

# Alabama

POPULATION OF ALABAMA IN 2014: **4,727,549**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN ALABAMA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **910,175**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Alabama, the poverty rate was 19.3 percent, ranking it 48 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Alabama must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Alabama ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Alabama is doing best

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **7**

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **10**

Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **30**

## Where Alabama is doing worst

Rank in Savings and Assets: **48**

Rank in Child Poverty Rate: **48**

Rank in Poverty Rate: **48**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**48**

### POVERTY RATE

19.3 percent of people in Alabama had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**48**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

27.5 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Alabama had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**39**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Alabama was 16.5 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

30

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

80 percent of high school students in Alabama graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

43

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

33.7 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Alabama had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

47

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

21 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Alabama who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

40

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

6.8 percent of all workers in Alabama were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

46

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Alabama in 2014, women's median earnings were 72.6 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

10

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

4 children in Alabama lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

42

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 34.3 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Alabama. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

37

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

25.9 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Alabama did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

44

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

16.8 percent of households in Alabama were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

41

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

18.8 percent of unemployed workers in Alabama were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

7

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Alabama had 78 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

48

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

11.9 percent of households in Alabama used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Alaska

POPULATION OF ALASKA IN 2014: 717,723

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN ALASKA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: 80,627

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Alaska, the poverty rate was 11.2 percent, ranking it 6 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Alaska must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Alaska ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Alaska is doing best

Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **1**Rank in Income Inequality: **1**Rank in Poverty Rate: **6**

## Where Alaska is doing worst

Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **49**Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **48**Rank in Higher Education Attainment Rate: **45**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**6**

### POVERTY RATE

11.2 percent of people in Alaska had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.

**12**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

15.3 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Alaska had incomes below the poverty line in 2014.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.

**1**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Alaska was 11.3 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

45

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

72 percent of high school students in Alaska graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

45

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

33 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Alaska had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

23

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

15 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Alaska who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

40

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

6.8 percent of all workers in Alaska were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

20

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in Alaska in 2014, women's median earnings were 80.8 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

48

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

10 children in Alaska lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

35

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 30.3 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Alaska. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

49

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

31 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Alaska did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

13

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

12 percent of households in Alaska were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

1

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

53.4 percent of unemployed workers in Alaska were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

18

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Alaska had 69 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

22

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

6.3 percent of households in Alaska used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Arizona

POPULATION OF ARIZONA IN 2014: **6,573,369**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN ARIZONA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **1,199,061**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Arizona, the poverty rate was 18.2 percent, ranking it 42 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Arizona must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Arizona ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Arizona is doing best

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **9**Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **32**Rank in Income Inequality: **33**

## Where Arizona is doing worst

Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **45**Rank in Disconnected Youth: **45**Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **45**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**42**

### POVERTY RATE

18.2 percent of people in Arizona had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**41**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

25.2 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Arizona had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**33**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Arizona was 15.4 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

43

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

75 percent of high school students in Arizona graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

39

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

34.9 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Arizona had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

45

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

20 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Arizona who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

42

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

6.9 percent of all workers in Arizona were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

9

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Arizona in 2014, women's median earnings were 84 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

42

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

9 children in Arizona lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

41

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 33.1 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Arizona. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*



32

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

24.4 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Arizona did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

36

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

15.4 percent of households in Arizona were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

45

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

17.4 percent of unemployed workers in Arizona were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

45

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Arizona had 49 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

43

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

9.4 percent of households in Arizona used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Arkansas

POPULATION OF ARKANSAS IN 2014: **2,882,856**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN ARKANSAS LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **543,882**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Arkansas, the poverty rate was 18.9 percent, ranking it 46 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Arkansas must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Arkansas ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Arkansas is doing best

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **16**

Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **17**

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **20**

## Where Arkansas is doing worst

Rank in Teen Birth Rate: **51**

Rank in Higher Education Attainment Rate: **50**

Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **50**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**46**

### POVERTY RATE

18.9 percent of people in Arkansas had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**45**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

26 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Arkansas had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**25**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Arkansas was 14.7 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

17

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

85 percent of high school students in Arkansas graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

50

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

30 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Arkansas had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

42

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

19 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Arkansas who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

26

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

6.1 percent of all workers in Arkansas were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

32

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in Arkansas in 2014, women's median earnings were 78.1 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

20

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

5 children in Arkansas lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

51

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 43.5 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Arkansas. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

24

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

20.9 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Arkansas did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

50

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

19.9 percent of households in Arkansas were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

21

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

29.9 percent of unemployed workers in Arkansas were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

16

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Arkansas had 73 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

46

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

11.2 percent of households in Arkansas used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# California

POPULATION OF CALIFORNIA IN 2014: **38,060,228**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN CALIFORNIA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **6,259,098**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In California, the poverty rate was 16.4 percent, ranking it 34 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which California must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where California ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where California is doing best

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **8**Rank in Savings and Assets: **13**Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **16**

## Where California is doing worst

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **51**Rank in Unemployment Rate: **47**Rank in Income Inequality: **45**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**34****POVERTY RATE**

16.4 percent of people in California had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**35****CHILD POVERTY RATE**

22.4 percent of children under age 18 in related families in California had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**45****INCOME INEQUALITY**

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in California was 17.5 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

30

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

80 percent of high school students in California graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

29

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

39.3 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in California had an associate’s degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

23

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

15 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in California who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

47

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

7.5 percent of all workers in California were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

8

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in California in 2014, women’s median earnings were 84.1 percent of men’s median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

28

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

6 children in California lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

19

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 23.6 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in California. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

25

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

22.2 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in California did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

22

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

13.5 percent of households in California were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

16

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

32.5 percent of unemployed workers in California were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

51

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

California had 30 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

13

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

5.3 percent of households in California used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Colorado

POPULATION OF COLORADO IN 2014: **5,237,149**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN COLORADO LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **630,786**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Colorado, the poverty rate was 12 percent, ranking it 13 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Colorado must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Colorado ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Colorado is doing best

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **10**

Rank in Child Poverty Rate: **11**

Rank in Disconnected Youth: **11**

## Where Colorado is doing worst

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **38**

Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **36**

Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **29**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**13**

### POVERTY RATE

12 percent of people in Colorado had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**11**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

15.1 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Colorado had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**20**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Colorado was 14.1 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*



STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

**36**

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

77 percent of high school students in Colorado graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

**13**

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

45.8 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Colorado had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

**11**

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

12 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Colorado who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

**15**

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

5 percent of all workers in Colorado were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

**13**

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Colorado in 2014, women's median earnings were 81.9 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

**10**

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

4 children in Colorado lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

**18**

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 23.4 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Colorado. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

21

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

18.9 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Colorado did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

23

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

13.6 percent of households in Colorado were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

29

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

26.7 percent of unemployed workers in Colorado were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

38

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Colorado had 57 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

29

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

7.8 percent of households in Colorado used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Connecticut

POPULATION OF CONNECTICUT IN 2014: **3,485,629**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN CONNECTICUT LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **374,772**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Connecticut, the poverty rate was 10.8 percent, ranking it 3 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Connecticut must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Connecticut ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Connecticut is doing best

Rank in Savings and Assets: **2**Rank in Poverty Rate: **3**Rank in Teen Birth Rate: **3**

## Where Connecticut is doing worst

Rank in Income Inequality: **49**Rank in Unemployment Rate: **37**Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **26**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**3**

### POVERTY RATE

10.8 percent of people in Connecticut had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**7**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

14.4 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Connecticut had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**49**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Connecticut was 18.6 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

10

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

86 percent of high school students in Connecticut graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

8

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

47 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Connecticut had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

11

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

12 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Connecticut who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

37

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

6.6 percent of all workers in Connecticut were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

11

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Connecticut in 2014, women's median earnings were 82.6 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

10

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

4 children in Connecticut lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

3

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 12.9 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Connecticut. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

6

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

13.1 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Connecticut did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

26

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

13.9 percent of households in Connecticut were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

8

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

39.8 percent of unemployed workers in Connecticut were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

24

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Connecticut had 65 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

2

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

3.2 percent of households in Connecticut used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Delaware

POPULATION OF DELAWARE IN 2014: **909,611**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN DELAWARE LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **113,508**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Delaware, the poverty rate was 12.5 percent, ranking it 17 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Delaware must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Delaware ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Delaware is doing best

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **2**

Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **10**

Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **14**

## Where Delaware is doing worst

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **43**

Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **30**

Rank in Higher Education Attainment Rate: **27**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**17**

### POVERTY RATE

12.5 percent of people in Delaware had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**19**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

17.5 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Delaware had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**16**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Delaware was 13.9 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

30

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

80 percent of high school students in Delaware graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

27

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

39.8 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Delaware had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

23

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

15 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Delaware who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

19

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

5.7 percent of all workers in Delaware were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

19

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in Delaware in 2014, women's median earnings were 81 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

2

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

3 children in Delaware lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

24

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 24.7 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Delaware. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security***10** LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

14.8 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Delaware did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**14** HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY

12.1 percent of households in Delaware were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**19** UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE

31.5 percent of unemployed workers in Delaware were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**43** AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING

Delaware had 53 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**19** SAVINGS AND ASSETS

5.9 percent of households in Delaware used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.



