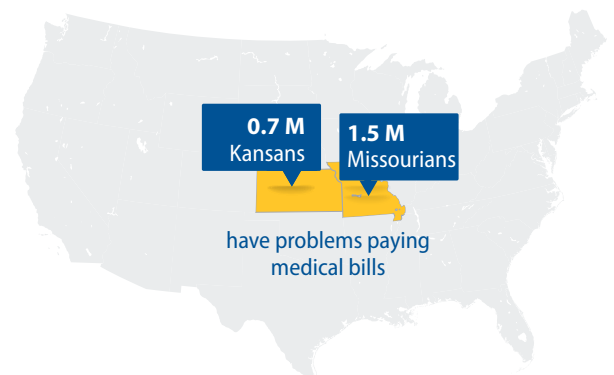


KANSAS-MISSOURI PROJECT

More than 700,000 Kansans and 1.5 million Missourians live in households facing problems paying medical bills, and hundreds of thousands of adults in these states lack health insurance coverage. The high cost of care prevents many others, including those with health insurance, from seeking needed mental health care and prescribed medications for chronic conditions.

Medical debt continues to be a leading source of filing for personal bankruptcy, and states need to know the financial challenges that residents face to be able to identify opportunities for improvement—especially around access, affordability, and the continuing unmet health needs in these two states.

RTI International helped Kansas and Missouri gain a better understanding of the reality of health care for their citizens. The Kansas and Missouri Consumer Health Access Survey, administered by RTI, provided timely data on health care access in Kansas and Missouri to inform policy makers and other stakeholders.



of adults aged 19–64
across both states
reported a mental health
diagnosis, substance
abuse, or addiction.



of adults aged 19–64
reported that they did
not get needed care
due to cost or lack of
coverage.



“This survey raises awareness of health access needs in Kansas and also helps us understand the complex issues facing the state.”

Steve Coen

Kansas Health Foundation (KHF) president and chief executive officer

“Improving access to care for vulnerable populations is a critical component of our KHF work to improve the health of all Kansans.”

The survey produced the following findings:

- Twenty-eight percent of adults in Kansas and 34% in Missouri live in households that had difficulties paying medical bills in the past year.
- More than one-third of children in Kansas and Missouri (236,100 and 531,000 children, respectively) live in households with medical bill problems.
- Roughly 30% of adults in both states reported a mental health diagnosis, substance abuse, or addiction. Of those with such a condition, 22% in Kansas and 35% in Missouri did not seek needed mental health care or counseling due to cost or lack of coverage.
- More than one-third of adults in Kansas and Missouri lacked dental coverage, and roughly one in five did not get the dental care they needed.

**Across Kansas and Missouri,
767,100 children live in households
with medical bill problems.**



Contact **Anna Sommers**, Senior Research Public Health Analyst, at annasommers@rti.org or **202.974.7884** to learn more about ways to partner with us.

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