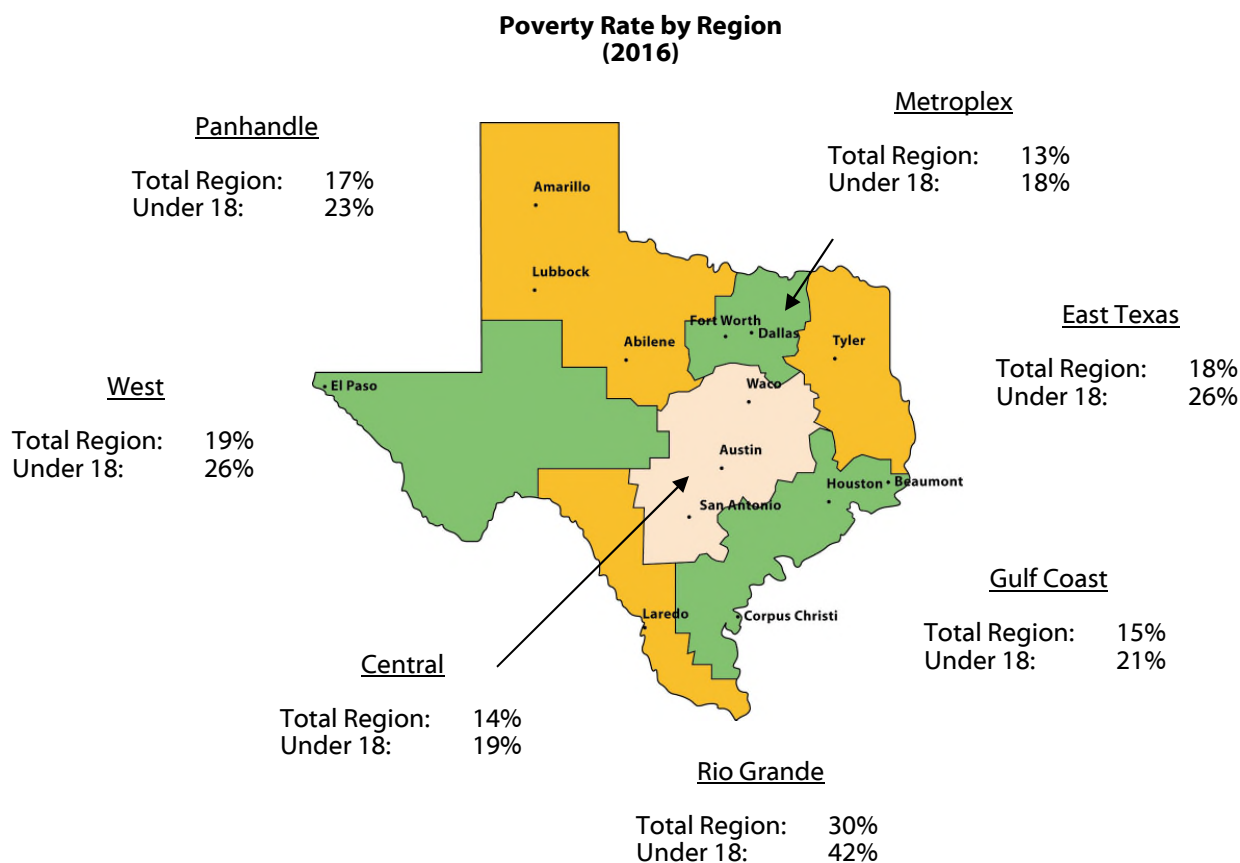


Poverty Rates Are High in the Rio Grande Region



The 2016 poverty rates in Texas were 16 percent overall and 22 percent for children under 18; however, these rates vary widely by region. By a large margin, the Rio Grande region has the highest rates of overall and childhood poverty at 30 and 42 percent respectively – at least 11 percentage points higher than the next highest region. The Metroplex region had the lowest rates of poverty at 13 percent overall and 18 percent for those under 18.

In 2016, poverty was defined as having an income of \$24,339 or less for a family of four with two children, or \$12,486 or less for an individual under 65 years old.

Sources: Definition of Poverty: U.S. Census Bureau, "Poverty Thresholds: 2016" <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/historical-poverty-thresholds.html>;
Poverty rates by region: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, "Poverty estimates for the U.S., States, and counties, 2016" (<http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/county-level-data-sets/download-data.aspx>).

