



DEEP POVERTY & UNMET BASIC NEEDS

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS CALIFORNIA 2018

#TalkPoverty
#Children #CALeg
#TooLowToGrow
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DEEP POVERTY : WHAT IS IT & HOW MANY CHILDREN EXPERIENCE IT?

Deep poverty is defined as living in a household with a total cash income below 50 percent of its poverty threshold.

How Many Young Children Live in Deep Poverty?

In 2015, about 10% of children younger than six years old.

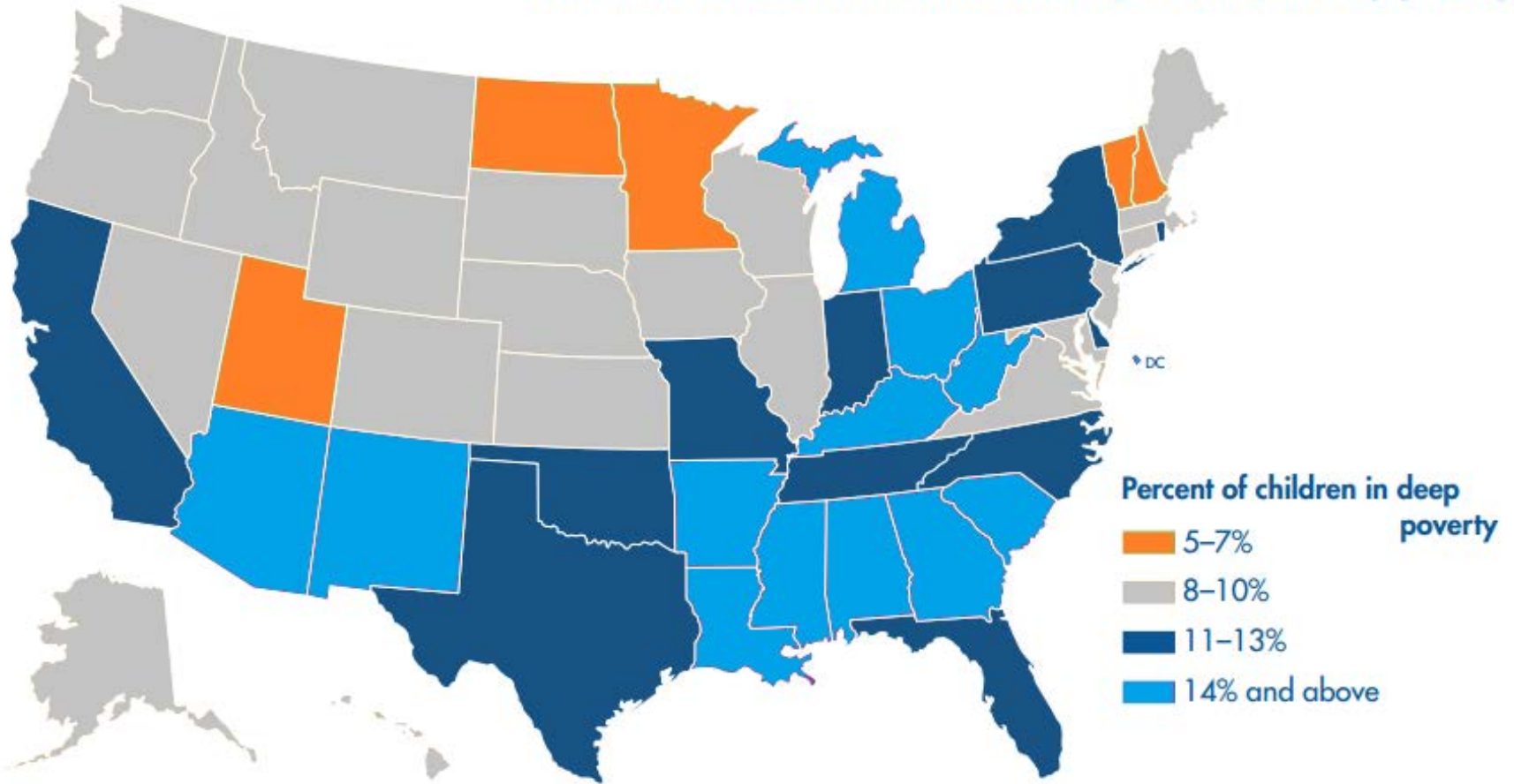
Does Race Impact Likelihood to Experience Deep Poverty?

