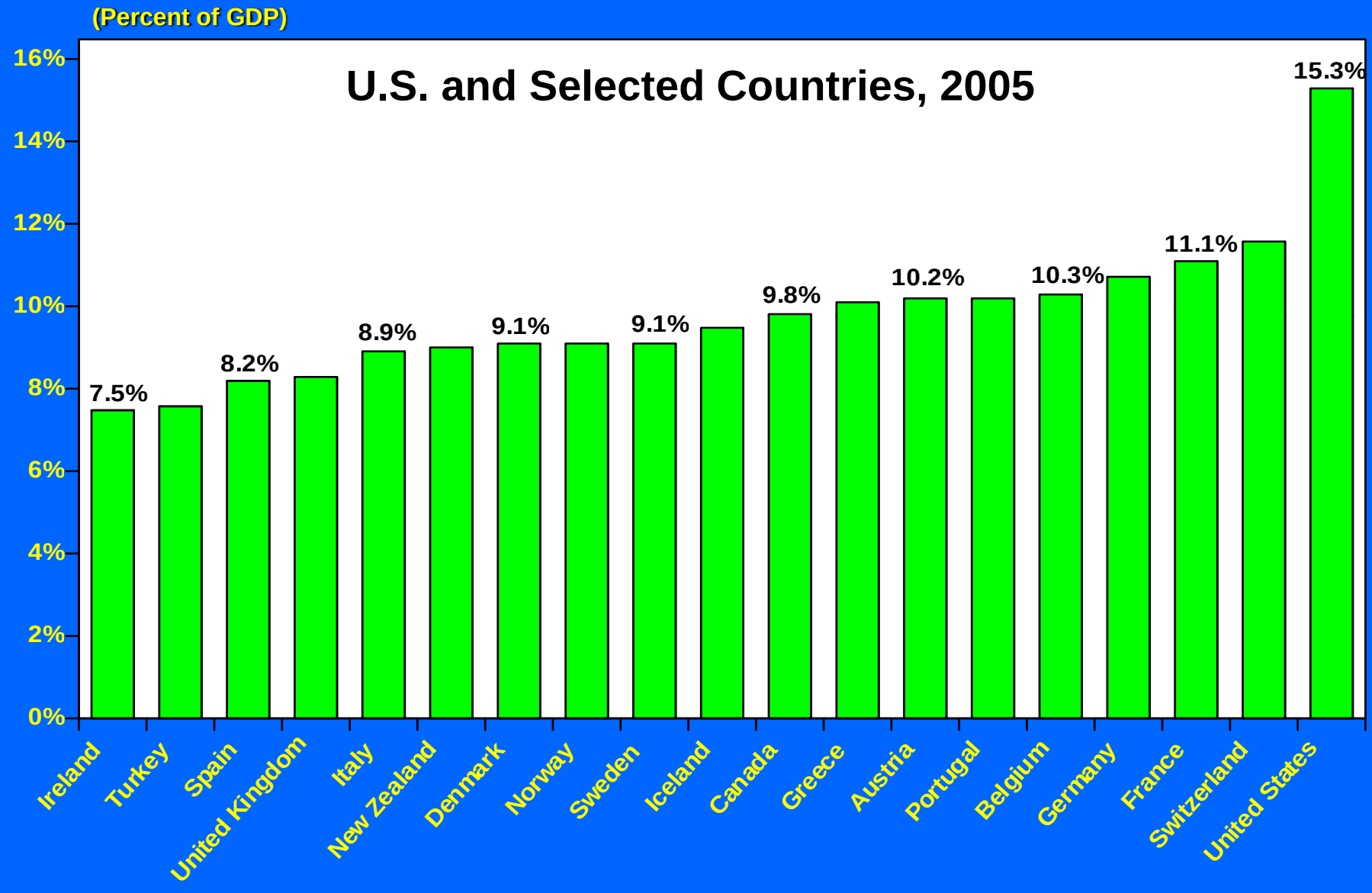
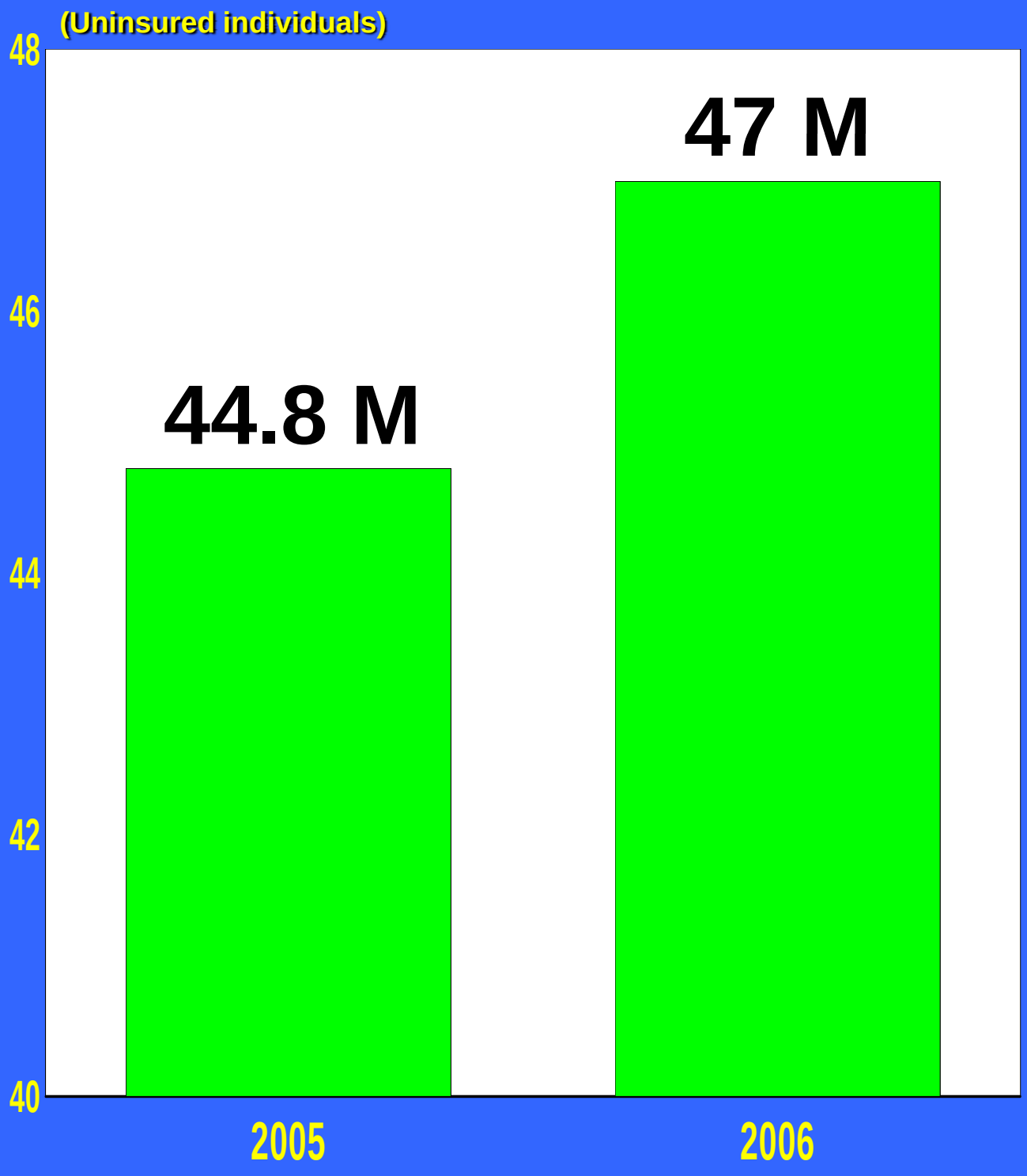
Total Health Expenditures as a Share of GDP



