K12 ACADEMICS — NATIONAL REFERENCE SERIES

Child Poverty by State

The single strongest force shaping education outcomes — the share of children living in poverty, in every state. Because a child's zip code shouldn't decide their future. One page per state. U.S. Census, 2023.



K12 ACADEMICS

Find Your Community

2026 EDITION

ABOUT K12 ACADEMICS

The world's largest education resource.

Online since 2004, K12 Academics has helped millions of families, students and educators **find the right school, college, camp, business and program in their community** — whatever their circumstances.

21+	200+	30M+	185
Years online, since 2004	Directories, national & global	People reached each year	Countries reached monthly

WHY POVERTY, IN AN EDUCATION LIBRARY?

Because it is the **single biggest predictor of educational outcomes** — shaping school readiness, achievement, and graduation more than any policy. Understanding where children face poverty is the first step to serving them.

SEE ALSO

School Funding by State · Chronic Absenteeism by State · Educational Attainment by State · Pre-K by State

WHAT THIS IS

The number behind the numbers.

Every state's page shows the **share of its children (under 18) living below the poverty line**, its national rank, and how it compares to the nation — the context that underlies test scores, attendance, and attainment everywhere.

1 IN 6 CHILDREN

In 2023, **16%** of U.S. children — about 1 in 6 — lived in poverty. But it ranges more than three-fold, from **8%** in New Hampshire to **25.3%** in New Mexico. Concentrations are highest across the South and Southwest.

A NOTE ON THE MEASURE

This uses the **Census's official child-poverty rate** (ACS), not free/reduced-lunch eligibility — which universal-meal programs have made an unreliable poverty proxy in recent years. This is the cleaner measure.

Source. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Dataset, **2023** (via America's Health Rankings). Share of children under 18 in households below the federal poverty threshold. Rank 1 = lowest child poverty.

CHILD POVERTY — #48 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Alabama

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**21.1%**
National rank	**#48 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+5.1 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 5 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **21.1%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Alabama, **21.1%** of children live in poverty — **far above** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#48 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), among the highest in the nation. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #11 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

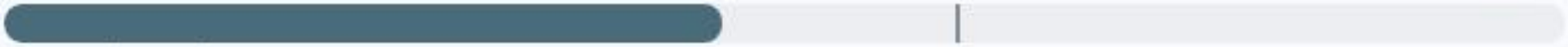
Alaska

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**12.1%**
National rank	**#11 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 3.9 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 8 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **12.1%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Alaska, **12.1%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#11 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #30 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Arizona

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**15.4%**
National rank	**#30 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 0.6 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 6 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **15.4%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Arizona, **15.4%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#30 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #46 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Arkansas

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**20.9%**
National rank	**#46 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+4.9 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 5 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **20.9%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Arkansas, **20.9%** of children live in poverty — **far above** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#46 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), among the highest in the nation. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #28 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

California

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**14.9%**
National rank	**#28 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 1.1 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 7 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **14.9%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In California, **14.9%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#28 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #7 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

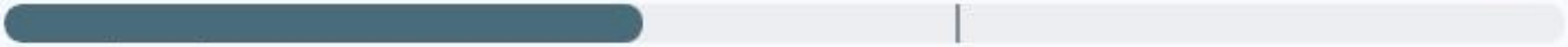
Colorado

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**10.7%**
National rank	**#7 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 5.3 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 9 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **10.7%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Colorado, **10.7%** of children live in poverty — **far below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#7 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), among the lowest in the nation. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #20 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Connecticut

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**13.3%**
National rank	**#20 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 2.7 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 8 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **13.3%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Connecticut, **13.3%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#20 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #29 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Delaware

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**15.2%**
National rank	**#29 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 0.8 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 7 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **15.2%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Delaware, **15.2%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#29 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #32 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Florida

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**15.7%**
National rank	**#32 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 0.3 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 6 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **15.7%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Florida, **15.7%** of children live in poverty — **about** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#32 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #39 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Georgia

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**18.4%**
National rank	**#39 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+2.4 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 5 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **18.4%**

