



Arkansas

October 23, 2012 (version 2)

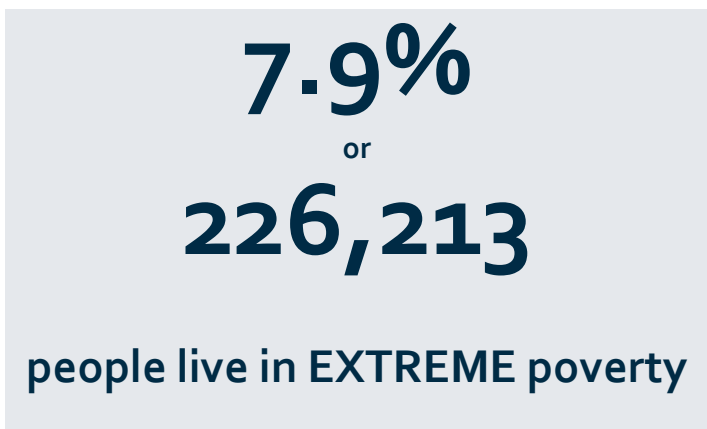
POVERTY RATE

*Indicates that the change from 2007 to 2011 is statistically significant.



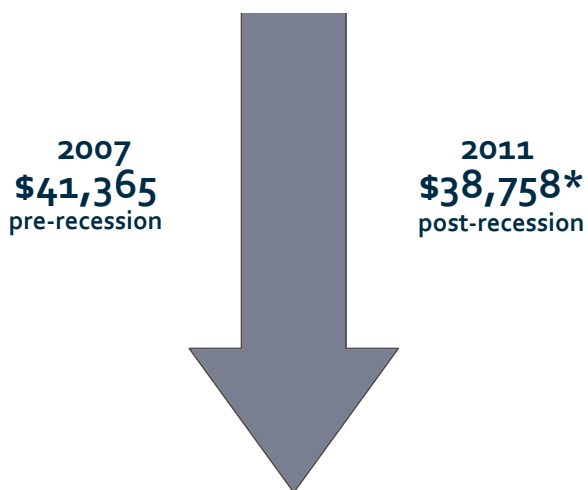
EXTREME POVERTY

Defined as living below 50% of the poverty threshold.



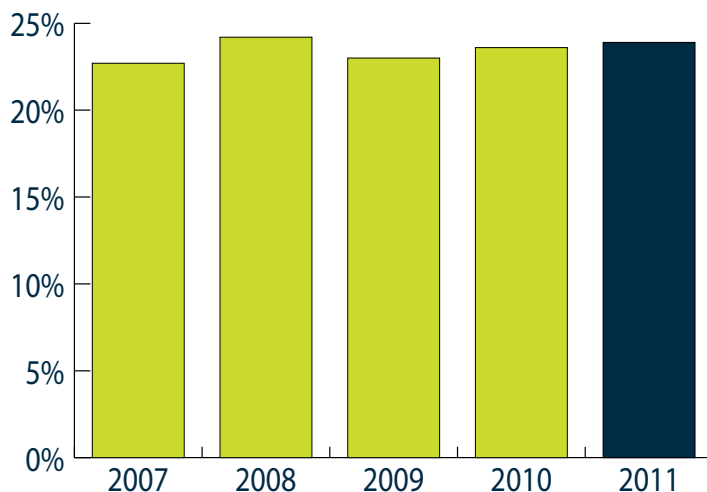
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

*Indicates that the change from 2007 to 2011 is statistically significant; all dollar amounts in 2011 dollars.



LOW-INCOME RATE

Defined as living between 100% and 199% of the poverty threshold.



United States

	2007		2008		2009		2010		2011	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Poverty	38,052,247	13.0	39,108,422*	13.2*	42,868,163*	14.3*	46,215,956*	15.3*	48,452,035*	15.9*
Extreme Poverty	16,375,097	5.6	16,634,799*	5.6	18,776,800*	6.3*	20,413,453*	6.8*	21,459,639*	7.1*
Low Income	52,082,116	17.7	52,467,280*	17.7	54,951,837*	18.4*	57,509,754*	19.1*	58,374,201*	19.2
Child Poverty	12,728,964	17.6	12,919,224*	17.8	14,359,130*	19.7*	15,446,037*	21.2*	16,087,074*	22.2*
No Health Insurance	--	--	44,554,848	17.0	45,306,407*	17.2*	46,821,118*	17.7*	45,983,598*	17.3*
Median Household Income	\$55,039	--	\$54,349*	--	\$52,660*	--	\$51,625*	--	\$50,502*	--

Arkansas

	2007		2008		2009		2010		2011	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Poverty	492,052	17.9	480,551	17.3	527,378*	18.8*	534,898	18.8	555,876	19.5
Extreme Poverty	178,837	6.5	190,965	6.9	215,636*	7.7*	221,777	7.8	226,213	7.9
Low Income	626,278	22.7	672,178*	24.2*	645,569	23.0*	669,420	23.6	683,665	23.9
Child Poverty	174,108	25.4	168,877	24.6	186,751*	26.9*	188,742	27.2	193,010	27.7
No Health Insurance	--	--	502,163	20.8	480,463*	19.7*	499,627*	20.3	491,401	19.9
Median Household Income	\$41,365	--	\$40,546	--	\$39,660	--	\$39,515	--	\$38,758	--

*Indicates that the change from the preceding year in the table is statistically significant; child poverty reflects children related to their head of household; uninsured rate reflects only those ages 0 to 64.

Measuring Poverty

Official poverty data are based on the federal poverty thresholds, which are used to determine poverty status. The measure is not geographically specific and does not reflect what it takes for families to make ends meet.

2011 Federal Poverty Thresholds

Family Size	Poverty Threshold
1	\$11,484
2	\$14,657
3	\$17,916
4	\$23,021

What does it really take to make ends meet?

Far more people struggle to make ends meet than the official poverty data suggest. Most experts agree that it takes around twice as much income as the federal poverty threshold for families to get by and meet their most basic needs.

All data are derived from the U.S. Census Bureau's *American Community Survey* 1-year estimates program. The American Community Survey released estimates on 2011 income, poverty, and health insurance coverage, which are the most current data available for geographies with populations over 65,000. For more information on the American Community Survey, visit www.census.gov/acs/www/. Statistical significance refers to the probability that the observed changes are "true" rather than the result of an error in sampling or estimation. Data included here are statistically significant at the 90th percentile. For more information on the Illinois Self-Sufficiency Standard, visit <http://www.heartlandalliance.org/research/research-illinois-self-sufficiency-standard/>.

The Social IMPACT Research Center (IMPACT) is a nonprofit organization that investigates today's most pressing social issues and solutions to inform and equip those working toward a just global society. IMPACT, a program of Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights, provides research, policy analysis, consulting, technical assistance, communications, and coalition building to projects in Illinois, the Midwest, and nationally. Visit www.heartlandalliance.org/research to learn more.