

Poverty: 2016 and 2017

American Community Survey Briefs

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INTRODUCTION

Planners, policymakers, and community stakeholders use poverty estimates as key indicators to evaluate trends and current economic conditions within communities and to make comparisons across demographic groups. Federal and state governments often use these estimates to allocate funds to local communities. Government agencies and local organizations regularly use these estimates to identify the number of individuals and families eligible for various programs.

This brief uses the 2016 and 2017 American Community Surveys (ACS) 1-year estimates to analyze poverty rates for 2017 as well as the changes in poverty from 2016 for the nation, states and the District of Columbia, and the most populous metropolitan areas.¹ The brief also discusses the distribution of people by income-to-poverty ratio.

HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2017, 13.4 percent of the U.S. population had income below the poverty level, a decline from 14.0 percent in 2016. This is the fourth consecutive annual decline in the ACS national poverty rate.²

¹ Metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas (metro and micro areas) are geographic entities delineated by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for use by federal statistical agencies in collecting, tabulating, and publishing federal statistics. The term "Core Based Statistical Area" (CBSA) is a collective term for both metro and micro areas. A metro area contains a core urban area with a population of 50,000 or more individuals, and a micro area contains an urban core of at least 10,000 (but less than 50,000) individuals. For more information, see <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/metro-micro/about/omb-standards.html>.

² Following the standard specified by OMB in Statistical Policy Directive 14, data from the Current Population Survey Annual Social Economic Supplement are used to estimate the official national poverty rate, which can be found in the report *Income and Poverty in the United States: 2017*, available at <www.census.gov/library/publications/2018/demo/p60-263.html>.

- The poverty rate declined in 20 states and the District of Columbia between 2016 and 2017. In ten of those states, poverty declined for a third consecutive year. Five states had declining rates of poverty for a fourth year in a row. The poverty rate increased in two states, Delaware and West Virginia.
- In 13 of the 25 most populous metropolitan areas, the poverty rate declined between 2016 and 2017. The poverty rate declined for the third consecutive year in 8 of these 13 metropolitan areas.
- The percentage of the U.S. population with income less than 50 percent of their poverty threshold declined to 6.0 percent in 2017, from 6.2 percent in 2016.
- In 2017, the proportion of people with income less than 50 percent of their poverty threshold declined in 14 states and in the District of Columbia and in 6 of the 25 most populous metropolitan areas. The proportion of people with an income-to-poverty ratio less than 50 percent increased in four states and 1 of the 25 most populous metropolitan areas.
- The percentage of people in the United States with income less than 125 percent of their poverty threshold declined to 17.9 percent in 2017, from 18.6 percent in 2016.
- The proportion of people with income less than 125 percent of their poverty threshold declined in 21 states and in 11 of the 25 most populous metropolitan areas in 2017. The proportion of people with an income-to-poverty ratio less than 125 percent increased in Delaware.

The analysis in this report is based predominantly on the 2016 and 2017 ACS 1-year estimates. The ACS is conducted every month, with income data collected for the 12 months preceding the interview. Since the survey is continuous, adjacent ACS years have income reference months in common. Therefore, comparing the 2016 ACS with the 2017 ACS is not an exact comparison of economic conditions in 2016 with those in 2017, and comparisons should be interpreted with caution.³ For more information on the ACS sample design and other topics, visit <www.census.gov/acs>.

³ For a discussion of this and related issues see Howard Hogan, "Measuring Population Change Using the American Community Survey," *Applied Demography in the 21st Century*, eds. Steven H. Murdock and David A. Swanson, Springer Netherlands, 2008.

How Poverty Is Measured

Poverty status is determined by comparing annual income to a set of dollar values (called poverty thresholds) that vary by family size, number of children, and the age of the householder. If a family's before-tax money income is less than the dollar value of their threshold, then that family and every individual in it are considered to be in poverty. For people not living in families, poverty status is determined by comparing the individual's income to his or her poverty threshold.

The poverty thresholds are updated annually to account for changes in the cost of living using the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U). They do not vary geographically.

The ACS is a continuous survey and people respond throughout the year. Since income is reported for the previous 12 months, the appropriate poverty threshold for each family is determined by multiplying the base-year poverty threshold from 1982 by the average of monthly CPI values for the 12 months preceding the survey month.

For more information, see Subject Definitions at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/code-lists.html>.

Figure 1.

Year-to-Year Percentage Point Change in Poverty Rate: 2005 to 2017

(For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/code-lists.html)



Z represents or rounds to zero.

Note: Starting in 2006, the ACS included group quarters population. Poverty status is determined for individuals in housing units and noninstitutional group quarters. The poverty universe excludes children under the age of 15 who are not related to the householder, people living in institutional group quarters (e.g., nursing homes or correctional facilities), and people living in college dormitories or military barracks. All the changes are statistically significant except the changes for 2005-2006, 2011-2012, and 2012-2013.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 to 2017 American Community Surveys.

POVERTY

In 2017, 13.4 percent of the total U.S. population had income below their respective poverty thresholds, a significant decline from the 2016 estimate of 14.0 percent. This is the fourth consecutive year that the percentage of the U.S. population in poverty, as measured by the ACS, has declined (from 15.8 percent in 2013) and is the first instance of four consecutive years of decline since the inception of the ACS in 2005 (Figure 1 and Appendix Table 1).⁴

⁴ All year-to-year changes from 2005 to 2017, except the changes between 2005–2006, 2011–2012, and 2012–2013, were statistically significant.

Focusing on the states, New Hampshire had the lowest poverty rate at 7.7 percent. Mississippi had among the highest at 19.8 percent (Table 1).⁵ Figure 2 displays the percentage of people in poverty for all states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Poverty rates of 18.0 percent or higher are seen in Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, and West Virginia. In 2017, 13 states had poverty rates of below 11 percent.⁶

⁵ The poverty rate for Mississippi (19.8 percent) was not statistically different from the poverty rate for New Mexico (19.7 percent), Louisiana (19.7 percent), or West Virginia (19.1 percent).

⁶ The poverty rates for North Dakota, Iowa, and Nebraska were not statistically different from 11.0 percent.

Figure 3 shows changes in the percentage of people in poverty from 2016 to 2017 for all states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The figure shows that 20 states and the District of Columbia, distributed throughout the country, experienced decreases in poverty rates in 2017. For 28 states, the percentage of people in poverty across years was not statistically different. In Delaware and West Virginia, the 2017 poverty rate increased to 13.6 percent and 19.1 percent—from 11.7 and 17.9 percent, respectively (Table 1).

According to the 2016 and 2017 Puerto Rico Community Surveys, the poverty rate for Puerto Rico

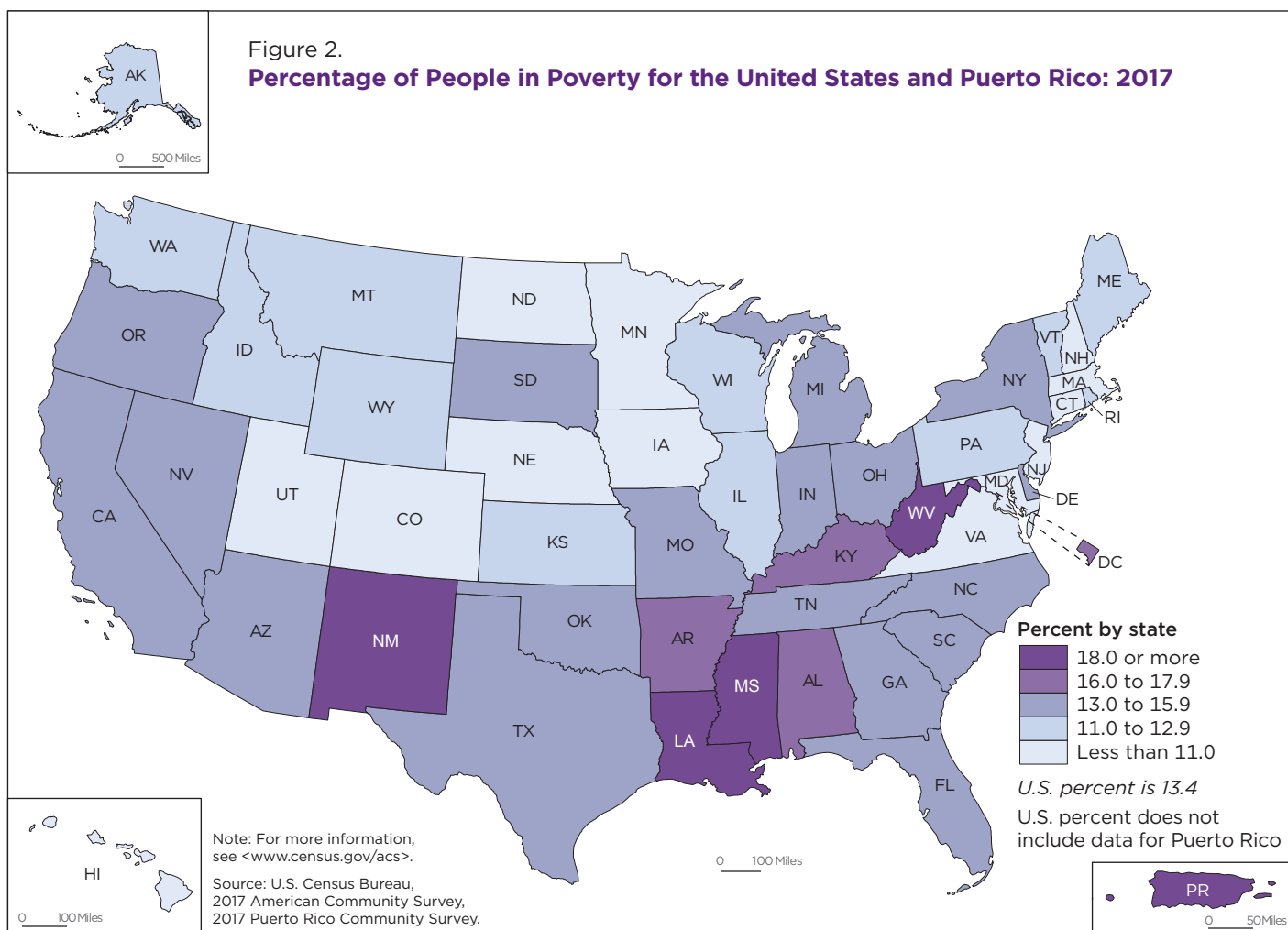


Table 1.

Number and Percentage of People in Poverty in the Past 12 Months by State and Puerto Rico: 2016 and 2017

(For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/code-lists.html)

Area	Below poverty in 2016				Below poverty in 2017				Change in poverty (2017 less 2016)			
	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Per-cent ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Per-cent ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Per-cent ¹	Margin of error ² (±)
United States . . .	44,268,996	246,910	14.0	0.1	42,583,651	241,032	13.4	0.1	*-1,685,345	345,052	*-0.6	0.1
Alabama	810,231	23,417	17.1	0.5	802,656	24,897	16.9	0.5	-7,575	34,179	-0.2	0.7
Alaska	71,566	6,534	9.9	0.9	80,012	7,303	11.1	1.0	8,446	9,799	1.2	1.3
Arizona	1,107,464	27,786	16.4	0.4	1,018,935	28,419	14.9	0.4	*-88,529	39,745	*-1.5	0.6
Arkansas	499,225	17,721	17.2	0.6	478,365	17,030	16.4	0.6	-20,860	24,578	-0.8	0.8
California	5,525,524	66,544	14.3	0.2	5,160,208	71,947	13.3	0.2	*-365,316	98,002	*-1.0	0.3
Colorado	598,736	17,942	11.0	0.3	564,312	17,223	10.3	0.3	*-34,424	24,871	*-0.7	0.4
Connecticut	339,128	14,645	9.8	0.4	334,128	18,741	9.6	0.5	-5,000	23,784	-0.2	0.6
Delaware	108,211	8,223	11.7	0.9	126,986	9,341	13.6	1.0	*18,775	12,445	*1.9	1.3
District of Columbia . .	120,308	9,084	18.6	1.4	109,920	7,135	16.6	1.1	-10,388	11,551	*-2.0	1.8
Florida	2,973,512	48,474	14.7	0.2	2,889,506	57,828	14.0	0.3	*-84,006	75,457	*-0.7	0.4
Georgia	1,603,013	34,382	16.0	0.3	1,517,702	49,244	14.9	0.5	*-85,311	60,059	*-1.1	0.6
Hawaii	129,569	10,361	9.3	0.7	132,549	8,537	9.5	0.6	2,980	13,425	0.2	0.9
Idaho	237,445	15,728	14.4	1.0	216,309	12,513	12.8	0.7	*-21,136	20,098	*-1.6	1.2
Illinois	1,621,508	35,297	13.0	0.3	1,569,753	35,647	12.6	0.3	*-51,755	50,166	*-0.4	0.4
Indiana	906,077	22,930	14.1	0.4	871,247	27,337	13.5	0.4	*-34,830	35,680	*-0.6	0.6
Iowa	356,378	12,582	11.8	0.4	326,636	11,546	10.7	0.4	*-29,742	17,077	*-1.1	0.6
Kansas	342,544	14,393	12.1	0.5	336,487	14,398	11.9	0.5	-6,057	20,358	-0.2	0.7
Kentucky	794,060	24,195	18.5	0.6	744,239	20,861	17.2	0.5	*-49,821	31,947	*-1.3	0.8
Louisiana	918,187	25,851	20.2	0.6	899,039	27,219	19.7	0.6	-19,148	37,539	-0.5	0.8
Maine	161,749	10,063	12.5	0.8	144,012	7,961	11.1	0.6	*-17,737	12,831	*-1.4	1.0
Maryland	567,715	17,097	9.7	0.3	549,171	21,371	9.3	0.4	-18,544	27,368	-0.4	0.5
Massachusetts	686,597	20,435	10.4	0.3	692,201	22,499	10.5	0.3	5,604	30,394	0.1	0.4
Michigan	1,451,936	23,392	15.0	0.2	1,377,766	28,586	14.2	0.3	*-74,170	36,937	*-0.8	0.4
Minnesota	533,276	15,913	9.9	0.3	517,476	15,252	9.5	0.3	-15,800	22,042	-0.4	0.4
Mississippi	602,768	21,320	20.8	0.7	571,219	15,607	19.8	0.5	*-31,549	26,422	*-1.0	0.9
Missouri	826,954	22,623	14.0	0.4	795,732	21,880	13.4	0.4	-31,222	31,473	*-0.6	0.6
Montana	135,638	7,800	13.3	0.8	127,777	8,406	12.5	0.8	-7,861	11,467	-0.8	1.1
Nebraska	211,453	10,293	11.4	0.6	200,909	11,487	10.8	0.6	-10,544	15,424	-0.6	0.8
Nevada	399,420	18,626	13.8	0.6	384,120	18,511	13.0	0.6	-15,300	26,260	-0.8	0.8
New Hampshire	94,289	7,685	7.3	0.6	99,966	7,412	7.7	0.6	5,677	10,677	0.4	0.8
New Jersey	915,913	28,791	10.4	0.3	882,673	28,071	10.0	0.3	-33,240	40,211	-0.4	0.4
New Mexico	404,463	15,353	19.8	0.8	401,755	16,280	19.7	0.8	-2,708	22,378	-0.1	1.1
New York	2,832,824	38,578	14.7	0.2	2,722,257	47,366	14.1	0.2	*-110,567	61,088	*-0.6	0.3
North Carolina	1,521,880	32,197	15.4	0.3	1,471,339	35,219	14.7	0.4	*-50,541	47,718	*-0.7	0.5
North Dakota	78,464	6,184	10.7	0.8	75,279	5,405	10.3	0.7	-3,185	8,213	-0.4	1.1
Ohio	1,645,382	32,693	14.6	0.3	1,582,931	31,003	14.0	0.3	*-62,451	45,056	*-0.6	0.4
Oklahoma	620,377	15,205	16.3	0.4	603,864	16,323	15.8	0.4	-16,513	22,308	-0.5	0.6
Oregon	536,146	18,071	13.3	0.4	537,974	19,115	13.2	0.5	1,828	26,305	-0.1	0.6
Pennsylvania	1,592,045	30,765	12.9	0.2	1,548,720	31,552	12.5	0.3	-43,325	44,068	*-0.4	0.4
Rhode Island	129,932	9,143	12.8	0.9	118,367	9,887	11.6	1.0	-11,565	13,467	-1.2	1.3
South Carolina	735,960	23,271	15.3	0.5	751,907	19,900	15.4	0.4	15,947	30,619	0.1	0.6
South Dakota	110,962	6,706	13.3	0.8	109,099	6,423	13.0	0.8	-1,863	9,286	-0.3	1.1
Tennessee	1,023,177	25,829	15.8	0.4	980,284	25,177	15.0	0.4	*-42,893	36,070	*-0.8	0.6
Texas	4,261,337	60,018	15.6	0.2	4,076,905	62,508	14.7	0.2	*-184,432	86,657	*-0.9	0.3
Utah	306,902	15,189	10.2	0.5	296,557	16,717	9.7	0.5	-10,345	22,587	-0.5	0.7
Vermont	71,329	5,685	11.9	0.9	67,841	5,946	11.3	1.0	-3,488	8,226	-0.6	1.3
Virginia	896,440	28,235	11.0	0.3	874,483	27,673	10.6	0.3	-21,957	39,535	-0.4	0.4
Washington	805,691	22,400	11.3	0.3	802,159	24,114	11.0	0.3	-3,532	32,913	-0.3	0.4
West Virginia	319,063	13,661	17.9	0.8	336,301	14,216	19.1	0.8	17,238	19,716	*1.2	1.1
Wisconsin	661,565	19,715	11.8	0.4	639,564	18,029	11.3	0.3	-22,001	26,716	-0.5	0.5
Wyoming	64,663	5,547	11.3	1.0	64,054	6,154	11.3	1.1	-609	8,285	Z	1.5
Puerto Rico	1,469,382	26,573	43.5	0.8	1,468,798	31,819	44.4	1.0	-584	41,456	0.9	1.3

