Poverty in Rural America

Approximately 45 million Americans, or 15 percent of the population, had incomes below the official poverty rate in 2012. In rural America, the poverty rate is above 17 percent with more than 10 million people living in poverty.

![Map of Poverty in the United States, 2012](image)

**Poverty in 1960**

- Rural
- Rural Female Headed with Children

**Poverty in 1980**

- Rural
- Rural Female Headed with Children

**Poverty in 2000**

- Rural
- Rural Female Headed with Children

**Poverty in 2012**

- U.S.
- Rural
- Rural with Children
- Rural Female Headed with Children

### Poverty in the U.S. by Residence, 1960-2013

- **Poverty in the United States, 2012**: Approximately 45 million Americans, or 15 percent of the population, had incomes below the official poverty rate in 2012. In rural America, the poverty rate is above 17 percent with more than 10 million people living in poverty.

### Poverty by Location and Family Status, 2012

- **Nearly Half of Rural Families Headed by Single Mothers Live Below the Poverty Line**

### Poverty by Race & Ethnicity

- **The Majority of Rural People in Poverty are White, Not Hispanic**

### Poverty by Gender

- **Nearly Half of Rural Families Headed by Single Mothers Live Below the Poverty Line**

- **Rural Female Headed with Children**: 47%