### Summary:

Manitoba spends the most per capita on healthcare in Canada of the provinces.

### Observations:

- The Manitoba government spends almost 20% more per capita on health care than the rest of Canada. If per capita spending was at the Canadian average it would spend about $500 million less than it presently does.
- Manitoba spends 12.6% more per capita on health care than Saskatchewan and 17.5% more than Alberta. Although Alberta’s population is younger on average, no demographic disparity explains the spread between health-care spending in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.
- The average annual increase in government health-care spending in Canada is 7.5% a year over the last 25 years, in constant dollars.
- After governments hit the debt wall in the early 1990s, the rate of increase tapered off considerably. For the years 1992-1997, the average annual increase was only 0.9%. Expansion of federal transfer payments in subsequent years have returned spending patterns to near average levels, and new increases only recently announced confirm a return to large annual increases in spending on health care.
- Data on the current state of hospital crowding, waiting lists, delays and denials of medical procedures do not yet indicate a significant increase in health-care outcomes, despite accelerating spending levels.

### Related Reading:


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