# Health Sector Economic Indicators<sup>SM</sup>

Insights from Monthly National Health Spending Data through June 2024

SPENDING BRIEF

# August 28, 2024

# National health spending continues to accelerate

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- ▲ In June 2024, national health spending was 7.7% higher than in June 2023 and represented 17.8% of GDP.
- Nominal GDP in June 2024 was 5.6% higher than in June 2023, growing 2.1 percentage points more slowly than health spending.
- Personal health care spending growth in June was 8.1%, year over year, with utilization growth continuing to outpace price growth.
- ▲ Growth among major spending categories was highest by far for home health care, at 20.9%, year over year. Spending growth on each of the other major categories was at or below 10%, with spending on physician and clinical services growing the slowest, at 6.6%.

## National Health Spending and GDP\*

tational from the political Banks C.D.				
	June 2022	June 2023	May 2024	June 2024
GDP	25.78	27.19	28.64	28.71
National Health Spending (HS)	4.44	4.74	5.09	5.11
HS Share of GDP	17.2%	17.4%	17.8%	17.8%
HS Share of PGDP	17.2%	17.5%	17.9%	17.9%
Growth from Prior 12 Months				
HS	4.3%	6.7%	7.5%	7.7%
GDP	9.9%	5.5%	5.8%	5.6%
HS minus GDP	-5.6%	1.2%	1.7%	2.1%
HS minus PGDP	-5.9%	1.8%	2.6%	2.9%

Source: Altarum monthly health spending estimates (see Methods box below). Monthly GDP is from S&P Global Market Intelligence. PGDP, defined as what GDP would be at full employment, is from the quarterly Congressional Budget Office estimates, converted to monthly by Altarum.

Note: Discrepancies in differences are due to rounding.

Altarum is a nonprofit research and consulting organization that creates and implements solutions to advance health among at-risk and disenfranchised populations. Since 2011, Altarum has researched cost growth trends and key drivers of U.S. health spending and formulated policy strategies to help bend the cost growth curve. This work was made possible through generous support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

The Health Sector Economic Indicators<sup>SM</sup> reports are a monthly publication of Altarum and provide an analysis of health spending, employment, and prices. For more information, contact George Miller at <a href="mailto:george.miller@altarum.org">george.miller@altarum.org</a>. George Miller, PhD (principal author), Stephen McCall, and Matt Daly, PhD, contributed to this brief. We thank Corwin Rhyan for his previous leadership of this work. Media Contact: <a href="mailto:press@altarum.org">press@altarum.org</a>. For more information, visit <a href="mailto:http://altarum.org/solution/health-sector-spending">http://altarum.org/solution/health-sector-spending</a>.

<sup>\*</sup> Spending is in trillions of dollars at a seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR).



#### DISCUSSION

In June 2024, national health spending reached a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$5.11 trillion, corresponding to a year-over-year growth rate of 7.7%. For the second month running, we have observed the largest year-over-year increase since March 2021. The peak growth rate at that time (12.3%) was due to a sharp decline in spending in March 2020 due to the pandemic. The high spending growth rate in June 2024 was still lower than in the prepandemic period. The growth rate was 13.3% in February 2020, just before the start of the pandemic.

Since June 2023, nominal GDP grew by 5.6%. Health spending in June accounted for 17.8% of GDP, the same as the revised share for May. This is the highest value since it reached 17.9% in December 2021.

The 7.7% year-over-year growth rate in national health spending represented a growth rate 2.1 percentage points above GDP growth. The year-over-year growth rate in personal health care spending (spending on health care goods and services) increased slightly from 8.0% in May to 8.1% in June, resulting in personal health care spending as a percent of GDP equaling 15.0%, the same share as in May (Exhibit 1).

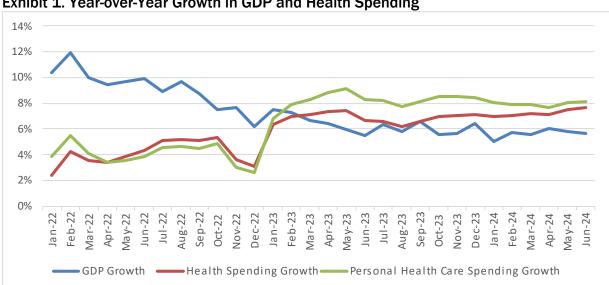
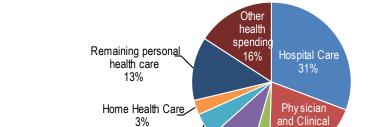


Exhibit 1. Year-over-Year Growth in GDP and Health Spending

Exhibit 2 illustrates how health spending in June was distributed among spending categories. Personal health care constituted 84% of national health spending. Slightly more than half of total expenditures was attributed to hospital care and physician and clinical services. (The sum of the components exceeds 100% due to rounding.)



Nursing Home Care 5% Prescription drugs

9%

Exhibit 2. Health Spending by Category, June 2024

Exhibit 3 displays the growth in spending by major categories within personal health care since June 2023. For the third successive month, spending on home health care showed the fastest growth by far, at 20.9%. The slowest growth occurred in spending on physician and clinical services, at 6.6%. As in previous months, this growth in home health care spending is almost entirely due to utilization growth rather than price increases, with 18.5 percentage points of the 20.9% growth resulting from an increase in utilization, as indicated in this month's HSEI Price Brief. As

Serv ices

Dental Services



we noted last month, this growth in home health care spending was the largest since the spring of 2020, when government subsidies to combat the pandemic caused a major jump in spending.

