

**TABLE 2**  
**PERCENT OF PEOPLE BELOW POVERTY LEVEL IN LAST 12 MONTHS**  
**(WORKER-FRIENDLY STATES ARE IN BOLD, ITALICS)**

<b>State</b>	<b>Poverty rate (percent)</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Poverty rate (percent)</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Poverty rate (percent)</b>
<i>New Hampshire</i>	7.6	<i>Washington</i>	11.3	<i>Michigan</i>	14.4
<i>Maryland</i>	8.1	<i>Colorado</i>	11.4	N. Carolina	14.6
<i>Alaska</i>	8.4	Iowa	11.5	Arizona	14.7
<i>New Jersey</i>	8.7	<i>Rhode Island</i>	11.7	Georgia	14.7
<i>Hawaii</i>	9.1	N. Dakota	12	<i>Montana</i>	14.8
<i>Connecticut</i>	9.3	<i>Pennsylvania</i>	12.1	Tennessee	15.5
<b>Wyoming</b>	9.4	<i>Illinois</i>	12.2	Alabama	15.7
<b>Utah</b>	9.6	<i>Maine</i>	12.3	S. Carolina	15.7
<i>Minnesota</i>	9.6	S. Dakota	12.5	Texas	15.8
<i>Delaware</i>	10	Idaho	12.6	Oklahoma	15.9
<i>Massachusetts</i>	10	<i>Indiana</i>	13.1	<i>West Virginia</i>	17
<b>Virginia</b>	10.2	Florida	13.2	<i>New Mexico</i>	17.1
<i>Wisconsin</i>	10.4	<i>California</i>	13.3	Arkansas	17.3
<i>Vermont</i>	10.6	<i>Missouri</i>	13.4	Louisiana	17.3
<b>Nebraska</b>	10.8	<i>Ohio</i>	13.4	<i>Kentucky</i>	17.3
<b>Kansas</b>	11.3	<i>New York</i>	13.6	Mississippi	21.2
<b>Nevada</b>	11.3	<i>Oregon</i>	13.6		

SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

in worker-friendly states is 11.9 percent, while in RTW states it is 13.9 percent. The Mann-Whitney test indicates significance at the 0.025 level.<sup>14</sup>

Furthermore, the percentage of the 2008 population living in poverty in RTW states was 14.4 percent, while the percentage in worker-friendly states was 12.4 percent. To put this difference in perspective, if the rate of poverty in RTW states was extended across the nation, an additional 3,670,000 American men, women, and children would be living in poverty today.

*Health insurance:* One would expect that a state with a high standard of living