

Health Sector Economic IndicatorsSM

Insights from Monthly National Health Spending Data through December 2022

SPENDING BRIEF

February 22, 2023

National health spending grew by 3.8% in 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▲ With data now available through December 2022, we estimate that national health spending increased by 3.8% in 2022, as a decline in pandemic-related federal subsidies partially offset an increase in health care utilization.
- ▲ In December 2022, national health spending grew by just 0.6%, year over year, further reflecting the decline in federal government subsidies.
- ▲ Nominal GDP in December 2022 was 6.3% higher than in December 2021 as GDP growth continues to outpace health spending growth.

National Health Spending and GDP*

The second secon	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	Nov 2022	Dec 2022
GDP	21.71	24.52	26.24	26.07
National Health Spending (HS)	4.08	4.47	4.48	4.49
HS Share of GDP	18.8%	18.2%	17.1%	17.2%
HS Share of PGDP	18.1%	18.3%	17.1%	17.1%
Growth from Prior 12 Months				
HS	5.3%	9.6%	1.4%	0.6%
GDP	-0.3%	12.9%	7.9%	6.3%
HS minus GDP	5.7%	-3.4%	-6.5%	-5.7%
HS minus PGDP	1.8%	1.3%	-7.0%	-6.9%

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

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 IndicatorsSM reports are a monthly publication of Altarum and provide an analysis of health spending, employment, and prices. For more information, contact Ani Turner at ani.turner@altarum.org. George Miller, PhD (principal author), Ani Turner, Corwin Rhyan, and Matt Daly, PhD, contributed to this brief. Media Contact: press@altarum.org. For more information, visit http://altarum.org/solution/health-sector-spending.

^{*} Spending is in trillions of dollars at a seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR).



DISCUSSION

This month's spending brief gives us a first look at national health spending growth for all of 2022. National health spending for the year grew by 3.8%, as a decline in pandemic-related federal subsidies partially blunted an increase in health care utilization. In particular, spending on personal health care (health care goods and services) grew by 4.1% on the year when the effects of the federal government subsidies are included, but by 5.7% in the absence of the subsidies. This difference is similar to, though less substantial than, that observed in 2021, where personal health care spending grew by 5.5% including subsidies but by 9.7% in their absence.

The decline in federal government support is especially evident in spending growth for the most recent month: In December 2022, national health spending grew by just 0.6%, year over year, reaching a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$4.49 trillion. Health spending in December accounted for 17.2% of GDP. Both spending and GDP growth rates have continued to decline since December 2021. However, the decline in health spending growth (from 9.6% to 0.6%) has been faster than in GDP growth (from 12.9% to 6.3%), resulting in a decline in spending as a percent of GDP from 18.2% to 17.2% between January and December 2022 (Exhibit 1).

Exhibit 1. Year-over-Year Growth in GDP and Health Spending, and Spending as a Percent of GDP

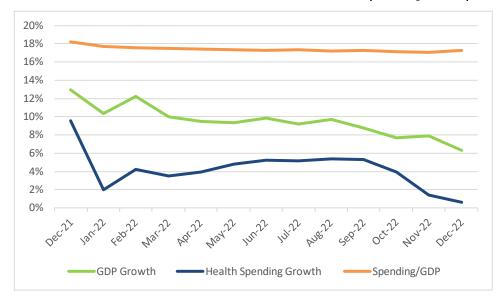


Exhibit 2 shows the trajectory of growth in national health spending and GDP since the start of 2020 through December 2022 with and without COVID-related federal government support to providers and public health activities. As noted, this support has declined significantly in recent months, with most of the remaining support going to public health via the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund.



Exhibit 2. Percent Change in National Health Spending and GDP Since January 2020

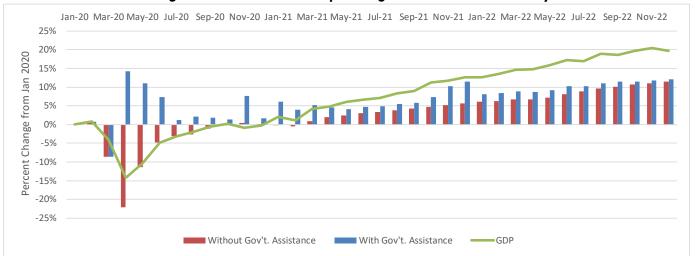


Exhibit 3 displays the growth in spending by major categories over the past year without the impact of the decline in federal government support. The values for growth rates in the absence of government subsidies best represents the growth in the portion of spending actually used to provide clinical services. Overall, personal health care spending growth (growth in spending on goods and services) since December 2021 was 5.2% without government assistance. Excluding such support, spending in the past year on dental services grew the fastest, at 9.7%, while spending on hospital care grew the slowest, at 3.4%.

