



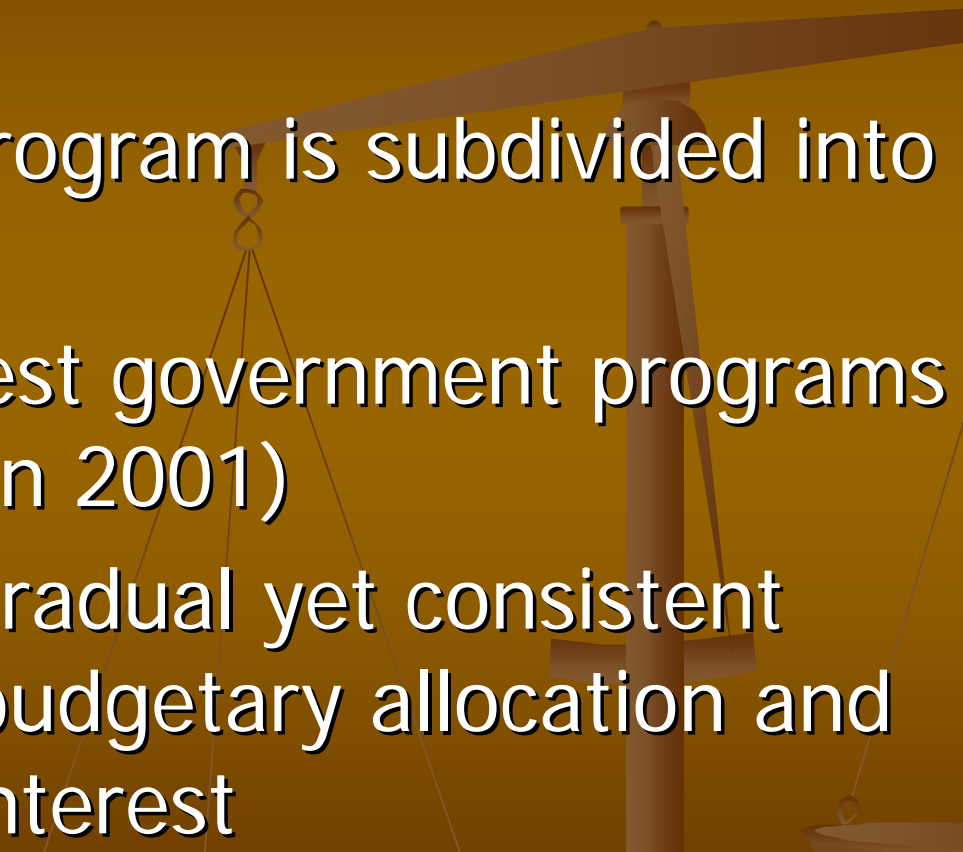
Medicare's Rising Budget:

A study of Medicare's Rising Budgetary
Allotment

By Yair Inspektor

PL SC 497

Background

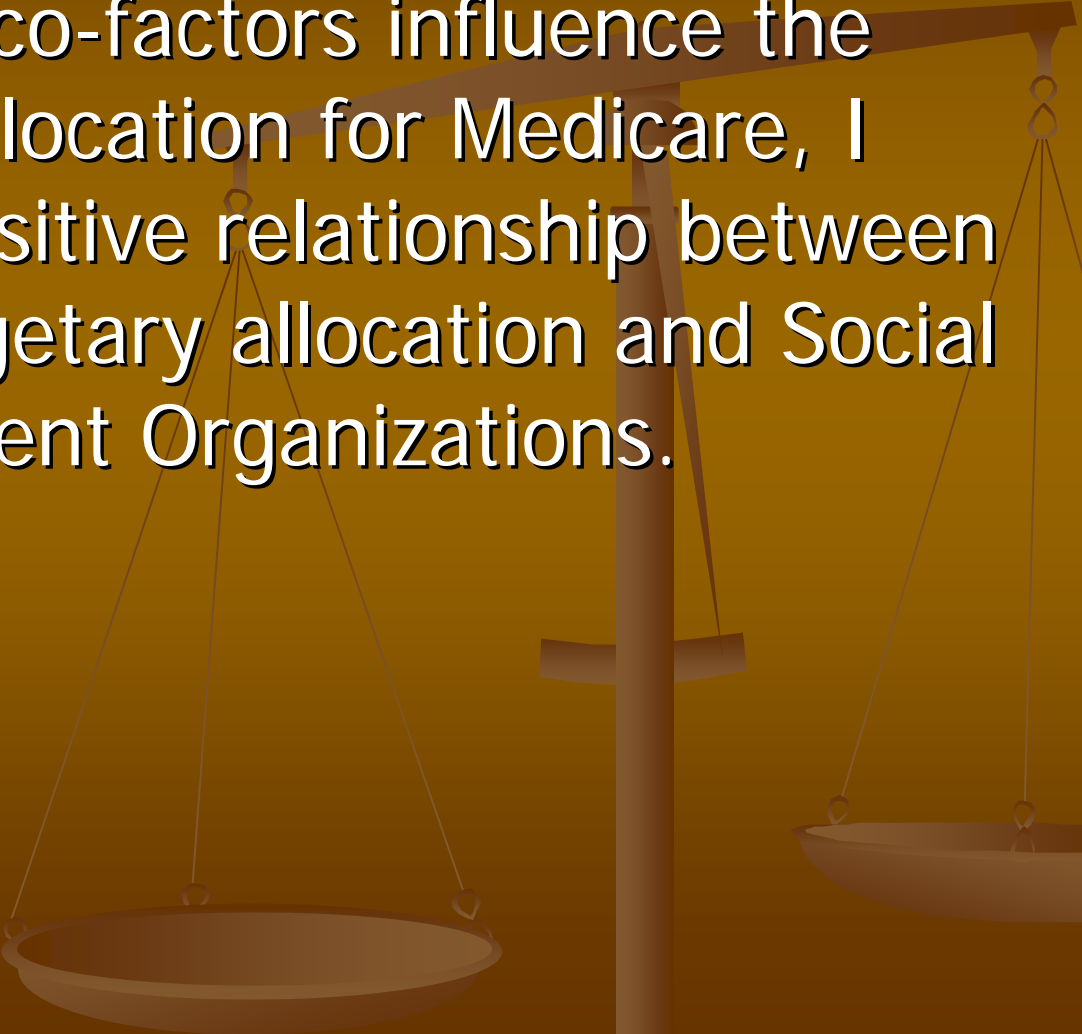
- Created in 1965
 - The Medicare program is subdivided into two parts.
 - One of the largest government programs (\$245,269,000 in 2001)
 - experienced a gradual yet consistent ascent in both budgetary allocation and organizational interest
- 

