Poverty Tabulations: 2000-2016

Institute for Urban Policy Research – Research Brief

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Overall Poverty

The tables below present data from the 2016 American Communities Survey for cities whose 2000 population was 1 million or more. For overall poverty, four tables are presented:¹

- Relative Change in Poverty Rate
 This table expresses the difference between the 2016 and 2000 poverty rates as a percentage of the 2000 rate.

 Absolute Change in Poverty Rate
- This table expresses the difference between the 2016 and 2000 poverty rates in actual percentage points. 3. Relative Change in Poor Population
- This table expresses the difference between the numbers of person living in poverty in 2000 and 2016 as a percentage of the 2000 number.
- 4. Change in Poverty Population Relative to Total Population This table expresses the ratio between the relative change in poverty population and relative change in total population. Values in excess of +1 indicate poverty populations that grew faster than the total population, while values below -1 indicate poverty populations that fell faster than the total population. Ratios are not presented in cases where the poor population and total population changed in different directions.

In summary, Dallas' 2016 poverty rate of 19.4% was fifth highest among the nine cities whose populations were 1 million or more. The 1.6 percentage point increase from 2000 was the fourth largest increase among these cities. It represented a relative increase of 9.2%, ranking third among these cities. The number of persons living in poverty grew by 22%, the fourth largest growth among the poor in the 9 cities; the poor population grew at a rate almost 2 times the rate of growth for the general population, ranking third highest among the nine cities.

Ranked by Percent Change (Relative Change) in Poverty Rate 2000-2016

City	2000	2016	Percent Change
Phoenix	15.8%	20.3%	28.8%
Philadelphia	22.9%	25.7%	12.3%
Dallas (3 rd)	17.8%	19.4%	9.2%
Houston	19.2%	20.8%	8.7%
San Antonio	17.3%	18.5%	7.2%
Chicago	19.6%	19.1%	-2.7%
San Diego	14.6%	13.1%	-10.1%
New York	21.2%	18.9%	-11.1%
Los Angeles	22.1%	19.5%	-11.8%

Ranked by Percentage Point Change (Absolute Change) in Poverty Rate 2000-2016

City	2000	2016	Pct. Point Change
Phoenix	15.8%	20.3%	4.5%
Philadelphia	22.9%	25.7%	2.8%
Houston	19.2%	20.8%	1.7%
Dallas (4 th)	17.8%	19.4%	1.6%
San Antonio	17.3%	18.5%	1.2%
Chicago	19.6%	19.1%	-0.5%
San Diego	14.6%	13.1%	-1.5%
New York	21.2%	18.9%	-2.4%
Los Angeles	22.1%	19.5%	-2.6%

Ranked by Percent Change (Relative Change) in Poor Population 2000-2016

City	2000	2016	Pct. Change
Phoenix	205,320	324,498	58.0%
San Antonio	193,731	271,771	40.3%
Houston	369,045	473,620	28.3%
Dallas (4 th)	207,493	253,219	22.0%
Philadelphia	336,177	391,653	16.5%
San Diego	172527	180242	4.5%
Los Angeles	801,050	762,006	-4.9%
New York	1,668,938	1,586,197	-5.0%
Chicago	556,791	505,365	-9.2%

Ranked by Ratio of Poor Population Growth to Total Population Growth 2000-2016

City	Poor Pop.	Total Pop.	Ratio
	2000-16	2000-16	
Philadelphia	16.5%	3.8%	4.386
Phoenix	58.0%	22.7%	2.553
Dallas (3 rd)	22.0%	11.7%	1.879
Houston	28.3%	18.0%	1.573
San Antonio	40.3%	30.9%	1.306
San Diego	4.5%	16.2%	0.276
Chicago	-9.2%	-6.8%	-1.366
Los Angeles	-4.9%	7.9%	-N/A
New York	-5.0%	6.9%	-N/A

¹ Source: IUPR Computation and Analysis of 2000 Census Data (2000 Decennial Census Summary File 3, Table QT-P34) and 2016 Census Data (2016 American Communities Survey 1-Year Tabulations, Table S1701).