Exhibit 3. Health Care Spending 12-Month Growth without Government Assistance

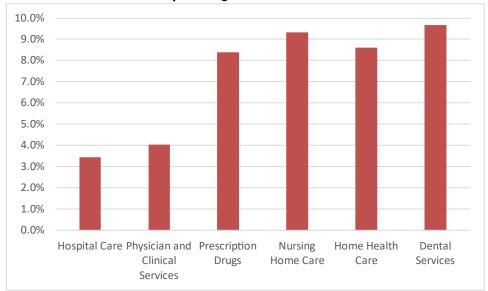
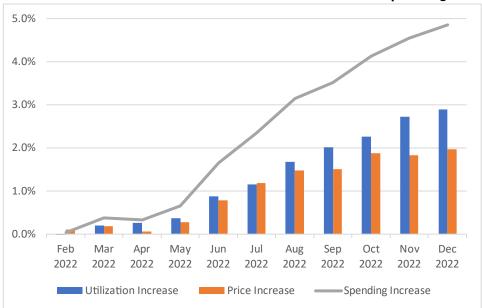


Exhibit 4 illustrates how spending on personal health care (without government subsidies) has grown since the start of 2022 and illustrates the relative contribution of utilization and prices to this growth. It shows that utilization growth continues to be the greater contributor to spending growth through December 2022: Of the 4.9% growth in spending from January through December 2022, only 2.0 percentage points can be attributed to price growth, while the remaining 2.9 percentage point growth was associated with increases in utilization. As we have noted before, we continue to expect prices to have a greater role in spending growth in the future. The breakout between utilization growth and price growth is discussed further in our <u>price brief</u>, which reports a year-over-year decline in utilization, as it did in last month's brief. As we noted last month, an important difference between our two estimates of utilization growth is that the price brief's estimate is based on total personal health



care spending, including government subsidies. In contrast, the estimate reported here excludes the government assistance in an attempt to provide a better estimate of growth in provision of clinical care. Because subsidies declined significantly between 2021 and 2022, the estimate in the price brief incorporated a decline in spending growth not observed in the data reported here. Subtracting price growth from spending growth to estimate implicit utilization growth resulted in negative utilization growth reported in the price brief but not seen here.

Exhibit 4. Cumulative Growth in Personal Health Care Spending without Government Assistance





DETAILED HEALTH SPENDING

Exhibit 5. Monthly National Spending Estimates by Detailed Category

Levels (in billions of dollars)	Dec	Dec	Dec	Dec
	2019	2020	2021	2022
GDP	\$21,781.1	\$21,714.2	\$24,521.2	\$26,065.2
National Health Spending	\$3,870.1	\$4,077.0	\$4,467.1	\$4,494.4
Personal health care	\$3,254.1	\$3,353.5	\$3,731.8	\$3,784.9
Hospital care	\$1,216.7	\$1,275.9	\$1,384.9	\$1,396.9
Physician and clinical services	\$796.7	\$810.6	\$918.6	\$898.8
Other professional services	\$115.1	\$118.7	\$139.9	\$138.8
Dental services	\$149.6	\$136.7	\$176.5	\$179.2
Other personal health care	\$197.4	\$208.6	\$236.3	\$234.7
Home health care	\$113.5	\$122.0	\$130.4	\$135.1
Nursing home care	\$176.1	\$175.2	\$190.3	\$202.0
Prescription Drugs	\$349.9	\$358.1	\$388.1	\$420.6
Durable medical equipment	\$57.4	\$59.8	\$68.4	\$73.5
Nondurable medical products	\$81.6	\$87.9	\$98.6	\$105.3
Program administration and net cost of private health insurance	\$311.1	\$338.2	\$301.2	\$323.2
Government public health activities	\$111.6	\$187.3	\$219.8	\$157.8
Research	\$58.4	\$60.7	\$63.1	\$67.4
Structures and equipment	\$134.9	\$137.3	\$151.3	\$161.1
HS Share of GDP	17.8%	18.8%	18.2%	17.2%
HS Share of PGDP	17.8%	18.1%	18.3%	17.1%

Source: Altarum monthly national health spending estimates. The monthly GDP is from IHS Markit.

Notes: Spending is expressed in billions of dollars at a SAAR. This table incorporates recent corrections to the categories "other personal health care" and "program administration and net cost of private health insurance".

