The Supplemental Poverty Measure: 2018

Current Population Reports

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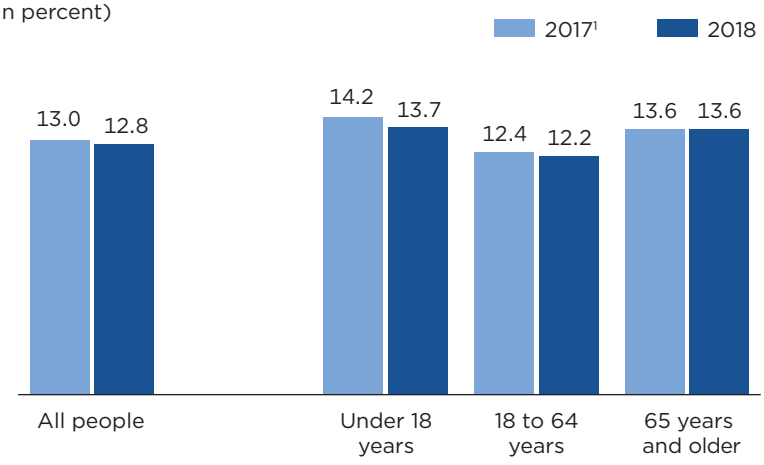
INTRODUCTION

Since the publication of the first official U.S. poverty estimates, researchers and policymakers have continued to discuss the best approach to measure income and poverty in the United States. Beginning in 2011, the U.S. Census Bureau began publishing the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM), which extends the official poverty measure by taking account of many of the government programs designed to assist low-income families and individuals that are not included in the official poverty measure. This is the ninth report describing the SPM, released by the Census Bureau, with support from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). This report presents updated estimates of the prevalence of poverty in the United States using the official measure and the SPM based on information collected in 2019 and earlier Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

Figure 1.
Supplemental Poverty Measure Rates for Total Population and by Age Group: 2017 and 2018
(In percent)



[1] The 2017 data reflect the implementation of an updated processing system. For more details, see appendix.
Note: For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2018–2019 Annual Social and Economic Supplements.

HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2018, the overall SPM rate was 12.8 percent. This is not statistically different from the 2017 SPM rate of 13.0 (Figure 1).
- SPM rates were not statistically different for any of the major age categories in 2018 compared with 2017. SPM rates for children under the age of 18 were 13.7 percent, which is not significantly different than 14.2 percent in 2017 (Figure 1 and Figure 2).

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- The SPM rate for 2018 was 1.0 percentage points higher than the official poverty rate of 11.8 percent (Figure 3).
- There were 15 states plus the District of Columbia for which SPM rates were higher than official poverty rates, 24 states with lower rates, and 11 states for which the differences were not statistically significant (Figure 7).
- Social Security continued to be the most important anti-poverty program, moving 27.2 million individuals out of poverty. Refundable tax credits moved 8.9 million people out of poverty (Figure 8).

This report presents estimates of the prevalence of poverty in the United States, overall and for selected demographic groups, using the official poverty measure and the SPM.[1, 2] The first section provides detailed information about changes in SPM rates from 2017 to 2018. The second section presents differences between the official poverty measure and the SPM, compares the distribution of income-to-poverty threshold ratios between the two, and presents poverty rates by state. In the third section, individual components of the SPM are subtracted from resources to assess the marginal impact of taxes, transfers, and necessary expenses on poverty rates.

BACKGROUND

After many years of research, analysis, and debate, the Interagency Technical Working Group on Developing a Supplemental Poverty Measure (ITWG) reviewed methods and data needed for poverty measurement. The group listed suggestions for a new measure that would supplement the current official measure of poverty (ITWG, 2010). The appendix to this report includes detailed descriptions of how these suggestions have been applied to the SPM.[3] The "Poverty Measure Concepts: Official and Supplemental" table summarizes the most important differences between the official and supplemental measures.

