

The page features several decorative, hand-drawn style blue brush strokes scattered around the text. There are strokes on the left side, above the title, and on the right side, all in various shades of blue.

Every Coin Has Two Sides

PROCESS BOOK BY CHASEY WANG

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS • DATA VISUALIZATION

This project examines the dual perspectives on social issues, integrating policy analysis, data insights, and real-world impact assessments. By visualizing contrasting viewpoints, it fosters a deeper understanding of complexities, encouraging critical thinking and informed decision-making.

AUDIENCE & CONTEXT

This project is designed for senior Americans, focusing on clarity and accessibility. Through visual storytelling, it presents complex ideas in an engaging and relatable way, encouraging curiosity, reflection, and meaningful connections.

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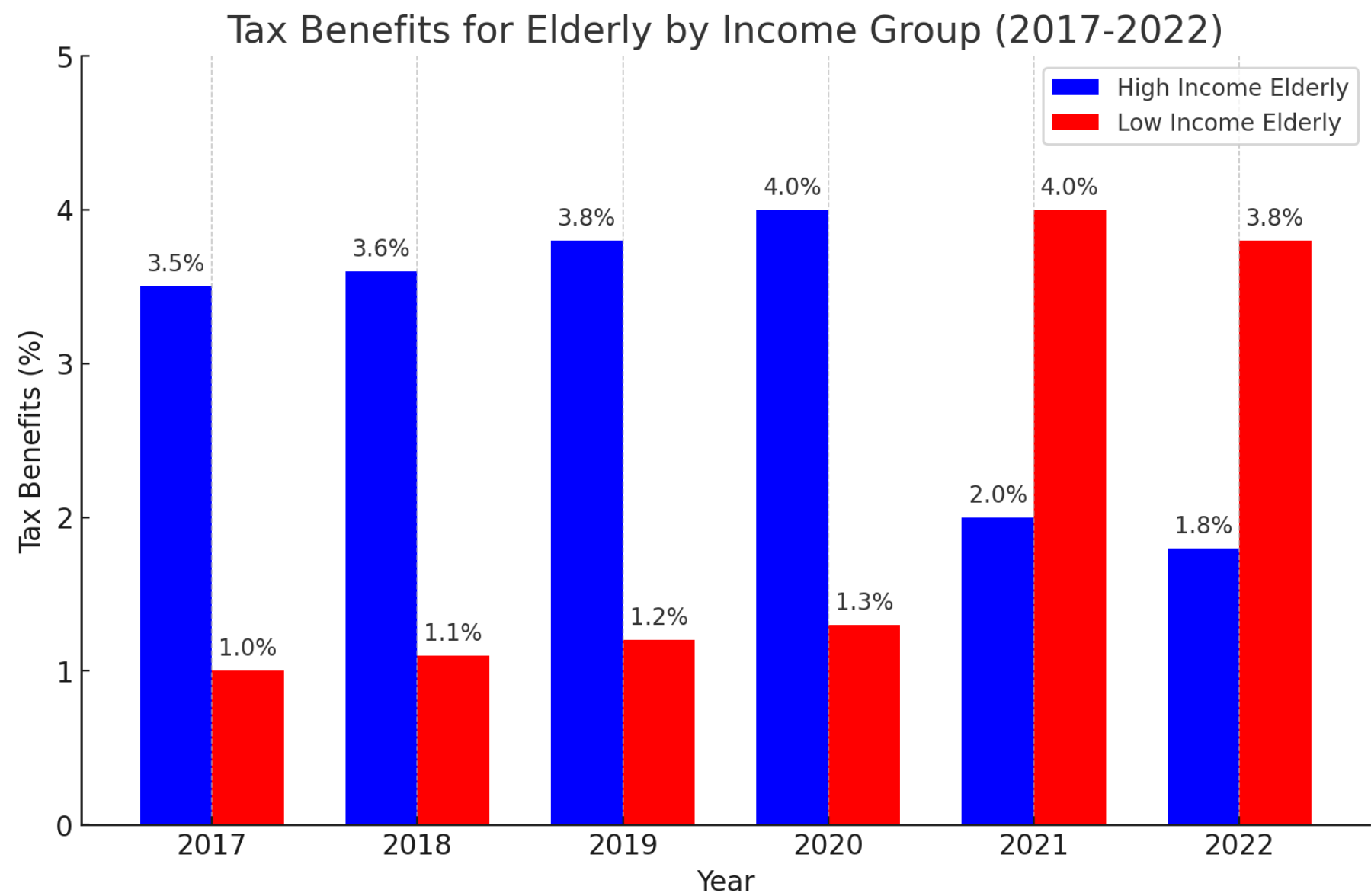
The text is surrounded by several decorative teal-colored brush strokes of varying lengths and orientations, scattered around the central text.

Research & Analysis

WHAT IS YOUR
UNDERSTANDING
DATA VISUALIZATION?