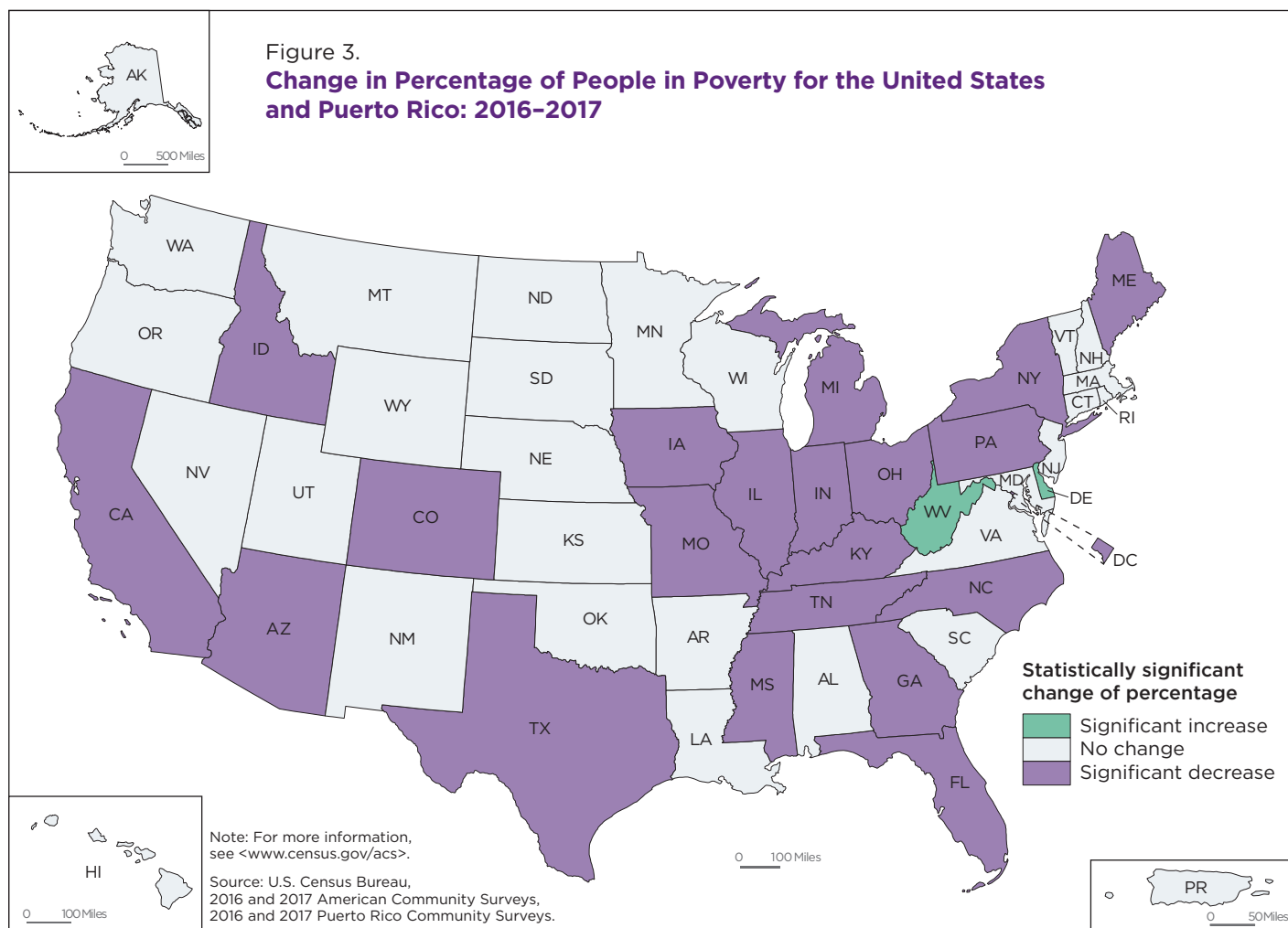
* Statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

Z Represents or rounds to zero.

¹ Poverty status is determined for individuals in housing units and noninstitutional group quarters. The poverty universe excludes children under age 15 who are not related to the householder, people living in institutional group quarters (e.g., nursing homes or correctional facilities), and people living in college dormitories or military barracks.

² Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number when added to or subtracted from the estimate forms the 90 percent confidence interval.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 and 2017 American Community Surveys and 2016 and 2017 Puerto Rico Community Surveys.



was 44.4 percent in 2017, which was not statistically different from the rate in 2016.⁷

POVERTY IN METROPOLITAN AREAS

Table 2 shows the estimated number and percentage of people in poverty in 2016 and 2017 for the 25 most populous metropolitan

⁷ Hurricanes caused a disruption of data collection activities from September through December of 2017 in Puerto Rico. All 2017 1-year estimates for Puerto Rico are based on data collected prior to this disruption. For more information, see <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/user-notes/2018-02.html>.

areas. The Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area (7.9 percent) and the Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI Metro Area (8.1 percent) had two of the lowest poverty rates among the 25 most populous metropolitan areas (Figure 4).⁸ Conversely, the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI Metro Area (14.6 percent) along with the San

⁸ The 2017 poverty rate for the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area (7.9 percent) and the Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI Metro Area (8.1 percent) were not statistically different from each other.

Antonio-New Braunfels, TX Metro Area (14.5 percent) and Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA Metro Area (14.4 percent) had among the highest poverty rates within this group of populous metropolitan areas in 2017.⁹

In 13 of the 25 most populous metropolitan areas, the percentage of people in poverty decreased from 2016 to 2017 (Table 2). None of the

⁹ The poverty rates for the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI Metro Area; the San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX Metro Area; and the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA Metro Area are not significantly different from each other, and others not listed.

Table 2.

Number and Percentage of People in Poverty in the Past 12 Months for the 25 Most Populous Metropolitan Areas: 2016 and 2017(For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/code-lists.html)

Metropolitan areas	Below poverty in 2016			Below poverty in 2017			Change in poverty (2017 less 2016)		
	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Per- cent ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Per- cent ¹
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA Metro Area	747,336	29,168	13.1	0.5	692,754	35,782	*-54,582	46,164	*-1.1
Baltimore-Columbia-Towson, MD Metro Area	284,087	13,710	10.4	0.5	278,750	14,367	-5,337	19,859	-0.2
Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH Metro Area	446,502	16,797	9.6	0.4	448,807	19,750	2,305	25,927	Z
Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, NC-SC Metro Area	299,707	15,669	12.3	0.6	301,726	13,088	2,019	20,416	-0.2
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI Metro Area	1,160,186	30,605	12.4	0.3	1,102,860	30,087	*-57,326	42,917	*-0.6
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX Metro Area	907,610	31,550	12.7	0.4	825,131	30,453	*-82,479	43,850	*-1.4
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, CO Metro Area	265,745	14,687	9.4	0.5	245,823	12,280	*-19,922	19,144	*-0.8
Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI Metro Area	632,297	17,744	14.9	0.4	620,334	19,753	-11,963	26,552	-0.3
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX Metro Area	986,610	31,046	14.8	0.5	946,689	34,951	-39,921	46,749	*-0.9
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA Metro Area	1,974,307	37,220	15.0	0.3	1,850,841	34,792	*-123,466	50,949	*-0.9
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL Metro Area	921,495	29,125	15.4	0.5	871,372	23,362	*-50,123	37,337	*-1.1
Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI Metro Area	307,548	12,631	8.8	0.4	288,410	12,517	*-19,138	17,783	*-0.7
New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA Metro Area	2,672,312	48,360	13.5	0.2	2,546,704	45,726	*-125,608	66,555	*-0.7
Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford, FL Metro Area	352,865	19,730	14.7	0.8	348,692	21,023	-4,173	28,831	-0.6
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD Metro Area	763,704	21,326	12.9	0.4	763,660	23,608	-44	31,814	-0.1
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ Metro Area	687,225	23,945	15.0	0.5	620,578	22,016	*-66,647	32,528	*-1.7
Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA Metro Area	260,891	15,453	10.9	0.6	263,666	14,637	2,775	21,285	Z
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA Metro Area	728,914	25,980	16.4	0.6	646,186	24,344	*-82,728	35,603	*-2.0
St. Louis, MO-IL Metro Area	313,434	14,666	11.4	0.5	319,414	14,748	5,980	20,799	0.2
San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX Metro Area	358,149	18,451	15.0	0.8	351,164	17,655	-6,985	25,537	-0.5
San Diego-Carlsbad, CA Metro Area	398,475	22,006	12.3	0.7	384,542	18,181	-13,933	28,545	-0.5
San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA Metro Area	426,007	16,042	9.2	0.3	411,500	17,025	-14,507	23,392	-0.4
Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA Metro Area	360,058	16,223	9.6	0.4	342,539	15,235	-17,519	22,255	*-0.6
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL Metro Area	424,852	17,507	14.2	0.6	423,423	17,017	-1,429	24,415	-0.3
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area	506,066	19,893	8.4	0.3	482,845	19,583	-23,221	27,915	*-0.5

* Statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

Z Represents or rounds to zero.

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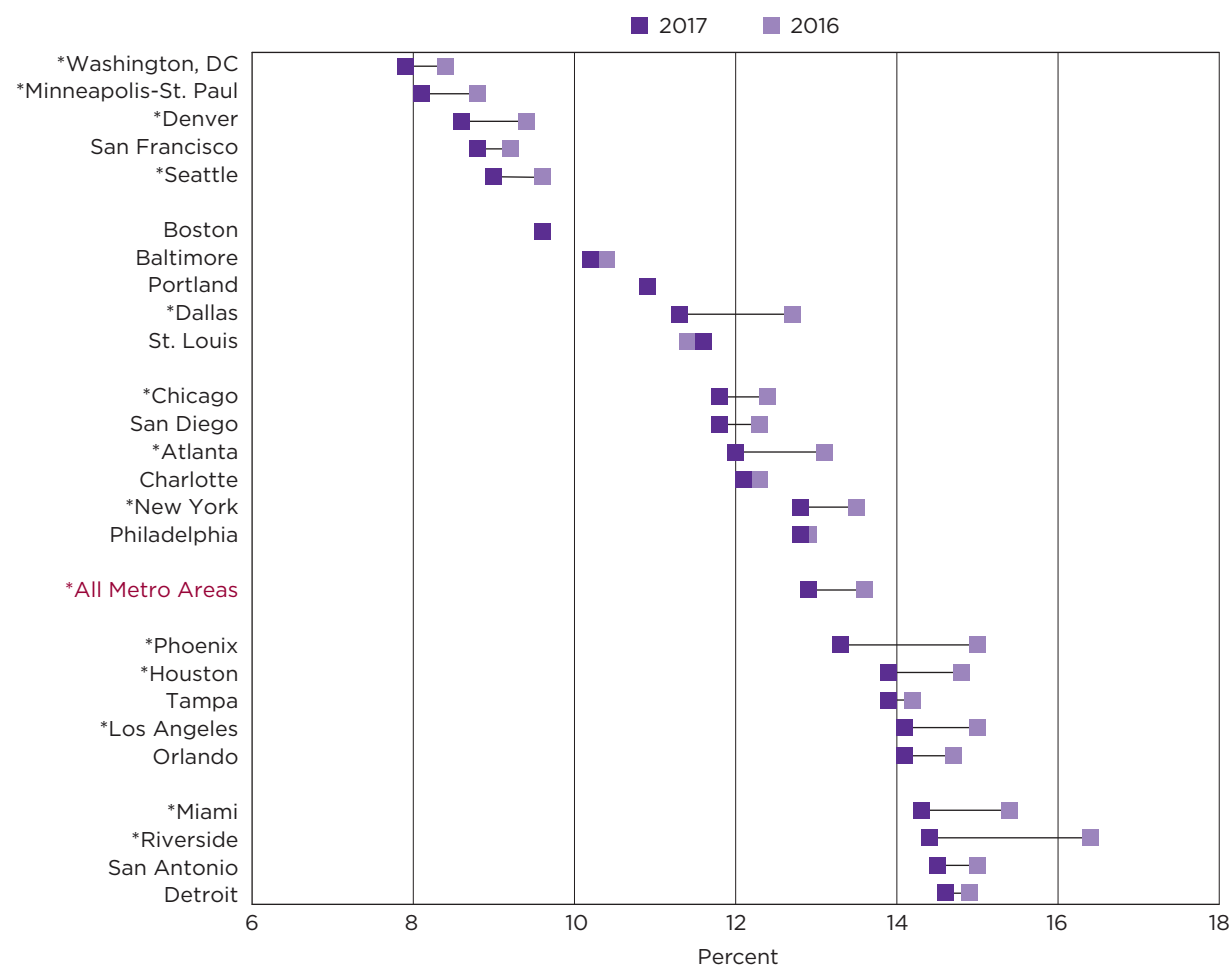
² Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number when added to or subtracted from the estimate forms the 90 percent confidence interval.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 and 2017 American Community Surveys.

