

The “FAST” Act By the Numbers

14	Number of leading organizations, including AARP and the Center for American Progress who support the FAST Act ¹
\$34.3 Billion	Amount lost to improper payments by Medicare fee-for-service (Part A & Part B) in 2010 ²
33	Number of senators, both Democrats and Republicans, who have co-sponsored the FAST Act ³
10.5%	Percent of all payments made improperly by Medicare fee-for-service (Part A & Part B) in 2010 ⁴
16,548	Estimated number of dead physicians whose Medicare ID numbers were used to file claims from 2000-2007 ⁵
38%	Percent of Medicare’s share of all government revenue spent improperly ⁶
2,058	Number of new civil and criminal health care fraud investigations opened by the Department of Justice in FY2010 ⁷
\$22.5 Billion	Amount lost to improper payments by Medicaid in 2010 ⁸
22	Number of years in a row Medicare has appeared on the GAO’s list of “high risk for fraud” programs ⁹
\$1.55	Amount saved for every \$1 invested in combating fraud, according to HHS ¹⁰
9.4%	Percent of all payments made improperly by Medicaid in 2010 ¹¹
478,500	Number of claims made using the Medicare ID numbers of dead physicians from 2000-2007 ¹²

¹ “FAST Act Facts: Dr. Coburn’s Anti-Fraud Medicare & Medicaid Bill,” Sen. Tom Coburn, M.D., September 13, 2011; <http://coburn.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2011/9/dr-coburn-s-anti-fraud-medicare-medicare-bill-the-fast-act>

² “Medicare Fee-for-Service - 2010,” PaymentAccuracy.gov. Accessed October 26, 2011; <http://paymentaccuracy.gov/programs/medicare-fee-for-service>

³ S. 1251: Medicare and Medicaid FAST Act, GovTrack.us. Accessed October 26, 2011; <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=s112-1251>

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ “Report Links Dead Doctors to Payments by Medicare,” The New York Times. July 9, 2008; <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/07/09/washington/09fraud.html>

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ “Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control Program Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2010,” Department of Health and Human Services & Department of Justice. January 2011; <http://oig.hhs.gov/publications/docs/hcfac/hcfacreport2010.pdf>

⁸ “Medicaid – 2010,” PaymentAccuracy.gov. Accessed October 26, 2011; <http://paymentaccuracy.gov/programs/medicaid>

⁹ “Entitlement Bandits,” Michael F. Cannon. National Review Online. July 4, 2011; <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/271006/entitlement-bandits-michael-f-cannon>

¹⁰ “Fiscal Year 2010 Budget in Brief,” Department of Health and Human Services. Accessed October 26, 2011; <http://dhhs.gov/asfr/ob/docbudget/2010budgetinbrief.html>

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.