27.1% of adults in Louisiana have low literacy
Louisiana ranks 46 out of 50 in the U.S.

5 in 6 counties in Louisiana 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
- 7.7% low literacy counties
- 6.4% other counties
- 6.9% state

Median Income
- $39,895
- $54,726
- $47,942

Adults Without a High School Degree
- 21.1%

No Access to Healthcare
- 13.2%

Residents Below the Poverty Line
- 22.0%

Adults Without a High School Degree
- White 32%
- Latinx/Hispanic 47%
- Black/African American 61%

Demographics
- Households Where Limited English is Spoken
  - Over 30%
  - Under 5%

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