Figure 4.

Percentage of People in Poverty in the Past 12 Months for the 25 Most Populous Metropolitan Areas: 2016 and 2017

(For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/code-lists.html)



* Change statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 and 2017 American Community Surveys.

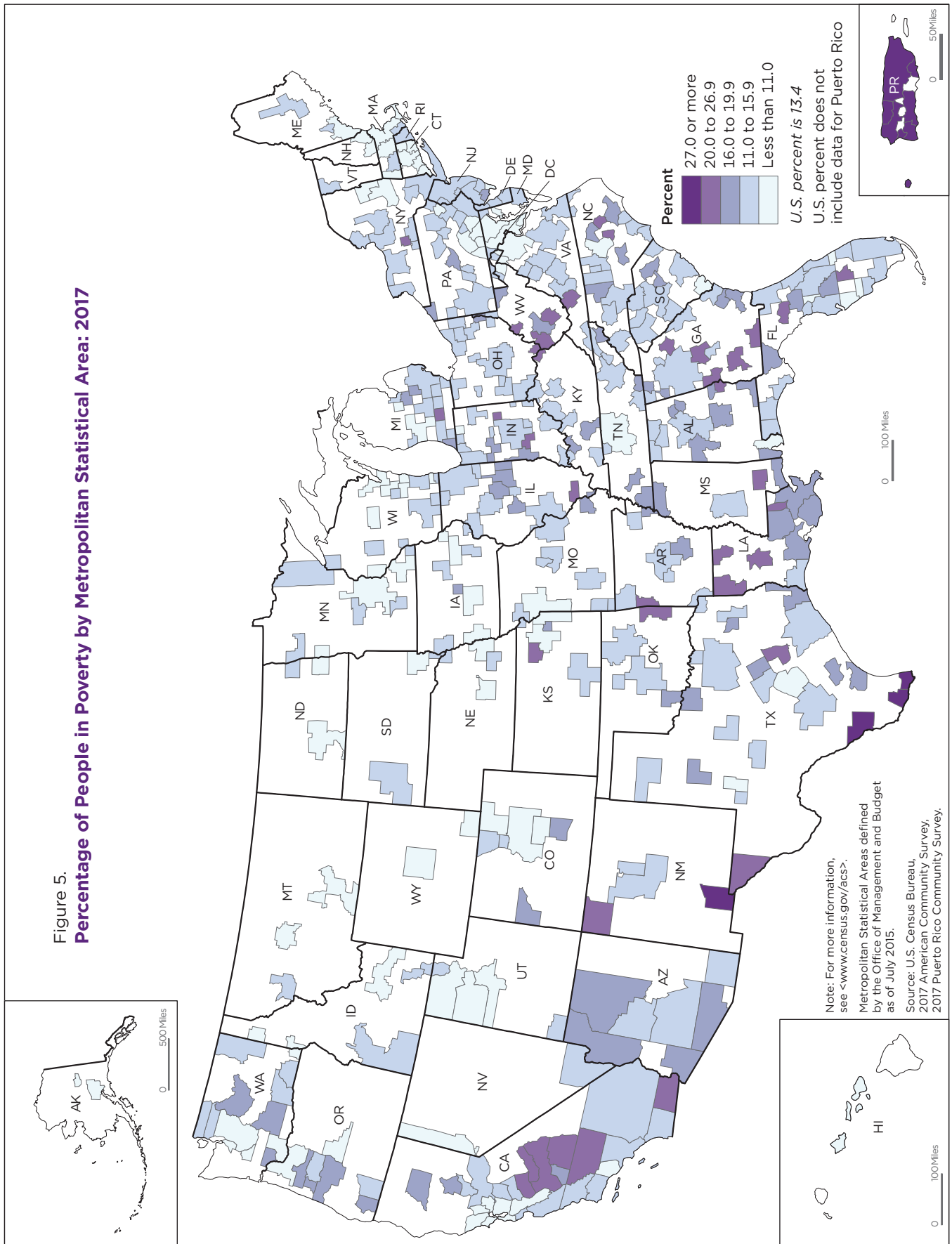
most populous metropolitan areas shown in Table 2 experienced a statistically significant increase in poverty rates in 2017. For the third year in a row, the percentage of people in poverty decreased in the four most populous metropolitan areas (New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA Metro Area; Los

Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA Metro Area; Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI Metro Area; and Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX Metro Area).

Figure 5 shows 2017 poverty rates for all metropolitan statistical

areas (MSA). The Napa, CA Metro Area had among the lowest poverty rate at 5.6 percent. The McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, TX Metro Area had among the

Figure 5.
Percentage of People in Poverty by Metropolitan Statistical Area: 2017



highest poverty rate at 30.0 percent.¹⁰ Geographically, MSAs with higher poverty rates are scattered throughout the country, however, a concentration can be seen in the Western and the Southern regions of the United States. On the other hand, MSAs with lower poverty rates are primarily located in the Midwest and Northeast regions.

DEPTH OF POVERTY

The poverty rate is an estimate of the proportion of people with family or personal income below their poverty threshold. An income-to-poverty ratio evaluates how close a family's or individual's income is to their poverty threshold. It measures the depth of poverty for those with income below their poverty threshold.

In this report, the income-to-poverty ratio is reported as a percentage. For example, an income-to-poverty ratio of 125 percent indicates a family or individual with income equal to 1.25 times their poverty threshold, while an income-to-poverty ratio of 50 percent identifies families or individuals with income equal to one-half of their poverty threshold. Families and individuals identified as in poverty and described in the

preceding sections of this report had an income-to-poverty ratio of less than 100 percent.

Table 3 details the number and percentage of people with income below 50 percent of their poverty threshold for 2016 and 2017 for the nation, all states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The percentage of the U.S. population with income below 50 percent of their poverty threshold declined to 6.0 percent in 2017, from 6.2 percent in 2016. This is the fourth consecutive annual decrease in the proportion of the U.S. population living with income below half their poverty threshold.

At the state level, New Hampshire, with 3.8 percent was among the states with the lowest percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 50 percent.¹¹ Louisiana, with 9.2 percent, was among the states with the highest percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 50 percent.¹² From 2016 to 2017, the percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 50 percent decreased in 14 states and the District of Columbia. During the same time, in four states (Alaska, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and Wyoming) there was an increase in the percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 50 percent. Changes from 2016 to 2017 in the other

32 states were not statistically significant.

Table 4 reports the number and percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 50 percent for 2016 and 2017 for the 25 most populous metropolitan areas. Among these populous metropolitan areas in 2017, the percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 50 percent was lowest in the Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI Metro Area at 3.6 percent. At 6.7 percent, the Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD Metro Area had among the highest percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 50 percent.¹³

The percentage of people with income below 50 percent of their poverty threshold declined in 6 of the 25 most populous metropolitan areas from 2016 to 2017. The Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD Metro Area was the only populous metropolitan area to show an increase in the percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 50 percent from 2016 to 2017.

PROXIMITY TO POVERTY

For those with income above their poverty threshold, an income-to-poverty ratio measures the proximity to poverty. Estimates of the percentage of people below 125 percent of their poverty threshold include the combined proportion of people whose income is below

¹⁰ The poverty rate for the Napa, CA Metro Area (5.6 percent) was not statistically different from poverty rates for the Fairbanks, AK Metro Area (6.0 percent); the Barnstable Town, MA Metro Area (6.8 percent); the Sioux Falls, SD Metro Area (6.8 percent); the Appleton, WI Metro Area (6.9 percent); the Sheboygan, WI Metro Area (7.2 percent); the East Stroudsburg, PA Metro Area (7.3 percent); the Carson City, NV Metro Area (7.5 percent); the Gettysburg, PA Metro Area (7.6 percent); or the Fond du Lac, WI Metro Area (8.1 percent). The poverty rate for the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, TX Metro Area (30.0 percent) was not statistically different from poverty rates for the Las Cruces, NM Metro Area (28.1 percent); the Laredo, TX Metro Area (28.0 percent); or the Brownsville-Harlingen, TX Metro Area (27.9 percent).

¹¹ The percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 50 percent in New Hampshire (3.8 percent) was not statistically different from the percentage in Minnesota (4.0 percent), Rhode Island (4.2 percent), Utah (4.3 percent), or Maine (4.4 percent).

¹² The percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 50 percent in Louisiana (9.2 percent) was not statistically different from the percentage in Mississippi (9.1 percent), the District of Columbia (8.9 percent), or New Mexico (8.9 percent).

¹³ The percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 50 percent in the Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD Metro Area (6.7 percent) was not statistically different from the San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX Metro Area (6.4 percent); the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI Metro Area (6.4 percent); the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA Metro Area (6.3 percent); or the Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL Metro Area (6.3 percent).

Table 3.

Number and Percentage of People With Income Below 50 Percent of the Poverty Level by State and Puerto Rico: 2016 and 2017

(For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/code-lists.html)

Area	Below 50 percent of poverty level in 2016				Below 50 percent of poverty level in 2017				Change (2017 less 2016)			
	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Per-cent ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Per-cent ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Per-cent ¹	Margin of error ² (±)
United States ...	19,636,022	148,964	6.2	0.1	19,075,627	150,164	6.0	0.1	*-560,395	211,517	*-0.2	0.1
Alabama	356,387	15,096	7.5	0.3	352,069	17,765	7.4	0.4	-4,318	23,313	-0.1	0.5
Alaska	33,035	4,496	4.6	0.6	41,036	3,678	5.7	0.5	*8,001	5,809	*1.1	0.8
Arizona	525,626	18,752	7.8	0.3	468,888	19,143	6.8	0.3	*-56,738	26,797	*-1.0	0.4
Arkansas	213,946	12,974	7.4	0.4	199,669	12,396	6.8	0.4	-14,277	17,944	-0.6	0.6
California	2,389,302	46,102	6.2	0.1	2,250,522	45,736	5.8	0.1	*-138,780	64,940	*-0.4	0.1
Colorado	258,193	13,370	4.8	0.2	261,234	12,567	4.8	0.2	3,041	18,349	Z	0.3
Connecticut	157,228	9,372	4.5	0.3	160,256	10,790	4.6	0.3	3,028	14,292	0.1	0.4
Delaware	50,068	5,833	5.4	0.6	64,714	5,519	6.9	0.6	*14,646	8,030	*1.5	0.8
District of Columbia	69,581	7,412	10.7	1.1	59,021	6,123	8.9	0.9	*-10,560	9,614	*-1.8	1.4
Florida	1,295,153	34,976	6.4	0.2	1,278,075	38,634	6.2	0.2	-17,078	52,114	-0.2	0.3
Georgia	727,471	25,250	7.2	0.3	684,349	28,168	6.7	0.3	*-43,122	37,829	*-0.5	0.4
Hawaii	64,908	7,258	4.7	0.5	66,658	6,356	4.8	0.5	1,750	9,648	0.1	0.7
Idaho	102,062	8,519	6.2	0.5	92,767	8,711	5.5	0.5	-9,295	12,184	-0.7	0.7
Illinois	738,806	22,637	5.9	0.2	724,307	22,542	5.8	0.2	-14,499	31,946	-0.1	0.3
Indiana	409,184	17,566	6.4	0.3	402,895	19,196	6.2	0.3	-6,289	26,020	-0.2	0.4
Iowa	159,453	8,423	5.3	0.3	143,191	8,139	4.7	0.3	*-16,262	11,713	*-0.6	0.4
Kansas	151,518	8,417	5.4	0.3	152,553	9,904	5.4	0.4	1,035	12,998	Z	0.5
Kentucky	339,407	14,656	7.9	0.3	335,188	15,015	7.8	0.3	-4,219	20,982	-0.1	0.4
Louisiana	395,474	18,532	8.7	0.4	420,630	18,563	9.2	0.4	25,156	26,230	0.5	0.6
Maine	58,948	5,453	4.5	0.4	56,941	5,051	4.4	0.4	-2,007	7,433	-0.1	0.6
Maryland	271,954	13,137	4.6	0.2	269,670	15,581	4.6	0.3	-2,284	20,380	Z	0.4
Massachusetts	324,784	14,455	4.9	0.2	335,511	15,459	5.1	0.2	10,727	21,164	0.2	0.3
Michigan	646,971	18,011	6.7	0.2	603,543	16,203	6.2	0.2	*-43,428	24,227	*-0.5	0.3
Minnesota	238,104	10,585	4.4	0.2	219,109	10,216	4.0	0.2	*-18,995	14,711	*-0.4	0.3
Mississippi	267,875	14,912	9.3	0.5	263,238	14,839	9.1	0.5	-4,637	21,037	-0.2	0.7
Missouri	364,094	18,167	6.2	0.3	340,742	15,044	5.7	0.3	-23,352	23,587	*-0.5	0.4
Montana	57,493	4,969	5.6	0.5	56,550	5,893	5.5	0.6	-943	7,708	-0.1	0.8
Nebraska	94,746	6,650	5.1	0.4	85,719	7,365	4.6	0.4	-9,027	9,923	-0.5	0.6
Nevada	181,573	11,652	6.3	0.4	178,057	12,479	6.0	0.4	-3,516	17,073	-0.3	0.6
New Hampshire	41,811	4,321	3.2	0.3	49,029	6,305	3.8	0.5	7,218	7,644	0.6	0.6
New Jersey	396,039	19,292	4.5	0.2	387,543	17,230	4.4	0.2	-8,496	25,866	-0.1	0.3
New Mexico	174,249	12,488	8.5	0.6	182,379	13,160	8.9	0.6	8,130	18,142	0.4	0.8
New York	1,289,747	29,394	6.7	0.2	1,243,212	29,538	6.4	0.2	*-46,535	41,671	*-0.3	0.3
North Carolina	658,824	22,915	6.7	0.2	651,533	22,599	6.5	0.2	-7,291	32,184	-0.2	0.3
North Dakota	40,350	5,204	5.5	0.7	39,968	3,596	5.5	0.5	-382	6,326	Z	0.9
Ohio	756,435	22,872	6.7	0.2	712,712	23,646	6.3	0.2	*-43,723	32,898	*-0.4	0.3
Oklahoma	272,498	11,788	7.2	0.3	254,821	10,603	6.7	0.3	*-17,677	15,855	*-0.5	0.4
Oregon	237,154	14,805	5.9	0.4	235,473	11,586	5.8	0.3	-1,681	18,800	-0.1	0.5
Pennsylvania	702,681	23,423	5.7	0.2	743,558	22,833	6.0	0.2	*40,877	32,711	*0.3	0.3
Rhode Island	55,404	6,860	5.5	0.7	43,222	6,015	4.2	0.6	*-12,182	9,124	*-1.3	0.9
South Carolina	345,252	17,468	7.2	0.4	334,715	17,093	6.9	0.4	-10,537	24,440	-0.3	0.6
South Dakota	56,619	5,431	6.8	0.6	51,063	4,763	6.1	0.6	-5,556	7,224	-0.7	0.8
Tennessee	445,999	18,264	6.9	0.3	404,675	19,158	6.2	0.3	*-41,324	26,469	*-0.7	0.4
Texas	1,790,879	39,610	6.6	0.1	1,775,415	48,340	6.4	0.2	-15,464	62,496	-0.2	0.2
Utah	144,180	10,409	4.8	0.3	132,148	9,362	4.3	0.3	-12,032	14,000	*-0.5	0.4
Vermont	34,577	3,943	5.8	0.7	27,688	3,227	4.6	0.5	-6,889	5,095	*-1.2	0.9
Virginia	426,822	17,572	5.2	0.2	414,209	18,230	5.0	0.2	-12,613	25,320	-0.2	0.3
Washington	370,552	14,162	5.2	0.2	368,952	20,225	5.1	0.3	-1,600	24,690	-0.1	0.4
West Virginia	141,536	9,615	8.0	0.5	141,757	8,696	8.0	0.5	221	12,964	Z	0.7
Wisconsin	286,260	12,214	5.1	0.2	282,723	13,200	5.0	0.2	-3,537	17,984	-0.1	0.3
Wyoming	24,810	2,896	4.3	0.5	31,730	5,045	5.6	0.9	*6,920	5,817	*1.3	1.0
Puerto Rico	805,412	20,670	23.8	0.6	827,091	28,288	25.0	0.9	21,679	35,035	*1.2	1.1

* Statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

Z Represents or rounds to zero.

