

RESULTS

the power to end poverty

RESULTS Overview of the New 2017 U.S. Poverty Data

September 12, 2018

Login at: <https://results.zoom.us/j/956438447> or dial (929) 436-2866 or (669) 900-6833, Meeting ID: 956 438 447.

Census Bureau: Top Takeaways

Measuring the Nation's Social and Economic Well-Being

		2016	2017
	Median household income (in 2017 inflation-adjusted dollars)	↑ \$60,309	\$61,372
	Percentage of people in poverty	↓ 12.7%	12.3%
	Supplemental Poverty Measure*	— 14.0%	13.9%
	Percentage of people without health insurance coverage*	— 8.8%	8.8%

* An asterisk indicates that the estimates from 2016 and 2017 were not statistically different from one another.

United States*
Census
Bureau

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
[census.gov](https://www.census.gov)

Source: Current Population Survey, 2017 and 2018
Annual Social and Economic Supplements
www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps

How is poverty defined, anyway?

Official measure, poverty thresholds for 2017

still listed as preliminary, weighted averages:

1 person (average):	\$12,488
1, under 65:	\$12,752
1, 65 or older:	\$11,756
2 people:	\$15,901
3 people:	\$19,512
4 people:	\$25,086

2017 US Census Data

But...

SHOWS THAT



1 in 8
Americans

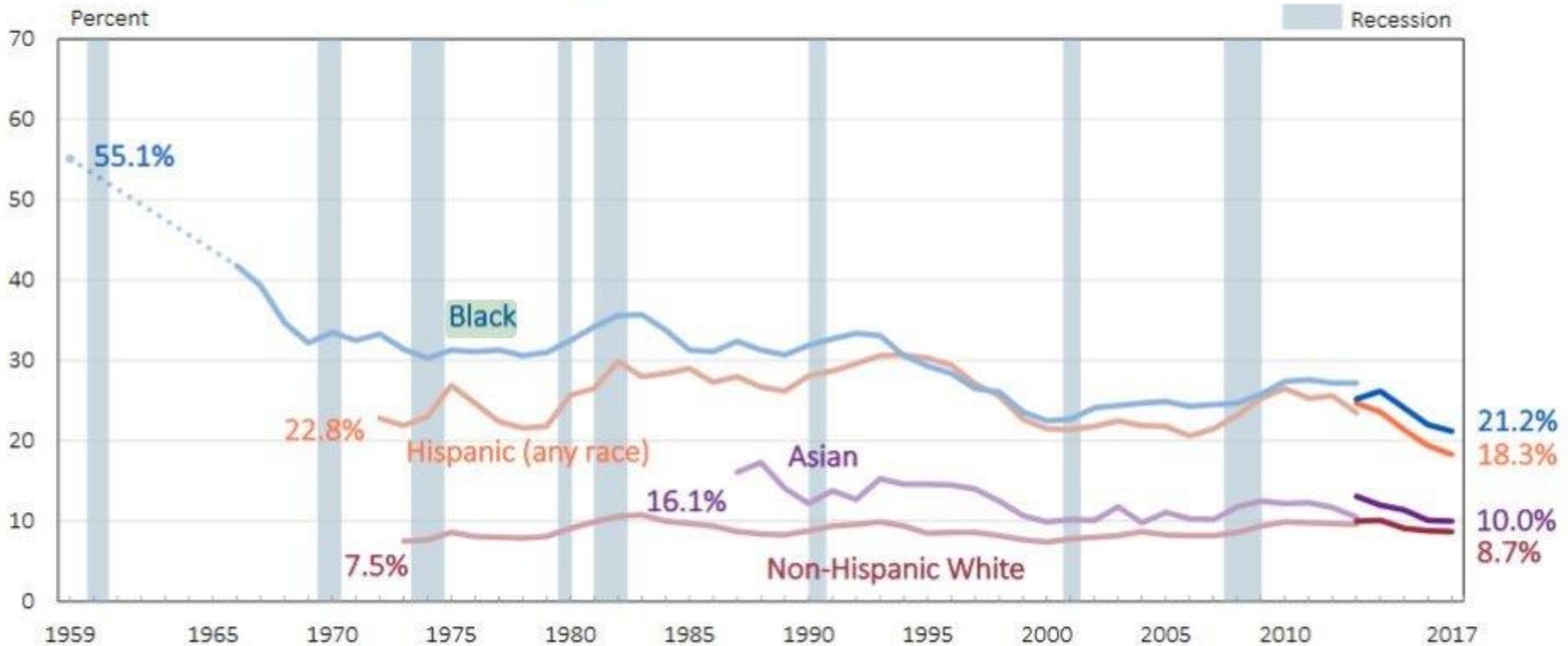
STILL LIVES BELOW THE
POVERTY LINE

Source: 2017 U.S. Census Data

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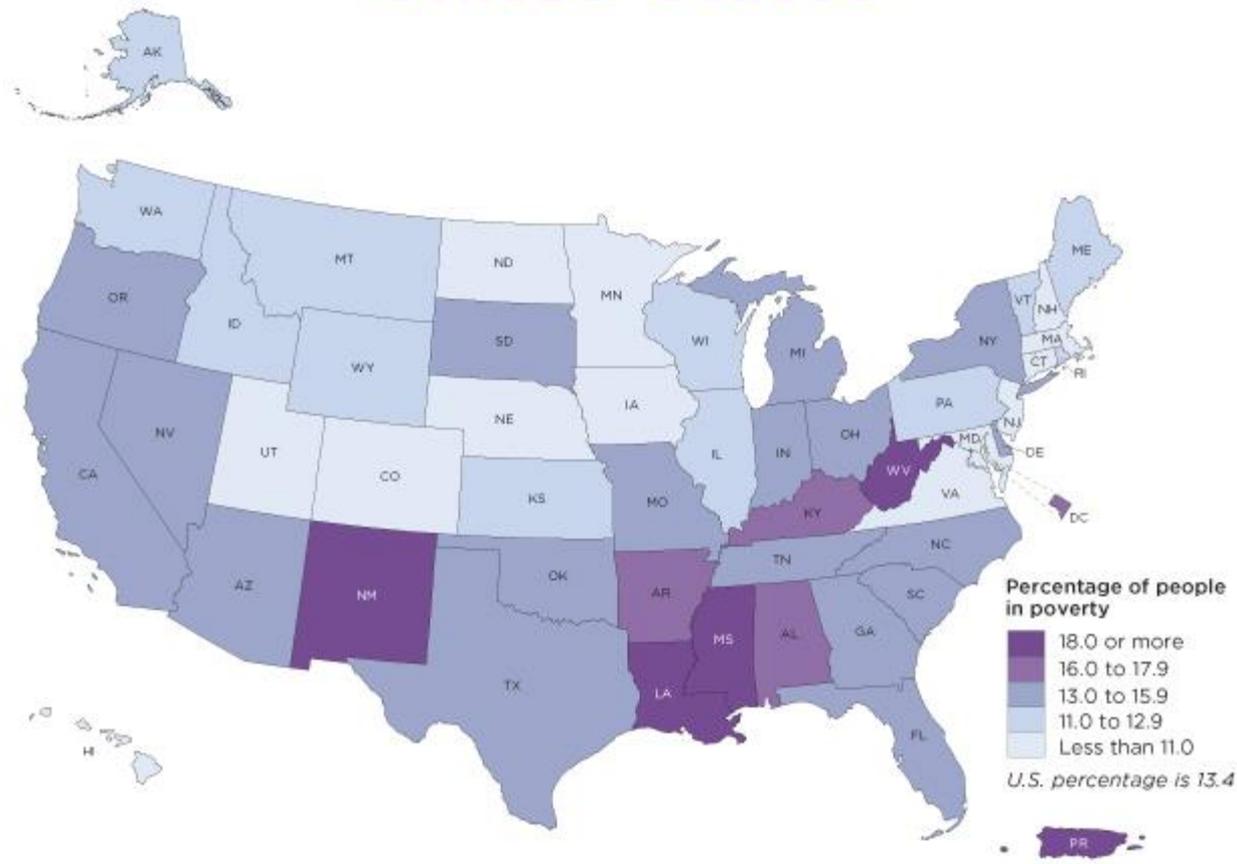
Huge Disparities by Race

Poverty Rates by Race and Hispanic Origin: 1959 to 2017



ACS Data Set: State and Local Poverty

2017 Poverty Rate in the United States



Note: U.S. percentage does not include data for Puerto Rico.



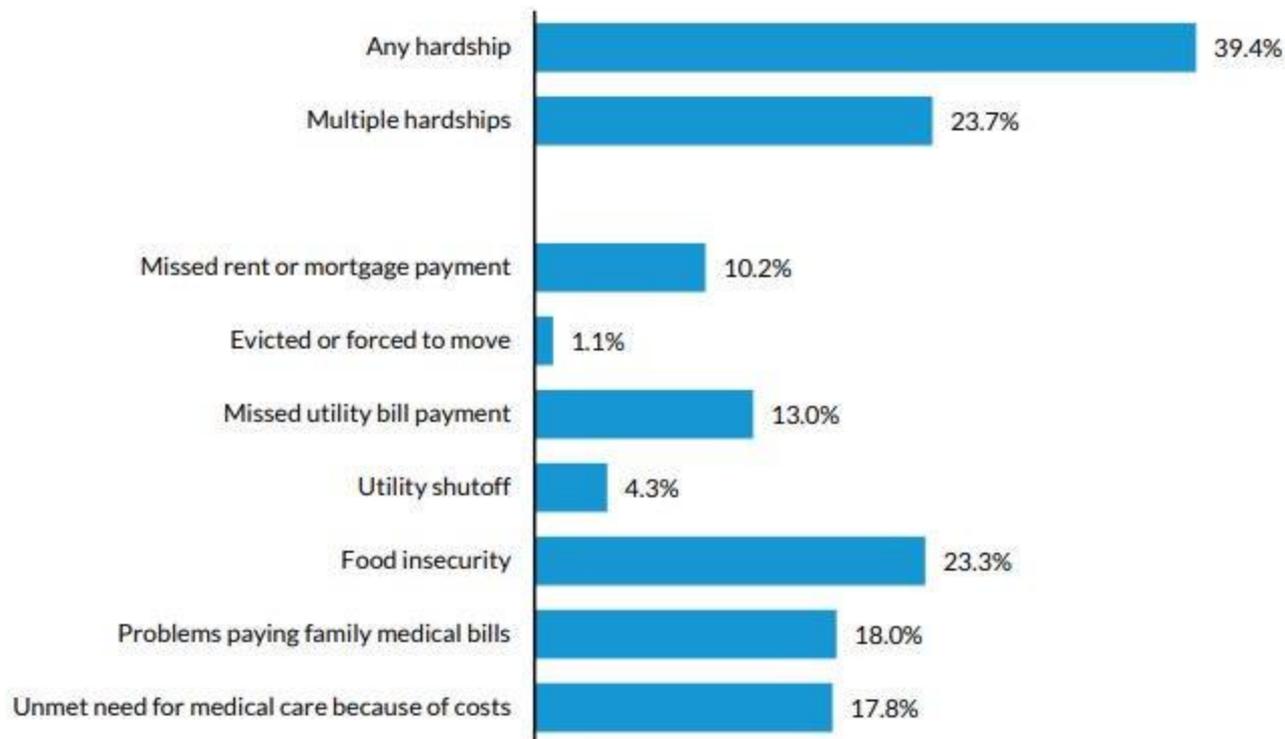
U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
[census.gov](https://www.census.gov)

