

Supplemental Poverty Measure

Trudi Renwick

Assistant Division Chief for Economic Characteristics

U.S. Census Bureau

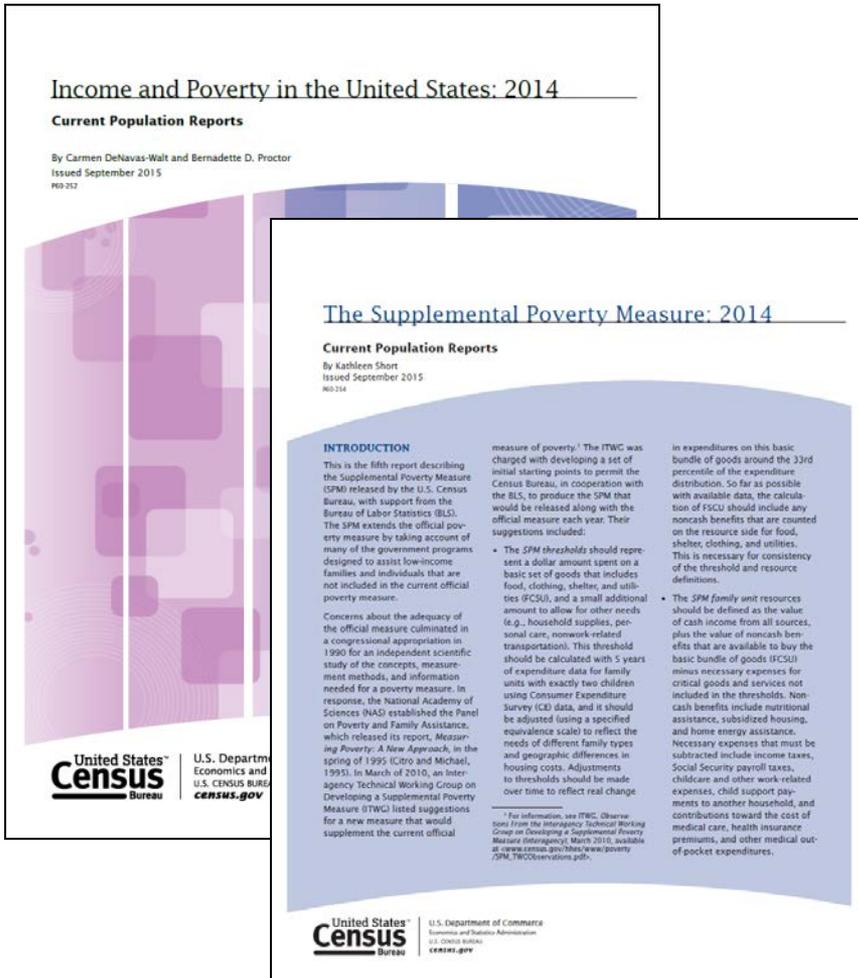
Presentation for the Annual SDC /CIC Training Conference

April 7, 2016

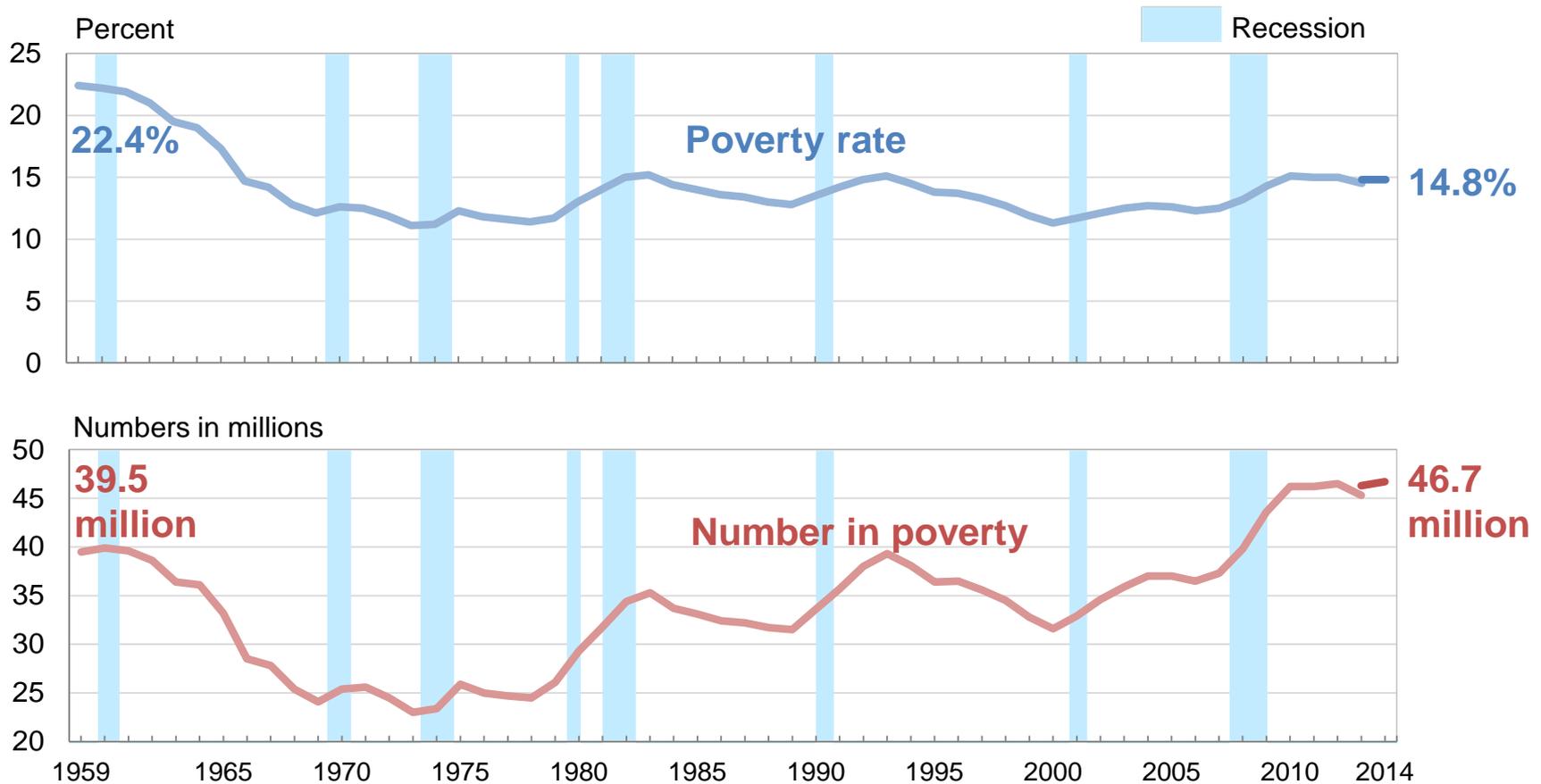
Official and Supplemental Poverty Estimates for 2014 released in September 2015

Highlights

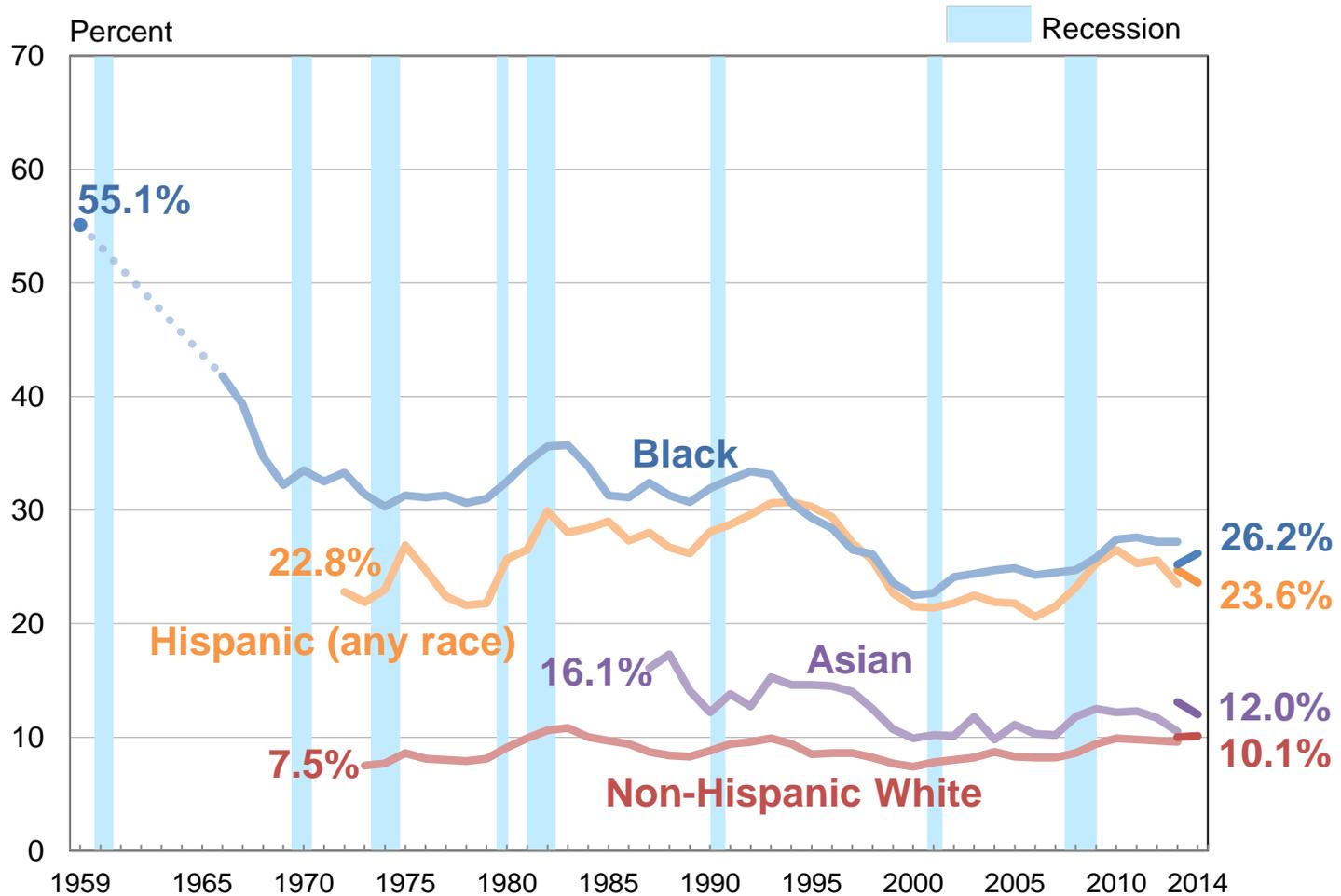
- The official poverty rate for the nation was 14.8 percent. There were 46.7 million people in poverty. No change.
- The Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) rate was 15.3 percent. No change.