¹ Poverty status is determined for individuals in housing units and noninstitutional group quarters. The poverty universe excludes children under age 15 who are not related to the householder, people living in institutional group quarters (e.g., nursing homes or correctional facilities), and people living in college dormitories or military barracks.

² Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number when added to or subtracted from the estimate forms the 90 percent confidence interval.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 and 2017 American Community Surveys and 2016 and 2017 Puerto Rico Community Surveys.

Table 4.

Number and Percentage of People With Income Below 50 Percent of the Poverty Level for the 25 Most Populous Metropolitan Areas: 2016 and 2017

(For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/code-lists.html)

Metropolitan areas	Below 50 percent of poverty level in 2016				Below 50 percent of poverty level in 2017				Change (2017 less 2016)			
	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Per- cent ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Per- cent ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Per- cent ¹	Margin of error ² (±)
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA Metro Area	323,502	19,455	5.7	0.3	299,875	20,615	5.2	0.4	-23,627	28,346	*-0.5	0.5
Baltimore-Columbia-Towson, MD Metro Area	137,228	10,018	5.0	0.4	140,167	11,201	5.1	0.4	2,939	15,027	0.1	0.6
Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH Metro Area	211,872	12,111	4.6	0.3	220,662	13,405	4.7	0.3	8,790	18,066	0.1	0.4
Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, NC-SC Metro Area	137,475	10,687	5.6	0.4	126,357	9,922	5.1	0.4	-11,118	14,583	-0.5	0.6
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI Metro Area	532,859	19,780	5.7	0.2	513,030	17,500	5.5	0.2	-19,829	26,410	-0.2	0.3
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX Metro Area	378,317	19,973	5.3	0.3	343,876	22,875	4.7	0.3	*-34,441	30,368	*-0.6	0.4
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, CO Metro Area	107,709	9,232	3.8	0.3	118,393	9,084	4.2	0.3	10,684	12,952	0.4	0.4
Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI Metro Area	267,075	12,731	6.3	0.3	272,540	12,856	6.4	0.3	5,465	18,093	0.1	0.4
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX Metro Area	396,692	23,417	5.9	0.4	408,536	22,997	6.0	0.3	11,844	32,821	0.1	0.5
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA Metro Area	819,747	25,408	6.2	0.2	765,728	26,546	5.8	0.2	*-54,019	36,746	*-0.4	0.3
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL Metro Area	376,327	22,144	6.3	0.4	372,638	20,112	6.1	0.3	-3,689	29,914	-0.2	0.5
Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI Metro Area	142,004	8,485	4.1	0.2	126,368	8,271	3.6	0.2	*-15,636	11,849	*-0.5	0.3
New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA Metro Area	1,184,597	30,287	6.0	0.2	1,129,337	26,704	5.7	0.1	*-55,260	40,378	*-0.3	0.2
Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford, FL Metro Area	158,969	13,891	6.6	0.6	150,162	12,474	6.1	0.5	-8,807	18,670	-0.5	0.8
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD Metro Area	358,829	17,947	6.1	0.3	398,669	20,026	6.7	0.3	*39,840	26,891	*0.6	0.4
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ Metro Area	338,415	17,215	7.4	0.4	287,179	15,199	6.2	0.3	*-51,236	22,964	*-1.2	0.5
Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA Metro Area	118,071	11,509	4.9	0.5	116,620	9,394	4.8	0.4	-1,451	14,856	-0.1	0.6
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA Metro Area	299,402	18,592	6.8	0.4	284,409	16,867	6.3	0.4	-14,993	25,103	-0.5	0.6
St. Louis, MO-IL Metro Area	148,680	11,999	5.4	0.4	134,895	9,884	4.9	0.4	-13,785	15,546	-0.5	0.6
San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX Metro Area	143,573	11,932	6.0	0.5	155,587	12,528	6.4	0.5	12,014	17,301	0.4	0.7
San Diego-Carlsbad, CA Metro Area	184,003	14,233	5.7	0.4	176,861	12,449	5.4	0.4	-7,142	18,909	-0.3	0.6
San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA Metro Area	198,401	9,223	4.3	0.2	191,376	11,832	4.1	0.3	-7,025	15,002	-0.2	0.4
Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA Metro Area	173,389	11,166	4.6	0.3	160,722	11,822	4.2	0.3	-12,667	16,262	-0.4	0.4
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL Metro Area	185,484	12,942	6.2	0.4	190,663	11,827	6.3	0.4	5,179	17,532	0.1	0.6
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area	255,470	13,724	4.2	0.2	240,780	14,316	3.9	0.2	-14,690	19,832	-0.3	0.3

* Statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

¹ Poverty status is determined for individuals in housing units and noninstitutional group quarters. The poverty universe excludes children under age 15 who are not related to the householder, people living in institutional group quarters (e.g., nursing homes or correctional facilities), and people living in college dormitories or military barracks.

² Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number when added to or subtracted from the estimate forms the 90 percent confidence interval.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 and 2017 American Community Surveys.

Table 5.

Number and Percentage of People With Income Below 125 Percent of the Poverty Level by State and Puerto Rico: 2016 and 2017

(For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/code-lists.html)

Area	Below 125 percent of poverty level in 2016				Below 125 percent of poverty level in 2017				Change (2017 less 2016)			
	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Per-cent ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Per-cent ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Per-cent ¹	Margin of error ² (±)
United States	58,498,340	285,951	18.6	0.1	56,773,672	284,292	17.9	0.1	*-1,724,668	403,224	*-0.7	0.1
Alabama	1,058,934	26,546	22.3	0.6	1,064,645	24,794	22.4	0.5	5,711	36,324	0.1	0.8
Alaska	96,434	7,502	13.3	1.0	104,532	7,968	14.5	1.1	8,098	10,944	1.2	1.5
Arizona	1,457,773	32,680	21.5	0.5	1,356,969	32,797	19.8	0.5	*-100,804	46,299	*-1.7	0.7
Arkansas	674,036	18,849	23.3	0.7	645,454	20,609	22.1	0.7	*-28,582	27,929	*-1.2	1.0
California	7,372,644	68,865	19.1	0.2	6,927,903	77,695	17.9	0.2	*-444,741	103,821	*-1.2	0.3
Colorado	811,601	20,259	15.0	0.4	760,985	19,484	13.9	0.4	*-50,616	28,108	*-1.1	0.6
Connecticut	447,210	16,204	12.9	0.5	440,490	20,849	12.6	0.6	-6,720	26,405	-0.3	0.8
Delaware	138,825	8,758	15.0	0.9	166,873	10,037	17.8	1.1	*28,048	13,321	*2.8	1.4
District of Columbia	143,434	9,735	22.1	1.5	135,030	8,051	20.4	1.2	-8,404	12,633	-1.7	1.9
Florida	4,042,007	53,681	20.0	0.3	3,934,431	61,054	19.1	0.3	*-107,576	81,297	*-0.9	0.4
Georgia	2,084,319	34,605	20.8	0.3	2,030,950	52,729	20.0	0.5	-53,369	63,070	*-0.8	0.6
Hawaii	171,872	11,513	12.4	0.8	164,225	9,580	11.8	0.7	-7,647	14,978	-0.6	1.1
Idaho	320,096	17,447	19.4	1.1	296,964	14,628	17.6	0.9	*-23,132	22,768	*-1.8	1.4
Illinois	2,134,887	40,276	17.1	0.3	2,088,058	39,539	16.7	0.3	-46,829	56,440	-0.4	0.4
Indiana	1,188,798	24,257	18.5	0.4	1,156,914	30,932	17.9	0.5	-31,884	39,309	-0.6	0.6
Iowa	476,862	15,706	15.7	0.5	449,886	13,699	14.8	0.4	*-26,976	20,841	*-0.9	0.6
Kansas	470,354	16,582	16.6	0.6	459,957	14,896	16.3	0.5	-10,397	22,290	-0.3	0.8
Kentucky	1,006,041	26,774	23.4	0.6	965,527	24,064	22.4	0.6	*-40,514	35,999	*-1.0	0.8
Louisiana	1,165,846	29,015	25.6	0.6	1,164,559	30,444	25.6	0.7	-1,287	42,056	Z	0.9
Maine	216,266	10,879	16.7	0.8	202,987	9,106	15.6	0.7	-13,279	14,187	-1.1	1.1
Maryland	732,794	18,539	12.5	0.3	717,918	22,766	12.1	0.4	-14,876	29,360	-0.4	0.5
Massachusetts	877,835	22,793	13.4	0.3	895,399	25,074	13.5	0.4	17,564	33,885	0.1	0.5
Michigan	1,892,396	27,053	19.5	0.3	1,806,839	29,854	18.6	0.3	*-85,557	40,288	*-0.9	0.4
Minnesota	738,451	18,832	13.7	0.3	705,795	17,835	12.9	0.3	*-32,656	25,937	*-0.8	0.4
Mississippi	771,735	22,853	26.7	0.8	745,846	18,019	25.8	0.7	-25,889	29,102	-0.9	1.1
Missouri	1,101,741	25,834	18.6	0.4	1,082,062	25,134	18.3	0.4	-19,679	36,043	-0.3	0.6
Montana	188,687	9,077	18.5	0.9	181,092	10,277	17.7	1.0	-7,595	13,712	-0.8	1.3
Nebraska	289,719	11,491	15.7	0.6	279,922	13,140	15.0	0.7	-9,797	17,456	-0.7	0.9
Nevada	546,538	20,677	18.9	0.7	519,263	21,082	17.6	0.7	-27,275	29,529	*-1.3	1.0
New Hampshire	128,975	8,965	10.0	0.7	137,550	8,729	10.6	0.7	8,575	12,513	0.6	1.0
New Jersey	1,216,360	31,223	13.9	0.4	1,165,524	32,674	13.2	0.4	*-50,836	45,194	*-0.7	0.6
New Mexico	526,100	16,599	25.8	0.8	515,351	17,828	25.2	0.9	-10,749	24,359	-0.6	1.2
New York	3,625,549	47,450	18.9	0.2	3,556,003	49,418	18.4	0.3	*-69,546	68,510	*-0.5	0.4
North Carolina	2,032,054	32,672	20.6	0.3	1,976,975	38,075	19.8	0.4	*-55,079	50,171	*-0.8	0.5
North Dakota	105,624	7,665	14.4	1.0	102,872	5,937	14.1	0.8	-2,752	9,695	-0.3	1.3
Ohio	2,140,296	37,897	19.0	0.3	2,052,976	34,595	18.1	0.3	*-87,320	51,313	*-0.9	0.4
Oklahoma	836,848	17,635	22.0	0.5	807,543	18,688	21.2	0.5	*-29,305	25,695	*-0.8	0.7
Oregon	721,841	23,412	18.0	0.6	717,931	23,057	17.7	0.6	-3,910	32,860	-0.3	0.8
Pennsylvania	2,079,210	32,683	16.8	0.3	2,025,851	37,852	16.3	0.3	*-53,359	50,010	*-0.5	0.4
Rhode Island	170,528	10,390	16.8	1.0	157,571	10,796	15.5	1.1	-12,957	14,984	-1.3	1.5
South Carolina	976,167	22,911	20.3	0.5	1,016,594	26,257	20.8	0.5	*40,427	34,847	0.5	0.7
South Dakota	143,424	7,729	17.1	0.9	141,285	7,825	16.8	0.9	-2,139	10,999	-0.3	1.3
Tennessee	1,350,202	26,624	20.8	0.4	1,320,238	28,013	20.1	0.4	-29,964	38,647	*-0.7	0.6
Texas	5,645,277	72,526	20.7	0.3	5,530,305	72,480	20.0	0.3	*-114,972	102,535	*-0.7	0.4
Utah	438,984	20,403	14.6	0.7	409,782	16,901	13.4	0.6	*-29,202	26,494	*-1.2	0.9
Vermont	95,366	6,067	15.9	1.0	92,586	7,082	15.4	1.2	-2,780	9,325	-0.5	1.6
Virginia	1,188,143	30,973	14.6	0.4	1,172,909	30,512	14.3	0.4	-15,234	43,478	-0.3	0.6
Washington	1,069,229	24,895	14.9	0.3	1,051,726	25,345	14.5	0.3	-17,503	35,526	-0.4	0.4
West Virginia	421,637	15,446	23.7	0.9	427,624	13,827	24.3	0.8	5,987	20,731	0.6	1.2
Wisconsin	883,790	20,939	15.7	0.4	860,108	19,382	15.2	0.3	-23,682	28,533	-0.5	0.8
Wyoming	84,601	6,833	14.8	1.2	82,893	7,152	14.7	1.3	-1,708	9,891	-0.1	1.8
Puerto Rico	1,769,399	27,795	52.4	0.8	1,756,548	30,934	53.1	0.9	-12,851	41,587	0.7	1.2

* Statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

Z Represents or rounds to zero.

¹ Poverty status is determined for individuals in housing units and noninstitutional group quarters. The poverty universe excludes children under age 15 who are not related to the householder, people living in institutional group quarters (e.g., nursing homes or correctional facilities), and people living in college dormitories or military barracks.

² Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number when added to or subtracted from the estimate forms the 90 percent confidence interval.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 and 2017 American Community Surveys and 2016 and 2017 Puerto Rico Community Surveys.

Table 6.