Exhibit 3. Health Care Spending 12-Month Growth

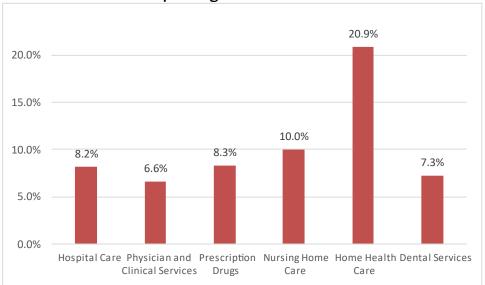
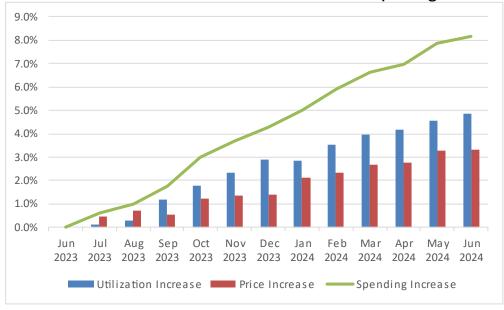


Exhibit 4 shows how spending on personal health care has grown over the past year (since June 2023) and illustrates the relative contribution of utilization and prices to this growth. It indicates that spending growth through June 2024 has continued to be driven more by utilization growth than by price increases: Of the 8.1% growth in personal health care spending during this period, 3.3 percentage points can be attributed to price growth, while the remaining 4.8 percentage point growth was associated with increases in utilization.

Exhibit 4. Cumulative Growth in Personal Health Care Spending





# **DETAILED HEALTH SPENDING**

**Exhibit 5. Monthly National Spending Estimates by Detailed Category** 

Levels (in billions of dollars)	June 2021	June 2022	June 2023	June 2024
GDP	\$23,460.2	\$25,780.7	\$27,185.8	\$28,710.7
National Health Spending	\$4,261.1	\$4,444.4	\$4,740.8	\$5,105.2
Personal health care	\$3,543.9	\$3,680.1	\$3,983.9	\$4,308.5
Hospital care	\$1,320.2	\$1,333.8	\$1,448.2	\$1,567.3
Physician and clinical services	\$845.8	\$882.8	\$955.4	\$1,018.9
Other professional services	\$135.0	\$141.2	\$150.4	\$166.9
Dental services	\$167.3	\$165.7	\$177.2	\$190.1
Other personal health care	\$222.3	\$245.8	\$266.0	\$283.2
Home health care	\$124.4	\$135.9	\$137.2	\$165.8
Nursing home care	\$181.0	\$188.7	\$210.2	\$231.3
Prescription Drugs	\$375.8	\$404.4	\$445.2	\$482.3
Durable medical equipment	\$65.1	\$66.6	\$70.7	\$75.7
Nondurable medical products	\$107.0	\$115.1	\$123.3	\$127.1
Program administration and net cost of private health insurance	\$304.2	\$333.2	\$361.8	\$385.1
Government public health activities	\$205.4	\$214.4	\$161.2	\$166.1
Research	\$61.8	\$64.7	\$67.9	\$71.2
Structures and equipment	\$145.8	\$151.9	\$166.0	\$174.3
HS Share of GDP	18.2%	17.2%	17.4%	17.8%
HS Share of PGDP	18.1%	17.2%	17.5%	17.9%

Source: Altarum monthly national health spending estimates. The monthly GDP is from S&P Global Market Intelligence.

Notes: Spending is expressed in billions of dollars at a SAAR.

Exhibit 6. National Health Spending 12-Month Growth Rates by Detailed Category

Growth Rates	June 2022	June 2023	June 2024
GDP	9.9%	5.5%	5.6%
National Health Spending	4.3%	6.7%	7.7%
Personal health care	3.8%	8.3%	8.1%
Hospital care	1.0%	8.6%	8.2%
Physician and clinical services	4.4%	8.2%	6.6%
Other professional services	4.6%	6.5%	11.0%
Dental services	-1.0%	7.0%	7.3%
Other personal health care	10.6%	8.2%	6.5%
Home health care	9.3%	0.9%	20.9%
Nursing home care	4.3%	11.4%	10.0%
Prescription Drugs	7.6%	10.1%	8.3%
Durable medical equipment	2.3%	6.1%	7.0%
Nondurable medical products	7.6%	7.1%	3.0%
Program administration and net cost of private health insurance	9.5%	8.6%	6.4%
Government public health activities	4.4%	-24.8%	3.1%
Research	4.8%	4.9%	4.9%
Structures and equipment	4.2%	9.3%	5.0%
HS Minus GDP	-5.6%	1.2%	2.1%
HS Minus PGDP	-5.9%	1.8%	2.9%



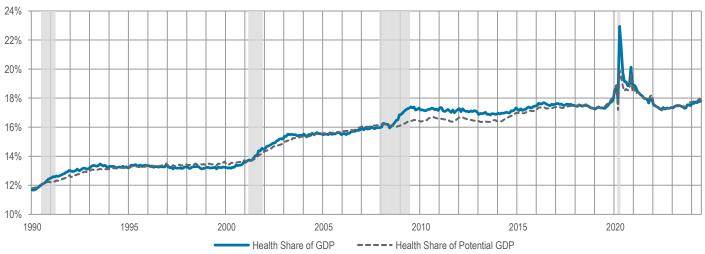
### TIME SERIES TRACKER

Exhibit 7. Year-over-Year Percentage Change in Spending and GDP



**Source**: Altarum monthly national health spending estimates. The monthly GDP is from S&P Global Market Intelligence. Note: Lightly shaded bars denote recession periods.

Exhibit 8. Monthly Health Spending as a Percentage of Monthly GDP



Source: Altarum monthly national health spending estimates. Monthly GDP is from S&P Global Market Intelligence. PGDP is from the U.S. Congressional Budget Office and has been converted to monthly estimates. Note: Lightly shaded bars denote recession periods.