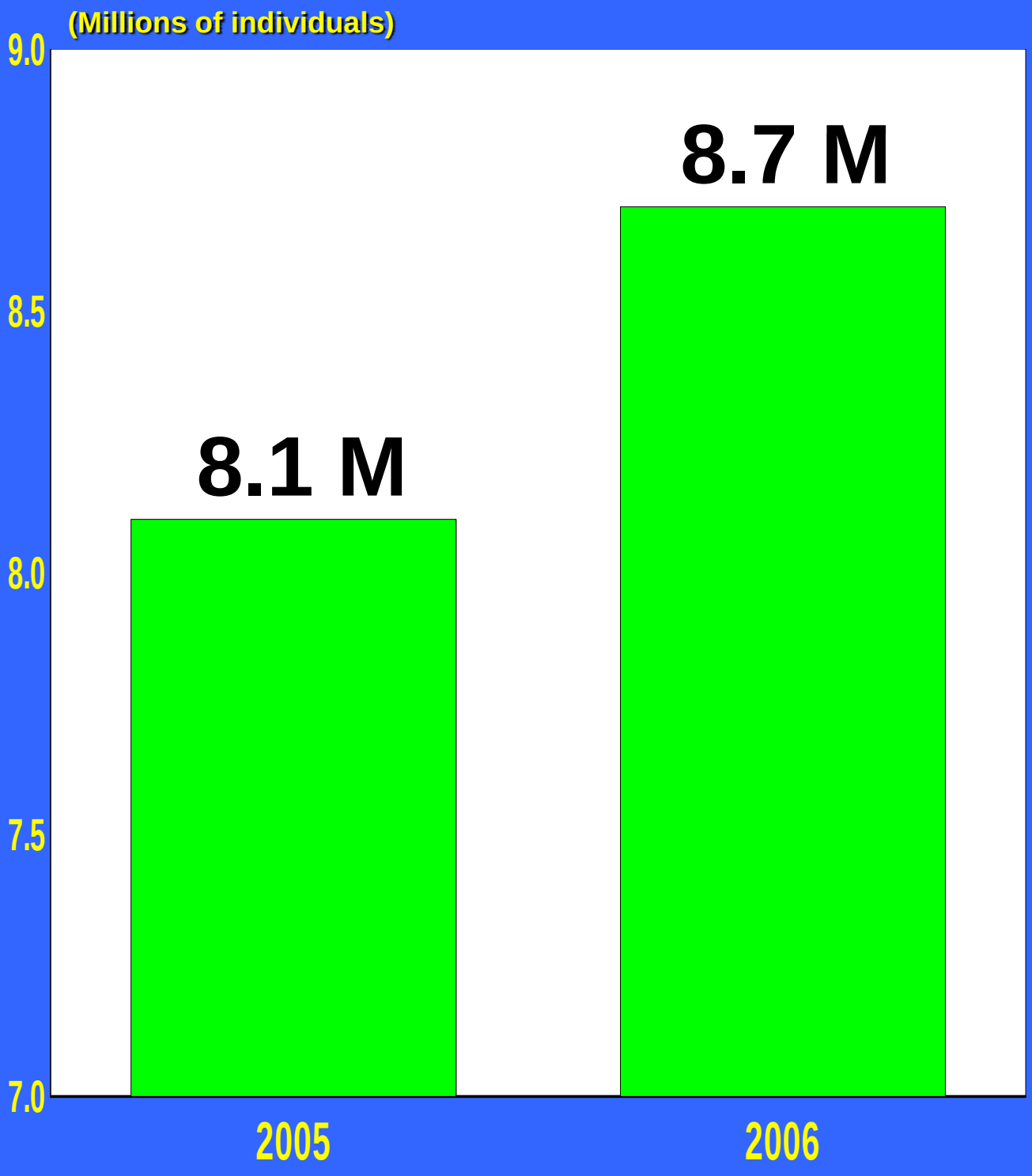
Source: Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, June 2007