Number and Percentage of People With Income Below 125 Percent of the Poverty Level for the 25 Most Populous Metropolitan Areas: 2016 and 2017

(For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/code-lists.html)

Metropolitan areas	Below 125 percent of poverty level in 2016			Below 125 percent of poverty level in 2017			Change (2017 less 2016)		
	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Per- cent ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Number ¹	Margin of error ² (±)	Per- cent ¹
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA Metro Area.....	984,684	30,806	17.3	0.5	970,163	38,880	-14,521	49,605	-0.5
Baltimore-Columbia-Towson, MD Metro Area.....	358,587	13,628	13.1	0.5	352,752	16,033	-5,835	21,042	-0.2
Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH Metro Area.....	569,131	19,470	12.3	0.4	567,626	22,357	-1,505	29,647	-0.2
Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, NC-SC Metro Area.....	395,923	17,913	16.2	0.7	403,454	14,094	7,531	22,793	Z
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI Metro Area.....	1,533,688	35,274	16.4	0.4	1,486,379	36,273	-47,309	50,596	*-0.6
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX Metro Area.....	1,235,395	34,137	17.3	0.5	1,169,999	36,215	*-65,396	49,768	*-1.3
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, CO Metro Area.....	365,932	16,190	13.0	0.6	334,064	14,064	*-31,868	21,446	*-1.3
Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI Metro Area.....	810,568	17,995	19.1	0.4	792,466	19,897	-18,102	26,827	-0.5
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX Metro Area.....	1,309,594	35,674	19.6	0.5	1,288,736	40,766	-20,858	54,171	-0.7
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA Metro Area.....	2,630,190	38,848	20.0	0.3	2,488,273	38,613	*-141,917	54,773	*-1.1
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL Metro Area ..	1,273,473	32,220	21.3	0.5	1,199,427	27,941	*-74,046	42,648	*-1.6
Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI Metro Area ..	419,954	14,909	12.0	0.4	393,984	14,684	*-25,970	20,926	*-0.9
New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA Metro Area.....	3,455,870	55,694	17.5	0.3	3,332,147	49,450	*-123,723	74,479	*-0.8
Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford, FL Metro Area.....	470,392	20,439	19.6	0.8	484,429	22,742	14,037	30,577	Z
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD Metro Area.....	966,399	20,490	16.3	0.3	969,508	26,090	3,109	33,174	Z
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ Metro Area.....	903,171	28,169	19.7	0.6	824,280	23,427	*-78,891	36,638	*-2.0
Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA Metro Area.....	351,063	17,397	14.7	0.7	346,978	16,630	-4,085	24,067	-0.3
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA Metro Area.....	965,996	26,257	21.8	0.6	878,535	28,614	*-87,461	38,835	*-2.2
St. Louis, MO-IL Metro Area.....	410,163	15,261	14.9	0.6	415,497	15,423	5,334	21,697	0.2
San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX Metro Area.....	473,289	20,633	19.8	0.9	478,642	21,044	5,353	29,472	-0.1
San Diego-Carlsbad, CA Metro Area.....	546,391	23,342	16.9	0.7	509,138	21,322	*-37,253	31,615	*-1.3
San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA Metro Area.....	555,067	18,998	12.0	0.4	544,516	19,122	-10,551	26,955	-0.3
Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA Metro Area.....	462,088	19,236	12.3	0.5	436,818	17,145	-25,270	25,768	*-0.8
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL Metro Area.....	563,313	18,388	18.9	0.6	572,196	19,131	8,883	26,535	-0.1
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area.....	664,373	21,895	11.0	0.4	643,295	23,531	-21,078	32,142	-0.5

* Statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

Z Represents or rounds to zero.

¹ Poverty status is determined for individuals in housing units and noninstitutional group quarters. The poverty universe excludes children under age 15 who are not related to the householder, people living in institutional group quarters (e.g., nursing homes or correctional facilities), and people living in college dormitories or military barracks.

² Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number when added to or subtracted from the estimate forms the 90 percent confidence interval.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 and 2017 American Community Surveys.

their poverty threshold (below 100 percent), as well as those whose income is just above their poverty threshold (from 100 percent to less than 125 percent).

Table 5 displays the number and percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 125 percent for 2016 and 2017 for the nation, all states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. In 2017, the percentage of people in the United States with an income-to-poverty ratio below 125 percent declined to 17.9 percent, from 18.6 percent in 2016.

Among the states, the percentage of individuals with an income-to-poverty ratio below 125 percent in 2017 was a low of 10.6 percent in New Hampshire. Mississippi, with 25.8 percent, had among the highest percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 125 percent.¹⁴ From 2016 to 2017, the percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 125 percent declined in 21 states, while Delaware was the only state to experience a statistically significant increase, from 15.0 to 17.8 percent.

Table 6 displays the number and percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 125

¹⁴ The percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 125 percent for Mississippi (25.8 percent) was not statistically different from the percentage for Louisiana (25.6 percent) or New Mexico (25.2 percent).

What Is the American Community Survey?

The American Community Survey (ACS) is a nationwide survey designed to provide reliable and timely demographic, social, economic, and housing data for the nation, states, congressional districts, counties, places, and other localities every year. It has an annual sample size of about 3.5 million addresses across the United States and Puerto Rico and includes both housing units and group quarters (e.g., nursing facilities and prisons).^{*} The ACS is conducted in every county throughout the nation, and every municipio in Puerto Rico, where it is called the Puerto Rico Community Survey. Beginning in 2006, ACS data have been released annually for geographic areas with populations of 65,000 and greater. For information on the ACS sample design and other topics, visit <www.census.gov/acs>.

^{*} While people living in group quarters are sampled in the ACS, those living in institutional group quarters (e.g., nursing homes or correctional facilities) are not included in the poverty universe.

percent for 2016 and 2017 among the 25 most populous metropolitan areas. The Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area had the lowest percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 125 percent in 2017 (10.5 percent). Among the most populous metropolitan areas, some of the highest percentages of people with income-to-poverty ratios below 125 percent were in the Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL Metro Area (19.7 percent); the San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX Metro Area (19.7 percent); the Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford, FL Metro Area (19.6 percent); and the Riverside-San

Bernardino-Ontario, CA Metro Area (19.6 percent).¹⁵

In 2017, the percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 125 percent decreased in 11 of the 25 most populous metropolitan areas (Table 6). None of the most populous metropolitan areas saw statistically significant increases.

¹⁵ The percentage of people with an income-to-poverty ratio below 125 percent for the Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL Metro Area; the San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX Metro Area; the Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford, FL Metro Area; and the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA Metro Area are not significantly different from each other.

How to Access American Community Survey Poverty Data

There are several ways to obtain additional data on poverty from the American Community Survey (ACS). Currently, data users can obtain information on a number of different social and economic variables across a variety of geographic units online at American Fact Finder (AFF), <<https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>>. The 5-year ACS estimates for 2017 will be available in December 2018.

An additional method for obtaining ACS data is through the Census Bureau's Application Programming Interface (API), <www.census.gov/developers/>. This tool provides the public with maximum flexibility to query data directly from Census Bureau servers.

Additional poverty estimates, publications, working papers, visualizations, and data from other surveys can be found online at <<https://census.gov/topics/income-poverty/poverty.html>>.

The U.S. Census Bureau is changing the way data users access data. A beta version of the preview site is available at <www.data.census.gov>. This dissemination platform is expected to replace a variety of data tools, including AFF, and allow data users to seamlessly access all Census Bureau data from <www.census.gov>. Although currently in development, this platform will host future 1-year and 5-year ACS data. Since this platform will not have data prior to 2010, historical poverty estimates have been included with this brief in Appendix Table 1.

SOURCE AND ACCURACY

The data presented in this report are based on the ACS sample interviewed from January 2016 through December 2016 (2016 ACS) and the ACS sample interviewed from January 2017 through December 2017 (2017 ACS). The estimates based on these samples describe the average values of person, household, and housing unit characteristics over this period of collection. Sampling error is the uncertainty between an estimate based on a sample and the corresponding value that would be obtained if the estimate were based on the entire population (as from a census). Measures of sampling error are provided in the form of margins of error for all estimates included in this report. All comparative statements in this report have undergone statistical testing, and

comparisons are significant at the 90 percent confidence level unless otherwise noted. In addition to sampling error, nonsampling error may be introduced during any of the operations used to collect and process survey data, such as editing, reviewing, or keying data from questionnaires. For more information on sampling and estimation methods, confidentiality protection, and sampling and nonsampling errors, please see the 2017 ACS Accuracy of the Data document located at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/code-lists.html>.

NOTES

The Census Bureau also publishes poverty estimates based on the Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement (CPS ASEC). For

information on poverty estimates from the ACS and how they differ from those based on the CPS ASEC, see "Differences Between the American Community Survey (ACS) and the Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS ASEC)" at <www.census.gov/topics/income-poverty/poverty/guidance/data-sources/acs-vs-cps.html>.

Appendix Table 1.

Number and Percentage of People in Poverty in the Past 12 Months by State and Puerto Rico:¹ 2005 to 2017

Area	2017						2016					
	Population for whom poverty status is determined	Margin of error ² (±)	Below poverty level				Population for whom poverty status is determined	Margin of error ² (±)	Below poverty level			
			Number	Margin of error ² (±)	Percent	Margin of error ² (±)			Number	Margin of error ² (±)	Percent	Margin of error ² (±)
United States . . .	317,741,588	22,450	42,583,651	241,032	13.4	0.1	315,165,470	22,993	44,268,996	246,910	14.0	0.1
Alabama	4,752,560	2,493	802,656	24,897	16.9	0.5	4,741,329	2,442	810,231	23,417	17.1	0.5
Alaska	720,472	1,555	80,012	7,303	11.1	1.0	723,968	1,193	71,566	6,534	9.9	0.9
Arizona	6,856,067	3,981	1,018,935	28,419	14.9	0.4	6,771,098	3,965	1,107,464	27,786	16.4	0.4
Arkansas	2,916,321	2,511	478,365	17,030	16.4	0.6	2,898,630	2,550	499,225	17,721	17.2	0.6
California	38,793,027	8,845	5,160,208	71,947	13.3	0.2	38,513,258	8,112	5,525,524	66,544	14.3	0.2
Colorado	5,483,104	3,121	564,312	17,223	10.3	0.3	5,420,327	2,295	598,736	17,942	11.0	0.3
Connecticut	3,482,584	1,446	334,128	18,741	9.6	0.5	3,469,514	1,932	339,128	14,645	9.8	0.4
Delaware	934,947	1,486	126,986	9,341	13.6	1.0	926,864	1,051	108,211	8,223	11.7	0.9
District of Columbia	660,642	544	109,920	7,135	16.6	1.1	647,654	966	120,308	9,084	18.6	1.4
Florida	20,569,920	5,871	2,889,506	57,828	14.0	0.3	20,191,342	6,143	2,973,512	48,474	14.7	0.2
Georgia	10,154,747	5,504	1,517,702	49,244	14.9	0.5	10,040,201	4,550	1,603,013	34,382	16.0	0.3
Hawaii	1,388,550	1,566	132,549	8,537	9.5	0.6	1,389,442	1,866	129,569	10,361	9.3	0.7
Idaho	1,686,491	1,808	216,309	12,513	12.8	0.7	1,652,592	1,607	237,445	15,728	14.4	1.0
Illinois	12,503,720	3,612	1,569,753	35,647	12.6	0.3	12,502,057	3,937	1,621,508	35,297	13.0	0.3
Indiana	6,463,636	3,761	871,247	27,337	13.5	0.4	6,432,804	3,045	906,077	22,930	14.1	0.4
Iowa	3,044,685	1,941	326,636	11,546	10.7	0.4	3,031,338	2,083	356,378	12,582	11.8	0.4
Kansas	2,827,376	2,621	336,487	14,398	11.9	0.5	2,825,864	1,863	342,544	14,393	12.1	0.5
Kentucky	4,316,917	3,015	744,239	20,861	17.2	0.5	4,298,953	3,416	794,060	24,195	18.5	0.6
Louisiana	4,553,037	2,611	899,039	27,219	19.7	0.6	4,546,017	4,194	918,187	25,851	20.2	0.6
Maine	1,301,216	1,023	144,012	7,961	11.1	0.6	1,295,971	1,363	161,749	10,063	12.5	0.8
Maryland	5,915,309	2,385	549,171	21,371	9.3	0.4	5,875,026	3,123	567,715	17,097	9.7	0.3
Massachusetts	6,622,444	3,515	692,201	22,499	10.5	0.3	6,574,249	2,698	686,597	20,435	10.4	0.3
Michigan	9,730,205	4,206	1,377,766	28,586	14.2	0.3	9,702,321	3,906	1,451,936	23,392	15.0	0.2
Minnesota	5,450,582	2,783	517,476	15,252	9.5	0.3	5,396,363	2,285	533,276	15,913	9.9	0.3
Mississippi	2,889,851	1,968	571,219	15,607	19.8	0.5	2,892,894	2,014	602,768	21,320	20.8	0.7
Missouri	5,928,516	4,473	795,732	21,880	13.4	0.4	5,911,040	3,431	826,954	22,623	14.0	0.4
Montana	1,024,513	1,940	127,777	8,406	12.5	0.8	1,018,105	1,144	135,638	7,800	13.3	0.8
Nebraska	1,865,038	1,585	200,909	11,487	10.8	0.6	1,851,069	1,911	211,453	10,293	11.4	0.6
Nevada	2,954,279	2,075	384,120	18,511	13.0	0.6	2,896,888	3,250	399,420	18,626	13.8	0.6
New Hampshire	1,298,898	1,427	99,966	7,412	7.7	0.6	1,292,255	1,106	94,289	7,685	7.3	0.6
New Jersey	8,831,200	2,566	882,673	28,071	10.0	0.3	8,769,487	3,021	915,913	28,791	10.4	0.3
New Mexico	2,044,187	1,832	401,755	16,280	19.7	0.8	2,039,449	1,699	404,463	15,353	19.8	0.8
New York	19,337,685	4,757	2,722,257	47,366	14.1	0.2	19,230,198	5,205	2,832,824	38,578	14.7	0.2
North Carolina	10,009,042	3,839	1,471,339	35,219	14.7	0.4	9,886,033	3,818	1,521,880	32,197	15.4	0.3
North Dakota	729,355	1,188	75,279	5,405	10.3	0.7	731,759	1,407	78,464	6,184	10.7	0.8
Ohio	11,330,762	4,496	1,582,931	31,003	14.0	0.3	11,287,401	5,000	1,645,382	32,693	14.6	0.3
Oklahoma	3,814,990	2,186	603,864	16,323	15.8	0.4	3,809,431	1,956	620,377	15,205	16.3	0.4
Oregon	4,064,467	2,475	537,974	19,115	13.2	0.5	4,016,520	2,426	536,146	18,071	13.3	0.4
Pennsylvania	12,398,112	4,585	1,548,720	31,552	12.5	0.3	12,368,256	3,787	1,592,045	30,765	12.9	0.2
Rhode Island	1,018,556	943	118,367	9,887	11.6	1.0	1,015,892	798	129,932	9,143	12.8	0.9
South Carolina	4,882,720	2,812	751,907	19,900	15.4	0.4	4,820,419	2,587	735,960	23,271	15.3	0.5
South Dakota	838,991	1,814	109,099	6,423	13.0	0.8	837,292	989	110,962	6,706	13.3	0.8
Tennessee	6,555,389	3,060	980,284	25,177	15.0	0.4	6,489,032	3,408	1,023,177	25,829	15.8	0.4
Texas	27,676,343	7,676	4,076,905	62,508	14.7	0.2	27,236,443	6,495	4,261,337	60,018	15.6	0.2
Utah	3,052,633	2,684	296,557	16,717	9.7	0.5	3,004,148	2,144	306,902	15,189	10.2	0.5
Vermont	599,862	654	67,841	5,946	11.3	1.0	600,077	990	71,329	5,685	11.9	0.9
Virginia	8,221,024	3,096	874,483	27,673	10.6	0.3	8,158,241	3,830	896,440	28,235	11.0	0.3
Washington	7,273,713	3,235	802,159	24,114	11.0	0.3	7,156,306	2,413	805,691	22,400	11.3	0.3
West Virginia	1,762,467	2,041	336,301	14,216	19.1	0.8	1,779,919	1,541	319,063	13,661	17.9	0.8
Wisconsin	5,645,194	2,570	639,564	18,029	11.3	0.3	5,628,565	2,951	661,565	19,715	11.8	0.4
Wyoming	565,242	890	64,054	6,154	11.3	1.1	571,169	936	64,663	5,547	11.3	1.0
Puerto Rico	3,306,715	1,129	1,468,798	31,819	44.4	1.0	3,379,483	1,634	1,469,382	26,573	43.5	0.8

See footnotes at end of table.

