

Poor People

Middle-class families are struggling with out-of-control health care costs and more are becoming uninsured. But in many ways, being poor, being a person of color, a woman or an LGBT person amplifies the problems with our broken health care system.

Living below the poverty line in America, for example, is downright hazardous to your health. The likelihood of having health care coverage increases with income: Poorer people are less likely than wealthier people to have insurance. They're also far more likely than others to go without health care and suffer from chronic conditions.

Poverty, Insurance and Health Care

2004

	200% OF POVERTY OR MORE	BELOW POVERTY
No health insurance	11.7%	34.3%
Didn't get care because of cost	3.3%	11.5%
No usual source of health care	13.7%	28.0%
Limited activity due to chronic conditions	9.2%	23.0%

Employee Benefit Research Institute, 10/07; U.S. Census Bureau, Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2006; National Center for Health Statistics, Health, United States, 2006