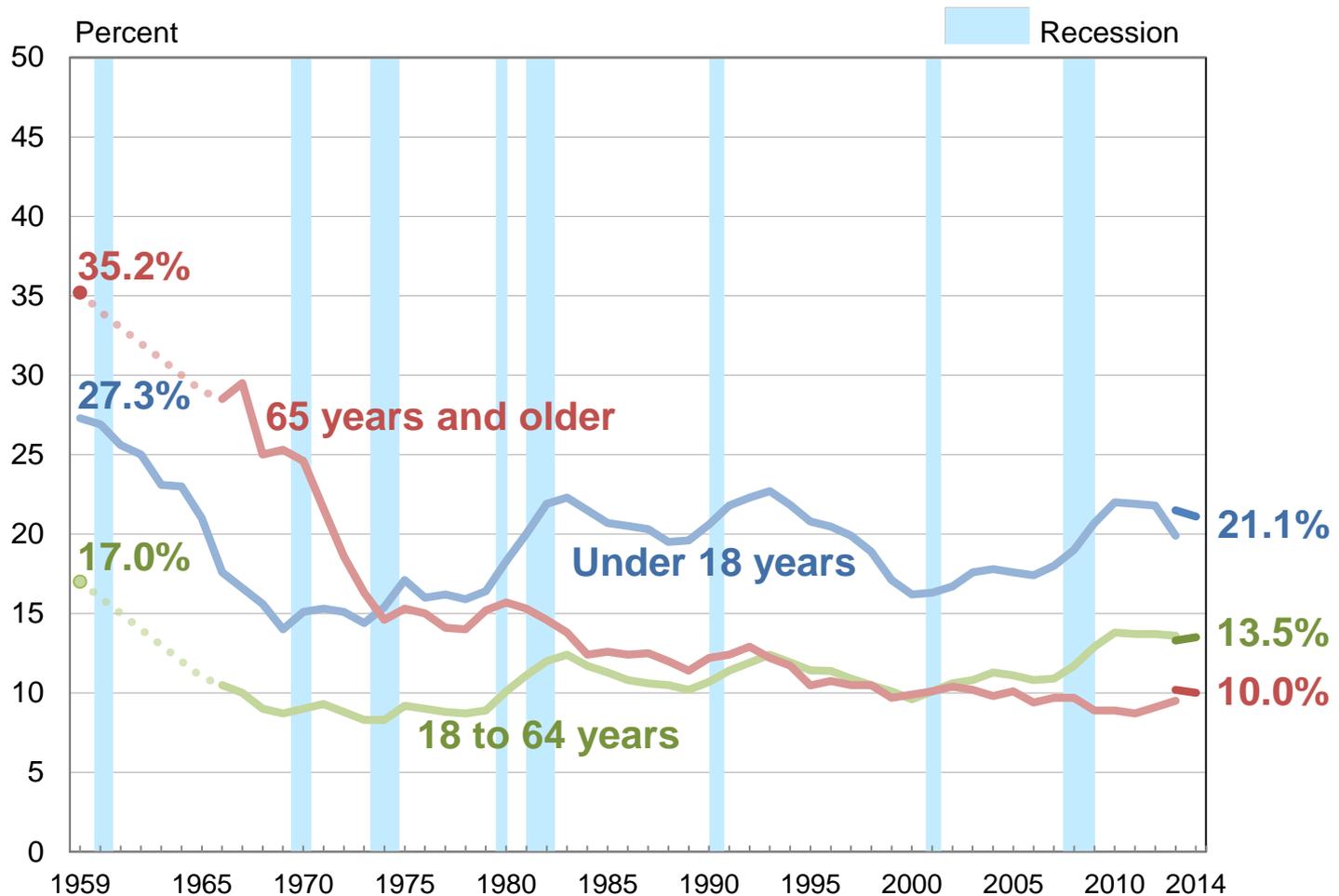
National Poverty Rate and Number in Poverty: Official Measure -1959 to 2014



Official Poverty Rates by Race and Hispanic Origin: 1959 to 2014



Official Poverty Rates by Age: 1959 to 2014



Poverty: The History of a Measure



President Lyndon Johnson declares War on Poverty, January 1964.



The Office of Economic Opportunity adopts Mollie Orshansky's poverty thresholds as a working definition of poverty for statistical planning, May 1965.



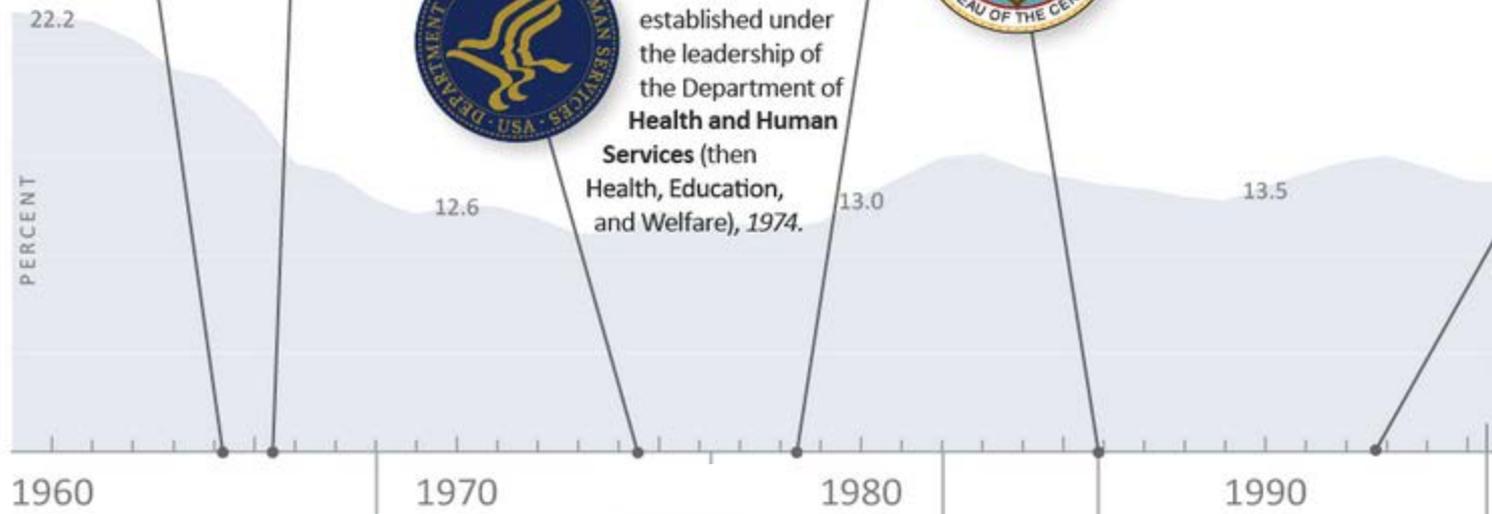
Office Of Management and Budget issues Statistical Policy Directive No. 14 specifying the definition of poverty for statistical purposes, May 1978.



An Interagency Poverty Studies Task Force is established under the leadership of the Department of Health and Human Services (then Health, Education, and Welfare), 1974.



The Census Bureau holds a conference in Williamsburg, Virginia, on the measurement of noncash benefits, December 1985.

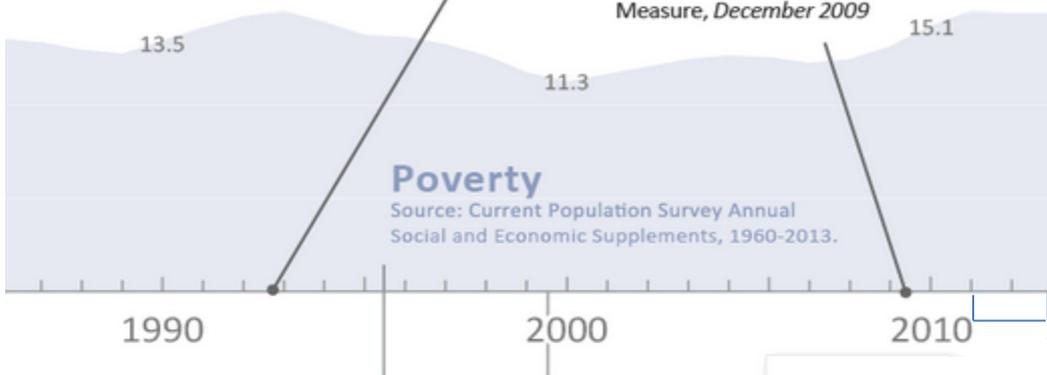


First Census Bureau Report on Poverty: 1967



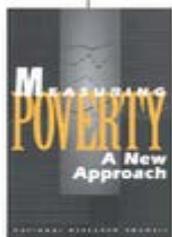
National Academy of Sciences convenes a panel of experts to conduct a study of statistical issues in the measurement and understanding of poverty, *June 1992.*

An **Interagency Technical Working Group on Developing a Supplemental Poverty Measure** is formed by Commerce Under Secretary Rebecca Blank and Office of Management and Budget Chief Statistician Katherine Wallman and charged with developing a set of initial starting points to permit the U.S. Census Bureau, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, to produce a Supplemental Poverty Measure, *December 2009*



Poverty

Source: Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplements, 1960-2013.



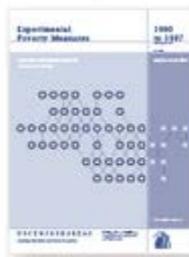
The Panel on Poverty and Family Assistance publishes a report proposing a new approach to measuring poverty.

Constance F. Citro and Robert T. Michael (editors), *Measuring Poverty: A New Approach*, Washington, D.C., National Academy Press, 1995.

Poverty: A New Approach, Washington, D.C., National Academy Press, 1995.

The Census Bureau issues the first report on experimental poverty measures responding to the NAS report.

Kathleen Short, Thesia Garner, David Johnson, and Patricia Doyle, *Experimental Poverty Measures: 1990 to 1997*, U.S. Census Bureau, 1997.



The collage includes the following documents:

- The Research SUPPLEMENTAL POVERTY MEASURE: 2010** (Current Population Reports)
- The Research SUPPLEMENTAL POVERTY MEASURE: 2011** (Current Population Reports)
- The Research SUPPLEMENTAL POVERTY MEASURE: 2012** (Current Population Reports)
- The Supplemental Poverty Measure: 2013** (Current Population Reports)

Criticisms of the Official Poverty Measure

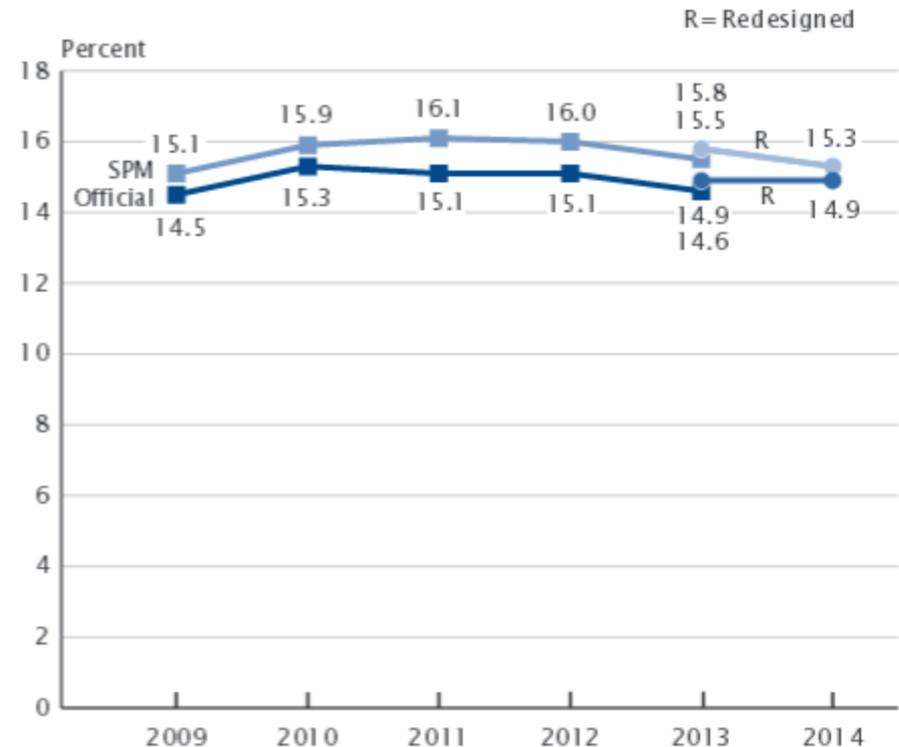
- The official measure does not account for:
 - Provision of in-kind benefits
 - Necessary expenses (taxes, health care, work)
 - Changes in family or household structure
 - Higher standards and levels of living since 1965
 - Geographic price differences among regions

Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM)

Observations from the Interagency Technical Working Group (ITWG) - March 2, 2010

- Will not replace the official poverty measure
- Will not be used for resource allocation or program eligibility
- Census Bureau and BLS responsible for improving and updating the measure
- Continued research and improvement
- Based on National Academy of Sciences expert panel recommendations in *Measuring Poverty: A New Approach* (Citro and Michael, 1995)

Figure 4.
Poverty Rates Using the Official Measure and the SPM: 2009 to 2014



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2010–2015 Annual Social and Economic Supplements.

For both measures, individuals are considered poor if the resources they share with others in the household are not enough to meet basic needs.



But the two measures are very different.



