****

**Cost of Caring Social Media Content**

**Summary**: The American Hospital Association (AHA) released a new report that details the extraordinary financial pressures continuing to affect hospitals and health systems, as well as access to patient care. The report found expenses across the board saw double digit increases in 2022 compared to pre-pandemic levels, including for workforce, drugs, medical supplies, and equipment, as well as other essential operational services like IT, sanitation, facilities management, and food and nutrition services. These factors led to the most financially challenging year for hospitals and health systems since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, leaving over half of hospitals operating at a financial loss at the end of 2022, and with negative operating margins continuing into 2023. This puts access to vital services at risk.

**Link**: <https://www.aha.org/costsofcaring>

|  |
| --- |
| New AHA report on the Costs of Caring highlights financial challenges mount for hospitals and health systems putting access to care at risk |
| According to the new AHA Cost of Caring report Rising costs for labor, supplies, and drugs, continued workforce shortages, sicker patients and longer hospital stays have increased pressures on America’s hospitals and health systems |
| The 2023 AHA Cost of Caring report finds overall hospital expenses have increased by 17.5% between 2019 and 2022, outpacing Medicare reimbursement, which only increased 7.5%. |
| AHA President and CEO Rick Pollack on the new AHA Cost of Caring report: “When health care providers cannot afford the tools and team they need to care for patients, they will be forced to make hard choices and the people who will be impacted the most are patients.” |
| For the first time in history, the median price of a new drug exceeded $200,000 – more than triple the median annual household income in the U.S. Learn more in the 2023 AHA Cost of Caring report:  |
| Price increases for existing drugs continue to outpace inflation, which helped drive a 19.7% increase in drug expenses per patient between 2019 and 2022. Learn more in the 2023 AHA Cost of Caring report:  |
| Nearly three-fourths of nurses reported increases in insurer-required administrative tasks for medical services over the last five years, with 9 in 10 nurses reporting insurer administrative burden negatively impacted patient clinical outcomes. Learn more in the 2023 Cost of Caring report: |

**Graphics**: <https://www.canva.com/design/DAFgeAhLZOI/pZm22iMc6Hr7PCyZu0GRKg/edit?utm_content=DAFgeAhLZOI&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=sharebutton>

**AHA Social Media Handles:**

@ahahospitals (Twitter and Instagram)

American Hospital Association (LinkedIn and Facebook)