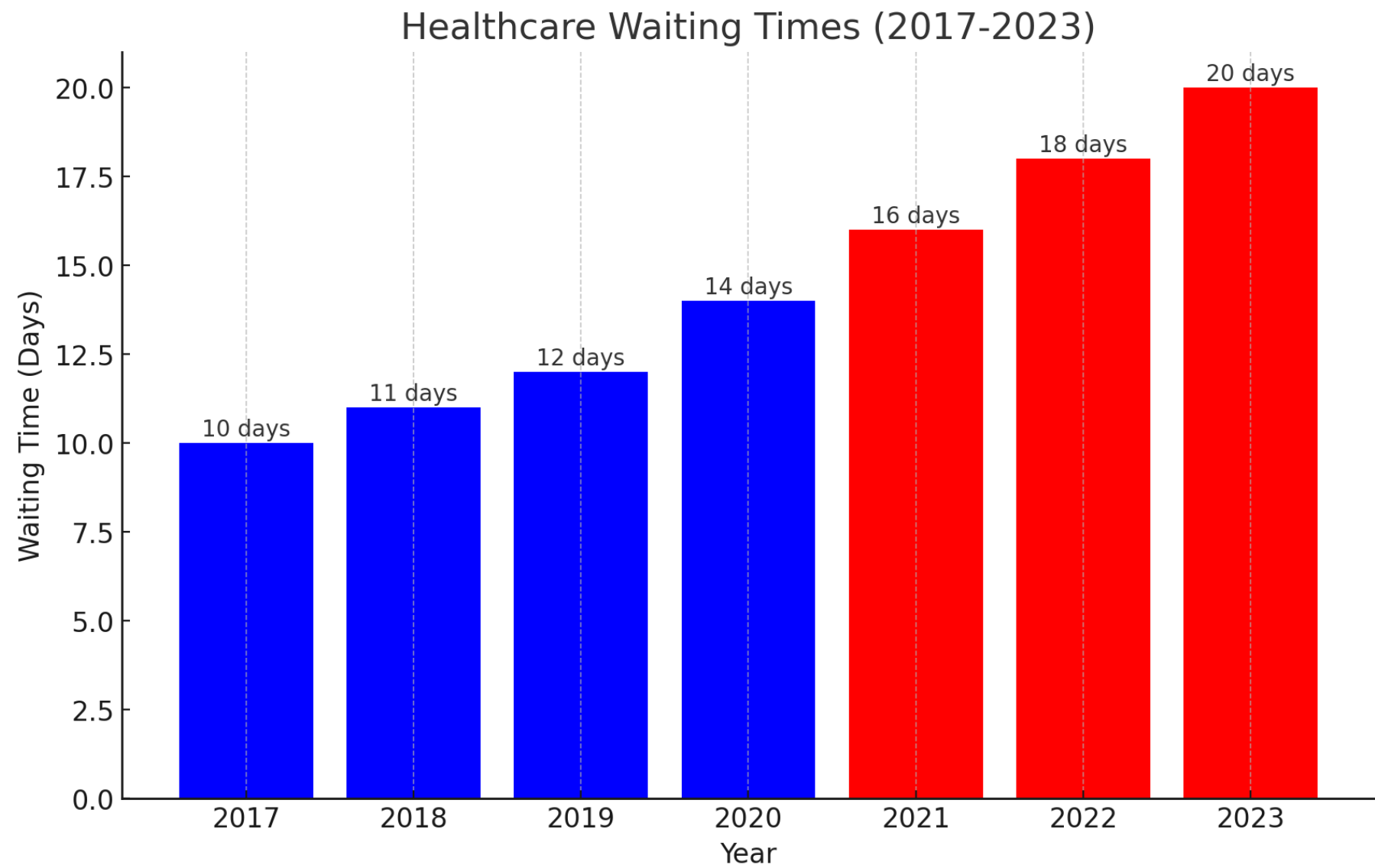


Economic Data Point



High-income elderly: Republicans (2017- 2020) provided larger tax cuts, while Democrats (2021-2022) reduced them. • Low-income elderly: Democrats (2021-2022) offered greater tax relief, whereas Republicans (2017-2020) provided less benefit.

Immigration Data Points

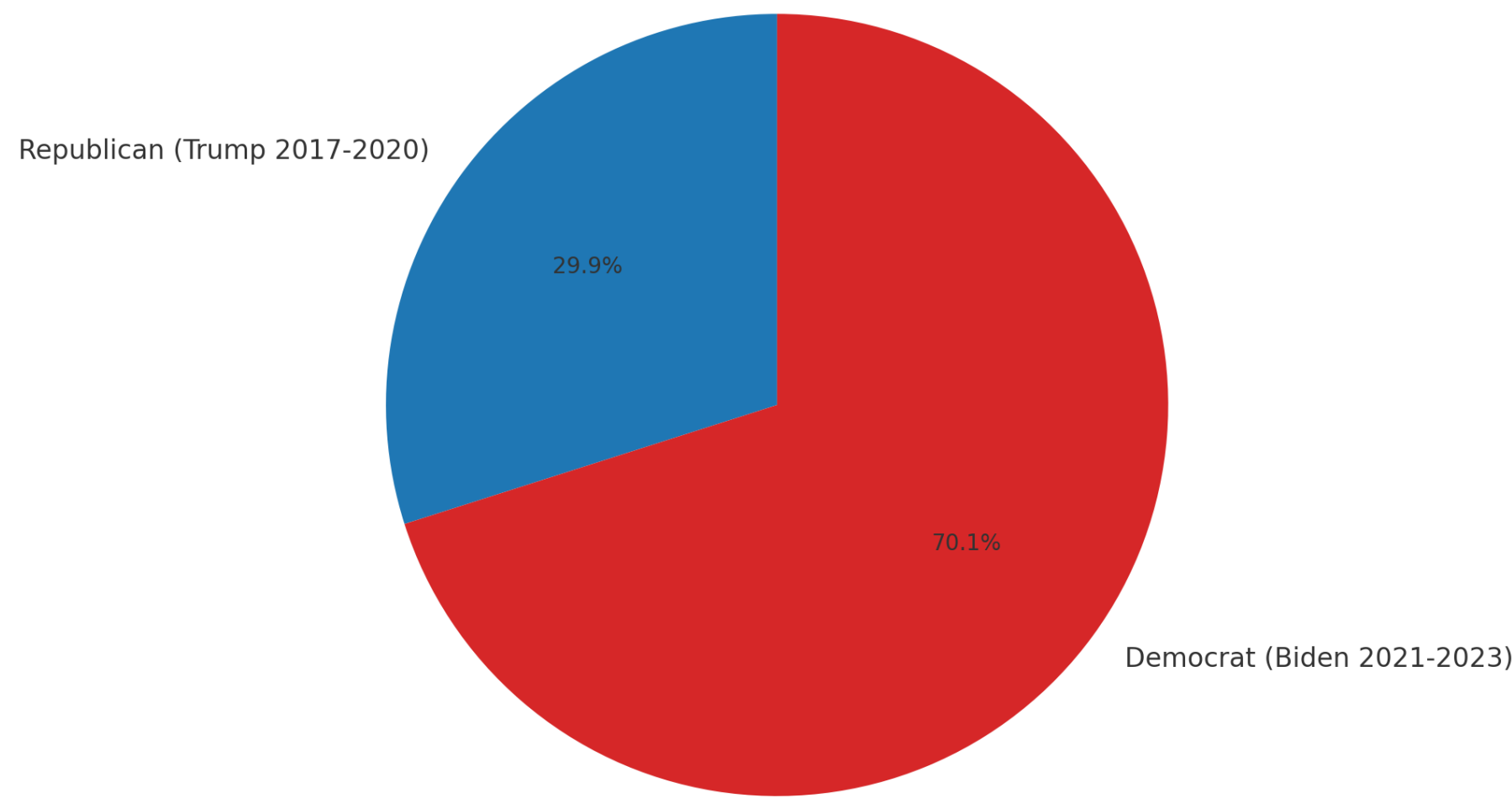


This chart shows U.S. healthcare waiting times from 2017 to 2023. Waiting times increased steadily from 10 days in 2017 to 14 days by 2020. After 2021, they rose sharply, reaching 20 days by 2023.

Social Security Benefits

Data Points

Social Security COLA Adjustments by Political Party (2017-2023)

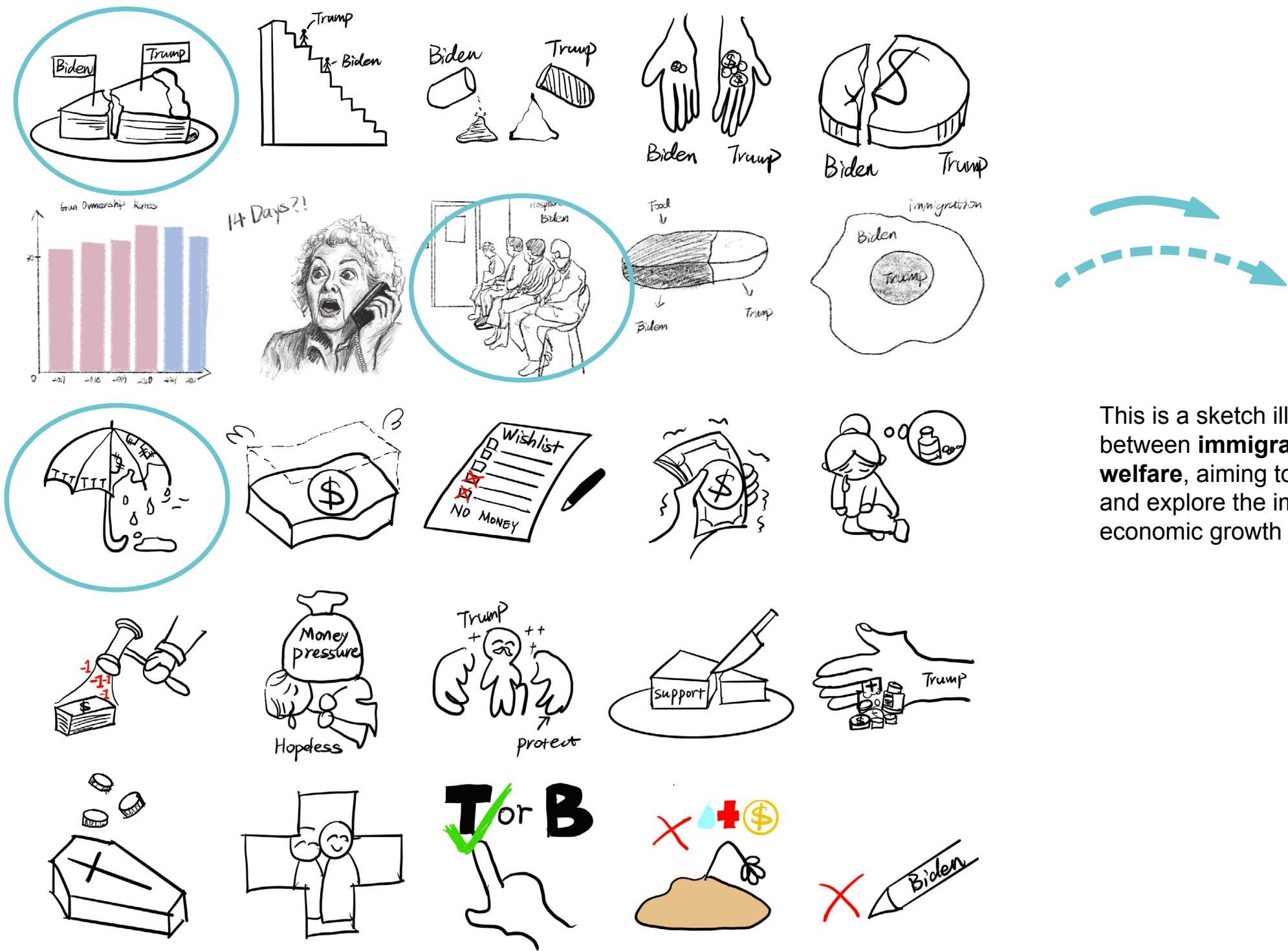


This chart shows Social Security COLA adjustments from 2017 to 2023. Under Trump (Republican), 29.9% of adjustments were made, while 70.1% occurred during Biden’s (Democratic) term, reflecting a more expansive approach to Social Security under Biden.

The image features the text "Design Exploration" in a bold, italicized serif font, centered horizontally. Surrounding the text are several teal-colored decorative marks, including short horizontal strokes, curved dashes, and small curved segments, scattered across the upper and lower portions of the frame.

Design Exploration

Sketch



This is a sketch illustrating the relationship between **immigration**, the **economy**, and **social welfare**, aiming to present data comparisons and explore the impact of immigration policies on economic growth and social security systems.

