

*Medical care price indexes continue to increase at a faster rate than the "All Item" Consumer Price Index.*

- o In recent years, changes in the CPI for all items have lagged considerably behind inpatient, outpatient, and physician services.*
- o In 2002, the CPI for all items increased by 1.5 percent, a drop from 3.2 percent in the previous year. The percent increases for inpatient, outpatient, and physician services, and prescription drugs in 2002 were 7.9, 8.7, 2.9 and 5.6, respectively, compared to 6.2, 6.8, 3.7 and 4.8 in 2001.*
- o Public funding for NHE has grown significantly from 24.9 percent in 1965 to 45.4 percent in 2002.*
- o Likewise, private funding for NHE declined from 75.1 percent in 1965 to 54.6 percent in 2002.*