

Stephen Zuckerman, PhD

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Stephen Zuckerman has studied health economics and health policy for almost 30 years and is a national expert on Medicare and Medicaid physician payment, including how payments affect enrollee access to care and the volume of services they receive. He is currently examining how payment and delivery system reforms can affect the availability of primary care services, and studying the implementation and impact of the Affordable Care Act.

Zuckerman has published extensively on a wide range of other topics, including the determinants of geographic differences in Medicare spending; Medicaid managed care; state coverage expansions for adults; changes in Medicare benefit design that could protect the most vulnerable beneficiaries; hospital rate setting; and the impact of undocumented immigrants on the US health care system. Other issues he has worked on include Medicaid financing arrangements used by states, crowd-out of private coverage by SCHIP, the health care safety net, and survey approaches for measuring insurance coverage. Zuckerman also codirected the development of the Geographic Practice Cost Indices used in the Medicare physician fee schedule.

Before joining Urban, Zuckerman worked at the American Medical Association's Center for Health Policy Research. He received his PhD in economics from Columbia University in 1983.

