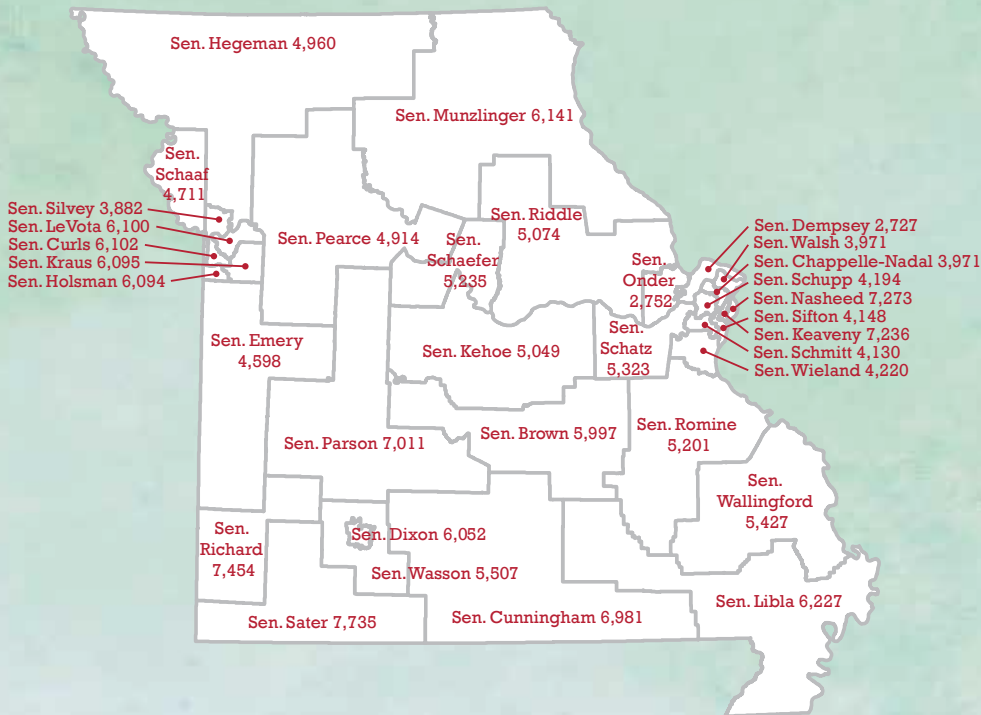


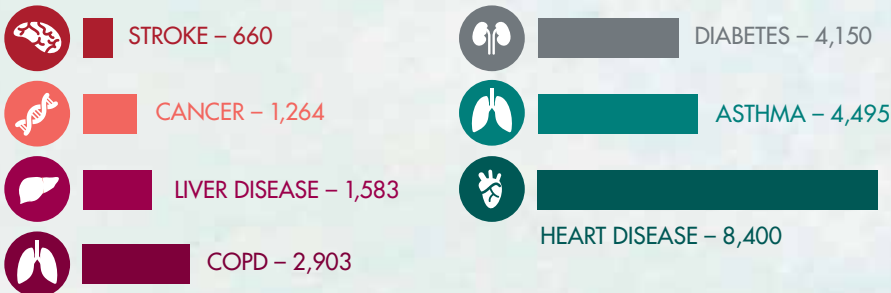
# WHY HEALTH INSURANCE MATTERS FOR MISSOURI WOMEN...

**Health insurance coverage plays a critical role in the health status of women.** Having coverage expands affordability and access to health care services. Women with health insurance coverage utilize critical preventive care such as mammographies and pap tests at significantly higher rates than women without coverage.<sup>1</sup> Women without health insurance coverage often experience limited access to care, lower standards of care when it is accessible, and face disparities in health outcomes. Uninsured women also are unable to benefit from prenatal care at the same rate as women with insurance resulting in poorer health outcomes for the children of mothers without insurance coverage.<sup>2</sup>

## Number of Uninsured Missouri Females Under Age 65 Who Would be Covered by Medicaid Reform by Senate District



Last year alone, more than **142,000** uninsured Missouri women were admitted to a hospital or visited an emergency room **308,000** times. The costs of these visits that were paid out of pocket, by charity care or resulted in a defaulted loan totaled **\$1,170,000,000**, with **33,158** uninsured Missouri women experiencing catastrophic medical spending exceeding 25% of annual household income.<sup>3</sup> **On top of this financial stress, these women underwent the following devastating diagnoses:**



**Be informed!** For more information on uninsured women in Missouri, read *HIDI Healthstats*. Send your lawmaker a note about how important Medicaid Reform is to you and the uninsured women in your community.

[missourihealthmatters.com/action](http://missourihealthmatters.com/action)

Together, we can help extend health insurance benefits to 182,000 uninsured Missouri women!

## DID YOU KNOW?

**15% of Missouri women under age 65 are uninsured<sup>3</sup>**



(377,000 out of 2.5 million uninsured)

**48% of them would be covered through Medicaid reform**



(182,000 out of 377,000 make less than 138% FPL)

**which could result in...**

**73,000**  
additional mammographies

**26,000**  
additional pap tests

**43,000**  
more women with medical homes

**11,000**  
fewer women and families with catastrophic medical bills

**26,000**  
fewer women forced to borrow or skip bills to stay afloat

**16,600**  
fewer women diagnosed with depression

**Better Health**

**for Missouri**

**Women!**

<sup>1</sup> The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. Women's Health Insurance Coverage. December 10, 2014. Available online: <http://kff.org/womens-health-policy/fact-sheet/womens-health-insurance-coverage-fact-sheet/>.

<sup>2</sup> Bobbjerg R, Hadley J. Why Health Insurance is Important. The Urban Institute. November 2007. Health Policy Briefs (DC-SPG no1). Available online: [http://www.urban.org/uploadedPDF/411569\\_importance\\_of\\_insurance.pdf](http://www.urban.org/uploadedPDF/411569_importance_of_insurance.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. 2012 Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE) Program. Available online: <http://www.census.gov/did/www/sahie/>.

<sup>4</sup> Baicker K, et al. The Oregon Experiment—Effects of Medicaid on Clinical Outcomes. The New England Journal of Medicine. May 2, 2013. 368;18: 1713-22.

<sup>5</sup> Hospital Industry Data Institute. 2013 Missouri Inpatient and Outpatient Databases.