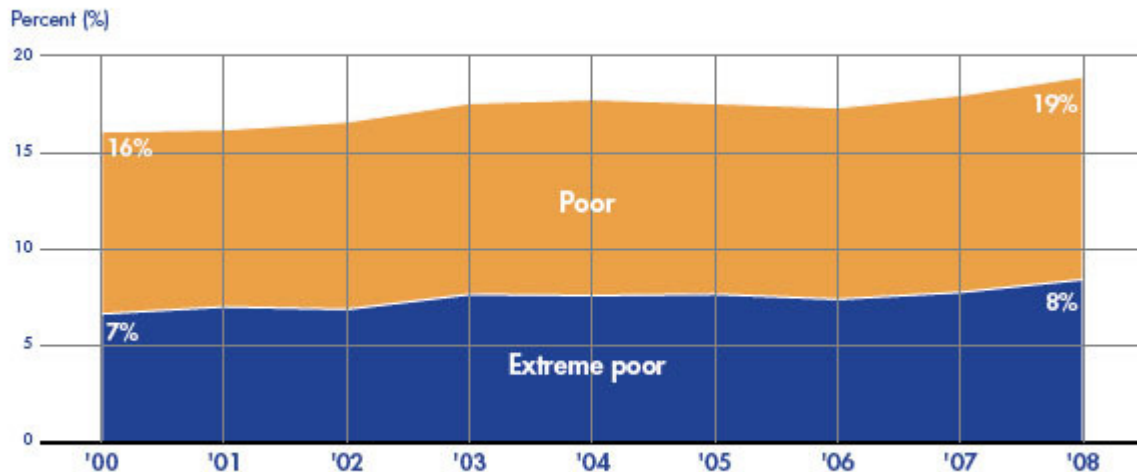


# Children & Poverty

Newburyport (see Education also)

- **Children in poverty FPL:** 7.5% (2008 was 5.6%)
- **2010 students in poverty:** 189 (8.3%)
- US has highest child poverty rate of any industrialized nation.
- Children are the largest population of poor in the nation.
- More than half of families with children are asset poor.
- Families need an income of twice the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to make ends meet.
- 19% of children live below the FPL (14 million children).
- 41% of children live in families below 200% of FPL = 29 million children (2008).
- 8% of children live in extreme poverty (6.2 million)
- Between 2000 and 2008 children living in poverty increased by 21% = 2.5 million more children.
- Child poverty by race: Black 35%, Hispanic 31%, American Indian 31%, Asian 15%, White 11%
- Child poverty by age: under six 22%, over six 18%.
- 17% of poor children don't have health insurance.
- DC has the highest child poverty rate in the nation.
- 30% of children live with single mothers and single parents are 5 times more likely to live in poverty.
- Childhood poverty is estimated to cost the United States 500 billion in lost productivity each year, or 4% of GDP.
- Parental reading to children: 45% of poor children read to compared to 78% of non-poor children. Those read to have a vocabulary 2 months ahead of peers, and children who go to libraries were 2.5 months ahead.
- Teen birth rate increased in 41 states (2008).
- Half of all US children will eat meals paid for by food stamps at some point in their childhood.
- Study by the American Medical Association's Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine concluded that "American children face the highest levels of poverty and social deprivation of any children growing up in Western developed nations, and they have the flimsiest social safety net to fall back on."
- UNICEF report on child health found the US ranked second to last of industrialized nations. The report suggests that absolute wealth isn't necessarily a guarantor of poverty alleviation or a measure for indicators such as child well-being, and factors such as inequality are also important.

## Children living in poor and extreme poor families, 2000–2008



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Who Are America's Poor Children?: The Official Story