Appendix Table 1.

Number and Percentage of People in Poverty in the Past 12 Months by State and Puerto Rico:¹ 2005 to 2017—Con.

Area	2015						2014					
	Population for whom poverty status is determined	Margin of error ² (±)	Below poverty level				Population for whom poverty status is determined	Margin of error ² (±)	Below poverty level			
			Number	Margin of error ² (±)	Percent	Margin of error ² (±)			Number	Margin of error ² (±)	Percent	Margin of error ² (±)
United States . . .	313,476,400	22,840	46,153,077	275,061	14.7	0.1	310,899,910	21,588	48,208,387	241,557	15.5	0.1
Alabama	4,736,333	2,309	876,016	23,918	18.5	0.5	4,727,549	2,783	910,175	25,515	19.3	0.5
Alaska	720,765	857	74,532	5,835	10.3	0.8	717,723	893	80,627	6,821	11.2	0.9
Arizona	6,671,705	3,550	1,159,043	29,822	17.4	0.4	6,573,369	3,679	1,199,061	26,607	18.2	0.4
Arkansas	2,887,337	2,988	550,508	17,473	19.1	0.6	2,882,856	1,835	543,882	15,436	18.9	0.5
California	38,398,057	6,625	5,891,678	66,827	15.3	0.2	38,060,228	7,073	6,259,098	64,461	16.4	0.2
Colorado	5,339,618	2,635	613,549	20,501	11.5	0.4	5,237,149	2,559	630,786	21,138	12.0	0.4
Connecticut	3,480,932	2,053	366,909	15,789	10.5	0.5	3,485,629	1,870	374,772	16,369	10.8	0.5
Delaware	920,355	878	114,360	9,567	12.4	1.0	909,611	1,367	113,508	7,940	12.5	0.9
District of Columbia	638,027	441	110,500	8,628	17.3	1.4	624,327	573	110,666	7,793	17.7	1.2
Florida	19,850,054	6,121	3,116,886	47,330	15.7	0.2	19,470,210	6,164	3,211,615	59,681	16.5	0.3
Georgia	9,943,145	3,984	1,694,988	33,156	17.0	0.3	9,823,859	5,286	1,797,969	39,080	18.3	0.4
Hawaii	1,394,121	1,528	147,984	8,530	10.6	0.6	1,379,804	1,532	156,729	10,340	11.4	0.8
Idaho	1,622,116	2,056	245,551	13,820	15.1	0.9	1,603,083	1,505	237,981	11,550	14.8	0.7
Illinois	12,559,422	3,422	1,703,258	35,831	13.6	0.3	12,571,848	5,001	1,804,535	31,908	14.4	0.3
Indiana	6,417,418	3,611	933,181	24,656	14.5	0.4	6,391,460	3,622	974,218	25,464	15.2	0.4
Iowa	3,021,823	2,361	367,414	13,279	12.2	0.4	3,004,857	1,994	367,816	14,237	12.2	0.5
Kansas	2,830,943	2,019	368,879	13,898	13.0	0.5	2,821,431	1,822	382,712	13,369	13.6	0.5
Kentucky	4,290,022	2,851	794,055	21,101	18.5	0.5	4,275,359	3,071	817,542	22,333	19.1	0.5
Louisiana	4,541,688	2,472	889,946	24,422	19.6	0.5	4,518,525	2,673	896,524	23,296	19.8	0.5
Maine	1,292,996	1,632	172,620	9,255	13.4	0.7	1,294,009	1,312	182,791	8,933	14.1	0.7
Maryland	5,863,290	3,873	570,776	21,279	9.7	0.4	5,835,377	3,394	589,818	21,635	10.1	0.4
Massachusetts	6,558,724	2,955	752,071	21,473	11.5	0.3	6,509,672	2,466	757,235	20,233	11.6	0.3
Michigan	9,698,396	3,148	1,529,645	27,659	15.8	0.3	9,686,787	4,096	1,568,844	28,256	16.2	0.3
Minnesota	5,366,594	2,516	546,431	16,392	10.2	0.3	5,332,552	2,450	611,354	19,609	11.5	0.4
Mississippi	2,896,579	1,923	637,128	21,554	22.0	0.7	2,895,470	2,092	623,113	18,212	21.5	0.6
Missouri	5,901,967	3,392	875,495	21,660	14.8	0.4	5,878,658	2,718	908,628	22,347	15.5	0.4
Montana	1,007,727	1,004	147,287	8,916	14.6	0.9	997,952	1,702	153,954	7,951	15.4	0.8
Nebraska	1,842,682	1,204	231,321	10,619	12.6	0.6	1,828,121	1,343	227,310	9,475	12.4	0.5
Nevada	2,850,472	2,159	418,243	18,129	14.7	0.6	2,800,768	2,077	426,730	18,737	15.2	0.7
New Hampshire	1,288,060	1,341	106,046	8,442	8.2	0.7	1,287,504	829	117,983	7,687	9.2	0.6
New Jersey	8,781,575	3,097	946,114	26,304	10.8	0.3	8,762,159	3,378	972,903	23,646	11.1	0.3
New Mexico	2,044,431	1,676	417,834	15,720	20.4	0.8	2,045,525	1,124	436,153	17,466	21.3	0.9
New York	19,283,776	5,245	2,970,032	47,607	15.4	0.2	19,228,524	4,824	3,062,938	48,945	15.9	0.3
North Carolina	9,790,073	3,862	1,607,835	31,818	16.4	0.3	9,691,794	3,044	1,668,686	32,408	17.2	0.3
North Dakota	731,354	783	80,170	5,329	11.0	0.7	712,548	1,044	82,264	6,353	11.5	0.9
Ohio	11,295,340	4,411	1,674,415	34,580	14.8	0.3	11,276,403	3,595	1,785,780	29,476	15.8	0.3
Oklahoma	3,795,764	1,895	610,828	15,093	16.1	0.4	3,759,517	2,366	623,840	14,892	16.6	0.4
Oregon	3,952,077	2,585	607,029	22,484	15.4	0.6	3,893,475	2,646	644,450	21,249	16.6	0.5
Pennsylvania	12,385,716	4,035	1,629,995	31,848	13.2	0.3	12,371,337	3,870	1,682,212	31,577	13.6	0.3
Rhode Island	1,016,343	626	141,035	9,670	13.9	1.0	1,015,655	599	145,596	9,132	14.3	0.9
South Carolina	4,750,144	3,538	790,715	22,651	16.6	0.5	4,691,589	2,682	843,860	23,093	18.0	0.5
South Dakota	829,644	1,156	114,071	7,467	13.7	0.9	824,373	1,078	116,843	6,179	14.2	0.7
Tennessee	6,440,381	3,291	1,077,900	30,450	16.7	0.5	6,386,663	3,638	1,171,307	27,981	18.3	0.4
Texas	26,846,203	6,615	4,255,517	65,900	15.9	0.2	26,340,247	5,422	4,523,708	59,686	17.2	0.2
Utah	2,947,861	2,168	331,854	15,217	11.3	0.5	2,897,762	1,930	339,900	16,334	11.7	0.6
Vermont	600,659	867	61,314	5,009	10.2	0.8	601,819	882	73,149	4,724	12.2	0.8
Virginia	8,131,328	3,187	909,346	25,335	11.2	0.3	8,080,300	3,250	953,395	25,894	11.8	0.3
Washington	7,036,725	3,798	857,801	23,751	12.2	0.3	6,927,889	3,758	913,619	25,464	13.2	0.4
West Virginia	1,793,096	1,902	321,583	14,177	17.9	0.8	1,792,949	2,707	327,764	12,083	18.3	0.7
Wisconsin	5,620,223	2,582	677,964	19,332	12.1	0.3	5,603,486	2,812	738,270	19,830	13.2	0.4
Wyoming	572,319	727	63,425	7,239	11.1	1.3	570,149	749	63,774	5,334	11.2	0.9
Puerto Rico	3,443,611	865	1,586,285	22,921	46.1	0.7	3,515,261	1,181	1,624,453	25,674	46.2	0.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Appendix Table 1.

Number and Percentage of People in Poverty in the Past 12 Months by State and Puerto Rico:¹ 2005 to 2017—Con.

Area	2013						2012					
	Population for whom poverty status is determined	Margin of error ² (±)	Below poverty level				Population for whom poverty status is determined	Margin of error ² (±)	Below poverty level			
			Number	Margin of error ² (±)	Percent	Margin of error ² (±)			Number	Margin of error ² (±)	Percent	Margin of error ² (±)
United States . . .	308,196,783	21,745	48,810,868	256,176	15.8	0.1	306,086,063	23,273	48,760,123	231,580	15.9	0.1
Alabama	4,716,105	2,548	883,371	20,758	18.7	0.4	4,706,978	2,160	892,564	20,244	19.0	0.4
Alaska	718,359	1,166	67,016	4,778	9.3	0.7	715,608	613	72,400	5,190	10.1	0.7
Arizona	6,477,191	3,417	1,206,460	32,132	18.6	0.5	6,401,273	3,092	1,194,506	25,758	18.7	0.4
Arkansas	2,873,340	3,117	565,469	16,418	19.7	0.6	2,865,098	2,160	568,065	16,759	19.8	0.6
California	37,593,091	8,648	6,328,824	64,631	16.8	0.2	37,303,266	7,131	6,325,319	64,334	17.0	0.2
Colorado	5,151,461	2,077	667,446	21,463	13.0	0.4	5,069,071	2,557	694,842	20,406	13.7	0.4
Connecticut	3,485,353	2,242	373,900	14,722	10.7	0.4	3,484,178	1,411	372,390	14,270	10.7	0.4
Delaware	900,322	1,123	111,327	9,589	12.4	1.1	890,738	1,221	107,307	7,877	12.0	0.9
District of Columbia	611,788	780	115,551	7,400	18.9	1.2	598,151	630	108,732	7,746	18.2	1.3
Florida	19,129,950	7,199	3,253,333	61,090	17.0	0.3	18,912,479	5,600	3,238,581	49,032	17.1	0.3
Georgia	9,720,914	4,997	1,843,768	35,778	19.0	0.4	9,652,596	3,256	1,848,533	37,552	19.2	0.4
Hawaii	1,367,662	1,488	148,368	10,323	10.8	0.8	1,356,822	1,094	157,243	9,661	11.6	0.7
Idaho	1,582,911	1,262	246,550	15,129	15.6	1.0	1,565,511	1,631	248,494	13,813	15.9	0.9
Illinois	12,576,680	3,928	1,845,393	34,145	14.7	0.3	12,573,676	4,182	1,850,562	32,138	14.7	0.3
Indiana	6,367,890	3,100	1,015,127	24,249	15.9	0.4	6,342,423	3,178	990,325	21,187	15.6	0.3
Iowa	2,991,670	1,604	379,127	13,393	12.7	0.4	2,974,225	2,122	377,484	13,405	12.7	0.4
Kansas	2,811,722	2,188	393,358	17,298	14.0	0.6	2,802,207	2,002	391,734	12,565	14.0	0.4
Kentucky	4,266,556	2,510	800,635	19,947	18.8	0.5	4,247,103	3,119	823,197	22,937	19.4	0.5
Louisiana	4,494,989	2,903	888,019	24,140	19.8	0.5	4,471,142	2,830	891,981	23,215	19.9	0.5
Maine	1,293,827	1,147	180,639	8,805	14.0	0.7	1,293,457	1,275	189,786	9,666	14.7	0.7
Maryland	5,788,159	2,967	585,571	19,629	10.1	0.3	5,744,445	2,780	590,803	19,639	10.3	0.3
Massachusetts	6,456,530	2,610	770,513	23,021	11.9	0.4	6,414,762	2,601	762,645	18,273	11.9	0.3
Michigan	9,669,513	4,111	1,648,436	25,647	17.0	0.3	9,663,760	3,870	1,685,178	30,444	17.4	0.3
Minnesota	5,292,348	2,336	592,422	16,554	11.2	0.3	5,257,443	1,790	598,371	17,622	11.4	0.3
Mississippi	2,893,768	2,850	695,915	21,951	24.0	0.8	2,890,890	1,973	698,252	22,688	24.2	0.8
Missouri	5,861,009	3,082	931,066	25,159	15.9	0.4	5,838,008	3,872	947,792	20,935	16.2	0.4
Montana	990,603	976	163,637	9,336	16.5	0.9	980,594	1,227	152,199	8,004	15.5	0.8
Nebraska	1,815,565	1,350	239,433	11,539	13.2	0.6	1,800,904	1,635	233,973	10,768	13.0	0.6
Nevada	2,750,476	2,092	433,576	18,630	15.8	0.7	2,718,565	3,392	446,840	19,216	16.4	0.7
New Hampshire	1,281,181	1,408	111,495	9,003	8.7	0.7	1,280,027	1,345	128,466	10,865	10.0	0.8
New Jersey	8,721,010	3,187	998,549	28,143	11.4	0.3	8,691,673	2,911	934,943	22,315	10.8	0.3
New Mexico	2,045,402	1,557	448,461	14,432	21.9	0.7	2,044,778	1,740	426,245	13,843	20.8	0.7
New York	19,133,973	5,745	3,055,645	41,913	16.0	0.2	19,064,064	4,156	3,025,016	36,603	15.9	0.2
North Carolina	9,588,277	3,839	1,715,397	30,951	17.9	0.3	9,498,993	3,156	1,713,132	31,019	18.0	0.3
North Dakota	698,199	719	82,398	5,117	11.8	0.7	674,852	714	75,703	4,270	11.2	0.6
Ohio	11,248,753	4,641	1,796,942	35,664	16.0	0.3	11,227,482	4,488	1,824,628	28,992	16.3	0.3
Oklahoma	3,735,207	2,100	626,906	13,621	16.8	0.4	3,699,653	1,970	637,429	14,041	17.2	0.4
Oregon	3,852,871	2,320	642,138	19,715	16.7	0.5	3,826,398	2,672	658,359	22,218	17.2	0.6
Pennsylvania	12,353,256	3,882	1,690,405	39,229	13.7	0.3	12,353,867	3,236	1,693,285	30,788	13.7	0.2
Rhode Island	1,010,827	1,740	144,446	9,182	14.3	0.9	1,010,449	885	138,907	8,499	13.7	0.8
South Carolina	4,631,801	2,952	860,380	21,666	18.6	0.5	4,585,454	2,040	837,770	22,603	18.3	0.5
South Dakota	815,049	1,215	115,454	6,396	14.2	0.8	804,310	815	107,846	5,355	13.4	0.7
Tennessee	6,335,295	3,095	1,126,772	24,666	17.8	0.4	6,295,994	3,016	1,129,330	27,122	17.9	0.4
Texas	25,834,229	6,476	4,530,039	65,158	17.5	0.3	25,450,518	6,257	4,562,352	58,642	17.9	0.2
Utah	2,851,587	2,386	361,181	15,958	12.7	0.6	2,806,020	2,814	360,017	18,926	12.8	0.7
Vermont	602,538	524	74,058	5,273	12.3	0.9	601,611	741	71,084	4,549	11.8	0.8
Virginia	8,010,544	3,323	938,733	25,914	11.7	0.3	7,936,903	2,853	931,805	22,863	11.7	0.3
Washington	6,836,262	3,828	967,282	26,419	14.1	0.4	6,761,934	3,299	915,278	30,419	13.5	0.4
West Virginia	1,798,266	1,983	332,347	12,755	18.5	0.7	1,801,131	2,144	320,055	13,000	17.8	0.7
Wisconsin	5,593,197	2,530	755,551	17,896	13.5	0.3	5,573,134	3,298	737,356	16,981	13.2	0.3
Wyoming	569,307	563	62,039	5,844	10.9	1.0	561,445	1,473	71,019	6,087	12.6	1.1
Puerto Rico	3,581,841	2,112	1,626,879	25,081	45.4	0.7	3,633,892	1,704	1,632,533	27,010	44.9	0.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Appendix Table 1.