# District of Columbia



POPULATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA IN 2014: **624,327**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **110,666**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In the District of Columbia, the poverty rate was 17.7 percent, ranking it 40 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which the District of Columbia must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where the District of Columbia ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where the District of Columbia is doing best

Rank in Higher Education Attainment Rate: **1**

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **1**

Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **1**

## Where the District of Columbia is doing worst

Rank in Income Inequality: **51**

Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **50**

Rank in Unemployment Rate: **49**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**40**

### POVERTY RATE

17.7 percent of people in the District of Columbia had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**43**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

25.9 percent of children under age 18 in related families in the District of Columbia had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**51**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in the District of Columbia was 30.1 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

50

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

62 percent of high school students in the District of Columbia graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

1

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

72 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in the District of Columbia had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

35

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

17 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in the District of Columbia who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

49

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

7.8 percent of all workers in the District of Columbia were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

1

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in the District of Columbia in 2014, women's median earnings were 89.5 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

42

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

9 children in the District of Columbia lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

40

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 32.1 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in the District of Columbia. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

1

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

6.1 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in the District of Columbia did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

20

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

13.2 percent of households in the District of Columbia were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

9

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

39.7 percent of unemployed workers in the District of Columbia were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

18

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

the District of Columbia had 69 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

4

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

3.8 percent of households in the District of Columbia used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Florida

POPULATION OF FLORIDA IN 2014: **19,470,210**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN FLORIDA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **3,211,615**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Florida, the poverty rate was 16.5 percent, ranking it 35 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Florida must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Florida ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Florida is doing best

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **6**

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **10**

Rank in Savings and Assets: **22**

## Where Florida is doing worst

Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **50**

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **50**

Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **48**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**35**

### POVERTY RATE

16.5 percent of people in Florida had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**37**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

23.5 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Florida had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**36**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Florida was 15.9 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

40

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

76 percent of high school students in Florida graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

33

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

37.8 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Florida had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B1S001.*

35

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

17 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Florida who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

30

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

6.3 percent of all workers in Florida were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

6

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Florida in 2014, women's median earnings were 84.9 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

10

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

4 children in Florida lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

22

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 24.6 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Florida. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

48

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

30.6 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Florida did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

25

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

13.8 percent of households in Florida were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

50

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

14.4 percent of unemployed workers in Florida were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

50

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Florida had 36 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

22

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

6.3 percent of households in Florida used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Georgia

POPULATION OF GEORGIA IN 2014: **9,823,859**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN GEORGIA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **1,797,969**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Georgia, the poverty rate was 18.3 percent, ranking it 44 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Georgia must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Georgia ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Georgia is doing best

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **2**Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **15**Rank in Savings and Assets: **35**

## Where Georgia is doing worst

Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **51**Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **50**Rank in Child Poverty Rate: **46**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**44****POVERTY RATE**

18.3 percent of people in Georgia had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**46****CHILD POVERTY RATE**

26.1 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Georgia had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**43****INCOME INEQUALITY**

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Georgia was 16.7 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

45

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

72 percent of high school students in Georgia graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

36

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

36.5 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Georgia had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

42

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

19 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Georgia who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

45

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

7.2 percent of all workers in Georgia were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

15

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in Georgia in 2014, women's median earnings were 81.7 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

2

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

3 children in Georgia lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

38

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 30.5 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Georgia. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*



STATE  
RANK*Family economic security***50****LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

31.5 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Georgia did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**37****HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

15.7 percent of households in Georgia were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**51****UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

14.1 percent of unemployed workers in Georgia were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**38****AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Georgia had 57 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**35****SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

8.3 percent of households in Georgia used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Hawaii

POPULATION OF HAWAII IN 2014: **1,379,804**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN HAWAII LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **156,729**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Hawaii, the poverty rate was 11.4 percent, ranking it 7 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Hawaii must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Hawaii ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Hawaii is doing best

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **3**Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **4**Rank in Child Poverty Rate: **6**

## Where Hawaii is doing worst

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **47**Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **27**Rank in Teen Birth Rate: **26**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**7**

### POVERTY RATE

11.4 percent of people in Hawaii had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**6**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

14.4 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Hawaii had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**12**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Hawaii was 13.2 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

27

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

82 percent of high school students in Hawaii graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

22

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

41.4 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Hawaii had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

15

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

13 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Hawaii who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

9

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

4.4 percent of all workers in Hawaii were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

3

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in Hawaii in 2014, women's median earnings were 85.8 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

10

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

4 children in Hawaii lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

26

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 25.1 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Hawaii. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

4

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

11.8 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Hawaii did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

15

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

12.3 percent of households in Hawaii were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

12

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

36 percent of unemployed workers in Hawaii were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

47

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Hawaii had 41 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

15

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

5.4 percent of households in Hawaii used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Idaho

POPULATION OF IDAHO IN 2014: **1,603,083**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN IDAHO LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **237,981**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Idaho, the poverty rate was 14.8 percent, ranking it 26 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Idaho must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Idaho ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Idaho is doing best

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **2**Rank in Income Inequality: **13**Rank in Unemployment Rate: **14**

## Where Idaho is doing worst

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **45**Rank in Higher Education Attainment Rate: **40**Rank in Savings and Assets: **36**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**26****POVERTY RATE**

14.8 percent of people in Idaho had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.

**23****CHILD POVERTY RATE**

18.5 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Idaho had incomes below the poverty line in 2014.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.

**13****INCOME INEQUALITY**

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Idaho was 13.3 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.

STATE  
RANK*Jobs and education*

N/A

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

N/A percent of high school students in Idaho graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

40

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

34.8 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Idaho had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

32

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

16 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Idaho who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

14

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

4.8 percent of all workers in Idaho were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

45

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Idaho in 2014, women's median earnings were 72.8 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK*Family stability and strength*

2

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

3 children in Idaho lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

27

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 25.7 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Idaho. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

**35** **LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**  
25 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Idaho did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**30** **HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**  
14.1 percent of households in Idaho were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**24** **UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**  
28.6 percent of unemployed workers in Idaho were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**27** **AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**  
Idaho had 63 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**36** **SAVINGS AND ASSETS**  
8.5 percent of households in Idaho used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Illinois

POPULATION OF ILLINOIS IN 2014: **12,571,848**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN ILLINOIS LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **1,804,535**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Illinois, the poverty rate was 14.4 percent, ranking it 25 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Illinois must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Illinois ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Illinois is doing best

Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **10**

Rank in Higher Education Attainment Rate: **10**

Rank in Savings and Assets: **13**

## Where Illinois is doing worst

Rank in Unemployment Rate: **44**

Rank in Income Inequality: **40**

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **29**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**25**

### POVERTY RATE

14.4 percent of people in Illinois had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**27**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

19.9 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Illinois had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**40**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Illinois was 16.5 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*



STATE  
RANK*Jobs and education*

23

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

83 percent of high school students in Illinois graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

10

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

46.5 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Illinois had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B1S001.*

23

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

15 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Illinois who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

44

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

7.1 percent of all workers in Illinois were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

25

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Illinois in 2014, women's median earnings were 79.2 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK*Family stability and strength*

20

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

5 children in Illinois lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

22

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 24.6 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Illinois. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

23

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

19.8 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Illinois did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

10

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

11.7 percent of households in Illinois were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

20

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

29.9 percent of unemployed workers in Illinois were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

29

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Illinois had 62 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

13

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

5.3 percent of households in Illinois used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Indiana

POPULATION OF INDIANA IN 2014: **6,391,460**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN INDIANA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **974,218**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Indiana, the poverty rate was 15.2 percent, ranking it 28 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Indiana must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Indiana ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Indiana is doing best

Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **7**Rank in Income Inequality: **11**Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **15**

## Where Indiana is doing worst

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **41**Rank in Teen Birth Rate: **35**Rank in Higher Education Attainment Rate: **34**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**28**

### POVERTY RATE

15.2 percent of people in Indiana had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.