Official Measure



Supplemental Measure



Official Measure



Supplemental Measure

Who shares resources?

The two measures make different assumptions about who shares resources. The SPM assumes that more people in a household share resources with one another.

The official measure of poverty assumes that all individuals residing together who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption share income.



The SPM starts with the family and then adds some unrelated people such as foster children and unmarried partners.



How do we measure needs?

The **poverty threshold**, or **poverty line**, is the minimum level of resources that are adequate to meet basic needs.

The official measure uses three times the cost of a minimum **food** diet in 1963 in today's prices.



The SPM uses information about what people spend today for basic needs— **food**, **clothing**, **shelter**, and **utilities**.



Official Measure



Supplemental Measure

Are needs the same in New York and Mississippi?

Poverty thresholds for both measures are adjusted to reflect the needs of families of different types and sizes. Only the SPM thresholds take account of geographic differences in housing costs.

Yes, the official poverty threshold is the same throughout the United States. In 2012, the poverty threshold for a family with two adults and two children was \$23,283*.

No, SPM thresholds vary based on several factors such as place of residence and whether it is a rental unit or purchased property or home with a mortgage. The map below shows the SPM thresholds for renters with two adults and two children in 2012.

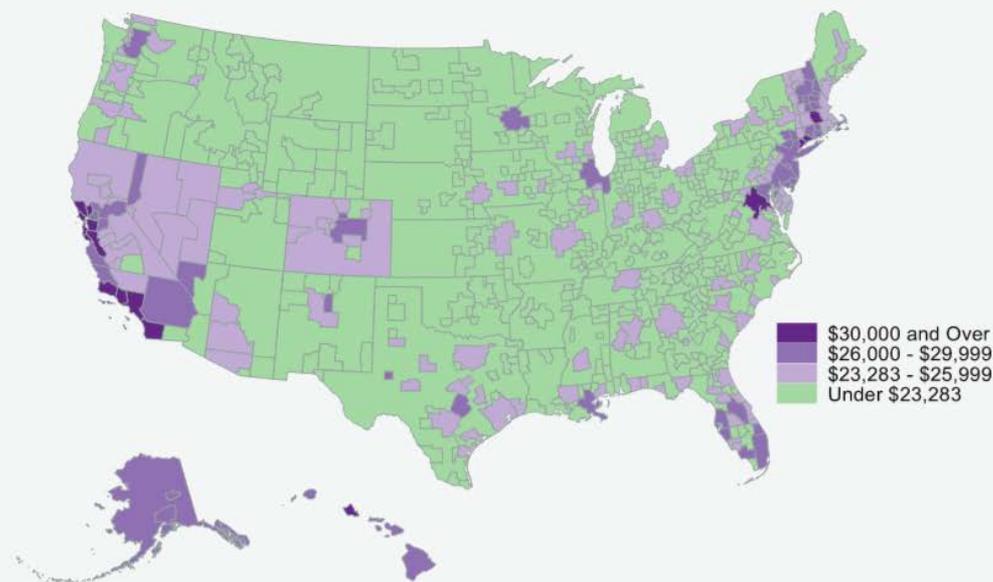
2012 Official Poverty Thresholds
(Two Adults and Two Children)



Source: DeNavas-Walt, Carmen, Bernadette D. Proctor, and Jessica C. Smith. Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2012. U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, P60-245, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington DC, September 2013.

*Revised since first release on Jan. 7, 2014. Original number was \$22,283.

2012 SPM Poverty Thresholds for Renters
(Two Adults and Two Children)



Sources: Geographic adjustments based on housing costs from the American Community Survey 2007-2011. Base thresholds are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics <www.bls.gov/pir/spm/spm_thresholds_2012.htm>.

What resources do people have to meet their needs?

What we count as available resources differs between the two poverty measures.

The official measure uses cash income, such as wages and salaries, Social Security benefits, interest, dividends, pension or other retirement income.



The SPM starts with cash income, then...

ADDING BENEFITS

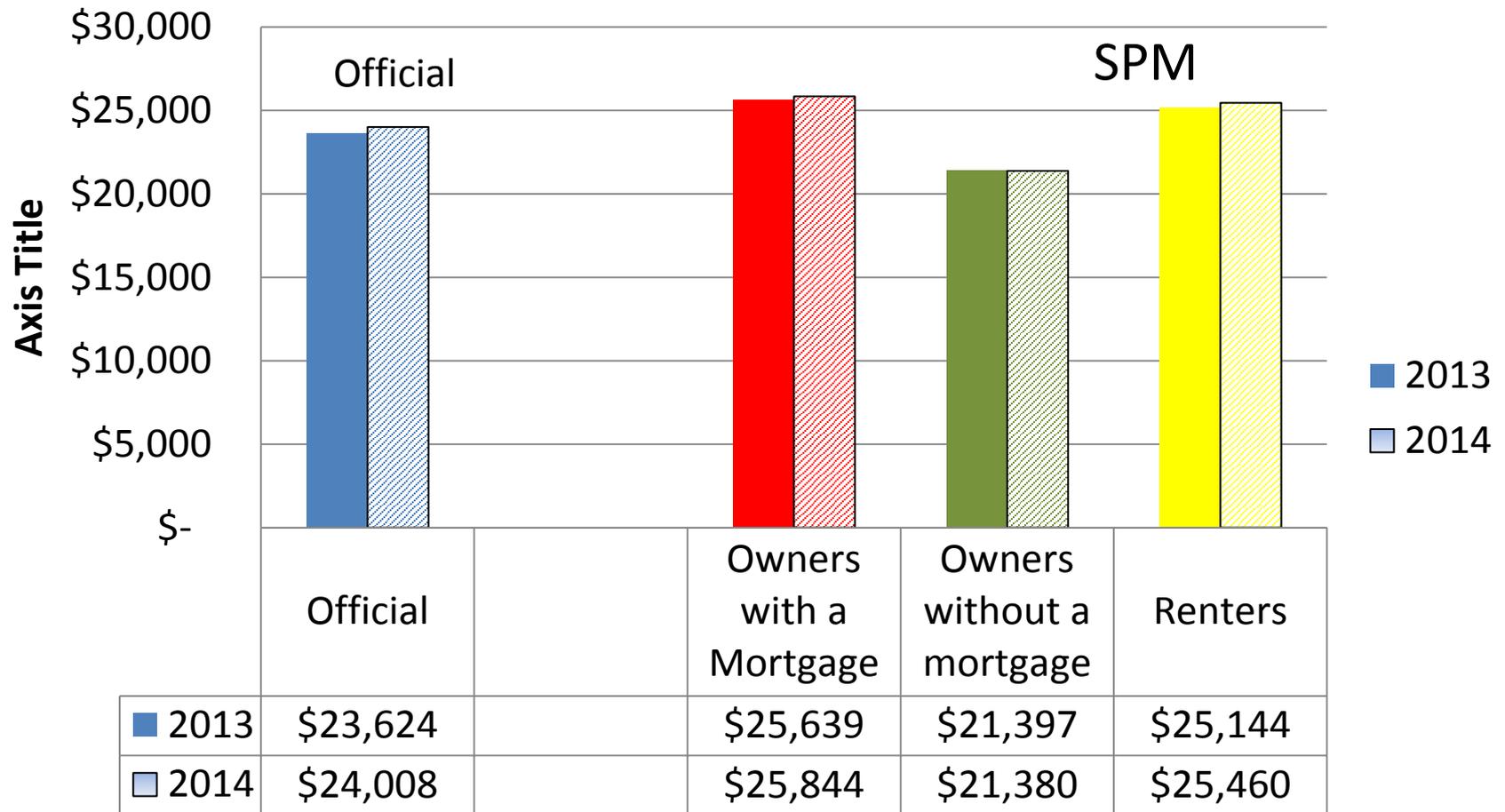
The SPM adds benefits from the government that are not cash but help families meet their basic needs.

SUBTRACTING EXPENSES

The SPM subtracts necessary expenses like taxes, health care, commuting costs for all workers, and child care expenses while parents work.

