Medical Debt Among Residents in Kansas

Results from the 2017 Kansas and Missouri Consumer Health Access Survey (KMHS)

24% of adults and 29% of children in Kansas live in households with medical debt.

These estimates represent
390,200 adults
ages 19-64

208,700 children
ages 0-18

Of the poorest Kansans (those below 138% of poverty),*
37% of adults live in households with medical debt . . .

. . . along with 42% of children.

Federal Poverty Level (FPL)*

Below 138% FPL
37.0%

138-400% FPL
29.1%

Over 400% FPL
9.5%

Federal Poverty Level (FPL)

Below 138% FPL
42.0%

138-400% FPL
34.1%

Over 400% FPL
7.1%

34% of uninsured adults live with medical debt.

Uninsured
34.2%

Only public insurance
24.2%

Any private insurance
20.2%

17% of adults reported financial consequences to their family from medical debt, such as:

borrowed money from friends, took out loans, or had creditors call to demand payment.

The KMHS Results Report is available at
https://reachhealth.org/kmhs-finalreport/

* Source: https://aspe.hhs.gov/computations-2016-poverty-guidelines

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Medical Debt Among Residents in Missouri

Results from the 2017 Kansas and Missouri Consumer Health Access Survey (KMHS)

28% of adults and 34% of children in Missouri live in households with medical debt.

These estimates represent
- 951,300 adults ages 19-64
- 469,100 children ages 0-18

Of the poorest Missourians (those below 138% of poverty),* 43% of adults live in households with medical debt... along with 53% of children.

Federal Poverty Level (FPL)*
- Below 138% FPL: 42.8%
- 138-400% FPL: 31.7%
- Over 400% FPL: 15.2%

Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
- Below 138% FPL: 53.0%
- 138-400% FPL: 42.7%
- Over 400% FPL: 20.7%

* Based on 2016 tax year. In 2016, the 138% federal poverty threshold income was $33,534 for a family of four.

38% of uninsured adults live with medical debt.

- Uninsured: 37.9%
- Only public insurance: 41.5%
- Any private insurance: 22.6%

21% of adults reported financial consequences to their family from medical debt, such as:
- borrowed money from friends,
- took out loans,
- had creditors call to demand payment.

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