**30**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

21.2 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Indiana had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.

**11**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Indiana was 13.1 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

7

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

87 percent of high school students in Indiana graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

34

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

37.4 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Indiana had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

23

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

15 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Indiana who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

25

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

6 percent of all workers in Indiana were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

41

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in Indiana in 2014, women's median earnings were 75.3 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

33

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

7 children in Indiana lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

35

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 30.3 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Indiana. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

**31** LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

24.4 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Indiana did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**32** HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY

14.6 percent of households in Indiana were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**15** UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE

33.2 percent of unemployed workers in Indiana were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**17** AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING

Indiana had 71 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**25** SAVINGS AND ASSETS

6.6 percent of households in Indiana used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Iowa

POPULATION OF IOWA IN 2014: **3,004,857**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN IOWA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **367,816**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Iowa, the poverty rate was 12.2 percent, ranking it 15 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Iowa must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Iowa ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Iowa is doing best

Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **1**

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **2**

Rank in Disconnected Youth: **2**

## Where Iowa is doing worst

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **42**

Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **40**

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **35**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**15**

### POVERTY RATE

12.2 percent of people in Iowa had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.

**10**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

14.9 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Iowa had incomes below the poverty line in 2014.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.

**8**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Iowa was 12.8 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

1

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

90 percent of high school students in Iowa graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

7

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

47.4 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Iowa had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

2

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

9 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Iowa who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

9

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

4.4 percent of all workers in Iowa were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

35

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in Iowa in 2014, women's median earnings were 77.4 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

42

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

9 children in Iowa lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

17

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 22.1 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Iowa. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

9

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

14.5 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Iowa did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

7

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

11.4 percent of households in Iowa were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

40

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

19.4 percent of unemployed workers in Iowa were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

2

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Iowa had 87 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

17

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

5.7 percent of households in Iowa used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.



# Kansas

POPULATION OF KANSAS IN 2014: **2,821,431**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN KANSAS LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **382,712**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Kansas, the poverty rate was 13.6 percent, ranking it 20 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Kansas must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Kansas ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Kansas is doing best

Rank in Disconnected Youth: **6**Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **7**Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **10**

## Where Kansas is doing worst

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **42**Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **38**Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **38**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**20****POVERTY RATE**

13.6 percent of people in Kansas had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**18****CHILD POVERTY RATE**

17.4 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Kansas had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**17****INCOME INEQUALITY**

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Kansas was 13.9 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

10

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

86 percent of high school students in Kansas graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

20

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

42.9 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Kansas had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

6

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

11 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Kansas who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

11

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

4.5 percent of all workers in Kansas were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

38

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Kansas in 2014, women's median earnings were 77 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

42

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

9 children in Kansas lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

32

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 29.6 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Kansas. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

**33**

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

24.6 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Kansas did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**38**

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

15.9 percent of households in Kansas were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**18**

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

31.8 percent of unemployed workers in Kansas were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**7**

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Kansas had 78 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**34**

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

8.1 percent of households in Kansas used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Kentucky



POPULATION OF KENTUCKY IN 2014: **4,275,359**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN KENTUCKY LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **817,542**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Kentucky, the poverty rate was 19.1 percent, ranking it 47 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Kentucky must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Kentucky ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Kentucky is doing best

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **10**

Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **10**

Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **11**

## Where Kentucky is doing worst

Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **48**

Rank in Poverty Rate: **47**

Rank in Teen Birth Rate: **45**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**47**

### POVERTY RATE

19.1 percent of people in Kentucky had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**42**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

25.8 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Kentucky had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**35**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Kentucky was 15.8 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

10

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

86 percent of high school students in Kentucky graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

40

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

34.8 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Kentucky had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

35

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

17 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Kentucky who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

34

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

6.5 percent of all workers in Kentucky were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

24

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in Kentucky in 2014, women's median earnings were 79.9 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

33

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

7 children in Kentucky lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

45

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 39.5 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Kentucky. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

11

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

14.9 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Kentucky did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

48

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

17.5 percent of households in Kentucky were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

37

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

21.9 percent of unemployed workers in Kentucky were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

10

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Kentucky had 77 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

40

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

8.9 percent of households in Kentucky used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Louisiana

POPULATION OF LOUISIANA IN 2014: **4,518,525**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN LOUISIANA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **896,524**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Louisiana, the poverty rate was 19.8 percent, ranking it 49 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Louisiana must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Louisiana ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Louisiana is doing best

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **10**Rank in Savings and Assets: **29**Rank in Unemployment Rate: **32**

## Where Louisiana is doing worst

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **51**Rank in Disconnected Youth: **50**Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **49**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**49**

### POVERTY RATE

19.8 percent of people in Louisiana had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**49**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

27.6 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Louisiana had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**47**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Louisiana was 18.3 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

44

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

74 percent of high school students in Louisiana graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

48

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

31.4 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Louisiana had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

50

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

22 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Louisiana who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

32

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

6.4 percent of all workers in Louisiana were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

51

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in Louisiana in 2014, women's median earnings were 65.3 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

10

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

4 children in Louisiana lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

44

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 39.2 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Louisiana. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*



38

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

26.2 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Louisiana did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

49

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

17.6 percent of households in Louisiana were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

48

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

14.7 percent of unemployed workers in Louisiana were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

34

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Louisiana had 59 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

29

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

7.8 percent of households in Louisiana used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Maine

POPULATION OF MAINE IN 2014: **1,294,009**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN MAINE LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **182,791**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Maine, the poverty rate was 14.1 percent, ranking it 22 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Maine must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Maine ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Maine is doing best

Rank in Teen Birth Rate: **7**Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **10**Rank in Disconnected Youth: **11**

## Where Maine is doing worst

Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **40**Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **33**Rank in Savings and Assets: **33**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**22**

### POVERTY RATE

14.1 percent of people in Maine had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.

**24**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

18.7 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Maine had incomes below the poverty line in 2014.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.

**22**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Maine was 14.2 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

10

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

86 percent of high school students in Maine graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

28

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

39.6 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Maine had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

11

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

12 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Maine who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

19

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

5.7 percent of all workers in Maine were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

27

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Maine in 2014, women's median earnings were 78.9 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

33

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

7 children in Maine lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

7

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 17.4 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Maine. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

20

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

18.7 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Maine did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

40

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

16.2 percent of households in Maine were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

23

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

28.7 percent of unemployed workers in Maine were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

32

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Maine had 60 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

33

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

7.9 percent of households in Maine used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Maryland



POPULATION OF MARYLAND IN 2014: **5,835,377**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN MARYLAND LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **589,818**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Maryland, the poverty rate was 10.1 percent, ranking it 2 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Maryland must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Maryland ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Maryland is doing best

Rank in Poverty Rate: **2**

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **2**

Rank in Child Poverty Rate: **3**

## Where Maryland is doing worst

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **38**

Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **28**

Rank in Unemployment Rate: **22**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**2**

### POVERTY RATE

10.1 percent of people in Maryland had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**3**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

12.7 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Maryland had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**19**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Maryland was 14 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

17

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

85 percent of high school students in Maryland graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

12

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

46.2 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Maryland had an associate’s degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

17

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

14 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Maryland who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

22

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

5.8 percent of all workers in Maryland were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

4

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Maryland in 2014, women’s median earnings were 85.4 percent of men’s median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

2

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

3 children in Maryland lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

10

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 19.4 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Maryland. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

**18 LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

17.6 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Maryland did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**17 HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

12.5 percent of households in Maryland were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**28 UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

26.9 percent of unemployed workers in Maryland were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**38 AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Maryland had 57 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**7 SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

4 percent of households in Maryland used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Massachusetts

POPULATION OF MASSACHUSETTS IN 2014: **6,509,672**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN MASSACHUSETTS LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **757,235**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Massachusetts, the poverty rate was 11.6 percent, ranking it 10 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Massachusetts must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Massachusetts ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Massachusetts is doing best

Rank in Teen Birth Rate: **1**Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **2**Rank in Higher Education Attainment Rate: **2**

## Where Massachusetts is doing worst

Rank in Income Inequality: **48**Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **29**Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **28**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**10**

### POVERTY RATE

11.6 percent of people in Massachusetts had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**9**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

14.9 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Massachusetts had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**48**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Massachusetts was 18.5 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*



STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

17

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

85 percent of high school students in Massachusetts graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.