[1] The estimates in this report (which may be shown in text, figures, and tables) are based on responses from a sample of the population and may differ from actual values because of sampling variability or other factors. As a result, apparent differences between the estimates for two or more groups may not be statistically significant. All comparative statements have undergone statistical testing and are significant at the 90 percent confidence level, unless otherwise noted. Standard errors were calculated using replicate weights. Further information about the source and accuracy of the estimates is available at <https://www2.census.gov/library/publications/2019/demo/p60-266sa.pdf>.

[2] The Census Bureau reviewed this data product for unauthorized disclosure of confidential information and approved the disclosure avoidance practices applied to this release. CBDRB-FY19-POP001-0035.

[3] Thresholds for the SPM are produced by the BLS Division of Price and Index Number Research and presented for 2017 and 2018 in Appendix Table A-3.

POVERTY MEASURE CONCEPTS: OFFICIAL AND SUPPLEMENTAL

	Official Poverty Measure	Supplemental Poverty Measure
Measurement Units	Families (individuals related by birth, marriage, or adoption) or unrelated individuals	Resource units (official family definition plus any coresident unrelated children, foster children, and unmarried partners and their relatives) or unrelated individuals (who are not otherwise included in the family definition)
Poverty Threshold	Three times the cost of a minimum food diet in 1963	Based on expenditures of food, clothing, shelter, and utilities (FCSU)
Threshold Adjustments	Vary by family size, composition, and age of householder	Vary by family size, composition, and tenure, with geographic adjustments for differences in housing costs
Updating Thresholds	Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: all items	5-year moving average of expenditures on FCSU
Resource Measure	Gross before-tax cash income	Sum of cash income, plus noncash benefits that resource units can use to meet their FCSU needs, minus taxes (or plus tax credits), work expenses, medical expenses, and child support paid to another household

The SPM does not replace the official poverty measure and is not designed to be used for program eligibility or funding distribution. The SPM is designed to provide information on aggregate levels of economic need at a national level or within large subpopulations or areas. As such, the SPM provides an additional macroeconomic statistic for further understanding economic conditions and trends.

The Census Bureau has been engaged for the past several years in implementing improvements to the CPS ASEC; see appendix for an in-depth discussion of these improvements. These changes have been implemented in a two-step process, beginning first with questionnaire design changes incorporated over the period of 2014 to 2016 followed by more recent changes to the data processing system. This report is the first time the SPM measure reflects both data collection and processing system changes. The 2017 and 2018 estimates presented in this report are based on the updated processing system and therefore the 2017 estimates may differ from those released in September 2018.

CHANGES IN SPM RATES BETWEEN 2017 AND 2018

Figure 2 shows SPM rates for 2017 and 2018.[4, 5] In 2018, the percentage of poor using the SPM was 12.8 percent compared to 13.0 percent in 2017, not a statistically significant change. The poverty rate changed by a statistically significant amount from 2017 to 2018 for only three groups in Figure 2: individuals living in a male reference person unit experienced a 2.2 percentage point decline in poverty; non-Hispanic Whites experienced a 0.4 percentage point decline in poverty; and individuals with a bachelor's degree or higher experienced a 0.4 percentage point increase in poverty.

POVERTY ESTIMATES FOR 2018: OFFICIAL AND SPM

Figure 3 shows that 12.8 percent of people were poor using the SPM definition of poverty, higher than the 11.8 percent using the official definition of poverty with the comparable universe.[6, 7] While the SPM rates were higher than official poverty rates for most groups, the SPM shows lower poverty rates for children and individuals living in cohabiting partner units (Figure 3).[8] Official and SPM poverty rates for individuals living in female reference person units, Blacks, and individuals who did not work were not statistically different.

Census Bureau estimates for the SPM are available back to 2009.[9] Since the SPM's initial production, the SPM rate has been higher than the official poverty rate. Figures 4 and 5 present estimates for the official measure and the SPM from 2009 to 2018. The charts show two values for 2013, one using the traditional income questions comparable to SPM estimates from 2009, and the second using the redesigned income questions used for this report and comparable to the 2014–2017 estimates presented here. Additionally there are two sets of numbers for 2017, with one set using the legacy data processing system and the other using the updated processing system (2017–2018). Comparisons over time should be made with caution. For more details, see appendix.