Source: 2017 American Community Survey,
2017 Puerto Rico Community Survey
www.census.gov/acs

Many Families Face Hardships

FIGURE 1

Material Hardships in Past 12 Months Reported by Adults Ages 18 to 64, December 2017



URBAN INSTITUTE

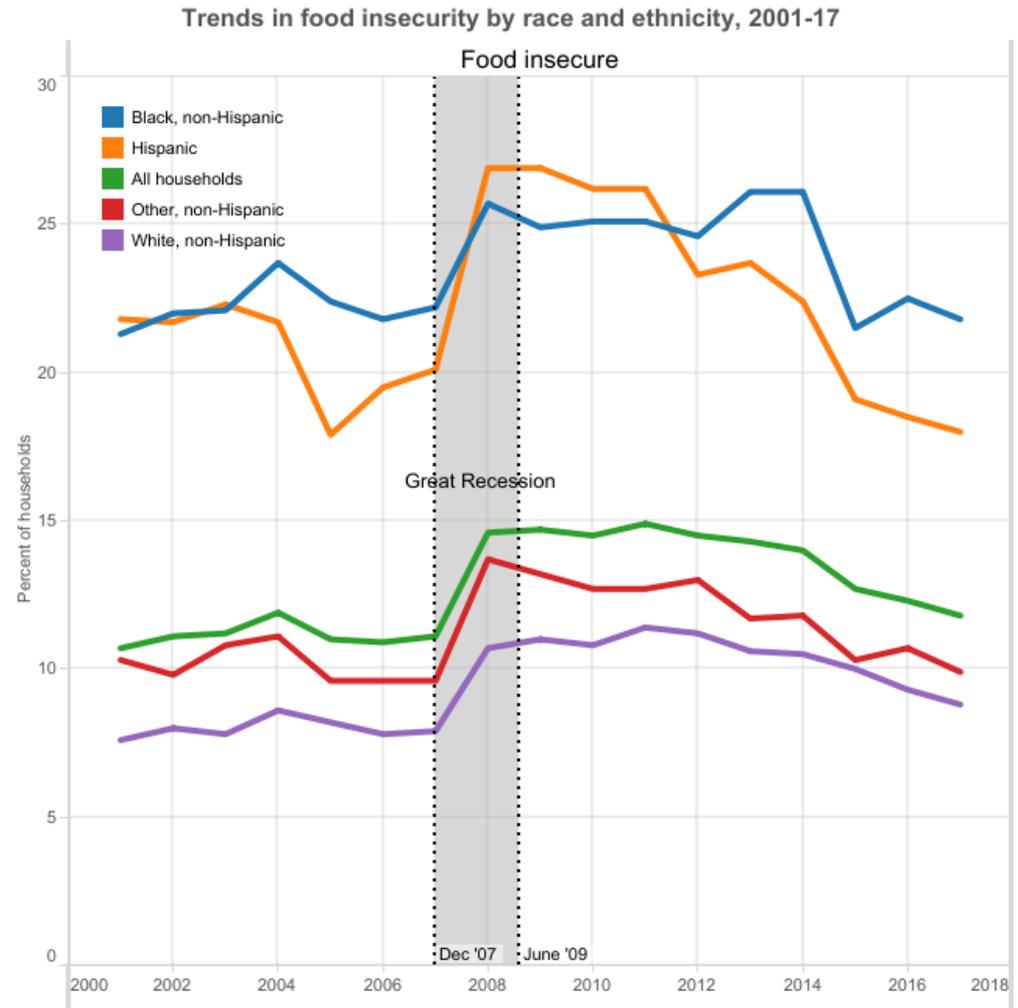
Source: Well-Being and Basic Needs Survey, quarter 4 2017.

Note: Unmet need for medical care includes general doctor care, specialist care, prescription drugs, tests, treatment and follow-up care, dental care, mental health care or counseling, and substance use treatment or counseling. Food insecurity is based on the six-item short form food security module and includes those with low or very low household food security.