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

Growth Rates	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	Dec 2022
GDP	-0.3%	12.9%	6.3%
National Health Spending	5.3%	9.6%	0.6%
Personal health care	3.1%	11.3%	1.4%
Hospital care	4.9%	8.5%	0.9%
Physician and clinical services	1.7%	13.3%	-2.2%
Other professional services	3.2%	17.8%	-0.8%
Dental services	-8.6%	29.1%	1.5%
Other personal health care	5.7%	13.2%	-0.7%
Home health care	7.5%	6.9%	3.6%
Nursing home care	-0.5%	8.6%	6.2%
Prescription Drugs	2.3%	8.4%	8.4%
Durable medical equipment	4.1%	14.3%	7.4%
Nondurable medical products	7.7%	12.2%	6.8%
Program administration and net cost of private health insurance	8.7%	-11.0%	7.3%
Government public health activities	67.8%	17.4%	-28.2%
Research	4.0%	3.9%	6.8%
Structures and equipment	1.7%	10.2%	6.5%
HS Minus GDP	5.7%	-3.4%	-5.7%
HS Minus PGDP	1.8%	1.3%	-6.9%
Source: Computed from Exhibit 2			

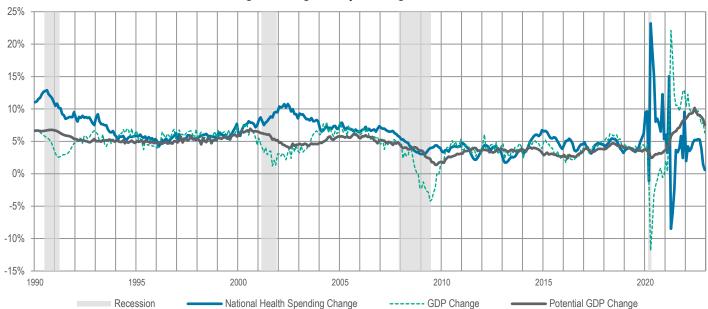
Source: Computed from Exhibit 2.

Note: This exhibit compares monthly national health spending to that of the same month from the previous year.



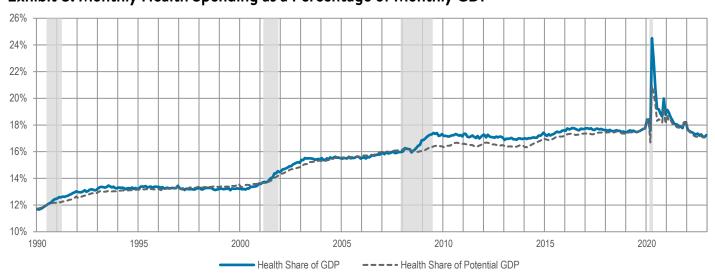
TIME SERIES TRACKER

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



Source: Altarum monthly national health spending estimates. The monthly GDP is from IHS Markit. 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 IHS Markit. 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 BEA monthly health spending and CMS annual NHE estimates (1990–2021) and projections (2022). BEA spending categories are matched to NHEA components by using information presented in the following: 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 2021 are based on NHEA actuals and ensure that monthly estimates sum exactly to NHEA annual amounts. The 2021 ratios are used to adjust BEA spending for months in 2022.



Health Sector Economic IndicatorsSM

Insights from Monthly National Price Indices through January 2023

PRICE BRIEF

February 22, 2023

Health care price and utilization growth slows to kick off 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- ▲ The overall Health Care Price Index increased by 2.7% year over year in January, down from the updated 2.9% reported growth rate a month prior in December.
- A Revised data for 2022 show that overall health care price growth averaged 2.6% over the entire year, up somewhat from the 2.3% average growth that was seen in 2021.
- ▲ Economywide inflation slowed slightly in January, as overall CPI growth fell from 6.5% to 6.4% and PPI price growth fell from 6.5% to 6.0%. Alternatively, economywide services (less healthcare) inflation continues to increase, up to 8.2% year-over-year growth last month.
- Among the major health care categories, prices for dental care (6.6%), nursing home care (4.8%), and hospital services (2.7%) were the fastest growing, while physician services (0.5%) and home health care (1.8%) price growth were the slowest.
- △ Our implicit measure of health care year-over-year utilization growth fell again in December (-1.5%), pulled downward by dental care services (-4.9%); hospital care (-2.4%); and physician and clinical services (-2.4%).

	Jan 2021	Jan 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023
Health Care Price Index (HCPI)	2.5%	2.5%	2.9%	2.7%
GDP Deflator (GDPD)	1.9%	6.6%	5.5%	**
HCPI - GDPD	0.6%	-4.1%	-2.6%	**
Addendum				
Personal health care spending	4.6%	2.1%	1.4%	**
Health care utilization	2.1%	-0.4%	-1.5%	**
Medical Consumer Price Index (MCPI)	1.9%	2.5%	4.0%	3.1%
Consumer Price Index – all items (CPI)	1.4%	7.5%	6.5%	6.4%
Producer Price Index – Final Demand (PPI)	1.6%	10.1%	6.5%	6.0%

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. **Data not available

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 reports are a monthly publication of Altarum and provide an analysis of health spending, employment, and prices. For more information, contact Ani Turner at ani.turner@altarum.org. Corwin (Corey) Rhyan (principal author), Ani Turner, George Miller, PhD, and Matt Daly, PhD, contributed to this brief. Media Contact: press@altarum.org. For more information, visit http://altarum.org/solution/health-sector-spending.