2

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

55.2 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Massachusetts had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.

4

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

10 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Massachusetts who were not in school or working in 2013. Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.

22

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

5.8 percent of all workers in Massachusetts were unemployed in 2014. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.

14

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in Massachusetts in 2014, women's median earnings were 81.9 percent of men's median earnings. Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

28

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

6 children in Massachusetts lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.

1

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 12.1 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Massachusetts. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

2

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

6.4 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Massachusetts did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

2

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

9.6 percent of households in Massachusetts were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

5

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

42.9 percent of unemployed workers in Massachusetts were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

29

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Massachusetts had 62 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

8

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

4.2 percent of households in Massachusetts used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Michigan

POPULATION OF MICHIGAN IN 2014: **9,686,787**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN MICHIGAN LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **1,568,844**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Michigan, the poverty rate was 16.2 percent, ranking it 33 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Michigan must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Michigan ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Michigan is doing best

Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **16**Rank in Savings and Assets: **19**Rank in Teen Birth Rate: **19**

## Where Michigan is doing worst

Rank in Unemployment Rate: **46**Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **42**Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **36**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**33**

### POVERTY RATE

16.2 percent of people in Michigan had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**33**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

22.2 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Michigan had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**23**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Michigan was 14.6 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

36

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

77 percent of high school students in Michigan graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

31

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

39 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Michigan had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

32

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

16 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Michigan who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

46

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

7.3 percent of all workers in Michigan were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

42

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Michigan in 2014, women's median earnings were 74.6 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

28

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

6 children in Michigan lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

19

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 23.6 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Michigan. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security***16** LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

17.2 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Michigan did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**33** HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY

14.7 percent of households in Michigan were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**32** UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE

24.4 percent of unemployed workers in Michigan were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**25** AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING

Michigan had 64 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**19** SAVINGS AND ASSETS

5.9 percent of households in Michigan used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Minnesota

POPULATION OF MINNESOTA IN 2014: 5,332,552

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN MINNESOTA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: 611,354

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Minnesota, the poverty rate was 11.5 percent, ranking it 8 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Minnesota must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Minnesota ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Minnesota is doing best

Rank in Higher Education Attainment Rate: **3**Rank in Disconnected Youth: **4**Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **4**

## Where Minnesota is doing worst

Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **30**Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **18**Rank in Savings and Assets: **16**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**8**

### POVERTY RATE

11.5 percent of people in Minnesota had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**8**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

14.6 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Minnesota had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**14**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Minnesota was 13.6 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

30

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

80 percent of high school students in Minnesota graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

3

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

51.5 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Minnesota had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

4

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

10 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Minnesota who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

5

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

4.1 percent of all workers in Minnesota were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

18

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in Minnesota in 2014, women's median earnings were 81.5 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

10

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

4 children in Minnesota lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

6

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 16.8 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Minnesota. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

8

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

13.6 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Minnesota did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

5

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

10.4 percent of households in Minnesota were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

4

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

44.5 percent of unemployed workers in Minnesota were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

13

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Minnesota had 74 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

16

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

5.5 percent of households in Minnesota used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.



# Mississippi

POPULATION OF MISSISSIPPI IN 2014: **2,895,470**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN MISSISSIPPI LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **623,113**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Mississippi, the poverty rate was 21.5 percent, ranking it 51 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Mississippi must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Mississippi ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Mississippi is doing best

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **20**Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **25**Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **34**

## Where Mississippi is doing worst

Rank in Savings and Assets: **51**Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **51**Rank in Poverty Rate: **51**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**51**

### POVERTY RATE

21.5 percent of people in Mississippi had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**50**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

29 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Mississippi had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**41**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Mississippi was 16.5 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

40

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

76 percent of high school students in Mississippi graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

47

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

32.1 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Mississippi had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

47

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

21 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Mississippi who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

49

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

7.8 percent of all workers in Mississippi were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

37

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Mississippi in 2014, women's median earnings were 77 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

20

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

5 children in Mississippi lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

48

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 42.6 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Mississippi. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

**34**

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

25 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Mississippi did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**51**

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

22 percent of households in Mississippi were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**44**

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

18.5 percent of unemployed workers in Mississippi were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**25**

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Mississippi had 64 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**51**

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

13.6 percent of households in Mississippi used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Missouri

POPULATION OF MISSOURI IN 2014: **5,878,658**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN MISSOURI LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **908,628**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Missouri, the poverty rate was 15.5 percent, ranking it 30 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Missouri must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Missouri ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Missouri is doing best

Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **10**Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **13**Rank in Disconnected Youth: **17**

## Where Missouri is doing worst

Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **44**Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **39**Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **39**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**30****POVERTY RATE**

15.5 percent of people in Missouri had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**28****CHILD POVERTY RATE**

20.7 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Missouri had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**28****INCOME INEQUALITY**

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Missouri was 14.8 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

10

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

86 percent of high school students in Missouri graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

24

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

40.6 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Missouri had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

17

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

14 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Missouri who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

26

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

6.1 percent of all workers in Missouri were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

34

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Missouri in 2014, women's median earnings were 77.4 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

39

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

8 children in Missouri lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

34

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 30 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Missouri. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security***39****LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

26.3 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Missouri did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**44****HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

16.8 percent of households in Missouri were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**39****UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

21 percent of unemployed workers in Missouri were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**13****AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Missouri had 74 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**37****SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

8.7 percent of households in Missouri used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Montana

POPULATION OF MONTANA IN 2014: 997,952

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN MONTANA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: 153,954

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Montana, the poverty rate was 15.4 percent, ranking it 29 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Montana must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Montana ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Montana is doing best

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **5**Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **9**Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **11**

## Where Montana is doing worst

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **48**Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **46**Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **43**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**29**

### POVERTY RATE

15.4 percent of people in Montana had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**22**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

18.1 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Montana had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**15**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Montana was 13.7 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

21

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

84 percent of high school students in Montana graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

25

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

40.3 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Montana had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

23

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

15 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Montana who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

13

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

4.7 percent of all workers in Montana were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

43

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Montana in 2014, women's median earnings were 74.3 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

48

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

10 children in Montana lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

29

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 27.9 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Montana. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*



46

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

29 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Montana did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

9

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

11.5 percent of households in Montana were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

11

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

37.9 percent of unemployed workers in Montana were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

5

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Montana had 80 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

28

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

7.7 percent of households in Montana used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Nebraska

POPULATION OF NEBRASKA IN 2014: **1,828,121**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEBRASKA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **227,310**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Nebraska, the poverty rate was 12.4 percent, ranking it 16 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Nebraska must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Nebraska ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Nebraska is doing best

Rank in Unemployment Rate: **2**Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **2**Rank in Disconnected Youth: **2**

## Where Nebraska is doing worst

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **42**Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **30**Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **30**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**16****POVERTY RATE**

12.4 percent of people in Nebraska had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**16****CHILD POVERTY RATE**

15.8 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Nebraska had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**4****INCOME INEQUALITY**

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Nebraska was 12.1 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

2

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

88 percent of high school students in Nebraska graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

14

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

45.6 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Nebraska had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

