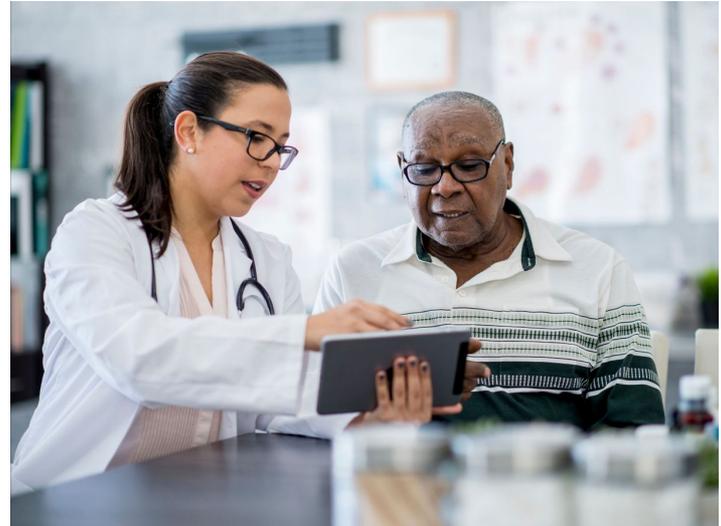


MEDICARE FOR ALL

Behind the Slogan

"Medicare for All" is gaining political support -- but are politicians who promote it **talking about the same thing?**



VOTING RIGHTS

Crime and Punishment

Should convicted felons lose their right to vote? **Answers vary** from state to state.

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Climate Change

In November, the federal government released a report on the impact of climate change. **Take the quiz** to test your knowledge about our changing environment.



WORTH READING

News and Opinion Pieces We Found Interesting

Our disclaimer: We don't endorse every idea and opinion in the articles below, but that's the point. Finding common ground begins with listening to other points of view.

- **Health Care -- Working five jobs to pay medical bills:** An Arizona couple earns \$100,000 a year and has health insurance, but they still use a spreadsheet to track what they owe doctors and hospitals, and spend their lunch hours renegotiating medical debts -- via [NPR](#).
- **Health Care -- Reducing the cost of prescription drugs:** Our price for brand drugs are among the highest for wealthy nations. Three health policy experts consider options to reduce the price of drugs, and the potential consequences of each option -- via [The New York Times](#).
- **Education -- Reasons to worry about kids and phones:** New research funded by the National Institutes of Health found lower skills among kids using screens more than two hours per day, and brain changes among those using screens more than seven hours -- via [The Conversation](#).
- **Poverty -- Rural America's economy is in decline:** Trying to fix it by turning small towns into tech hubs and industrial centers isn't working -- via [The New York Times](#).
- **Income Inequality -- What cities can do:** Many cities are focused on reducing income inequality. Others are focused on ways to increase opportunity by, for example, changing zoning rules that limit the supply and raise the prices for housing -- via [Forbes](#).
- **Federal Debt -- About to take off:** Interest payments on U.S. government debt are about to skyrocket, with negative impacts on the economy -- via [CBS News](#).
- **Foreign Policy -- China, America, and semiconductors:** Covering everything from artificial intelligence to network equipment, the trade conflict that matters most between America and China is an ongoing fight over technology -- via [The Economist](#).
- **Defense -- Impact of James Mattis' resignation:** James Mattis became the first Secretary of Defense to resign as an act of protest, against what he sees as a

contradiction between the president's instincts and the strategic interests of the nation -- via [The Economist](#) and [PBS](#).

- **Immigration -- Seeking Asylum:** Beneath the shouting, drama, and human tragedy of people seeking asylum in the U.S. lie two basic questions. To whom should America give asylum? And how can we grant it to them, while humanely and responsibly denying it to others? -- via [Time](#).
- **Immigration -- Another child death in a detention center:** A second immigrant child has died this month in federal detention. U.S. Customs and Border Protection will now conduct medical checks on every child in its custody -- via [The Boston Globe](#).
- **Gun Safety -- 2018 in gun violence and politics:** A USA Today timeline tracks political responses -- and more mass shootings -- in the months following the February 14th killings at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida -- via [USA Today](#).
- **Making Government Work -- What happens during a partial shutdown, explained:** 800,000 federal employees working without pay or not working at all; delays in transportation, loan processing, and other government services; closings of national parks and museums, and more -- via [Axios](#).
- **Making Government Work -- Software programs masquerading as humans:** Chatbots are already affecting our political discussions. How can human beings join a debate where every comment is ripped to shreds in seconds by a thousand digital adversaries? -- via [The New York Times](#).
- **Citizenship -- Truth in advertising:** Members of Congress, and even some Silicon Valley figures, have started discussing the need for oversight of digital advertising. But changes need not wait for regulation. Social media companies can start making needed changes now -- via [The Conversation](#).



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