Looking at Food Insecurity

Trends in U.S. food security

Food insecurity by race and ethnicity	Very low food security by race and ethnicity	Food insecurity in households with children	Very low food security in households with children
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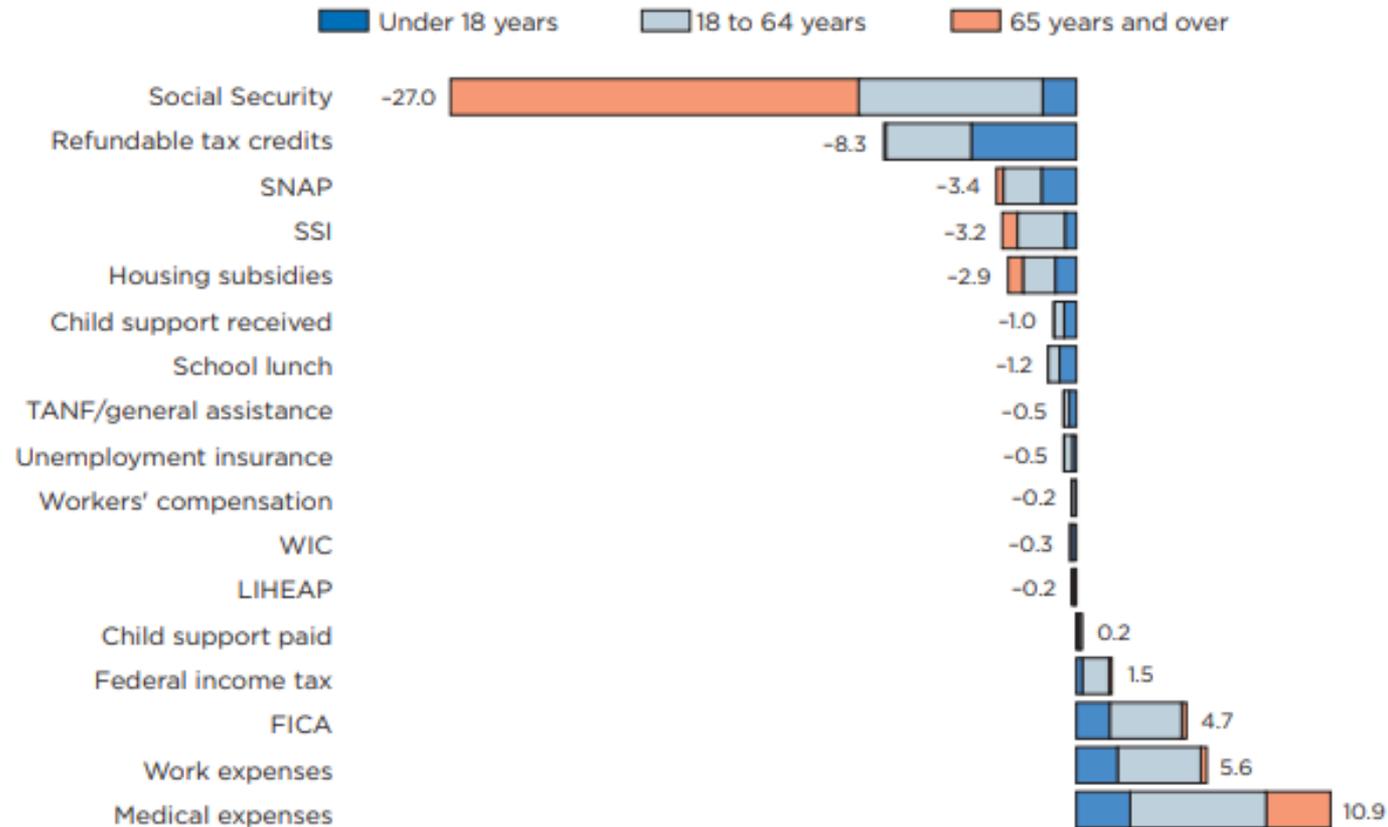
Source: Calculated by USDA, Economic Research Service, using Current Population Survey Food Security Supplement data.
<https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us/>

The Supplemental Poverty Measure

Figure 8.

Change in Number of People in Poverty After Including Each Element: 2017

(In millions)



