Poverty isn’t a **line**. It’s a **tight knot** of social maladies.

**Matthew Desmond**

**POVERTY, BY AMERICA**

**MISSOURI**

**RED FLAG**

A 2.5-year wait list for housing vouchers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MISSOURI</th>
<th>NATIONAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preschool enrollment: 45.9 %</td>
<td>48 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduation gap: 12 %</td>
<td>11.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avg. student loan debt: $35.7K</td>
<td>$43K</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EDUCATION**

**HEALTH**

- Uninsured (medical): 10.1 % vs. 9.2 %
- SNAP recipients: 1 in 9 vs. 1 in 9
- SNAP per household member (monthly): $130 vs. $121

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FINANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poverty rate: 12.1 % vs. 11.9 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child poverty rate: 15.5 % vs. 16 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum wage: $11.15 vs. $7.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median income: $63.6K vs. $70.7K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prison min. wage: $0.05–$1.25 vs. $0.14–$1.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unbanked households: 6.2 % vs. 5.4 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HOUSING**

- Student homelessness: 3.7 % vs. 2.7 %
- Eviction filing rate: 5.7 % vs. 7.8 %
- Avg. housing voucher wait list time: 31 mos. vs. 28 mos.
- Renters paying 30%+ income on rent: 45 % vs. 49.6 %

**CONSIDER THESE SELECT ANTIPOVERTY POLICIES**

**DOES YOUR STATE...**

- have expanded Medicaid coverage for additional populations? **✓**
- protect housing voucher holders from discrimination? **✗**
- prohibit or highly regulate payday lending? **✗**
- spend above the national average of its TANF funds on basic assistance? **✗**
- have a progressive tax rate? **✗**

**JOIN THE FIGHT**

**ANTIPOVERTY ORGANIZATIONS**

- Empower Missouri
- Community Action Agency of St. Louis County
- Urban Strategies, Inc.
- Arch City Defenders
- Community Assistance Council

**LEARN MORE:** sites.prh.com/poverty-in-your-state-sources