DISCUSSION

The overall health care price index (HCPI) increased by 2.7% year over year in January, down from 2.9% growth in December (Exhibit 1). This marks the eighth straight month where health care inflation has been between a very tight range of 2.7% and 3.0% and continues a period where health care price growth has increased more slowly than might otherwise be expected given persistently high economywide inflation. Overall inflation as measured by the CPI (6.4%) and PPI (6.0%) slowed some from a month prior; however, this decline was driven exclusively by slower growth in commodities prices (Exhibit 4). Non-health economywide services inflation reached a new record (8.2%) last month and now sits 3.4 percentage points higher than it was a year earlier in January 2022.

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

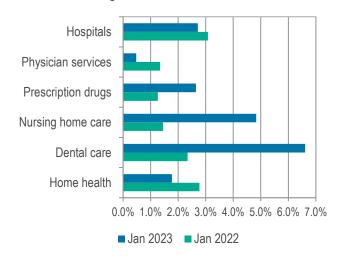


Source: Altarum analysis of monthly BLS price data and monthly GDPD data published by Macroeconomic Advisers.

The fact that overall economywide inflation is increasingly driven by services price growth may portend a longer period of overall rising prices, as service-sector price increases <u>tend to be stickier</u> and are more closely associated with wage growth. While health care price growth over 2022 remained below inflation, we expect 2023 and 2024 to be a period of increasing health care price growth, particularly for prices paid for by private insurance. The Dallas Fed, for example, <u>recently reported</u> they expect "health care inflation will increase ... to 3.9 percent in second quarter 2023 and will remain above 3.5 percent through 2024." We expect in 2023 that private payer price growth will significantly exceed Medicare price growth, and that Medicaid price growth will fall somewhere between the two. As of January, private payer price growth exceeded the public payers for both hospital and physician services (Exhibits 6 and 7).

In December, the greatest increases in health care prices occurred for dental care, nursing homes, and hospital settings (rising 6.6%, 4.8%, and 2.7%, respectively) (Exhibit 2). Conversely, physician and clinical services prices increased at the slowest rate among major sectors—at only 0.5% growth—marking the twelfth straight month of below 1.0% price growth for this component (Exhibit 3).

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



Our implicit measure of overall health care utilization shows that it actually decreased by 1.5% year over year in December (Exhibit 8). Dental services utilization fell the most (-4.9%), followed hospital care (-2.4%) and physician and clinical services (-2.4%). Conversely, prescription drug utilization growth was a positive 6.5%, an increase from the recent June 2022 low (4.1%). As our implicit measure of utilization represents health spending growth that includes federal government Covid-19related subsidies net of health care price changes, we can observe that the primary cause of the negative utilization change in the past two months was a result of decreased yearover-year spending growth that averaged only 1.9%. Price growth in November and December held mostly steady. Going forward into 2023 we expect our implicit measure of utilization will return to the positive as the lingering swings in federal pandemic assistance abated in the new 2022 comparison year.



PRICE GROWTH BY DETAILED CATEGORIES

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

,	•		•
	Ending	Ending	Ending
	January 2021	January 2022	January 2023
Health Care Price Index (HCPI)	2.5%	2.5%	2.7%
Hospital care	3.7%	3.1%	2.7%
Physician and clinical services	3.1%	1.3%	0.5%
Prescription drugs	-2.4%	1.3%	2.6%
Nursing home care	3.3%	1.4%	4.8%
Dental Services	3.1%	2.3%	6.6%
Home health care	2.5%	2.8%	1.8%
Other professional services	2.7%	3.8%	-0.4%
Other personal health care	4.7%	4.5%	5.6%
Other nondurable medical products	-1.3%	1.7%	4.8%
Durable medical equipment	-2.8%	2.9%	3.9%
Source: Altarum analysis of monthly BLS data.			

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

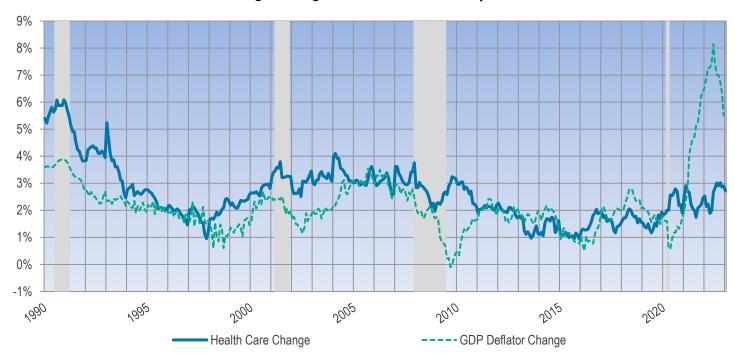


Methods. Altarum's estimates for the monthly HCPI, a price index for personal health care spending within the National Health Expenditure Accounts, are essentially monthly versions of the annual index developed by the CMS National Health Statistics Group (NHSG). The advantages of this measure over the 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 http://www.cms.gov/files/document/definitions-sources-and-methods.pdf. 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 monthly national health spending and price index estimates.