Yes, Black & Hispanic Americans are most likely to experience deep poverty, with rates of 10.9 and 8.5 percent, respectively.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2015

DEEP POVERTY : WHAT IS IT & HOW MANY CHILDREN EXPERIENCE IT?

U.S. state variation in children under age 9 living in deep poverty



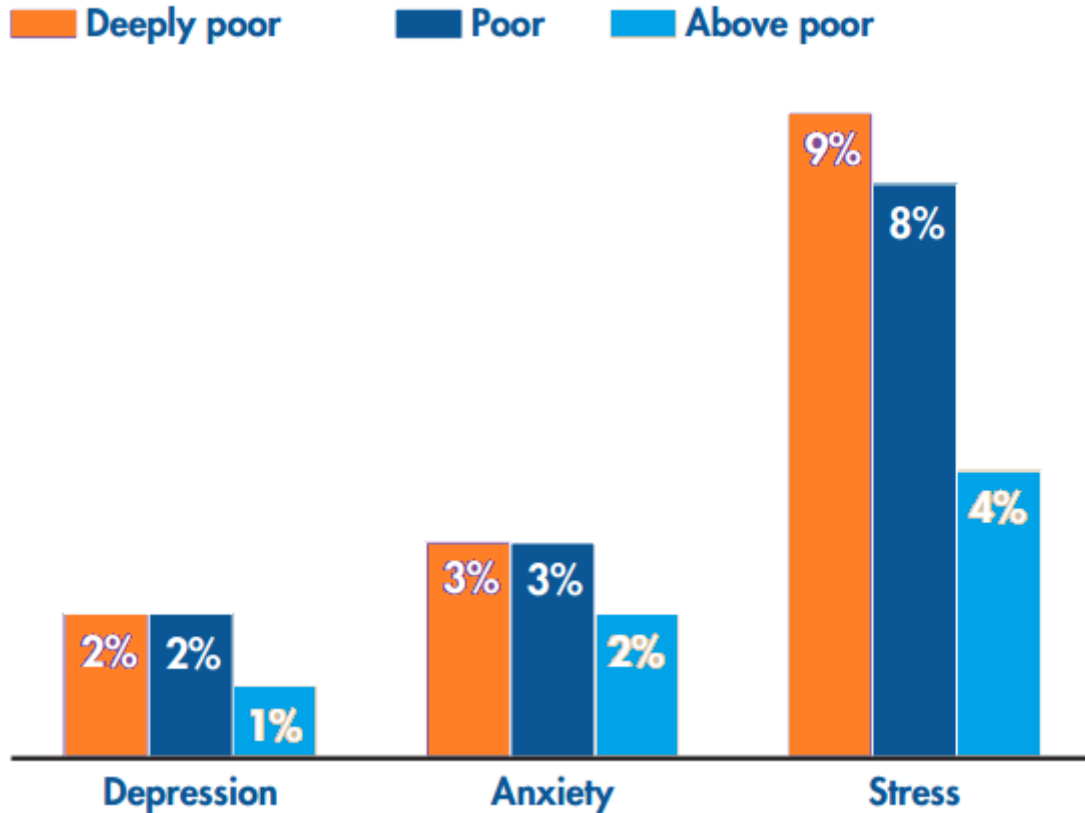
DEEP POVERTY : WHY IS IT SOMETHING WE SHOULD BE CONCERNED ABOUT?

Deep poverty mostly a chronic condition that persists generationally.

- About half of those in deep poverty are under 25 years of age.
- More than one-third are single mothers and their children.
- 3% of children spend at least half of childhood in deep poverty.
- Poverty during childhood has lasting consequences on health, development and education, which can lead to persistent poverty across generations.

DEEP POVERTY : WHAT IS IT & HOW MANY CHILDREN EXPERIENCE IT?

