

# Year in Review

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*Significant portions of this presentation were created by Jack S. Schroder, Jr., Alston & Bird (Ret.) and Kristen B. Rosati, Coopersmith Brockelman*

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## **Did You Know?.....**

### **According to a Gallup poll:**

- Healthcare was the #1 issue that voters considered most important in last Fall's midterm elections
  - 80% said healthcare was “extremely” or “very” important to their vote
  - Next most important issues were the economy and immigration

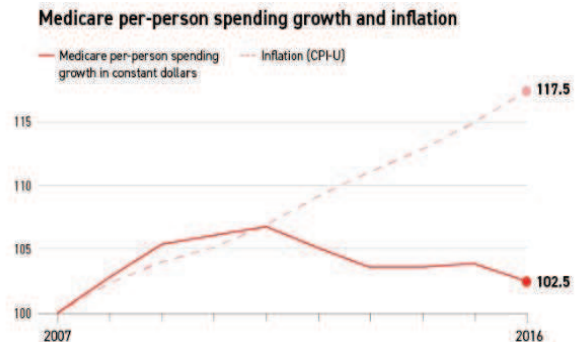
**Source: Gallup News (11/2/18)**



- Believe it or not, Medicare spending per patient is **falling**
- While overall spending soared due to increased enrollment, **per capita** spending rose only 1%/year, less than inflation
  - Compared to a 7.1% increase between 2000-2010

**The Big Question:** How did Medicare achieve lower per capita spending for its older and disabled patients, even as private insurers spent more and more on their younger and healthier customers?

**Source: Politico (09/12/2018)**  
[www.politico.com/agenda/story/2018/09/12/medicare-spending-cost-budget-000692?cid=apn](http://www.politico.com/agenda/story/2018/09/12/medicare-spending-cost-budget-000692?cid=apn)



## Our Bankrupt Future

### Hospitals Shut at 30-a-Year Pace in U.S., with No End in Sight

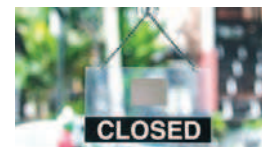
Bloomberg Law (8/21/18)

Hospitals have been closing at a rate of about 30 a year

- Next 18 months should see an increase in shutdowns

A study by Morgan Stanley concluded:

- 8% percent of hospitals are at risk of closing
- Another 10% are considered “weak”



### GAO Notes Uptick in Rural Hospital Closures AHLA Weekly (10/5/18)

More than twice the number of rural hospitals closed between 2013 and 2017 than in the previous five years

- 64 closures represent approximately 3% of all rural hospitals
- Rural hospitals in the South accounted for 77% of the closures

**Source: Rural Hospital Closures: Number and Characteristics of Affected Hospitals and Contributing Factors (GAO-18-634)**

## The New Wave of Competitors

### **Amazon, Berkshire Hathaway, JPMorgan Unveil New Venture to Lower Employees' Health Care Costs** AHLA Weekly (2/2/18)

- "Haven" will have an initial focus on technology solutions to provide their employees with simplified, high-quality and transparent healthcare at reasonable cost

### **CVS Health Completes Acquisition of Aetna, Marking the Start of Transforming the Consumer Health Experience** CVS Press Release (11/28/18)

*"Today marks the start of a new day in health care and a transformative moment for our company and our industry."* Larry J. Merlo, CVS Health CEO

### **Walgreens and Microsoft establish strategic partnership to transform health care delivery** Walgreens Press Release (1/15/19)

- Develop in-store "digital health corners" to sell select health care-related hardware and devices

# *Health Care Reform*



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"Healthcare Year in Review"