Number and Percentage of People in Poverty in the Past 12 Months by State and Puerto Rico:¹ 2005 to 2017—Con.

Area	2011						2010					
	Population for whom poverty status is determined	Margin of error ² (±)	Below poverty level				Population for whom poverty status is determined	Margin of error ² (±)	Below poverty level			
			Number	Margin of error ² (±)	Percent	Margin of error ² (±)			Number	Margin of error ² (±)	Percent	Margin of error ² (±)
United States . . .	303,778,193	23,617	48,452,035	234,166	15.9	0.1	301,535,021	22,099	46,215,956	240,306	15.3	0.1
Alabama	4,687,363	2,037	892,483	23,804	19.0	0.5	4,666,970	2,567	888,290	22,673	19.0	0.5
Alaska	706,860	918	73,905	5,839	10.5	0.8	696,822	1,573	69,279	6,120	9.9	0.9
Arizona	6,336,449	3,861	1,203,501	38,097	19.0	0.6	6,272,686	3,673	1,094,249	33,633	17.4	0.5
Arkansas	2,856,663	2,079	555,876	17,602	19.5	0.6	2,839,798	2,045	534,898	16,599	18.8	0.6
California	36,941,931	7,933	6,118,803	71,852	16.6	0.2	36,593,372	8,519	5,783,043	74,336	15.8	0.2
Colorado	5,002,128	3,154	674,195	21,621	13.5	0.4	4,934,178	2,454	659,786	23,009	13.4	0.5
Connecticut	3,471,802	1,406	377,856	17,034	10.9	0.5	3,466,977	2,302	350,145	15,842	10.1	0.5
Delaware	882,353	1,386	104,831	8,149	11.9	0.9	874,321	1,107	103,427	8,098	11.8	0.9
District of Columbia	584,583	305	109,363	8,006	18.7	1.4	570,953	564	109,423	7,577	19.2	1.3
Florida	18,652,057	5,175	3,173,456	53,070	17.0	0.3	18,436,788	6,230	3,047,343	41,603	16.5	0.2
Georgia	9,550,271	4,699	1,827,743	40,709	19.1	0.4	9,446,906	4,877	1,688,932	36,955	17.9	0.4
Hawaii	1,338,543	1,297	161,290	12,291	12.0	0.9	1,326,373	1,510	142,185	9,627	10.7	0.7
Idaho	1,550,082	2,866	255,027	13,229	16.5	0.9	1,541,860	1,275	242,272	10,788	15.7	0.7
Illinois	12,566,914	3,774	1,879,965	34,757	15.0	0.3	12,543,457	3,191	1,731,711	31,915	13.8	0.3
Indiana	6,318,942	3,376	1,011,017	27,152	16.0	0.4	6,294,417	3,609	962,775	25,003	15.3	0.4
Iowa	2,963,602	1,740	378,864	12,247	12.8	0.4	2,950,251	2,192	370,507	13,924	12.6	0.5
Kansas	2,786,855	2,238	383,467	13,367	13.8	0.5	2,775,355	2,167	377,530	15,414	13.6	0.6
Kentucky	4,238,283	2,995	811,277	24,336	19.1	0.6	4,215,643	2,986	800,226	20,902	19.0	0.5
Louisiana	4,445,400	3,107	908,375	21,304	20.4	0.5	4,413,890	3,449	825,144	21,101	18.7	0.5
Maine	1,291,650	1,998	182,448	8,462	14.1	0.7	1,293,012	1,146	167,242	7,702	12.9	0.6
Maryland	5,685,412	3,670	571,887	19,719	10.1	0.3	5,643,821	3,530	557,140	21,050	9.9	0.4
Massachusetts	6,367,148	1,879	738,514	23,459	11.6	0.4	6,333,611	2,630	725,143	21,471	11.4	0.3
Michigan	9,656,260	2,885	1,693,294	28,336	17.5	0.3	9,656,449	3,934	1,618,257	30,260	16.8	0.3
Minnesota	5,222,556	2,179	621,970	17,360	11.9	0.3	5,189,200	2,281	599,516	15,022	11.6	0.3
Mississippi	2,884,215	2,100	650,524	20,706	22.6	0.7	2,875,594	2,515	643,883	22,452	22.4	0.8
Missouri	5,831,530	3,022	920,118	22,609	15.8	0.4	5,817,852	2,620	888,570	21,761	15.3	0.4
Montana	974,025	1,203	144,054	8,962	14.8	0.9	964,509	2,420	140,969	9,640	14.6	1.0
Nebraska	1,789,275	1,651	234,710	10,211	13.1	0.6	1,776,166	2,053	229,923	11,823	12.9	0.7
Nevada	2,684,536	3,072	426,741	20,552	15.9	0.8	2,666,662	1,598	398,027	20,092	14.9	0.8
New Hampshire	1,279,118	1,056	112,715	8,386	8.8	0.7	1,276,614	1,142	105,786	8,064	8.3	0.6
New Jersey	8,646,606	2,810	897,376	24,537	10.4	0.3	8,626,524	2,857	884,789	24,939	10.3	0.3
New Mexico	2,042,530	1,334	439,914	17,336	21.5	0.8	2,024,716	1,715	413,851	19,768	20.4	1.0
New York	18,954,044	4,586	3,027,342	42,152	16.0	0.2	18,879,810	5,820	2,821,470	46,759	14.9	0.2
North Carolina	9,406,091	3,155	1,680,963	36,728	17.9	0.4	9,304,553	3,703	1,627,602	29,606	17.5	0.3
North Dakota	660,473	614	80,882	5,567	12.2	0.8	651,415	600	84,895	5,668	13.0	0.9
Ohio	11,234,071	3,988	1,845,800	35,067	16.4	0.3	11,224,969	4,110	1,779,032	32,237	15.8	0.3
Oklahoma	3,678,924	1,966	633,298	18,126	17.2	0.5	3,646,849	2,289	616,610	15,751	16.9	0.4
Oregon	3,794,213	3,419	662,283	20,527	17.5	0.5	3,765,919	2,565	596,408	17,283	15.8	0.5
Pennsylvania	12,328,566	3,511	1,695,996	36,138	13.8	0.3	12,298,955	4,096	1,648,184	29,243	13.4	0.2
Rhode Island	1,009,941	1,191	148,819	8,909	14.7	0.9	1,012,200	827	142,188	9,018	14.0	0.9
South Carolina	4,538,298	2,536	856,938	22,008	18.9	0.5	4,493,865	3,196	815,755	22,461	18.2	0.5
South Dakota	794,872	1,326	110,681	6,608	13.9	0.8	788,226	1,027	113,760	7,599	14.4	1.0
Tennessee	6,246,380	2,905	1,142,299	29,429	18.3	0.5	6,195,120	3,574	1,095,466	29,085	17.7	0.5
Texas	25,071,125	8,108	4,628,758	63,020	18.5	0.3	24,652,927	7,949	4,414,481	53,320	17.9	0.2
Utah	2,771,344	2,149	374,859	19,403	13.5	0.7	2,730,176	1,935	359,242	14,693	13.2	0.5
Vermont	601,236	821	69,075	4,730	11.5	0.8	600,850	1,125	76,352	5,250	12.7	0.9
Virginia	7,854,282	3,214	905,914	25,152	11.5	0.3	7,780,635	2,803	861,969	22,046	11.1	0.3
Washington	6,687,073	3,909	929,258	23,388	13.9	0.4	6,615,922	2,965	888,718	27,270	13.4	0.4
West Virginia	1,802,655	2,209	334,885	13,958	18.6	0.8	1,799,960	1,852	326,507	13,020	18.1	0.7
Wisconsin	5,554,349	4,117	725,797	20,946	13.1	0.4	5,535,803	3,152	731,479	17,834	13.2	0.3
Wyoming	554,314	926	62,629	5,598	11.3	1.0	551,120	851	61,577	6,480	11.2	1.2
Puerto Rico	3,672,090	1,830	1,673,610	27,123	45.6	0.7	3,685,731	1,892	1,659,792	21,557	45.0	0.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Appendix Table 1.

Number and Percentage of People in Poverty in the Past 12 Months by State and Puerto Rico:¹ 2005 to 2017—Con.

Area	2009						2008					
	Population for whom poverty status is determined	Margin of error ² (±)	Below poverty level				Population for whom poverty status is determined	Margin of error ² (±)	Below poverty level			
			Number	Margin of error ² (±)	Percent	Margin of error ² (±)			Number	Margin of error ² (±)	Percent	Margin of error ² (±)
United States . . .	299,026,555	24,322	42,868,163	236,589	14.3	0.1	296,184,480	22,192	39,108,422	249,680	13.2	0.1
Alabama	4,588,899	2,203	804,683	22,895	17.5	0.5	4,541,756	2,634	712,835	22,418	15.7	0.5
Alaska	682,412	1,129	61,653	5,417	9.0	0.8	669,783	1,041	56,396	5,471	8.4	0.8
Arizona	6,475,485	4,779	1,069,897	28,715	16.5	0.4	6,379,266	4,360	938,924	27,514	14.7	0.4
Arkansas	2,806,056	2,222	527,378	17,322	18.8	0.6	2,774,152	2,142	480,551	18,818	17.3	0.7
California	36,202,780	9,722	5,128,708	60,936	14.2	0.2	35,984,461	8,122	4,778,118	75,892	13.3	0.2
Colorado	4,917,061	2,396	634,387	21,625	12.9	0.4	4,835,406	2,605	552,889	22,387	11.4	0.5
Connecticut	3,409,901	1,798	320,554	16,151	9.4	0.5	3,390,665	2,405	314,806	14,745	9.3	0.4
Delaware	860,972	1,467	93,251	9,829	10.8	1.1	850,832	828	85,094	7,055	10.0	0.8
District of Columbia	570,093	857	104,901	9,224	18.4	1.6	561,874	839	96,769	7,324	17.2	1.3
Florida	18,124,789	5,650	2,707,925	39,754	14.9	0.2	17,923,483	5,659	2,370,808	41,243	13.2	0.2
Georgia	9,535,714	6,127	1,574,649	36,922	16.5	0.4	9,418,066	4,470	1,380,842	31,340	14.7	0.3
Hawaii	1,264,202	2,157	131,007	9,277	10.4	0.7	1,260,602	1,337	115,131	8,921	9.1	0.7
Idaho	1,511,950	1,516	216,115	12,490	14.3	0.8	1,489,034	1,709	187,805	12,824	12.6	0.9
Illinois	12,574,351	4,476	1,677,093	37,391	13.3	0.3	12,568,150	3,634	1,532,238	26,674	12.2	0.2
Indiana	6,228,236	3,485	896,972	23,765	14.4	0.4	6,175,885	3,789	807,506	21,723	13.1	0.4
Iowa	2,905,436	1,980	342,934	13,024	11.8	0.4	2,899,804	1,887	334,919	13,360	11.5	0.5
Kansas	2,732,685	2,290	365,033	15,162	13.4	0.6	2,716,652	3,284	307,478	12,785	11.3	0.5
Kentucky	4,187,582	3,444	777,295	21,970	18.6	0.5	4,154,968	2,290	720,586	21,372	17.3	0.5
Louisiana	4,367,637	2,329	755,460	23,513	17.3	0.5	4,290,038	2,074	744,218	23,972	17.3	0.6
Maine	1,281,292	1,528	157,685	8,398	12.3	0.7	1,278,878	1,741	157,553	8,278	12.3	0.6
Maryland	5,559,336	2,928	505,286	18,824	9.1	0.3	5,496,119	2,301	442,994	15,596	8.1	0.3
Massachusetts	6,365,449	2,245	654,983	20,720	10.3	0.3	6,271,556	2,206	626,670	19,668	10.0	0.3
Michigan	9,735,741	3,666	1,576,704	30,948	16.2	0.3	9,769,537	3,132	1,410,276	24,724	14.4	0.3
Minnesota	5,133,038	2,706	563,006	17,470	11.0	0.3	5,090,468	2,327	490,911	14,694	9.6	0.3
Mississippi	2,848,335	2,637	624,360	17,712	21.9	0.6	2,838,810	2,080	601,617	24,259	21.2	0.9
Missouri	5,818,541	3,372	849,009	24,710	14.6	0.4	5,738,696	3,819	768,092	18,921	13.4	0.3
Montana	946,333	1,999	143,028	9,517	15.1	1.0	942,874	943	139,707	8,881	14.8	0.9
Nebraska	1,739,311	2,955	214,765	9,539	12.3	0.6	1,727,276	2,369	186,727	9,256	10.8	0.5
Nevada	2,606,479	3,099	321,940	18,092	12.4	0.7	2,566,460	1,806	290,197	15,922	11.3	0.6
New Hampshire	1,284,588	1,481	109,213	8,221	8.5	0.6	1,277,397	1,235	97,158	7,932	7.6	0.6
New Jersey	8,531,160	2,446	799,099	26,131	9.4	0.3	8,504,286	3,080	741,472	23,119	8.7	0.3
New Mexico	1,968,078	3,199	353,594	19,626	18.0	1.0	1,941,428	2,538	332,769	14,316	17.1	0.7
New York	19,014,215	6,000	2,691,757	43,874	14.2	0.2	18,964,419	5,908	2,581,491	39,884	13.6	0.2
North Carolina	9,095,948	4,026	1,478,214	29,213	16.3	0.3	8,947,541	3,779	1,301,929	34,042	14.6	0.4
North Dakota	620,821	509	72,342	4,796	11.7	0.8	615,412	735	73,622	5,620	12.0	0.9
Ohio	11,225,133	4,163	1,709,971	33,382	15.2	0.3	11,172,113	4,336	1,492,154	29,624	13.4	0.3
Oklahoma	3,565,442	3,092	577,956	18,136	16.2	0.5	3,523,927	2,918	561,666	18,584	15.9	0.5
Oregon	3,748,545	2,642	534,594	17,909	14.3	0.5	3,716,666	2,171	506,145	17,700	13.6	0.5
Pennsylvania	12,165,877	4,304	1,516,705	25,949	12.5	0.2	12,011,873	3,851	1,458,394	26,463	12.1	0.2
Rhode Island	1,015,667	1,151	116,378	8,258	11.5	0.8	1,012,988	1,284	118,556	8,064	11.7	0.8
South Carolina	4,416,859	3,291	753,739	21,608	17.1	0.5	4,339,418	2,373	679,584	21,508	15.7	0.5
South Dakota	782,725	1,066	111,305	8,178	14.2	1.0	774,737	1,089	96,490	6,997	12.5	0.9
Tennessee	6,141,391	3,970	1,052,144	23,735	17.1	0.4	6,057,621	3,500	938,077	26,905	15.5	0.4
Texas	24,176,222	6,688	4,150,242	58,989	17.2	0.2	23,727,821	6,892	3,760,431	54,049	15.8	0.2
Utah	2,741,756	2,304	316,217	14,867	11.5	0.5	2,695,225	1,519	257,649	13,167	9.6	0.5
Vermont	600,244	782	68,246	5,148	11.4	0.9	599,715	832	63,288	5,151	10.6	0.9
Virginia	7,623,736	3,044	802,578	26,888	10.5	0.4	7,518,394	3,369	768,031	24,701	10.2	0.3
Washington	6,530,664	3,151	804,237	23,667	12.3	0.4	6,418,113	2,910	728,323	21,530	11.3	0.3
West Virginia	1,771,561	1,720	313,419	11,866	17.7	0.7	1,767,440	1,634	300,670	13,037	17.0	0.7
Wisconsin	5,495,845	2,615	683,408	19,384	12.4	0.4	5,474,027	2,066	569,090	17,752	10.4	0.3
Wyoming	529,982	735	52,144	5,517	9.8	1.0	518,368	716	48,776	4,527	9.4	0.9
Puerto Rico	3,924,557	2,542	1,764,635	24,829	45.0	0.6	3,907,696	2,908	1,750,559	28,973	44.8	0.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Appendix Table 1.