Figure 4 shows the official measure (with the comparable universe) and the SPM since 2009. The SPM has ranged from 0.6 to 1.6 percentage points higher than the official measure over this period.

Figure 5 shows the poverty rate using both measures for three major age groups. In 2018, the gap between the official poverty measure and the SPM was largest for individuals aged 65 and older at 3.8 percentage points.

DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME-TO-THRESHOLD RATIOS: OFFICIAL AND SPM

Comparing the distribution of gross cash income with that of SPM resources also allows an examination of the effect of taxes and noncash transfers across the income/resource distribution. Figure 6 shows the percent distribution of income-to-threshold ratio categories for all people

[4] The 2017 estimates presented in this report do not match previously published estimates reported in "The Supplemental Poverty Measure: 2017" (Fox, 2018) due to implementation of an updated processing system. See the appendix for details.

[5] Appendix Table A-1 contains rates for a more extensive list of demographic groups.

[6] Since the CPS ASEC does not ask income questions for individuals under the age of 15, all unrelated individuals under the age of 15 are excluded from the universe for official poverty calculations in Semega, Kollar, Creamer, and Mohanty (2019). However, these individuals are included in the official poverty universe for this report and are assigned the official poverty status of the householder. See the appendix for details.

[7] Appendix Table A-2 contains rates for a more extensive list of demographic groups.

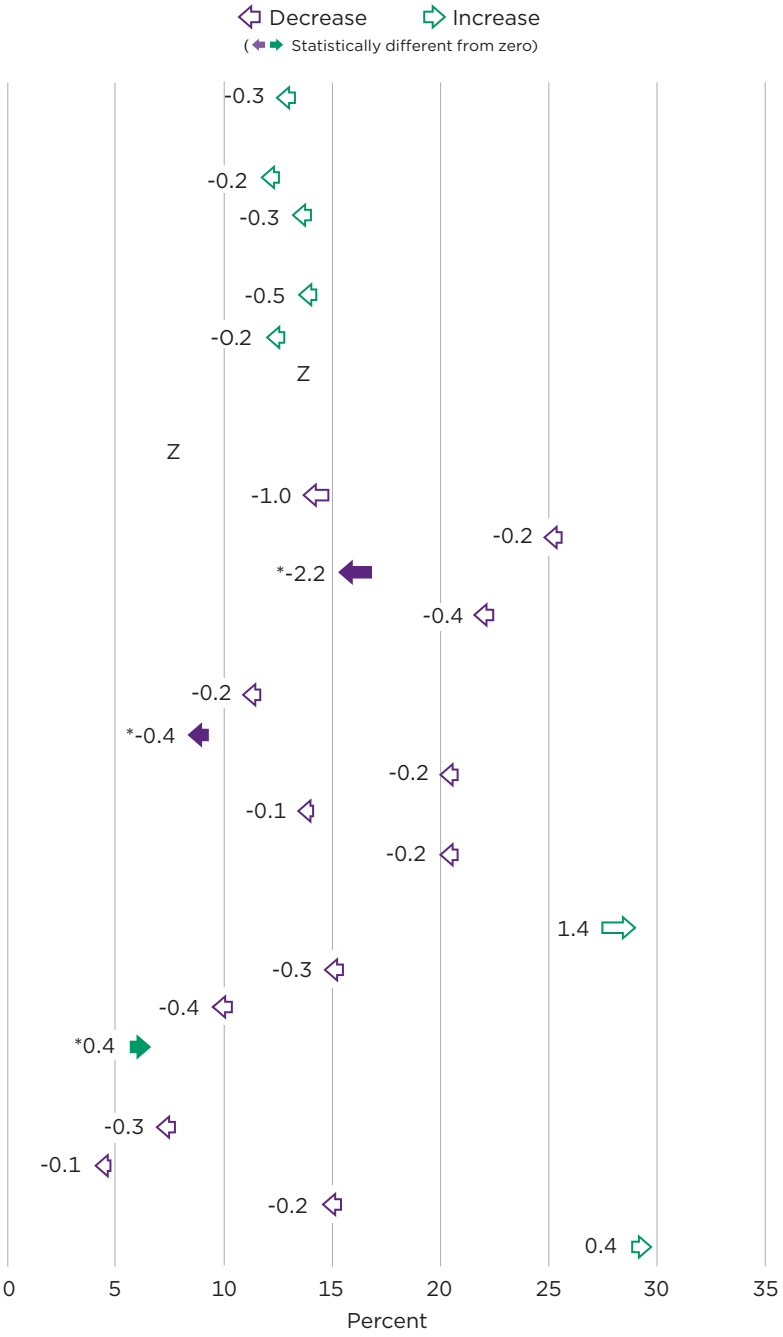
[8] In the SPM, cohabiting partners are presumed to share resources, whereas in the official poverty measure, they are considered to be two separate resource units.

