



# A Prescription For Failure

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**Every developed country with a universal health care system provides universal coverage of prescription drugs ...**  
***... except Canada!***

**Hall Commission 1965**



**National Forum 1997**

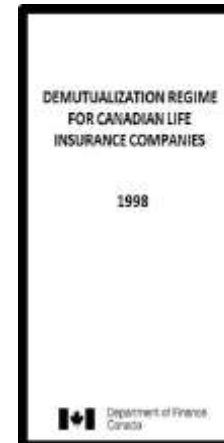
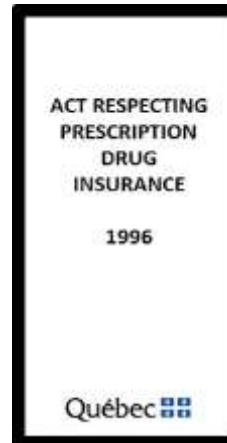


**Romanow 2002**





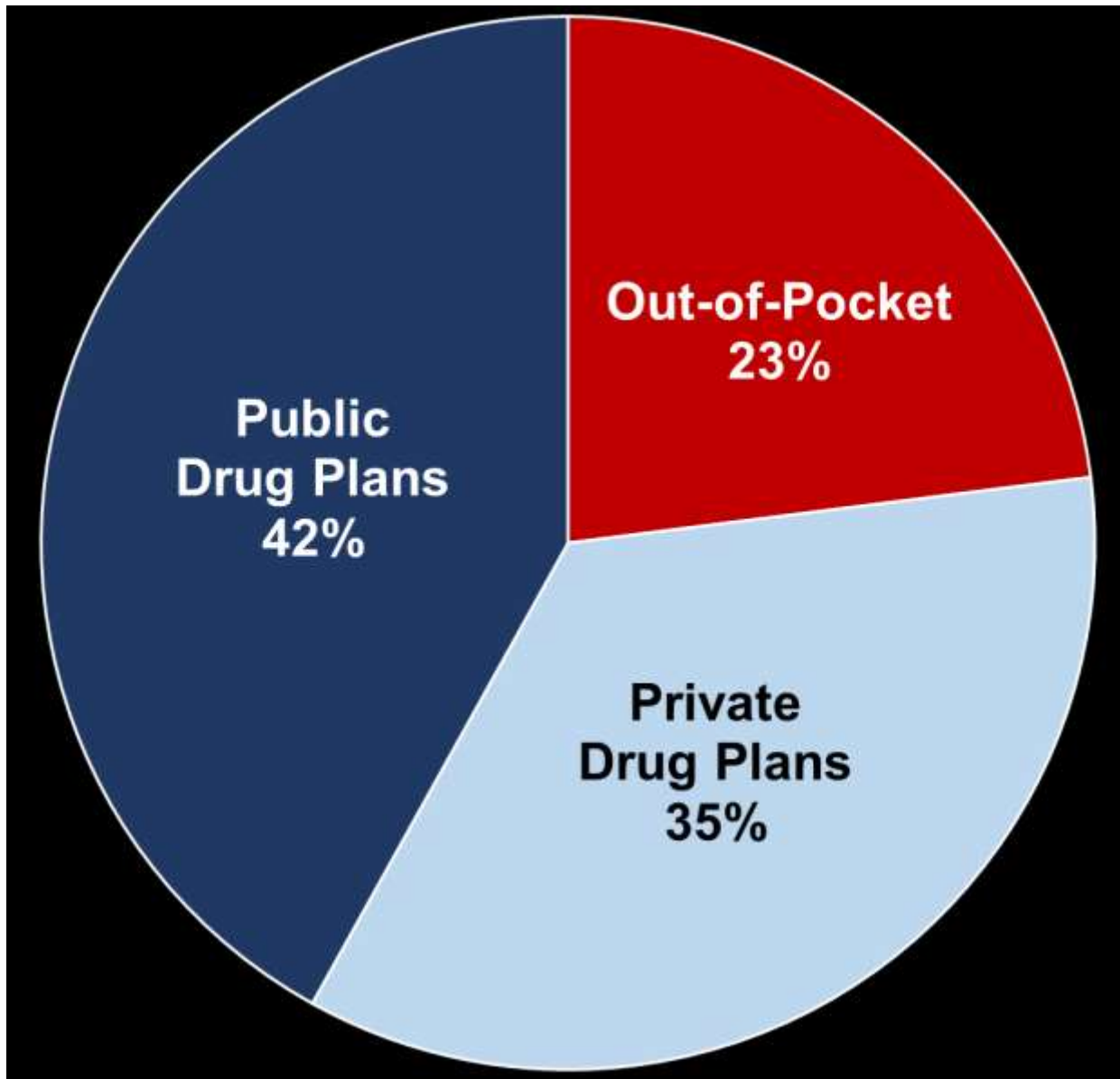
# “Things” got in the way...