U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Georgia, **18.4%** of children live in poverty — **above** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#39 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #9 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

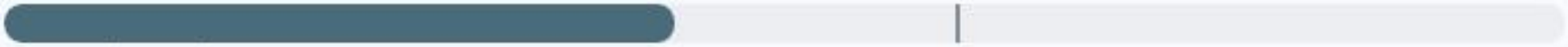
Hawaii

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**11.4%**
National rank	**#9 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 4.6 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 9 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **11.4%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Hawaii, **11.4%** of children live in poverty — **far below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#9 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #10 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

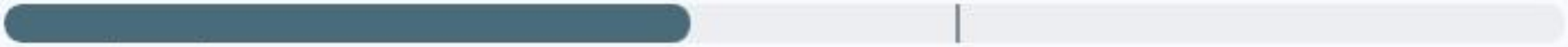
Idaho

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**11.5%**
National rank	**#10 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 4.5 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 9 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **11.5%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Idaho, **11.5%** of children live in poverty — **far below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#10 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #26 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Illinois

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**14.7%**
National rank	**#26 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 1.3 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 7 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **14.7%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Illinois, **14.7%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#26 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #31 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Indiana

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**15.4%**
National rank	**#31 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 0.6 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 6 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **15.4%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Indiana, **15.4%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#31 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #22 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Iowa

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**13.6%**
National rank	**#22 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 2.4 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 7 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **13.6%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Iowa, **13.6%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#22 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #19 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Kansas

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**13.2%**
National rank	**#19 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 2.8 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 8 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **13.2%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Kansas, **13.2%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#19 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #47 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Kentucky

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**21%**
National rank	**#47 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+5 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 5 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **21%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Kentucky, **21%** of children live in poverty — **far above** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#47 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), among the highest in the nation. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #50 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Louisiana

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**25%**
National rank	**#50 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+9 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 4 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **25%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Louisiana, **25%** of children live in poverty — **far above** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#50 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), among the highest in the nation. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #15 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

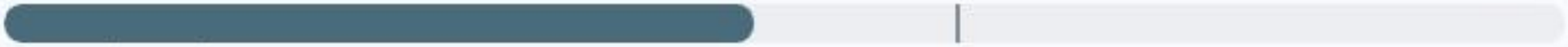
Maine

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**12.6%**
National rank	**#15 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 3.4 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 8 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **12.6%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Maine, **12.6%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#15 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #6 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

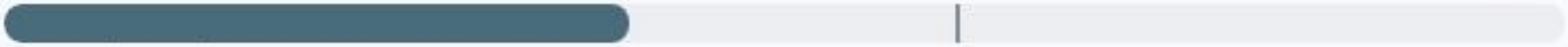
Maryland

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**10.6%**
National rank	**#6 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 5.4 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 9 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **10.6%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Maryland, **10.6%** of children live in poverty — **far below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#6 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), among the lowest in the nation. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #14 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

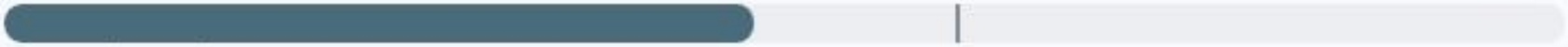
Massachusetts

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**12.6%**
National rank	**#14 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 3.4 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 8 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **12.6%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Massachusetts, **12.6%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#14 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #36 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Michigan

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**17.6%**
National rank	**#36 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+1.6 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 6 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **17.6%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Michigan, **17.6%** of children live in poverty — **above** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#36 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #5 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

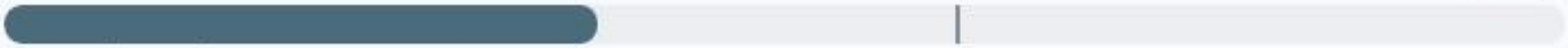
Minnesota

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**10.1%**
National rank	**#5 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 5.9 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 10 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **10.1%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Minnesota, **10.1%** of children live in poverty — **far below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#5 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), among the lowest in the nation. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #49 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Mississippi