2

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

9 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Nebraska who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

2

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

3.3 percent of all workers in Nebraska were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

29

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in Nebraska in 2014, women's median earnings were 78.8 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

42

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

9 children in Nebraska lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

25

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 24.9 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Nebraska. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security***30****LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

24.4 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Nebraska did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**26****HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

13.9 percent of households in Nebraska were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**30****UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

26.5 percent of unemployed workers in Nebraska were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**12****AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Nebraska had 75 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**27****SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

6.9 percent of households in Nebraska used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Nevada

POPULATION OF NEVADA IN 2014: **2,800,768**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEVADA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **426,730**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Nevada, the poverty rate was 15.2 percent, ranking it 27 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Nevada must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Nevada ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Nevada is doing best

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **5**Rank in Income Inequality: **9**Rank in Poverty Rate: **27**

## Where Nevada is doing worst

Rank in Higher Education Attainment Rate: **51**Rank in Disconnected Youth: **50**Rank in Unemployment Rate: **49**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**27**

### POVERTY RATE

15.2 percent of people in Nevada had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**31**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

21.7 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Nevada had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**9**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Nevada was 12.9 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

47

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

71 percent of high school students in Nevada graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

51

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

29.5 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Nevada had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

50

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

22 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Nevada who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

49

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

7.8 percent of all workers in Nevada were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

5

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Nevada in 2014, women's median earnings were 85.1 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

33

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

7 children in Nevada lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

35

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 30.3 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Nevada. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

**44** **LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**  
27.9 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Nevada did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**34** **HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**  
15.2 percent of households in Nevada were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**27** **UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**  
28.4 percent of unemployed workers in Nevada were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**47** **AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**  
Nevada had 41 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**39** **SAVINGS AND ASSETS**  
8.8 percent of households in Nevada used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# New Hampshire

POPULATION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE IN 2014: **1,287,504**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **117,983**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In New Hampshire, the poverty rate was 9.2 percent, ranking it 1 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which New Hampshire must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where New Hampshire ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where New Hampshire is doing best

Rank in Poverty Rate: **1**

Rank in Child Poverty Rate: **2**

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **2**

## Where New Hampshire is doing worst

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **40**

Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **36**

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **34**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**1**

### POVERTY RATE

9.2 percent of people in New Hampshire had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**2**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

12.5 percent of children under age 18 in related families in New Hampshire had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**5**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in New Hampshire was 12.3 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*



STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

7

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

87 percent of high school students in New Hampshire graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.

16

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

45.1 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in New Hampshire had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.

6

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

11 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in New Hampshire who were not in school or working in 2013. Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.

7

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

4.3 percent of all workers in New Hampshire were unemployed in 2014. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.

40

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in New Hampshire in 2014, women's median earnings were 75.6 percent of men's median earnings. Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

2

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

3 children in New Hampshire lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.

2

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 12.6 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in New Hampshire. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

29

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

24.1 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in New Hampshire did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

3

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

10 percent of households in New Hampshire were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

36

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

22.5 percent of unemployed workers in New Hampshire were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

34

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

New Hampshire had 59 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

3

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

3.5 percent of households in New Hampshire used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# New Jersey

POPULATION OF NEW JERSEY IN 2014: **8,762,159**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEW JERSEY LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **972,903**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In New Jersey, the poverty rate was 11.1 percent, ranking it 4 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which New Jersey must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where New Jersey ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where New Jersey is doing best

Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **2**

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **2**

Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **3**

## Where New Jersey is doing worst

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **49**

Rank in Income Inequality: **42**

Rank in Unemployment Rate: **37**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**4**

### POVERTY RATE

11.1 percent of people in New Jersey had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**15**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

15.7 percent of children under age 18 in related families in New Jersey had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**42**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in New Jersey was 16.7 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

2

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

88 percent of high school students in New Jersey graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

6

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

48.6 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in New Jersey had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

15

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

13 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in New Jersey who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

37

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

6.6 percent of all workers in New Jersey were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

21

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in New Jersey in 2014, women's median earnings were 80.4 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

2

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

3 children in New Jersey lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

5

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 14.8 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in New Jersey. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

## 36 LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

25.3 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in New Jersey did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

## 10 HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY

11.7 percent of households in New Jersey were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

## 3 UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE

44.6 percent of unemployed workers in New Jersey were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

## 49 AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING

New Jersey had 40 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

## 4 SAVINGS AND ASSETS

3.8 percent of households in New Jersey used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# New Mexico

POPULATION OF NEW MEXICO IN 2014: **2,045,525**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEW MEXICO LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **436,153**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In New Mexico, the poverty rate was 21.3 percent, ranking it 50 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which New Mexico must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where New Mexico ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where New Mexico is doing best

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **10**

Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **15**

Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **27**

## Where New Mexico is doing worst

Rank in Child Poverty Rate: **51**

Rank in Teen Birth Rate: **50**

Rank in Poverty Rate: **50**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**50**

### POVERTY RATE

21.3 percent of people in New Mexico had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**51**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

29.1 percent of children under age 18 in related families in New Mexico had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**44**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in New Mexico was 17.4 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

48

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

70 percent of high school students in New Mexico graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

49

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

31.2 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in New Mexico had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

45

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

20 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in New Mexico who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

34

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

6.5 percent of all workers in New Mexico were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

31

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in New Mexico in 2014, women's median earnings were 78.1 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

10

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

4 children in New Mexico lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

50

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 43.3 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in New Mexico. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security***27****LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

23.4 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in New Mexico did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**15****HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

12.3 percent of households in New Mexico were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**31****UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

24.4 percent of unemployed workers in New Mexico were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**29****AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

New Mexico had 62 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**45****SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

10.3 percent of households in New Mexico used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

<sup>1</sup> National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.



# New York



POPULATION OF NEW YORK IN 2014: **19,228,524**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEW YORK LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **3,062,938**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In New York, the poverty rate was 15.9 percent, ranking it 32 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which New York must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where New York ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where New York is doing best

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **2**

Rank in Higher Education Attainment Rate: **4**

Rank in Teen Birth Rate: **8**

## Where New York is doing worst

Rank in Income Inequality: **50**

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **44**

Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **36**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**32**

### POVERTY RATE

15.9 percent of people in New York had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**34**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

22.2 percent of children under age 18 in related families in New York had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**50**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in New York was 20.5 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

36

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

77 percent of high school students in New York graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

4

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

50.8 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in New York had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

17

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

14 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in New York who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

30

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

6.3 percent of all workers in New York were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

2

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in New York in 2014, women's median earnings were 86.8 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

20

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

5 children in New York lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

8

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 17.7 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in New York. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

**12** LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

15.2 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in New York did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**31** HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY

14.4 percent of households in New York were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**13** UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE

34.1 percent of unemployed workers in New York were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**44** AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING

New York had 50 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**10** SAVINGS AND ASSETS

4.5 percent of households in New York used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# North Carolina

POPULATION OF NORTH CAROLINA IN 2014: **9,691,794**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NORTH CAROLINA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **1,668,686**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In North Carolina, the poverty rate was 17.2 percent, ranking it 39 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which North Carolina must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where North Carolina ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where North Carolina is doing best

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **7**

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **10**

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **22**

## Where North Carolina is doing worst

Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **43**

Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **42**

Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **42**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**39**

### POVERTY RATE

17.2 percent of people in North Carolina had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**38**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

24 percent of children under age 18 in related families in North Carolina had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**32**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in North Carolina was 15.3 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

23

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

83 percent of high school students in North Carolina graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.

29

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

39.3 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in North Carolina had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.

32

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

16 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in North Carolina who were not in school or working in 2013. Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.

26

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

6.1 percent of all workers in North Carolina were unemployed in 2014. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.

7

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in North Carolina in 2014, women's median earnings were 84.8 percent of men's median earnings. Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

10

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

4 children in North Carolina lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.

