

WHAT WOULD IT TAKE?

ALABAMA

NATIONAL
OVERALL RANK

44

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Domain Rank 44

Children in poverty 2017 25% or 265,000 children	Children whose parents lack secure employment 2017 31% or 336,000 children	Children living in households with a high housing cost burden 2017 24% or 263,000 children	Teens not in school and not working (16 - 19 year olds) 2017 9% or 24,000 children
To equal the U.S. average rate of 18%, Alabama must reduce the number of children in poverty by 67,975. To equal the #1 rate of 10%, Alabama must reduce the number of children in poverty by 155,542.	To equal the U.S. average rate of 27%, Alabama must reduce the number of children whose parents lack secure employment by 40,463. To equal the #1 rate of 19%, Alabama must reduce the number of children whose parents lack secure employment by 128,029.	At a rate of 24% (a difference of 76,320 fewer children), Alabama is better than the U.S. average rate of 31% in the number of children living in households with a high housing cost burden. To equal the #1 rate of 18%, Alabama must reduce the number of children living in households with a high housing cost burden by 65,975.	To equal the average rate of 7%, Alabama must reduce the number of teens not in school and not working by 6,147. To equal the #1 rate of 4%, Alabama must reduce the number of teens not in school and not working by 13,798.

EDUCATION

Domain Rank 38

Young children not in school 2015-2017 57% or 66,000 children	Fourth graders not proficient in reading* 2017 69% or 40,067	Eighth graders not proficient in math* 2017 79% or 43,347	High school students not graduating on time 2016-2017 11% or 6,301 students
To equal the U.S. average rate of 52%, Alabama must reduce the number of children ages 3 to 4 not attending preschool by 4,543. To equal the #1 rate of 25%, Alabama must reduce the number of children ages 3 to 4 not attending preschool by 36,454.	To equal the U.S. average rate of 65%, Alabama must reduce the number of fourth graders not proficient in reading by 2,323. To equal the #1 rate of 49%, Alabama must reduce the number of fourth graders not proficient in reading by 11,614.	To equal the U.S. average rate of 67%, Alabama must reduce the number of eighth graders not proficient in math by 6,584. To equal the #1 rate of 50%, Alabama must reduce the number of eighth graders not proficient in math by 15,912.	At a rate of 11% (a difference of 2,291 fewer students), Alabama is better than the U.S. average rate of 15% in the number of high school students not graduating on time. To equal the #1 rate of 9%, Alabama must reduce the number of high school students not graduating on time by 1,146.

HEALTH

Domain Rank 36

Low-birthweight babies 2017 10.3% or 6,038 babies	Children without health insurance 2017 3% or 36,000 children	Child and teen deaths per 100,000 2017 37 per 100,000 or 426 deaths	Teens who abuse alcohol or drugs 2016-2017 4% or 15,000 teens
To equal the U.S. average rate of 8.3%, Alabama must reduce the number of low-birthweight babies by 1,146. To equal the #1 rate of 6.2%, Alabama must reduce the number of low-birthweight babies by 2,384.	At a rate of 3% (a difference of 18,729 fewer children), Alabama is better than the U.S. average rate of 5% of children without health insurance. To equal the #1 rate of 1%, Alabama must reduce the number of children without health insurance by 25,054.	To equal the U.S. average rate of 26 per 100,000, Alabama must reduce the number of child and teen deaths by 124. To equal the #1 rate of 16 per 100,000, Alabama must reduce the number of child and teen deaths by 240.	At a rate of 4%, Alabama is equal to the U.S. average rate of teens who abuse alcohol or drugs. To equal the #1 rate of 3%, Alabama must reduce the number of teens who abuse alcohol or drugs by 3,709.



FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

Domain Rank 44

Children in single-parent families 2017 39% or 399,000 children	Children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma 2017 12% or 128,000 children	Children living in high-poverty areas 2013-2017 15% or 168,000 children	Teen births per 1,000 2017 27 per 1,000 or 4,241 births
To equal the U.S. average rate of 34%, Alabama must reduce the number of children in single-parent families by 26,842. To equal the #1 rate of 19%, Alabama must reduce the number of children in single-parent families by 191,029.	At a rate of 12% (a difference of 14,296 fewer children), Alabama is better than the U.S. average rate of 13% in the number of children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma. To equal the #1 rate of 4%, Alabama must reduce the number of children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma by 84,217.	To equal the U.S. average rate of 12%, Alabama must reduce the number of children living in high-poverty areas by 36,650. To equal the #1 rate of 0.5%, Alabama must reduce the number of children living in high-poverty areas by 162,527.	To equal the U.S. average rate of 19 per 1,000, Alabama must reduce the number of teen births by 1,115. To equal the #1 rate of 8 per 1,000, Alabama must reduce the number of teen births by 2,925.