Child Poverty Tabulations: 2000-2016

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Child Poverty

The tables below present data from the 2016 American Communities Survey for cities whose 2000 population was 1 million or more. For overall poverty, four tables are presented:²

- Relative Change in Child Poverty Rate
 This table expresses the difference between the 2016 and 2000 child poverty rates as a percentage of the 2000 rate.
- Absolute Change in Child Poverty Rate This table expresses the difference between the 2016 and 2000 child poverty rates in actual percentage points.
- Relative Change in Child Poverty Population
 This table expresses the difference between the numbers of children living in poverty in 2000 and 2016 as a percentage of the 2000 number.
- 4. Change in Child Poverty Population Relative to Total Child Population This table expresses the ratio between the relative change in child poverty population and relative change in total child population. Values in excess of +1 indicate poverty populations that grew faster than the total population, while values below -1 indicate poverty populations that fell faster than the total population. Ratios are not presented in cases where the poor population and total population changed in different directions.

In summary, Dallas' 2016 child poverty rate of 30.6% was fourth highest among the nine cities whose populations were 1 million or more. The 5 percentage point increase from 2000 was the fourth largest increase among these cities. It represented a relative increase of 19.7%, ranking third among these cities. The number of children living in poverty grew by 25.7%, the third largest growth of poor children in the nine cities; the child poverty population grew at a rate more than 5 times the rate of growth for the total child population, ranking highest among the nine cities.

Ranked by Percent Change (Relative Change) in Child Poverty Rate 2000-2016

City	2000	2016	Percent Change
Phoenix	21.5%	30.6%	42.1%
Houston	26.4%	32.8%	24.0%
Dallas (3 rd)	25.5%	30.6%	19.7%
Philadelphia	31.6%	37.3%	18.2%
San Antonio	24.6%	26.2%	6.5%
Chicago	28.5%	28.3%	-0.7%
Los Angeles	30.7%	28.5%	-7.0%
New York	30.3%	26.6%	-12.1%
San Diego	20.3%	15.5%	-23.9%

Ranked by Percent Change (Relative Change) in Child Poverty Population 2000-2016

City	2000	2016	Pct. Change
Phoenix	80,232	131,054	63.3%
Houston	139,487	189,345	35.7%
Dallas (3 rd)	79,045	99,384	25.7%
San Antonio	78,961	97,799	23.9%
Philadelphia	118,467	126,521	6.8%
New York	571,756	471,190	-17.6%
Los Angeles	294,029	233,096	-20.7%
Chicago	211,780	160,054	-24.4%
San Diego	58,046	42,743	-26.4%

Ranked by Percentage Point Change (Absolute Change) in Child Poverty Rate 2000-2016

City	2000	2016	Pct. Point Change
Phoenix	21.5%	30.6%	9.1%
Houston	26.4%	32.8%	6.3%
Philadelphia	31.6%	37.3%	5.7%
Dallas (4 th)	25.5%	30.6%	5.0%
San Antonio	24.6%	26.2%	1.6%
Chicago	28.5%	28.3%	-0.2%
Los Angeles	30.7%	28.5%	-2.2%
New York	30.3%	26.6%	-3.7%
San Diego	20.3%	15.5%	-4.8%

Ranked by Ratio of Child Poverty Population Growth to Total Child Population Growth 2000-2016

City	Poor Pop. 2000-16	Total Pop. 2000-16	Ratio
Dallas (1 st)	25.7%	5.0%	5.13
Phoenix	63.3%	14.9%	4.25
Houston	35.7%	9.4%	3.78
San Antonio	23.9%	16.3%	1.46
Chicago	-24.4%	-23.9%	-1.02
Los Angeles	-20.7%	-14.7%	-1.41
New York	-17.6%	-6.3%	-2.81
San Diego	-26.4%	-3.3%	-8.00
Philadelphia	6.8%	-9.6%	-N/A

² Source: IUPR Computation and Analysis of 2000 Census Data (2000 Decennial Census Summary File 3, Table QT-P34) and 2016 Census Data (2016 American Communities Survey 1-Year Tabulations, Table S1701).