



2018 Election Guide:

New York's Children

New York's child poverty rate improved slightly from 2016 to 2017, but we still ranked 33rd among the states, with almost 20 percent of our children living in poverty. Additionally, the sheer number of children living in poverty in New York is overwhelming. New York ranks fourth in the country – only behind California, Texas and Florida -- with over 800,000 children living in poverty in the state. In nearly half New York's counties 1 in 5 children lives below the poverty line. Having the basic necessities of life such as nutritious meals and financial security is a universal human right and something all people concerned with the well-being of children should work to secure.



QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATES:

Many working families are struggling to make ends meet. The cost of basic needs such as housing, child care, food and transportation continue to rise, while wages remain constant. What public policies can help more working families achieve economic stability?

HEALTH CARE:

New York has an incredibly high rate of children's health insurance coverage with 98% of all New York children covered. This is due in large part to the Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Programs (CHIP). Currently over 2 million children are enrolled in Medicaid and over 300,000 in CHIP in New York. *Given the constant threats to the vital health insurance programs for children, what do you plan to do to protect and expand children's health coverage?*



IMMIGRATION:

One in five New Yorkers is an immigrant and more than one-third of New York's children live in immigrant families. With the recent immigration policy changes, New York's children live in constant fear of family separation and deportation and are experiencing trauma at unprecedented rates. *How will you support immigrant children and families?*

INCOME SUPPORTS:

Over 1 million New York children use the Supplemental Nutrition Program (SNAP) to ensure that they have a healthy meal every day. Programs like SNAP that provide resources for healthy nutritious meals have been crucial in moving New York's children out of poverty. *What will you do to ensure that these programs do not get cut and that New York's children and families continue to get help and not go hungry?*

YOUTH JUSTICE:

New York passed Raise the Age last year, but there is more work to be done for youth and families impacted by the justice system. *What will you do to make sure that the law is implemented with fidelity to its principles? What additional reforms will you champion to increase support for prevention and diversion services that keep youth in their communities rather than incarceration?*



CHILD WELFARE:

Vulnerable youth and families who come into contact with the child welfare system need community-based supports that keep families together and children out of foster care. *What will you do to expand preventive services for children and families?*

EDUCATION:

The gap between average per pupil spending in the 100 wealthiest and 100 poorest districts in New York was \$9,923 during the 2015-2016 school year. *Every student in New York is guaranteed a sound basic education; what will you do to ensure a quality education for all and that high need schools have the funding their students need to learn?*



During the 2015-2016 school year, New York's students lost 686,000 total days of instruction due to school suspensions, equating to over 4 million hours of missed classroom time. *How will you support school climate reform efforts and ensure opportunity and inclusive schools for every child?*

Child Poverty Levels by County

Rank	County	Child Poverty Rate		Rank	County	Child Poverty Rate
1	Bronx County	42.6		32	Schenectady County	19.4
2	Montgomery County	32.4		33	Genesee County	19.2
3	Kings County	31.9		34	Schoharie County	19.2
4	Chautauqua County	30.1		35	Livingston County	19.0
5	Delaware County	27.6		36	Rensselaer County	18.8
6	Oswego County	27.3		37	Schuyler County	18.3
7	Franklin County	26.8		38	Washington County	17.9
8	St. Lawrence County	26.6		39	Columbia County	17.6
9	Oneida County	26.4		40	Otsego County	17.5
10	Allegany County	25.9		41	Richmond County	17.4
11	Rockland County	25.1		42	Wyoming County	16.6
12	Cattaraugus County	25.0		43	Wayne County	16.3
13	Sullivan County	24.6		44	Madison County	15.9
14	Broome County	23.5		45	Albany County	15.6
15	New York County	23.4		46	Cayuga County	15.5
16	Fulton County	23.2		47	Tompkins County	15.5
17	Monroe County	22.2		48	Warren County	15.5
18	Chemung County	22.1		49	Cortland County	15.0
19	Steuben County	22.1		50	Greene County	15.0
20	Orleans County	22.0		51	Seneca County	14.9
21	Clinton County	21.8		52	Tioga County	14.3
22	Erie County	21.8		53	Ulster County	14.0
23	Onondaga County	21.3		54	Ontario County	13.0
24	Lewis County	21.1		55	Essex County	12.5
25	Yates County	21.1		56	Hamilton County	12.2
26	Jefferson County	20.8		57	Westchester County	11.8
27	Chenango County	20.7		58	Dutchess County	11.3
28	Herkimer County	20.6		59	Suffolk County	9.1
29	Orange County	20.0		60	Nassau County	7.8
30	Niagara County	19.8		61	Saratoga County	7.2
31	Queens County	19.6		62	Putnam County	4.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates