



Research Reference
Mortality in Colorado due to the lack of health care coverage
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Wilper et al's 2009 paper in the *American Journal of Public Health* finds that uninsured Americans between the ages of 18 and 64 are 1.8 times more likely to die each year than insured Americans. If the death rate is adjusted for additional demographic and health variables, those who are uninsured are 1.4 times as likely to die each year. In 2014, 15 percent of Coloradans in this age group were uninsured, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation. Extrapolating Wilper et al's preferred result suggests that 1,013 adults in Colorado died from lack of health insurance that year, and their more conservative estimate suggests that 535 adults died from lack of health insurance.

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Wilper, W.P, Woolhandler, S., Lasser, K.E., McCormick, D., Bor, D.H. & Himmelstein, D.U. (2009). Health Insurance and Mortality in US Adults, *American Journal of Public Health* 99(12), 2289–2295.

Kaiser Family Foundation. Health Insurance Coverage of Adults 19-64. (2015). Accessed online. <http://kff.org/other/state-indicator/adults-19-64/>