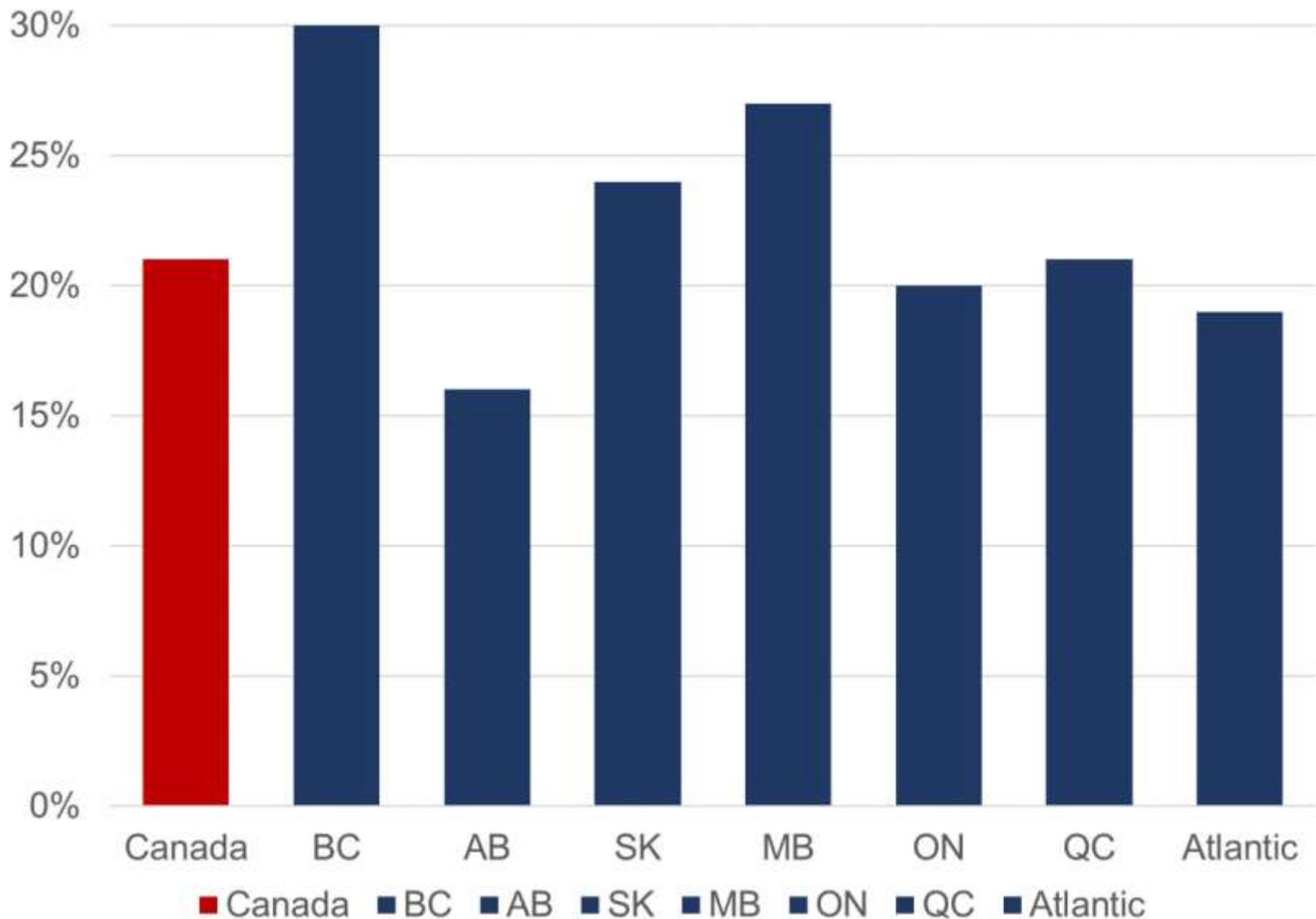
Hall  
Commission

National  
Forum

Romanow  
Commission



**\$31 billion**



# Households under- or un-insured







**Not an ordinary market**



**Inextricably tied to health care**



**Patients are often vulnerable**



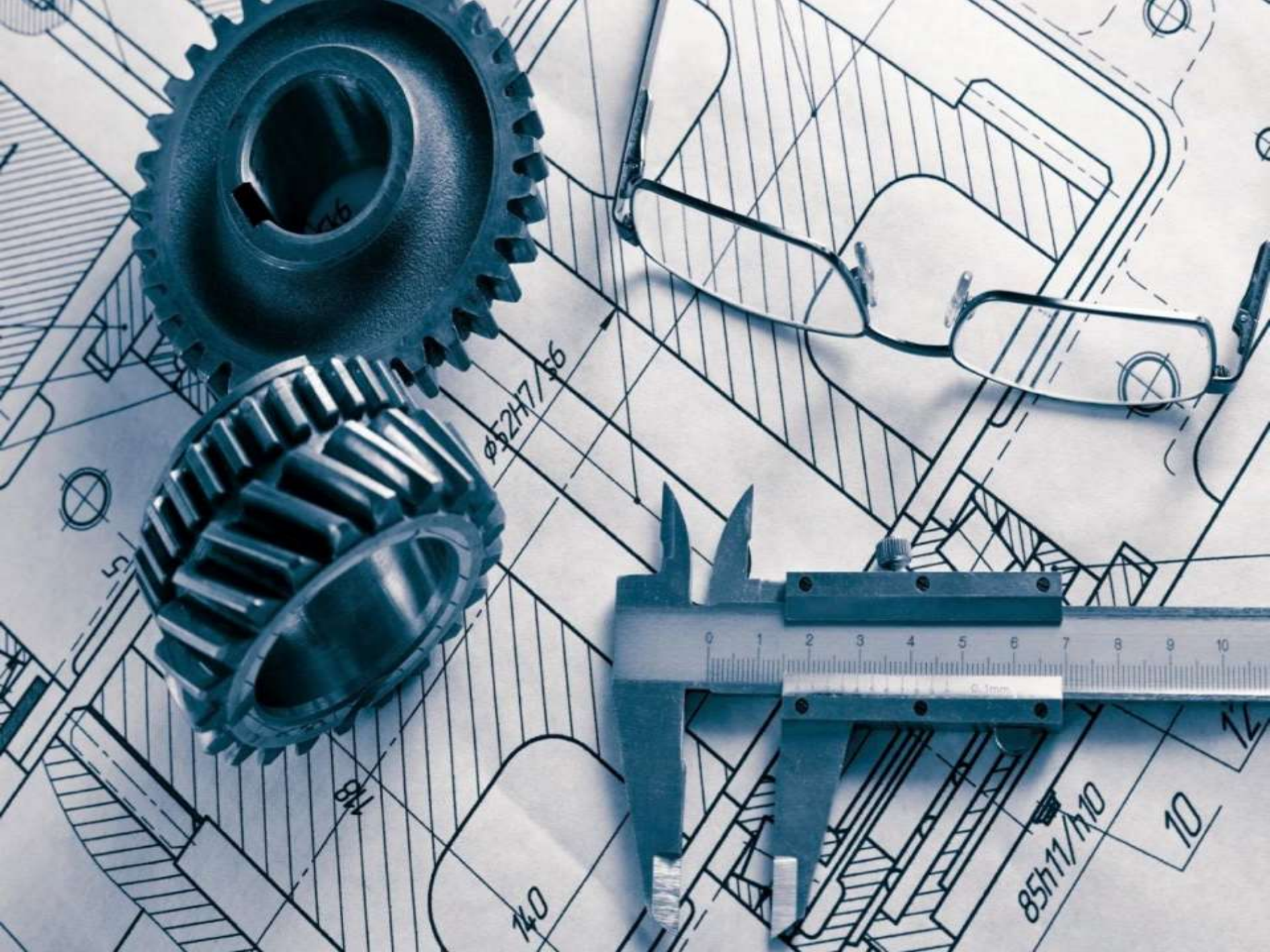
