



## CHILDHOOD RISK

# Poverty (Youth)

### INDICATOR

Percent of children who are living in poverty.

**Numerator** Number of children in families under 200% of FPL

**Denominator** Children aged 0-18

### DESCRIPTION

This metric is the percent of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes under 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), defined by family income and size.

### IMPORTANCE

Financial strain can lead to family stress and difficult choices about how to prioritize meeting basic needs. Poverty is also associated with more frequent stressful experiences, such as family conflict, divorce, and abuse, which can lead to delays in accessing health care, poor nutrition, unstable housing, and violence. The stressful experiences associated with chronic and episodic poverty have been identified as risk factors for mental health symptoms among children and youth (Duncan, 1994).

### LIMITATIONS

- FPL is not adjusted based on cost of living across the US.
- Poverty status is not determined for people in military barracks, institutional quarters, or for foster children under age 15.

### ADDITIONAL ANALYSES

#### Wisconsin Analyses

Race	% Children Under 200% FPL
American Indian/ Alaskan	65%
Asian	49%
Black	75%
Other	66%
White	30%

#### National Analyses

Race	% Children Under 200% FPL
American Indian/ Alaskan	64%
Asian	32%
Black	62%
Other	65%
White	35%

YEAR:		2016	
WI	US	Best	Worst
35%*	41%	23%	81%
		NH	NM
PAST YEAR:		2015	
WI	US		
37%*	43%		

\* Indicates a statistically significant difference from the US value at  $p < 0.05$ .

### SOURCE

Duncan, G. J., Brooks-Gunn, J., & Klebanov, P. K. (1994). Economic deprivation and early childhood development. *Child development*, 65(2), 296-318.  
 Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey, 2002 through 2016 American Community Survey. Retrieved from <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/47-children-below-200-percent-poverty#national>. FPL is based on household makeup and total income. FPL definitions can be found here: <https://www.healthcare.gov/glossary/federal-poverty-level-fpl/>.