), 10/26/13)

"Individuals Making More Than \$46,000 Or A Family Of Four Bringing Home \$94,000, Bear The Full Brunt Of The New Prices." "And while subsidies are available to offset the costs to lower income people, individuals making more than \$46,000 or a family of four bringing home \$94,000, bear the full brunt of the new prices. The big reveal has shocked some consumers, especially the healthy ones who had relatively affordable insurance before and make too much money to get subsidized coverage next year." (Brett Norman and Jonathan Allen, "ObamaCare Headaches: More Than The Website," [Politico](#), 10/28/13)

ObamaCare Will Force Younger People To "Pay Higher Premiums." "New plan prices vary depending on age and location. But we're told younger people who currently have with high deductible plans will likely pay higher premiums and people with health problems will pay lower premiums." (Carter Evans, "Arrival Of ObamaCare Forcing Insurers To Drop Customers With Low Coverage," [CBS News](#), 10/24/13)

As Americans Are Having Their Health Plans Terminated, They're Not Happy That They Will Pay More Under ObamaCare

For Americans Having Their Health Plans Cancelled, The New Plans That They Must Enroll In For Are “More Expensive.” “But thousands of other customers have had their current policies canceled -- told by insurers their plans are not compliant with ObamaCare for 2014 -- and given new plan choices that are generally richer because of the essential benefits but more expensive.” (Jay Greene, “Health Insurance Rates Rising,” [Crain's Detroit Business](#), 10/27/13)

Bloomberg Headline: “California Coverage Cancellations Show ObamaCare Price Increases” (Alison Vekshin, “California Coverage Cancellations Show ObamaCare Price Increases,” [Bloomberg](#), 10/30/13)

- **San Francisco Couple Will Pay Nearly Twice As Much For Health Insurance Because Of ObamaCare.** “San Francisco writer Lisa Buchanan said she and her husband got notices that they’ll have to pay almost twice as much for health insurance because their current coverage doesn’t comply with ObamaCare. Buchanan, 53, the San Francisco writer also insured by Blue Shield of California, and her 62-year-old husband, who is covered by Oakland-based Kaiser Permanente, pay a combined \$681 in monthly premiums. Their insurers offered comparable plans that would increase their payments to about \$1,130 a month.” (Alison Vekshin, “California Coverage Cancellations Show ObamaCare Price Increases,” [Bloomberg](#), 10/30/13)
- **“In Mill Valley, California, Retiree Diane Shore Got A Letter Saying Her Plan Is Being Eliminated And She’ll Be Moved To A New One With Higher Premiums.”** “In Mill Valley, California, retiree Diane Shore got a letter saying her plan is being eliminated and she’ll be moved to a new one with higher premiums.” “Shore, of Mill Valley, pays \$685 a month for coverage from Blue Shield of California, which sent her a letter saying her plan would be eliminated and she’ll be transferred to a comparable plan costing \$45 more. The letter didn’t offer details on the new plan, she said.” (Alison Vekshin, “California Coverage Cancellations Show ObamaCare Price Increases,” [Bloomberg](#), 10/30/13)
- **A Fullerton, California Resident Recently Saw Her \$98 A Month Health Plan Cancelled, Now Faces An Increase To At Least \$238 A Month.** “Fullerton resident Jennifer Harris thought she had a great deal, paying \$98 a month for an individual plan through Health Net Inc. She got a rude surprise this month when the company said it would cancel her policy at the end of this year. Her current plan does not conform with the new federal rules, which require more generous levels of coverage. Now Harris, a self-employed lawyer, must shop for replacement insurance. The cheapest plan she has found will cost her \$238 a month. She and her husband don’t qualify for federal premium subsidies because they earn too much money, about \$80,000 a year combined.” (Chad Terhune, “Some Health Insurance Gets Pricier As ObamaCare Rolls Out,” [Los Angeles Times](#), 10/26/13)
- **A California Woman Found That A Comparable Health Plan, Since Hers Was Ended, Will “Cost Her 65 Percent More, Or \$484 A Month.”** “‘All we’ve been hearing the last three years is if you like your policy you can keep it,’ said Deborah Cavallaro, a real estate agent in Westchester. ‘I’m infuriated because I was lied to.’ ... Cavallaro received her cancellation notice from Anthem Blue Cross this month. The company said a comparable Bronze plan would cost her 65% more, or \$484 a month. She doubts she’ll qualify for much in premium subsidies, if any. Regardless, she resents losing the ability to pick and choose the benefits she wants to pay for.” (Chad Terhune, “Some Health Insurance Gets Pricier As ObamaCare Rolls Out,” [Los Angeles Times](#), 10/26/13)
- **A Woman Residing In Los Angeles, California Will Lose The Health Plan That She Was Happy With And Will Shell Out More For A New Plan.** “Natalie Willes is a sleep consultant who helps parents in Los Angeles train their newborns to sleep. She buys her own health insurance. ‘I was completely happy with the insurance I had before,’ Willes said. ... ‘Before I had a plan that I had a \$1,500 deductible,’ she said. ‘I paid \$199 dollars a month. The most similar plan that I would

have available to me would be \$278 a month. My deductible would be \$6,500 dollars, and all of my care after that point would only be covered 70 percent.” (Carter Evans, “Arrival Of ObamaCare Forcing Insurers To Drop Customers With Low Coverage,” [CBS News](#), 10/24/13)