**Effects are difficult to determine**





**Firms have market power**









**Coverage matters**



**Purchasing power matters**



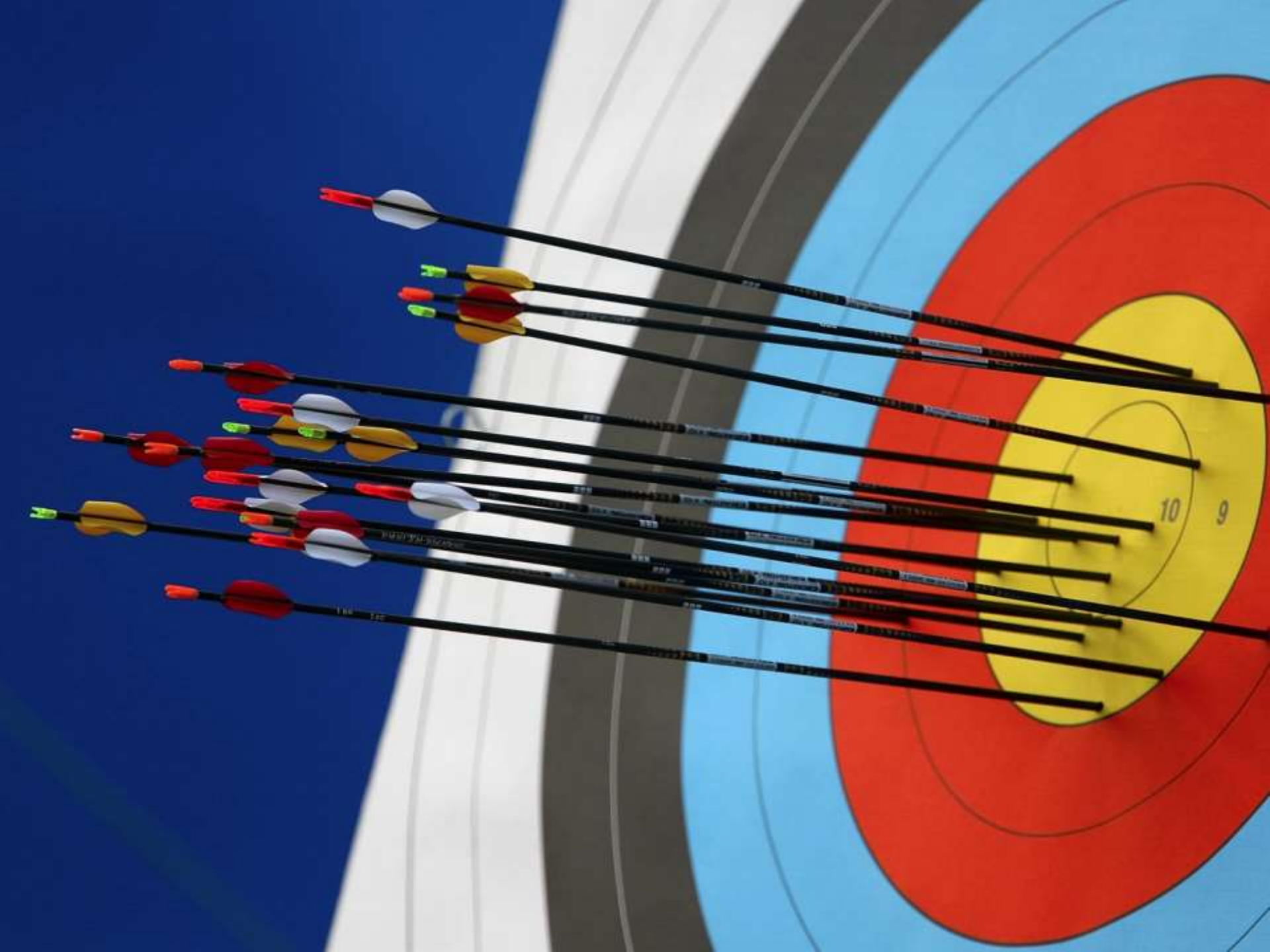
**Financial incentives matter**





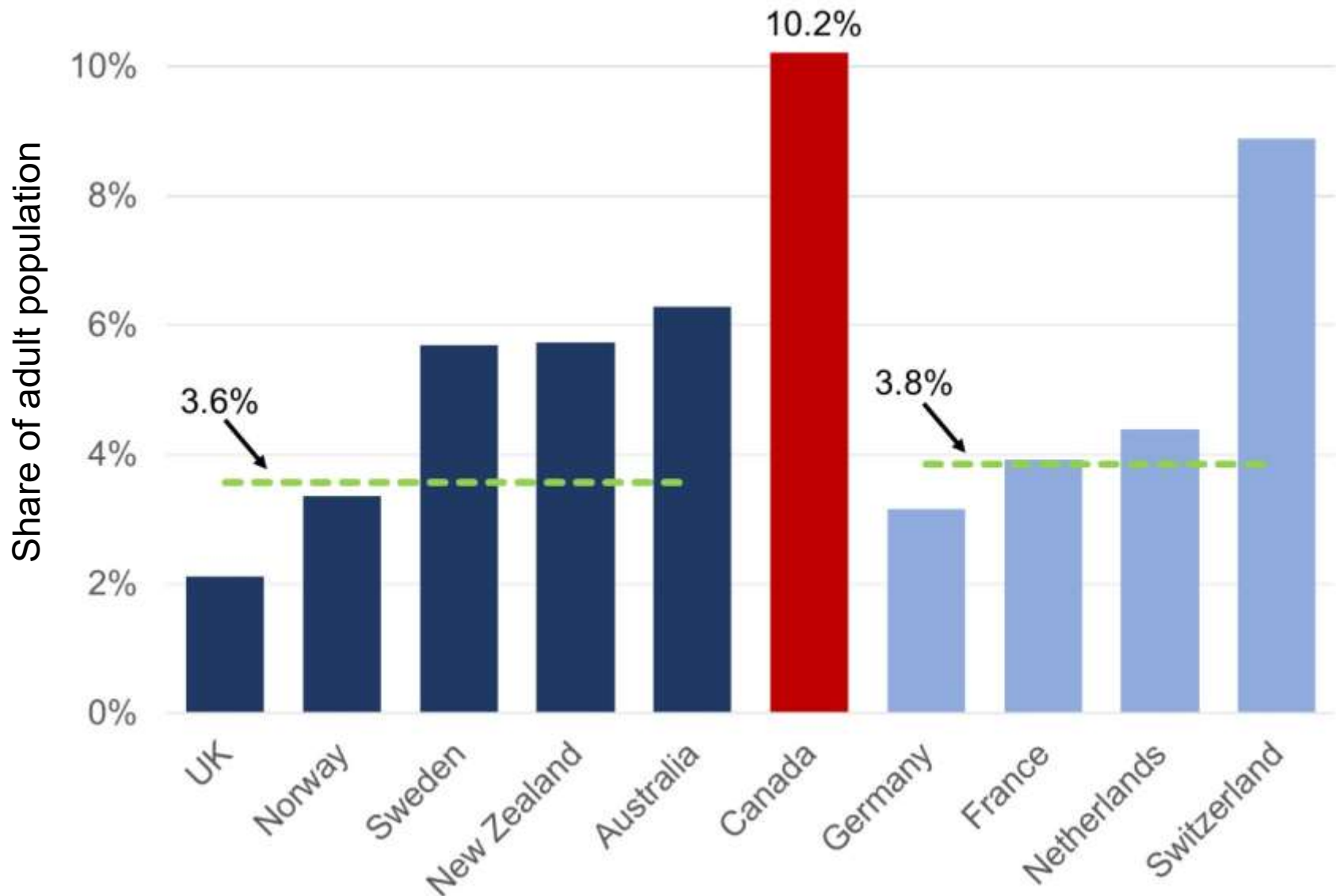


		Pharmaceutical system				
	Type of health system	Coverage		Buying power		Incentives
		Universal coverage	Low cost to patient	Single-payer	Effective formulary	Integrated financing
NZ	Public					
UK	Public					
Norway	Public					
Sweden	Public					
Australia	Public					
Canada	Public					
Netherlands	Insurance					
France	Insurance					
Germany	Insurance					
Switzerland	Insurance					





