

The Illinois Poverty Update is Here!

Our <http://action.heartlandalliance.org/site/R?i=oAeYiluVSi3iruqsSeSCCQ> 2018 Illinois Poverty Update has been released and our findings indicate that millions of people in Illinois are experiencing poverty or are on the cusp. Rooted in inequity, poverty prevents people from meeting basic needs, improving their quality of life, and creates barriers to opportunities including quality education, stable employment, affordable housing and safe neighborhoods.

The fact sheet sheds light on who is most likely to experience poverty in Illinois: Women, people of color, and children, who have the highest poverty rates.

“It’s clear that discriminatory practices, policies, and social structures contribute to highly disparate poverty rates for women—especially when they are members of other historically oppressed groups, such as people of color, trans people, and people with disabilities. We must dismantle policies that perpetuate gender and race poverty disparities.”

- Katie Buitrago, Director of Research at Heartland Alliance

The poverty update also found that:

- * Almost one-third of Illinoisans are poor or low income.
- * Women’s poverty rates are over 20 percent higher than men’s.
- * Certain gender and racial groups are much more likely to experience poverty than others: black women experience poverty at a rate 3.5 times higher than white men, while black men’s poverty rate is 3.2 times higher and Latina women’s is 2.5 times higher than white men.

For more findings, read the full fact sheet

<http://action.heartlandalliance.org/site/R?i=vF5OQdNIHHOqR7Upc8-Ovg> .

In addition to the Illinois Poverty Update, we have also released http://action.heartlandalliance.org/site/R?i=ZraJYTDysYr_jXOg8zGeFQ state legislative district poverty fact sheets. These releases are the first of a

series we will be publishing on poverty in Illinois this year. Local- and county-level databooks will be published this summer, and an in-depth exploration of the forces that contribute to gender-based poverty inequity will be released in the fall.

<<http://action.heartlandalliance.org/site/PixelServer?j=O02dSq2NIKdMJ1vjyxVVrA>>