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">ECONOMIC WELL-BEING</p>	<p>Children in poverty is the share of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level. The federal poverty definition consists of a series of thresholds based on family size and composition. In calendar year 2018, a family of two adults and two children fell in the “poverty” category if their annual income fell below \$25,465. Poverty status is not determined for people in military barracks, institutional quarters, or for unrelated individuals under age 15 (such as foster children). The data are based on income received in the 12 months prior to the survey. <i>SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey, 2002 through 2018 American Community Survey.</i></p> <p>Children whose parents lack secure employment is the share of all children under age 18 living in families where no parent has regular, full-time employment. For children living in single-parent families, this means the resident parent did not work at least 35 hours per week, at least 50 weeks in the 12 months prior to the survey. For children living in married-couple families, this means neither parent worked at least 35 hours per week, at least 50 weeks in the 12 months prior to the survey. Children living with neither parent were listed as not having secure parental employment because those children are likely to be economically vulnerable. Children under age 18 who are householders, spouses of householders, or unmarried partners of householders were excluded from this analysis. This measure is very similar to “Secure Parental Employment,” used by the Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics in its publication America’s Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being. <i>Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 - 2017 American Community Survey.</i></p> <p>Children living in households with a high housing cost burden is the share of children living in households where more than 30 percent of the monthly income was spent on rent, mortgage payments, taxes, insurance, and/or related expenses. According to HUD, households that must allocate more than 30 percent of their income to housing expenses are less likely to have enough resources for food, clothing, medical care or other needs. <i>Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 through 2017 American Community Survey.</i></p> <p>Teens not in school and not working is teenagers between age 16 and 19 who are not enrolled in school (full- or part-time) and not employed (full- or part-time). This measure is sometimes referred to as “Idle Teens” or “Disconnected Youth.” <i>Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 - 2018 American Community Survey.</i></p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">EDUCATION</p>	<p>Young children not in school is the share of children ages 3 to 4 not enrolled in school, including nursery school, preschool school or kindergarten, during the previous three months. “Nursery school” and “preschool” include any group or class of institution providing educational experiences for children during the years preceding kindergarten. Private homes that primarily provide custodial care are not included. <i>Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, pooled 2007-09 to 2016-18 one-year American Community Survey.</i></p> <p>Fourth graders not proficient in reading is fourth grade public school students’ reading achievement levels, as measured and defined by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) reading test. Public schools include charter schools and exclude Bureau of Indian Education schools and Department of Defense Education Activity schools. <i>Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Available online at http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/.</i></p> <p>Eighth graders not proficient in math is eighth grade public school students’ mathematics achievement levels, as measured and defined by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Public schools include charter schools and exclude Bureau of Indian Education schools and Department of Defense Education Activity schools. <i>Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Available online at http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/.</i></p> <p>High school students not graduating on time the percentage of an entering freshman class not graduating in four years. The measure is derived from the Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR). The four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate is the number of students who graduate in four years with a regular high school diploma divided by the number of students who form the adjusted cohort for the graduating class. <i>Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Department of Education’s Institute of Education Sciences (IES), National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Digest of Education Statistics, accessible online at https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/.</i></p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">HEALTH</p>	<p>Low birth-weight babies is live births weighing less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds). The data reflect the mother’s place of residence, not the place where the birth occurred. Births of unknown weight were not included in these calculations. Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands are not included in the U.S. Average. <i>Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics.</i></p> <p>Children without health insurance is Children age 18 and under not covered by any health insurance. The data are based on health insurance coverage at the time of the survey; interviews are conducted throughout the calendar year. Children receiving health insurance through a variety of State Health Insurance Programs (CHIP) are counted as having health insurance. <i>Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2009, 2010, 2014-2018 American Community Survey.</i></p> <p>Child and teen deaths is Deaths to children between ages 1 and 19, from all causes, per 100,000 children in this age range. The data are reported by the place of residence, not the place where the death occurred. <i>Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS).</i></p> <p>Teens who abuse alcohol or drugs is Children age 12 to 17 who reported dependence on or abuse of illicit drugs or alcohol in the past year. Illicit Drug Use includes the misuse of prescription psychotherapeutics or the use of marijuana, cocaine (including crack), heroin, hallucinogens, inhalants, or methamphetamine. Misuse of prescription psychotherapeutics is defined as use in any way not directed by a doctor, including use without a prescription of one’s own; use in greater amounts, more often, or longer than told; or use in any other way not directed by a doctor. Prescription psychotherapeutics do not include over-the-counter drugs. Dependence or abuse is based on definitions found in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. This data is based on a 2-year average of survey responses. <i>Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, National Survey on Drug Use and Health 2015-2017.</i></p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">FAMILY AND COMMUNITY</p>	<p>Children in single-parent families is children under age 18 who live with their own single parent either in a family or subfamily. In this definition, single-parent families may include cohabiting couples and do not include children living with married stepparents. Children who live in group quarters (for example, institutions, dormitories, or group homes) are not included in this calculation. <i>Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, 2001 Supplementary Survey and 2002 through 2018 American Community Survey (ACS).</i></p> <p>Children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma is the percentage of children under age 18 living in households where the household head does not have a high school diploma or equivalent. <i>SOURCE: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 through 2017 American Community Survey.</i></p> <p>Children living in high-poverty areas is the percentage of children under age 18 who live in census tracts where the poverty rate of the total population is 30 percent or more. Research indicates that as neighborhood poverty rates increase, undesirable outcomes rise and opportunities for success are less likely. The effects of concentrated poverty begin to appear once neighborhood poverty rates rise above 20 percent and continue to grow as the concentration of poverty increases up to the 40 percent threshold. This indicator defines areas of concentrated poverty as those census tracts with overall poverty rates of 30 percent or more because it is a commonly used threshold that lies between the starting point and leveling off point for negative neighborhood effects. The 2017 federal poverty threshold is \$24,858 per year for a family of two adults and two children. <i>Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey.</i></p> <p>Teen births is births to teenagers 15 to 19 years old. Rate is per 1,000 females ages 15 to 19. Data reflect the mother’s place of residence, rather than the place of the birth. <i>Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS).</i></p>