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Minimum Wage

In all over the world there's different incomes and different lifestyles. We have people that are living on **less than \$1** a day , then we got people living on \$10 a day and others on \$100 a day and it goes on and on. In this life , society is broken into social classes , we usually just mention three: high class , middle class and low class . But if we want to be technical about it , there's actually six especially in the United states:

Upper class

New money

Middle class

Working class

Working poor

Poverty level

The majority of us are in between or in working class and working poor. There some of us that are fortunate enough to be in the working class but not as much people are in the social class, but that's as high as it gets and it's still not enough. The **Upper Class**, which makes up about one percent of the U.S. population, generally consists of those with

inherited wealth (old money). Most people part of the upper class may also have a recognizable family name, such as Rockefeller, DuPont, or Kennedy. These people might work but they don't rely on the job, that's the difference . "The working class comprises **between 30% and 35%** of the population, roughly the same percentages as the lower middle class." So that's about 65-70% of people in the united states, thats the majority of the population in this country. "Current estimates on poverty in the U.S. According to the Census Bureau, **18.5 million** people reported deep poverty, which means a household income below 50 percent of their 2017 poverty threshold. These individuals represented an estimated **5.7 percent** of all Americans and **46.7 percent** of those in poverty." (Semega, J; Fontenot, KR; Kollar, MA. [Income and Poverty in the United States: 2017](#). Census Bureau, September 2018.) The people in the working class and working poor are people that live paycheck after paycheck , they don't live they **survive**. Little over a half of the population struggle financially , even with minimum wage, minimum wage is basically "the lowest remuneration that employers can legally pay their workers," that simply means i's the lowest they can pay you. So when the minimum wage went up , you would think that would be better for the employees, but it didn't change things much.

Population Below Poverty Level by U.S. State

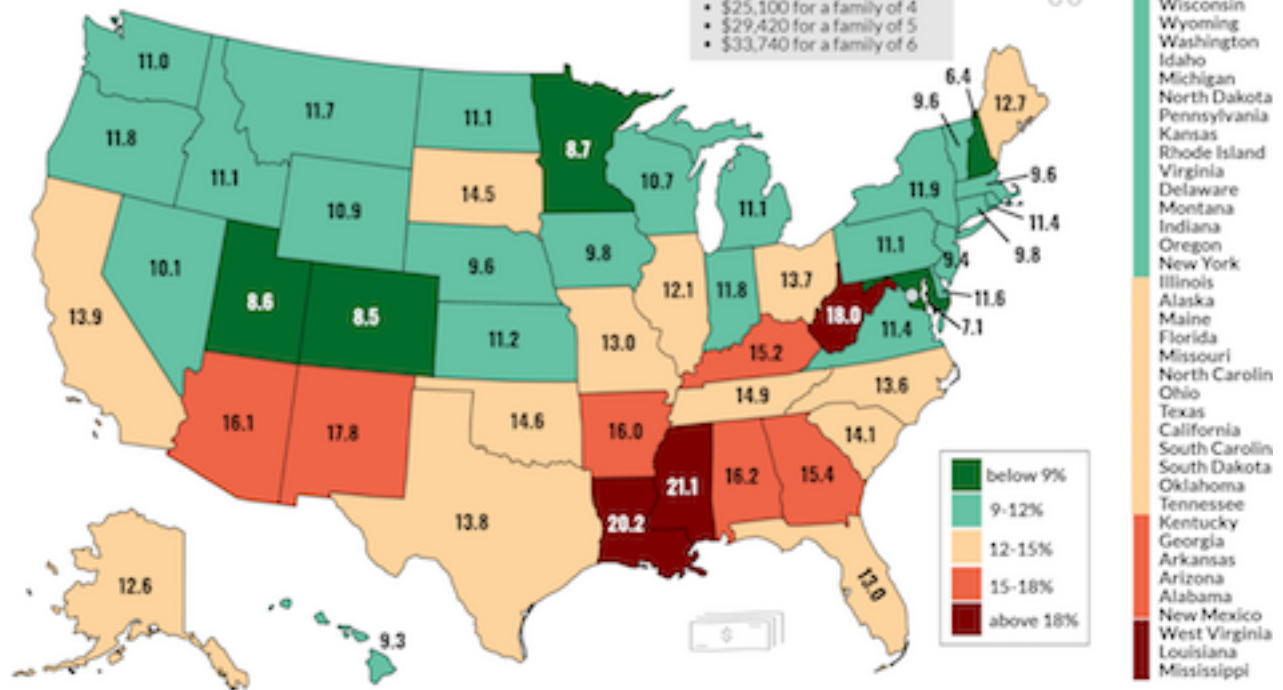
factsmaps.com

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, 2016

The poverty rate is the portion of the population with income below the government's official poverty level, which is the same nationwide but is adjusted each year for inflation.

Federal Poverty Level (FPL) in 2018:

- \$12,140 for individuals
- \$16,460 for a family of 2
- \$20,780 for a family of 3
- \$25,100 for a family of 4
- \$29,420 for a family of 5
- \$33,740 for a family of 6



"The official poverty rate is 12.3 percent, based on the U.S. Census Bureau's 2017 estimates. That year, an estimated 39.7 million Americans lived in poverty according to the official measure. According to supplemental poverty measure, the poverty rate was 13.9 percent."