



Kentuckians' Experiences with *Delaying or Going without Care Due to Cost*

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Results From the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky
and The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati



The cost of healthcare has been increasing for several decades. Some people delay getting care because the cost is too expensive. The 2009 *Kentucky Health Issues Poll* asked if Kentuckians had gone without or delayed needed medical care, dental care, or prescription medications in the last 12 months because of the cost.

Over 1 in 3 Kentuckians Go without Care

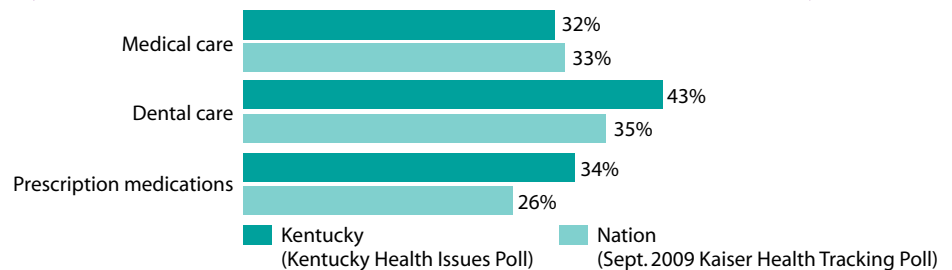
One-third of Kentucky's adults (32%) reported that they or a member of their household delayed or went without needed medical care; four in ten (43%) delayed or went without needed dental care; and one-third (34%) delayed filling or did not fill a needed prescription in the last year. These were about the same as or higher than rates for adults across the nation.¹

Uninsured and Low-Income Kentuckians Go without Care More Often

About 1 in 4 Kentuckians (28%) reported not having insurance in the *Poll*, 1 in 4 (26%) reported living in a household with an income below 100% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG), and 1 in 5 (21%) reported living in a household with an income at

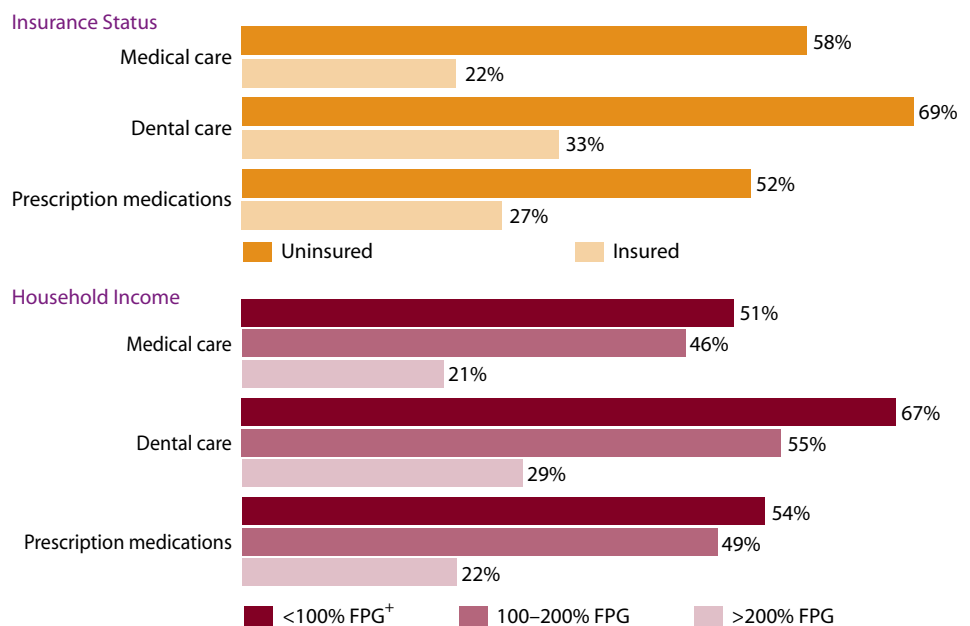
¹ National polling results come from the September 2009 Kaiser Health Tracking Poll available at: <http://www.kff.org/kaiserpolls/upload/7988.pdf>.

In the past 12 months, was there a time when you or another member of your household needed medical care, dental care, or a prescription medication but did not get it or delayed getting it because of the cost?* (Graph reflects the percentage answering "yes.")



* The question asked of national respondents was comparable, but slightly different: "In the past 12 months, have you or another family member living in your household put off or postponed getting health care you needed, not filled a prescription for medicine, or skipped dental care or checkups because of the cost, or not?"

Kentucky adults reporting they or a household member delayed getting or did not get care in the past 12 months, by group (Graph reflects the percentage answering "yes.")



⁺ 100% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG) in 2008 was a household income of \$21,200 for a family of 4.

100–200% FPG.² These Kentuckians reported delaying or going

without care at much higher rates than other groups tracked by the *Poll*.

² 100% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG) in 2008 was a household income of \$21,200 for a family of 4.

These findings unless otherwise noted are from the 2009 Kentucky Health Issues Poll, funded by the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky and The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati. The Kentucky Health Issues Poll was conducted October 8–November 6, 2009, by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. A random sample of 1,669 adults from throughout Kentucky was interviewed by telephone. This included 1,464 landline interviews and 205 cell phone interviews with people who did not have a landline telephone. In 95 of 100 cases, the statewide estimates will be accurate to $\pm 2.4\%$. In addition to sampling error, there are other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-response, question wording, or context effects that can introduce error or bias. For more information about the Kentucky Health Issues Poll, please visit www.healthy-ky.org or www.healthfoundation.org/khip.html.