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# Child Poverty as an Educational Issue

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# Child Poverty as an Educational Issue

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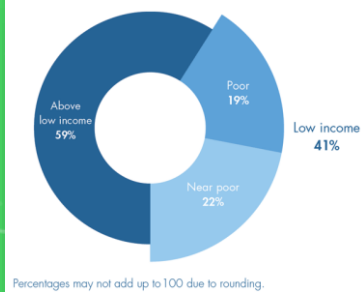
"1 kid in 5 lives in poverty compared to 1 in 8 adults - that's 15.5 million impoverished kids in the U.S."  
- U.S. Census Bureau

## Objectives:

- How are children affected by poverty?
- How do children of low-income households perform in school?
- Does poverty affect children as much as it affects adults?

How many children under age 18 live in low-income families in the United States?

Figure 1: Children by family income, 2016



Poverty is an educational issue because it affects children's...

Physical development

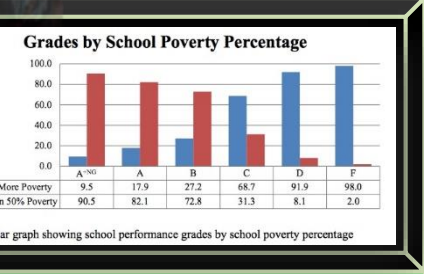
- Inadequate food, which can lead to food insecurity or hunger
- Lack of access to healthy foods and areas for play or sports which can lead to childhood obesity
- Chronic conditions such as asthma
- Serious medical illnesses such as anemia and pneumonia

Emotional development

- Children may:
  - Feel alienated from society
  - Suffer insecurities because of their socioeconomic status
  - Fear the consequences of their poverty
  - Endure feelings of powerlessness
  - Be angry at society's inability to aid in their struggles

Cognitive development

- Children may experience:
  - Chronic stress
  - Reduction in attentional control
  - Increase in impulsivity
  - Worsened working memory
  - Cognitive impairment



U.S. Ranked High in Child Poverty Compared to Other Developed Countries

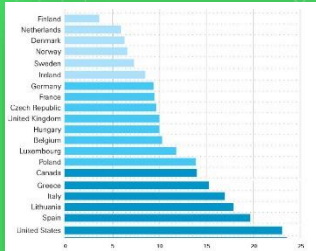
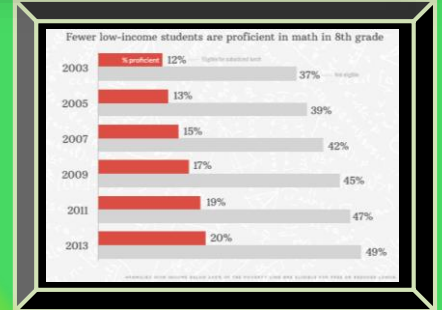
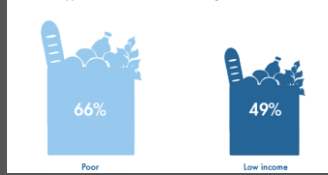


Figure 16: Low-income children and poor children who receive support from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, 2016



Solutions for low-income families to receive help through:

- Public assistance programs
- Food and shelter programs
- Social Security Income
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)