

# The Current State of Healthcare

Healthcare expenses are rising. Recently, concerns such as long waiting-periods for acute illnesses, higher copays, and retail healthcare have shifted patients away from their Primary Care Physicians, resulting in fragmented care, expensive outcomes, and overall healthcare avoidance.

- A majority (70%) of polled Americans believe the state of healthcare has major problems and is in a state of crisis<sup>1</sup>
- Nearly 50% of adults do not have a primary healthcare provider,<sup>2</sup> and the problem is worse among minorities
- The average waiting period for an in-office visit with a new primary care physician is 24 days<sup>3</sup>

This trend of moving away from PCPs drives healthcare costs up and worsens fragmented or unnecessary care. Many Americans<sup>4</sup> have skipped recommended medical tests or treatments due to cost, and most say they have a problem paying their basic healthcare bills.<sup>5</sup> Because of this avoidance and fragmentation, Americans are developing preventable conditions that are expensive to treat and manage.

- 92% of Americans have a problem paying basic healthcare bills<sup>6</sup>
- 50% of American adults avoid going to a PCP due to costs. 13% of that group said their condition got worse as a result<sup>7</sup>
- 50% of Americans have preventable, treatable chronic conditions,<sup>8</sup> and these diseases typically cost more than \$5,000 per person for care annually.<sup>9</sup> For example, the average cost of treating diabetes is \$9,601 per person<sup>10</sup>

For many Americans, our healthcare system is failing them. As health expenses rise, employers shift the financial responsibility of healthcare to their employees, often in the form of High Deductible Health Plans (HDHPs) – raising out-of-pocket costs and deductibles in exchange for fewer benefits, compounding the issue at hand.

1. Gallup Pole
2. Fierce Healthcare
3. Aristamd
4. Forbes
5. Kaiser Family Foundation
6. Kaiser Family Foundation
7. Kaiser Family Foundation
8. The Balance
9. NIH
10. CDC