Economic Inequity is a Health Issue in Washington State

INCOME INEQUITY & ECONOMIC INSTABILITY AS SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

Social determinants of health include education, poverty, jobs, affordable housing. Individual's and household's income have impact on Washingtonians quality of life, health behaviors and health outcomes.

Access to Health Services: Individuals experiencing economic hardship face barriers to accessing health services including preventive services.

Access to Healthy Food: The prevalence of vegetable and fruit consumption increased as levels of income increased.

Toxic Stress: Lack of financial stability can increase toxic stress that can negatively impact an individual's mental and physical well-being.

Home and Work Environments: Individuals who lack economic stability are more likely to experience living situations that negatively impact their health, including dangerous working conditions, unsafe housing or homelessness, and limited access to affordable healthy foods which can lead to chronic diseases.

WASHINGTON STATE

11% 6X higher 22% 7 years

11% of Washingtonians lived below the Federal Poverty Level in 2016. The FPL for a family of four was $24,250 in 2016.

Washington is considered a state with regressive taxation. The lowest 20% income bracket pays 6 times higher tax compared to the top 1%.

In 2010-2014 there was huge disparity in poverty rate among counties. Lowest was in Island County (10%), Highest was in Whitman (32%).

The difference in Life Expectancy was varied among counties. Highest in was San Juan County (83.7), Lowest was in Grays harbor county (76.61) (IHME, 2014)

HEALTH OUTCOME TIED TO ECONOMICS

Data from the 2018 Washington State Health Assessments by Washington State Department of Health and The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System 2013-2016 indicate that numerous health outcomes are directly linked to household income.

Hypertension risk increased as levels of income decreased.

Infants born to women receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) experienced the highest infant mortality rate compared to other groups of women.

Risk of Asthma increased as household income decreased.

Prevalence of diabetes increased as levels of household income decreased.

Self-reported poor mental health increased as levels of income decreased.

Health insurance coverage (age 18-64) decreased as household income increased.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) increased as household income decreased.

Get involved!

wpsr@wpsr.org
@washingtonPSR
www.wpsr.org
@psr_washington

WASHINGTON STATE Data from the 2018 Washington State Health Assessments by Washington State Department of Health and The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System 2013-2016 indicate that numerous health outcomes are directly linked to household income.

Hypertension risk increased as levels of income decreased.

Infants born to women receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) experienced the highest infant mortality rate compared to other groups of women.

Risk of Asthma increased as household income decreased.

Prevalence of diabetes increased as levels of household income decreased.

Self-reported poor mental health increased as levels of income decreased.

Health insurance coverage (age 18-64) decreased as household income increased.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) increased as household income decreased.

Get involved!

wpsr@wpsr.org
@washingtonPSR
www.wpsr.org
@psr_washington