**Methods.** Altarum's estimates are based on <u>BEA monthly health spending</u> and <u>CMS annual NHE estimates (1990–2022) and projections</u> (2023 and 2024). BEA spending categories are matched to NHEA components by using information presented in the <u>following</u>: Hartman, M. B., Kornfeld, R. J., & Catlin, A. C. (2010, September). A reconciliation of health care expenditures in the National Health Expenditures Accounts and in gross domestic product. Survey of Current Business, 90(9), 42–52. For all NHEA personal health care categories except "other health, residential, and personal care," monthly estimates are based on BEA spending adjusted to NHEA by using annual ratios. For the remaining categories, national health spending estimates and projections are allocated across months by using a simple trend. Annual ratio adjustments through 2022 are based on NHEA actuals and ensure that monthly estimates sum exactly to NHEA annual amounts. The 2022 ratios are used to adjust BEA spending for months in 2023 and 2024.

# Health Sector Economic Indicators<sup>SM</sup>

Insights from Monthly National Price Indices through July 2024

PRICE BRIEF

# August 28, 2024

Health care prices continue to rise faster than economywide inflation

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- ▲ The overall Health Care Price Index (HCPI) increased by 2.9% year over year in July, down 0.4 percentage points from a month prior.
- ▲ Economywide inflation fell, with year-over-year growth in the overall Consumer Price Index (CPI) decreasing slightly to 2.9% and growth in the Producer Price Index (PPI) dropping to 2.2%.
- Among the major health care categories, prices for dental care (5.0%) and nursing home care (4.6%) were the fastest growing, while physician and clinical price growth was the slowest (1.4%).
- ▲ For major payers, year-over-year Medicaid price growth (5.5%) exceeded services price growth for private insurance (3.0%) and Medicare (1.7%) patients.
- ▲ The implicit measure of health care utilization growth was 4.8% year over year in June, equal to the May value.
- ▲ Home health care utilization was, by far, the fastest growing component, increasing 18.5% year over year. This category was followed by prescription drugs (5.9%), nursing care (5.2%), hospital care (4.9%), and physician services (4.9%), while dental services trailed the other categories at 2.0%.

	July 2022	July 2023	June 2024	July 2024
Health Care Price Index (HCPI)	2.8%	2.9%	3.3%	2.9%
GDP Deflator (GDPD)	7.4%	3.0%	2.5%	**
HCPI - GDPD	-4.6%	-0.1%	0.8%	**
Addendum				
Personal health care spending	4.6%	8.2%	8.1%	**
Health care utilization	1.8%	5.3%	4.8%	**
Medical Consumer Price Index (MCPI)	4.8%	-0.5%	3.3%	3.2%
Consumer Price Index, all items (CPI)	8.5%	3.2%	3.0%	2.9%
Producer Price Index, Final Demand (PPI)	9.7%	1.1%	2.7%	2.2%

Source: Altarum analysis of U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data. HCPI is a composite price index designed to measure overall price changes for personal health care spending and is patterned after the price index developed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Details are provided below. Numbers may not subtract properly due to rounding.

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The Health Sector Economic Indicators (HSEI) reports are a monthly publication of Altarum providing analyses of health spending, employment, and prices. For more information, contact George Miller at <a href="George-Miller@altarum.org">George Miller@altarum.org</a>. Matt Daly, PhD (principal author), George Miller, PhD, and Stephen McCall contributed to this brief. We thank Corwin Rhyan for his previous leadership of this work. Media Contact: <a href="mailto:press@altarum.org">press@altarum.org</a>. For more information, visit <a href="http://altarum.org/solution/health-sector-spending">http://altarum.org/solution/health-sector-spending</a>.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Data not available



#### DISCUSSION

The overall health care price index (HCPI) increased by 2.9% year over year in July, down from 3.3% in June (Exhibit 1). The June value was 0.8 percentage points greater than economywide inflation as measured by the GDP deflator (Exhibit 1). This marks the ninth straight month where health care prices have risen faster than economywide inflation. Over the first half of 2024 health care price growth has averaged 3.2% year over year, up from the 2.9% overall 2023 annual average.

Regarding other measures of economywide inflation, CPI price growth fell slightly to 2.9% year over year in July, while PPI inflation fell to 2.2%. Economywide price increases continue to be driven by services inflation (up 5.1% year over year), while comodities inflation was negative last month (-0.3%) (Exhibit 4).

Health care services continued to be the major driver of health care price growth in July, with dental care

8% 7% 6% 5%

Exhibit 1. Year-over-Year Growth in HCPI & GDPD

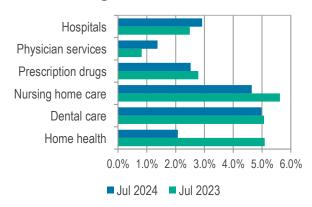
4% 3% 2% 1% 0% Jun Sep Dec Mar Jun Sep Dec Mar Jun Sep Dec Mar GDP Deflator Change Year-Over-Year Percentage Change in Health Care —

Source: Altarum analysis of monthly BLS price data.

services up 5.0%, nursing home care up 4.6%, and hospital care up 2.9%. Still, the year-over-year increase in prescription drug prices observed last month continued in July, increasing slightly to 2.5% (Exhibits 2 and 3). Price growth for physician and clinical services continues to be one of the slowest-growing categories, up 1.4% year over year and 1.5 percentage points below the aggregate HCPI. Last month, CMS released their proposal for Medicare physician reimbursement for 2025, including a 2.8% cut for physician fees next year. While the final impact of this proposed cut on overall physician payments may be mitigated by other changes to the physician fee schedule or by Congress intervening as it has in years past, this proposal indicates significant possible downward pressure on physician and clinical care prices in the future.