As Many As 700,000 In California Will Not Be Able To Keep Their Current Health Plans. “Shore and Buchanan are among as many as 700,000 Californians being notified by insurance carriers that their plans don’t conform to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, President Barack Obama’s signature health-care overhaul. The letters are a surprise to many in California, home to 12 percent of the U.S. population and the biggest state to embrace the law with its own insurance exchange.” (Alison Vekshin, “California Coverage Cancellations Show ObamaCare Price Increases,” [Bloomberg](#), 10/30/13)

As Many As 250,000 Pennsylvanians Are Seeing Their Health Coverage Plans Discontinued Because Of ObamaCare. “Individually insured consumers from coast to coast will be affected, according to state insurance departments. As many as 250,000 Pennsylvanians are seeing their health coverage plans discontinued due to the law’s requirements, said Rosanne Placey, a spokeswoman for the state agency.” (Alison Vekshin, “California Coverage Cancellations Show ObamaCare Price Increases,” [Bloomberg](#), 10/30/13)

Indiana Officials Say 108,000 May Be Affected. “In Indiana, about 108,000 may be affected, Chief Deputy Commissioner Logan Harrison said.” (Alison Vekshin, “California Coverage Cancellations Show ObamaCare Price Increases,” [Bloomberg](#), 10/30/13)

“Elsewhere, About 160,000 Blue Cross Blue Shield Customers In North Carolina Are Receiving Notices. Florida Blue Is Discontinuing 300,000 Policies.” (Seanna Adcox, “Many Insured SC Residents Must Buy New Health Plan,” [The Associated Press](#), 10/27/13)

A Florida Woman Will Pay “Ten Times More Than What She Currently Pays.” FLORIDA RESIDENT DIANNE BARRETTE: “When I got this bill, I was outraged.” CRAWFORD: “That includes 56-year-old Dianne Barrette. Last month she received a letter from Blue cross/Blue shield informing her that, as of January 2014, she would lose her current plan. Barrette pays \$54 a month. The new plan would run \$591 a month, ten times more than what she currently pays.” BARRETTE: “What I have right now is what I’m happy with and I just want to know why I can’t keep what I have. Why do I have to be forced into something else?” (CBS’s “[CBS This Morning](#),” 10/28/13)

Aetna Is Notifying 3,600 South Carolina Policy Holders That They Will Need To Choose A New Health Care Plan Next Year. “Other health insurers in South Carolina include Aetna Inc., which bought out Coventry Health care earlier this year. It’s notifying about 3,600 policyholders in the state that their plans won’t exist next year, so they’ll need to choose a new one when theirs is set to renew, said Aetna spokesman Walt Cherniak.” (Seanna Adcox, “Many Insured SC Residents Must Buy New Health Plan,” [The Associated Press](#), 10/27/13)

AS AMERICANS RECEIVE PLAN TERMINATION LETTERS – OBAMA RECEIVES PINNOCHIOS FOR HIS KEEP YOUR PLAN PROMISE

“Baffled Consumers Are Producing Real Letters From Insurance Companies That Directly Contradict Mr. Obama’s Oft-Repeated Reassurances That If People Like The Insurance They Have, They Will Be Able To Keep It.” “The rising concern about canceled health coverage has provided Republicans a more tangible line of attack on the law and its most appealing promise for the vast majority of Americans who have insurance: that it would lower their costs, or at least hold them harmless. Baffled consumers are producing real letters from insurance companies that directly contradict Mr. Obama’s oft-repeated reassurances that if people like the insurance they have, they will be able to keep it.” (Jonathan Weisman and Robert Pear, “Cancellation Of Health Care Plans Replaces Website Problems As Prime Target,” [The New York Times](#), 10/29/13)

The Washington Post's Fact Checker: Obama's Pledge That Americans Who Like Their Healthcare Plans Can Keep Them Was "One Of The Most Memorable Of His Presidency" And "Possibly Foolish." "The president's pledge that 'if you like your insurance, you will keep it' is one of the most memorable of his presidency. It was also an extraordinarily bold — and possibly foolish — pledge, unless he thought he simply could dictate exactly how the insurance industry must work. At the time, some observers noted the problems with Obama's promise." (Glenn Kessler, "Obama's Pledge That 'No One Will Take Away' Your Health Plan," [The Washington Post's Fact Checker](#), 10/30/13)

- ***The Washington Post's Fact Checker Gives Obama's Pledge Four Pinocchios.*** "The president's promise apparently came with a very large caveat: 'If you like your health care plan, you'll be able to keep your health care plan — if we deem it to be adequate.' Four Pinocchios." (Glenn Kessler, "Obama's Pledge That 'No One Will Take Away' Your Health Plan," [The Washington Post's Fact Checker](#), 10/30/13)

The Washington Post's Fact Checker: "One Might Excuse The President For Making An Aspirational Pledge As The Health-Care Bill Was Being Drafted, But It Turns Out He Kept Saying It After The Bill Was Signed Into Law." (Glenn Kessler, "Obama's Pledge That 'No One Will Take Away' Your Health Plan," [The Washington Post's Fact Checker](#), 10/30/13)