



Why Arkansas Needs Health Reform: By the Numbers

Our broken health care system forces families and businesses to struggle with skyrocketing costs and puts millions of Americans at risk of losing the insurance they have now. Here is how our broken health care system affects people in Arkansas.

- 80 residents of Arkansas are losing health insurance every day, and 14,000 Americans nationwide lose insurance daily.
- The average family premium in Arkansas costs \$1,500 more because our system fails to cover everyone—and \$1,100 more nationally.
- Our broken health insurance system will cost the Arkansas economy as much as \$2.4 billion this year in productivity losses due to the uninsured—and up to \$248 billion nationally.
- In Arkansas there has been a 6 percent increase in the uninsured rate since 2007.
- 500,000 are uninsured today in Arkansas.
- In Arkansas the combined market share of the top two insurers is 81 percent, limiting employers' and families' health insurance options as well as the care they receive.
- The average family premium will rise from \$11,472 to \$19,575 by 2019 in Arkansas without health care reform.
- In Arkansas, without health care reform, 72,980 will have lost coverage from January 2008 to December 2010.
- In Arkansas, 243,000 people would gain coverage as a result of the House health care reform bill by 2013, and 391,000 would gain coverage by 2019.
- A typical Arkansas family will pay \$19,575 for health coverage in 2019 without health care reform.

In their own words

Kanisha is one of countless college graduates who, because of the economic downturn, are unable to find full-time work. Since she works part time, Kanisha does not have health insurance, and cannot afford the high monthly costs of private plans. Kanisha remembers being told as a child to “do the right thing and the right things will happen to you.” She still lives by that philosophy and volunteers 20 hours each week at a free neighborhood healthcare clinic assisting doctors provide the most basic healthcare needs to the people of my community. Still without health care coverage, Kanisha is waiting for the right things to happen to her.

*Kanisha, Little Rock, AR
SEIU*

Additional national statistics

- 128,000 small business jobs and \$84 billion per year can be saved with health reform.
- At least 62.1 percent of bankruptcies in 2007 were medical bankruptcies.
- The typical household will pay \$15,000 for health care this year—and they’ll pay \$18,000 next year.
- The typical household will be paying \$36,000 for health care by 2020.
- We can save \$600 billion by modernizing our health care system.
- Twenty-five million Americans are underinsured, meaning that out-of-pocket health care costs absorbed 10 percent or more of a family’s income or 5 percent of an adult’s income.
- Almost 52 million Americans are uninsured.
- Approximately 87 million people—one in three Americans—went without health insurance for some period during 2007 and 2008.