16.4% of adults in Idaho have low literacy
Idaho ranks 15 out of 50 in the U.S.

1 in 6 counties in Idaho have populations where 25% or more of the residents have below basic literacy

How does low literacy affect equity and quality of life?
In counties where at least a quarter of the population have below basic literacy, we see that many health, economic, and educational outcomes fall short.

Unemployment
- 4.8% low literacy counties
- 5.7% other counties
- 4.7% state

Median Income
- $48,972
- $49,441
- $53,089

Adults Without a High School Degree
- 22.0%
- 11.3%
- 9.4%

No Access to Healthcare
- 21.3%
- 12.7%
- 11.0%

Residents Below the Poverty Line
- 16.1%
- 14.5%
- 12.7%

Demographics
- White: 26%
- Hispanic/Latinx: 50%
- Black: 31%

Households Where Limited English is Spoken
The percentage of households where no adult speaks English "very well."

- Over 30%
- Under 5%
Below basic literacy is defined as scoring level 1 or below on the PIAAC International Adult Literacy Survey. 4th grade reading scores come from the NAEP reading assessment. 4th grade ELA test performance data comes from edopportunity.org. Self-Reported health comes from the Community Health Status Indicators. All other data comes from the American Community Survey. PIAAC data is not available by city. Visit map.barbarabush.org for county-level PIAAC data.