The 2017 Poverty Snapshot
Missouri

Too many Missourians are still experiencing economic hardship

Nearly 796,000 Missourians lived in poverty in 2017
That is 13.4% of Missouri's population
ranks 22nd in percent of poor people among all states

Children and people with disabilities remain very vulnerable

20.9% of people with disabilities in Missouri lived in poverty in 2017
18.6% of Missouri's children lived in poverty in 2017
MO ranks 22nd in child poverty rate

Communities of Color in Missouri Are Disproportionately Poor

Breakdown of poverty rate by race/ethnicity in 2017

- Non-Hispanic White: 16%
- Latino: 17.9%
- African-American: 24.7%

Breakdown of child poverty rate by race/ethnicity in 2017

- Non-Hispanic White: 14.3%
- Latino: 22%
- African-American: 37.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017
Near and Deep Poverty in Missouri

200% Poverty Line: Near-poor

50% Poverty Line: Deep Poverty

56.1% of households earning less than $20K/year paid more than half of income on rent

Over 340,000 Missourians lived in deep poverty in 2017

Working Hard yet still Food Insecure

Struggling folks are working:
  In fact, in 65% of poor families, one or more people worked at least part-time or part of 2017

Working, however is often not enough. About 12.8% of MO households could not always afford enough food.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017
Missouri Has More Uninsured Because It Didn't Expand Medicaid

Percentage of people uninsured in 2017

- States that have expanded Medicaid (Average): 6.5%
- Missouri: 9.1%

Medicaid expansion: The Affordable Care Act allows states to expand Medicaid eligibility to uninsured adults and children whose incomes are at or below 138% of the federal poverty level.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017
Federal Low-Income Programs Lift Millions Out of Poverty

Numbers of people lifted above poverty line in 2017

- Social Security: 27 million
- SNAP: 8.3 million
- SSI: 3.4 million
- Housing subsidies: 3.2 million
- TANF: 2.9 million
- Tax credits: 544,000

Refundable tax credits: Earn Income Tax Credit and refundable portion of Child Tax Credit
SNAP: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Housing subsidies: Public housing and tenant vouchers
SSI: Social Security Insurance
TANF: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Supplemental Poverty Measure. 2017