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 138-400% FPL Over 400% FPL
42.8% 31.7% 15.2%

Federal Poverty Level (FPL)

Below 138% FPL 138-400% FPL Over 400% FPL
53.0% 42.7% 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 Only public insurance Any private insurance
37.9% 41.5% 22.6%

21% of adults reported financial consequences to their family from medical debt, such as:

Even privately insured live with medical debt.

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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