In Midwest, positive trends seen in rates of poverty, uninsured

Some notable trends in poverty, health insurance and household income in the Midwest were revealed in recently released U.S. Census Bureau data.

For example:

- Illinois and Indiana were two of 16 U.S. states with a “statistically significant” drop in poverty between 2013 and 2016. The rate of people living in poverty fell to 11.5 percent in Illinois and 12.7 percent in Indiana.
- Minnesota has the second-lowest poverty rate in the nation, at 8.3 percent. Ohio is the only Midwestern state with a poverty rate that exceeds the U.S. average — 14.3 percent vs. 13.7 percent (using a three-year average between 2014 and 2016).
- Between 2015 and 2016, the Midwest lagged behind two other U.S. regions on a measure of income growth. In the South and West, median household incomes rose by 3.9 percent and 3.3 percent, respectively. Growth in the Midwest and East was not “statistically significant.”
- The percentage of people without health insurance fell considerably across the Midwest between 2013 and 2016, with the steepest decline occurring in Illinois (12.7 percent to 6.5 percent). Minnesota has the lowest uninsured rate in the Midwest (4.1 percent).

By:
Monday, October 23, 2017 at 11:23 AM