Homelessness and Poverty Fact Sheet 2023

- The three most cited reasons for family homelessness are:
  - 1) Lack of affordable housing
  - 2) Unemployment
  - 3) Poverty (via: [National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty](https://www.nlc.org/))
- 1 in 30 youth ages 13 to 17 will experience homelessness each year. (via: [National Conference of State Legislations](https://www.ncsl.org/))
- 1 in 19 children experiences homelessness before the first grade. (via: [US Dept. Of Education](https://www.ed.gov/))
  - In 2018-2019, nearly 1.3 million, or 6 percent, of children under age six were experiencing homelessness. (via: [US Dept. Of Education](https://www.ed.gov/))
- In 2022, 161,070 people in families with children were experiencing homelessness. (via: [2022 Annual Homeless Assessment Report](https://www.hud.gov/))
- During the 2020/2021 school year, 1,096,669 children experiencing homelessness were enrolled in public school. (via: [National Center for Homeless Education](https://www.ncche.org/))
- People in families with children make up 28 percent of the nation’s homeless population (via: [2022 Annual Homeless Assessment Report](https://www.hud.gov/))
- Homeless families are often hidden from our view—they are living in shelters, cars, campgrounds, or doubled up in overcrowded apartments.
- 37.9 million people in the U.S. live below the poverty line. (via: [U.S. Census Bureau 2021 Poverty in the United States report](https://www.census.gov/))
- The SPM child poverty rate fell to 5.2 percent in 2021 – the lowest SPM child poverty rate on record. (via: [U.S. Census Bureau](https://www.census.gov/))
- The official poverty line for a family of four with two children is $30,000 per year. (via: [U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services](https://www.hhs.gov/))
- The federal minimum wage is $7.25/hour. It has not been raised since 2009. (via: [U.S. Dept of Labor](https://www.dol.gov/))
- A renter household must earn at least $25.82/hour to afford a two-bedroom home at the Fair Market Rent. (via: [2022 NLHIC Out of Reach Report](https://www.nlhic.org/))
  - On average, a renter household needs 2.4 full-time jobs paying the minimum wage in order to afford a two-bedroom rental home at FMR. (via: [2022 NLHIC Out of Reach Report](https://www.nlhic.org/))
- In only 274 counties out of more than 3,000 nationwide can a worker making the federal minimum wage afford a one-bedroom apartment at the Fair Market Rent. (via: [2022 NLHIC Out of Reach Report](https://www.nlhic.org/))
- In no state can a person working full-time at the prevailing federal, state, or county minimum wage afford a two-bedroom apartment at the Fair Market Rent. (via: [2022 NLHIC Out of Reach Report](https://www.nlhic.org/))
• Only 25 percent of those considered eligible for federal housing assistance receive help, due to lack of funding. (via: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities)
• For every 100 extremely low-income households, there are only 33 affordable and available rental homes on the market. (via: 2023 NLIHC The Gap Report)
• The U.S. has a shortage of 7.3 million rental homes affordable and available to extremely low-income renters. (via: 2023 NLIHC The Gap Report)
• Seventy-two percent (8.1 million) of the nation’s 11.0 million extremely low-income renter households are severely housing cost-burdened. (via: 2023 NLIHC The Gap Report)
• 10.2 percent (13.5 million) households were food-insecure in 2021. (via: U.S. Dept of Agriculture)
  ○ Household food insecurity affected 12.5 percent of households with children in 2021. (via: U.S. Dept of Agriculture)