**Accessibility for patients?**



## Adults not taking medicines because of cost, 2016







**20,000+**



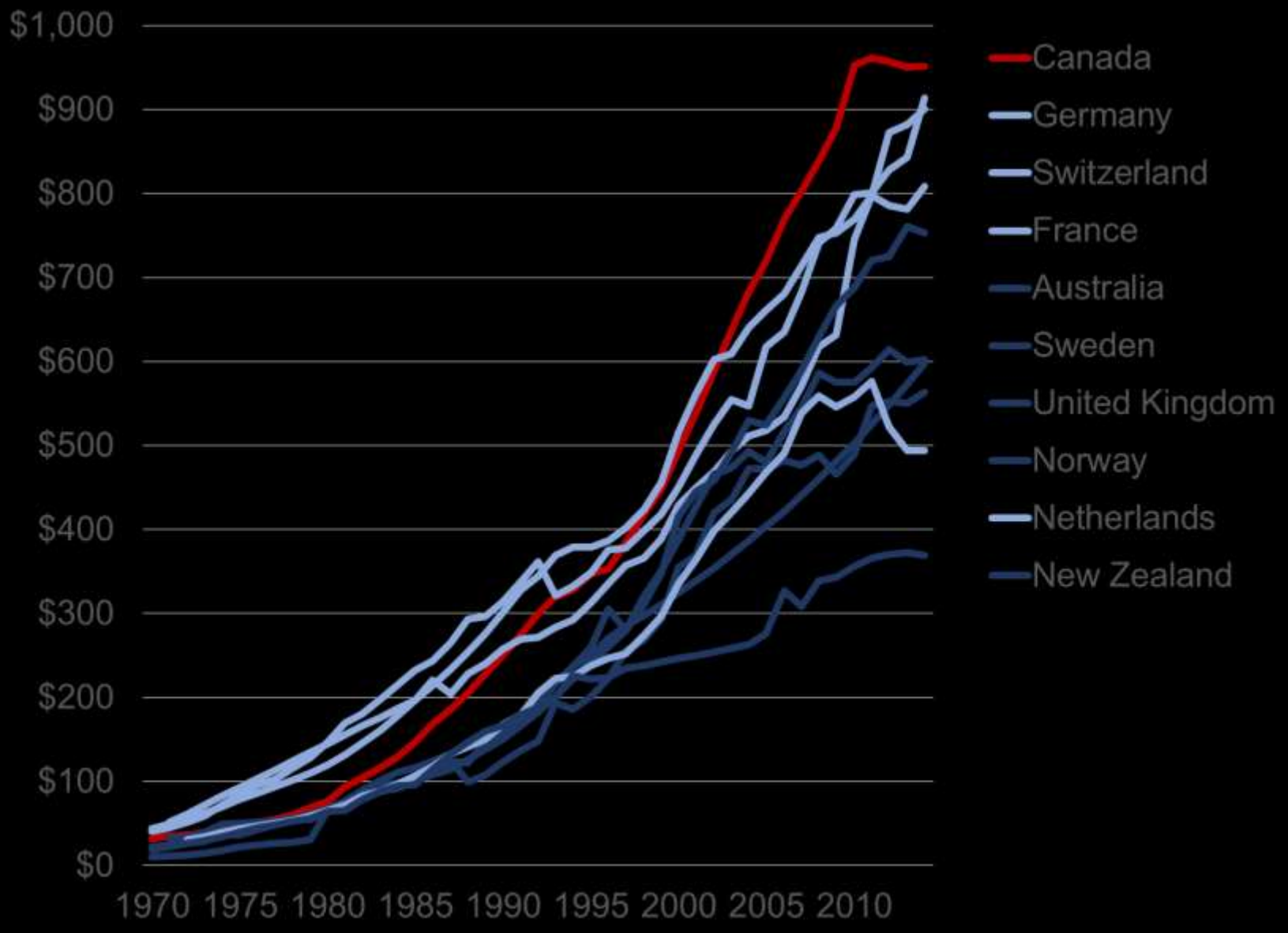
**400+**



**Value for money?**

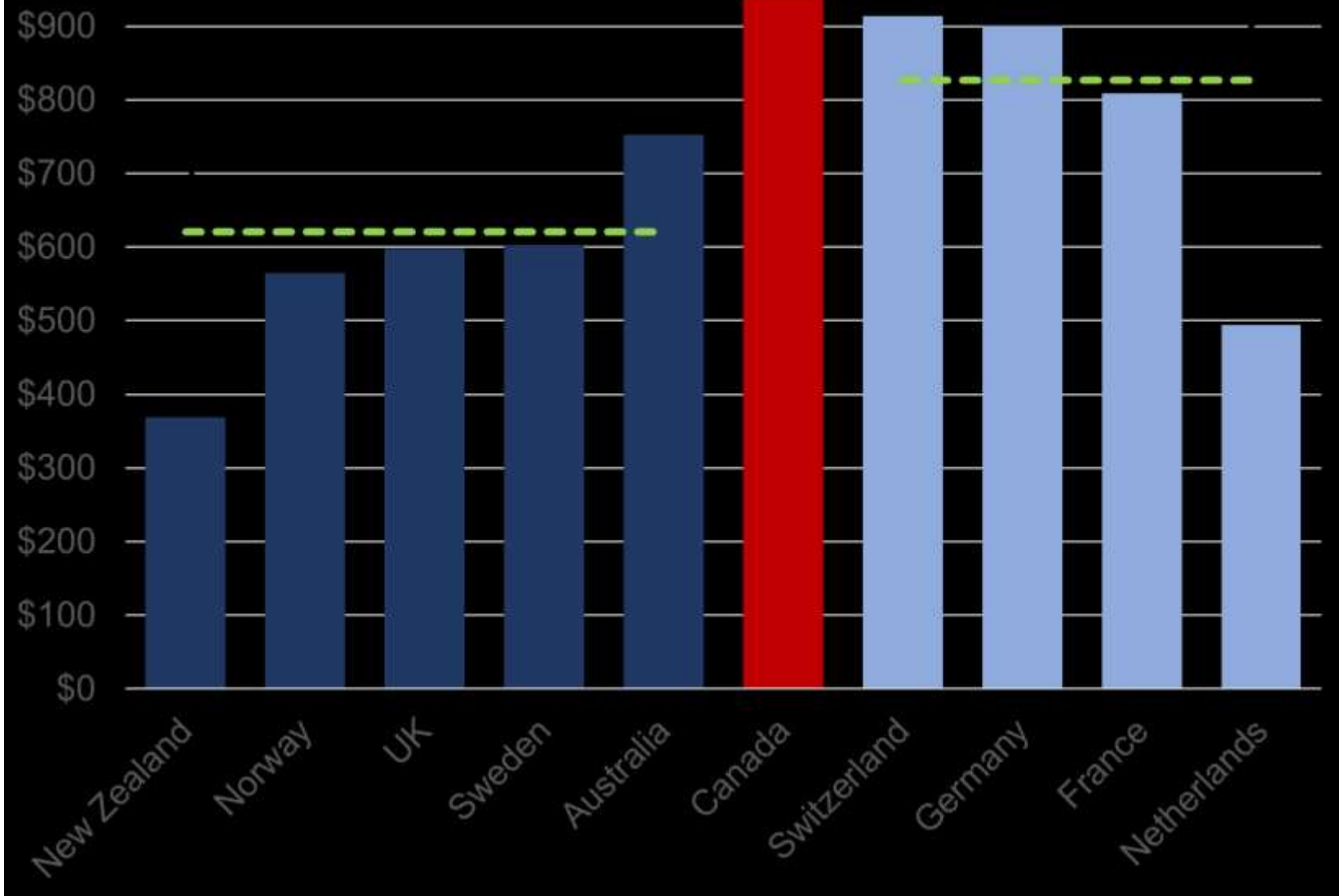


Canadian dollars per capita



**Per capita expenditure on medicines, 1970-2014**

Canadian dollars per capita

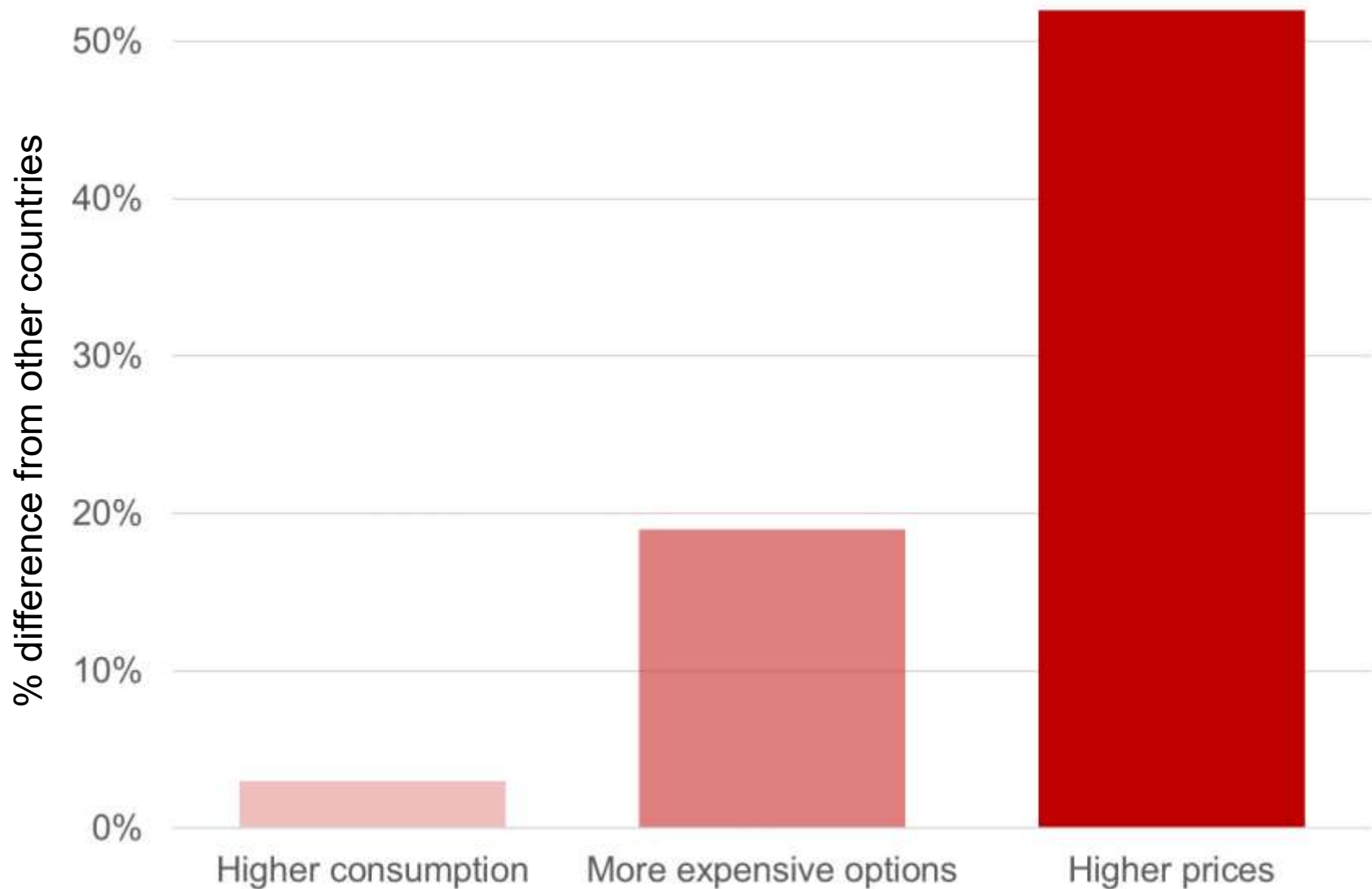


# Per capita expenditure on medicines, 2014

**\$4 billion**  
**\$12 billion**





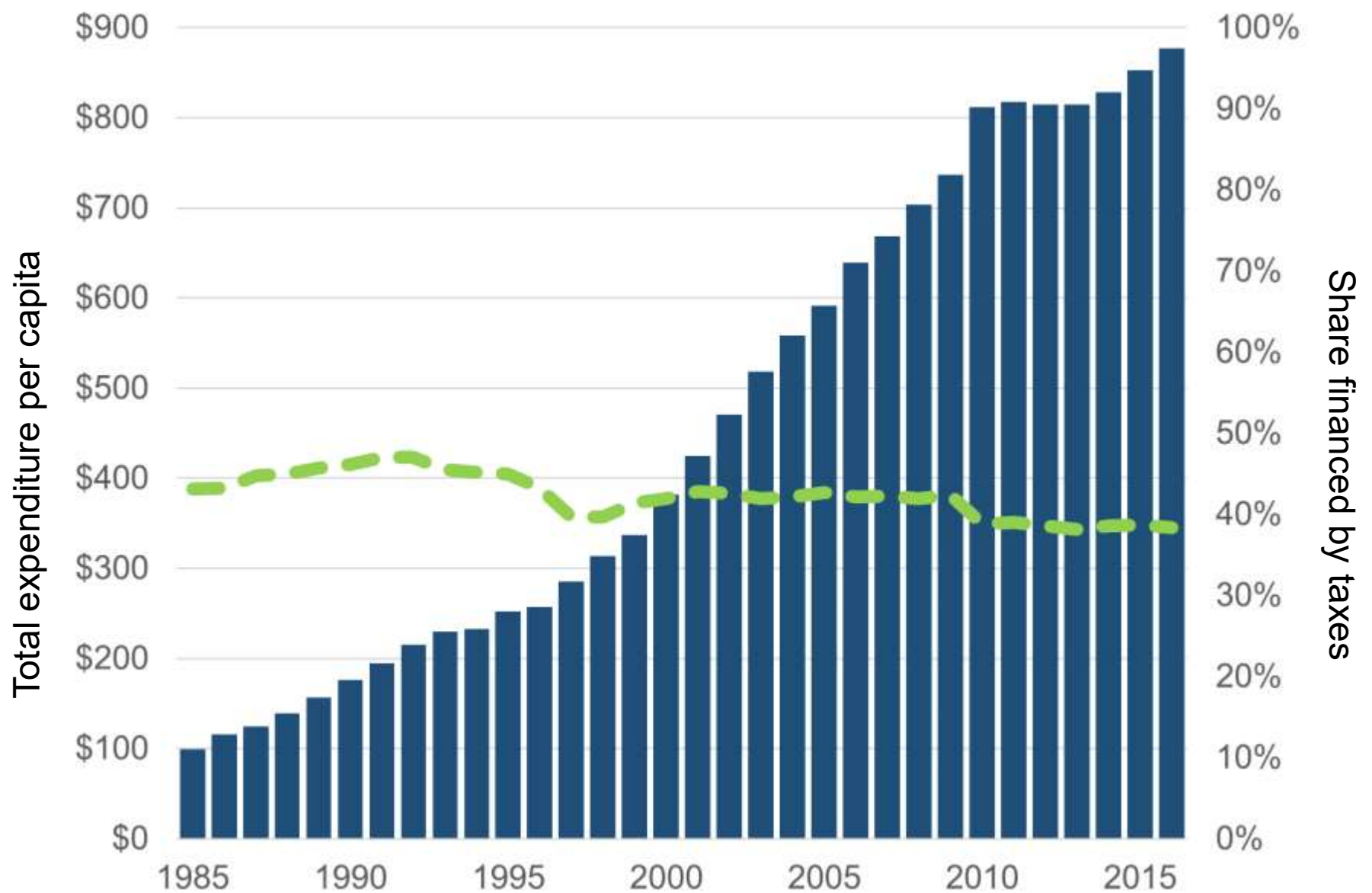


