

**Percent of Population Below Poverty Level, 2001**  
**Population for Whom Poverty Status is Determined**  
**Top 10 Nationwide and Florida Counties**

Rank	County	Median	Lower Bound	Upper Bound
1	Cameron County, TX	32.6	27.8	37.4
2	Hidalgo County, TX	32.1	27.8	36.4
3	Bronx County, NY	29.4	28.4	30.4
4	El Paso County, TX	26.2	22.7	29.7
5	St. Louis city, MO	24.2	20.4	28
6	Orleans Parish, LA	24.1	20.6	27.6
7	Tulare County, CA	23.4	21.6	25.2
8	Philadelphia County, PA	23.2	21.2	25.2
9	Baltimore city, MD	23	19.7	26.3
10	Mobile County, AL	21.5	18.2	24.8
<b>17</b>	<b>Miami-Dade County, FL</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>20</b>
24	Escambia County, FL	17.3	14	20.6
26	Polk County, FL	16.9	13.8	20
66	Hillsborough County, FL	12.7	10.7	14.7
70	Pinellas County, FL	12.3	10.3	14.3
77	Manatee County, FL	11.6	7.8	15.4
81	Broward County, FL	11.5	10.8	12.2
83	Volusia County, FL	11.4	8.6	14.2
92	Orange County, FL	11	9	13
102	Brevard County, FL	10.7	8.2	13.2
109	Sarasota County, FL	10.2	7.1	13.3
110	Pasco County, FL	10.1	8	12.2
112	Palm Beach County, FL	10	8.5	11.5
129	Lee County, FL	9.1	7.1	11.1
142	Duval County, FL	8.8	7.3	10.3
162	Seminole County, FL	7	5	9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2001 Supplementary Survey, Ranking Tables.

**Notes:**

The 2001 Supplementary Survey used the same questionnaire and methods developed for the American Community Survey (ACS) to collect demographic, social, economic, and housing data from a national sample of 700,000 households in 1,203 counties. (Group quarters were not included in the sample.) The Ranking Tables were created by ACS to provide a quick visual representation of comparative data on key issues for the top 220 counties nationwide. The margin of error, represented by the lower and upper bounds of the 90-percent confidence interval. The confidence interval gives a range of values likely to include the population true value. The smaller the confidence interval the more precise the estimate of the characteristic of interest.

To determine a person's poverty status, ACS compared the person's total family income in the last twelve months with the poverty threshold appropriate for that person's family size and composition (see table below). If the total income of that person's family is less than the threshold appropriate for that family, then the person is considered poor or "below the poverty level", together with every member of his or her family. If a person is not living with anyone related by birth, marriage, or adoption, then the person's own income is compared with his or her poverty threshold. The total number of people below the poverty level was the sum of people in families and the number of unrelated individuals with incomes in the last twelve months below the poverty level.