Tax Benefits for Elderly by Income Group (2017-2022)



Limitations:

- *Low readability:* Small percentage values and weak color contrast make data hard to read.
- *Cluttered hierarchy:* Overlapping elements obscure key information; unclear link between figures and data.
- *Unclear trends:* Policy impact is implied but not explicitly shown; no clear indicators of growth or decline.

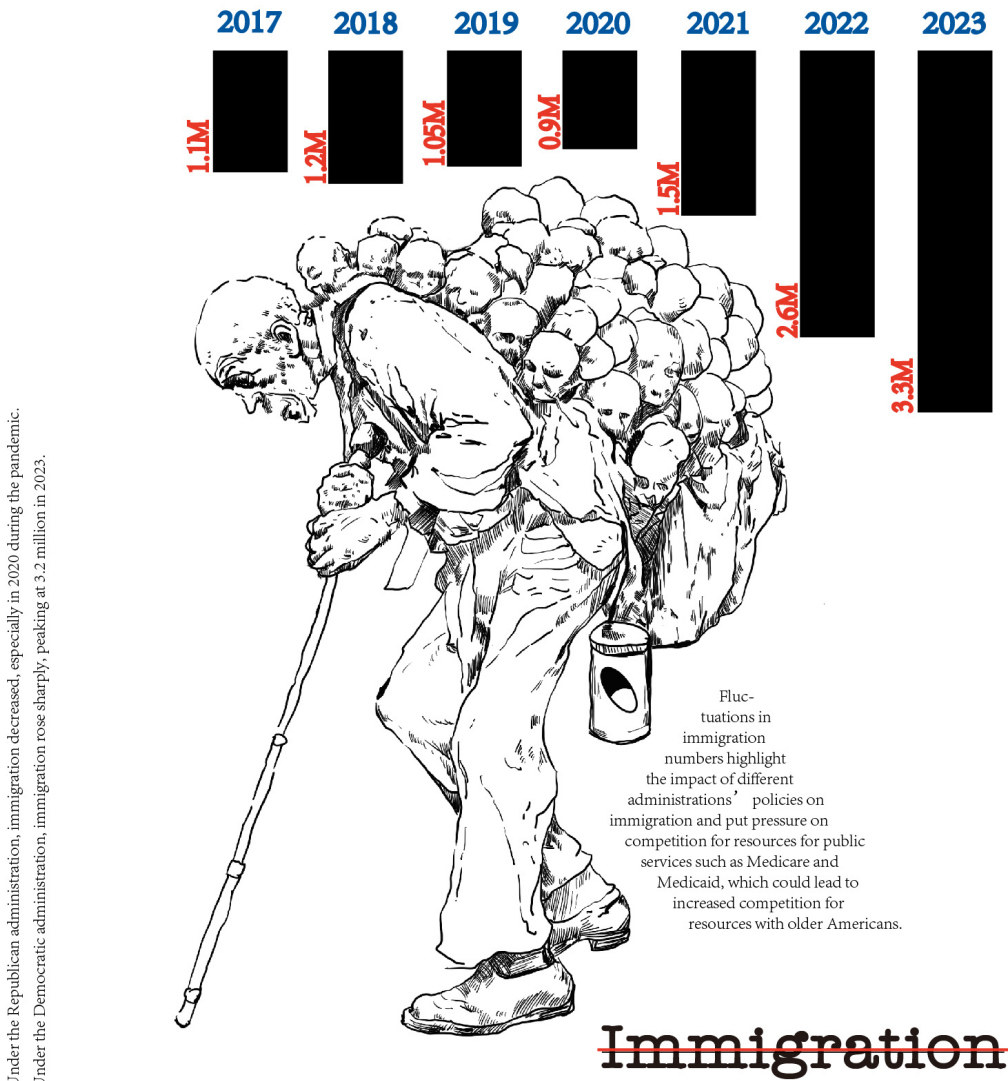
Improvements:

- Enlarge labels for clarity.
- Simplify visuals to emphasize data.
- Add trend lines or arrows for better interpretation.
- Enhance color contrast for group distinction.

Total Immigration

(Including Illegal)