Among major payers for health care services, prices rose fastest for Medicaid patients last month, increasing 5.5% year over year, much faster than price growth for private insurance patients (3.0%) and Medicare (1.7%), as shown in Exhibit 6. Among specific health sector components, faster price growth among Medicaid patients was seen in both hospital care (up 5.5% year over year), as shown in Exhibit 8, and physician and clinical care (up 12.3%), as shown in Exhibit 7. Hospital price growth rates for other payers in July were slower than Medicaid—private insurance hospital prices were up 3.7% year over year, versus 2.4% for Medicare.

Exhibit 2. Year-over-Year Price Growth for **Selected Categories** 



Our implicit measure of overall health care utilization growth (total spending growth net of health care price inflation) held in June at 4.8%, equal to the 3-month moving average (Exhibit 9). The fastest-growing utilization component in June by far was again home health care, up a substantial 18.5% year over year, followed by prescription drugs utilization (5.9%) and nursing care facilities and CCRCs (5.2%), with all other major categories besides dental services not far behind.

This month continues the 2024 trend of higher overall growth in the use of health care services compared to health care prices; however, with health care price growth increasing, this trend could change in the future. We will continue to monitor these data and this trend in our future price and spending briefs in upcoming months.

Source: Altarum analysis of monthly BLS price data.

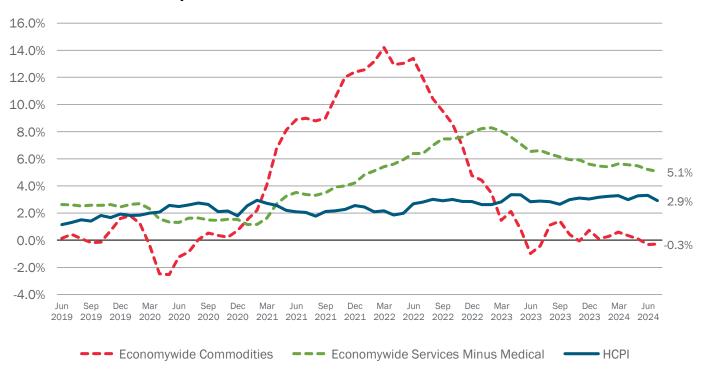


### PRICE GROWTH BY DETAILED CATEGORIES

Exhibit 3. Annualized % Change in Prices for Major Components of National Health Expenditures

	Ending July 2022	Ending July 2023	Ending July 2024
Health Care Price index	2.8%	2.9%	2.9%
Hospital Care	3.3%	2.5%	2.9%
Physician and clinical services	0.2%	0.8%	1.4%
Prescription drugs	2.8%	2.8%	2.5%
Nursing home care	3.5%	5.6%	4.6%
Dental services	4.1%	5.1%	5.0%
Home health care	1.9%	5.1%	2.1%
Other professional services	4.4%	0.9%	0.0%
Other personal health care	4.9%	5.6%	5.8%
Other non-durable medical products	5.4%	6.2%	3.9%
Durable medical equipment	4.3%	5.3%	2.7%
Source: Altarum analysis of monthly BLS data.			

Exhibit 4. Year-over-Year Percentage Change in Health Prices Compared with Economywide Commodities vs. Economywide Services



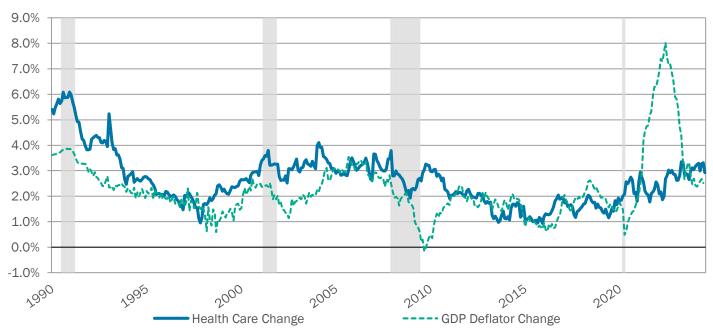
Source: Altarum analyses of BLS price data.

Methods. Altarum's estimates for the monthly HCPI, a price index for personal health care spending within the National Health Expenditure Accounts, are essentially monthly versions of the annual index developed by the CMS National Health Statistics Group (NHSG). The advantages of this measure over the medical care component of the CPI are well documented. Information on the CMS index is presented in the following source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2019). National Health Expenditure Accounts: Methodology Paper, 2018—Definitions, Sources, and Methods. Washington, DC: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.cms.gov/files/document/definitions-sources-and-methods.pdf">http://www.cms.gov/files/document/definitions-sources-and-methods.pdf</a>. The HCPI is calculated by using BLS data on PPIs for hospital, physician, nursing home, and home health components and CPIs for prescription drugs and other remaining items. Following NHSG, we use the GDPD rather than the CPI as our measure of economy-wide inflation. While this brief focuses on prices, it also incorporates data from our spending brief and shows the power of looking at prices and spending together. In particular, it reveals the striking role of utilization in health spending growth trends.



## TIME SERIES TRACKER

Exhibit 5. Year-over-Year Percentage Change in Health Prices Compared with the GDP Deflator



Source: Altarum analyses of BLS price data. Note: Lightly shaded bars denote recession periods.

