



U.S. CITIZENS FOR EQUAL PROTECTION, INC.



U.S. CITIZENS FOR EQUAL PROTECTION, INC.

U.S. Citizens For Equal Protection, Inc., is a non-profit foundation, incorporated on November 28, 2018, whose purpose is to promote and take direct action to recognize the rights of all-American citizens, regardless of where they reside. The organization is not affiliated with any political party, ideal or candidate.

MISSION

Its mission is to defend rights by creating awareness of these injustices and legally claiming them.

OBJECTIVE

Our goal is to achieve the same constitutional right for all American citizens, no matter where we live. If we achieve equality in the welfare programs received by American citizens residing in the United States, we would be able to lower poverty levels and obtain a better quality of life.



U.S. CITIZENS FOR EQUAL PROTECTION, INC.



José Enrique Fernández
President



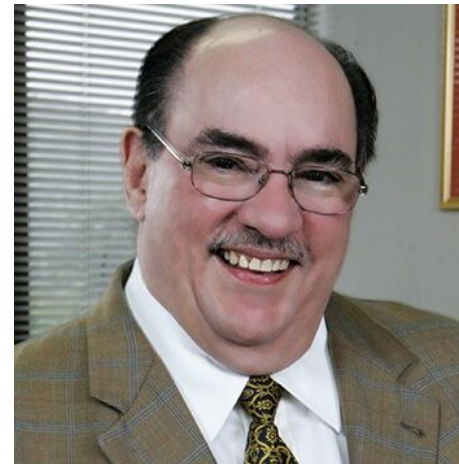
Antonio Escudero Viera



Cyril Meduña



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Joaquin Rodríguez



José R. González, Legal Advisor

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



U.S. CITIZENS FOR EQUAL PROTECTION, INC.

HISTORY

U.S. Citizens for Equal Protection, rises from concern about the high percentage of homelessness in Puerto Rico, where 53% of the population lives in poverty. We constantly ask ourselves: **How can we eradicate poverty in Puerto Rico?** In 2014, we became convinced that one of the main problems regarding poverty levels on the island lay in the difference and unequal treatment from the federal government. The benefits of low-income American citizens in the United States are greater than those received by low-income American citizens in Puerto Rico.

We analyze research conducted by the **U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO)**, whose findings indicate economic inequality and discrimination against residents of Puerto Rico, in over (80) programs in which they directed their study. Based on the main social and welfare programs such as **Supplemental Social Security (SSI)**, **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP)** and the **Low- Income Subsidies (LIS) of Medicare Part D**, which covers prescription drugs, the help is lower or none to the citizens residing in Puerto Rico.

This inequality is a violation of the **Equal Protection Clause** of the Federal Constitution law that covers us. (that includes) **Puerto Ricans are American citizens since 1917.**

Motivated by this inequality, in November 2018, the non-profit foundation **U.S. Citizens for Equal Protection, Inc.**, was born, in order to fight for equal rights for all Puerto Ricans residing on the Island.



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GOVERNMENT ARGUMENTS:

1. Residents of Puerto Rico are generally exempt from paying the personal federal income tax.
2. The cost of extending these programs to Puerto Rico would be very high.
3. Fully granting these benefits in Puerto Rico might disrupt the island's economy.

Table 5. Gross Collections, by Type of Tax and State, Fiscal Year 2014
[Money amounts are in thousands of dollars]