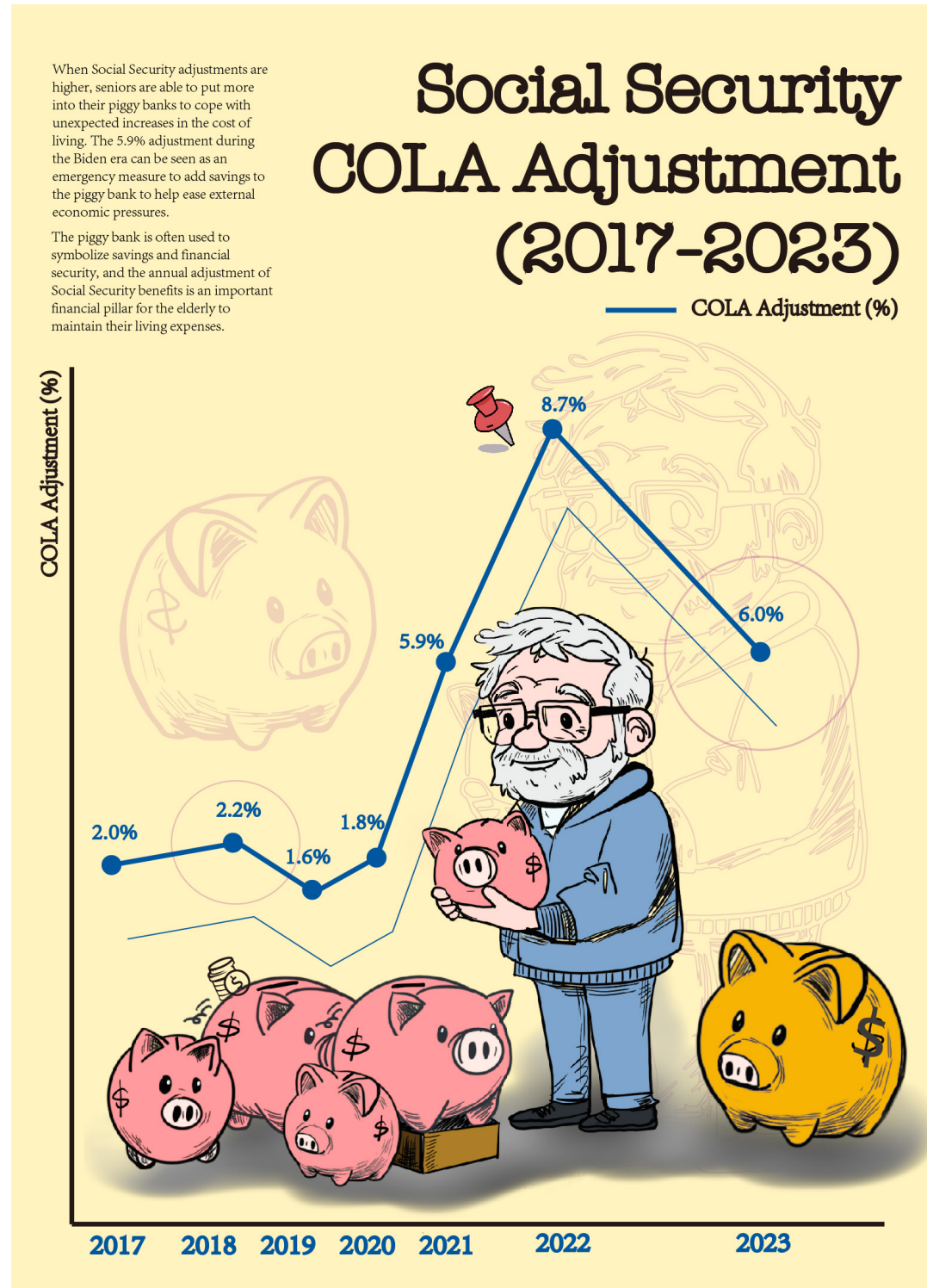
from 2017-2023



- Limitations:**
- *Biased Imagery:* The illustration portrays immigration negatively, influencing perception.
 - *Cluttered Layout:* Mixed visuals and text make it hard to focus on key data.
 - *Unclear Trends:* The bar chart lacks clear indicators of change over time.
 - *Low Readability:* Font styles and placement reduce clarity.

- Improvements:**
- Use neutral visuals or remove illustrations to emphasize data.
 - Simplify layout and improve number readability.
 - Add trend lines or annotations to clarify policy effects.
 - Standardize typography for better information delivery.

Design process



Limitations:

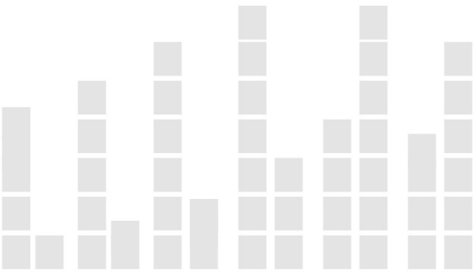
- *Inconsistent Style*: The use of a photo instead of an illustration disrupts the visual cohesion of the series.
- *Lack of Contrast*: White text blends into the light background, making it hard to read.
- *Unclear Scale*: The floor-based visual metaphor does not effectively show proportional changes in waiting time.

Improvements:

- Convert the image into an illustration to match the visual style of previous graphics.
- Increase text contrast and reposition it for better visibility.
- Use a more intuitive visual metaphor, like a timeline or bar chart, to clearly depict the increase in waiting time.

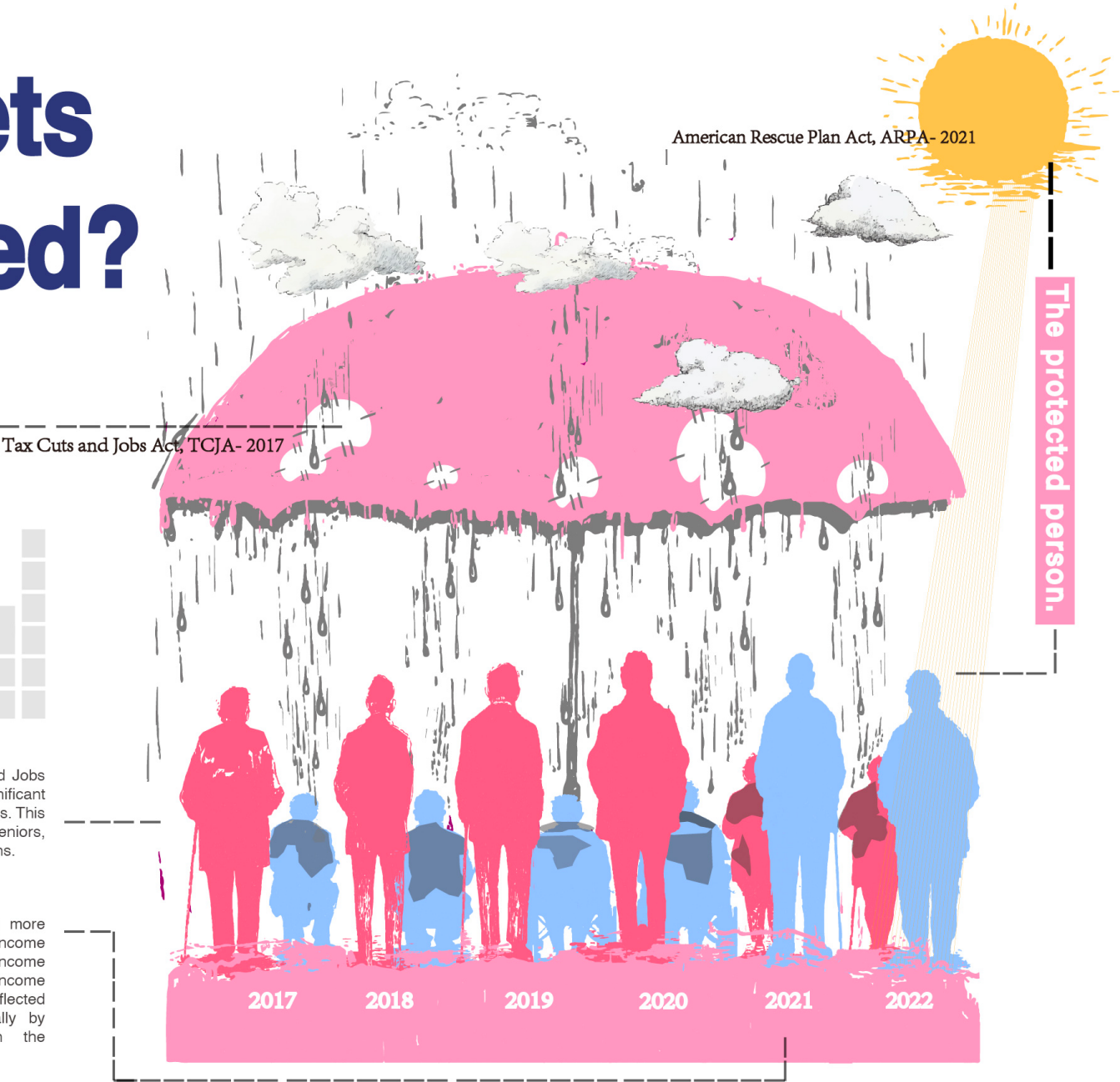
Who Gets Sheltered?

