24.4% of adults in New York have low literacy
New York ranks 44 out of 50 in the U.S.

2 in 7 counties in New York 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
- 6.5% low literacy counties
- 6.5% other counties
- 6.0% state

Median Income
- $55,178
- $56,071
- $65,323

Adults Without a High School Degree
- 13.0%
- 10.0%
- 13.5%

No Access to Healthcare
- 6.7%
- 5.7%
- 6.5%

Residents Below the Poverty Line
- 15.9%
- 13.2%
- 13.0%

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: 24%
- Latinx/Hispanic: 45%
- Black/African American: 53%
- Asian: 21%
- State Average: 34%
**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**

- White
- Latinx
- Asian

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

- Male
- Female

**Unemployment**

6.1%

630,402 adults living in New York are unemployed.

**Residents Below the Poverty Line**

11.9%

1,827,737 residents are living below the poverty line in New York.

**Residents Below the Poverty Line**

24.4%

1,053,394 residents receive public assistance in New York.

**Median Household Income**

$75,086

**Income by Race**

- White: $95,664
- Latinx/Hispanic: $49,983
- Black: $50,900
- Asian: $87,912

**Data for the New York-Newark-Jersey City Metro Area**