State	Total Internal Revenue collections [1]	Business income taxes [2]	Individual income tax, employment taxes, and estate and trust income tax								Total	
			Individual income tax withheld and FICA tax [3]	Individual income tax payments and SECA tax [3]	Unemployment insurance tax	Railroad retirement tax	Estate and trust income tax	Estate tax	Gift tax [4]	Excise taxes [1]		
United States, total [5]	3,064,301,358	353,141,112	#####	508,123,572	8,611,877	5,953,524	29,410,796	17,572,338	2,582,617	#####	2,619,847,215	
Alabama	23,789,249	1,484,582	17,459,314	4,159,796	66,766	2,794	132,127	166,134	9,189	308,548	21,820,797	0.78%
Alaska	5,449,061	179,898	4,006,269	1,141,328	12,384	2,073	51,600	4,856	592	50,060	5,213,654	0.18%
Arizona	40,530,219	4,380,014	26,820,613	7,130,490	110,278	1,879	294,519	268,951	13,548	1,509,929	34,357,778	1.32%
Arkansas	30,728,862	7,611,308	19,008,318	3,017,812	186,861	2,977	137,464	112,746	2,908	648,469	22,353,431	1.00%
California	369,193,162	46,236,808	236,744,881	73,890,637	1,387,204	21,543	2,274,818	3,599,512	595,894	4,441,865	314,319,084	12.05%
Colorado	52,002,903	7,339,139	33,784,590	9,432,728	101,446	17,240	324,809	162,864	14,142	825,945	43,660,813	1.70%
Connecticut	57,697,380	8,633,070	34,621,844	11,690,228	134,272	5,303	813,469	361,084	164,782	1,273,328	47,265,116	1.88%
Delaware	19,039,980	4,335,398	12,368,330	980,907	29,774	183	767,430	19,333	1,541	537,084	14,146,624	0.62%
District of Columbia	26,432,733	1,322,308	22,304,073	2,117,532	16,266	556,635	55,319	29,664	3,596	27,341	25,049,824	0.86%
Florida	154,353,070	9,015,856	102,167,987	36,766,709	415,853	813,164	1,748,839	1,980,868	131,077	1,312,718	141,912,552	5.04%
Georgia	79,565,715	10,736,886	53,415,484	10,532,991	346,855	2,201	376,711	296,095	768,552	3,089,941	64,674,241	2.60%
Hawaii	7,722,840	376,857	5,320,158	1,659,610	16,352	0	94,686	31,992	1,636	221,549	7,090,806	0.25%
Idaho	9,223,749	333,880	6,879,043	1,769,742	36,145	880	102,498	41,505	586	59,470	8,788,307	0.30%
Illinois	148,332,148	20,034,959	98,066,809	22,121,808	314,503	231,723	3,150,584	804,416	13,001	3,594,346	123,885,426	4.84%
Indiana	54,606,571	4,561,915	40,856,692	6,611,136	236,420	30,140	292,667	307,802	26,715	1,683,085	48,027,054	1.78%
Iowa	22,309,198	1,544,385	16,209,366	4,044,743	50,750	5,966	88,062	97,385	6,759	261,782	20,398,887	0.73%
Kansas	25,896,981	2,166,100	16,963,445	4,444,905	68,262	196,220	146,525	210,903	2,724	1,697,898	21,819,357	0.85%
Kentucky	30,128,276	2,324,359	23,137,141	3,527,066	127,946	12,414	107,199	93,444	5,356	793,351	26,911,767	0.98%
Louisiana	43,023,097	1,604,433	33,624,610	6,643,094	70,140	4,439	270,871	151,567	18,493	635,449	40,613,155	1.40%
Maine	6,901,517	292,164	5,108,874	1,259,769	18,291	3,035	62,704	48,082	1,252	107,345	6,452,674	0.23%
Maryland	59,613,635	3,176,203	45,671,241	9,466,970	103,131	13,747	545,192	264,370	43,445	329,335	55,800,282	1.95%
Massachusetts	100,160,858	9,277,736	70,475,998	17,408,851	178,947	79,409	963,782	317,766	26,707	1,431,661	89,106,987	3.27%
Michigan	71,183,803	5,022,559	53,851,276	10,759,533	195,247	91,074	581,811	331,409	-6,993	357,887	65,478,941	2.32%
Minnesota	96,227,262	19,417,565	65,229,199	8,373,378	203,858	96,078	251,372	171,755	32,959	2,451,099	74,153,885	3.14%
Mississippi	11,011,288	693,586	7,727,939	2,298,421	30,945	1,202	63,549	47,969	2,176	145,500	10,122,056	0.36%
