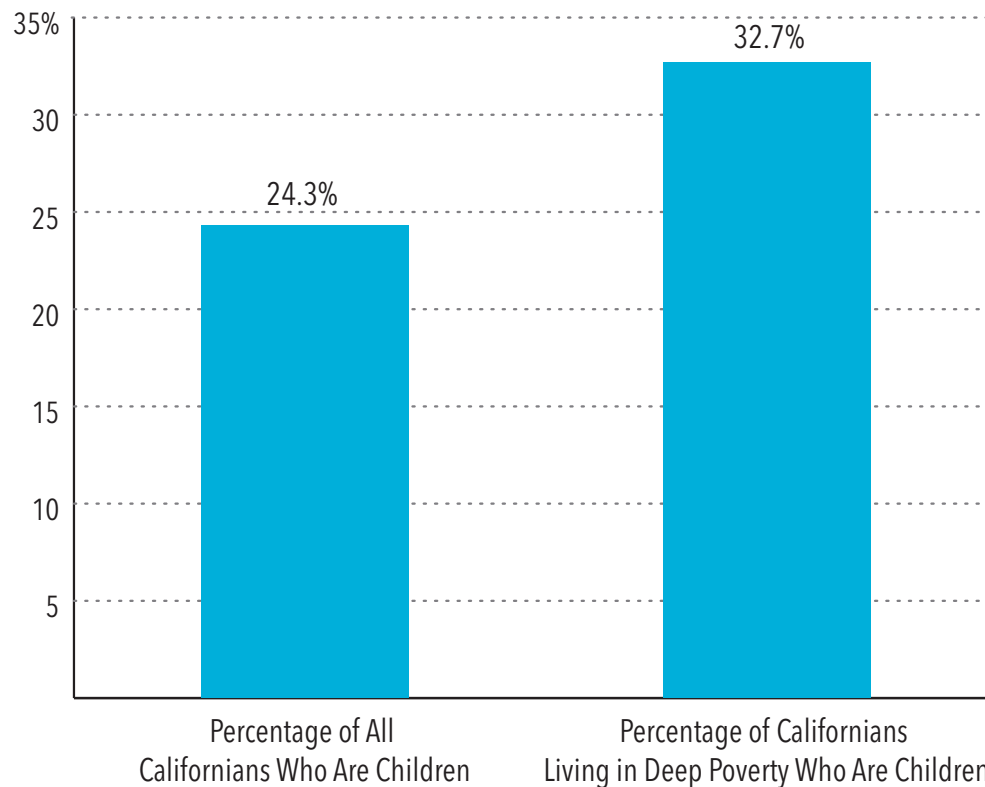




MAY 2015 | BY ALISSA ANDERSON

## Children Comprise a Disproportionate Share of Californians Living in Deep Poverty

Average Annual Percentage, 2011 to 2013



Source: Budget Center analysis of US Census Bureau data

- **More than 2.5 million Californians have incomes below half the federal poverty line – commonly referred to as “deep poverty.”** For a family of three, living in deep poverty means surviving on less than \$200 per week.

- **Nearly one-third of Californians living in deep poverty (32.7%) are children, even though children make up less than one-quarter (24.3%) of the state population.**

Among adults in deep poverty, the majority are women: 56.7% of Californians ages 18 to 64 and 62.0% of seniors.

- **People who live in deep poverty are more likely to remain poor for long periods, and persistent poverty among children limits their life chances.** A recent national study found that nearly half (45.3%) of adults who were persistently poor during childhood lived in poverty at age 35, compared to less than 1% of adults who never experienced childhood poverty.

CALIFORNIA BUDGET & POLICY CENTER

[calbudgetcenter.org](http://calbudgetcenter.org)