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**23.2%**
National rank	**#49 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+7.2 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 4 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **23.2%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Mississippi, **23.2%** of children live in poverty — **far above** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#49 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), among the highest in the nation. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #24 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Missouri

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**14.4%**
National rank	**#24 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 1.6 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 7 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **14.4%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Missouri, **14.4%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#24 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #12 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

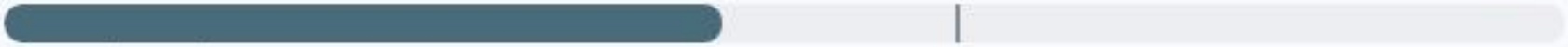
Montana

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**12.2%**
National rank	**#12 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 3.8 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 8 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **12.2%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Montana, **12.2%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#12 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #8 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

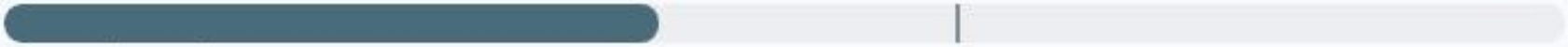
Nebraska

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**11.1%**
National rank	**#8 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 4.9 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 9 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **11.1%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Nebraska, **11.1%** of children live in poverty — **far below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#8 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), among the lowest in the nation. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #34 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Nevada

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**16.1%**
National rank	**#34 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+0.1 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 6 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **16.1%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Nevada, **16.1%** of children live in poverty — **about** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#34 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #1 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

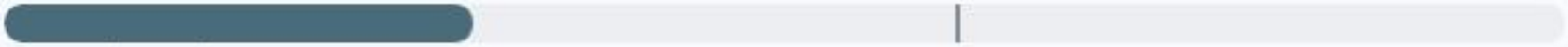
New Hampshire

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**8%**
National rank	**#1 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 8 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 12 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **8%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In New Hampshire, **8%** of children live in poverty — **far below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#1 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), among the lowest in the nation. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #18 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

New Jersey

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**12.9%**
National rank	**#18 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 3.1 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 8 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **12.9%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In New Jersey, **12.9%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#18 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #51 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

New Mexico

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**25.3%**
National rank	**#51 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+9.3 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 4 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **25.3%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In New Mexico, **25.3%** of children live in poverty — **far above** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#51 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), among the highest in the nation. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #41 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

New York

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**18.6%**
National rank	**#41 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+2.6 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 5 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **18.6%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In New York, **18.6%** of children live in poverty — **above** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#41 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #37 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

North Carolina

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**17.6%**
National rank	**#37 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+1.6 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 6 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **17.6%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In North Carolina, **17.6%** of children live in poverty — **above** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#37 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #2 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

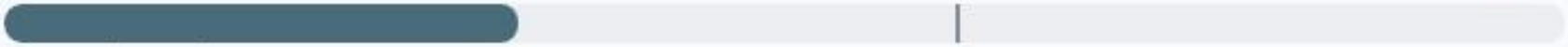
North Dakota

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**8.7%**
National rank	**#2 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 7.3 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 11 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **8.7%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In North Dakota, **8.7%** of children live in poverty — **far below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#2 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), among the lowest in the nation. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #38 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Ohio

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**17.7%**
National rank	**#38 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+1.7 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 6 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **17.7%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Ohio, **17.7%** of children live in poverty — **above** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#38 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #45 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Oklahoma

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**20.8%**
National rank	**#45 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+4.8 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 5 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **20.8%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Oklahoma, **20.8%** of children live in poverty — **far above** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#45 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), among the highest in the nation. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #23 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Oregon

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**13.6%**
National rank	**#23 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 2.4 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 7 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **13.6%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Oregon, **13.6%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#23 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #33 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Pennsylvania

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**15.7%**
National rank	**#33 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 0.3 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 6 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **15.7%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Pennsylvania, **15.7%** of children live in poverty — **about** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#33 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #21 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Rhode Island

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**13.4%**
National rank	**#21 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 2.6 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 7 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **13.4%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Rhode Island, **13.4%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#21 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #42 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

South Carolina

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**19.1%**
National rank	**#42 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+3.1 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 5 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **19.1%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In South Carolina, **19.1%** of children live in poverty — **above** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#42 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #25 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

