



Community-Level Findings: Rockford

Child Poverty

Child poverty rates: The child poverty rate in Winnebago County rose from 13% in 1999 to 27% in 2012. Over the same period of time, the statewide child poverty rate rose from 14% to 21%.

Child poverty population: From 1999 to 2012, the number of children living in poverty in Winnebago County increased 97%, compared with 39% statewide.

Deep poverty: In 2012, 15% of children in Winnebago County were in deep poverty (below 50% of poverty level), compared with 9% statewide.

Demographics: In 2011, the child poverty population in Winnebago County was 34% Black, 32% Latino, and 28% White.

Employment and Income

Unemployment: The unemployment rate in Winnebago peaked at 15.3% in 2010, compared to 10.5% statewide. Winnebago County had unemployment rates above 10% for five consecutive years (2009-2013). In 2014, the county's unemployment rate was 9.5%, compared with 7.3% statewide.

Jobs: Between 2000 and 2013, total employment in Winnebago County declined by 13.1%, compared with 3.6% statewide.

Family income: Between 1999 and 2012, median family income, adjusted for inflation, dropped 23% in Winnebago County, compared with 11% statewide.

Child Abuse and Neglect

Substantiated cases: The number of substantiated cases of abuse and neglect in Winnebago County increased by 53% between 2006 and 2014, compared with 27% statewide.

Rates: In 2012-2014, the average rate of abuse and neglect was 20.5 per 1,000 children in Winnebago County, compared with 9.3 statewide.

Program Participation

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP): In 2013, 28% of households with children in Winnebago County received SNAP benefits, compared 21% statewide.

Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC): In tax year 2012, 21% of federal income tax filers in Winnebago County benefited from the EITC, compared with 18% statewide.

Medical assistance: Between 2005 and 2013, children's enrollment in Medicaid and related programs in Winnebago County increased by 62%, compared with 42% statewide.