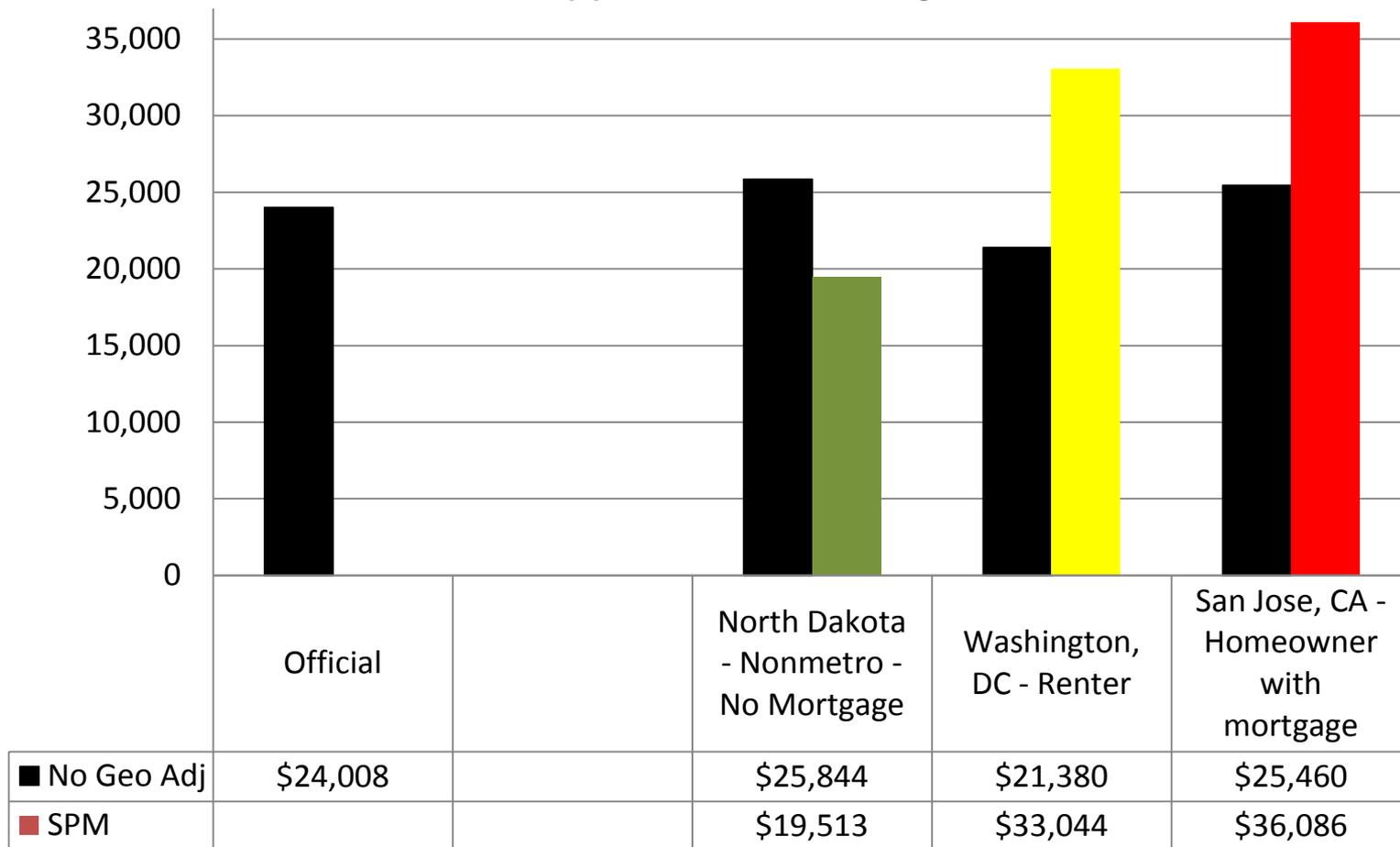


Official and SPM Thresholds: 2013 and 2014

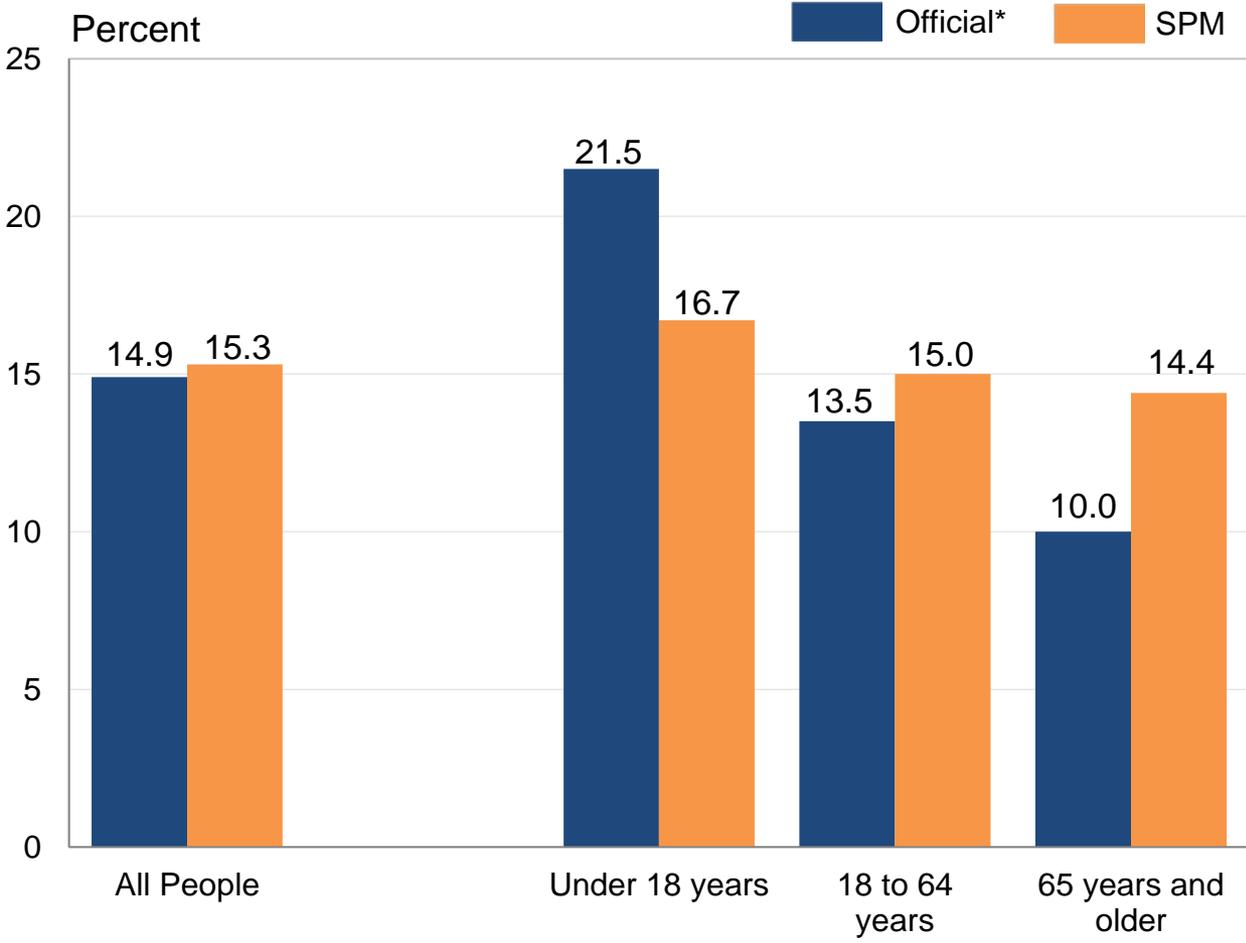


Official and Research SPM Thresholds for Two Adult, Two Child Units with Geographic Adjustments: 2014