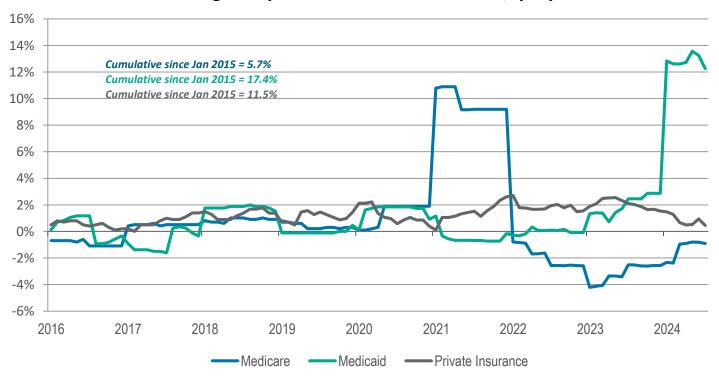
Exhibit 6. Year-over-Year Change in Health Care Services Price Growth, by Payer



Source: Altarum analyses of BLS price data.



Exhibit 7. Year-over-Year Change in Physician Care Services Price Growth, by Payer



Source: Altarum analyses of BLS price data.

Exhibit 8. Year-over-Year Change in Hospital Services Price Growth, by Payer



Source: Altarum analyses of BLS price data.



Exhibit 9. Implicit Health Care Utilization Growth by Major Components of NHE, Year-over-year

	June 2024	3-Month Moving Average	12-Month Moving Average
Total personal health care	4.8%	4.8%	5.0%
Hospital care	4.9%	4.8%	4.3%
Physician and clinical services	4.9%	5.2%	7.1%
Prescription drugs	5.9%	6.1%	7.7%
Nursing home care	5.2%	4.8%	4.4%
Dental Services	2.0%	2.6%	2.4%
Home health care	18.5%	16.3%	10.2%
Other professional services	10.5%	10.5%	8.4%
Other personal health care	-0.7%	-1.0%	0.4%
Other nondurable medical products	-2.6%	-3.7%	-2.8%
Durable medical equipment	4.9%	3.8%	1.9%

Source: Altarum analysis of monthly BLS data combined with Altarum HSEI spending data. Note: Beginning in March 2021, we slightly updated the computation of estimated implicit utilization shown in Exhibit 8 to be more consistent with our spending data. Previous iterations calculated implicit utilization growth (U) as spending growth (S) net of price growth (P) and population growth (Pop): U = S - P - Pop. New data (from March 2021 onward) now include population growth in utilization, with the new measure calculated as: U = S - P. This approach is an approximation, ignoring the interaction term between spending and prices growth (S\*P); however, as long as the two growth rates are small, this term is insignificant.

Source: Altarum analyses of BLS price data.



# Health Sector Economic Indicators<sup>SM</sup>

Insights from Monthly National Health Employment Data through July 2024

LABOR BRIEF

# August 28, 2024

Health care jobs accounted for nearly half of all jobs added across the economy in July

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- ▲ Health care industry employment increased by 55,000 in July 2024, compared to 59,000 jobs in non-health care industries, meaning that health care job growth accounted for 48.2% of all growth.
- July's health care job growth was led by growth in ambulatory health care services, which added 26,300 jobs, followed by hospitals, with 19,500 jobs.
- ▲ Nursing and residential care facilities added 9,200 jobs in July, including 6,800 jobs in nursing care facilities and 2,400 jobs in other residential care facilities.
- ▲ The unemployment rate increased from 4.1% in June 2024 to 4.3% in July.
- ▲ In health care and social assistance in June, the job openings rate was 6.7%, the hiring rate was 3.4%, and the total separations rate was 3.0%.
- ▲ Nominal health care wage growth in June 2024 was 3.6% year over year, with growth rates of 4.6% in nursing and residential care facilities, 3.8% in ambulatory health care services, and 3.0% in hospitals.

#### **Cyclical Employment Big Picture**

Seasonally Adjusted	Feb 2020	Jul 2023	Jun 2024	Jul 2024
Total Employment (000)	152,309	156,211	158,609	158,723
Non-Health Employment (000)	135,828	139,232	140,958	141,017
Health Employment (000)	16,481	16,979	17,651	17,706
Health Share of Total Employment	10.82%	10.87%	11.13%	11.16%
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	3.5%	4.1%	4.3%

Source: Altarum analysis of Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data. Health care employment is private only.

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## DISCUSSION

In July 2024, the health care industry added 55,000 new jobs (as shown in Exhibit 1), which was 9.2% lower than the 12-month average of 60,600 jobs. In contrast, non-health care industries added 59,000 jobs, 60.3% lower than the 12-month average of 148,800 jobs gained per month.

Within the health care industry, ambulatory health care services added 26,300 jobs in July (12.9% below the subsector's 12-month average), and hospitals added 19,500 jobs (0.6% above the 12-month average). In July, most ambulatory care settings had below-average employment figures. The exception was home health care services, which added 21,600 jobs, accounting for 82% of all growth in ambulatory health care services.

Nursing and residential care facilities added 9,200 jobs in July, slightly below the average of 10,700 per month in the past year. In this subsector, job growth was robust in nursing care facilities, with 6,800 new jobs (44.9% above the 12-month average of 4,700 jobs added), but weaker in other nursing and residential care facilities, with just 2,400 new jobs (60.3% below the 12-month average of 6,000 jobs added).

83,300 79,700 71,100 66,600 64,800 60.800 58,800 57,400 57.000 54,800 55,000 51,900 45,200 Oct Feb Jul Jul Aug Sep Nov Dec Jan Mar Apr May Jun 2023 2023 2023 2023 2023 2023 2024 2024 2024 2024 2024 2024 2024

Exhibit 1. Month-Over-Month Change in Health Care Employment, Seasonally Adjusted

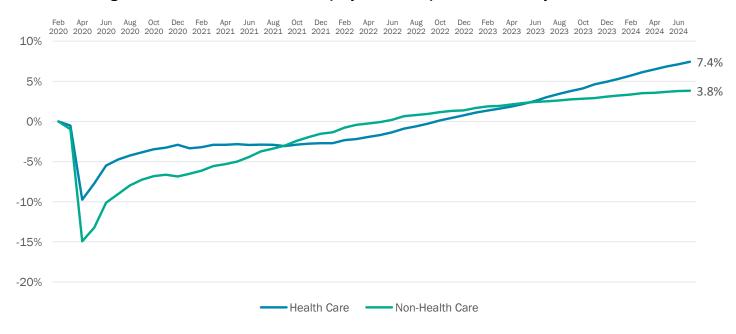
Source: Altarum analysis of monthly BLS Current Employment Statistics data.