Note: Lightly shaded bars denote recession periods. (The 2020 recession timing was announced by NBER on July 19th, 2021)

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



Source: Altarum analysis of monthly BLS data.



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



Source: Altarum analysis of monthly BLS data.

Exhibit 8. Implicit Health Care Utilization Growth by Major Components of NHE, Year-over-year

	December 2022	3-Month Moving Average	12-Month Moving Average
Total personal health care	-1.5%	0.1%	1.5%
Hospital care	-2.4%	-1.0%	0.5%
Physician and clinical services	-2.4%	-0.1%	1.7%
Prescription drugs	6.5%	6.5%	5.6%
Nursing home care	1.4%	3.1%	5.0%
Dental Services	-4.9%	-0.7%	2.0%
Home health care	0.9%	2.2%	2.5%
Other professional services	-2.9%	-1.9%	-1.3%
Other personal health care	-5.4%	-2.9%	-1.5%
Other nondurable medical products	1.4%	0.8%	1.8%
Durable medical equipment	2.3%	2.4%	4.2%

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.



Health Sector Economic IndicatorsSM

Insights from Monthly National Health Employment Data through January 2023

LABOR BRIEF

February 22, 2023

Health care adds 58,000 jobs amid strong economywide job growth

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▲ Health care added 58,200 jobs in January 2023, consistent with the pattern of the past eight months, as the economy added more than half a million jobs and the unemployment rate dropped to 3.4%, the lowest rate in more than 50 years.
- ▲ The annual benchmarking of the Current Employment Statistics survey, the source of the jobs data in this brief, shifted total nonfarm employment up by 0.3%. Combined with the usual revisions to the previous two months of data, December 2022 employment was revised upward by 813,000 jobs. Benchmark revisions had a modest impact on health employment, which was adjusted down by 91,500 jobs in December. The downward revision to health employment was seen in ambulatory settings (-60,000) and hospitals (-36,000) but not residential care (+4,500).
- Consistent with 2022 trends, about half of the health job growth in January 2023 was in ambulatory care settings, which added 29,900 jobs, while hospitals added 10,900 jobs and nursing and residential care added 17,400 jobs.
- ▲ Wage growth in health care continues to moderate. After peaking at a rate of 7.5% year over year in July 2022, health care wage growth fell to 4.9% in December 2022, very close to the economy-wide wage growth of 4.8%.

Cyclical Employment Big Picture

Seasonally Adjusted	February 2020	Jan 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023
Total Employment (000)	152,504	150,106	154,556	155,073
Non-Health Employment (000)	136,014	134,069	137,960	138,419
Health Employment (000)	16,491	16,037	16,596	16,654
Health Share of Total Employment	10.81%	10.68%	10.74%	10.74%
Unemployment Rate	3.5%	4.0%	3.5%	3.4%

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

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.

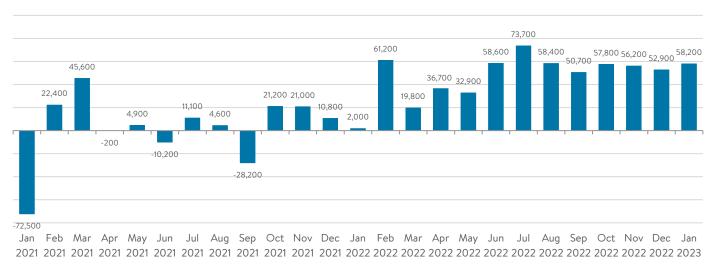
The Health Sector Economic Indicators (HSEI) reports are a monthly publication of Altarum providing analyses of health spending, employment, and prices. For more information, contact Ani Turner at ani.turner@altarum.org. Ani Turner (principal author), Corwin Rhyan, George Miller, PhD, and Matt Daly, PhD, contributed to this brief. Media Contact: press@altarum.org. For more information, visit http://altarum.org/solution/health-sector-spending.



DISCUSSION

Health care employment grew by 58,200 jobs in December 2022, very consistent with the average of 58,300 new jobs per month added over the past eight months (Exhibit 1). More than half of the job growth in January 2023 was in ambulatory care settings, which added 29,900 jobs, but other major settings also showed solid job growth, with hospitals adding 10,900 jobs and nursing and residential care adding 17,400 jobs (Exhibit 7).

