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.

“One does not need to look far to find someone in need. I see this especially in the need at our local food pantries.”

~ Rev. Karen Finnegan, Ada

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.

Pennington County

Population: 14,119
Households in Poverty: 9.8% (up from 8.9% in 2000)
Children Receiving Free/Reduced Lunch: 39.2%
Number of Children in Child Care Assistance Program: 22
Cost-burdened* Renter Households: 30%
Severely Cost-burdened* Renter Households: 14%

“Cost-burdened households pay more than 30% of income for housing. Severely cost-burdened households pay more than 50%.”

“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)

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