

Poverty Fact Sheet



United States in 2019

- Overall poverty rate **12.3%**
- Child poverty rate **16.8%**

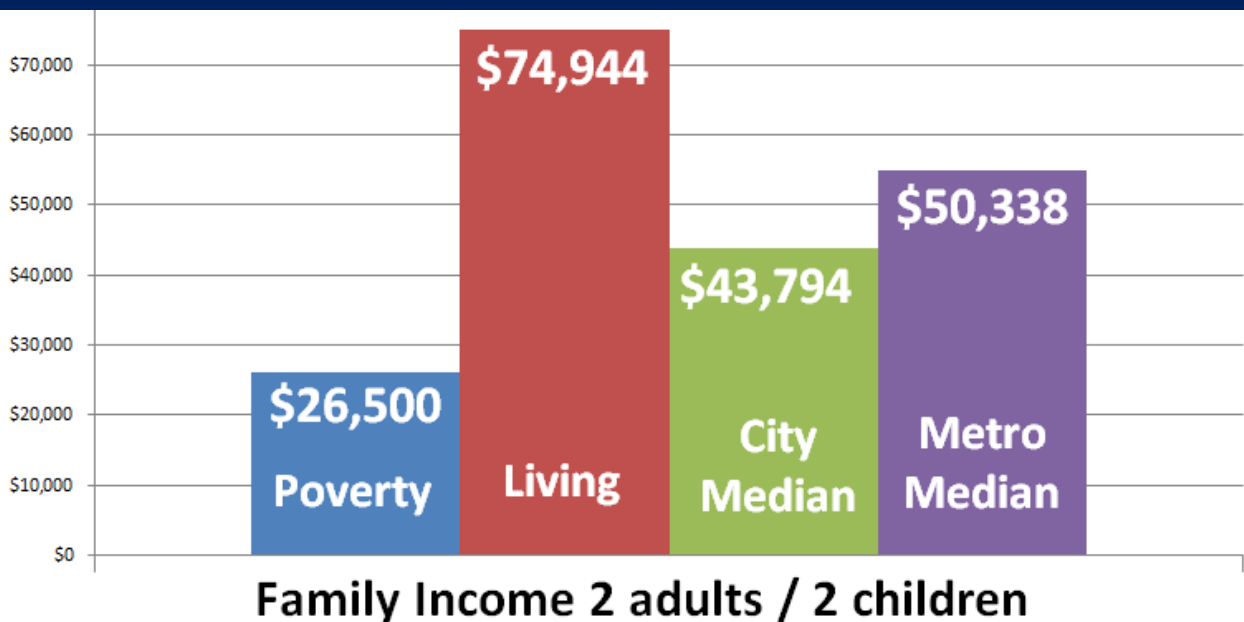
Memphis in 2019

- Overall poverty rate **21.7%**
 - Fifth highest rate of overall poverty among cities with populations greater than 500,000
- Child poverty rate **35.0%**
 - Second highest rate of child poverty among cities with populations greater than 500,000

2019 Poverty Rate	Overall	Under 18	18-64	Over 65	Non-Hispanic White	Non-Hispanic Black	Latino
United States	12.3%	16.8%	12.9%	9.4%	9.0%	21.2%	9.2%
Tennessee	13.9%	19.7%	12.9%	9.7%	11.2%	21.5%	23.6%
Memphis city, TN	21.7%	35.0%	18.3%	14.1%	9.3%	26.1%	29.2%
Memphis, TN-MS-AR Metro Ar.	15.4%	23.7%	13.1%	10.7%	6.9%	22.6%	21.9%

Source: 2020 Poverty Fact Sheet. Elena Delavega, PhD MSW. University of Memphis.

Poverty vs. Living vs. Median City of Memphis & Metro Area



Poverty and Living Wage reflect the 2021 updated values.

Living Wage Calculation for Memphis, TN

Hourly Wages	1 Adult	1 Adult 1 Child	1 Adult 2 Children	2 Adults	2 Adults 1 Child	2 Adults 2 Children
Living Wage	\$13.26	\$26.49	\$32.50	\$10.51	\$14.55	\$18.02
Poverty Wage	\$6.13	\$8.29	\$10.44	\$4.41	\$5.22	\$7.38
Minimum Wage	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25

Living wage- hourly rate that an **individual** must earn to support their family, if they are working full-time (40 hours a week = 2080 hours per year).

Poverty Wage- The poverty threshold is an administrative threshold defined by the Department of Health and Human Services to determine eligibility for certain financial assistance from the federal government

Typical Expenses for Memphis, TN

Annual Expenses	1 Adult	1 Adult 1 Child	1 Adult 2 Children	2 Adults	2 Adults 1 Child	2 Adults 2 Children
Food	\$3,177	\$4,670	\$6,990	\$5,825	\$7,238	\$9,305
Child Care	\$0	\$6,332	\$12,664	\$0	\$6,332	\$12,664
Medical	\$2,813	\$7,923	\$7,611	\$5,895	\$7,611	\$7,750
Housing	\$7,943	\$10,531	\$10,531	\$7,943	\$10,531	\$10,531
Transportation	\$5,113	\$9,378	\$11,672	\$9,378	\$11,672	\$13,896
Other	\$2,875	\$4,687	\$5,144	\$4,687	\$5,144	\$6,216
Required annual income after taxes	\$23,733	\$47,409	\$58,166	\$37,616	\$42,082	\$64,489
Annual taxes	\$3,847	\$7,686	\$9,430	\$6,098	\$8,443	\$10,455
Required annual income before taxes	\$27,580	\$55,095	\$67,595	\$43,715	\$60,525	\$74,944

These figures show the individual expenses that went into the living wage estimate.

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