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



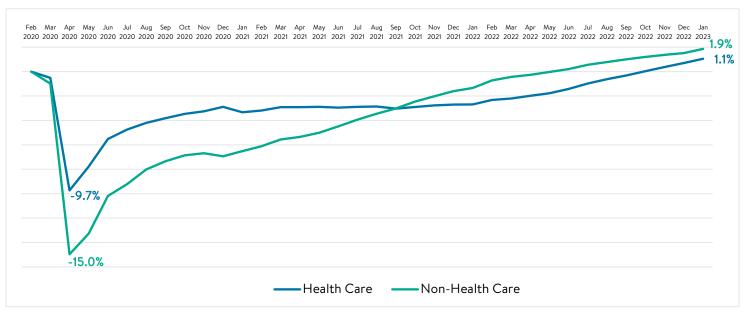
Source: Altarum analysis of monthly BLS Current Employment Statistics data.

Bureau of Labor Statistics data released in February 2023 reflect the usual revisions to the previous two months of data, and also reflect the annual benchmarking of the Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey, the source of the jobs data in this brief. The annual benchmarking shifted total nonfarm employment up by 0.3%, a larger adjustment than the 10-year average of 0.1%. Combined with the usual revisions to the previous two months of data, December 2022 total nonfarm employment was revised upward by 813,000 jobs. Benchmark revisions had a modest impact on health employment, which was adjusted down by 91,500 jobs in December. Also with the February 2023 release, CES data were updated to the 2022 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) from the NAICS 2017 basis. This classification system update had no substantive impact on the health industry categories.

Revised employment estimates through January 2023 show non-health jobs recovered from the pandemic drop faster than previously estimated, reaching the February 2020 level of employment in May 2022 (rather than July 2022 as previously estimated) and that these jobs are now 1.9% above the pre-pandemic level, versus the 0.8% above estimated last month. Revisions did not substantially change the pattern of recovery of health care jobs, which are now 1.1% above the pre-pandemic level, versus the 1.2% above estimated last month (Exhibit 2).



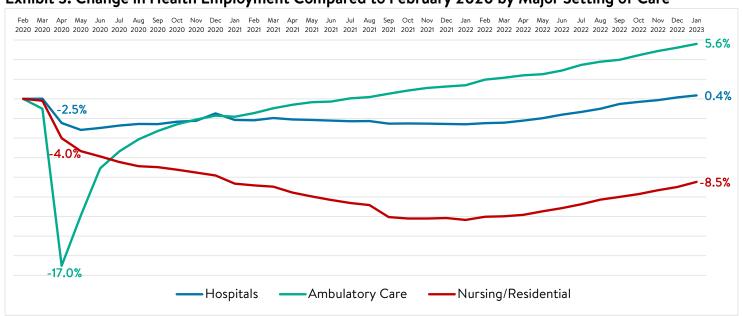
Exhibit 2. Change in Health and Non-Health Employment Compared to February 2020



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

By major setting of care, the downward revision to health employment was seen in hospitals (-36,000) and ambulatory settings (-60,000), but not residential care (+4,500). Employment in ambulatory care settings now stands at 5.6% above the level of February 2020, versus the 5.8% estimated last month (Exhibit 3). Hospital employment is now 0.4% above the February 2020 level, versus the 0.8% estimated last month. Employment in nursing and residential care has shown positive growth for the past year but remains 286,000 jobs (8.5%) below the pre-pandemic level.

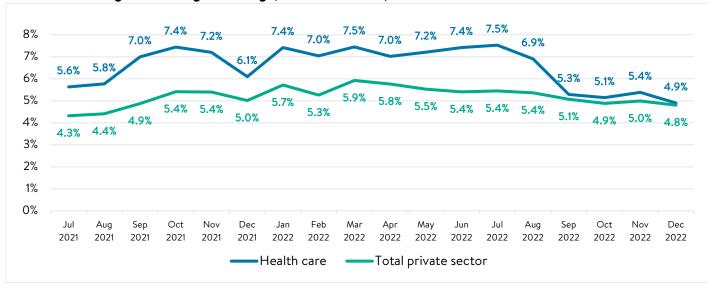
Exhibit 3. Change in Health Employment Compared to February 2020 by Major Setting of Care





Wage growth in health care has been falling since the summer and is now near the economywide average. Earnings in health care rose 4.9% over the year ending in December 2022, compared to 4.8% for all private sector jobs (Exhibit 4).

Exhibit 4. Change in Average Earnings, Year over Year, Health Care and Total





The growth in average earnings continues to vary by setting of care, but the gaps continue to narrow as wage growth falls (Exhibit 5). Wages are still growing fastest in nursing and residential care, at 5.6% year over year in December, but this rate has fallen considerably since peaking at 11.0% in March 2022. In hospitals, wage growth fell in December to 5.1%. Wage growth has been slowest in ambulatory care, with December growth of 4.7%.