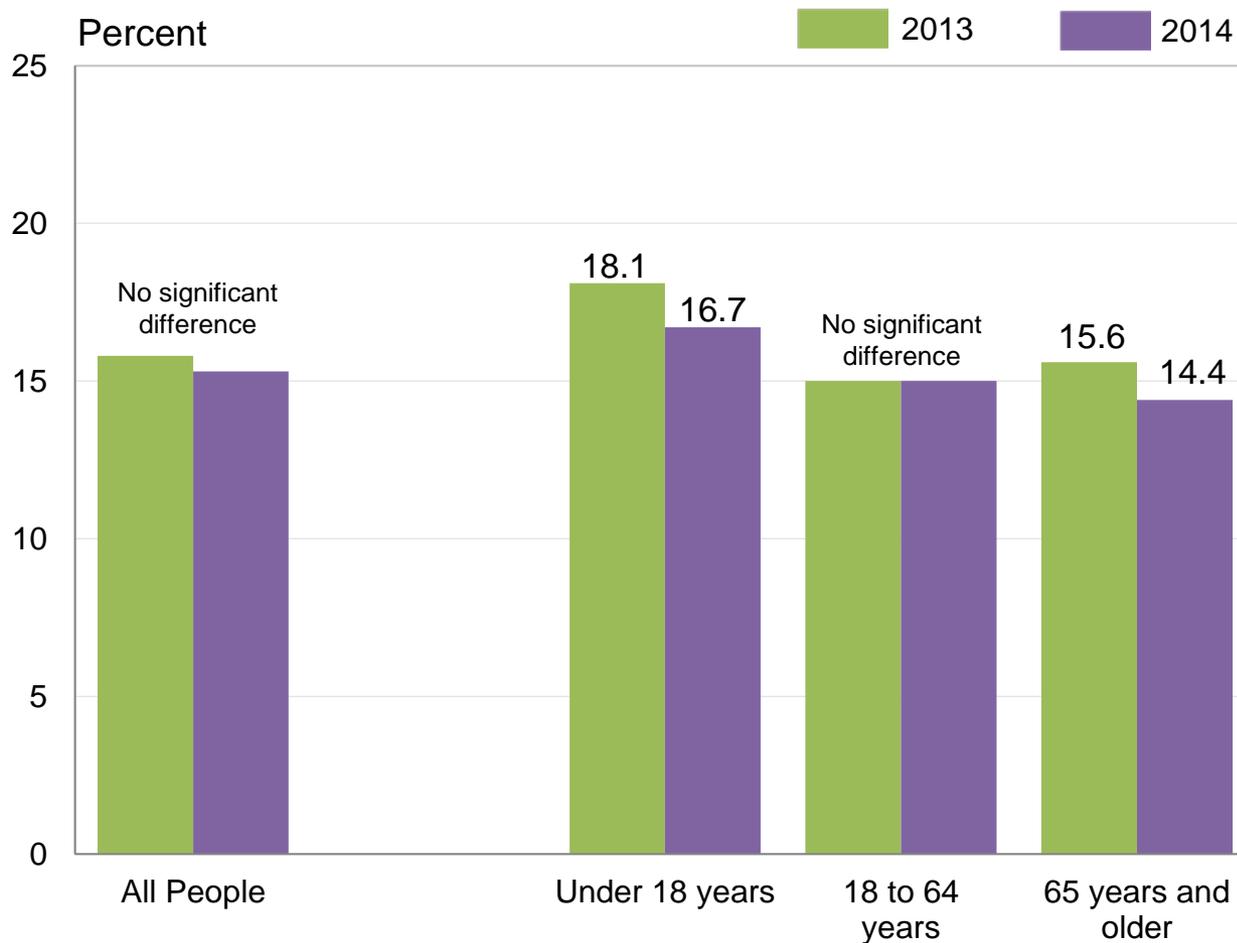
Supplemental Poverty Thresholds



Comparison of SPM and Official Poverty Estimates: 2014

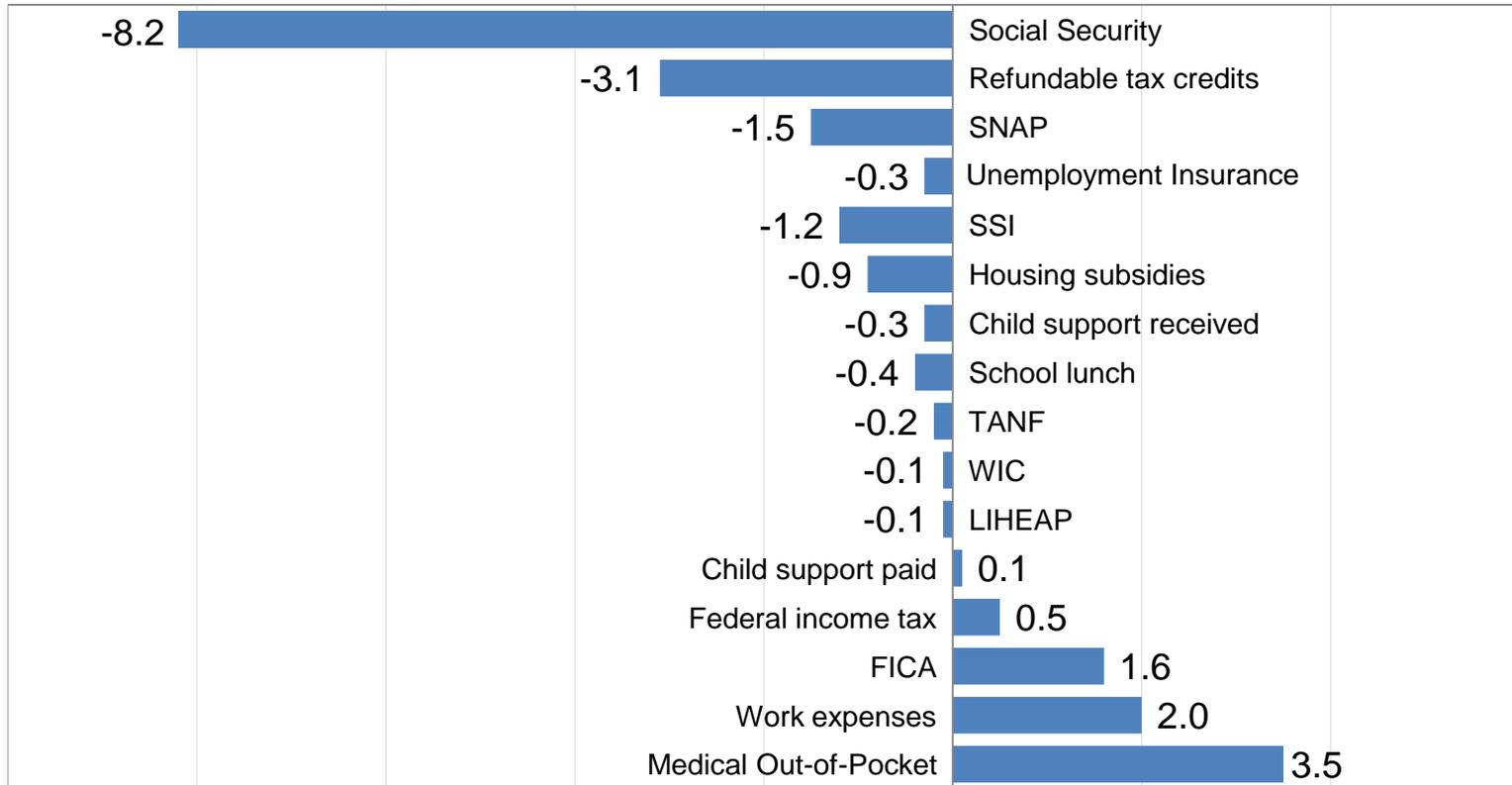


Comparison of SPM Poverty Estimates: 2013 and 2014



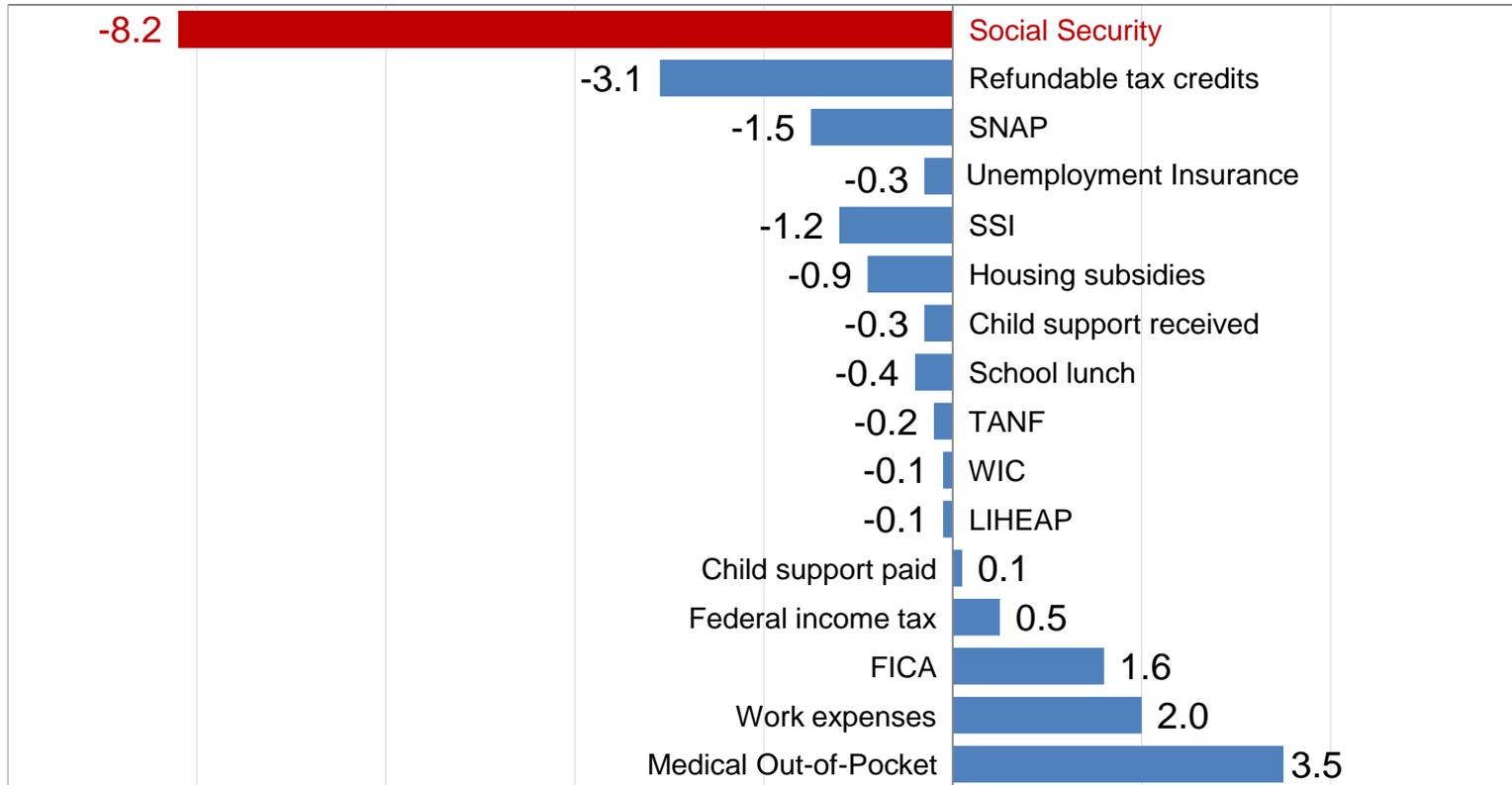
Difference in SPM Rate After Including Each Element: 2014

Percentage point change



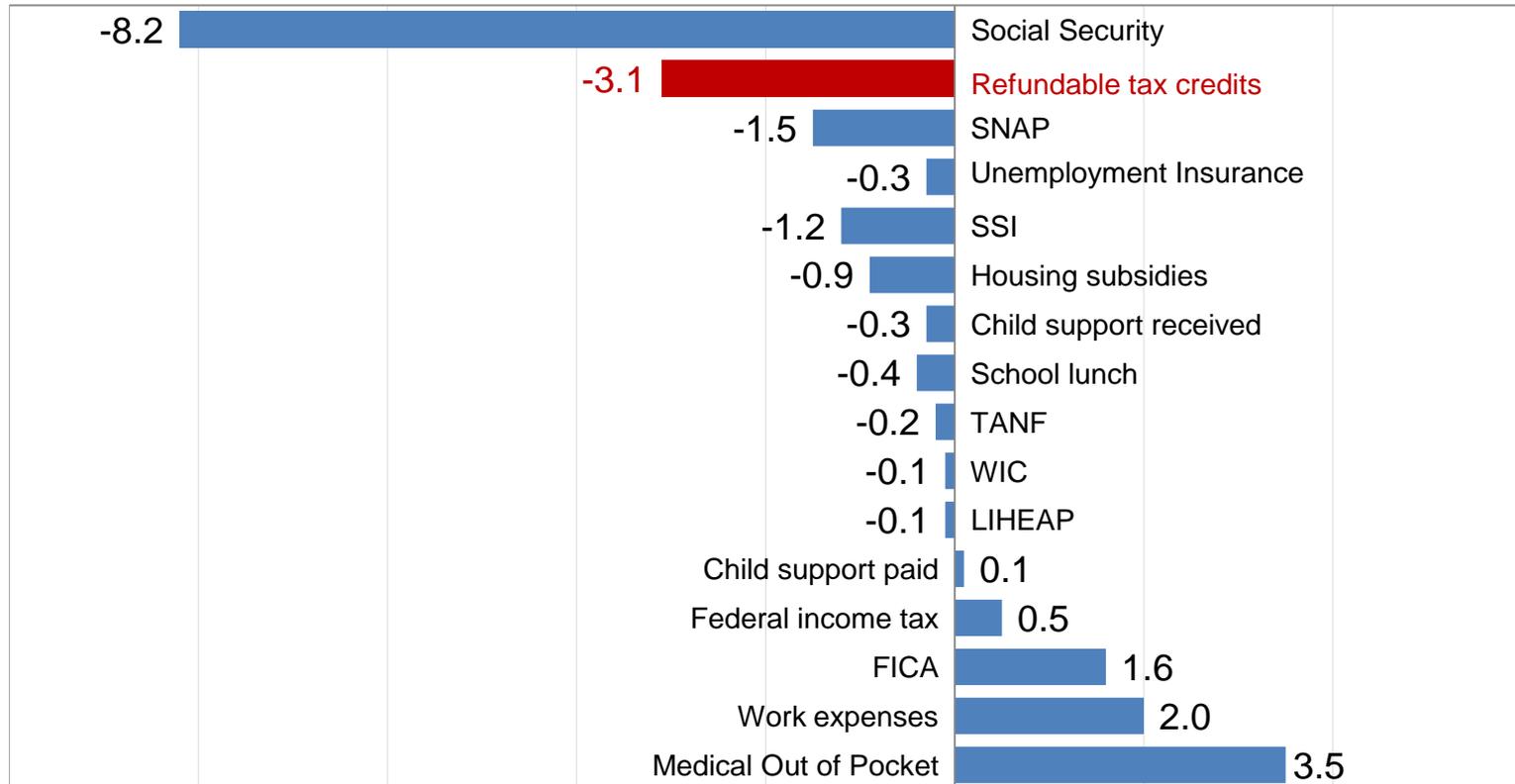
Difference in SPM Rate After Including Each Element: 2014

Percentage point change



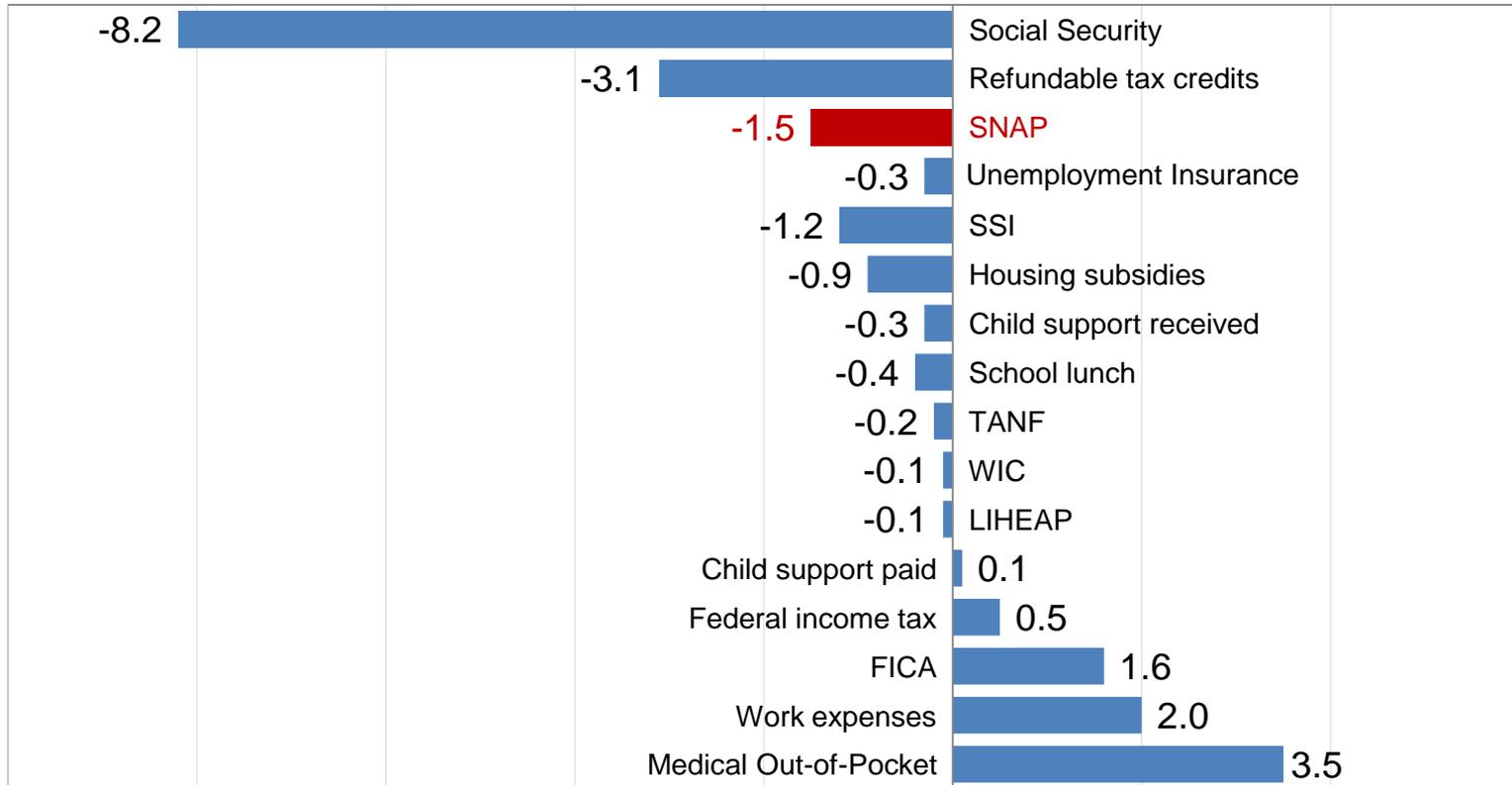
Difference in SPM Rate After Including Each Element: 2014

