Healthcare Questions (and some answers)

**How much do we spend annually on health insurance in America?**  
  
The National Health Expenditure Accounts (NHEA) are the official estimates of total health care spending in the United States. Dating back to 1960, the NHEA measures annual U.S. expenditures for health care goods and services, public health activities, government administration, the net cost of health insurance, and investment related to health care. The data are presented by type of service, sources of funding, and by type of sponsor.

U.S. health care spending accelerated slightly in 2010, increasing 3.9 percent compared to growth of 3.8 percent in 2009. Total health expenditures reached $2.6 trillion, which translates to $8,402 per person or 17.9 percent of the nation's Gross Domestic Product, the same share as in 2009.

<http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Statistics-Trends-and-Reports/NationalHealthExpendData/NationalHealthAccountsHistorical.html>

**By state? How is this calculated?**

**Health Expenditures by State of Residence, 1991-2009**

Health Accounts by State of residence present aggregate and per capita estimates of health care spending by type of establishment delivering care (hospitals, physicians and clinics, nursing homes, etc.) and for medical products (prescription drugs, over-the-counter medicines and sundries and durable medical products such as eyeglasses and hearing aids) purchased in retail outlets. Source of funding aggregate and per enrollee estimates by state are also provided for Medicare and Medicaid..

<http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Research/MMRR/Downloads/MMRR2011_001_04_A03-.pdf>  
  
<http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Statistics-Trends-and-Reports/NationalHealthExpendData/NationalHealthAccountsStateHealthAccountsResidence.html>

Parent page (links to much useful stuff and things) <http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Statistics-Trends-and-Reports/NationalHealthExpendData/index.html?redirect=/NationalHealthExpendData/>

How does medicare set it’s prices for procedures?

The article below somewhat explains this. It explains how they bill for visits though not per procedure.   
<http://economix.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/11/26/how-medicare-sets-hospital-prices-a-primer/>