The 2017 Poverty Snapshot
Alaska

Too many Alaskans are still experiencing economic hardship

More than 80,000 Alaskans lived in poverty in 2017. That is 11.1% of Alaska’s population, ranks 36th in percent of poor people among all states, with 1 being the highest.

Children and people with disabilities remain very vulnerable


Communities of Color in Alaska Are Disproportionately Poor

Breakdown of poverty rate by race/ethnicity in 2017:

- Non-Hispanic White: 7.6%
- African-American: 12.2%
- Latino: 8.9%
- Alaska Natives: 23.8%

Working Hard yet still Food Insecure

Struggling folks are working: In fact, in 72.7% of poor families, one or more people worked at least part-time or part of 2017.

Working, however is often not enough. More than 12% of AK households could not always afford enough food.

Near and Deep Poverty in Alaska

- **200% Poverty Line:** Near-poor
  - 62% of households earning less than $20K/year paid more than half of income on rent
- **50% Poverty Line:** Deep Poverty
  - Over **41,000** Alaskans lived in deep poverty in 2017

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**Working Hard**

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**Food Insecure**

- Working, however is often not enough. About **11.6%** of AK households could not always afford enough food.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017
The Uninsured Rate in Alaska Has Declined since the Affordable Care Act

Percentage of people uninsured by the year

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017
Federal Low-Income Programs Lift Millions Out of Poverty

Numbers of people lifted above poverty line in 2017

- Social Security: 27 million
- Tax credits: 8.3 million
- SNAP: 3.4 million
- SSI: 3.2 million
- Housing subsidies: 2.9 million
- TANF: 544,000

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Supplemental Poverty Measure. 2017