Child mental health by poverty status for children age 2-9*



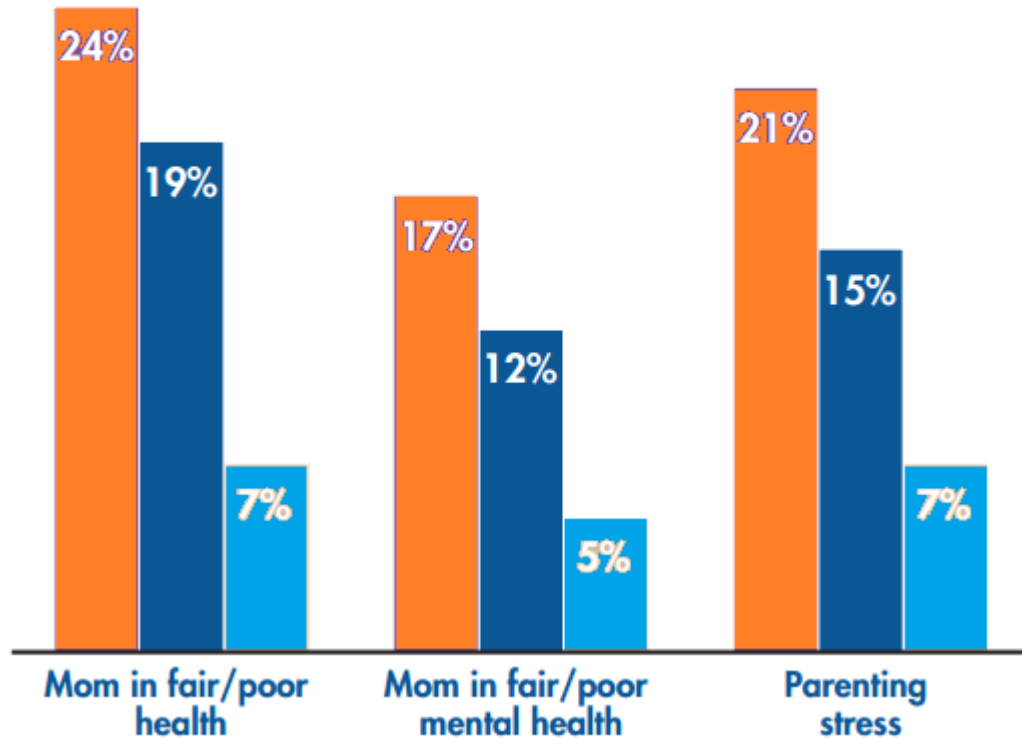
Children whose basic needs go unmet experience lifelong impacts on their development & wellbeing.

Source: The National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP)

DEEP POVERTY : WHAT IS IT & HOW MANY CHILDREN EXPERIENCE IT?

Maternal health, mental health, and parenting stress by poverty status for children 0-9

Deeply poor Poor Above poor



No one can tell the story of how unmet basic needs leads to poor maternal mental health and how poor maternal mental health impacts children better than social workers.

Source: The National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP)



WHICH FEDERAL PROGRAMS PROTECT AGAINST DEEP POVERTY?

Several federal programs help to protect against deep poverty.

- Temporary Aid to Needy Families / CalWORKs
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) / CalFresh
- Women, Infant and Children Program (WIC) & School Meals
- Housing & Urban Development (HUD) Assistance & Childcare
- Medicaid, Medicare & The Health Care Exchange
- Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC) and Wage & Work Protections



TANF OFFERS LESS PROTECTION AGAINST CHILDHOOD DEEP POVERTY

Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) - 2010

Lifted 24% of children who otherwise would have been in deep poverty

629,000
Children

Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) - 1995

Lifted 62% of children who otherwise would have been in deep poverty

2,210,000
Children

Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

TANF OFFERS LESS PROTECTION AGAINST CHILDHOOD DEEP POVERTYBUT WHY?

TANF Block Grants have remained stagnant despite 32% inflation over same time period.

States have prioritized the use of TANF Block Grants for non-grant assistance.

TANF Block Grant not responsive to recession, changes in the low-income hourly-wage jobs & rental market.



This would take federal law to change – TANF Reauthorization

WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE IN CALIFORNIA ?

According to U.S. Census Bureau's standard poverty measure, in 2013— 886,219 (9.8%) California children lived in deep poverty—below half of the poverty line.