Exhibit 5. Change in Average Earnings, Year over Year, by Setting of Care 12% 10.0% 10.4% 10.5% 10.3% 9.6% 9.5% 10% 8.8% 8.4% 8.3% 7.8% 7.5% 7.5% 8% 6.8% 6.5% 8.4% 8.4% 6.0% 8.2% 7.5% 7.7% 7.8% 7.6% 7.7% 7.7% 5.6% 6% 6.8% 6.2% 5.7 5.1% 5.5% 5.5% 4% 5.0% 4.3% 4.3% 4.2% 3.8% 3.6% 2% 0% Aug Sep Jul Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar May Jun Jul Sep Oct Nov Dec Apr Aug 2022 2021 2021 2021 2021 2021 2021 2022 2022 2022 2022 2022 2022 2022 2022 2022 2022 2022 -Hospitals Ambulatory Care Nursing and Residential

DETAILED HEALTH CARE EMPLOYMENT

Exhibit 6. Employment Data by Sector, Seasonally Adjusted

<u> </u>	,				
Employment (in thousands)	January 2023	December 2022	January 2022	January 2021	February 2020
Non-Health Care	138,419	137,960	134,069	127,037	135,890
Health Care	16,654	16,596	16,037	15,932	16,481
Ambulatory Health Care Services	8,308	8,278	7,976	7,723	7,867
Offices of Physicians	2,870	2,859	2,768	2,693	2,726
Offices of Dentists	1,029	1,031	1,005	967	990
Offices of Other Health Care Practitioners	1,115	1,110	1,052	974	1,001
Outpatient Care Centers	1,059	1,053	1,014	980	997
Medical and Diagnostic Labs	322	320	316	299	289
Home Health Care Services	1,576	1,569	1,502	1,504	1,546
Other Ambulatory	337	335	319	307	318
Hospitals	5,254	5,243	5,100	5,123	5,236
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	3,092	3,075	2,961	3,086	3,378
Nursing Care Facilities	1,380	1,376	1,345	1,415	1,587
Other Nursing and Residential	1,712	1,699	1,617	1,672	1,792
Health Share of Employment	10.74%	10.74%	10.68%	11.14%	10.82%

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

Exhibit 7. Change in Employment Data by Sector, Seasonally Adjusted

Employment Change (in thousands) One Month 12 Months 24 Months Since Feb

Altarum Health Sector Economic Indicators | February 2023 Labor Brief Page $\mathbf{6}$



