

Scioto Analysis Franklin County Poverty Snapshot

Main Website Data Points

Summary and Sources for Data on RTIICO.ORG Website Prepared for the Rise Together Innovation Institute by Scioto Analysis

Almost 200,000 Franklin County residents experience poverty every year. That's enough to fill Ohio Stadium twice.

Results from the American Community Survey show us that an estimated 190,000 Franklin County residents were in poverty in 2021, the most recent year we have survey data for.¹ This accounts for 15% of all Franklin County residents, or one in seven residents of the county.

Someone living in West Franklinton is 26 times more likely to be in poverty than someone living in New Albany.

Most of the highest-poverty zip codes in Franklin County are located near the center of the city of Columbus. By contrast, the lowest-poverty zip codes in Franklin County are all located on the edges of the county. Zip code 43222, which comprises West Franklinton, has a poverty rate of 54.3%, 26 times 43054 (New Albany)'s poverty rate of 2.1%.²

36% of people in poverty age 16 and up are employed. So in short, more than a third of working-age adults in poverty are employed.

More than a third of Franklin County residents age 16 and up experiencing poverty are working.³ The majority of people in poverty, however, are outside of the labor force, meaning they are not looking for work or too young or old to work. Less than 10% of people in poverty are unemployed.

62% of Franklin County residents experiencing poverty are white.

About 940,000 (62% of those in poverty) Franklin County residents are white people in poverty while about 590,000 (38% of those in poverty) are nonwhite people in poverty.⁴

Children under 5 years old in Franklin County are nearly three times as likely to be in poverty as people over age 65

21% of Franklin County children are in poverty compared to 10% of Franklin County residents age 65 and older.⁵

The Black labor force participation rate is nearly identical to the white labor force participation rate, but the Black unemployment rate is twice the white unemployment rate.

Both white non-Hispanic and Black residents of Franklin County have a labor force participation rate of about 70%, just below the average for the county. This parallel between white and Black labor force participation rates does not carry over to unemployment rates. The Black unemployment rate in Franklin County is twice the rate of the white unemployment rate.⁶

59% of Franklin County residents will experience poverty in their lifetime.

An analysis using data from the Panel Study of Income dynamics found that by age 75, 59% of Americans have experienced poverty at some point in their lives.⁷ If Franklin County looks similar to the country as a whole, we would expect this number to be similar in Franklin County.

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Endnotes

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- [1] "Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months," Data.census.gov, Accessed January 23, 2023, <https://data.census.gov/table?t=Income+and+Poverty&g=0500000US39049&tid=ACSST1Y2021.S1701>
- [2] "Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months," Data.census.gov, Accessed January 26, 2023, [https://data.census.gov/table?q=Poverty&g=0500000US39049\\$8600000&tid=ACSST5Y2021.S1701](https://data.census.gov/table?q=Poverty&g=0500000US39049$8600000&tid=ACSST5Y2021.S1701)
- [3] "Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Individuals by Sex by Employment Status," Data.census.gov, accessed March 30, 2023, <https://data.census.gov/table?q=poverty+employment+franklin+county&tid=ACSDT5Y2021.B17005>
- [4] "Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months," Data.census.gov, Accessed January 30, 2023, <https://data.census.gov/table?q=poverty+in+franklin+county,+in+ohio+by+race&tid=ACSST1Y2021.S1701>
- [5] "Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months," Data.census.gov, Accessed February 9, 2023, <https://data.census.gov/table?q=poverty+in+franklin+county,+in+ohio+by+race&tid=ACSST1Y2021.S1701>
- [6] "Employment Characteristics," American Community Survey, Available Online: <https://data.census.gov/table?q=unemployment+franklin+county+ohio&tid=ACSST1Y2021.S2301>
- [7] Rank, Mark R., and Thomas A. Hirschl. "The likelihood of experiencing relative poverty over the life course." *PLoS One* 10, no. 7 (2015): e0133513.