Spur of Current interest

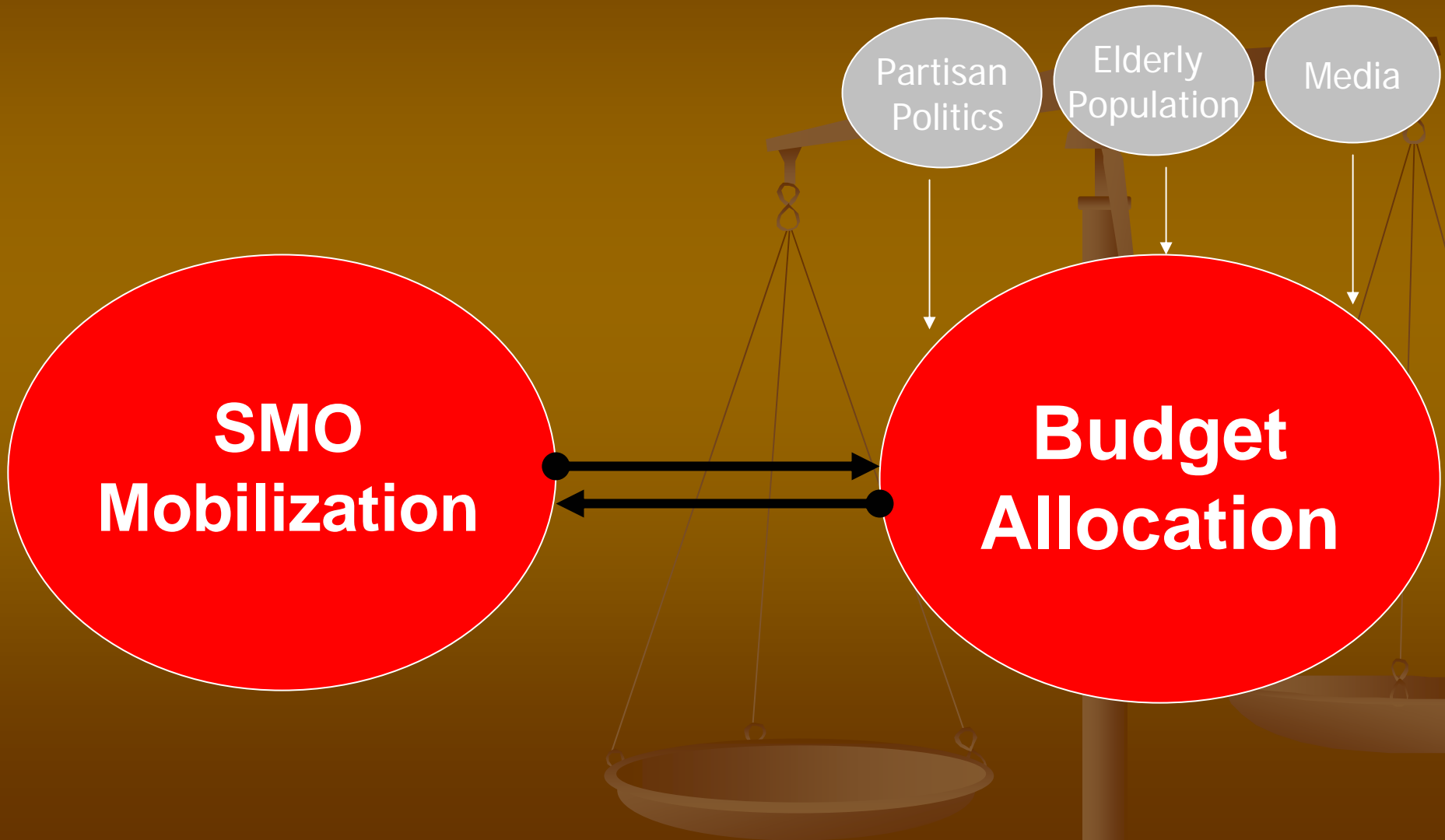
- Elderly population is at a rise, at a current standing of 34.8 million over 65 and projected to 39.7 by 2010, the expense on healthcare has increasingly become a heated debate.
- Various congressmen, SMOs, and most specifically, Bush's \$400 billion Medicare Prescription Drug Modernization Act.

Hypothesis:

While various co-factors influence the budgetary allocation for Medicare, I hypothesize a positive relationship between Medicare's budgetary allocation and Social Movement Organizations.



Dichotomy



CQ Almanac

Prior to 1965

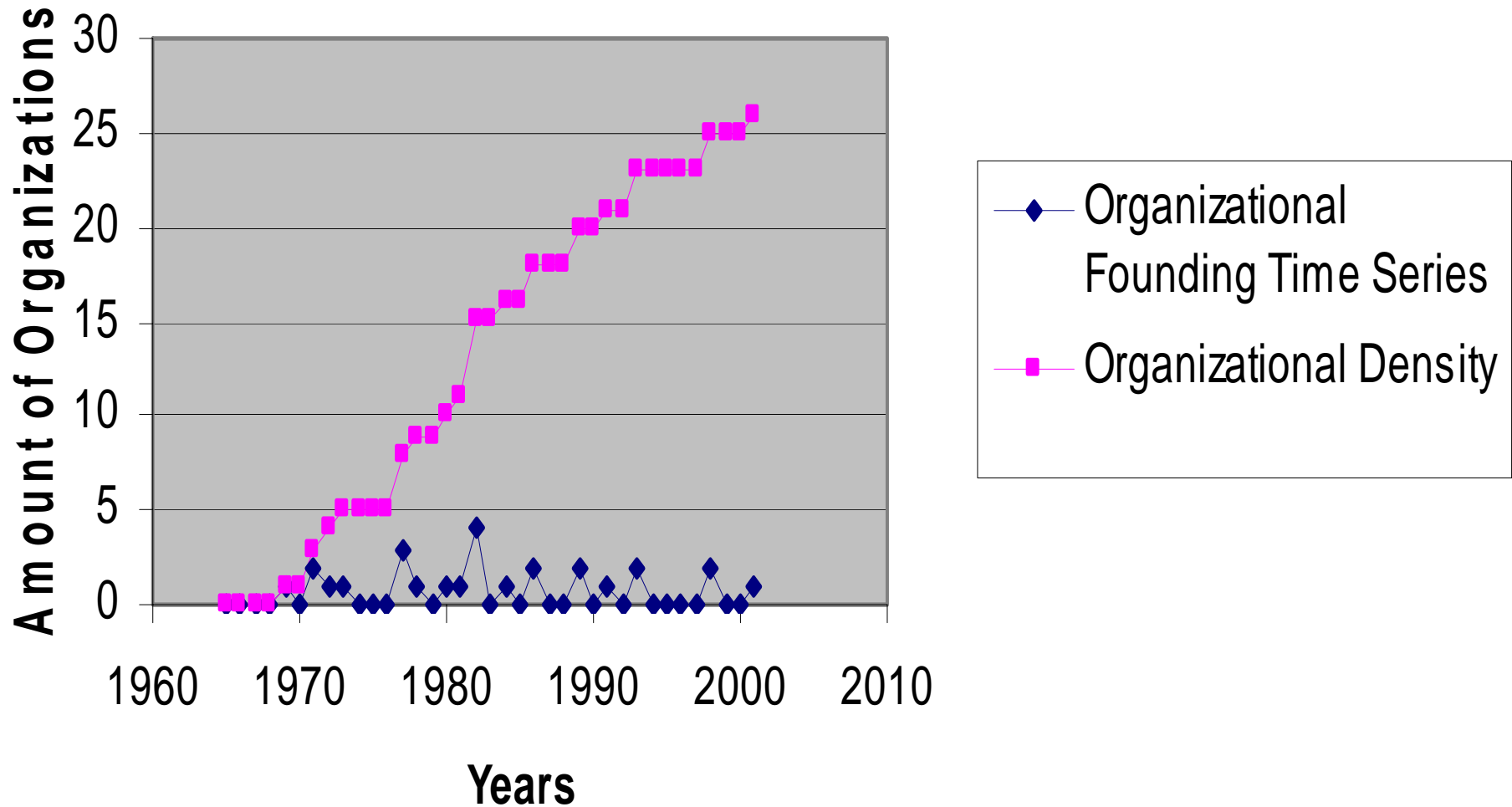
- AMA: Formed American Medical Political Action Committee (AMPAC). "Support Ways and Means Committee who had opposed the social security health care bill in the Past"
- AFL-CIO: Committee of Political Education (COPE) "Support Ways and Means Committee who support the social security health care bill"
- National Council of Senior Citizens AMA Dr. F.J.L. Blasingame: "Nothing more then a lobbying appendage of the democratic national committee and the AFL-CIO"