Non-Health Care	458.8	4,349.9	11,381.9	2,528.5
Health Care	58.2	617.1	722.1	173.5
Ambulatory Health Care Services	29.9	331.5	585.1	441.2
Offices of Physicians	11.1	102.4	177.4	144.0
Offices of Dentists	-2.7	23.6	61.3	38.7
Offices of Other Health Care Practitioners	4.4	62.6	141.2	114.0
Outpatient Care Centers	6.7	45.3	79.5	62.4
Medical and Diagnostic Labs	2.0	5.9	23.3	33.4
Home Health Care Services	6.4	73.5	72.3	29.5
Other Ambulatory	1.9	18.1	30.0	19.1
Hospitals	10.9	154.6	130.9	18.5
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	17.4	131.0	6.1	-286.2
Nursing Care Facilities	4.5	35.6	-34.4	-206.7
Other Nursing and Residential	12.9	95.4	40.5	-79.5
Annualized Percent Change	One Month	12 Months	24 Months	Since Feb 2020
Non-Health Care	4.1%	3.2%	4.4%	0.6%
Non-Health Care Health Care	4.1%	3.2% 3.8%	4.4% 2.2%	0.6% 0.4%
Health Care	4.3%	3.8%	2.2%	0.4%
Health Care Ambulatory Health Care Services	4.3% 4.4%	3.8% 4.2%	2.2% 3.7%	0.4% 1.9%
Health Care Ambulatory Health Care Services Offices of Physicians	4.3% 4.4% 4.8%	3.8% 4.2% 3.7%	2.2% 3.7% 3.2%	0.4% 1.9% 1.8%
Health Care Ambulatory Health Care Services Offices of Physicians Offices of Dentists	4.3% 4.4% 4.8% -3.1%	3.8% 4.2% 3.7% 2.3%	2.2% 3.7% 3.2% 3.1%	0.4% 1.9% 1.8% 1.3%
Health Care Ambulatory Health Care Services Offices of Physicians Offices of Dentists Offices of Other Health Care Practitioners	4.3% 4.4% 4.8% -3.1% 4.9%	3.8% 4.2% 3.7% 2.3% 6.0%	2.2% 3.7% 3.2% 3.1% 7.0%	0.4% 1.9% 1.8% 1.3% 3.8%
Health Care Ambulatory Health Care Services Offices of Physicians Offices of Dentists Offices of Other Health Care Practitioners Outpatient Care Centers	4.3% 4.4% 4.8% -3.1% 4.9% 7.9%	3.8% 4.2% 3.7% 2.3% 6.0% 4.5%	2.2% 3.7% 3.2% 3.1% 7.0% 4.0%	0.4% 1.9% 1.8% 1.3% 3.8% 2.1%
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	4.3% 4.4% 4.8% -3.1% 4.9% 7.9% 7.8%	3.8% 4.2% 3.7% 2.3% 6.0% 4.5%	2.2% 3.7% 3.2% 3.1% 7.0% 4.0% 3.8%	0.4% 1.9% 1.8% 1.3% 3.8% 2.1% 3.8%
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	4.3% 4.4% 4.8% -3.1% 4.9% 7.9% 7.8% 5.0%	3.8% 4.2% 3.7% 2.3% 6.0% 4.5% 1.9%	2.2% 3.7% 3.2% 3.1% 7.0% 4.0% 3.8% 2.4%	0.4% 1.9% 1.8% 1.3% 3.8% 2.1% 3.8% 0.7%
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 Ambulatory	4.3% 4.4% 4.8% -3.1% 4.9% 7.9% 7.8% 5.0% 7.0%	3.8% 4.2% 3.7% 2.3% 6.0% 4.5% 1.9% 4.9% 5.7%	2.2% 3.7% 3.2% 3.1% 7.0% 4.0% 3.8% 2.4% 4.8%	0.4% 1.9% 1.8% 1.3% 3.8% 2.1% 3.8% 0.7% 2.0%
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 Ambulatory Hospitals	4.3% 4.4% 4.8% -3.1% 4.9% 7.9% 7.8% 5.0% 7.0% 2.5%	3.8% 4.2% 3.7% 2.3% 6.0% 4.5% 1.9% 4.9% 5.7% 3.0%	2.2% 3.7% 3.2% 3.1% 7.0% 4.0% 3.8% 2.4% 4.8% 1.3%	0.4% 1.9% 1.8% 1.3% 3.8% 2.1% 3.8% 0.7% 2.0% 0.1%
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 Ambulatory Hospitals Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	4.3% 4.4% 4.8% -3.1% 4.9% 7.9% 7.8% 5.0% 7.0% 2.5% 7.0%	3.8% 4.2% 3.7% 2.3% 6.0% 4.5% 1.9% 4.9% 5.7% 3.0% 4.4%	2.2% 3.7% 3.2% 3.1% 7.0% 4.0% 3.8% 2.4% 4.8% 1.3% 0.1%	0.4% 1.9% 1.8% 1.3% 3.8% 2.1% 3.8% 0.7% 2.0% 0.1% -3.0%

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



TIME SERIES TRACKER

Exhibit 8. Twelve-month Percent Change in Health Care Employment

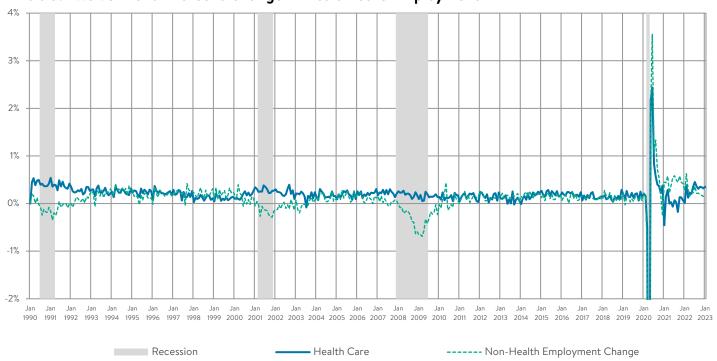
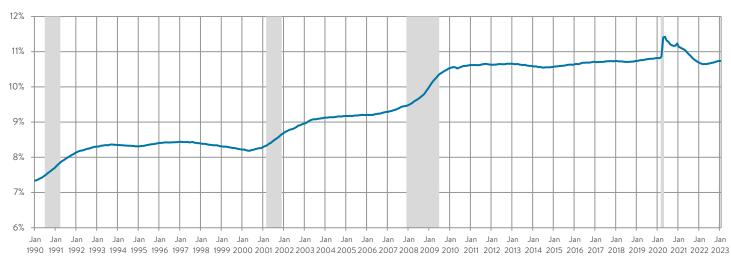


Exhibit 9. Health Care Share of Total Employment



Source: Altarum analysis of BLS data.

Note: Lightly shaded bars denote recession periods.