

All individuals have a fundamental right to adequate nutrition and housing, meaningful work, health care, and education. However, individuals living in extreme poverty often lack access to these basic needs. Individuals who are living in extreme poverty are more likely than others to experience hunger and poor health. These individuals are also more likely than others to lack health insurance and be at risk of becoming homeless. By robbing individuals of these basic needs, poverty undermines their human rights and severely limits their opportunity to live with stability and dignity.

According to federal guidelines, families are considered to be living in poverty when their yearly income falls below the Federal Poverty Threshold. In Illinois, over **1.6 million** Illinois residents are living in poverty. At least **737,720** of these individuals are living in extreme poverty.

2011 Federal Annual Income Poverty Thresholds

Persons in Family	Extreme Poverty	Poverty
1	\$5,742	\$11,484
2	\$7,329	\$14,657
3	\$8,985	\$17,916
4	\$11,510	\$23,021

Extreme poverty affects thousands of individuals in State House District 11

In State House District 11, **10,481** people are living in poverty. **5,609 of these individuals are living in extreme poverty.**

In Illinois, **96,610** people are working full-time, year round yet still live in poverty. **548** of these workers live in State House District 11.

Lack of health insurance impacts both the health and financial stability of families. Through the Affordable Care Act, the Illinois General Assembly has the opportunity to extend Medicaid to low income Illinoisans not currently eligible. In District 11, **3,813** uninsured people would have the opportunity to receive healthcare coverage through the Illinois Medicaid Program.

Lack of affordable housing places families at serious risk of experiencing poverty. Families are considered to lack affordable housing when their housing costs exceed half of their income. In District 11, **18%** of renters are paying over half their income in rent.

Source: Social IMPACT Research Center's analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year estimates

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