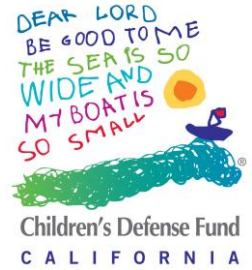


Child Poverty in California 2016

Data from the U.S. Census Bureau Official Poverty Measure



September 14, 2017

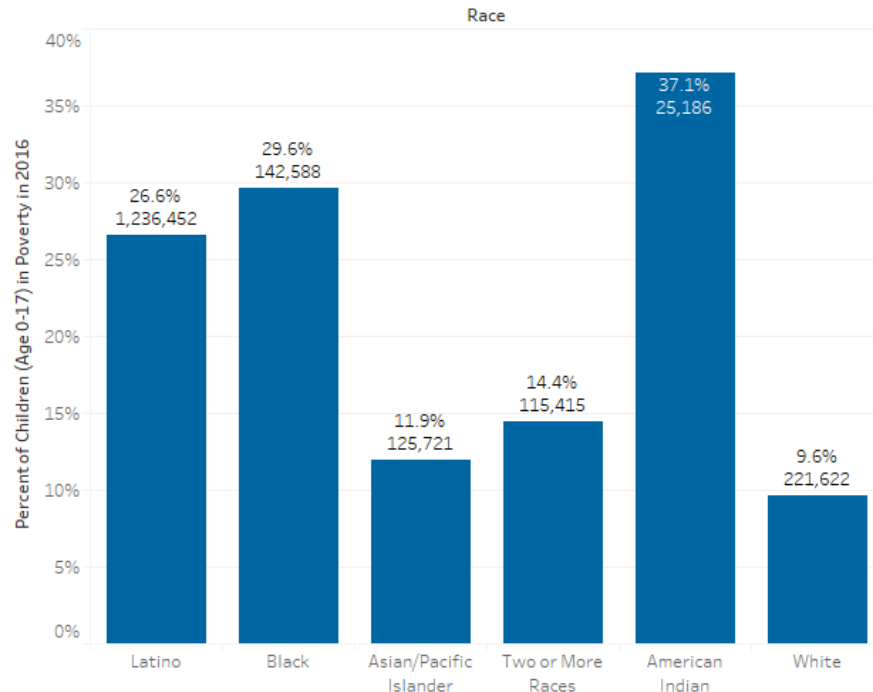
Poverty data released by the U.S. Census Bureau reveal 14.1 million children in the United States lived in poverty in 2016. **California had the largest number of poor children of any state in the nation.**

The data below are based on the U.S. Census Bureau's official poverty measure. An alternative Census measure, the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM), suggests that these figures substantially understate how many children face economic hardship in California due to the state's high cost of living.

- 1,785,347 California children lived in poverty in 2016.
- The child poverty rate in California was 19.9% in 2016.
- This represents a decline from 2015 when 1,901,505 (21.2%) children lived in poverty.
- The youngest children have the highest poverty rates, at the time of greatest brain development. 20.7% children under age six in California lived in poverty in 2016.
- 723,923 (8.1%) children in California lived in deep poverty in 2016.
- Poverty is defined as an annual income below \$24,563 for an average family of four, or less than \$2,047 a month or \$ 67.30 a day. Deep poverty is half of that level.

Poverty Disproportionately Impacts Children of Color

Child Poverty in California by Race/Ethnicity, 2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates. Table B17020. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund-California.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates