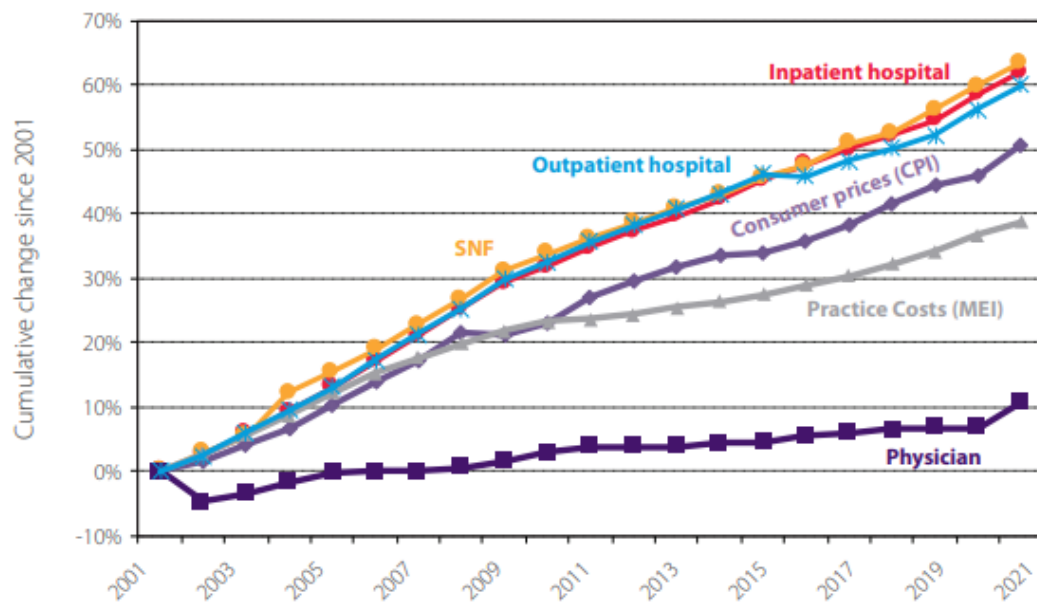


#PMRAdvocates - Physician Payment Reform

In 2023, physicians are facing an almost 9% reduction to the Medicare conversion factor. The proposed cut in 2022 was 10% and in 2021, it was 11%. At this point, these looming cuts are expected annually and your Academy partners with other medical specialties to lobby Congress for relief. While Congress often acts to reduce the impact, it is rare that physicians ever seen a year-to-year increase in their Medicare payments. In fact, physicians have experienced such minimal increases to payment in the last 20 years, that reimbursements have not kept up with practice costs or inflation. According to an AMA analysis of Medicare Trustees data, **physician payment has been reduced by 20% over the last 20 years when adjusted for inflation.** This is inconsistent with facility payments, which have increased year to year, in keeping with inflation and practice costs, due to statutorily required fee schedule increases. Similar updates to physician payment are critically needed.



Source: American Medical Association (Federal Register, Medicare Trustees' Reports and US Bureau of Labor and Statistics)

Your Academy Takes Action

- ✔ We are calling on Congress to address numerous problems in the Medicare physician payment system.
- ✔ We are partnering with the American Medical Association and other specialties across the House of Medicine to make a unified appeal for reform.
- ✔ At a minimum, we are calling for positive annual updates to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule.
- ✔ Annually, we are continuing to advocate against the cuts proposed under the current payment system.

Want to learn more? Visit the Reimbursement Advocacy page of the Academy website (www.aapmr.org/advocacy) or contact us at healthpolicy@aapmr.org.