**Indicator**
Percent of children who are living in poverty.

**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 their 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.

**Source**