No tax incentives.



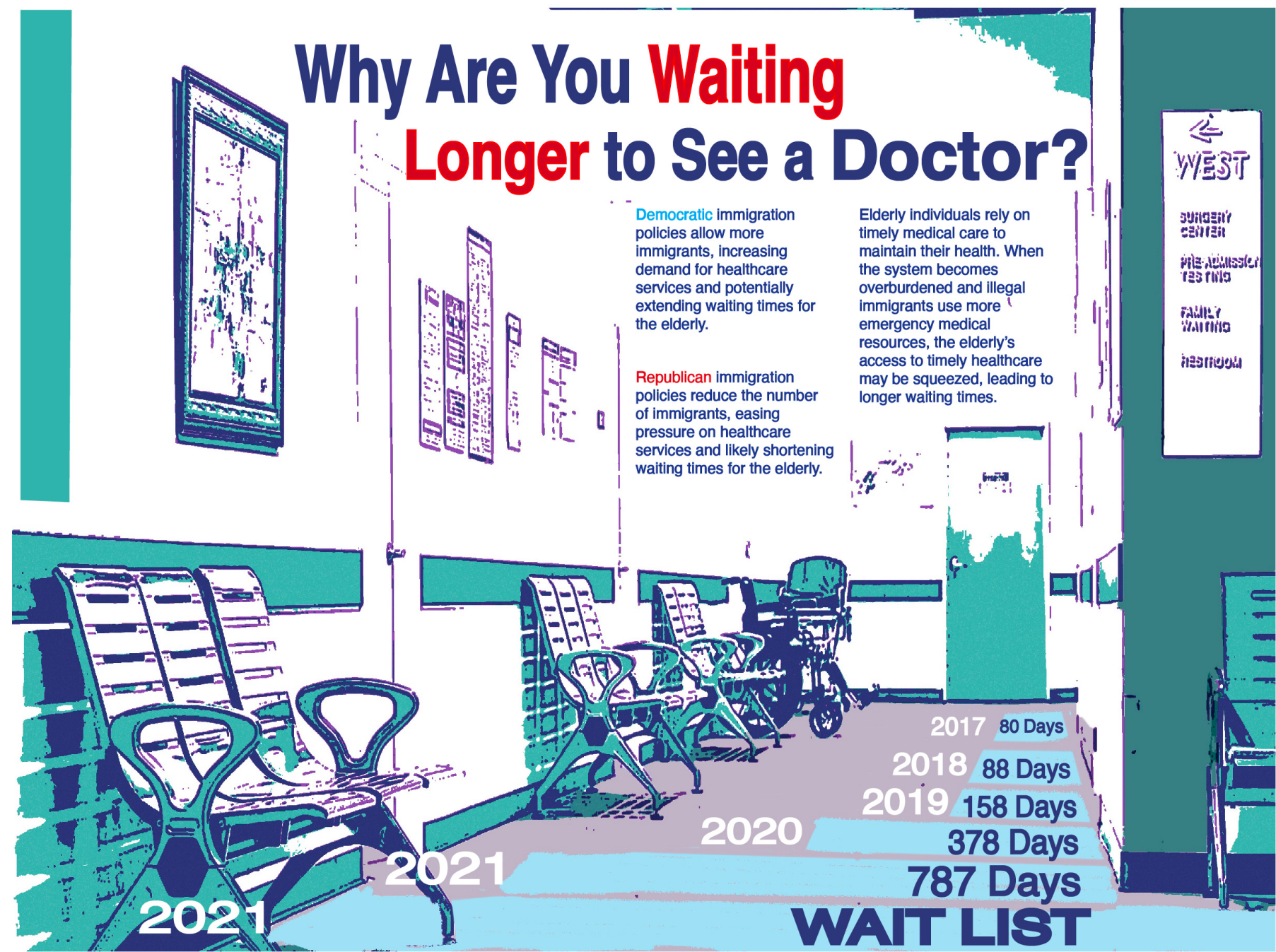
The Republican Party passed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) in 2017, which primarily provided significant tax cuts for high-income individuals and businesses. This policy led to greater tax benefits for high-income seniors, while low-income seniors received fewer reductions.

In 2021, the Democratic Party implemented more targeted tax policies aimed at helping low-income groups. By reducing tax benefits for high-income individuals and expanding support for low-income populations, the Democratic Party's policies reflected greater care for low-income seniors, especially by increasing aid to low-income groups in the post-pandemic period.