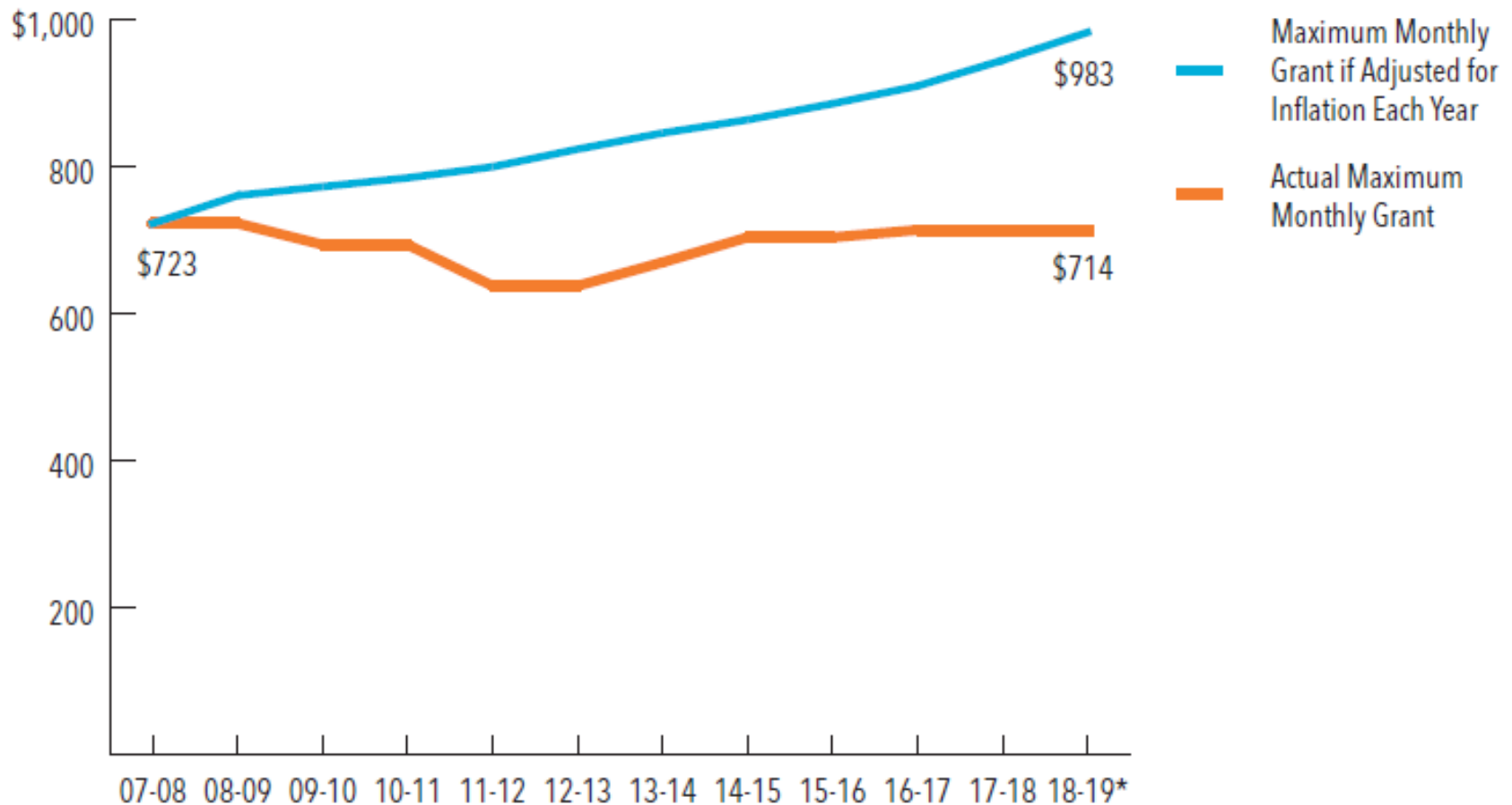
Absent a significant grant increase in the 2018-19 fiscal year, the CalWORKs grant will equal just 41.2% of the poverty line, leaving it below the deep-poverty line for the eleventh straight calendar year.