## What drives higher spending in Canada?





WRONG  
WAY



# Per capita prescription drug expenditure, Canada



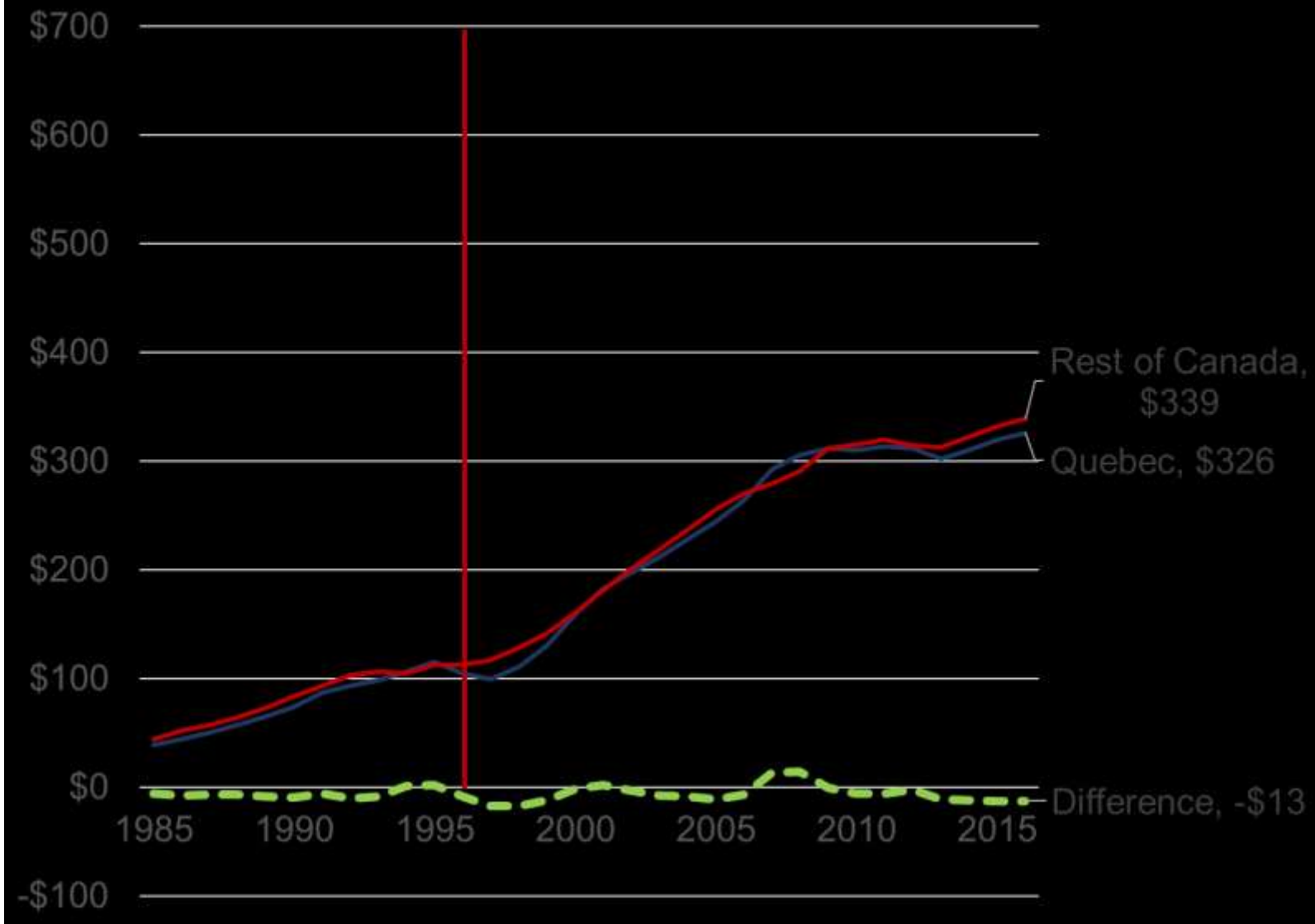


INSURANCE

BILL

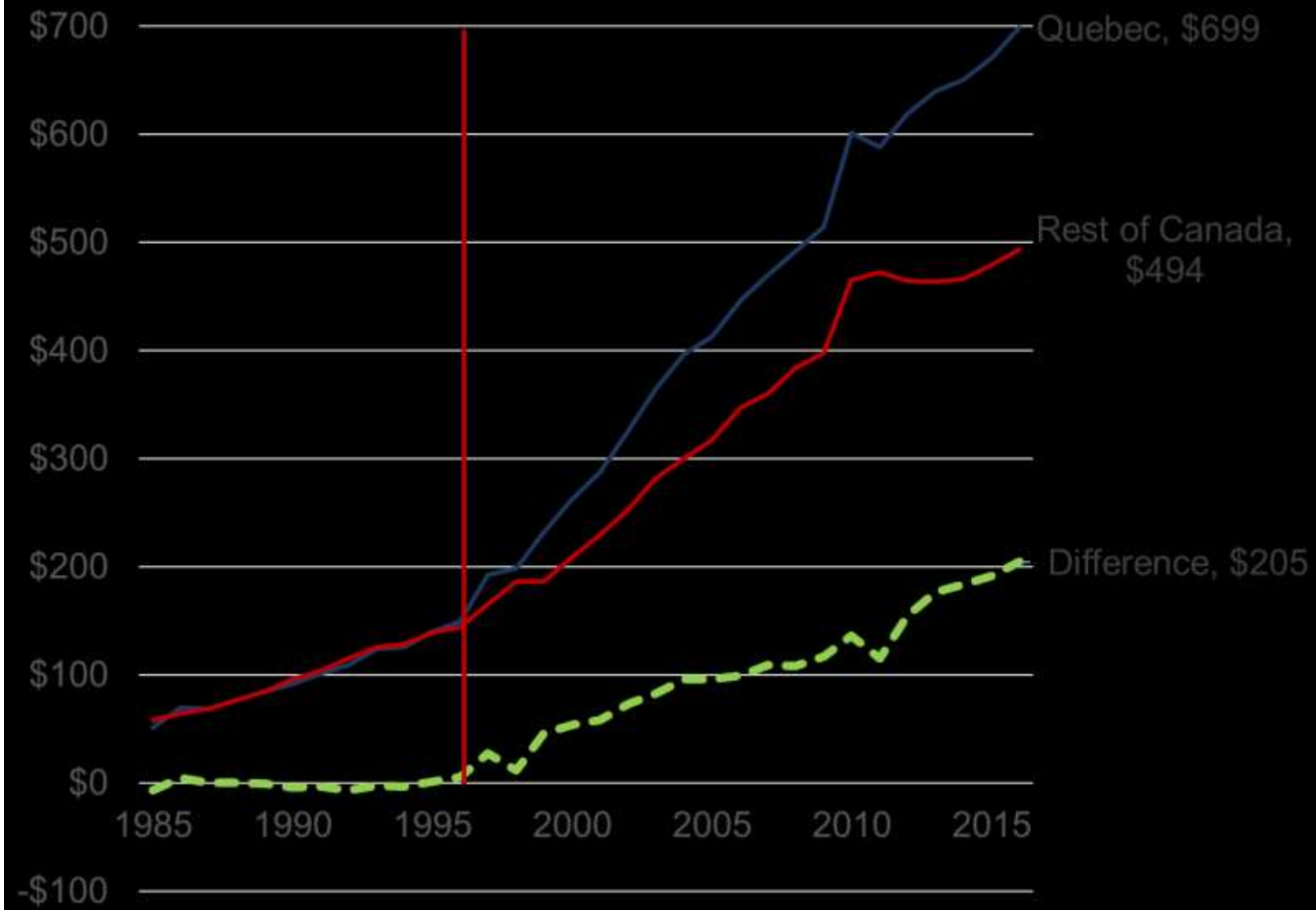
**Is mandatory insurance the right path?**

Dollars per capita



**Tax-financed expenditure on prescriptions,  
Quebec versus the rest of Canada**

Dollars per capita



**Household and employer expenditure on prescriptions,  
Quebec versus the rest of Canada**





**Is catastrophic coverage the right path?**

		Rx costs in 2011							
		\$0	\$18	\$44	\$99	\$215	\$438	\$928	\$3,490
Rx costs in 2007	\$0	57%	9%	11%	9%	7%	4%	2%	1%
	\$14	42%	12%	15%	13%	9%	6%	3%	1%
	\$36	36%	10%	15%	15%	11%	7%	4%	2%
	\$82	26%	9%	14%	18%	15%	11%	6%	2%
	\$182	17%	6%	10%	15%	21%	18%	10%	4%
	\$389	8%	3%	5%	9%	18%	28%	21%	8%
	\$865	4%	1%	2%	3%	7%	20%	41%	23%
	\$2,998	2%	0%	0%	1%	1%	4%	20%	72%



**Every developed country with a universal health care system provides universal coverage of prescription drugs ...**

***... when will Canada?!***





## House of Commons E-Petition e-959

English: <https://petitions.parl.gc.ca/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-959>

Français: <https://petitions.parl.gc.ca/fr/Petition/Details?Petition=e-959>





# Thank You!

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