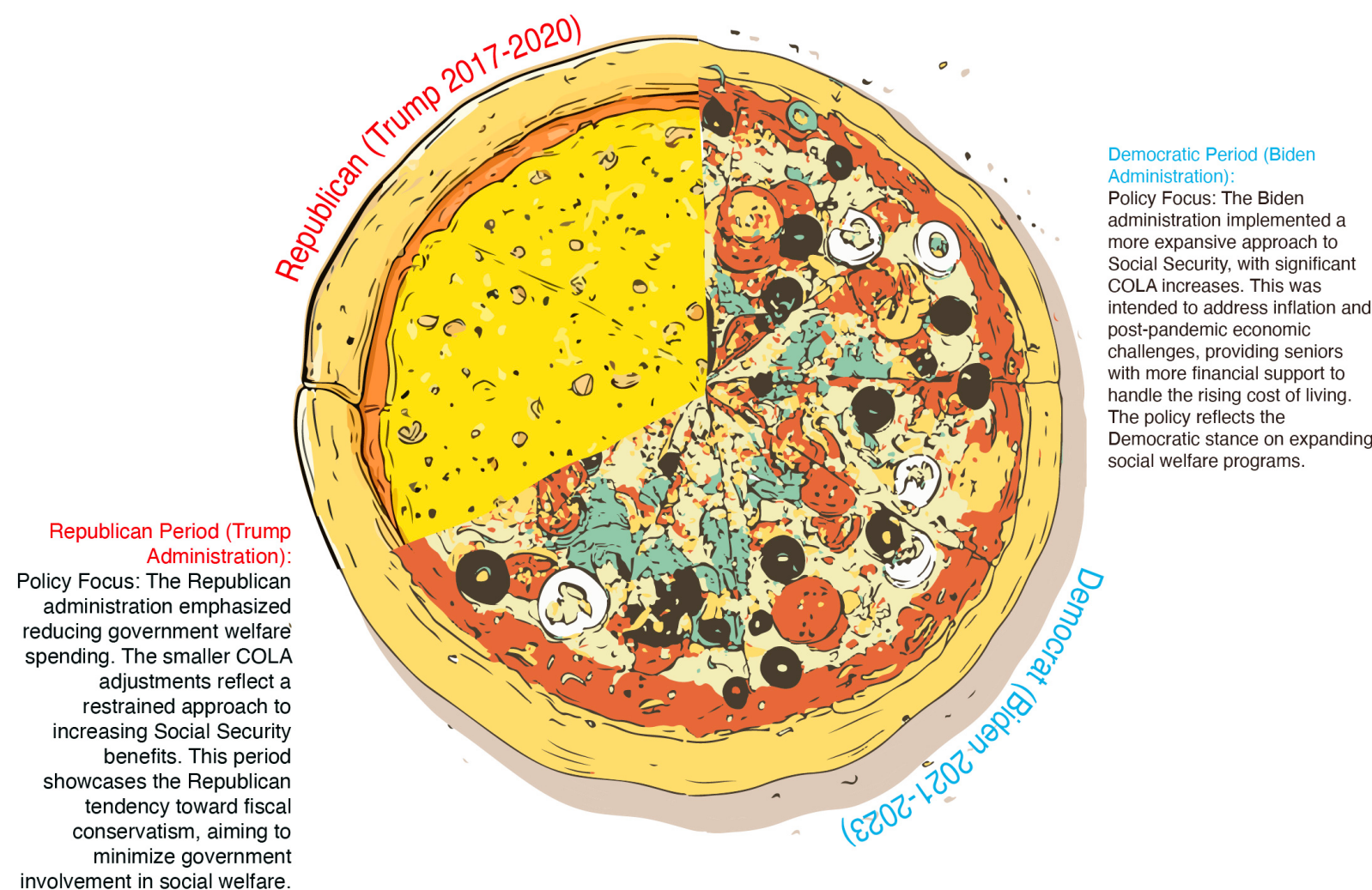
This image compares Republican and Democratic tax policies. The Republican 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act mainly benefited higher-income individuals, while the Democratic 2021 American Rescue Plan focused on helping low-income groups, especially seniors. The umbrella symbolizes who gets protected by these policies over the years.

Concept For Immigiaration



This concept highlights how immigration policies can influence healthcare wait times for seniors. Increased immigration may lead to a rise in demand for healthcare services, potentially extending wait times. On the other hand, stricter immigration policies might ease pressure on healthcare systems, possibly reducing wait times. The visual shows how wait times have varied over the years, reflecting the complexities of policy decisions and their impact on senior healthcare.

Concept For Social Security Benefits



This image shows how Social Security benefits (COLA) changed under two administrations. During Trump’s term, the Republican approach focused on smaller increases and reduced government spending. Under Biden, the Democrats expanded benefits with larger increases to help seniors cope with rising living costs. The pizza represents how benefits are divided between the two periods.

The text is surrounded by several teal-colored decorative dashes of varying lengths and orientations, scattered around the central text.

Final Solution

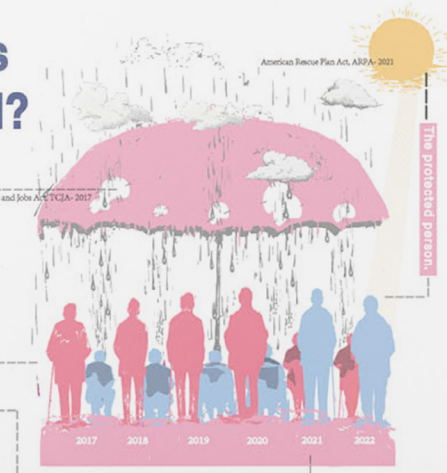
Who Gets Sheltered?

No tax incentives.



The Republican Party passed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) in 2017, which primarily provided significant tax cuts for high-income individuals and businesses. This policy led to greater tax benefits for high-income seniors, while low-income seniors received fewer reductions.

In 2021, the Democratic Party implemented more targeted tax policies aimed at helping low-income groups. By reducing tax benefits for high-income individuals and expanding support for low-income households, the Democratic Party's policies reflected greater care for low-income seniors, especially by increasing aid to low-income groups in the post-pandemic period.