Since February 2020, before the COVID-19 recession began, health care employment has grown by 1,225,400 jobs or 7.4%, which is higher than the 3.8% increase in non-health care employment over the same period (see Exhibit 2). The health care industry started growing especially quickly in February 2022, and employment growth in non-health care industries began to slow down in April of the same year. July 2024 was the twenty-eighth consecutive month that health care industry growth outpaced non-health care industries. During that period, the health care industry grew by 9.6%, versus 4.1% in non-health care industries.

Since February 2020, employment in ambulatory health care services has increased by 965,800 jobs or 12.3%, while hospital employment has grown by 343,800 jobs or 6.6% (see Exhibit 3). However, employment in nursing and residential care facilities is still 84,200 jobs (2.5%) below pre-pandemic levels. As described in a recent Altarum analysis, this contraction in employment is likely due to skilled nursing facility closures, lower resident censuses, and staffing shortages. All three health care subsectors have steadily increased since February 2022.

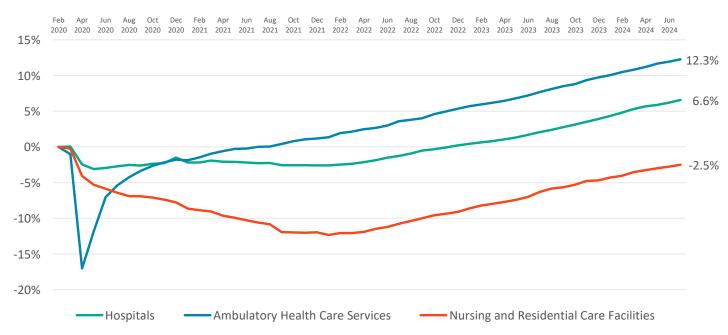


Exhibit 2. Change in Health and Non-Health Employment Compared to February 2020



Source: Altarum analysis of monthly BLS Current Employment Statistics data.

Exhibit 3. Change in Health Employment Compared to February 2020 by Major Setting of Care

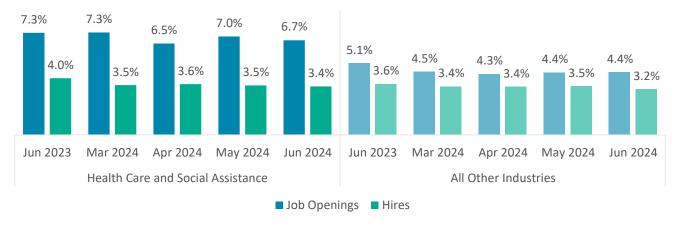


Source: Altarum analysis of monthly BLS Current Employment Statistics data.



The job openings rate in health care and social assistance was 6.7% in June 2024, a decrease over one month prior (7.0%) and one year prior (7.3%), as shown in Exhibit 4. The job openings rate in June was still well above the rate of 4.4% in all other industries. The hiring rate in health care and social assistance fell slightly to 3.4%, which was slightly higher than the rate for all other industries (3.2%). The job separation rate in the health care and social assistance industry was 3.0% in June 2024, slightly lower than in recent months for the industry and all other industries, as shown in Exhibit 5.

Exhibit 4. Monthly Rates of Hires and Job Openings in the Health Care and Social Assistance and All Other Industries



Source: Altarum analysis of monthly BLS Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey.

Notes: The job opening rate is the number of job openings on the last business day of the month as a percent of employment plus job openings, while the hire rate is the number of hires during the entire month as a percent of employment. Health care jobs typically constitute 80% of all jobs in the health care and social assistance sector. Most social assistance jobs are in services for the elderly and persons with disabilities and childcare services.

Exhibit 5. Monthly Separation Rates by Type in the Health Care and Social Assistance and All Other Industries



Source: Altarum analysis of monthly BLS Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey.

Notes: Separation rates are the number of separations during the entire month as a percent of employment. Health care jobs typically constitute 80% of all jobs in the health care and social assistance sector. Most social assistance jobs are in services for the elderly and persons with disabilities and childcare services.



Year-over-year wage growth in the health care sector was 3.6% in June 2024, which was slightly higher than in recent months, and similar to a year ago, as shown in Exhibit 6. After adjusting for inflation, year-over-year health care wage growth was 0.6%. Nominal wage growth was fastest in the nursing and residential care facilities at 4.6%, followed by ambulatory health care services at 3.8% and hospitals at 3.0% (see Exhibit 7). Inflation-adjusted wages grew by 1.6% in the nursing and residential care facilities, 0.8% in ambulatory care services, and 0.1% in hospitals. Non-health care wage growth was 3.8% in June, or 0.8% after adjusting for inflation.

6.0% 5.0% 4.0% 3.0% 2.0% 1.0% 0.0% -1.0% Health Care Non-Health Care Health Care Non-Health Care Nominal Dollars 1982-1984 Constant Dollars ■ Jun 2023 ■ Mar 2024 ■ Apr 2024 ■ May 2024 ■ Jun 2024

Exhibit 6. Change in Average Hourly Earnings, Year over Year, in Health Care and Non-Health Care Industries

Source: Altarum analysis of monthly BLS Current Employment Statistics data.