Post 1965: Medicare Budget Increase Proponents

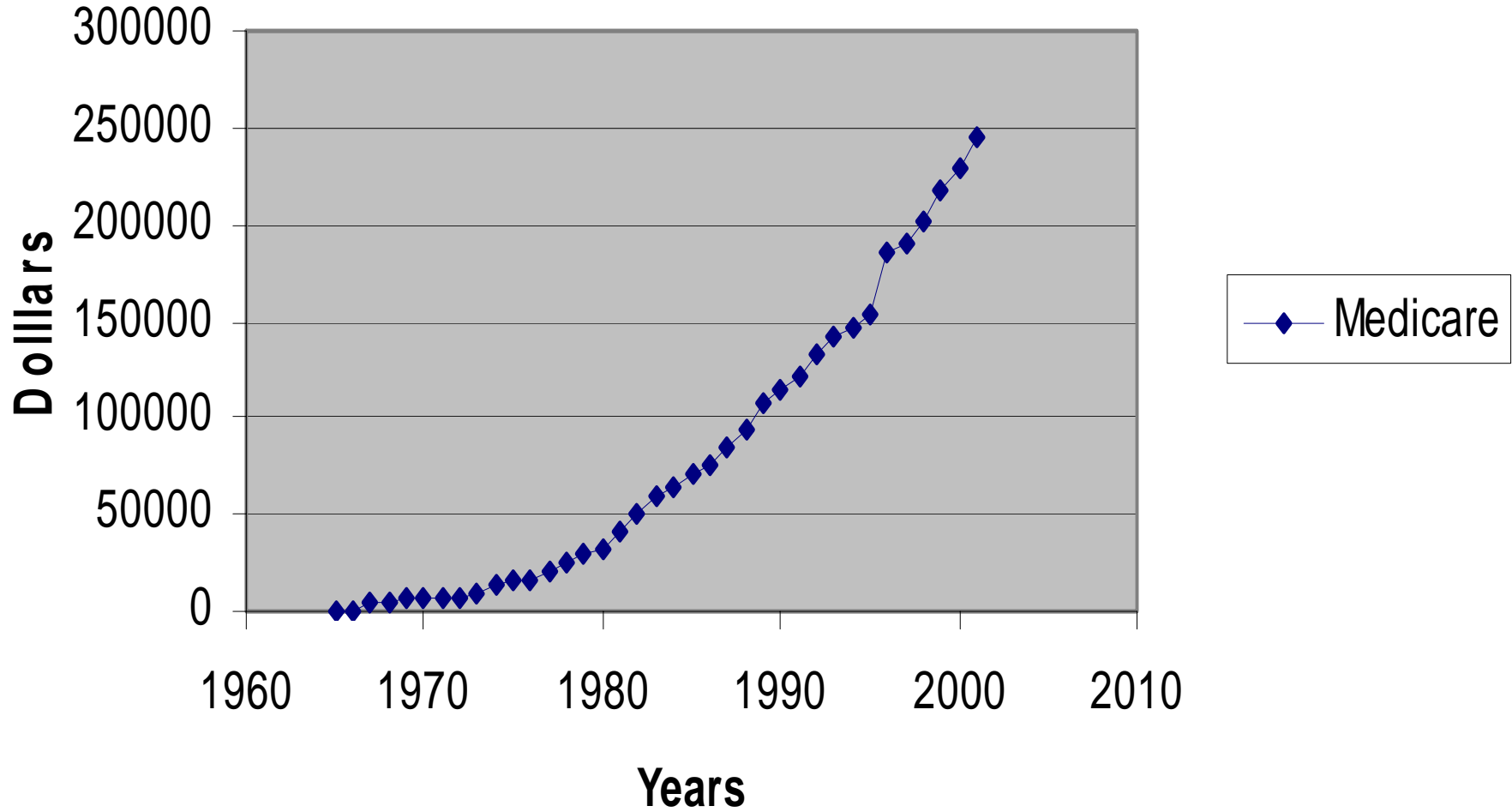
Physicians Forum, The American Association of Social Workers, National Medical Association, American Nurse Association, American Clinical Laboratory Association, American College of Radiation Oncology, American Ambulance Association, American Optometric Association, National Association of Rehabilitation Providers and Agencies Union of American Physicians and Dentists, Section for Metropolitan Hospital, International Chiropractors Association, The American Medical Association, and others (mostly professional SMOs)



Organizational Density/Founding Dates



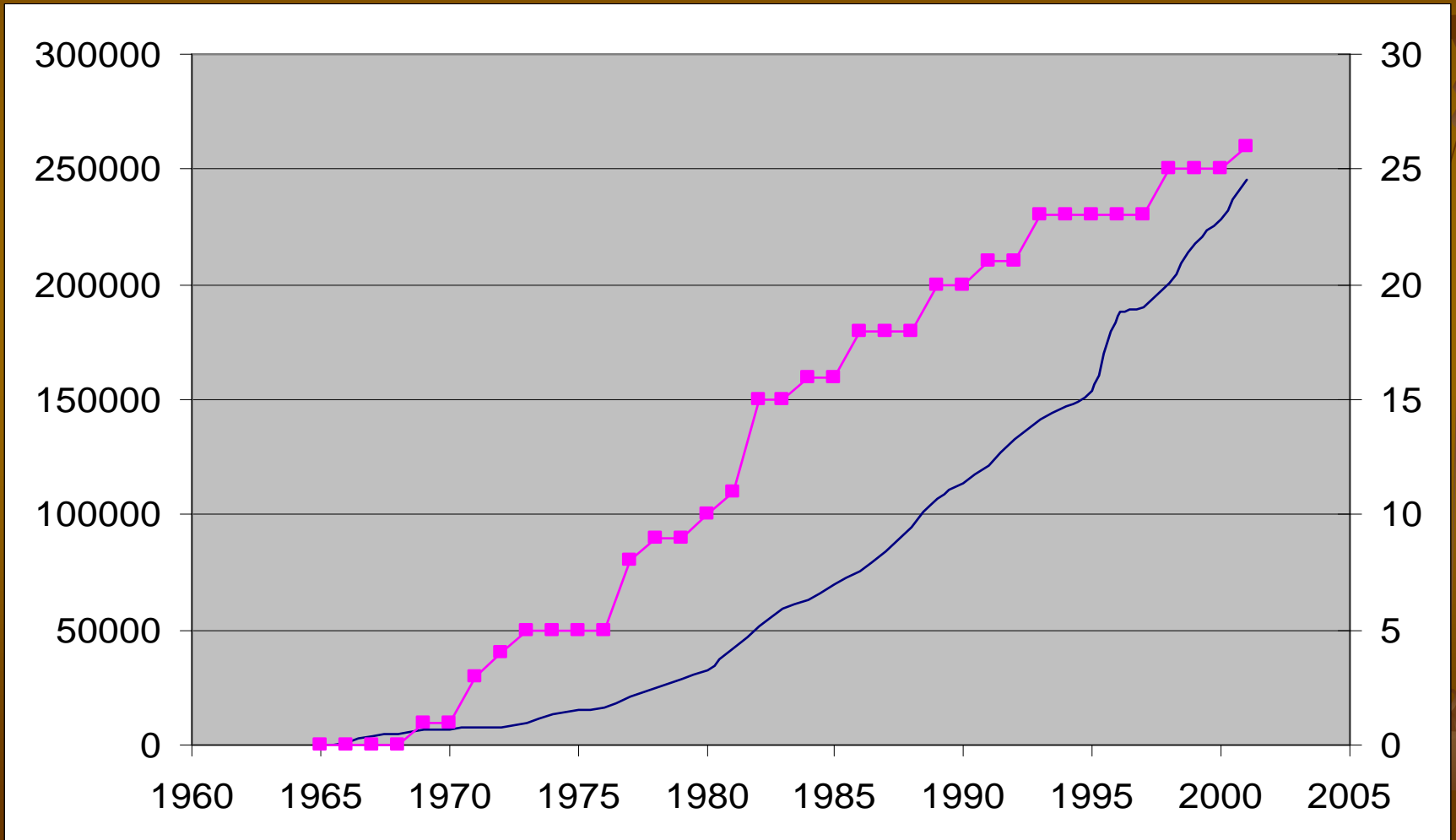
Medicare



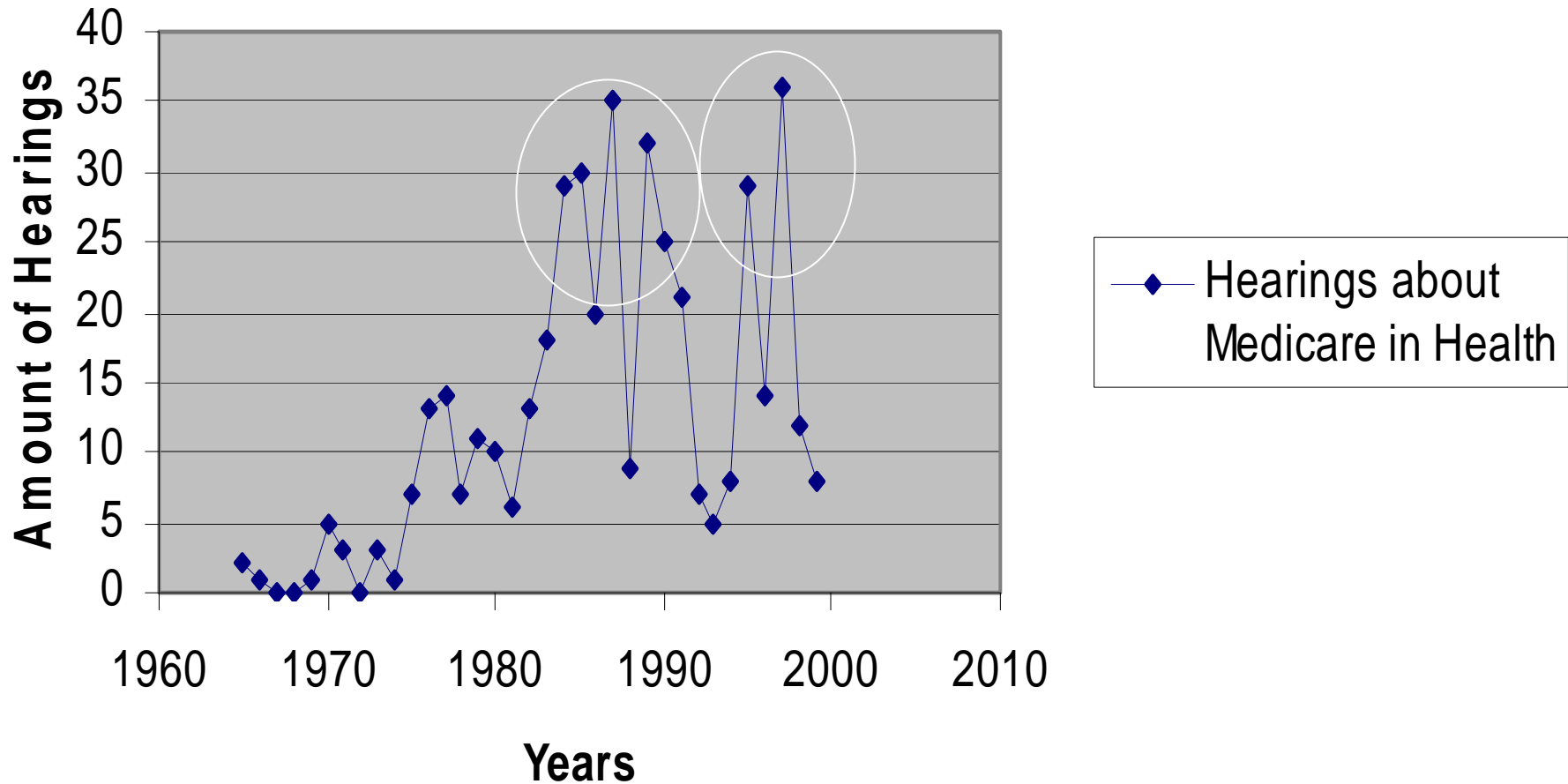
Relationship

Budget

Organizational Density



Hearings about Medicare in Health



Important Dates



1985 The Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA) required hospitals participating in Medicare that operated active emergency rooms to provide appropriate medical screenings and stabilizing treatments.

1987 The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987 (OBRA87) strengthened the protections for residents of nursing homes.

1988 The Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act

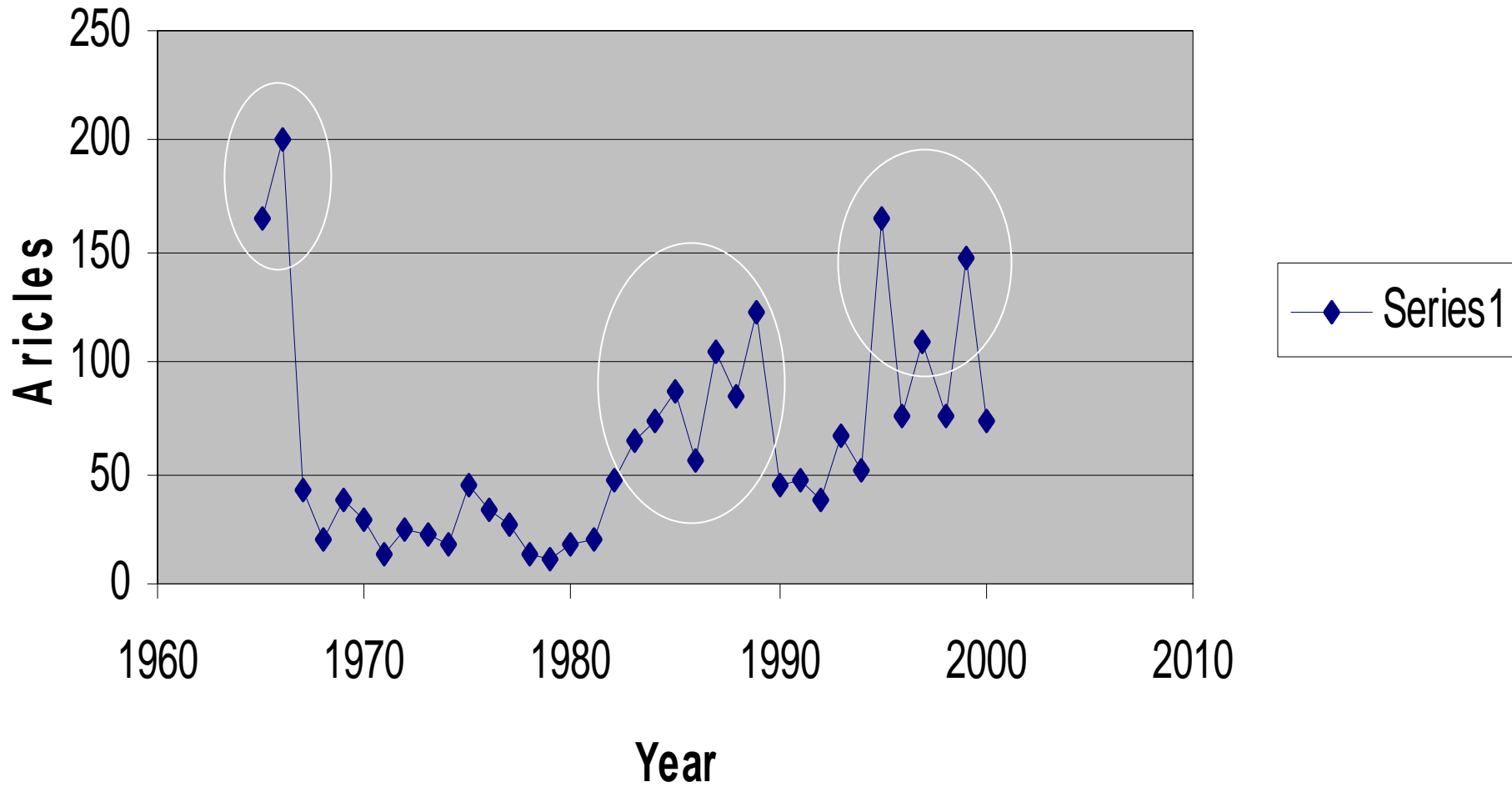
1989 The Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act of 1988 was repealed after higher-income elderly protested new premiums.

1996 The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)

1997 Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (BBA)

1999 The Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvements Act of 1999 (TWWIIA) expanded the availability of Medicare and Medicaid for certain disabled beneficiaries who return to work.