Missouri	61,511,933	9,946,571	42,241,490	6,988,952	224,883	82,962	534,223	281,148	9,786	1,201,918	50,072,510	2.01%
Montana	5,338,004	194,463	3,520,716	1,457,712	13,852	25,865	35,054	46,148	2,131	42,064	5,053,198	0.17%
Nebraska	23,884,904	7,269,170	12,311,264	2,752,809	36,272	1,229,093	87,231	77,247	4,883	116,935	16,416,668	0.78%
Nevada	16,578,585	777,910	10,279,657	4,517,211	44,647	84	423,012	401,338	9,274	125,451	15,264,612	0.54%
New Hampshire	11,043,784	236,410	7,668,149	1,973,030	21,939	51	774,480	66,904	24,942	277,879	10,437,649	0.36%
New Jersey	134,869,876	21,813,832	90,591,698	18,161,703	244,014	147,015	839,250	364,396	46,463	2,661,505	109,983,681	4.40%
New Mexico	8,758,418	231,314	6,140,587	2,011,549	22,173	71	59,450	75,750	2,378	215,146	8,233,829	0.29%
New York	250,618,177	28,664,811	162,914,752	51,360,309	689,718	386,964	2,471,490	1,684,333	208,243	2,237,556	217,823,234	8.18%
North Carolina	72,471,513	8,698,479	53,256,233	9,314,989	336,642	7,933	256,384	298,755	8,304	293,792	63,172,182	2.37%
North Dakota	7,585,145	560,449	4,535,198	2,360,455	14,413	6,040	23,476	24,933	5,833	54,348	6,939,582	0.25%
Ohio	129,901,095	12,286,168	99,812,401	12,032,324	472,820	23,244	871,104	466,177	21,375	3,915,483	113,211,893	4.24%
Oklahoma	32,610,983	4,049,061	18,134,739	5,455,218	71,624	2,817	675,182	115,025	5,132	4,102,186	24,339,580	1.06%
Oregon	28,409,241	1,920,303	20,537,610	4,827,081	74,629	725	158,323	80,321	25,139	785,109	25,598,367	0.93%
Pennsylvania	126,374,146	12,619,448	91,264,936	16,813,695	291,364	66,061	1,447,712	453,983	38,343	3,378,606	109,883,768	4.12%
Rhode Island	13,887,904	3,683,902	8,480,558	1,326,051	47,124	12	204,899	38,701	11,495	95,164	10,058,643	0.45%
South Carolina	22,242,016	1,567,705	15,858,579	4,228,258	61,703	1,371	140,813	126,204	2,279	255,104	20,290,724	0.73%
South Dakota	6,733,600	404,686	3,718,484	1,743,325	11,948	678	782,383	28,591	938	42,567	6,256,818	0.22%
Tennessee	56,936,715	5,905,079	42,192,699	6,846,802	193,451	2,753	269,270	143,971	7,177	1,375,514	49,504,974	1.86%
Texas	265,336,183	32,585,544	158,014,318	48,632,252	547,231	1,050,867	3,748,510	1,557,068	89,865	19,110,528	211,993,178	8.66%
Utah	18,389,171	1,557,838	12,719,019	3,284,257	52,718	5,492	124,777	42,186	4,524	598,361	16,186,263	0.60%
Vermont	4,324,613	351,999	3,045,319	822,239	8,976	2,465	33,162	30,524	253	29,676	3,912,161	0.14%
Virginia	75,048,791	11,378,112	49,929,092	11,933,483	161,295	702,223	318,085	379,650	8,058	238,793	63,044,178	2.45%
Washington	67,812,753	5,612,788	47,073,817	13,133,866	175,934	9,279	409,025	311,272	122,072	964,698	60,801,922	2.21%
West Virginia	6,885,260	374,563	5,084,700	1,294,808	16,291	539	42,378	15,637	382	55,961	6,438,716	0.22%
Wisconsin	49,592,070	6,021,437	34,703,911	7,163,614	235,497	3,962	724,349	166,229	3,768	569,303	42,831,333	1.62%
Wyoming	4,891,559	185,588	2,568,717	1,778,596	7,828	883	214,915	75,010	2,531	57,492	4,570,938	0.16%
U.S. Armed Service members overseas and Territories other than Puerto Rico	693,479	3,698	548,615	121,263	3,701	0	13,849	0	2	2,352	687,428	0.02%
Puerto Rico	3,554,320	118,689	2,939,203	367,025	27,204	0	545	1,512	65	100,078	3,333,976	0.12%
International	10,924,328	1,891,507	4,338,006	4,285,672	5,485	1,524	28,857	73,322	3,612	296,343	8,659,544	0.36%
Undistributed [6]	1,969,237	127,623	1,499,485	-115160	37,605	236	0	223,534	32,733	163,180	1,422,167	0.06%



