



WAL-MART'S UNHEALTHY CARE: INADEQUATE COVERAGE LEAVES TAXPAYERS PAYING THE BILL

WHO PAYS FOR WAL-MART WORKERS' HEALTH CARE?

Wal-Mart, right? No, we all do.

Despite Wal-Mart's mammoth profits, the company actually burdens us—taxpayers—with its workers' health care costs. In a disturbing nationwide trend, more state studies are revealing that Wal-Mart employees are the top recipients of taxpayer-paid health care. The scope of this corporate failure is massive: Wal-Mart is the largest private employer in the United States, with over 1.2 million employees, yet they fail to provide health insurance to over half their employees.

WAL-MART WORKERS ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Just 47 percent of Wal-Mart employees are covered by the Wal-Mart health plan; while nationally 68 percent of workers in large firms receive their health benefits from their employer. Many of Wal-Mart's uncovered employees are forced to rely on public health assistance, adding to the cost of the bloated Wal-Mart tax. — *Kaiser Family Foundation; www.walmartfacts.com*

As momentum grows, lawmakers in 16 states have revealed troubling statistics. Wal-Mart employees top Medicaid and CHIP rolls; many are forced to rely on public assistance for their health coverage. — *Wal-Mart Watch; walmartwatch.com/healthcare*

HIGH DEDUCTIBLES, HIDDEN FEES

Wal-Mart's health plan has deductibles as high as \$1,000 in addition to many hidden fees. For example: a \$100 deductible for ER visits, a \$100 deductible for ambulance services and a \$25 weekly "spousal" surcharge for health coverage.

— *Phil. Inquirer, 5/16/05; Wal-Mart 2005 Associate Guide*

Full-time Wal-Mart employees must wait six months to be eligible for their health care plan, while part-time employees must wait two years to become eligible.

— *Phil. Inquirer, 5/16/05; Wal-Mart 2005 Associate Guide*



"Wal-Mart's blowing people out of the water and if they're doing that by having the public sector subsidize their health care, that's wrong...That's really wrong. — Idaho Speaker of the House, Bruce Newcomb (R)

ABOUT WAL-MART WATCH

Along with over 300 supporting organizations, Wal-Mart Watch is sponsoring Higher Expectations Week to highlight our campaign to reform Wal-Mart. Wal-Mart Watch is committed to uncovering the true impacts of Wal-Mart's business practices on our economy, environment and culture. We aim to make Wal-Mart a more responsible company by informing, motivating and supporting the work of consumers, workers, community activists and elected officials who, together, will demand reform in their hometowns. Join us at www.walmartwatch.com/november



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WHAT YOU CAN DO!

LEARN THE FACTS: What does Wal-Mart cost you? Visit our website at www.walmartwatch.com/healthcare.

SPEAK OUT: Tell your friends and family about the negative impact of Wal-Mart's business model.

ORGANIZE: Join the growing movement to hold Wal-Mart accountable for their greed and destructive impact on our communities, economy and culture.

