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

1 in 9 counties in Nebraska have populations where 20% or more of the residents have below basic literacy.

How does low literacy affect equity and quality of life?
In counties where at least 20% of the population have below basic literacy, we see that many health, economic, and educational outcomes fall short.

Unemployment
- 4.7% low literacy counties
- 2.5% other counties
- 3.5% state

Median Income
- $53,282
- $51,922
- $59,116

Adults Without a High School Degree
- 16.2%
- 8.1%
- 8.9%

No Access to Healthcare
- 12.5%
- 8.2%
- 8.4%

Residents Below the Poverty Line
- 13.4%
- 10.7%
- 10.5%

Demographics

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

The percent of 4th graders with below basic reading by race

- White: 23%
- Latinx/Hispanic: 44%
- Black/African American: 55%
- State Average: 31%

- White: High
- Hispanic/Latix: Low
- Black: Under 5%
- Asian: Over 30%
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.