[9] For SPM estimates from 1967 to 2012, see Fox et al. (2015).

Figure 2.

Change in Percentage of People in Poverty Using the Supplemental Poverty Measure: 2017 to 2018

	2017[1]	2018	
All people	13.0	12.8	-0.3
Sex			
Male	12.3	12.1	-0.2
Female	13.7	13.4	-0.3
Age			
Under 18 years	14.2	13.7	-0.5
18 to 64 years	12.4	12.2	-0.2
65 years and older	13.6	13.6	Z
Type of Unit			
Married couple	7.6	7.7	Z
Cohabiting partners	14.9	13.9	-1.0
Female reference person	25.3	25.0	-0.2
Male reference person	17.3	15.1	*-2.2
Unrelated individuals	22.3	21.9	-0.4
Race and Hispanic Origin			
White	11.5	11.2	-0.2
White, not Hispanic	9.0	8.7	*-0.4
Black	20.6	20.4	-0.2
Asian	14.0	13.9	-0.1
Hispanic (any race)	20.5	20.3	-0.2
Educational Attainment (aged 25 and older)			
No high school diploma	27.4	28.8	1.4
High school, no college	15.2	14.9	-0.3
Some college	10.2	9.7	-0.4
Bachelor's degree or higher	5.8	6.2	*0.4
Work Experience (aged 18 to 64)			
All workers	7.4	7.2	-0.3
Worked full-time, year-round	4.5	4.3	-0.1
Less than full-time, year-round	15.0	14.9	-0.2
Did not work at least 1 week	29.0	29.4	0.4

