

Poverty isn't a **LINE**.  
It's a **TIGHT KNOT** of social maladies.

Matthew Desmond

## POVERTY, BY AMERICA

# MISSISSIPPI

**RED FLAG**

The highest poverty rate in the nation

MISSISSIPPI		NATIONAL	
<b>EDUCATION</b>			
Preschool enrollment:	<b>53.2 %</b>	48 %	
High school graduation gap: <i>(between high- and low-income)</i>	<b>8 %</b>	11.5 %	
Avg. student loan debt:	<b>\$37K</b>	\$43K	

HEALTH			
Uninsured <i>(medical)</i> :	<b>12.9 %</b>	9.2 %	
SNAP recipients: <i>(food stamps)</i>	<b>1 in 7</b>	1 in 9	
SNAP per household member <i>(monthly)</i> :	<b>\$120</b>	\$121	

FINANCE			
Poverty rate:	<b>18.7 %</b>	11.9 %	
Child poverty rate:	<b>26 %</b>	16 %	
Minimum wage:	<b>\$7.25</b>	\$7.25	
Median income:	<b>\$46.6K</b>	\$70.7K	
Prison min. wage:	<b>\$0–\$1.30</b>	\$0.14–\$1.41	
Unbanked households:	<b>12.8 %</b>	5.4 %	

HOUSING			
Student homelessness:	<b>1.5 %</b>	2.7 %	
Eviction filing rate:	<b>14.7 %</b>	7.8 %	
Avg. housing voucher wait list time:	<b>30 mos.</b>	28 mos.	
Renters paying 30%+ income on rent:	<b>49.3 %</b>	49.6 %	

CONSIDER THESE SELECT

## ANTIPOVERTY POLICIES

DOES YOUR STATE...

have expanded Medicaid coverage for additional populations? **✗**

protect housing voucher holders from discrimination? **✗**

prohibit or highly regulate payday lending? **✗**

spend above the national average of its TANF funds on basic assistance? **✗**

have a progressive tax rate? **✗**

## JOIN THE FIGHT ANTIPOVERTY ORGANIZATIONS

[Mississippi United to End Homelessness](#)

[Mercy Housing and Human Development](#)

[Mississippi Center for Justice](#)

[Housing Education and Economic Development](#)

[Wingard Home Ministry](#)



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