Number of Uninsured Increased by 2.2 Million in 2006



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Number of Uninsured Children Increased by 600,000 in 2006



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Reform of Medicare and Medicaid Requires Overall Health Care Reform

"[F]ederal health spending trends should not be viewed in isolation from the health care system as a whole.... Rather, in order to address the long-term fiscal challenge, it will be necessary to find approaches that deal with health care cost growth in the overall health care system."

– Government Accountability Office Comptroller General David Walker
Testimony before House Budget Committee
February 2005

Why We Need to Move Toward Universal Health Coverage

"[T]he problems of uninsurance and expensive or ineffective care are interrelated.... [I]t is impossible to address fully the problems of affordability and effectiveness without covering everyone. Much of the health care the uninsured do get is costly and inefficient, with the costs passed to others. Insuring everyone would not just eliminate these uncompensated cost shifts, it would also enable the health system to function better by expanding risk pooling and reducing the fragmentation of financing."

– Hamilton Project Discussion Paper
By Robert E. Rubin, Director and Chairman of the Executive Committee, Citigroup Inc. and Jason Furman, Director, The Hamilton Project
July, 2007

Options for Achieving Universal Health Coverage

- Single-payer system like "Medicare for All"
- Employer mandates combined with individual mandates to purchase private coverage
- Individual mandates alone

Former Treasury Secretary Snow Acknowledges Need for Bipartisan Approach to Solving Long-Term Challenges

"You can't do health care reform or Social Security reform ... without a bipartisan consensus.... If we made a mistake, it was not approaching it in more of a bipartisan way."

–Former Treasury Secretary John Snow
As quoted by *The Wall Street Journal*
February 6, 2007