Who's at risk for poor physical health?

EDUCATION

- 22% of people who did not graduate from high school have frequent physical health problems compared to 9% of people who have some college education.

DISABILITY

- 4 out of 10 people with a disability have frequent physical health problems compared to less than 1 out of 10 for those with no disabilities.

INCOME

- 22% of people who earn less than $25,000 have frequent physical health problems compared to 6.4% of people who earn $75,000 or more.

HEALTHCARE COSTS

- People for whom cost is a barrier to accessing medical care are two times more likely to have frequent physical health problems than those people for whom cost isn't a barrier.

Quality of Life

Health-related Quality of Life (HRQoL) include aspects of overall quality of life that can be clearly shown to affect health - either physical or mental. The data presented below examine the Rhode Islanders age 18-64 who reported they experienced 14 or more days out of the past 30 during which physical health was not good.

The data behind the story

This data from 2014 represent Rhode Islanders age 18-64 who reported they experienced 14 or more days out of the past 30 during which physical health was not good. Overall, 12% out of 661,566 people reported 14 or more poor physical health days.

What Are Social Determinants?

The social determinants of health are the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work, and age. These circumstances are shaped by the distribution of money, power, and resources at global, national, and local levels.

Rhode Island Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is a health-related telephone survey that collects data in Rhode Island (and all 50 states) from residents regarding their health-related risk behaviors, chronic health conditions, and use of preventive services.

ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME

(n=559,170)

- Less than $25,000: 22.1%
- $25,000 to $50,000: 9.8%
- $50,000 to $75,000: 8.3%
- $75,000 or more: 6.4%

HEALTHCARE COSTS

(n=596,834)

- Any of the cost barriers below: 20.6%
- None of the cost barriers below: 9.1%

1. Needed to see a doctor in past 12 months but could not due to cost
2. Did not take prescribed medication in past 12 months due to cost
3. Healthcare bills being paid off over time

This work was funded through Cooperative Agreement DP15-1513, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System between the RI Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.