**13.1%**

of adults in Minnesota have low literacy

Minnesota ranks 4 out of 50 in the U.S.

**3 in 8**

counties in Minnesota have populations where 15% or more of the residents have below basic literacy

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**How does low literacy affect equity and quality of life?**

In counties where at least 15% of the population have below basic literacy, we see that many health, economic, and educational outcomes fall short.

**Unemployment**

- 3.8% low literacy counties
- 3.6% other counties
- 3.9% state

**Median Income**

- $53,300
- $59,365
- $68,411

**Adults Without a High School Degree**

- 11.1%
- 7.6%
- 7.0%

**No Access to Healthcare**

- 6.4%
- 4.8%
- 4.7%

**Residents Below the Poverty Line**

- 11.8%
- 9.8%
- 9.3%

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**Demographics**

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

  - White: 22%
  - Latinx/Hispanic: 50%
  - Black/African American: 53%
  - Asian: 32%
  - State Average: 31%

**Households Where Limited English is Spoken**

- The percentage of households where no adult speaks English "very well."

- Over 30%
- Under 5%
### 4th Grade Reading Levels

While literacy can be high or low in a given metro area, when we look at 4th grade testing, we can see that the performance in English/Language Arts is not consistent across race and gender.

#### English/Language Arts Test Performance by Race

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Levels</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Latinx</th>
<th>Asian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
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<td>6th</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Latinx</td>
<td>Asian</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### English/Language Arts Test Performance by Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Levels</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
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<td>3rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Unemployment

- **3.9%**

78,163 adults living in Minneapolis are unemployed.

### Single Mother Households

- **9.6%**

131,494 households in Minneapolis are single mother households.

### Residents Below the Poverty Line

- **8.1%**

216,486 residents are living below the poverty line in Minneapolis.

### Didn’t Receive a High School Diploma

- **6.5%**

156,508 adults living in Minneapolis did not receive a high school diploma.

### Receives Public Assistance

- **17.2%**

146,078 residents receive public assistance in Minneapolis.

### Median Household Income

**$76,870**

### Income by Race

- **White**: $82,836
- **Latinx/Hispanic**: $51,510
- **Black**: $36,127
- **Asian**: $78,804

Data for the Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington Metro Area

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Adults who lack proficiency in literacy are defined as those who score level 2 or below on the PIAAC (Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies). Grade level equivalents are estimated, as the PIAAC proficiency levels do not specifically correspond to K-12 grade levels. For more information, visit [https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/piaac/litproficiencylevel.asp](https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/piaac/litproficiencylevel.asp). Fourth grade reading scores come from the NAEP reading assessment. Fourth 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](map.barbarabush.org) for county-level PIAAC data.