Media attention

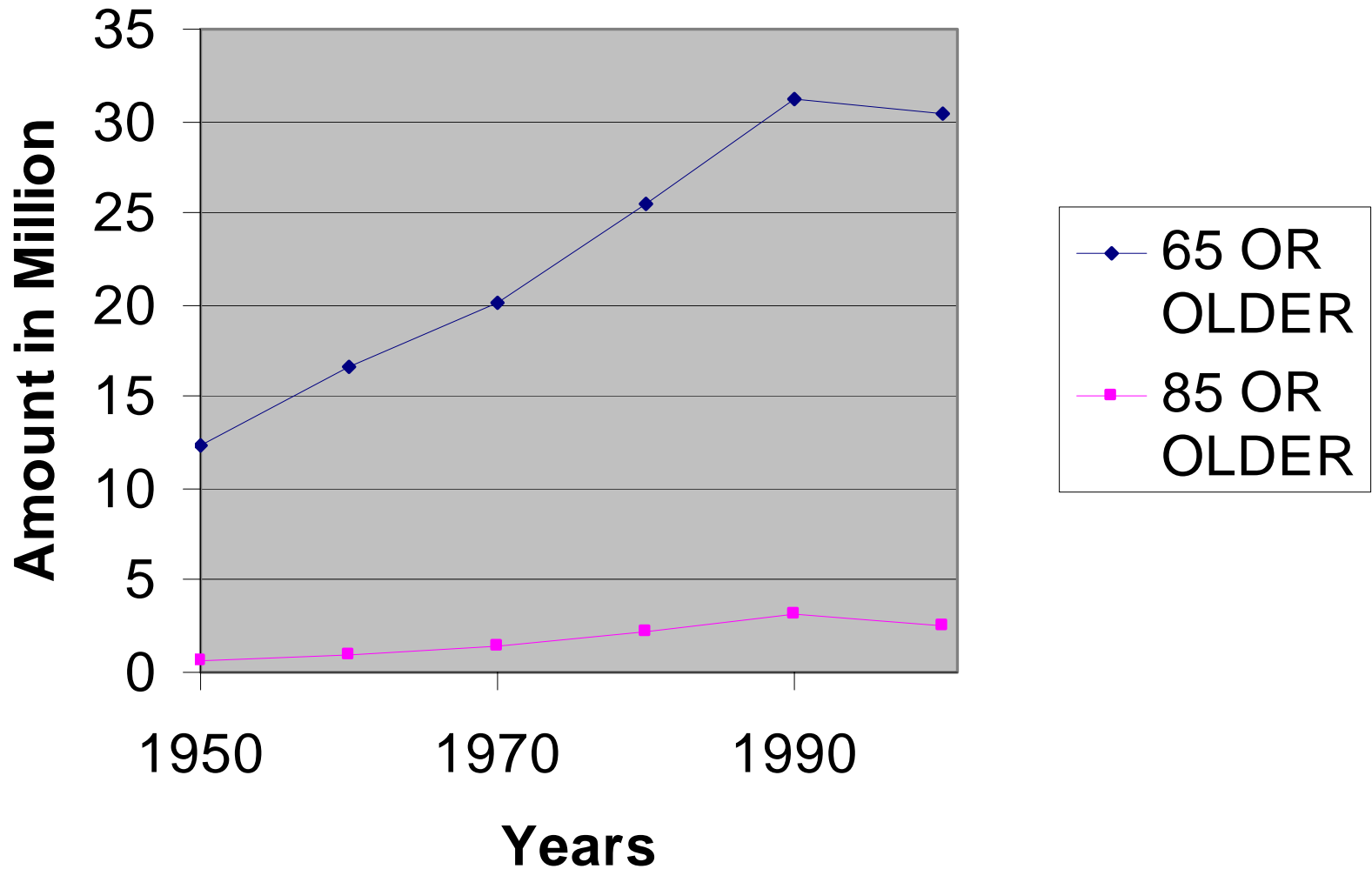


Potential Problems

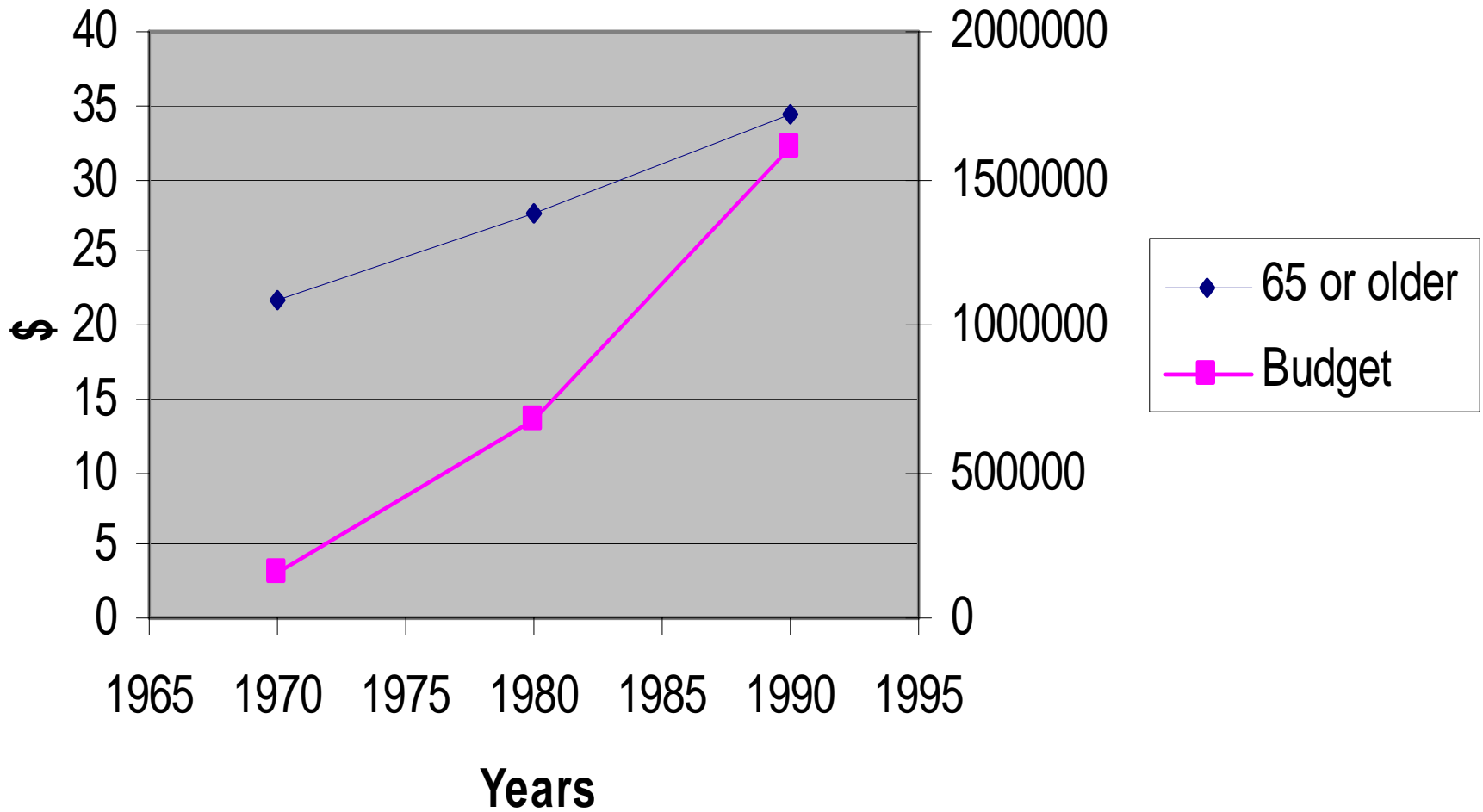
1. Co-factors produce increased
2. Elderly population



Elderly Population



Age and Budget



Derived Conclusions



- Congressional hearings as well as media attention do not seem to be direct factors in budgetary increase.
- While other variables (specifically the rise in elderly population) demonstrate some relationship with the increasing Medicare Budget, Organizational density seems to have the strongest correlation.

