

Poverty isn't a **LINE**.  
It's a **TIGHT KNOT** of social maladies.


Matthew Desmond

## POVERTY, BY AMERICA

TENNESSEE

RED FLAG

Last increased its minimum wage in 2009

TENNESSEE		NATIONAL	
 <b>EDUCATION</b>			
Preschool enrollment:	<b>39.3 %</b>		48 %
High school graduation gap: <i>(between high- and low-income)</i>	<b>10 %</b>		11.5 %
Avg. student loan debt:	<b>\$36.5K</b>		\$43K

HEALTH			
Uninsured <i>(medical)</i> :	<b>10.2 %</b>		9.2 %
SNAP recipients: <i>(food stamps)</i>	<b>1 in 8</b>		1 in 9
SNAP per household member <i>(monthly)</i> :	<b>\$131</b>		\$121


FINANCE			
Poverty rate:	<b>13.6 %</b>		11.9 %
Child poverty rate:	<b>18.4 %</b>		16 %
Minimum wage:	<b>\$7.25</b>		\$7.25
Median income:	<b>\$62.2K</b>		\$70.7K
Prison min. wage:	<b>\$0.17–\$0.75</b>		\$0.14–\$1.41
Unbanked households:	<b>8.1 %</b>		5.4 %


HOUSING			
Student homelessness:	<b>2 %</b>		2.7 %
Eviction filing rate:	<b>6.4 %</b>		7.8 %
Avg. housing voucher wait list time:	<b>26 mos.</b>		28 mos.
Renters paying 30%+ income on rent:	<b>47.3 %</b>		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

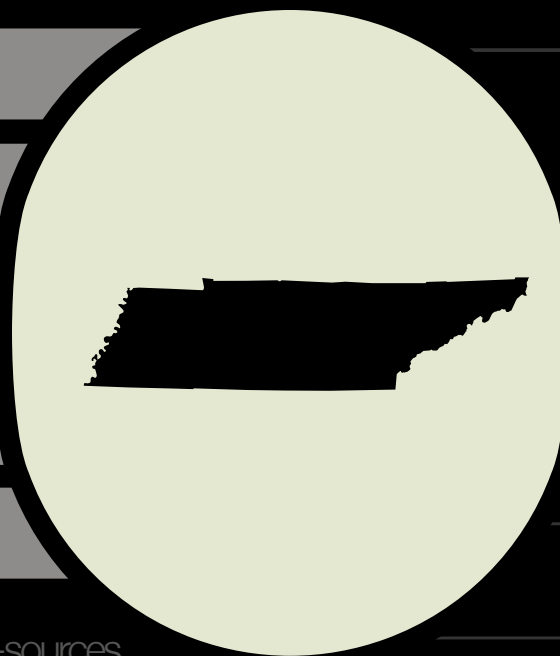
[Legal Aid of East Tennessee](#)

[Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands](#)

[Woodbine Community Organization](#)

[Tennessee Fair Housing Council](#)

[Chattanooga Regional Homeless Coalition](#)



LEARN MORE: [sites.prh.com/poverty-in-your-state-sources](https://sites.prh.com/poverty-in-your-state-sources)