Percentage point change



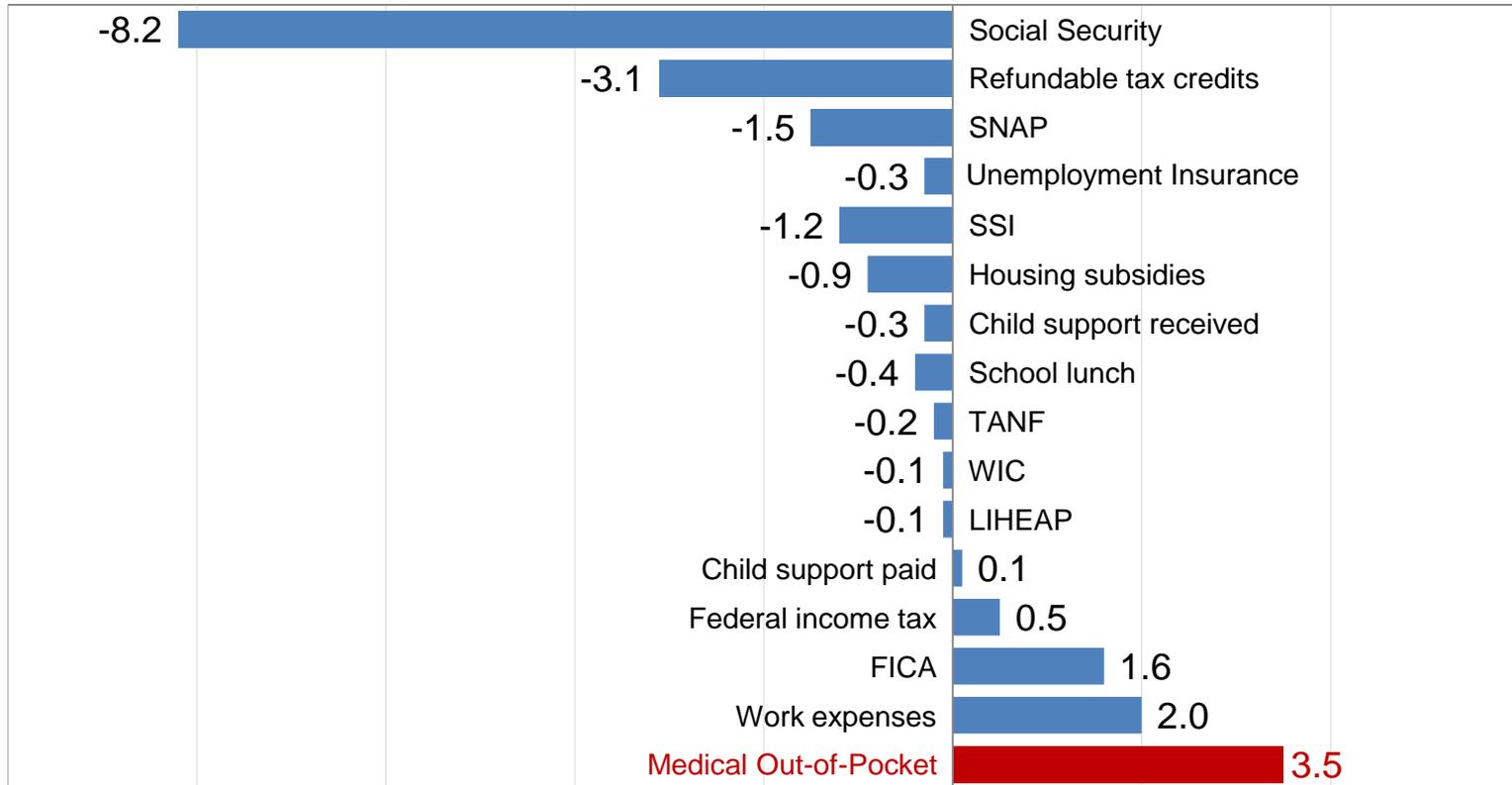
Difference in SPM Rate After Including Each Element: 2014

Percentage point change



Difference in SPM Rate After Including Each Element: 2014

Percentage point change



Sources of Poverty Estimates

Current Population Survey

- Official poverty statistics per OMB Directive 14
- National estimates with long time series – poverty back to 1959
- Extensive historical and detailed tables on the Internet
- Microdata/Table Creator

American Community Survey – 2005 to present

- Subject Briefs
- American FactFinder – 1 year vs 5 year estimates
- Data Ferrett/Micro data

Survey of Income and Program Participation – longitudinal estimates

- Reports
- Table packages
- Microdata

Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates

- Model-based estimates for every school district
- Input data includes number of recipients for each county from 1981 to present

Decennial Data – long form for income and poverty 1959-1999

Poverty: 2009 and 2010

American Community Survey Briefs

Issued October 2011

INTRODUCTION

Poverty estimates represent an important indicator of economic well being. This report, using income and household relationship data from the 1-year 2009 and 2010 American Community Surveys (ACS), compares poverty rates for the nation, states, and large metropolitan statistical areas. The report also summarizes the distributions of income-to-poverty ratios for states and the District of Columbia.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Nationally, the poverty rate increased from 14.3 percent in the 2009 ACS to 15.3 percent in the 2010 ACS. The number of people in poverty increased from 42.9 million to 46.2 million during the same time period.
- Thirty-two states experienced an increase in the number and percentage of people in poverty between 2009 and 2010. For 20 states, this was the second consecutive annual increase.¹
- No state had a statistically significant decline in either the number of people in poverty or the poverty rate between 2009 and 2010.
- The percent of people with income below 125 percent of their poverty threshold increased from 18.9 percent in 2009 to 20.1 percent in 2010. During the same time period, the percentage of people with income below 50 percent of

¹ Bishaw and Macartney, *Poverty: 2008 and 2009*, American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, September 2010.



Areas With Concentrated Poverty: 2006–2010

American Community Survey Briefs

Issued December 2011

ACSR/10-17

By
Alemayehu Bishaw

People living in poverty tend to be clustered in certain neighborhoods rather than being evenly distributed across geographic areas. Measuring this concentration of poverty is important because researchers have found that living in areas with many other poor people places burdens on low-income families beyond what the families' own individual circumstances would dictate. Many argue that this concentration of poverty results in higher crime rates, underperforming public schools, poor housing and health conditions, as well as limited access to private services and job opportunities.¹ In recognition of these burdens, some government programs target resources to communities with concentrated poverty. Many of these programs use the Census Bureau's definition of "poverty areas" (census tracts with poverty rates of 20 percent or more).²

Using the 5-year poverty rate estimates from the American Community Survey (ACS), this report analyzes demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of census tracts by categorizing the tracts into four categories based on their

poverty rate levels.³ Category I includes census tracts with poverty rates less than

Child Poverty in the United States 2009 and 2010: Selected Race Groups and Hispanic Origin

American Community Survey Briefs

Issued November 2011

ACSR/10-05

By
Suzanne Macartney

INTRODUCTION

Poverty is a critical indicator of the well-being of our nation's children. Changes in child poverty rates over time can provide an evaluation of a particular antipoverty initiative and help to identify people and groups whose most basic economic needs remain unmet. Children who live in poverty, especially young children, are more likely than their peers to have cognitive and behavioral difficulties, to complete fewer years of education, and, as they grow up, to experience more years of unemployment.¹

HIGHLIGHTS FROM ACS 2010²

- More than one in five children in the United States (15.75 million) lived in poverty in 2010.
- More than 1.1 million children were added to the poverty population between the 2009 ACS and the 2010 ACS.
- The 2010 ACS child poverty rate (21.6 percent) is the highest since the survey began in 2001.
- Children from all race groups were added to the poverty population since the 2009 ACS, including children reported as White (507,000), Black (259,000), Some Other Race (99,000), and children of Two or More Races (160,000).
- In the 2010 ACS, White and Asian children had poverty rates below the U.S. average. Other race groups had higher rates, including Black children (38.2 percent) and children identified with Two or More Races (22.7 percent). Poverty for Hispanic children was 32.3 percent.
- The number and percentage of children in poverty increased in 27 states from the 2009 ACS to the 2010 ACS. In no state did the number or percent of children in poverty decrease.
- Ten states had child poverty rates estimated at 25.0 percent or higher while only New Hampshire had a child

¹ See for example, *The Enduring Challenge of Concentrated Poverty in America: Case Studies from Communities across the U.S.A.*, A joint Project of the Community Affairs Offices of the Federal Reserve System and the Metropolitan Policy Program at the Brookings Institution. (Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, 2008).

² For example, the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act in Section 103(a) allows Basic State Grant projects whose activities or products target poverty areas to receive as much as 90 percent in federal support and the New Market Tax Credit (NMTC) program, enacted in December 2000 as part of the Community Renewal Tax Relief Act, defines eligibility as projects in census tracts

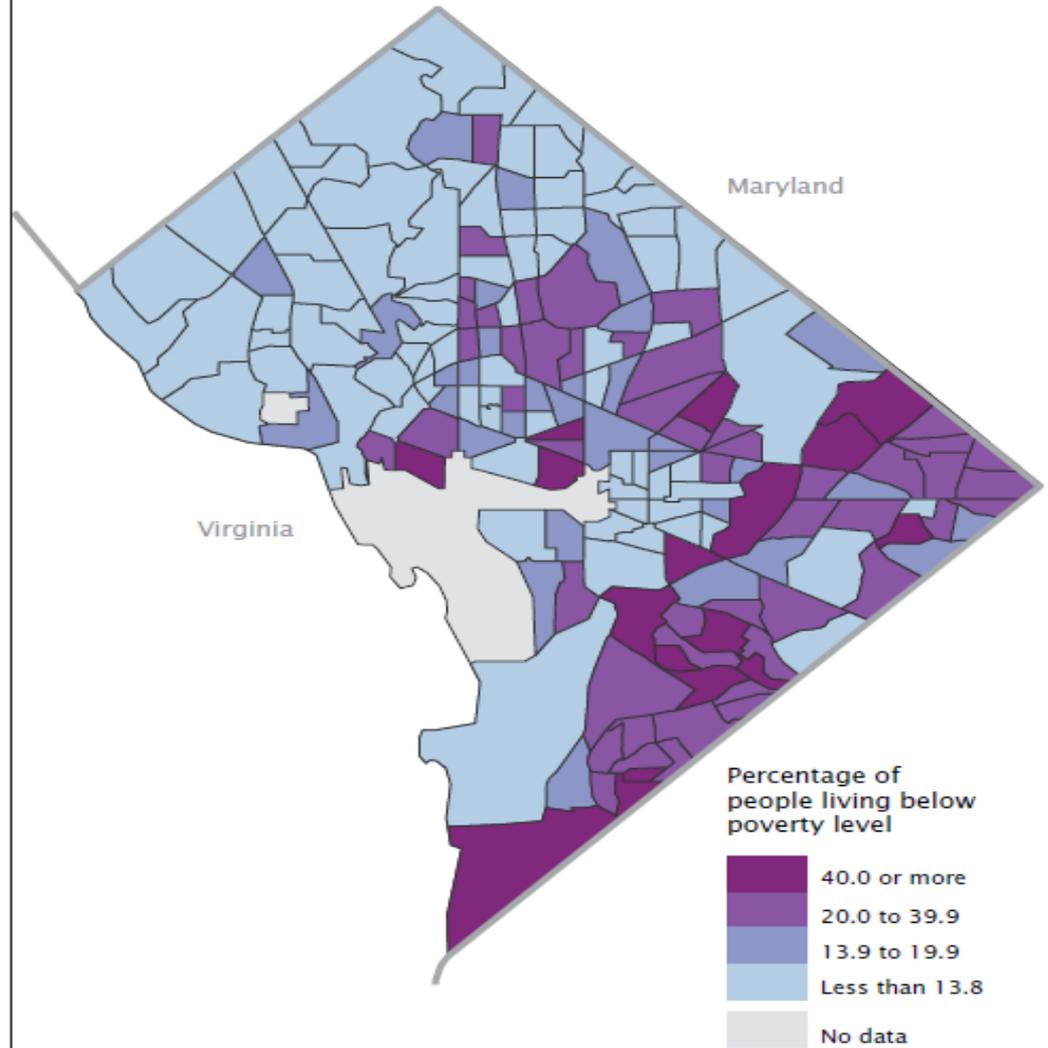
³ Duncan, G., and Brooks-Gunn, J. (Eds.). 2007.



U.S. Department
Economics and Statistics
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
census.gov

Concentration of Poverty

Figure 3.
Percentage of People in Poverty in the Past 12 Months for the District of Columbia by Census Tract: 2006–2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006–2010 American Community Survey. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <www.census.gov/acs/www>.



▼ Community Facts

Find popular facts (population, income, etc.) and frequently requested data about your community.

