

Herkimer Countyⁱ

Child Poverty in New York



Pre-pandemic data indicates that one in five children in New York — nearly 792,000 children — live in poverty,ⁱⁱ with our 15th Congressional district holding the nation's highest child poverty rate. Impoverished children suffer worse health outcomes in many indicators, including increased incidence of infant mortality, low birth weight, asthma, elevated blood lead levels and obesity. Children who grow up poor are also more likely to become incarcerated, experience parental incarceration and become poor adults. *Child poverty in New York is an urgent crisis, costing our State approximately \$55,102,000,000 every year.*

Child Poverty in Herkimer Countyⁱⁱⁱ

- **2,532** children live in poverty in Herkimer County.
 - **20 percent** of children in the county live below the poverty line, on par with New York State's overall poverty rate of **20 percent**.



Cost of Child Poverty in Herkimer County

- The annual cost of child poverty in the United States is estimated to be \$1.03 trillion, or around \$69,581 per child.^{iv} The cost of child poverty includes:
 - Increased health costs
 - Reduced earnings
 - Increased costs associated with homelessness
 - Increased costs associated with child welfare
 - Increased criminal justice costs
- Assuming that the per child cost of child poverty in Herkimer County is comparable to the per child cost of child poverty in the United States, CDF-NY estimates that the annual cost of child poverty in Herkimer County is around **\$176,000,000**.^v

ⁱ Due to this county's demographic characteristics and concerns surrounding [undercounting in the American Community Survey](#), data for certain racial and ethnic groups is not included in this profile so as not to inaccurately describe the circumstances of children in the county.

ⁱⁱ [U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Detailed Tables. Table B17020: Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months by Age.](#)

ⁱⁱⁱ [U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Detailed Tables. Table S1701: Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months.](#)

^{iv} [Mclaughlin, Michael, and Mark R Rank. "Estimating the Economic Cost of Childhood Poverty in the United States." *Social Work Research* 42, no. 2 \(2018\): 73–83. \[https://openscholarship.wustl.edu/csd_research/836/\]\(https://openscholarship.wustl.edu/csd_research/836/\).](#)

^v [Mclaughlin, Michael, and Mark R Rank. "Estimating the Economic Cost of Childhood Poverty in the United States." *Social Work Research* 42, no. 2 \(2018\): 73–83. \[https://openscholarship.wustl.edu/csd_research/836/\]\(https://openscholarship.wustl.edu/csd_research/836/\).](#)