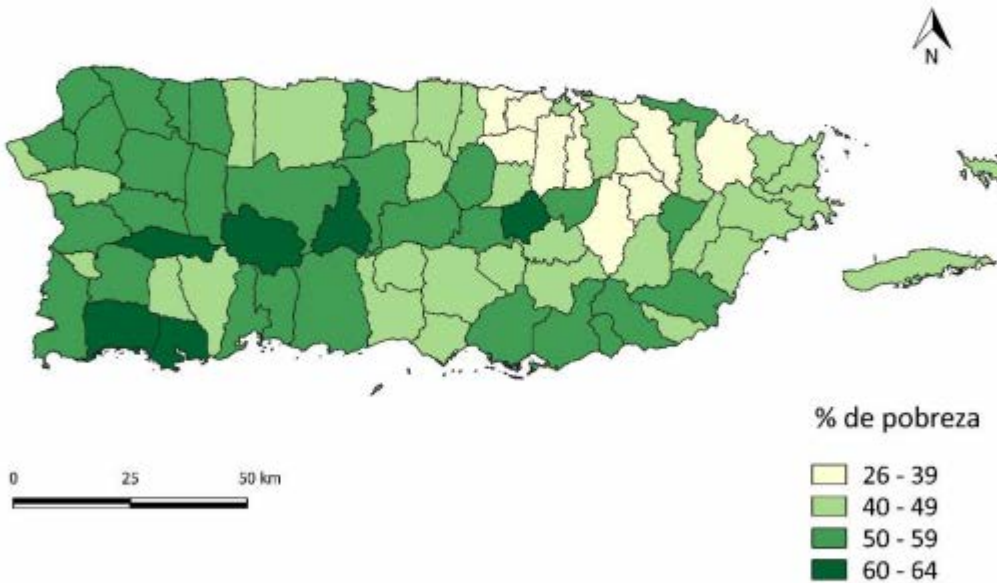
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POVERTY IN PUERTO RICO

