



MEMORANDUM

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

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To: Mary Reed, Director, Department of Compliance and Engagement
Jim Owczarski, City Clerk
Keith Broadnax, Legislative Reference Bureau Manager

From: Christopher Hillard, Legislative & Fiscal Services Specialist-Lead

Date: June 24, 2026

Subject: High- and Extreme-Poverty ZIP Codes for the City's Residential Preference Program.

For purposes of s. 309-38-2-b-2 of the Code of Ordinances, I recommend that the City Clerk designate the following ZIP codes as high- and extreme-poverty ZIP Codes for a five-year period beginning upon publication of the revised Residential Preference Policy Ordinance created by Common Council File Number 252102:

ZIP Code	% Poverty
53208	21.6%
53215	22.0%
53216	22.0%
53209	23.7%
53212	24.7%
53224	25.3%
53218	25.9%
53210	29.1%
53204	32.2%
53206	40.5%
53205	45.0%
53233	58.2%

These ZIP codes are recommended based on the new methodology created by Common Council File Number 252102, adopted June 2, 2026, which designates ZIP Codes within the City of Milwaukee as having either "high" or "extreme" levels of poverty based on the U.S. Census Bureau's most-up-to-date estimates for the ZIP Code Tabulation Areas that fall within the city of Milwaukee.

Based on this analysis, the following ZIP Codes would fall into the “high poverty” category with a poverty rate between 20% and 40%:

- 53208
- 53215
- 53216
- 53209
- 53212
- 53224
- 53218
- 53210
- 53204

The following ZIP Codes fall into the “extreme poverty” category with poverty rates of 40% or greater:

- 53206
- 53205
- 53233

The ordinance specifies that the City Clerk shall calculate the poverty rates for the Residential Preference Program by January 1st every five years. Therefore, the next estimate will be made available by January 1, 2031.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this matter.

LRB 181456