27% lower than in 2007-08

The CalWORKs Grant Has Lost More Than One-Quarter of Its Purchasing Power Since 2007-08

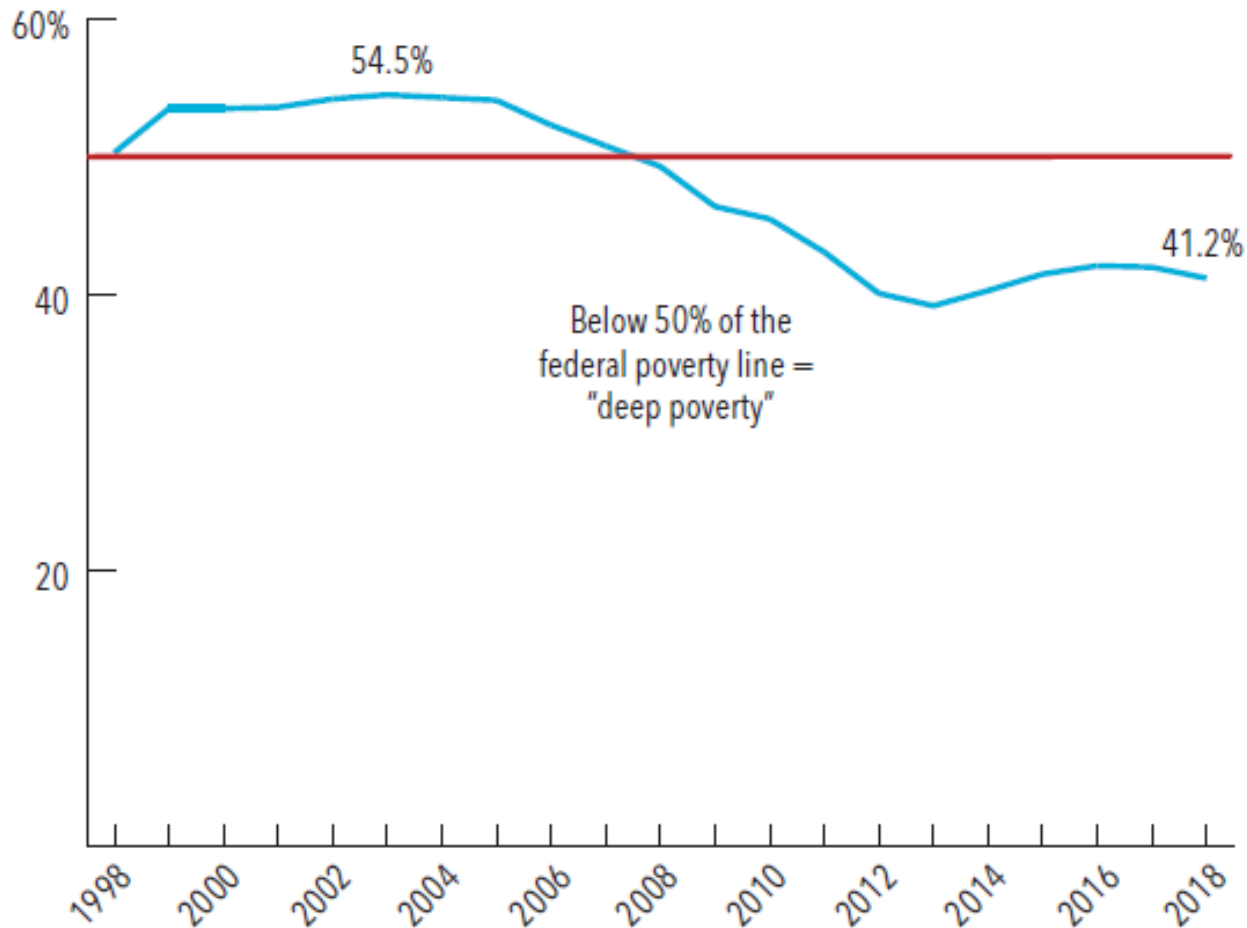
Maximum Monthly CalWORKs Grant for a Family of Three in a High-Cost County



Source: CA Budget & Policy Center <http://www.calbudgetcenter.org>

Without an Increase in 2018-19, CalWORKs Grants Will Be Below the Deep-Poverty Line for the Eleventh Straight Year

Annualized Maximum Grant for a Family of Three as a Percentage of the Federal Poverty Line



Source: CA Budget & Policy Center <http://www.calbudgetcenter.org>



WE CAN END CHILDHOOD DEEP POVERTY IN THE CALWORKS PROGRAM

SB 982 (Mitchell) would end childhood deep poverty in the CalWORKs Program.

1. There are approximately 800K CA children living in deep poverty.
2. The harm to children living in deep poverty is significant and has long-lasting consequences.
3. The CalWORKs program has potential to end deep poverty, but grants must be increased. SB 982 would achieve that.



THANK YOU!

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