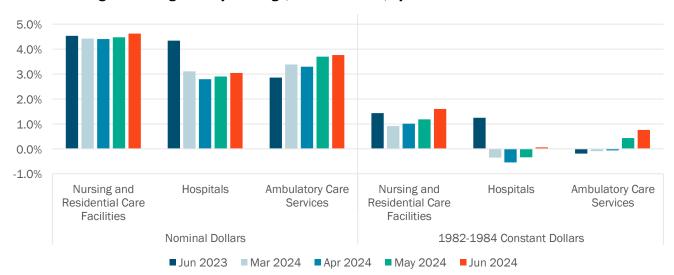


Exhibit 7. Change in Average Hourly Earnings, Year over Year, by Health Care Subsector

Source: Altarum analysis of monthly BLS Current Employment Statistics data.



#### DETAILED HEALTH CARE EMPLOYMENT

Exhibit 8. Employment by Sector and Subsector, Seasonally Adjusted

Employment (in Thousands)	July 2024	June 2024	July 2023	July 2022	February 2020
Non-Health Care	141,017	140,958	139,232	136,706	135,828
Health Care	17,706	17,651	16,979	16,332	16,481
Ambulatory Health Care Services	8,834	8,808	8,472	8,151	7,869
Offices of Physicians	3,037	3,036	2,921	2,816	2,725
Offices of Dentists	1,041	1,041	1,033	1,019	991
Offices of Other Health Care Practitioners	1,209	1,208	1,157	1,096	1,001
Outpatient Care Centers	1,093	1,090	1,058	1,036	996
Medical and Diagnostic Labs	319	319	321	320	289
Home Health Care Services	1,779	1,757	1,633	1,536	1,547
Other Ambulatory <sup>a</sup>	357	356	349	326	319
Hospitals	5,579	5,559	5,343	5,169	5,235
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	3,293	3,284	3,164	3,013	3,377
Nursing Care Facilities	1,476	1,469	1,419	1,354	1,587
Other Nursing and Residential <sup>b</sup>	1,817	1,815	1,745	1,658	1,790
Health Share of Employment	11.16%	11.13%	10.87%	10.67%	10.82%

Source: Altarum analysis of BLS Current Employment Statistics data. July 2020 is displayed as the month of pre-pandemic peak employment.

Exhibit 9. Change in Employment Data by Sector and Subsector, Seasonally Adjusted

Employment Change (in Thousands)	July 2024	12 Months	24 Months	Since Feb 2020
Non-Health Care	59.0	1,785.3	4,311.4	5,188.6
Health Care	55.0	726.7	1,373.6	1,225.4
Ambulatory Health Care Services	26.3	362.5	683.4	965.8
Offices of Physicians	0.8	116.3	220.7	311.6
Offices of Dentists	-0.1	8.6	22.3	50.3
Offices of Other Health Care Practitioners	0.5	51.3	112.3	207.6
Outpatient Care Centers	2.5	34.8	56.5	96.7
Medical and Diagnostic Labs	0.7	-1.4	-0.9	30.2
Home Health Care Services	21.6	145.6	242.5	232.2
Other Ambulatory <sup>a</sup>	0.4	7.3	30.1	37.2
Hospitals	19.5	235.4	409.9	343.8
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	9.2	128.8	280.3	-84.2
Nursing Care Facilities	6.8	56.3	121.3	-111.5
Other Nursing and Residential <sup>b</sup>	2.4	72.5	159.0	27.3
Annualized Percent Change	July 2024	12 Months	24 Months	Since Feb 2020
Annualized Percent Change Non-Health Care	July 2024 0.5%	<b>12 Months</b> 1.3%	24 Months 1.6%	Since Feb 2020 0.9%
	•			
Non-Health Care	0.5%	1.3%	1.6%	0.9%
Non-Health Care Health Care	0.5% 3.8%	1.3% 4.3%	1.6% 4.1%	0.9% 1.6%
Non-Health Care Health Care Ambulatory Health Care Services	0.5% 3.8% 3.6%	1.3% 4.3% 4.3%	1.6% 4.1% 4.1%	0.9% 1.6% 2.7%
Non-Health Care Health Care Ambulatory Health Care Services Offices of Physicians	0.5% 3.8% 3.6% 0.3%	1.3% 4.3% 4.3% 4.0%	1.6% 4.1% 4.1% 3.8%	0.9% 1.6% 2.7% 2.5%
Non-Health Care Health Care Ambulatory Health Care Services Offices of Physicians Offices of Dentists	0.5% 3.8% 3.6% 0.3% -0.1%	1.3% 4.3% 4.3% 4.0% 0.8%	1.6% 4.1% 4.1% 3.8% 1.1%	0.9% 1.6% 2.7% 2.5% 1.1%
Non-Health Care  Health Care  Ambulatory Health Care Services  Offices of Physicians  Offices of Dentists  Offices of Other Health Care Practitioners	0.5% 3.8% 3.6% 0.3% -0.1% 0.5%	1.3% 4.3% 4.3% 4.0% 0.8% 4.4%	1.6% 4.1% 4.1% 3.8% 1.1% 5.0%	0.9% 1.6% 2.7% 2.5% 1.1% 4.4%
Non-Health Care  Health Care  Ambulatory Health Care Services  Offices of Physicians  Offices of Dentists  Offices of Other Health Care Practitioners  Outpatient Care Centers	0.5% 3.8% 3.6% 0.3% -0.1% 0.5% 2.8%	1.3% 4.3% 4.3% 4.0% 0.8% 4.4% 3.3%	1.6% 4.1% 4.1% 3.8% 1.1% 5.0% 2.7%	0.9% 1.6% 2.7% 2.5% 1.1% 4.4% 2.1%
Non-Health Care  Health Care  Ambulatory Health Care Services  Offices of Physicians  Offices of Dentists  Offices of Other Health Care Practitioners  Outpatient Care Centers  Medical and Diagnostic Labs	0.5% 3.8% 3.6% 0.3% -0.1% 0.5% 2.8% 2.7%	1.3% 4.3% 4.3% 4.0% 0.8% 4.4% 3.3% -0.4%	1.6% 4.1% 4.1% 3.8% 1.1% 5.0% 2.7% -0.1%	0.9% 1.6% 2.7% 2.5% 1.1% 4.4% 2.1% 2.3%
Non-Health Care  Health Care  Ambulatory Health Care Services  Offices of Physicians  Offices of Dentists  Offices of Other Health Care Practitioners  Outpatient Care Centers  Medical and Diagnostic Labs  Home Health Care Services	0.5% 3.8% 3.6% 0.3% -0.1% 0.5% 2.8% 2.7% 15.8%	1.3% 4.3% 4.3% 4.0% 0.8% 4.4% 3.3% -0.4% 8.9%	1.6% 4.1% 4.1% 3.8% 1.1% 5.0% 2.7% -0.1% 7.6%	0.9% 1.6% 2.7% 2.5% 1.1% 4.4% 2.1% 2.3% 3.2%
Non-Health Care  Health Care  Ambulatory Health Care Services  Offices of Physicians  Offices of Dentists  Offices of Other Health Care Practitioners  Outpatient Care Centers  Medical and Diagnostic Labs  Home Health Care Services  Other Ambulatorya	0.5% 3.8% 3.6% 0.3% -0.1% 0.5% 2.8% 2.7% 15.8% 1.4%	1.3% 4.3% 4.3% 4.0% 0.8% 4.4% 3.3% -0.4% 8.9% 2.1%	1.6% 4.1% 4.1% 3.8% 1.1% 5.0% 2.7% -0.1% 7.6% 4.5%	0.9% 1.6% 2.7% 2.5% 1.1% 4.4% 2.1% 2.3% 3.2% 2.5%
Non-Health Care  Health Care  Ambulatory Health Care Services  Offices of Physicians  Offices of Dentists  Offices of Other Health Care Practitioners  Outpatient Care Centers  Medical and Diagnostic Labs  Home Health Care Services  Other Ambulatorya  Hospitals	0.5% 3.8% 3.6% 0.3% -0.1% 0.5% 2.8% 2.7% 15.8% 1.4% 4.3%	1.3% 4.3% 4.3% 4.0% 0.8% 4.4% 3.3% -0.4% 8.9% 2.1% 4.4%	1.6% 4.1% 4.1% 3.8% 1.1% 5.0% 2.7% -0.1% 7.6% 4.5% 3.9%	0.9% 1.6% 2.7% 2.5% 1.1% 4.4% 2.11% 2.3% 3.2% 2.5% 1.5%

