Economic Vitality and Education in the South (EVES)
The South’s Pre-Pandemic Position
Kentucky, 2019

Poverty and Food Insecurity

Children eligible for free or reduced price lunch

57%

People living in poverty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Under 18</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Under 5</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Children living in food insecure households

14%

Median Household Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>$39,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>$49,434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>$54,148</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On average, people of color were paid less than White people.

Childcare and Early Childhood Education

Children under 6 with all caretakers in the workforce

68%

Families who lived in childcare deserts

50%

Four-year-olds enrolled in a public ECE program in 2020

40%

Annual childcare expenses should cost just 7%* of a family’s income, but infant care for one child cost

- 16% of the average Black household’s income
- 13% of the average Hispanic household’s income
- 12% of the average White household’s income

If infant care cost 7% of the region’s median income, just 26 of every 100 families could afford it.

*according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Performance on NAEP*

Below the Proficient Level in 4th Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-Income</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Below the Proficient Level in 8th Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-Income</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*National Assessment of Educational Progress
Economic Vitality and Education in the South (EVES)

The South’s Pre-Pandemic Position

Kentucky, 2019

Attainment and the Workforce

Adults 25+ with a high school diploma or less

- Black: 45%
- Hispanic: 59%
- White: 46%

Adults 25+ with a Bachelor’s degree or more

- Black: 19%
- Hispanic: 20%
- White: 25%

Adults 25-64 facing unemployment

- Black: 6.0%
- Hispanic: 5.6%
- White: 4.5%

Adults 25-64 with higher attainment have a higher employment-to-population ratio — they are more likely to be in the labor force.

- No high school credential: 41%
- High school or equivalent: 62%
- Some college or associate degree: 72%
- Bachelor’s degree or higher: 86%

Adults 25+ with lower attainment earn less.

- No high school credential: $24,631
- High school or equivalent: $31,313
- Some college or associate degree: $35,326
- Bachelor’s degree or higher: $50,711
- Graduate or professional degree: $60,270

Adults 25+ living in poverty

- No high school credential: 33%
- High school or equivalent: 16%
- Some college or associate degree: 4%
- Bachelor’s degree or higher: 4%

Adults 25-64 facing unemployment

- No high school credential: 8.2%
- High school or equivalent: 5.1%
- Some college or associate degree: 3.6%
- Bachelor’s degree or higher: 1.7%

2017-2018 School Discipline

Students who were suspended, by race:

- In-school suspension:
  - Black: 24%
  - Hispanic: 10%
  - White: 9%

- Out-of-school suspension:
  - Black: 15%
  - Hispanic: 4%
  - White: 4%

School enrollments in the school year:

- 11% were Black
- 7% were Hispanic
- 77% were White

Of those who were referred to law enforcement,

- 19% were Black
- 7% were Hispanic
- 69% were White

Of the students who had a school-related arrest,

- 44% were Black
- 7% were Hispanic
- 45% were White