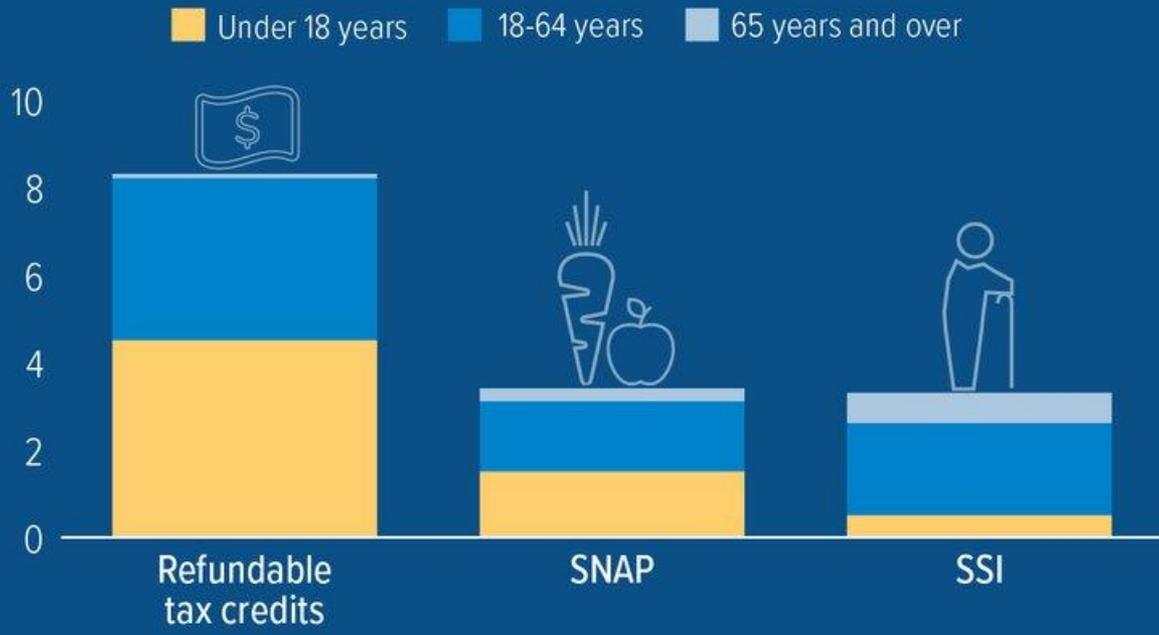
Note: For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar18.pdf>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2018 Annual Social and Economic Supplement.

The Supplemental Poverty Measure

LOW-INCOME PROGRAMS LIFT MILLIONS OUT OF POVERTY CONGRESSIONAL AND TRUMP BUDGETS CALL FOR DEEP CUTS TO THESE PROGRAMS

Millions of people lifted above supplemental poverty line in 2017

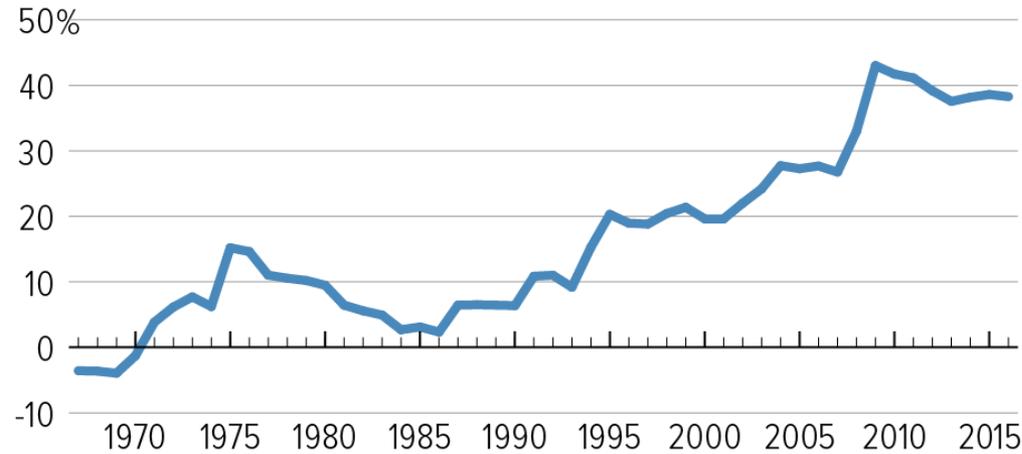


Source: U.S. Census Bureau; Figures would be even higher if they included corrections for the underreporting of government benefits in survey data.

The Impact of Anti-Poverty Policies

Safety Net's Effectiveness at Reducing Child Poverty Has Grown Dramatically Since 1967

Percent of otherwise poor lifted above the poverty line by the safety net



Note: For each year, figures show the percent reduction in the number of children in poverty from when government benefits and taxes are not counted to when they are counted. Calculations use Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) and 2012 SPM poverty line adjusted for inflation.

Source: CBPP analysis of Columbia University Population Research Center and U.S. Census Bureau data.

CENTER ON BUDGET AND POLICY PRIORITIES | CBPP.ORG

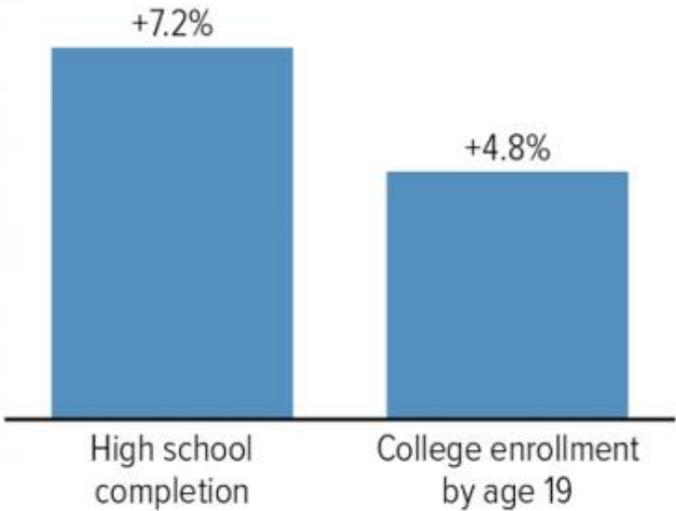
- SNAP is the **first line of defense** against hunger in America
- It is **one of the most efficient** government programs
 - Close to 70 percent of SNAP participants are in families with children; nearly a third are in households with seniors or people with disabilities
- In 2017, SNAP lifted **3.4 million people** above the federal poverty line
 - Serves over **40 million people** per month



