

## Compliance Today – March 2020 Leaning in to change

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When the Medicare and Medicaid programs were created in 1965, there were approximately 19 million eligible Medicare beneficiaries.<sup>[1]</sup> According to a fascinating October 2019 blog post, titled *The Future of Medicare Program Integrity* by CMS Administrator Seema Verma, there are now approximately 71 million Medicare beneficiaries, with 10,000 new enrollees added daily.<sup>[2]</sup> Interestingly, that threefold increase in beneficiaries has yielded a tenfold increase in the percentage of aggregate federal spending for those programs, with expenditures rising from 2.3% of total federal spending to 23.5%.<sup>[3]</sup>

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