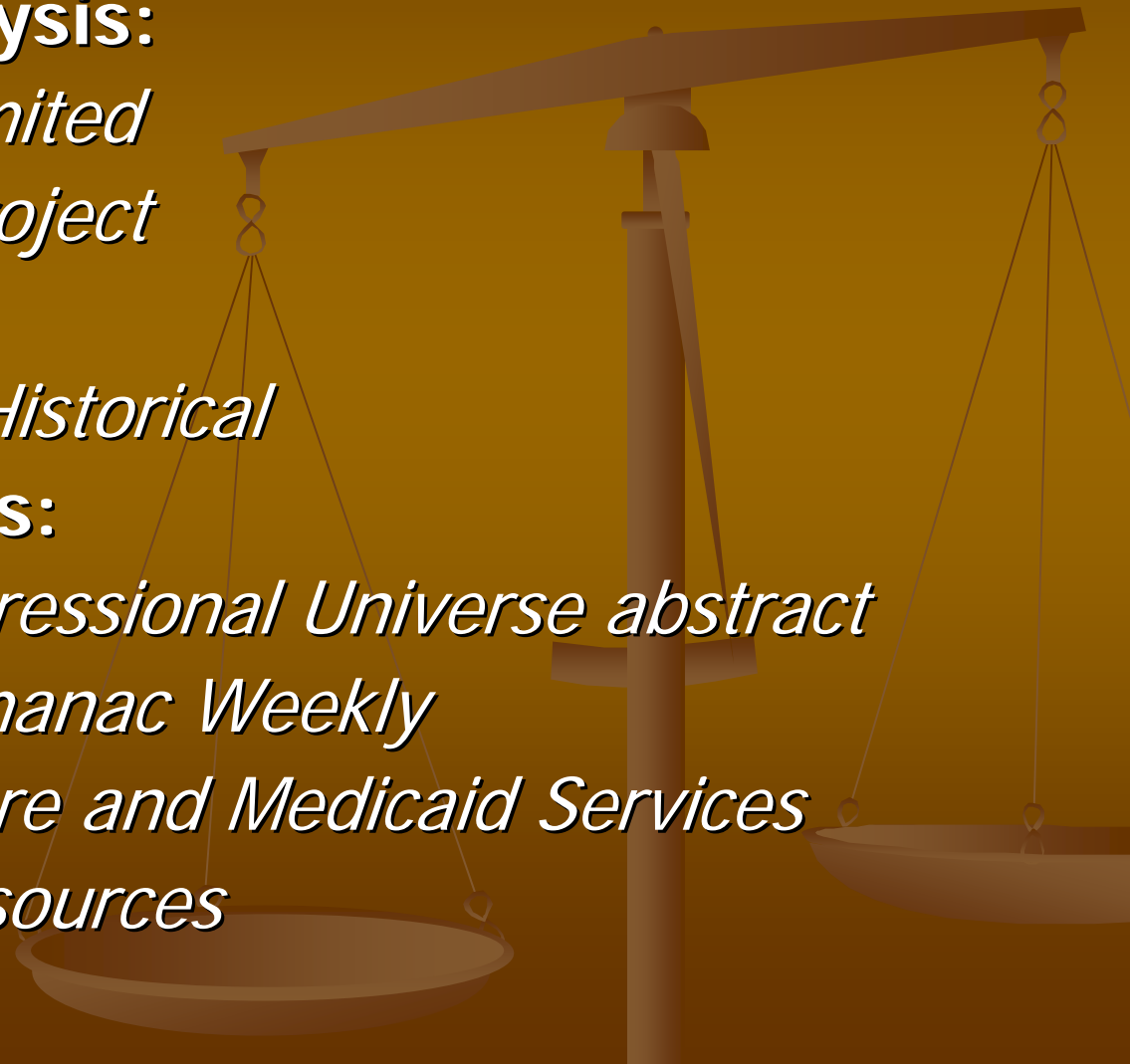
Research Methods & Data

Quantitative Analysis:

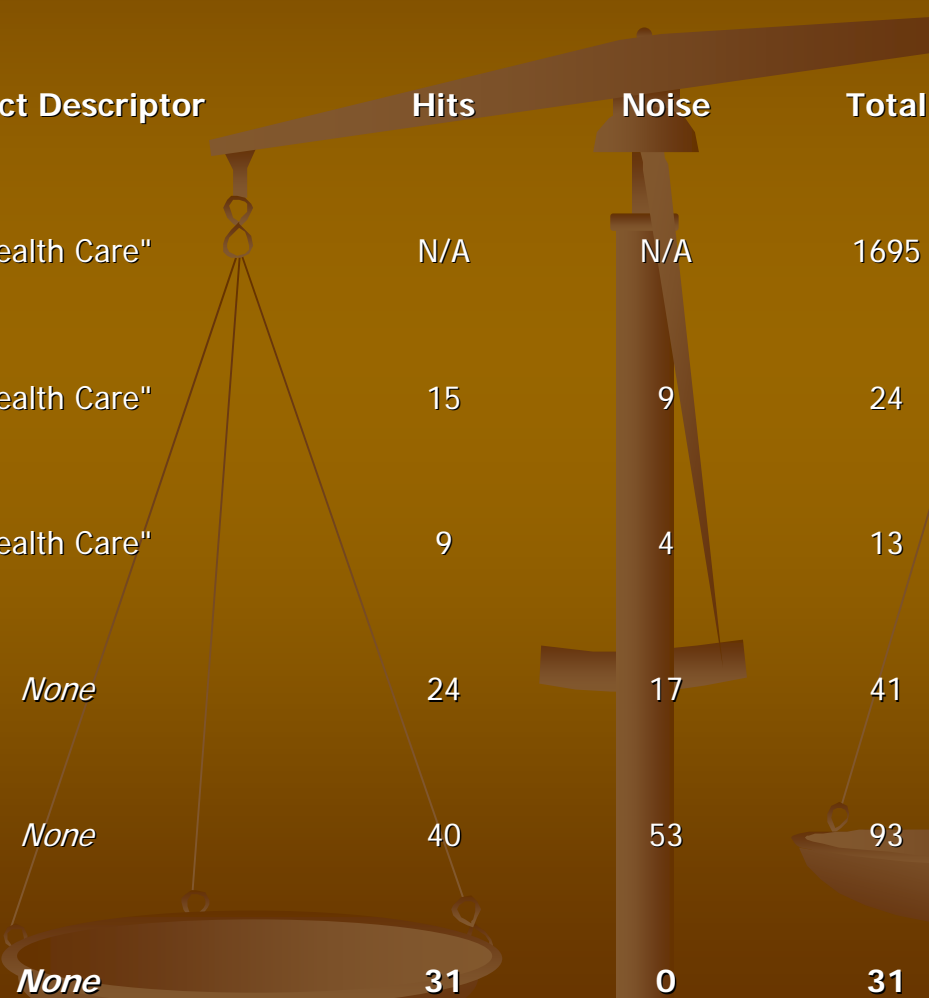
- *Associations Unlimited*
- *Policy Agendas Project*
- *Census Bureau*
- *New York Times Historical*

Analytical Analysis:

- *Lexis Nexis Congressional Universe abstract*
- *Congressional Almanac Weekly*
- *Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services*
- *Other secondary sources*