Evidence Based Policy-Making

Children Receiving Larger EITCs Finish More Education

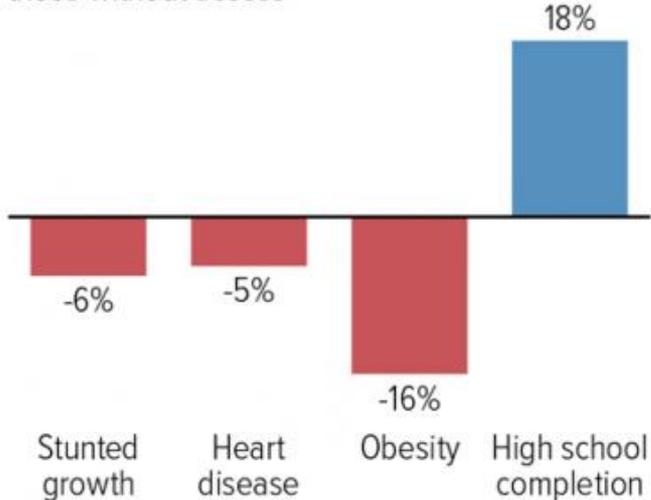
Percentage-point change due to increase of about \$3,000 in maximum federal Earned Income Tax Credit, enacted in 1993



Source: Michelle Maxfield, "The Effects of the Earned Income Tax Credit on Child Advancement and Long-Term Educational Attainment," November 2013.

Children With Access to SNAP Fare Better Years Later

Percentage-point change in outcomes for adults with access to SNAP as children, compared to those without access



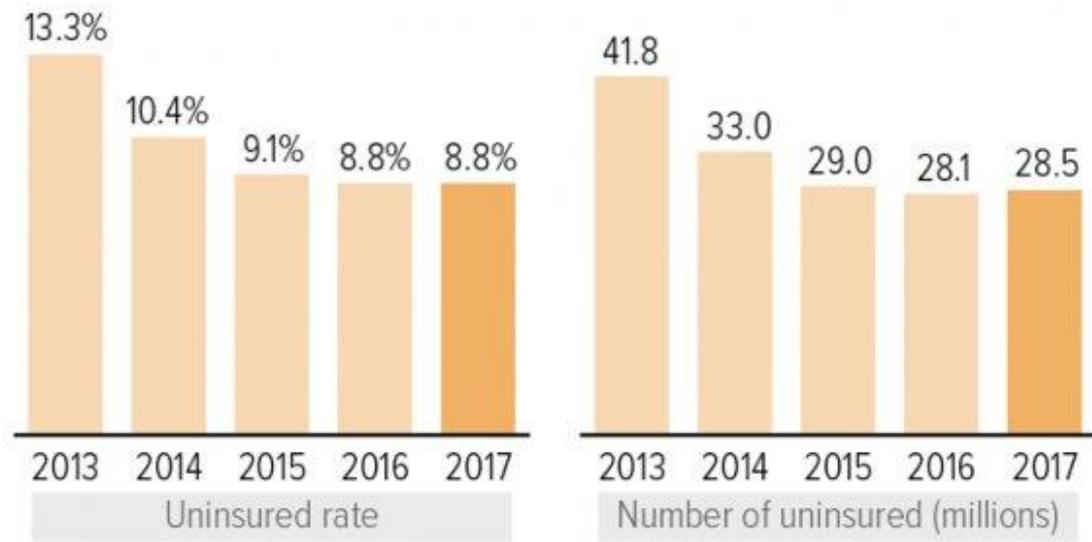
Note: The study compared adults who had access to SNAP (then food stamps) through age 5 after its introduction in the 1960s and early 1970s to similar children who spent none of these years in a food stamp county.

Source: Hoynes, Schanzenbach, and Almond, "Long-Run Impacts of Childhood Access to the Safety Net," American Economic Review, April 2016.