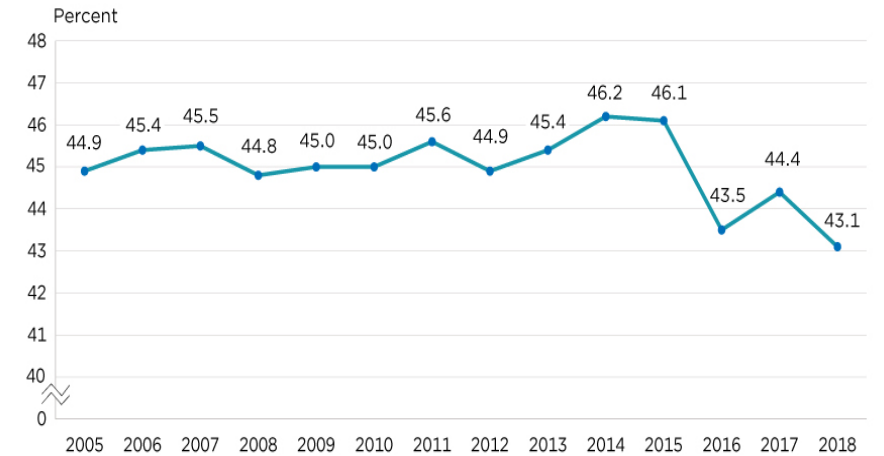
Instituto de Estadísticas de Puerto Rico
Gobierno de Puerto Rico