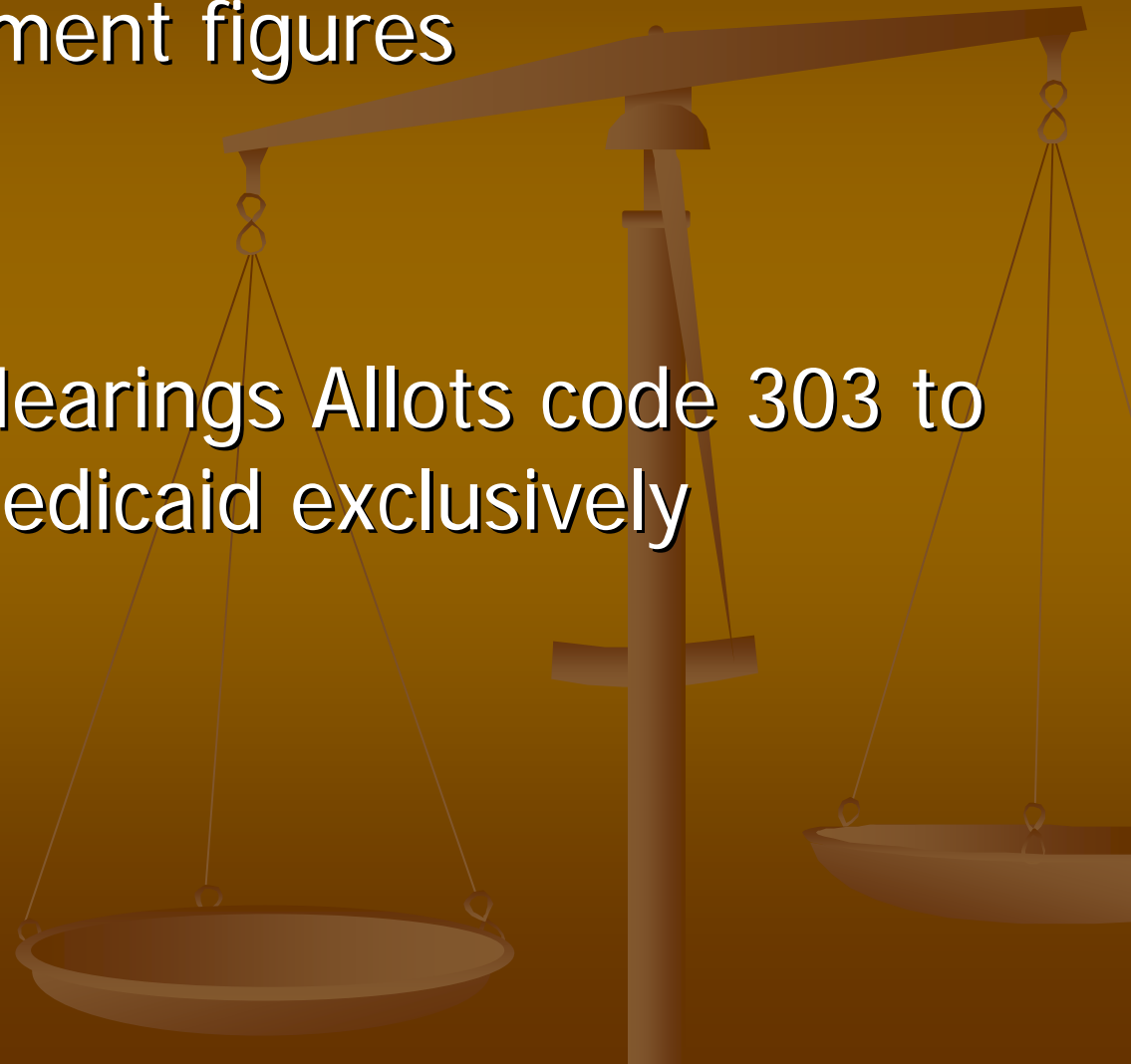
Associations Unlimited



Free Text	Subject Descriptor	Hits	Noise	Total
<i>None</i>	"Health Care"	N/A	N/A	1695
Elderly	"Health Care"	15	9	24
Elderly Health	"Health Care"	9	4	13
Elderly Health	<i>None</i>	24	17	41
Social Security	<i>None</i>	40	53	93
Medicare	<i>None</i>	31	0	31

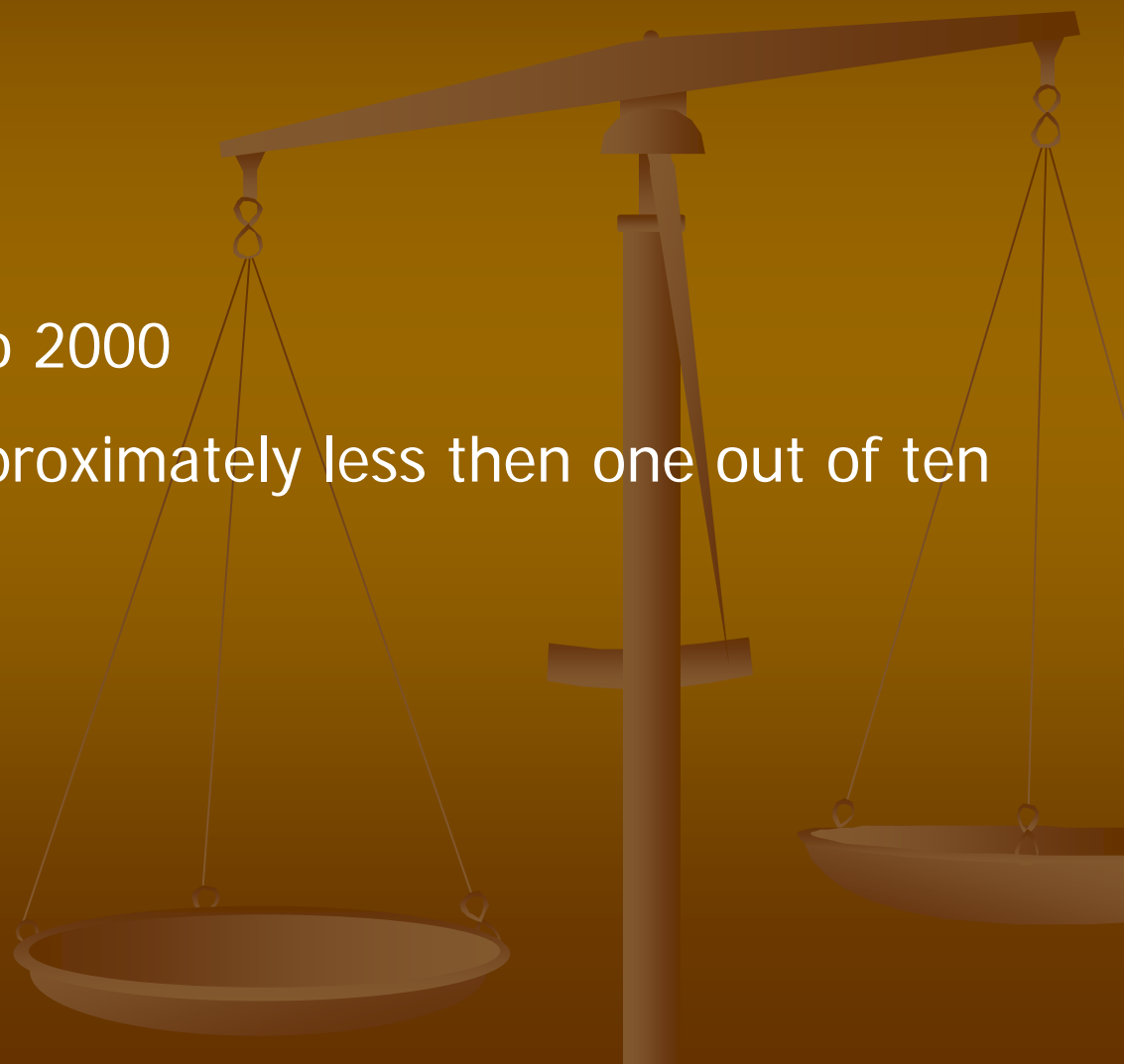
Policy Agendas Project

- Budgetary Allotment figures
- Congressional Hearings Allots code 303 to Medicare and Medicaid exclusively



New York Times Historical

- Citation and Abstract
- Any Article Type
- By Year from 1965 to 2000
- 2273 Articles hit. Approximately less than one out of ten was noise



CQ Almanac

1950-1965

1983, 1987, 1989, 1997, 1998



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Oberlander, Jonathan. *The Political Life of Medicare*. Chicago, Illinois. The University of Chicago Press. 2003

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