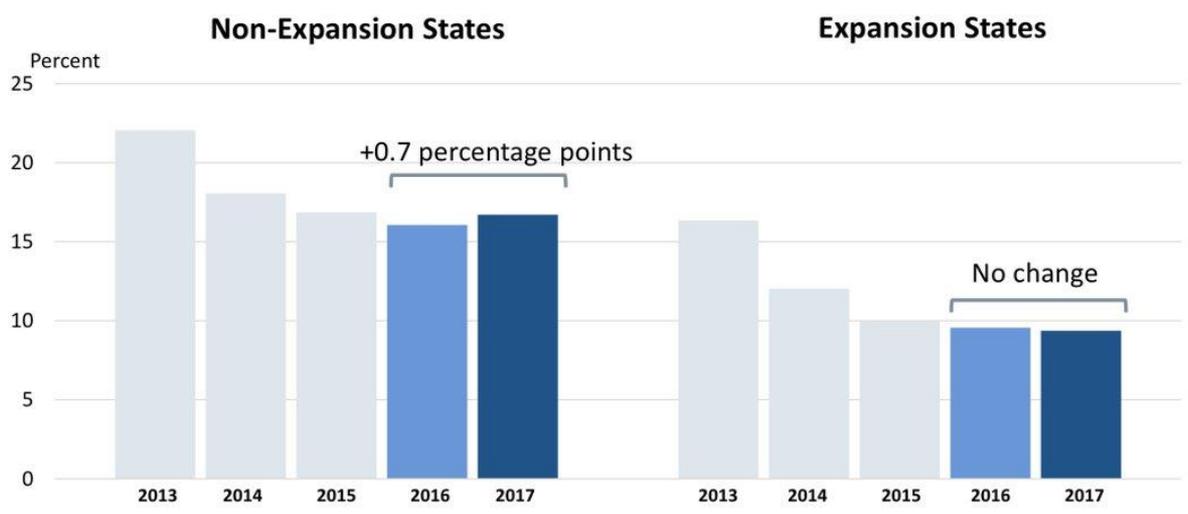


Health Policies Matter Too

Share of Americans Without Health Coverage Stalled in 2017



Uninsured Rate by States' Medicaid Expansion Status Adults Aged 19 to 64: 2013 to 2017

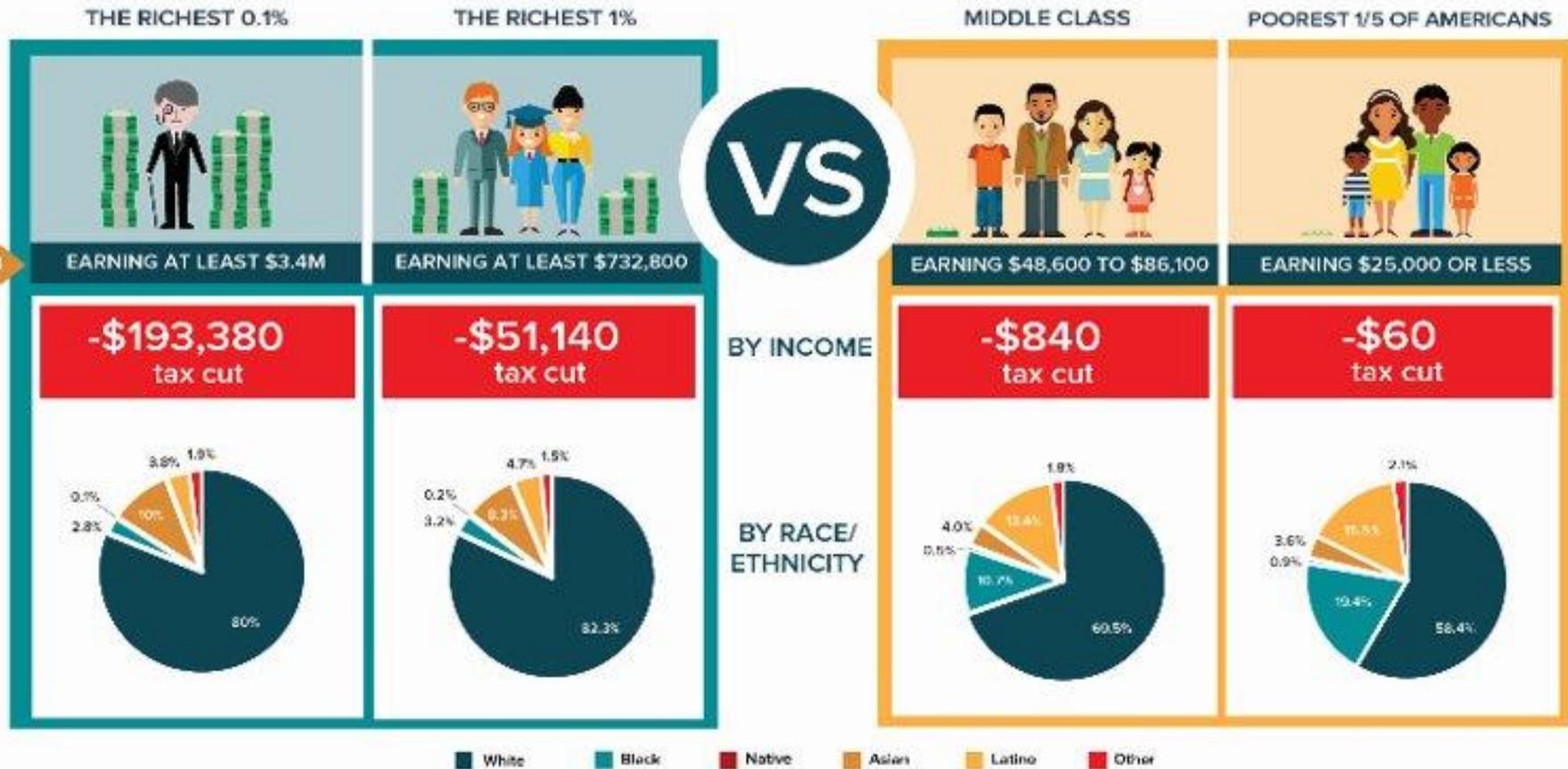


More: [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities](#)

