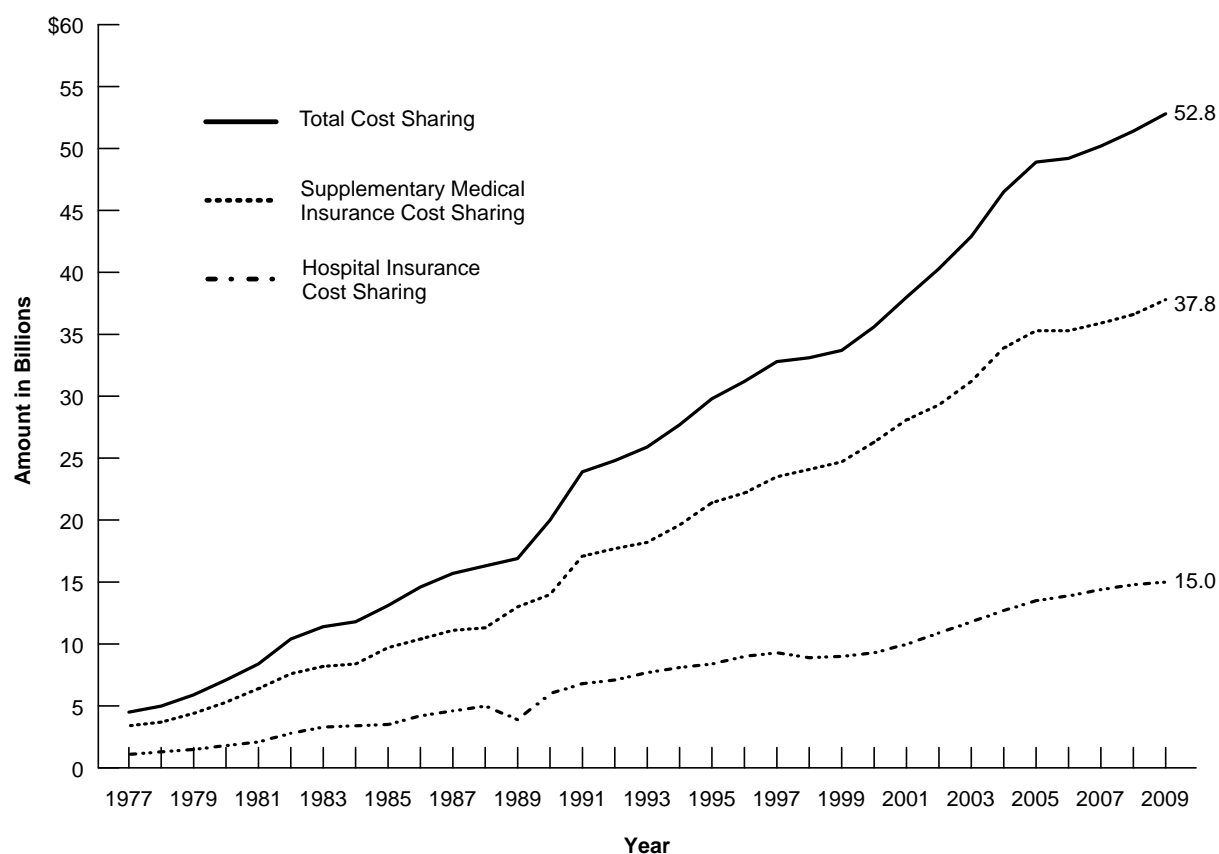


Figure 4.1
Trends in Medicare Cost-Sharing Liability:
Calendar Years 1977-2009



NOTES: The temporary decline in hospital insurance cost sharing in 1989 was because of the one-year impact of the Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act of 1988 which was repealed, effective January 1, 1990. Estimates of cost-sharing liability beginning in 1999 are significantly higher than those reported for prior years because of improvements in the methodology used to calculate Part B cost sharing. The amounts shown for supplementary medical insurance for calendar years 1991-1998 are actuarial estimates and represent revisions. Data for earlier years have not been revised. Calendar year 2001 data are estimates using other sources that involve alternative estimation algorithms and should be used with caution with data for other years.

SOURCES: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Office of Information Services: Data from the Standard Analytical Files; Office of the Actuary; data development by the Office of Research, Development, and Information.