30

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 28.4 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in North Carolina. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

42

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

26.6 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in North Carolina did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

43

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

16.7 percent of households in North Carolina were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

42

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

18.8 percent of unemployed workers in North Carolina were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

22

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

North Carolina had 66 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

42

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

9.3 percent of households in North Carolina used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# North Dakota

POPULATION OF NORTH DAKOTA IN 2014: **712,548**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NORTH DAKOTA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **82,264**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In North Dakota, the poverty rate was 11.5 percent, ranking it 9 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which North Dakota must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where North Dakota ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where North Dakota is doing best

Rank in Unemployment Rate: **1**

Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **1**

Rank in Disconnected Youth: **1**

## Where North Dakota is doing worst

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **47**

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **33**

Rank in Income Inequality: **26**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**9**

### POVERTY RATE

11.5 percent of people in North Dakota had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**5**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

14.3 percent of children under age 18 in related families in North Dakota had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**26**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in North Dakota was 14.7 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

2

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

88 percent of high school students in North Dakota graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.

5

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

49.8 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in North Dakota had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013.

Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.

1

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

8 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in North Dakota who were not in school or working in 2013. Source: Kids Count Data

Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.

1

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

2.8 percent of all workers in North Dakota were unemployed in 2014. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.

47

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in North Dakota in 2014, women's median earnings were 71.3 percent of men's median earnings. Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

33

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

7 children in North Dakota lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. Source: Kids Count Data

Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.

21

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 24.1 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in North Dakota. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.



**14** **LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**  
16.8 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in North Dakota did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**1** **HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**  
8.4 percent of households in North Dakota were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**7** **UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**  
42.2 percent of unemployed workers in North Dakota were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**3** **AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**  
North Dakota had 85 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**26** **SAVINGS AND ASSETS**  
6.8 percent of households in North Dakota used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Ohio

POPULATION OF OHIO IN 2014: **11,276,403**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN OHIO LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **1,785,780**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Ohio, the poverty rate was 15.8 percent, ranking it 31 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Ohio must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Ohio ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Ohio is doing best

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **7**Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **13**Rank in Unemployment Rate: **19**

## Where Ohio is doing worst

Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **46**Rank in Savings and Assets: **37**Rank in Child Poverty Rate: **36**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**31**

### POVERTY RATE

15.8 percent of people in Ohio had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.

**36**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

22.5 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Ohio had incomes below the poverty line in 2014.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.

**29**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Ohio was 15.1 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

27

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

82 percent of high school students in Ohio graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

26

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

40 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Ohio had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

23

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

15 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Ohio who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

19

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

5.7 percent of all workers in Ohio were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

33

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Ohio in 2014, women's median earnings were 77.8 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

20

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

5 children in Ohio lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

28

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 27.2 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Ohio. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

13

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

16.6 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Ohio did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

46

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

16.9 percent of households in Ohio were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

34

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

23.1 percent of unemployed workers in Ohio were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

7

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Ohio had 78 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

37

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

8.7 percent of households in Ohio used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Oklahoma

POPULATION OF OKLAHOMA IN 2014: **3,759,517**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN OKLAHOMA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **623,840**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Oklahoma, the poverty rate was 16.6 percent, ranking it 37 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Oklahoma must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Oklahoma ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Oklahoma is doing best

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **10**

Rank in Unemployment Rate: **11**

Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **17**

## Where Oklahoma is doing worst

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **50**

Rank in Savings and Assets: **50**

Rank in Teen Birth Rate: **49**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**37**

### POVERTY RATE

16.6 percent of people in Oklahoma had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**32**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

22.1 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Oklahoma had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**27**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Oklahoma was 14.7 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK*Jobs and education*

17

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

85 percent of high school students in Oklahoma graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

44

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

33.4 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Oklahoma had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

41

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

18 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Oklahoma who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

11

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

4.5 percent of all workers in Oklahoma were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

44

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Oklahoma in 2014, women's median earnings were 73.5 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK*Family stability and strength*

50

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

11 children in Oklahoma lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

49

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 42.9 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Oklahoma. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

47

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

29.3 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Oklahoma did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

42

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

16.5 percent of households in Oklahoma were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

38

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

21.3 percent of unemployed workers in Oklahoma were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

10

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Oklahoma had 77 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

50

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

13.1 percent of households in Oklahoma used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Oregon

POPULATION OF OREGON IN 2014: **3,893,475**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN OREGON LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **644,450**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Oregon, the poverty rate was 16.6 percent, ranking it 36 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Oregon must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Oregon ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Oregon is doing best

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **12**Rank in Teen Birth Rate: **16**Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **17**

## Where Oregon is doing worst

Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **49**Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **46**Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **42**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**36****POVERTY RATE**

16.6 percent of people in Oregon had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**29****CHILD POVERTY RATE**

21.1 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Oregon had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**24****INCOME INEQUALITY**

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Oregon was 14.6 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*



STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

49

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

69 percent of high school students in Oregon graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

32

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

38.9 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Oregon had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

35

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

17 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Oregon who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

42

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

6.9 percent of all workers in Oregon were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

12

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in Oregon in 2014, women's median earnings were 82.2 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

42

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

9 children in Oregon lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

16

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 21.6 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Oregon. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security***17** **LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

17.6 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Oregon did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**39** **HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

16.1 percent of households in Oregon were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**22** **UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

29.7 percent of unemployed workers in Oregon were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**46** **AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Oregon had 42 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**21** **SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

6 percent of households in Oregon used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Pennsylvania



POPULATION OF PENNSYLVANIA IN 2014: **12,371,337**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN PENNSYLVANIA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **1,682,212**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Pennsylvania, the poverty rate was 13.6 percent, ranking it 21 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Pennsylvania must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Pennsylvania ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Pennsylvania is doing best

Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **2**

Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **6**

Rank in Savings and Assets: **9**

## Where Pennsylvania is doing worst

Rank in Income Inequality: **30**

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **26**

Rank in Child Poverty Rate: **25**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**21**

### POVERTY RATE

13.6 percent of people in Pennsylvania had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**25**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

19 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Pennsylvania had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**30**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Pennsylvania was 15.1 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

10

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

86 percent of high school students in Pennsylvania graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year.

*Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

15

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

45.3 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Pennsylvania had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013.

*Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

17

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

14 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Pennsylvania who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data*

*Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

22

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

5.8 percent of all workers in Pennsylvania were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

26

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Pennsylvania in 2014, women's median earnings were 79.2 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

20

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

5 children in Pennsylvania lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

15

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 20.9 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Pennsylvania. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

22

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

19.3 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Pennsylvania did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

6

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

11.3 percent of households in Pennsylvania were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

2

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

45.5 percent of unemployed workers in Pennsylvania were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

20

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Pennsylvania had 68 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

9

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

4.4 percent of households in Pennsylvania used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Rhode Island

POPULATION OF RHODE ISLAND IN 2014: **1,015,655**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN RHODE ISLAND LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **145,596**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Rhode Island, the poverty rate was 14.3 percent, ranking it 24 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Rhode Island must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Rhode Island ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Rhode Island is doing best

Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **5**

Rank in Disconnected Youth: **6**

Rank in Teen Birth Rate: **8**

## Where Rhode Island is doing worst

Rank in Unemployment Rate: **48**

Rank in Income Inequality: **46**

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **39**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**24**

### POVERTY RATE

14.3 percent of people in Rhode Island had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**26**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

19.5 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Rhode Island had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**46**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Rhode Island was 17.6 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

30

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

80 percent of high school students in Rhode Island graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.

18

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

43.8 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Rhode Island had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013.

Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.

6

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

11 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Rhode Island who were not in school or working in 2013. Source: Kids Count Data

Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.

48

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

7.7 percent of all workers in Rhode Island were unemployed in 2014. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.

16

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in Rhode Island in 2014, women's median earnings were 81.7 percent of men's median earnings. Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

39

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

8 children in Rhode Island lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. Source: Kids Count Data

Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.

8

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 17.7 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Rhode Island. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

5

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

13 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Rhode Island did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

19

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

12.7 percent of households in Rhode Island were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

25

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

28.5 percent of unemployed workers in Rhode Island were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

27

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Rhode Island had 63 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

12

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

5.2 percent of households in Rhode Island used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.