The Impact of the 2017 Tax Law

WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM THE TAX CODE AFTER THE TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT OF 2017

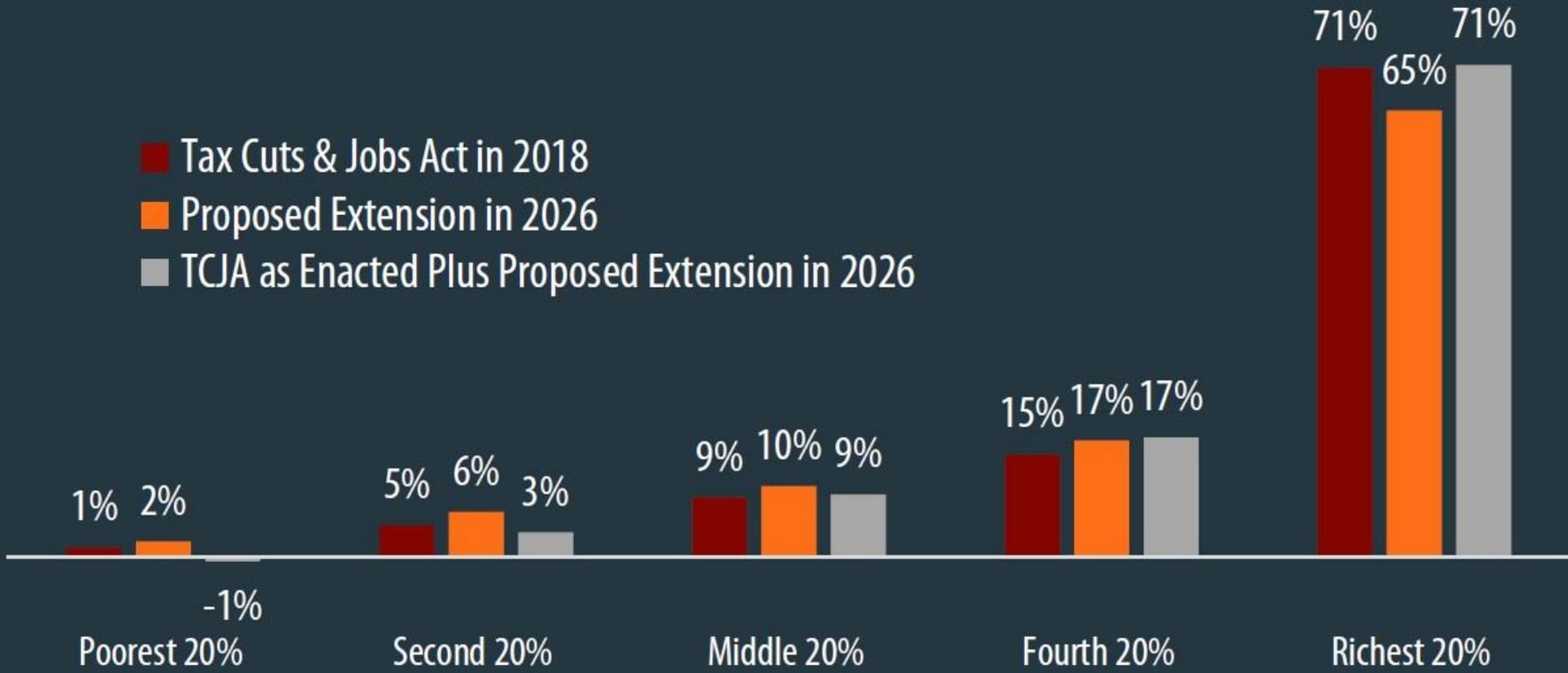
In 2018



Source: Distributional analysis of the conference agreement for the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act: Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center Microsimulation Model (version 0217-1), December 18, 2017.
 Race/ethnicity distributional analysis: Prosperity Now analysis of American Community Survey data, using breaks developed by the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center.

More Tax Cuts Ahead?!?!?!?

Share of Tax Changes in 2018 & 2026



INSTITUTE ON TAXATION AND ECONOMIC POLICY • ITEP.ORG

Source: [Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy](https://www.itep.org)

**Let's
Make
Some
Noise!**

2017 US Census Data

SHOWS THAT SNAP (FOOD STAMPS)
HELPED



3.4 Million People



MOVE ABOVE THE POVERTY LINE
LAST YEAR

Source: 2017 U.S. Census Data

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Conference Committee

- ▶ Works out the differences in Senate and House versions of bills on the same topic
- ▶ Creates a “compromise bill” before it is sent to the President
- ▶ Made up of Senators and Representative

REMINDER: Food assistance for 2 million Americans is at stake





Thank you!
Questions?

FINAL ACTION

Get Started on Your Media Work!

Take a few minutes to scan you local paper this evening for a good hook and then use it to write and submit a letter to the editor tonight.

Use our [online LTE template](#) to help with drafting and submitting your letter.

Once you get published, please let [Jos Linn](#) know so we can celebrate!