Porcentaje de pobreza en la población por Municipios, PR : 2014-2018



Poverty Rates in Puerto Rico Over Time



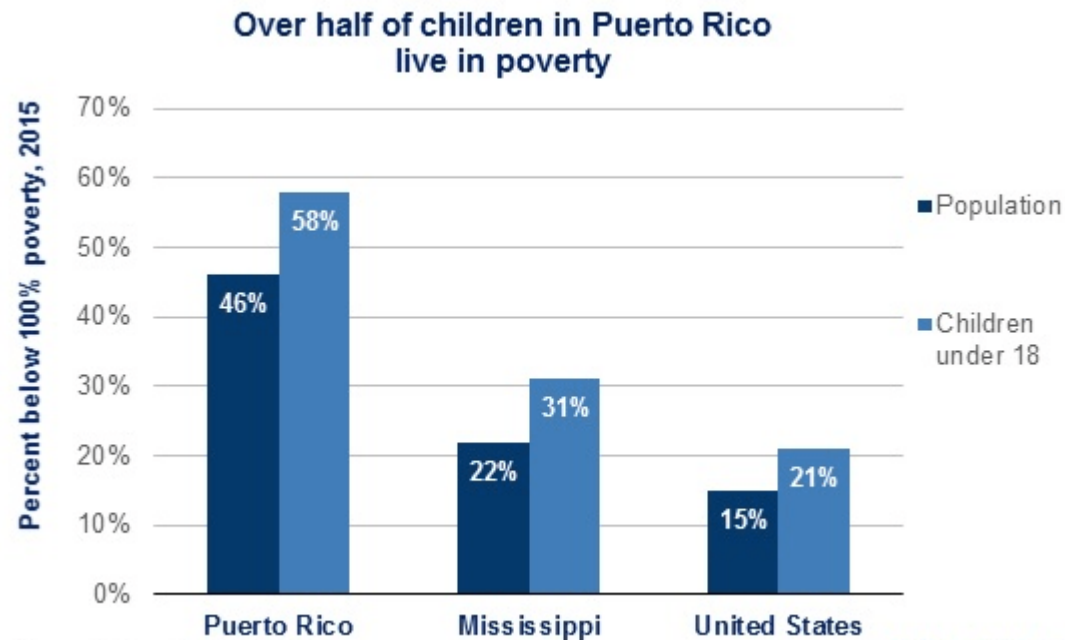
Note: For more information, see census.gov/acs.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 through 2018 Puerto Rico Community Surveys.

2020- Estimated 53% poverty



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CHILD POVERTY PR - USA



Source: National KIDS COUNT

BROOKINGS

“The **child poverty** rate has steadily declined in the United States from a high of 35% in **2012** to a **low of 29% in 2016**. The poverty rate of children in P.R. has fluctuated between **56 and 59%** and has not differed statistically across analysis years.”