# South Carolina

POPULATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA IN 2014: **4,691,589**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN SOUTH CAROLINA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **843,860**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In South Carolina, the poverty rate was 18 percent, ranking it 41 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which South Carolina must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where South Carolina ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where South Carolina is doing best

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **2**

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **22**

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **22**

## Where South Carolina is doing worst

Rank in Savings and Assets: **49**

Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **47**

Rank in Child Poverty Rate: **47**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**41**

### POVERTY RATE

18 percent of people in South Carolina had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**47**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

26.7 percent of children under age 18 in related families in South Carolina had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**31**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in South Carolina was 15.3 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

35

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

78 percent of high school students in South Carolina graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.

37

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

36 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in South Carolina had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013.

Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.

35

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

17 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in South Carolina who were not in school or working in 2013.

Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.

32

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

6.4 percent of all workers in South Carolina were unemployed in 2014.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.

22

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in South Carolina in 2014, women's median earnings were 80.3 percent of men's median earnings.

Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

2

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

3 children in South Carolina lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013.

Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.

39

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 31.6 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in South Carolina.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

40

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

26.4 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in South Carolina did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

26

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

13.9 percent of households in South Carolina were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

47

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

15.9 percent of unemployed workers in South Carolina were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

22

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

South Carolina had 66 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

49

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

12.7 percent of households in South Carolina used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

<sup>1</sup> National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# South Dakota

POPULATION OF SOUTH DAKOTA IN 2014: **824,373**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN SOUTH DAKOTA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **116,843**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In South Dakota, the poverty rate was 14.2 percent, ranking it 23 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which South Dakota must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where South Dakota ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where South Dakota is doing best

Rank in Unemployment Rate: **3**

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **5**

Rank in Disconnected Youth: **6**

## Where South Dakota is doing worst

Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **49**

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **39**

Rank in Teen Birth Rate: **31**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**23**

### POVERTY RATE

14.2 percent of people in South Dakota had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**20**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

17.7 percent of children under age 18 in related families in South Dakota had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**10**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in South Dakota was 13 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

23

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

83 percent of high school students in South Dakota graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year.

*Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

17

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

44.1 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in South Dakota had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013.

*Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

6

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

11 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in South Dakota who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count*

*Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

3

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

3.4 percent of all workers in South Dakota were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

39

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in South Dakota in 2014, women's median earnings were 76.2 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

28

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

6 children in South Dakota lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

31

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 29.1 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in South Dakota. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

28

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

23.5 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in South Dakota did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

12

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

11.9 percent of households in South Dakota were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

49

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

14.5 percent of unemployed workers in South Dakota were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

5

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

South Dakota had 80 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

29

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

7.8 percent of households in South Dakota used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Tennessee

POPULATION OF TENNESSEE IN 2014: **6,386,663**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN TENNESSEE LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **1,171,307**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Tennessee, the poverty rate was 18.3 percent, ranking it 45 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Tennessee must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Tennessee ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Tennessee is doing best

Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **10**Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **17**Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **20**

## Where Tennessee is doing worst

Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **46**Rank in Poverty Rate: **45**Rank in Child Poverty Rate: **44**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**45**

### POVERTY RATE

18.3 percent of people in Tennessee had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**44**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

25.9 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Tennessee had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**37**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Tennessee was 16 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

10

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

86 percent of high school students in Tennessee graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

38

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

35.1 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Tennessee had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

42

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

19 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Tennessee who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

39

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

6.7 percent of all workers in Tennessee were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

17

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Tennessee in 2014, women's median earnings were 81.6 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

20

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

5 children in Tennessee lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

43

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 34.7 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Tennessee. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*



**26** LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

23.3 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Tennessee did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**41** HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY

16.3 percent of households in Tennessee were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**46** UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE

16.4 percent of unemployed workers in Tennessee were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**20** AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING

Tennessee had 68 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**40** SAVINGS AND ASSETS

8.9 percent of households in Tennessee used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Texas

POPULATION OF TEXAS IN 2014: **26,340,247**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN TEXAS LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **4,523,708**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Texas, the poverty rate was 17.2 percent, ranking it 38 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Texas must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Texas ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Texas is doing best

Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **2**Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **10**Rank in Unemployment Rate: **16**

## Where Texas is doing worst

Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **51**Rank in Teen Birth Rate: **47**Rank in Savings and Assets: **47**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**38**

### POVERTY RATE

17.2 percent of people in Texas had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.

**39**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

24.3 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Texas had incomes below the poverty line in 2014.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.

**38**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Texas was 16.4 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

2

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

88 percent of high school students in Texas graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

42

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

34.4 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Texas had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

35

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

17 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Texas who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

16

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

5.1 percent of all workers in Texas were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

30

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in Texas in 2014, women's median earnings were 78.8 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

10

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

4 children in Texas lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

47

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 41 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Texas. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

51

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

34 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Texas did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

47

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

17.2 percent of households in Texas were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

35

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

22.8 percent of unemployed workers in Texas were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

34

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Texas had 59 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

47

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

11.4 percent of households in Texas used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Utah



POPULATION OF UTAH IN 2014: **2,897,762**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN UTAH LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **339,900**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Utah, the poverty rate was 11.7 percent, ranking it 11 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Utah must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Utah ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Utah is doing best

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **2**

Rank in Income Inequality: **2**

Rank in Child Poverty Rate: **4**

## Where Utah is doing worst

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **50**

Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **45**

Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **33**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**11**

### POVERTY RATE

11.7 percent of people in Utah had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.

**4**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

13 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Utah had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. Source:

U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.

**2**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Utah was 11.5 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014,

Table B19082.

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

23

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

83 percent of high school students in Utah graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

23

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

41.1 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Utah had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

17

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

14 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Utah who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

4

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

3.8 percent of all workers in Utah were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

50

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Utah in 2014, women's median earnings were 67.4 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

2

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

3 children in Utah lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

14

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 20.6 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Utah. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

45

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

27.9 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Utah did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

21

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

13.3 percent of households in Utah were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

33

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

23.6 percent of unemployed workers in Utah were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

32

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Utah had 60 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

11

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

4.8 percent of households in Utah used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Vermont

POPULATION OF VERMONT IN 2014: **601,819**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN VERMONT LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **73,149**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Vermont, the poverty rate was 12.2 percent, ranking it 14 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Vermont must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Vermont ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Vermont is doing best

Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **3**Rank in Teen Birth Rate: **4**Rank in Unemployment Rate: **5**

## Where Vermont is doing worst

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **39**Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **34**Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **18**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**14**

### POVERTY RATE

12.2 percent of people in Vermont had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**13**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

15.3 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Vermont had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**7**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Vermont was 12.7 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*



STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

7

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

87 percent of high school students in Vermont graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

8

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

47 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Vermont had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

6

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

11 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Vermont who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

5

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

4.1 percent of all workers in Vermont were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

10

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Vermont in 2014, women's median earnings were 83.8 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

39

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

8 children in Vermont lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

4

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 14.5 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Vermont. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

3

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

8.3 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Vermont did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

18

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

12.6 percent of households in Vermont were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

6

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

42.2 percent of unemployed workers in Vermont were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

34

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Vermont had 59 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

6

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

3.9 percent of households in Vermont used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Virginia

POPULATION OF VIRGINIA IN 2014: **8,080,300**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN VIRGINIA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **953,395**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Virginia, the poverty rate was 11.8 percent, ranking it 12 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Virginia must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Virginia ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Virginia is doing best

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **1**Rank in Hunger and Food Insecurity: **4**Rank in Higher Education Attainment Rate: **10**

## Where Virginia is doing worst

Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **43**Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **43**Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **38**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**12**

### POVERTY RATE

11.8 percent of people in Virginia had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**14**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

15.5 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Virginia had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**34**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Virginia was 15.5 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

## Jobs and education

21

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

84 percent of high school students in Virginia graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

10

### HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE

46.5 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Virginia had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

17

### DISCONNECTED YOUTH

14 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Virginia who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

17

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

5.2 percent of all workers in Virginia were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

23

### GENDER WAGE GAP

Among full-time, year-round workers in Virginia in 2014, women's median earnings were 80.3 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

## Family stability and strength

1

### CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS

2 children in Virginia lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

12

### TEEN BIRTH RATE

There were 20.1 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Virginia. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

43

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

26.7 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Virginia did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

4

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

10.1 percent of households in Virginia were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

