

CONTRACEPTIVE ACCESS IN MISSOURI

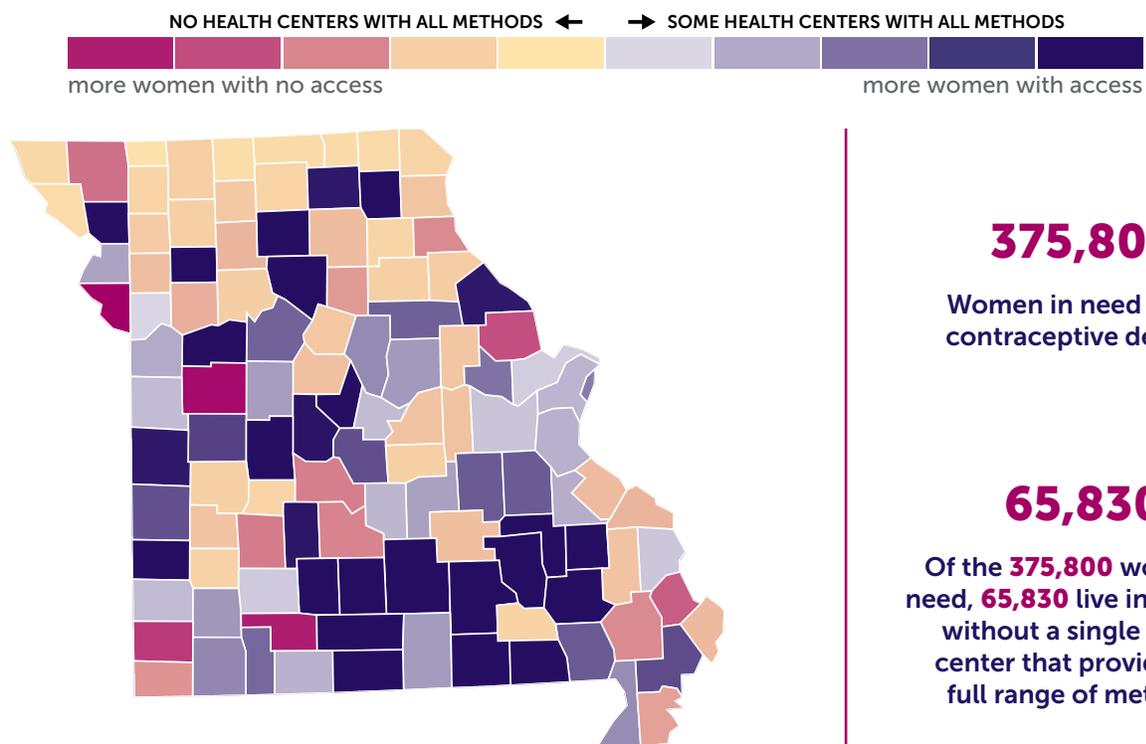
As of August 06, 2020

Contraceptive Deserts Nationwide

More than 19 million U.S. women with low incomes live in contraceptive deserts—counties in which there is not reasonable access to a health center offering the full range of contraceptive methods. Of those 19 million women, roughly 1.5 million women live in counties without a single health center that offers the full range of contraceptive methods.

These access barriers put women already struggling to make ends meet at risk of not being able to get the birth control method right for them. These women might face additional transportation costs, child care costs, and unpaid time off work because of the long distances they need to travel to access care.

Contraceptive Deserts in Missouri



For more information please see: <https://powertodecide.org/what-we-do/access/birth-control-access>

What is the Impact of the Gag Rule?

For nearly 50 years, the Title X Family Planning Program has provided federal funding to health centers that provide free or low-cost birth control and related services. The Trump Administration has undermined the ability of Title X health centers to provide quality care by enforcing the “domestic gag rule.” The gag rule forces health centers that receive Title X funds to withhold information from patients about abortion services and care. In addition, health centers are required to cease providing abortion care with non-Title X funds unless they do so at a physically separate site, which is impossible for many health centers.

To date, approximately 8.8 million women in need live in counties that have lost Title X support for reproductive health care access. The loss of funds is likely to result in increased costs, shorter hours, and fewer services being offered by impacted centers. For women living paycheck to paycheck, losing affordable access to the birth control they need because the health center they depend on has lost its Title X funding compromises their reproductive health and well-being.

For more information, please see <https://powertodecide.org/what-we-do/information/resource-library/impacts-domestic-gag-rule>

Gag Rule Impact in Missouri



Approximately, **30,100** women of reproductive age (13-44) in need of publicly funded contraception live in a county losing some Title X resources.

States Can Improve Contraceptive Access, Here's What Missouri is Doing

Is Missouri Doing This?

Expand Medicaid to low-income adults as the ACA allows	No*
Medicaid Family Planning Waiver or State Plan Amendment (SPA)	No**
Medicaid reimbursement for postpartum long-acting reversible contraception	Yes
State law/policies that allow pharmacists to prescribe contraception	No
State law/policies to extend the supply of prescription contraceptives	No
State law/policies to educate college students about unplanned pregnancy	No
State laws/policies to protect contraceptive coverage	No

*On August 4, 2020, Missouri voters approved a ballot initiative to expand Medicaid, beginning July 2021.

**Missouri operates an entirely state-funded program to provide family planning services to women 18 and over who have income up to 201% of the federal poverty level.

For more information please see: <https://powertodecide.org/what-we-do/information/resource-library/key-information-about-us-states>