This image symbolically depicts the varying levels of protection offered to seniors by different political party policies through the metaphor of a protective umbrella. The umbrella represents government tax cuts and social welfare policies, shielding the elderly population. The broken areas of the umbrella signify where certain policies have failed to fully protect low-income seniors. On the left, the Republican Party's 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) is highlighted, which primarily benefited high-income individuals, leaving low-income seniors with fewer tax reliefs. On the right, the Democratic Party's 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) is noted, which focuses more on supporting low-income groups, especially seniors, by expanding welfare to ease post-pandemic economic challenges. The figures beneath the umbrella represent seniors, showing the impact of each policy, underscoring the differences in how the two parties prioritize senior welfare.

Who Really Receives Protection?

Chasey

For seniors, understanding the nuances of these policies is crucial when planning for their financial future. Depending on their income level and financial needs, different policies will offer varying degrees of protection.

The question of who truly benefits from government policies—particularly when it comes to seniors—has long been a matter of debate. With shifting political landscapes, policies affecting the elderly, such as tax cuts and social welfare, are constantly evolving. Both major U.S. political parties—the Republican and Democratic Parties—approach the matter of protection and welfare differently. This article will delve into the specifics of how seniors have been impacted by policies from both parties, focusing on tax relief, social welfare, and overall protection for low-income elderly Americans. As individuals age, their reliance on government programs increases. Seniors typically face fixed incomes and rising healthcare costs, making it vital for them to be shielded from unexpected financial pressures.

This protection often comes in the form of social security benefits, Medicare, and other targeted welfare programs. Additionally, tax relief can greatly influence the financial stability of seniors, with many retirees seeking states and policies that offer the most tax-friendly benefits. However, not all seniors receive the same level of protection, as policies may favor specific income groups. For instance, wealthier seniors who saved throughout their working years and have investments may benefit more from tax cuts. On the other hand, low-income seniors, who rely primarily on social welfare programs, often depend on expanded government aid to meet their daily needs.

The Republican Party tends to focus on reducing the overall tax burden, favoring tax cuts that



stimulate economic growth and reduce government spending. One of the hallmark policies under former President Donald Trump was the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017. The TCJA significantly reduced taxes for businesses and high-income individuals. While the policy succeeded in delivering tax relief across the board, the wealthiest seniors were the greatest

beneficiaries. Wealthier retirees who rely on investment income and pensions saw substantial tax reductions, which further improved their financial situations.

However, this approach has its downsides. While high-income seniors benefited, low-income seniors saw little change. The TCJA did not provide significant new benefits to seniors who rely heavily on social security and Medicare, leading to critiques that the policy neglected the most vulnerable. Many low-income seniors continued to face the burden of rising living costs and healthcare expenses with minimal additional support. In contrast, the Democratic Party's approach tends to prioritize seniors who are more economically vulnerable. By expanding social welfare programs and increasing direct payments, such as Social Security benefits, the Democratic Party offers a more robust safety net for low-income seniors. While higher-income seniors may not benefit as much



from these policies, low-income seniors often find themselves in a better position to handle daily financial pressures and unexpected economic changes.

While the question of "Who really receives protection?" may not have a straightforward answer, going forward, seniors must pay close attention to the policies that impact them most directly and advocate for the protection they need to enjoy their retirement years with financial security.

NEWS: Choose carefully

Why Are You Waiting Longer to See a Doctor?

Both approaches have their merits but face challenges when it comes to addressing the specific needs of a rapidly aging population in a system under strain from immigration pressures.



Democratic immigration policies allow more immigrants, increasing demand for healthcare services and potentially extending waiting times for the elderly. Republican immigration policies reduce the number of immigrants, easing pressure on healthcare services and likely shortening waiting times for the elderly. Elderly individuals rely on timely medical care to maintain their health. When the system becomes overburdened and illegal immigrants use more emergency medical resources, the elderly's access to timely healthcare may be squeezed, leading to longer waiting times.

As the population of immigrants increases under Democratic immigration policies, healthcare systems may struggle to keep pace with rising demands. This is particularly true in urban areas, where healthcare resources are already stretched thin. The increased competition for healthcare services—especially emergency care—can impact not only the elderly but also other vulnerable groups. Hospitals may face overcrowding, leading to longer wait times for essential treatments. Over time, this strain

could result in decreased quality of care, delayed diagnoses, and longer recovery periods for seniors who depend on timely intervention for chronic conditions.

Ultimately, the question remains: how can the U.S. balance compassionate immigration policies with the need to maintain a healthcare system that serves all, especially its

most vulnerable, like the elderly? Investing in healthcare capacity, workforce development, and innovative care solutions for seniors could be key to mitigating the pres-

ures on the system, regardless of immigration policies.



NEWS: Protecting Your Health Every Day

Healthcare Without the Wait

As people age, maintaining good health becomes a top priority for seniors. Whether it's routine check-ups or addressing sudden illnesses, seniors often rely on healthcare services more than other age groups. However, with healthcare systems under increasing pressure, many elderly individuals face long wait times and struggle to access the care they need when they need it most. Seniors are hopeful for a healthcare system that can respond swiftly and provide effective care, ensuring their safety and quality of life.

Extended wait times not only affect

physical health but also increase psychological stress. For seniors, waiting often brings uncertainty and anxiety, particularly when they are in urgent need of medical attention. Long waits can leave them feeling helpless and concerned about their well-being. Having access to timely healthcare services provides peace of mind, assuring seniors that their health needs will be addressed promptly. The healthcare system of the future must prioritize the elderly's



expectations for timely care. When they can receive care without delays, their lives become easier, and they can enjoy their later years with greater peace and optimism for the future.





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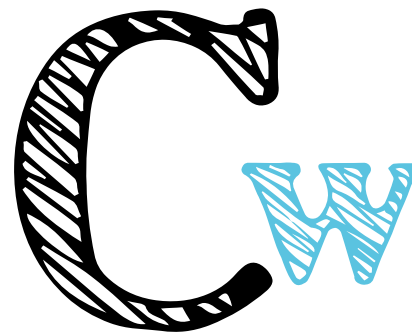
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