

Impact and opinions of Affordable Care Act among Kentucky adults

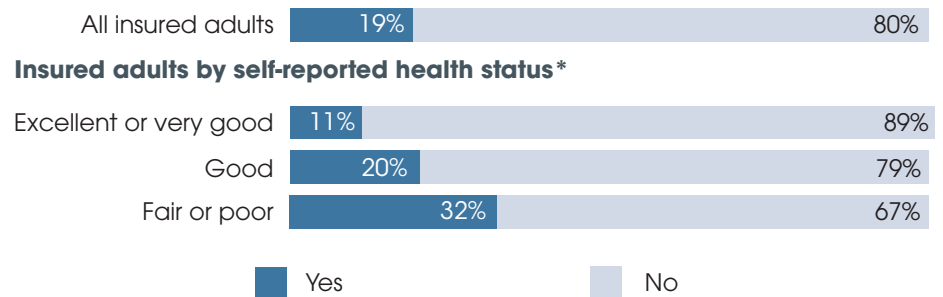
The **Kentucky Health Issues Poll (KHIP)** has tracked Kentucky adults' views about the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) since it became law in 2010.

Under the ACA, from 2013 to 2016 more than 600,000 Kentuckians enrolled in insurance coverage through Medicaid and the Kentucky Children's Health Insurance Program (KCHIP).¹ They applied both through kynect, the Kentucky-based online marketplace at kynect.ky.gov, and through kynectors, people who helped applicants in person.

Governor Matt Bevin dismantled kynect in October 2016 after getting federal approval to do so. Since Nov. 1, 2016, eligible Kentuckians enroll in health plans on the federal marketplace at healthcare.gov or on benefind.ky.gov for Medicaid and KCHIP. Bevin also submitted an 1115 Medicaid waiver proposal to the federal government in August 2016. The waiver proposed significant changes, such as work requirements, small

¹ Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services. Medicaid & CHIP: July 2016 Monthly Applications, Eligibility Determinations and Enrollment Report of Sept. 27, 2016. Accessed Dec. 12, 2016, from <http://bit.ly/2iBwJg6>.

Are you concerned that you may lose your (health insurance) coverage within the next 12 months? (Percentages may not add to 100% because the response "don't know" is not included.)



* KHIP asked, "Would you say that in general your health is ... excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?"

monthly premiums and incentive accounts, among others.²

KHIP 2016 was conducted in the weeks before the presidential election and asked questions about experiences with and opinions about the ACA.

2 in 10 insured adults concerned about losing insurance

When KHIP was conducted, 90% of Kentucky adults reported that they were insured. Of these, about 2 in 10 (19%) reported being concerned about losing coverage in the next 12 months.

² Commonwealth of Kentucky, Office of the Governor, Kentucky HEALTH. Accessed Dec. 12, 2016, from <http://bit.ly/2ibGD4Y>.

Eight in 10 (80%) reported not being concerned. Responses differed by self-reported health status. Insured Kentucky adults reporting fair or poor health were more likely to be concerned (32%) than those reporting good (20%) and excellent or very good health (11%).

Equal shares report impact from ACA

Five in 10 Kentucky adults (51%) reported that the ACA had not had an effect on their families. More than 2 in 10 reported either a positive impact (23%) or a negative impact (23%). This is unchanged from 2015. (See graph on next page.)

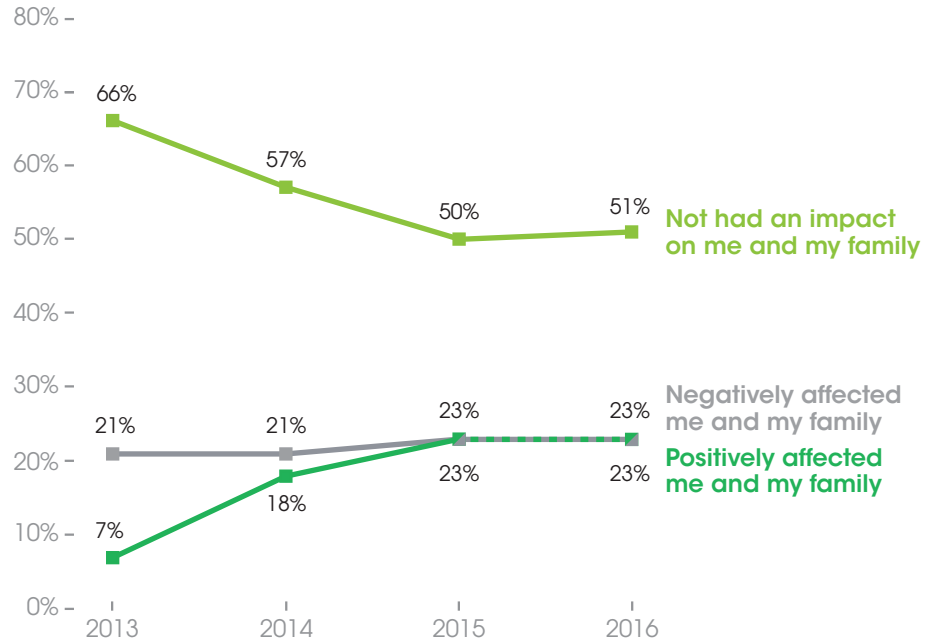
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Opinions about ACA unchanged from 2015

The 2016 KHIP found that opinions about the ACA were stable compared with 2015. A similar percentage of Kentucky adults reported unfavorable (46%) and favorable opinions (40%) in both years. The views in Kentucky were similar to national views of the health care law during this time period.³

³The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation. Kaiser Health Tracking Poll, November 2016. Accessed Dec. 12, 2016, from <http://kaiserf.am/2hTJu4S>.

Overall, which of the following statements would you say best describes the impact of the health reform law on you and your family personally? The health reform law has ...



* Percentages do not add to 100% because the responses "don't know" and "both positive and negative" are not included.

Given what you know about the health reform law, do you have a generally favorable or generally unfavorable opinion of it? (Percentages may not add to 100% because of rounding.)