Enter a state, county, city, town, or zip code:

▶ Guided Search

▶ Advanced Search

▶ Download Center



Popular Tables

Population and Housing

- [Annual Population Estimates \(2014 PER, PEPANNRES\)](#)
- [Demographic and Housing Estimates \(2013 ACS, DP05\)](#)
- [General Housing Characteristics \(2013 ACS, DP04\)](#)
- [General Demographic Characteristics \(2010 Census, DP-1\)](#)

Poverty and Income

- [General Economic Characteristics \(2013 ACS, DP03\)](#)

Age, Race, Sex and Education

- [Selected Social Characteristics \(2013 ACS, DP02\)](#)
- [Educational Attainment \(2013 ACS, S1501\)](#)

American Community Survey (ACS)

[About the Survey](#)

[Respond to the Survey](#)

[News & Updates](#)

[Data](#)

[Guidance for Data Users](#)

[Geography & ACS](#)

Technical Documentation

[Code Lists, Definitions, and Accuracy](#)

[User Notes](#)

[Errata](#)

[Data Suppression](#)

[Table & Geography Changes](#)

[Summary File Documentation](#)

PUMS Documentation

[About PUMS](#)

[Confidentiality of PUMS](#)

[PUMS Data](#)

[PUMS FAQs](#)

[PUMS File Structure](#)

[PUMS on DataFerrett](#)

[PUMS Technical](#)

Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) Documentation



The American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) files are a set of untabulated records about individual people or housing units. The Census Bureau produces the PUMS files so that data users can create custom tables that are not available through pretabulated (or summary) ACS data products.

Summary products, such as the tables and profiles accessible via American FactFinder (AFF), show data that have already been tabulated for specific geographic areas.

PUMS files, in contrast, include population and housing unit records with individual response information such as relationship, sex, educational attainment, and employment status.

Confidentiality of PUMS

The [confidentiality of ACS respondents](#) is protected through a variety of means, ensuring that it is impossible to identify individuals who provide any response, yet making sure the results are still useful. The PUMS records do not contain names, addresses, or any information that can identify a specific housing unit, group quarter, or person.

Why Use PUMS?

PUMS files are perfect for people, such as students, who are looking for greater accessibility to inexpensive data for research projects. Social scientists often use the PUMS for regression analysis and modeling applications.

What's Available and How Can I Access PUMS?

The Census Bureau produces ACS 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year PUMS files. The 3-year and 5-year PUMS files are multiyear combinations of the 1-year PUMS file with appropriate adjustments to the weights and inflation adjustment factors. The PUMS files are accessible via [American FactFinder](#), the Census Bureau's [FTP site](#), and DataFerrett. Statistical software is needed to use the PUMS files from American FactFinder and the FTP site.

Need Help with PUMS?

Learn more about PUMS in the Compass Products [What PUMS Data Users Need to Know](#) handbook and [Introduction to the PUMS](#) training presentation. You can also learn more about creating ACS custom tables using DataFerrett by viewing [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#) of our new videos.

Geographic Areas Available

Region, Division, State, and Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs) are the only geographic areas identified in the ACS PUMS. Of these, [Public Use Microdata Areas \(PUMAs\)](#) are the most detailed geographic areas available.

[contact us](#) | [website feedback](#) | [email updates](#) | [site map](#)

Dynamics of Economic Well-Being: Participation in Government Programs, 2009–2012: Who Gets Assistance?

Household Economic Studies

By Shelley K. Irving and Tracy A. Loveless
Issued May 2015
#X141

This report focuses on the participation and characteristics of people who received benefits from any of the following means-tested assistance programs:¹

- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)²
- Housing Assistance
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- General Assistance (GA)

The data come from the 2008 Panel of the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) calendar years 2009 through 2012.³ The SIPP survey, which means that, unlike period

surveys, such as the Current Population Survey (CPS), the SIPP follows the same people over time.⁴ This longitudinal quality allows examination of the SIPP sample from two perspectives.

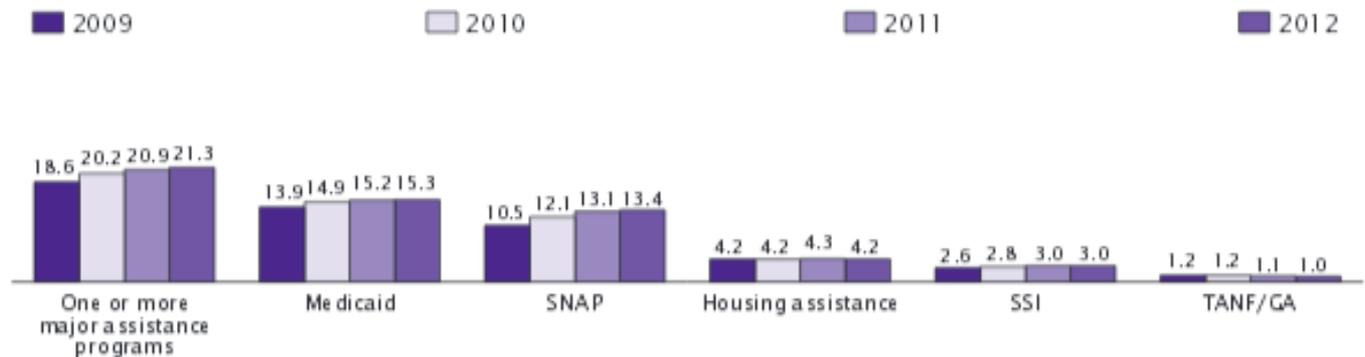
First, it is possible to observe the same people over a span of time. The number of months within a period of time when individuals received benefits from one or more means-tested assistance programs can be examined, and entry and exit activity for each program can be measured. For example, the number, timing, and duration of people moving into and out of a particular situation within a time period can be studied, such as the length of time an individual continuously receives program benefits.

¹ Means-tested programs are those that require assets of an individual or family to fall below specific levels to qualify for benefits. There may be additional criteria to receive these programs, which provide cash and eligible individuals and families.

² The Food Stamp Program was renamed the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in 2008.

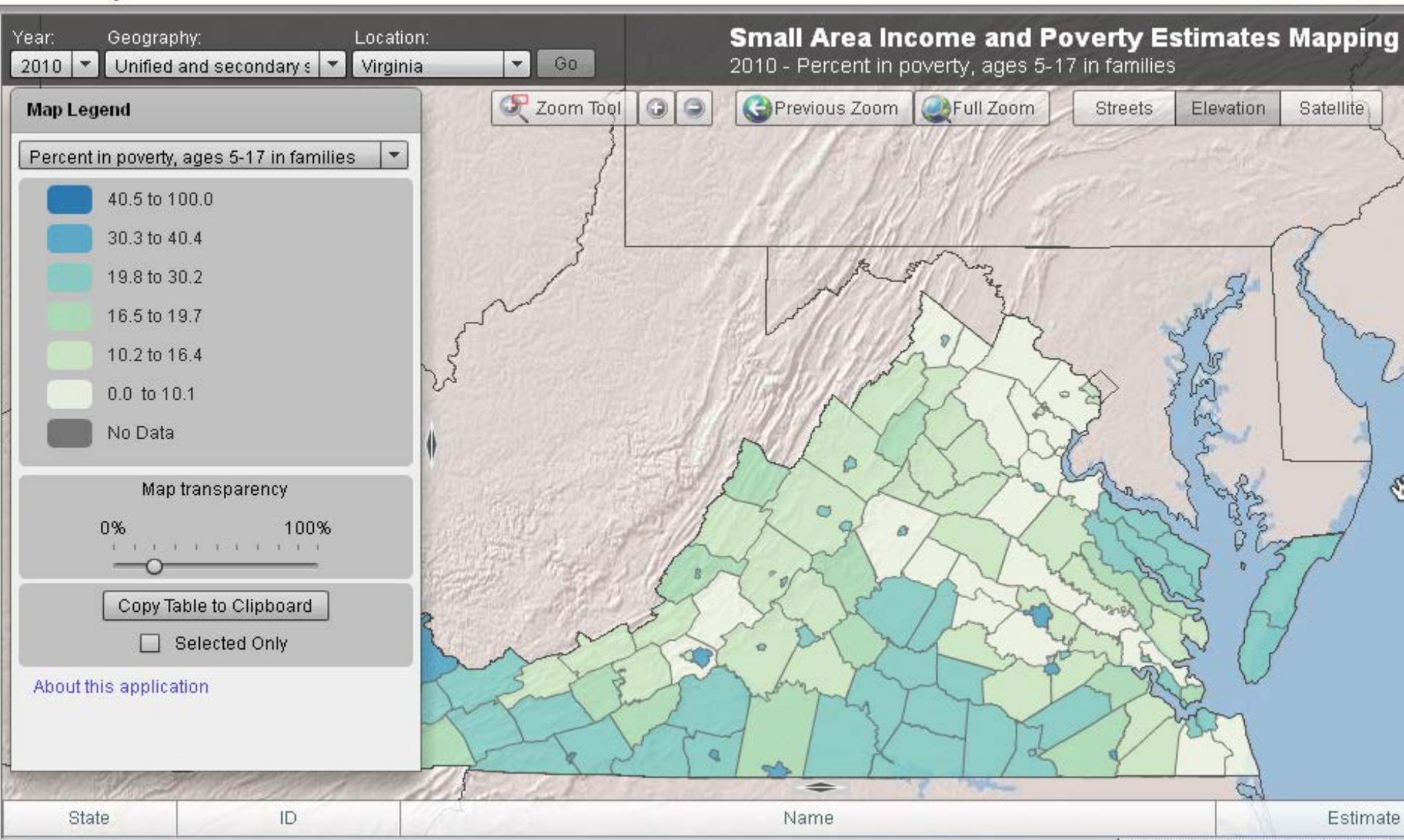
³ The 2008 Panel followed the same individuals monthly from May 2008 to November 2012. The data collected from February 2009 through April 2012 is 2008 SIPP. The population represented is the population of noninstitutionalized civilians living in a sample of households. SIPP is divided into four representative groups. Each month, one of the four rotates about the previous 4 months (the welfare panel interview procedure, interview waves, or rotation the SIPP User's Guide at www.census.gov/cen2008/sipp/usersguide/methodology/SIPP_US08S_Guide_Civ

Figure 1.
Average Monthly Participation Rates for Major Means-Tested Programs: 2009–2012
(Percentage of noninstitutionalized civilian population)



U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
www.census.gov

Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)



Decennial Census

Poverty estimates for 1959-1999

- <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/data/census/Poverty-Rates-by-County-1960-2010.xlsm>

Data Access Tools

- [Census.gov](https://www.census.gov)
- [American FactFinder](#)
- [Table Creator](#)
- [Data Ferrett](#)
- [SAIPE – Small Area Income and Poverty Ests.](#)
- [Decennial Poverty Rates](#)

Poverty

Main

About Poverty

Data

Methodology

Publications

Related Sites

Contact Us

Quick Links

- [Overview / Highlights](#)
- [Definitions](#)
- [Poverty Data Sources](#)
- [Microdata Access](#)
- [Poverty Thresholds](#)

Poverty Main

The Census Bureau reports poverty data from several major household surveys and programs. The Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) provides official national poverty estimates. The American Community Survey (ACS) provides single and multi-year estimates for smaller areas. The Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) provides longitudinal estimates. The Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program provides model-based poverty estimates for counties and small areas. See [Sources](#) to determine which survey or program meets your specific needs.

Latest Releases

- [Income and Poverty in the United States: 2014 \(P60-252\)](#)
- [Note on National Income and Poverty Estimates for Calendar Year 2013](#)
- [Supplemental Poverty Measure: 2014 \(P60-254\) \[PDF - 1.4M\]](#)
- [Note on National Income and Poverty Estimates for Calendar Year 2013](#)
- [Expert Meeting on Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance](#)
- [Poverty Rates by County: 1980-2010 \[XLSM - 6M\]](#)
- [Dynamics of Economic Well-Being: Poverty 2009-2012](#)
- [Poverty: 2012 and 2013 \(ACSBR/13-01\) \[PDF - 508k\]](#)
- [Changes in Areas With Concentrated Poverty: 2000 to 2010](#)
- [Living in Near Poverty in the United States: 1986-2012 \(P60-248\)](#)
- [How Census Measures Poverty Infographic \[Source: U.S. Census Bureau\]](#)
- [The History of a Measure Infographic \[Source: U.S. Census Bureau\]](#)
- [Tables of NAS-based Experimental Poverty Estimates: \[2013\]\(#\)](#)

Poverty - Experimental Measures

[Main](#)[About Experimental Poverty Measures](#)[Data](#)[Methodology](#)[Publications](#)[Related Sites](#)[Contact Us](#)

Quick Links

- [About Experimental Poverty Measures](#)
- [National Academy of Science \(NAS\) Report](#)
- [Supplemental Poverty Measure Overview](#)
- [NAS-Based Poverty Measures Overview](#)
- [Microdata access](#)
- [Latest Research](#)
- [Supplemental Poverty Measure Thresholds](#)

Poverty - Experimental Measures

Since the development of the current official poverty measure in the 1960's by Mollie Orshansky there have been a series of studies and reviews measure. These studies produced a large number of technical working papers and reports, including a National Academy of Sciences (NAS) 1995 measurement issues that are still being discussed by researchers and policy makers today.