Number and Percentage of People in Poverty in the Past 12 Months by State and Puerto Rico:¹ 2005 to 2017—Con.

Area	2007						2006					
	Population for whom poverty status is determined	Margin of error ² (±)	Below poverty level				Population for whom poverty status is determined	Margin of error ² (±)	Below poverty level			
			Number	Margin of error ² (±)	Percent	Margin of error ² (±)			Number	Margin of error ² (±)	Percent	Margin of error ² (±)
United States . . .	293,744,043	22,700	38,052,247	222,964	13.0	0.1	291,531,091	25,464	38,757,253	222,238	13.3	0.1
Alabama	4,506,549	3,723	759,835	22,998	16.9	0.5	4,482,152	2,720	742,064	20,891	16.6	0.5
Alaska	666,618	1,056	59,625	5,440	8.9	0.8	651,997	1,058	70,919	7,094	10.9	1.1
Arizona	6,225,486	3,631	881,257	31,475	14.2	0.5	6,052,150	12,167	857,349	27,234	14.2	0.4
Arkansas	2,753,919	2,217	492,052	16,318	17.9	0.6	2,729,090	2,973	471,155	16,444	17.3	0.6
California	35,768,016	9,033	4,433,014	63,400	12.4	0.2	35,675,356	7,967	4,690,140	69,184	13.1	0.2
Colorado	4,756,244	3,068	569,386	19,957	12.0	0.4	4,653,251	2,663	556,153	17,838	12.0	0.4
Connecticut	3,387,524	2,001	268,880	12,898	7.9	0.4	3,393,432	2,120	280,108	12,632	8.3	0.4
Delaware	838,497	1,393	87,956	7,512	10.5	0.9	828,673	1,089	91,962	8,734	11.1	1.1
District of Columbia	559,557	297	91,934	7,937	16.4	1.4	551,161	908	108,100	7,848	19.6	1.4
Florida	17,846,751	5,850	2,158,832	38,730	12.1	0.2	17,686,295	6,001	2,226,587	41,963	12.6	0.2
Georgia	9,286,158	4,457	1,323,828	31,219	14.3	0.3	9,082,715	5,257	1,333,524	28,435	14.7	0.3
Hawaii	1,254,854	925	100,051	6,916	8.0	0.5	1,252,117	2,035	116,147	9,384	9.3	0.7
Idaho	1,464,460	1,774	177,806	9,436	12.1	0.6	1,431,508	2,111	180,177	8,124	12.6	0.6
Illinois	12,541,198	3,976	1,496,248	34,817	11.9	0.3	12,516,453	4,308	1,539,033	33,611	12.3	0.3
Indiana	6,145,040	3,956	757,813	19,999	12.3	0.3	6,125,557	3,393	777,712	24,218	12.7	0.4
Iowa	2,881,760	2,589	317,946	14,131	11.0	0.5	2,878,398	1,906	316,122	11,956	11.0	0.4
Kansas	2,688,942	2,418	300,210	13,334	11.2	0.5	2,679,951	1,806	330,976	12,307	12.4	0.5
Kentucky	4,120,513	2,618	714,080	22,283	17.3	0.5	4,087,474	2,992	693,479	19,675	17.0	0.5
Louisiana	4,166,756	3,018	775,425	20,200	18.6	0.5	4,165,324	2,394	793,223	23,967	19.0	0.6
Maine	1,281,433	1,348	154,224	8,137	12.0	0.6	1,285,599	1,319	165,956	9,369	12.9	0.7
Maryland	5,477,839	2,249	453,699	20,647	8.3	0.4	5,475,889	2,880	428,345	16,756	7.8	0.3
Massachusetts	6,244,824	2,973	621,286	20,753	9.9	0.3	6,235,586	2,474	620,188	19,066	9.9	0.3
Michigan	9,832,533	3,661	1,376,658	27,786	14.0	0.3	9,852,543	4,524	1,331,833	28,594	13.5	0.3
Minnesota	5,066,767	2,297	481,947	15,332	9.5	0.3	5,036,852	2,551	491,633	13,842	9.8	0.3
Mississippi	2,821,649	2,997	581,534	18,361	20.6	0.7	2,815,425	2,470	592,743	21,116	21.1	0.8
Missouri	5,708,785	3,267	742,486	20,360	13.0	0.4	5,674,490	3,452	769,584	23,237	13.6	0.4
Montana	933,264	1,083	131,790	7,822	14.1	0.8	921,449	1,204	125,655	7,460	13.6	0.8
Nebraska	1,719,387	1,959	192,822	8,554	11.2	0.5	1,715,413	1,577	197,037	9,781	11.5	0.6
Nevada	2,528,598	2,318	269,953	16,905	10.7	0.7	2,460,755	1,936	253,713	12,708	10.3	0.5
New Hampshire	1,274,795	1,622	90,204	7,516	7.1	0.6	1,276,753	1,706	102,404	7,079	8.0	0.6
New Jersey	8,505,944	3,539	729,211	23,123	8.6	0.3	8,540,402	3,957	741,873	24,336	8.7	0.3
New Mexico	1,925,509	2,236	349,159	15,809	18.1	0.8	1,912,288	2,059	353,694	13,260	18.5	0.7
New York	18,775,329	4,571	2,570,014	41,542	13.7	0.2	18,770,190	6,168	2,662,199	40,537	14.2	0.2
North Carolina	8,793,290	3,758	1,258,988	29,318	14.3	0.3	8,591,303	4,200	1,261,078	28,517	14.7	0.3
North Dakota	612,565	673	74,035	5,225	12.1	0.9	605,883	1,233	69,356	4,878	11.4	0.8
Ohio	11,151,314	4,475	1,464,133	29,352	13.1	0.3	11,156,019	4,411	1,486,363	36,291	13.3	0.3
Oklahoma	3,498,298	2,642	557,030	16,561	15.9	0.5	3,461,976	3,208	587,591	18,132	17.0	0.5
Oregon	3,670,490	2,285	474,189	18,770	12.9	0.5	3,626,910	2,739	480,613	17,873	13.3	0.5
Pennsylvania	11,998,834	4,356	1,393,026	32,592	11.6	0.3	12,015,358	4,038	1,448,228	27,368	12.1	0.2
Rhode Island	1,018,722	1,061	122,128	9,249	12.0	0.9	1,026,114	898	114,066	8,626	11.1	0.8
South Carolina	4,270,155	2,660	641,758	19,916	15.0	0.5	4,182,874	2,974	656,154	19,827	15.7	0.5
South Dakota	768,499	637	100,699	5,842	13.1	0.8	753,221	1,100	102,184	6,638	13.6	0.9
Tennessee	5,996,979	4,039	953,865	28,631	15.9	0.5	5,877,686	3,813	952,256	26,516	16.2	0.4
Texas	23,284,143	7,049	3,791,183	49,333	16.3	0.2	22,887,307	6,627	3,868,689	52,605	16.9	0.2
Utah	2,601,491	1,717	251,084	13,213	9.7	0.5	2,508,619	1,594	265,432	13,336	10.6	0.5
Vermont	600,231	875	60,589	5,292	10.1	0.9	603,568	570	62,281	4,414	10.3	0.7
Virginia	7,466,205	2,981	742,680	23,107	9.9	0.3	7,404,188	3,606	708,568	21,948	9.6	0.3
Washington	6,337,707	3,377	725,172	19,934	11.4	0.3	6,261,127	3,442	736,963	19,667	11.8	0.3
West Virginia	1,763,476	1,574	298,172	11,487	16.9	0.6	1,770,974	1,689	307,020	13,698	17.3	0.8
Wisconsin	5,447,306	2,647	588,287	17,948	10.8	0.3	5,401,346	2,490	591,850	18,703	11.0	0.3
Wyoming	508,840	773	44,064	5,986	8.7	1.2	499,930	1,064	46,774	4,882	9.4	1.0
Puerto Rico	3,878,136	4,150	1,763,078	26,535	45.5	0.7	3,865,264	3,468	1,753,410	30,614	45.4	0.8

See footnotes at end of table.

Appendix Table 1.

Number and Percentage of People in Poverty in the Past 12 Months by State and Puerto Rico:¹ 2005 to 2017—Con.

Area	2005					
	Population for whom poverty status is determined	Margin of error ² (±)	Below poverty level			
			Number	Margin of error ² (±)	Percent	Margin of error ² (±)
United States . . .	287,270,432	26,765	38,231,474	296,550	13.3	0.1
Alabama	4,429,774	2,525	754,258	23,298	17.0	0.5
Alaska	637,581	1,207	71,266	6,418	11.2	1.0
Arizona	5,802,691	5,462	824,008	28,218	14.2	0.5
Arkansas	2,690,029	2,483	461,842	16,207	17.2	0.6
California	35,121,550	12,411	4,673,274	85,899	13.3	0.2
Colorado	4,549,942	2,666	504,106	18,664	11.1	0.4
Connecticut	3,383,920	2,408	281,408	16,801	8.3	0.5
Delaware	815,074	1,229	84,811	6,636	10.4	0.8
District of Columbia	513,137	1,066	97,617	7,636	19.0	1.5
Florida	17,308,881	8,459	2,214,381	48,347	12.8	0.3
Georgia	8,789,109	4,638	1,266,205	32,470	14.4	0.4
Hawaii	1,233,771	1,082	121,418	9,261	9.8	0.8
Idaho	1,388,730	1,860	192,390	10,253	13.9	0.7
Illinois	12,400,389	4,298	1,483,873	37,827	12.0	0.3
Indiana	6,059,510	4,297	740,371	25,596	12.2	0.4
Iowa	2,853,572	1,685	310,230	11,991	10.9	0.4
Kansas	2,651,109	1,850	309,561	14,163	11.7	0.5
Kentucky	4,042,777	2,726	680,151	19,958	16.8	0.5
Louisiana	4,372,948	2,863	864,277	27,842	19.8	0.6
Maine	1,275,738	1,742	160,627	8,456	12.6	0.7
Maryland	5,438,712	3,873	448,038	25,532	8.2	0.5
Massachusetts	6,165,256	3,092	637,043	18,803	10.3	0.3
Michigan	9,830,885	3,902	1,299,688	29,070	13.2	0.3
Minnesota	4,971,644	2,731	456,642	17,292	9.2	0.3
Mississippi	2,812,795	2,363	600,288	17,034	21.3	0.6
Missouri	5,607,978	2,777	748,023	24,330	13.3	0.4
Montana	907,715	931	130,441	9,067	14.4	1.0
Nebraska	1,702,182	1,182	186,178	9,209	10.9	0.5
Nevada	2,364,173	4,289	262,092	17,190	11.1	0.7
New Hampshire	1,267,761	1,596	95,090	8,200	7.5	0.6
New Jersey	8,500,251	3,414	738,969	28,648	8.7	0.3
New Mexico	1,878,500	2,741	347,759	14,465	18.5	0.8
New York	18,589,066	5,882	2,565,836	48,309	13.8	0.3
North Carolina	8,381,074	4,514	1,262,770	31,640	15.1	0.4
North Dakota	607,265	750	68,199	5,148	11.2	0.8
Ohio	11,117,437	4,857	1,450,650	33,995	13.0	0.3
Oklahoma	3,420,671	1,885	564,544	18,582	16.5	0.5
Oregon	3,538,430	3,866	498,854	17,059	14.1	0.5
Pennsylvania	11,936,227	4,561	1,420,396	29,072	11.9	0.2
Rhode Island	1,029,258	1,498	126,150	10,141	12.3	1.0
South Carolina	4,101,201	2,324	638,643	18,663	15.6	0.5
South Dakota	742,505	1,194	101,286	7,087	13.6	1.0
Tennessee	5,787,456	4,147	899,717	29,355	15.5	0.5
Texas	22,190,338	7,205	3,905,148	61,939	17.6	0.3
Utah	2,420,872	1,585	246,047	13,820	10.2	0.6
Vermont	600,532	630	68,793	6,131	11.5	1.0
Virginia	7,309,802	3,296	728,947	22,704	10.0	0.3
Washington	6,118,254	3,839	729,470	22,357	11.9	0.4
West Virginia	1,763,891	2,066	317,240	14,351	18.0	0.8
Wisconsin	5,355,146	2,478	545,650	15,445	10.2	0.3
Wyoming	492,923	844	46,809	4,352	9.5	0.9
Puerto Rico	3,829,719	3,997	1,718,373	29,181	44.9	0.8

¹ Poverty status is determined for individuals in housing units and noninstitutional group quarters. The poverty universe excludes children under age 15 who are not related to the householder, people living in institutional group quarters (e.g., nursing homes or correctional facilities), and people living in college dormitories or military barracks.

² Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number when added to or subtracted from the estimate forms the 90 percent confidence interval.

Note: For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/code-lists.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 to 2017 American Community Surveys and 2005 to 2017 Puerto Rico Community Surveys.