South Dakota

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**14.6%**
National rank	**#25 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 1.4 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 7 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **14.6%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In South Dakota, **14.6%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#25 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #43 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Tennessee

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**19.7%**
National rank	**#43 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+3.7 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 5 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **19.7%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Tennessee, **19.7%** of children live in poverty — **above** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#43 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #40 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Texas

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**18.4%**
National rank	**#40 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+2.4 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 5 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **18.4%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Texas, **18.4%** of children live in poverty — **above** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#40 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #4 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

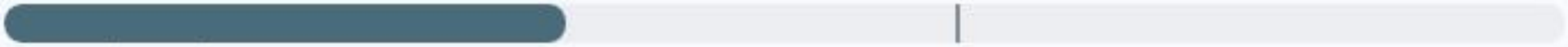
Utah

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**9.5%**
National rank	**#4 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 6.5 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 11 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **9.5%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Utah, **9.5%** of children live in poverty — **far below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#4 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), among the lowest in the nation. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #3 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

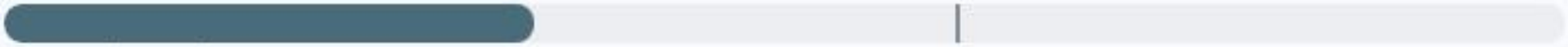
Vermont

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**9%**
National rank	**#3 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 7 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 11 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **9%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Vermont, **9%** of children live in poverty — **far below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#3 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), among the lowest in the nation. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #16 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

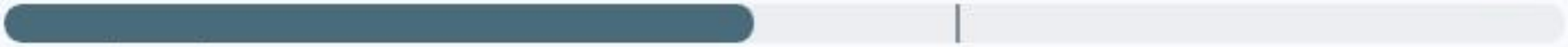
Virginia

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**12.7%**
National rank	**#16 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 3.3 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 8 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **12.7%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Virginia, **12.7%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#16 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #13 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

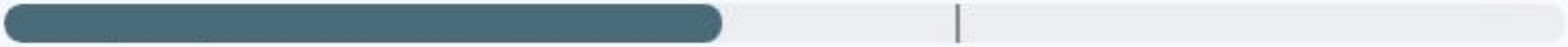
Washington

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**12.2%**
National rank	**#13 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 3.8 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 8 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **12.2%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Washington, **12.2%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#13 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #35 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Washington, D.C.

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**17.1%**
National rank	**#35 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+1.1 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 6 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **17.1%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Washington, D.C., **17.1%** of children live in poverty — **above** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#35 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

RESOURCES & SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES
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CHILD POVERTY — #44 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

West Virginia

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**20.1%**
National rank	**#44 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**+4.1 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 5 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **20.1%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In West Virginia, **20.1%** of children live in poverty — **far above** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#44 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), among the highest in the nation. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #17 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Wisconsin

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**12.8%**
National rank	**#17 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 3.2 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 8 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **12.8%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Wisconsin, **12.8%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#17 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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CHILD POVERTY — #27 OF 51 (1=LOWEST)

Wyoming

U.S. CENSUS, 2023 — AT A GLANCE

Child poverty rate	**14.8%**
National rank	**#27 of 51 (1=lowest)**
vs. U.S. average	**— 1.2 pts**
Roughly	**~1 in 7 children**

CHILD POVERTY VS. THE NATION

Children under 18 in poverty **14.8%**



U.S. 16% (marker) — scale 0–26%

WHY IT MATTERS FOR LEARNING

Children in poverty are more likely to start school behind, to be chronically absent, and to face barriers to achievement — which is why supports like Title I, Pre-K, and free meals target them.

In Wyoming, **14.8%** of children live in poverty — **below** the U.S. 16% — placing it **#27 of 51** (where #1 is lowest), in the middle of the pack. For schools, that shapes readiness, attendance, and achievement every day.

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DATA SOURCE

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Dataset, 2023 (via America's Health Rankings). Children under 18 below the federal poverty threshold. U.S. rate 16%.

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