

Extreme Poverty in State Senate District 32

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 Senate District 32

In State Senate District 32, **18,135** people are living in poverty. **7,513 of these individuals are living in extreme poverty.**

In Illinois, **96,610** people are working full-time, year round yet still live in poverty. **1,181** of these workers live in State Senate District 32.

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 32, **6,418** 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 32, **23%** 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

For more information contact:

Kim Drew • Policy Associate, Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights

33 W. Grand, Suite 500 • Chicago, IL 60654

312-870-4948 • kdrew@heartlandalliance.org

<http://www.heartlandalliance.org/>