43

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

18.6 percent of unemployed workers in Virginia were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

38

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Virginia had 57 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

24

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

6.5 percent of households in Virginia used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Washington

POPULATION OF WASHINGTON IN 2014: **6,927,889**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN WASHINGTON LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **913,619**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Washington, the poverty rate was 13.2 percent, ranking it 19 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Washington must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Washington ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Washington is doing best

Rank in Teen Birth Rate: **13**

Rank in Child Poverty Rate: **17**

Rank in Savings and Assets: **17**

## Where Washington is doing worst

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **42**

Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **40**

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **36**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**19**

### POVERTY RATE

13.2 percent of people in Washington had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**17**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

17 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Washington had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**21**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Washington was 14.2 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

40

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

76 percent of high school students in Washington graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

21

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

42.1 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Washington had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

23

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

15 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Washington who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

29

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

6.2 percent of all workers in Washington were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

36

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Washington in 2014, women's median earnings were 77.1 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

28

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

6 children in Washington lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

13

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 20.5 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Washington. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security***19** LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

18.6 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Washington did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**24** HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY

13.7 percent of households in Washington were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**26** UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE

28.4 percent of unemployed workers in Washington were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**42** AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING

Washington had 54 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**17** SAVINGS AND ASSETS

5.7 percent of households in Washington used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

<sup>1</sup> National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.



# West Virginia

POPULATION OF WEST VIRGINIA IN 2014: 1,792,949

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN WEST VIRGINIA LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: 327,764

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In West Virginia, the poverty rate was 18.3 percent, ranking it 43 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which West Virginia must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where West Virginia ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where West Virginia is doing best

Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **4**Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **7**Rank in Unemployment Insurance Coverage: **14**

## Where West Virginia is doing worst

Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **50**Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **48**Rank in Disconnected Youth: **47**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**43**

### POVERTY RATE

18.3 percent of people in West Virginia had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**40**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

24.3 percent of children under age 18 in related families in West Virginia had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**18**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in West Virginia was 13.9 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

29

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

81 percent of high school students in West Virginia graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year.

*Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

46

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

32.5 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in West Virginia had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013.

*Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

47

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

21 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in West Virginia who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count*

*Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

34

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

6.5 percent of all workers in West Virginia were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

48

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in West Virginia in 2014, women's median earnings were 70 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

50

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

11 children in West Virginia lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

46

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 40.1 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in West Virginia. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

7

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

13.2 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in West Virginia did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

35

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

15.3 percent of households in West Virginia were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

14

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

33.3 percent of unemployed workers in West Virginia were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

4

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

West Virginia had 83 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

29

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

7.8 percent of households in West Virginia used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Wisconsin

POPULATION OF WISCONSIN IN 2014: **5,603,486**NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN WISCONSIN LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: **738,270**

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Wisconsin, the poverty rate was 13.2 percent, ranking it 18 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Wisconsin must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Wisconsin ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Wisconsin is doing best

Rank in Savings and Assets: **1**Rank in High School Graduation Rate: **2**Rank in Income Inequality: **6**

## Where Wisconsin is doing worst

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **28**Rank in Child Poverty Rate: **21**Rank in Children Living Apart From Parents: **20**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**18**

### POVERTY RATE

13.2 percent of people in Wisconsin had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**21**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

18.1 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Wisconsin had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**6**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Wisconsin was 12.3 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK*Jobs and education*

2

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

88 percent of high school students in Wisconsin graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

19

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

43.2 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Wisconsin had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

11

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

12 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Wisconsin who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

18

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

5.5 percent of all workers in Wisconsin were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

28

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Wisconsin in 2014, women's median earnings were 78.9 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK*Family stability and strength*

20

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

5 children in Wisconsin lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

11

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 19.6 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Wisconsin. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*

STATE  
RANK*Family economic security***15** LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

16.9 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Wisconsin did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

**7** HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY

11.4 percent of households in Wisconsin were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

**10** UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE

38.4 percent of unemployed workers in Wisconsin were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

**13** AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING

Wisconsin had 74 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

**1** SAVINGS AND ASSETS

2.6 percent of households in Wisconsin used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

# Wyoming

POPULATION OF WYOMING IN 2014: 570,149

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN WYOMING LIVING IN POVERTY IN 2014: 63,774

In 2014, the official poverty rate in the United States was 14.8 percent.<sup>1</sup> That means that more than one in seven people, or 46.7 million Americans, lived below the official federal poverty level—about \$24,000 per year for a family of four in 2014, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In Wyoming, the poverty rate was 11.2 percent, ranking it 5 among states in the country. Each year, we track states' progress toward the goals of cutting poverty and increasing opportunity by publishing our annual "State of the States" report, which examines a broad range of indicators of economic security and opportunity. These indicators help us better understand the areas in which the situation is improving for America's struggling families—and those in which Wyoming must do more work to boost families' well-being. The following is a summary of where Wyoming ranks according to the indicators in our 2015 report.

## Where Wyoming is doing best

Rank in Child Poverty Rate: **1**Rank in Affordable and Available Housing: **1**Rank in Income Inequality: **3**

## Where Wyoming is doing worst

Rank in Gender Wage Gap: **49**Rank in Savings and Assets: **44**Rank in Health Insurance Coverage: **41**

For each indicator, states and the District of Columbia are ranked from 1 to 51, with 1 representing the state with the best ranking and 51 representing the state with the worst ranking.

STATE  
RANK

## Poverty and inequality

**5**

### POVERTY RATE

11.2 percent of people in Wyoming had incomes below the poverty line—about \$24,000 for a family of four—in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17001.*

**1**

### CHILD POVERTY RATE

12.1 percent of children under age 18 in related families in Wyoming had incomes below the poverty line in 2014. *Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B17006.*

**3**

### INCOME INEQUALITY

The share of income going to the top 20 percent of households in Wyoming was 11.6 times that going to the bottom 20 percent of households in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table B19082.*

STATE  
RANK

*Jobs and education*

36

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

77 percent of high school students in Wyoming graduated on time at the end of the 2012–13 school year. *Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data.*

35

**HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT RATE**

37.3 percent of young adults ages 25 to 34 in Wyoming had an associate's degree or higher from 2011 to 2013. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 3-year estimate, Table B15001.*

23

**DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

15 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 in Wyoming who were not in school or working in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013.*

7

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

4.3 percent of all workers in Wyoming were unemployed in 2014. *Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2014.*

49

**GENDER WAGE GAP**

Among full-time, year-round workers in Wyoming in 2014, women's median earnings were 68.7 percent of men's median earnings. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table S0201.*

STATE  
RANK

*Family stability and strength*

33

**CHILDREN LIVING APART FROM PARENTS**

7 children in Wyoming lived in foster care for every 1,000 children under age 18 in 2013. *Source: Kids Count Data Center, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.*

32

**TEEN BIRTH RATE**

There were 29.6 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19 in 2013 in Wyoming. *Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System.*



STATE  
RANK*Family economic security*

41

**LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

26.5 percent of people under age 65 and below 138 percent of the poverty line in Wyoming did not have health insurance at any time in 2014. *Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2014, Table C27016.*

29

**HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY**

14 percent of households in Wyoming were food insecure on average from 2012 to 2014, meaning that at some point during the year, they experienced difficulty providing enough food due to a lack of money or resources. *Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Household Food Security in the United States in 2014.*

17

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE**

32.4 percent of unemployed workers in Wyoming were helped by unemployment insurance in 2014. *Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Unemployment Insurance Data Summary Report, 2014.*

1

**AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE HOUSING**

Wyoming had 103 apartments or other units that were affordable and available for every 100 renter households with very low incomes in 2014. Very low-income households are those with incomes at or below half of median income in the metropolitan or other area where they live. *Sources: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013; National Low Income Housing Center, Housing Spotlight 5 (1) (2015).*

44

**SAVINGS AND ASSETS**

10.1 percent of households in Wyoming used high-cost, high-risk forms of credit to make ends meet during 2013. This includes payday loans, automobile title loans, refund anticipation loans, rent to own, and pawning. *Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households, 2013.*

1 National poverty data are from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey. State poverty data come from the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.