Economic Instability in Minnesota

491,782 Minnesotans (including 140,103 children under age 18) live in households that are below the federal poverty threshold.*

*$21,720 for a family of three in 2020.

"Every week we receive requests to help with groceries, diapers, rent, and heating bills. In most cases, these families are working but not making a living wage. The need is larger than the combined efforts of churches and existing social services can address."

~ Rev. Brenda North, Detroit Lakes

Poverty rates for Minnesotans of color are 3 - 4 times greater than those of white Minnesotans

Poverty rates for Minnesotans with disabilities are 2+ times greater than those of Minnesotans without a disability

"I therefore command you, ‘Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.’"

- Deuteronomy 15:11

Population and Poverty Data from the US Census Bureau (2019)
Free and Reduced Lunch Data from the Minnesota Department of Health (2017-18 school year)
CCAP data from the Minnesota Department of Human Services (February 2020)
Housing Data from US Census, American Community Survey (2017); Minnesota Housing Partnership State of the State’s Housing Report (2019)

Becker County

Population: 34,423
Households in Poverty: 10.2% (down from 11.1% in 2000)
Children K-12 Receiving Free/Reduced Lunch: 39.1%
Number of Children in Child Care Assistance Program: 131
Cost-burdened* Renter Households: 39%
Severally Cost-burdened* Renter Households: 21%
"Cost-burdened households pay more than 30% of income for housing. Severely cost-burdened households pay more than 50%.

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