Siskiyou County	0.4506
Solano County	0.4267
Sonoma County	0.4584
Stanislaus County	0.4493
Sutter County	0.4488
Tehama County	0.4513
Trinity County	S
Tulare County	0.4682
Tuolumne County	S

Definition, Source & Notes   (Return to top)

Definition: Difference between the estimated distribution of household income and a perfec
equal distribution, measured between 0 and 1 (e.g., in 2016-2020, the Gini coefficient of inc
inequality among California households was 0.4874).

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (Aug. 2022).

Footnote: A Gini coefficient of 0 represents perfect income equality (all households earning
equal share of income), while a coefficient of 1 represents perfect income inequality (one
household earning all of the income and the rest earning none). Data are displayed for
geographies with populations of at least 10,000 based on 2020 estimates. These estimates
based on a survey of the population and are subject to both sampling and nonsampling err
The notation S refers to estimates that have been suppressed because the margin of erro
0.02 or greater. N/A means that data are not available. Some regions listed are Census
Designated Places (CDPs), such as East Los Angeles; CDPs are communities within the
unincorporated part of a county. In 2010 the Census Bureau implemented new population
benchmarks, so caution should be taken when comparing 2005-2009 data with later years.
Because of disruptions to data collection in 2020, American Community Survey estimates f
2016-2020 did not meet statistical quality requirements and have larger than usual margin
error; see Information and Advice on 2020 Federal Data Quality and Use.

Learn More About Family Income and Poverty

Measures of Family Income and Poverty on Kidsdata.org

On kidsdata.org, family income and poverty are measured against a variety of income
resource, and self-sufficiency criteria:
- Federal Poverty Threshold

- Federal Poverty Guideline
- Supplemental Poverty Measure
- California Poverty Measure
- Self-Sufficiency Standard

For each of these measures, kidsdata.org provides estimates of the share of children
families with children) without the economic means necessary for an adequate standa
living. Depending on the data source, additional measures and breakdowns also are
available.

The U.S. Census Bureau's official poverty measure compares pre-tax cash income agair
threshold of three times the cost of a minimally adequate diet in 1963, adjusted for
inflation. Federal poverty thresholds aim to define and measure poverty over time, rat
than describe the amount of income families need to live. The following indicators are
based on the official poverty measure and come from the American Community Surve
(ACS):*

- Children living in poverty (i.e., with incomes below their poverty threshold), overall and by race ethnicity
- Children living in deep poverty (i.e., with incomes below 50% of their poverty threshold)
- Children living in areas of concentrated poverty (i.e., where at least 30% of residents live in poverty)
- Income level for children as a percentage of their poverty threshold, overall and by family type
- Children living in low-income working families (i.e., with incomes below 200% of their poverty threshold and at least one working parent)

Federal poverty guidelines are simplified federal poverty thresholds produced by the U
Department of Health and Human Services and used for administrative purposes such
determining eligibility for federal programs and benefits. Indicators of family income
between 0-100% and 0-200% of federal poverty guidelines are provided for mothers v
recent birth. These estimates come from the Maternal and Infant Health Assessment
are available for California and its counties with the greatest number of births; in addi
state-level breakdowns by race/ethnicity and by type of prenatal health insurance
coverage are provided.

The Census Bureau's Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) is an extension of the offic
poverty measure. SPM thresholds are adjusted to account for expenditures on clothing
utilities, and shelter, along with state-level differences in housing costs. To calculate
family resources, the SPM adds non-cash government benefits and tax credits to cash
income, and subtracts out-of-pocket work, medical, and child care expenses. National
state-level estimates of children living below their SPM poverty threshold come from
Current Population Survey and are available for children overall and by race/ethnicity.

The California Poverty Measure (CPM), a joint project of the Public Policy Institute of
California and the Stanford University Center on Poverty and Inequality, incorporates
California-specific threshold and resource adjustments, and allows for county-level and
demographic subgroup estimates of child poverty. The following CPM indicators relate
child poverty are available:

- Poverty thresholds for families with children by family composition, for renters and owners with mortgages
- Estimates of children living in poverty and deep poverty, overall and by age group, race/ethnicity, family ty family citizenship status, family education level, and family employment status

- Estimates of the extent to which social safety net programs reduce child poverty and deep poverty, by pro
  type

A project of the Center for Women's Welfare at the University of Washington, the
California Family Economic Self-Sufficiency Standard measures the amount of income
family of a certain composition in a specific county needs to adequately meet its basi
needs without public or private assistance. Kidsdata.org provides self-sufficiency
standards for six common family types at the county level along with state- and cour
level estimates of the percentage of families with children living below their standard

In addition to these measures kidsdata.org also offers:

- Median family income (the income level at which half of families earn more and half earn less), by family ty
  from ACS
- Household income distribution by quintile (the percentage of aggregate household income earned by each in
  quintile), from ACS
- Gini index of household income inequality (a summary measure of the difference between the observed
  distribution of household income and a perfectly equal distribution, ranging from 0 and 1), from ACS
- The number and rate of children participating in CalWORKs (California's Temporary Assistance for Needy Far
  (TANF) program), from the California Department of Social Services

*Depending on the indicator, ACS data are available as single-year estimates for coun
and county groups, as five-year estimates for counties, cities, and school districts witl
populations of at least 10,000, or as five-year estimates for legislative districts.

Why This Topic Is Important

Income and well being are intricately linked. Poverty can alter children's developmenta
trajectories in cognitive, socio-emotional, and physical health (1). The effects of pover
child health and well being can begin during pregnancy, as low-income women are more
likely to experience malnutrition and stress, and are less likely to receive adequate
prenatal care (2). Children who face economic hardship when they are young, or who
experience deep and prolonged poverty, are at greatest risk for poor outcomes (1). Th
effects of poverty and the stress associated with it can be lasting, contributing to
increased risk of not completing high school, poor adult health, and poor employment
outcomes, among other adverse consequences (1, 3).

The impacts extend beyond individuals, too. It is estimated that child poverty costs tl
U.S. more than $1 trillion annually in direct and indirect health costs, increased child
homelessness and maltreatment, loss of economic productivity, and costs associated
crime and incarceration (4). Every dollar spent on childhood poverty reduction strategie
could reduce this economic fallout by seven dollars (4).

The link between income and wellness is evident even for those living above the pove
threshold. A health gradient exists along the economic spectrum such that health sta
improves as income level increases; e.g., the health of those in the middle-income ran
tends to be inferior to those in higher-income groups (3). This is especially concerning