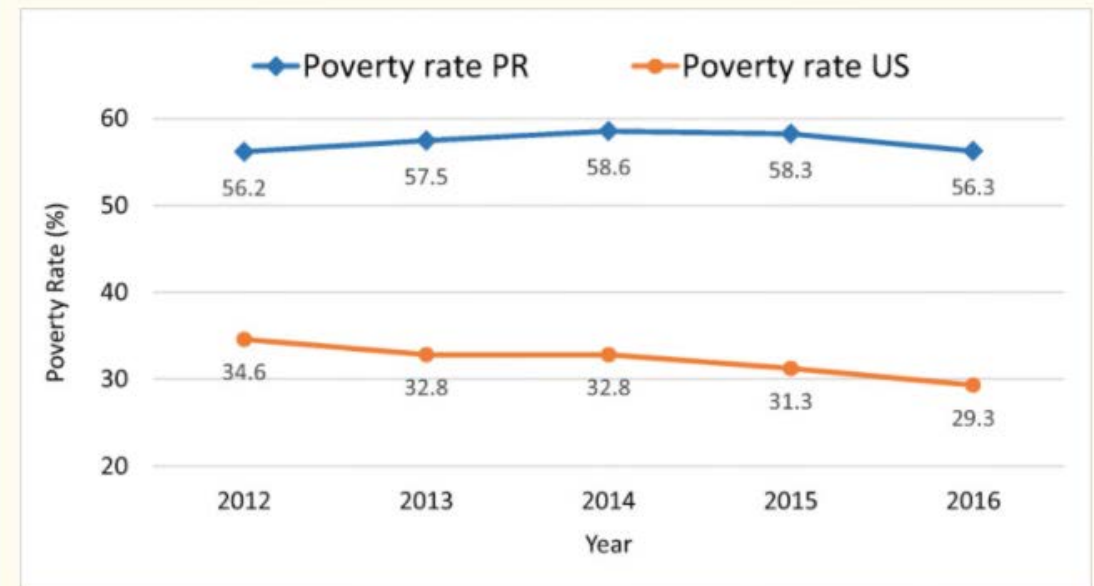


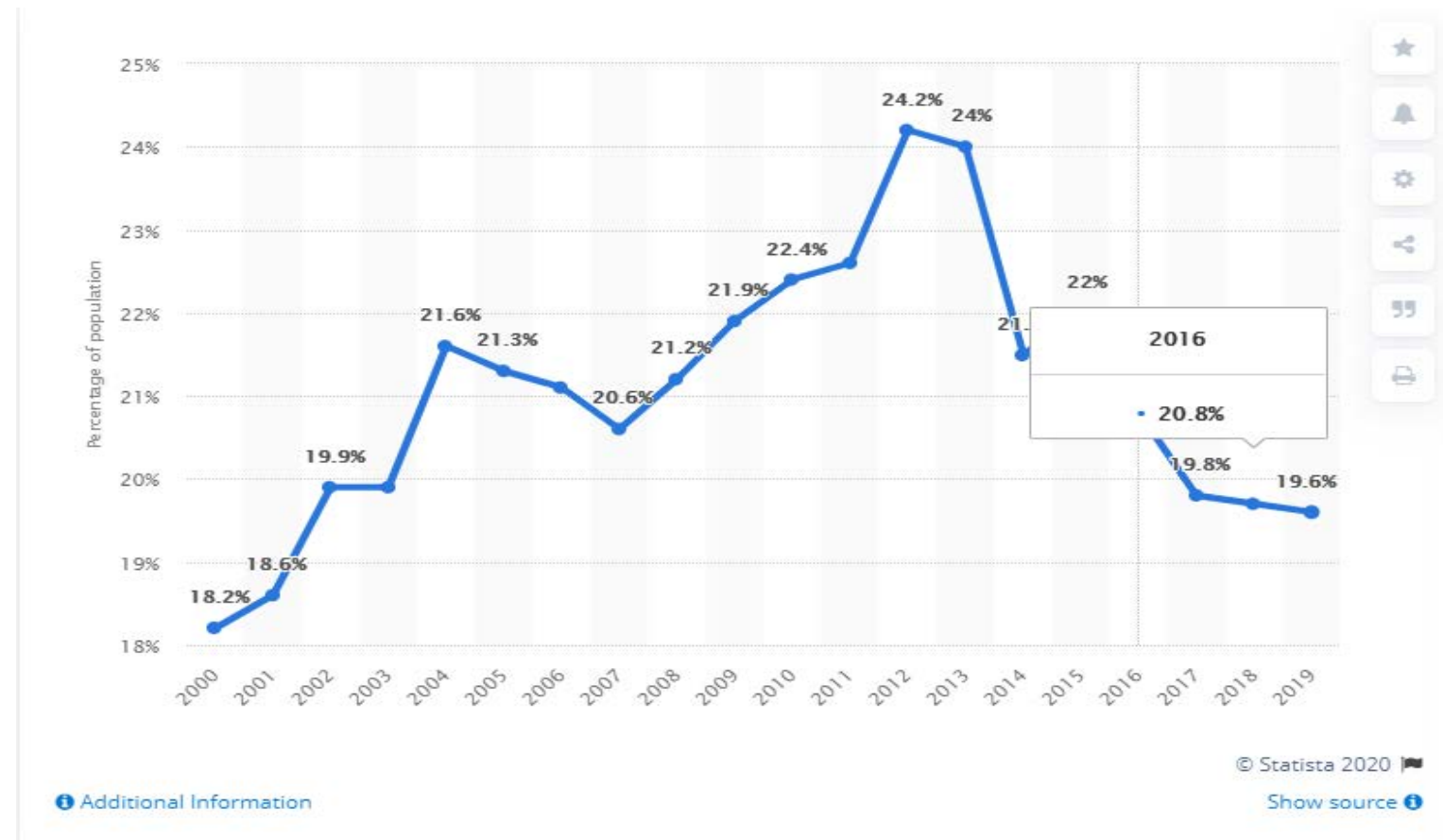
Fig. 1

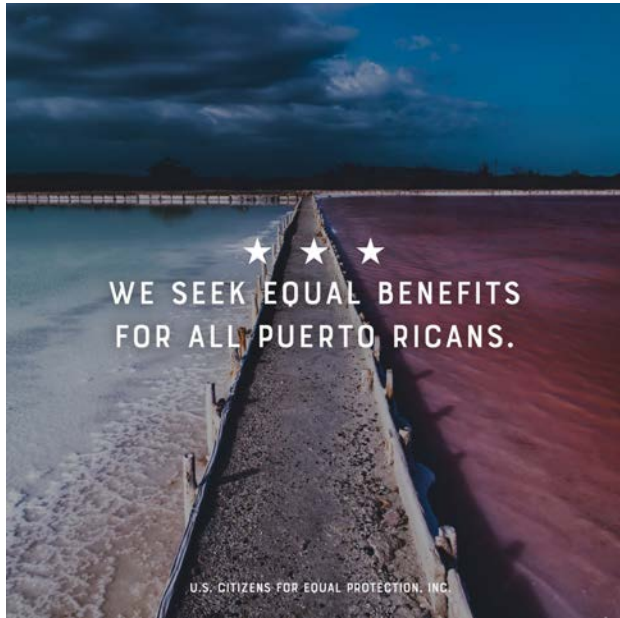
Poverty rates among Puerto Rican-origin children by year and place of residence. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 2012–2016 1-year estimates, PRCS 2012–2016 1-year estimates. Universe: Puerto Rican-origin children ages 0–17 years old living in households



U.S. CITIZENS FOR EQUAL PROTECTION, INC.

POVERTY IN MISSISSIPPI







★ ★ ★
PUERTO RICO DESERVES
EQUAL BENEFITS.

U.S. CITIZENS FOR EQUAL PROTECTION, INC.

**Is it fair for the United States government to
discriminate against American citizens that resident in
Puerto Rico?**

***Together we can eradicate poverty in Puerto Rico,
achieving parity in welfare programs.***

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