Source: Altarum analysis of BLS Current Employment Statistics data. Change since July 2020 represents a comparison to pre-pandemic peak employment.

a "Other Ambulatory" care settings include ambulance services, blood and organ banks, and all other non-classifiable ambulatory health care service providers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> "Other Nursing and Residential" includes assisted living communities, continuing care retirement communities, residential intellectual and developmental disability facilities, residential mental health and substance abuse facilities, and all other non-classifiable residential care providers.

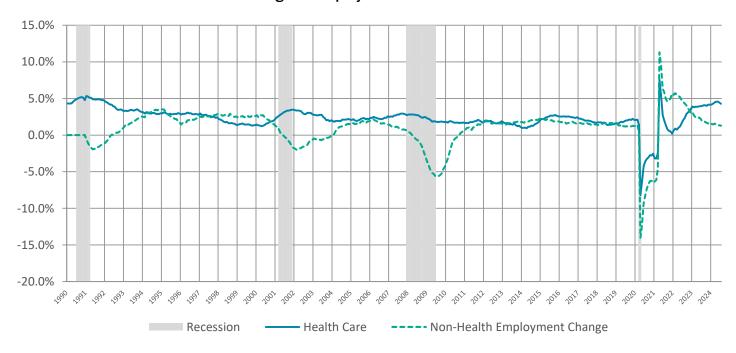
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> "Other Ambulatory" care settings include ambulance services, blood and organ banks, and all other non-classifiable ambulatory health care service providers.

b "Other Nursing and Residential" includes assisted living communities, continuing care retirement communities, residential intellectual and developmental disability facilities, residential mental health and substance abuse facilities, and all other non-classifiable residential care providers.



# TIME SERIES TRACKER

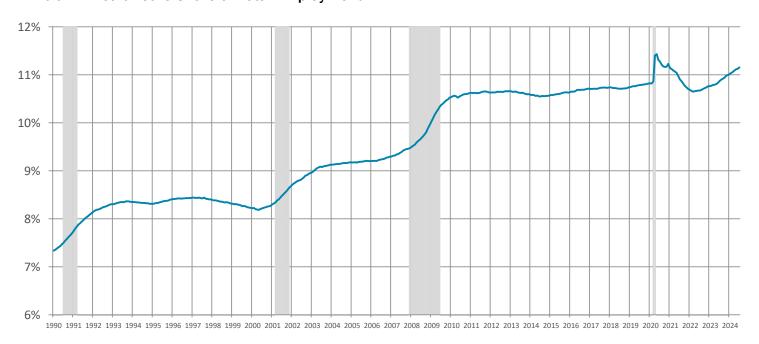
Exhibit 10. Twelve-Month Percent Change in Employment



Source: Altarum analysis of BLS data.

Note: Lightly shaded bars denote recession periods.

Exhibit 11. Health Care Share of Total Employment



Source: Altarum analysis of BLS data.

Note: Lightly shaded bars denote recession periods.