For many years, the Census Bureau has estimated a number of experimental poverty measures based on recommendations of the 1995 NAS report.

An Interagency Technical Working Group on Developing a Supplemental Poverty Measure was formed in 2009 and charged with developing a set cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, to produce a Supplemental Poverty Measure. The Supplemental Poverty Measure will not replace determine eligibility for government programs. Instead, the Supplemental Poverty Measure is designed as an experimental poverty measure that be different from the official poverty measure.

Latest Releases

[The Supplemental Poverty Measure: 2014](#) [PDF - 487k]

[Supplemental Poverty Measure Thresholds: 2014](#) [XLSX - 116k]

[Supplemental Poverty Measure Public Use Research Files](#)

[Tables of NAS-Based Experimental Poverty Estimates: 2014](#)

[Poverty Thresholds for Two-Adult-Two-Child Family Following NAS Recommendations: 1999-2014](#) [XLS - 38k]

[Experimental Poverty Measures Public Use Research Files \(NAS\)](#)

Tables of NAS-based Experimental Poverty Estimates: [2013](#)

[Supplemental Poverty Measure - Federal Register Notice and Solicitation of Comments](#)

[How Census Measures Poverty Infographic](#) [Source: U.S. Census Bureau]

[The History of a Measure Infographic](#) [Source: U.S. Census Bureau]

[Observations from the Interagency Technical Working Group on Developing a Supplemental Poverty Measure](#) [PDF - 33k]

[Latest Research - Supplemental Poverty Measure](#)



▼ Community Facts

Find popular facts (population, income, etc.) and frequently requested data about your community.

Enter a state, county, city, town, or zip code:

GO

▶ Guided Search

▶ Advanced Search

▶ Download Center



Popular Tables

Population and Housing

- [Annual Population Estimates \(2014 PER, PEPANNRES\)](#)
- [Demographic and Housing Estimates \(2013 ACS, DP05\)](#)
- [General Housing Characteristics \(2013 ACS, DP04\)](#)
- [General Demographic Characteristics \(2010 Census, DP-1\)](#)

Poverty and Income

- [General Economic Characteristics \(2013 ACS, DP03\)](#)

Age, Race, Sex and Education

- [Selected Social Characteristics \(2013 ACS, DP02\)](#)
- [Educational Attainment \(2013 ACS, S1501\)](#)

Current Population Survey (CPS)

Home | About The CPS | Methodology | Data | Related Sites | Contact Us

CPS Table Creator

Table Criteria:

Data Options

Get Count of: [Help](#)

Persons - All

Number of Years: 1 Latest Year:

2012

One Table Showing Multi-Year Averages

Separate Table For Each Year

Census 2010 Weights

Define Your Table

Statistics

Customized Formatting

[Hide Panel](#)

Filters/Subsets: [Help](#)

All States All Sexes All Races All Origins All Nationalities Full/Part Time

All Worker Status

The CPS Table Creator gives you the ability to create customized tables from the Current Population Survey and the Current Population Survey Social and Economic Supplement.

- Complete the form to the left and press the "Get Table" button at the top or bottom of the form to create a table.
- To create a table, you must make one or more selections in the **Define Your Table** section. For help in getting started, you may use the default selections or enter alternate selections to customize the table to meet your needs.
- For help in getting started, see the [detailed examples](#) of completing the form to create a table.

Disclaimer:

While tabulations may be conceptually the same as published estimates, in many cases they will differ from published estimates because the Table Creator uses the CPS public use file. The CPS public use file does not contain the detailed income information, topcodes several categories of income, and suppresses some geographic areas in order to protect survey confidentiality.

* This tool is best viewed with normal font settings and in the Firefox web browser.





Poverty Thresholds

[Help](#)

Poverty Threshold Options

Pre-Set Poverty Threshold Choices:

- Official Poverty Thresholds
- Three-Parameter Thresholds
- CE-based Thresholds
- CE-based Thresholds with Medical Out-of-Pocket

Relative Poverty Scale Choices:

- OECD Equivalence Scale (1)
- OECD Equivalence Scale (2)

Price Adjustment Options

CPI-U

CPI-U-RS

Geographic Price Difference Adjustment

No

Yes

Income Base for Relative Poverty

Thresholds Median Income

Mean Income

Income-to-Poverty Ratio Percent Cutoff or

Relative Poverty Thresholds Income

Percent Cutoff

%

Poverty Thresholds

Income Definition

[Help](#)

Select a pre-defined income definition or "Customize" your own by checking the income components you desire. Income format for Household Income - Alternative will be the one selected in section 6, Customized Formatting.

- Money Income
- Market Income
- Post-Social Insurance Income
- Disposable Income
- NAS Income
- NAS Income minus Medical Out-of-Pocket Expenses
- Customize your own income definition**

Selected Cash Market Income Sources

- 1. Earnings (wages, salaries, and self-employment income)
- 2. Interest income
- 3. Dividend income
- 4. Rents, royalties, estate, and trust income
- 5. Non-government retirement pensions and annuities
- 6. Non-government survivor pensions and annuities
- 7. Non-government disability pensions and annuities
- 8. Realized capital gains (losses)

This tool is best viewed with Firefox for Windows and in the Firefox web browser.

+ Government Nonmeans-tested Cash Income Sources

+ Government Means-tested Cash Income Sources

+ Taxes Deducted from Income

Customized Formatting

Poverty Thresholds

Income Definition

[Help](#)

Select a pre-defined income definition or "Customize" your own by checking the income components you desire. Income format for Household Income - Alternative will be the one selected in section 6, Customized Formatting.

- Money Income
- Market Income
- Post-Social Insurance Income
- Disposable Income
- NAS Income
- NAS Income minus Medical Out-of-Pocket Expenses
- Customize your own income definition**

- To create a table, you must make one or more selections in the **Define Your Table** section.

+ Selected Cash Market Income Sources

+ Government Nonmeans-tested Cash Income Sources

+ Government Means-tested Cash Income Sources

+ Taxes Deducted from Income

+ Educational Benefits

- Government Means-tested Noncash Benefits

- 26. SNAP - formerly Food Stamps
- 27. Free and reduced-price school lunches
- 28. Low-income energy assistance
- 29a. Public housing and rent subsidies AHS-based Estimates
- 29b. Public housing and rent subsidies FMR-based Estimates
- 30. Fungible value of Medicaid

DataFerrett

DataFerrett is a data analysis and extraction tool to customize federal, state, and local data to suit your requirements. Using DataFerrett, you can develop an unlimited array of customized spreadsheets that are as versatile and complex as your usage demands then turn those spreadsheets into graphs and maps without any additional software.

What you should check before getting started:

- ✓ Java Installed: [Check your version](#) or [Download the latest version](#)
- ✓ Allow Pop-ups
- ✓ Run in IE/Firefox



DATAFERRETT

[DataFerrett Home](#)[Getting Started](#)[About the Datasets](#)[User Resources](#)[FAQs](#)[Launch DataFerrett](#)

Support



Call Us Toll Free:

1-866-437-0171

Mon-Fri 8am-12pm and
1pm-4pm (EST)



Email us:

dsd.ferrett@census.gov

betaDataFerrett

[Latest enhancements and features highlights:](#)

- Advanced SQL reset button
- One click option to add all variables from a table to the databasket



[Test out betaDataFerrett](#)

Send feedback to dsd.ferrett@census.gov

In the News



RELEASED:

Public Libraries Survey 2011 data



October 2013

School Enrollment CPS Supplement



July 2013

Current Population Survey Basic

Resource Links:

- Poverty

- <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/>

- Experimental Poverty Measures:

- <http://www.census.gov/hhes/povmeas/index.htm>
[!](#)

- Table Creator

- <http://www.census.gov/cps/data/cpstablecreator.html>

Contact Information

Trudi Renwick

Assistant Division Chief for Economic Characteristics

Social, Economic and Housing Statistics Division

Bureau of the Census

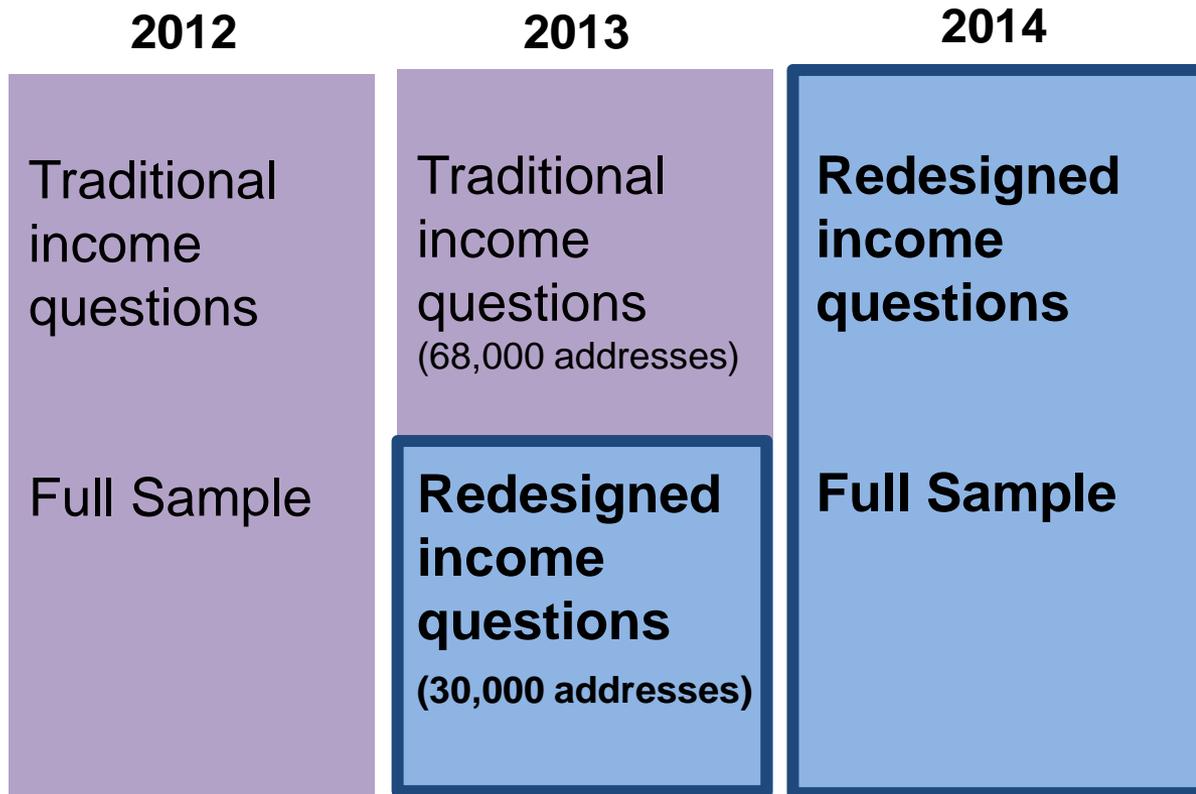
Department of Commerce

trudi.j.renwick@census.gov

(301) 763 5133

September 2015 Release

Income and Poverty Estimates



- All 2013 estimates in the report will be based on the redesign set of questions
- Preserved continuity between the years
 - Consistent questions
 - Used the same processing system