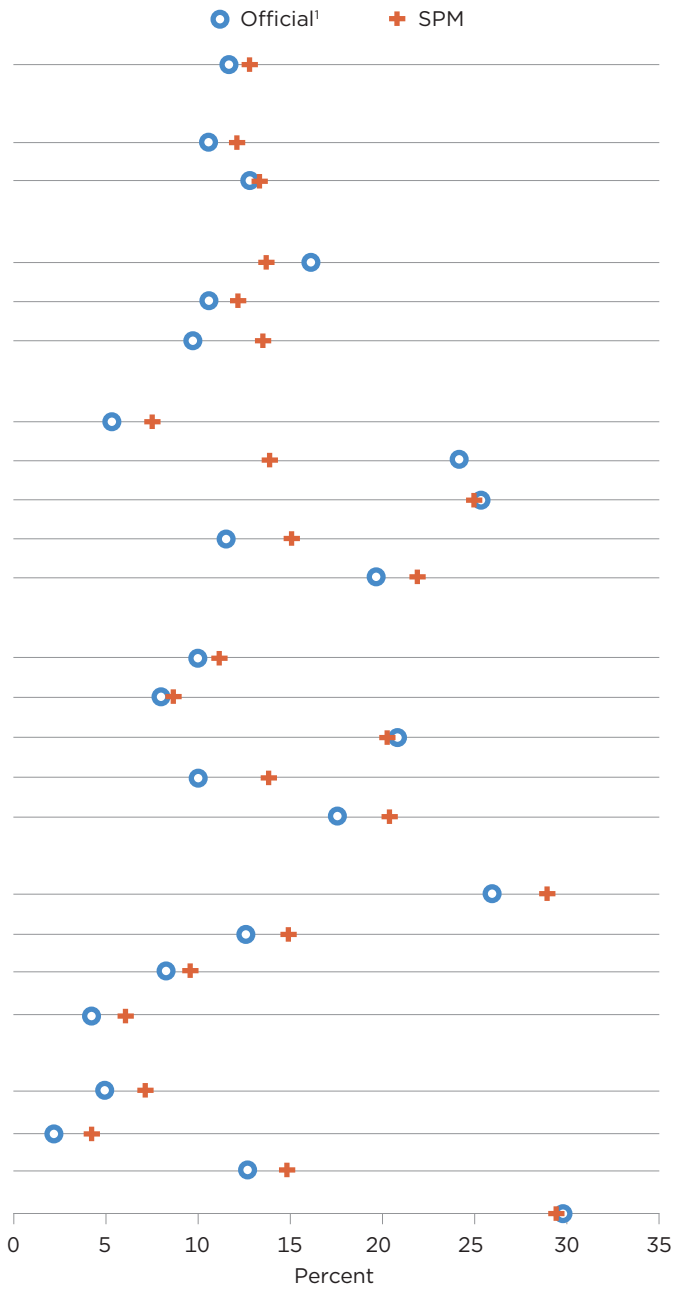


* An asterisk preceding an estimate indicates change is statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.
Z Rounds to zero.
[1] The 2017 data reflect the implementation of an updated processing system. For more details, see appendix.
Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. For more details, see Appendix Table A-1. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2018–2019 Annual Social and Economic Supplements.

Figure 3.

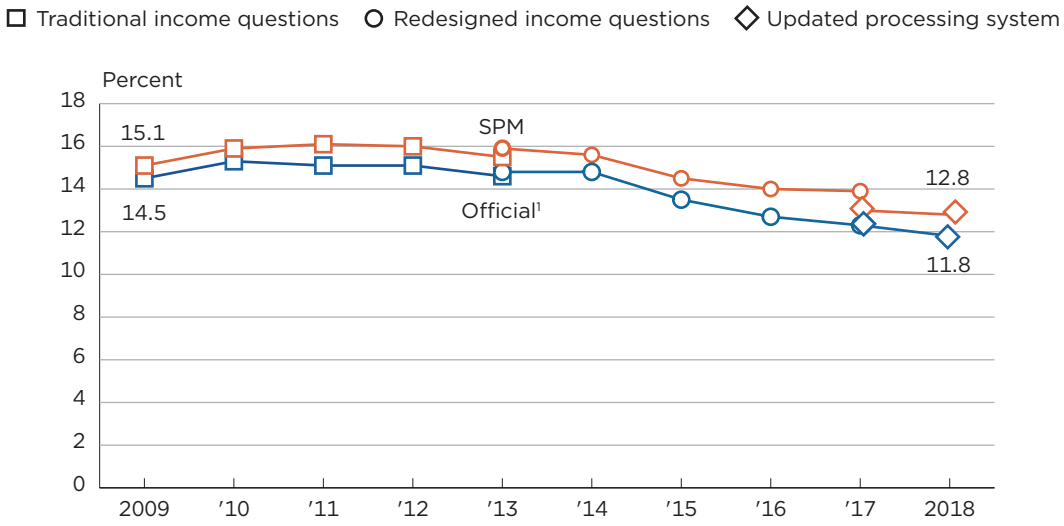
Percentage of People in Poverty by Different Poverty Measures: 2018

	Official[1]	SPM	Difference
All people	11.8	12.8	*1.0
Sex			
Male	10.6	12.1	*1.5
Female	12.9	13.4	*0.5
Age			
Under 18 years	16.2	13.7	*-2.5
18 to 64 years	10.7	12.2	*1.5
65 years and older	9.7	13.6	*3.8
Type of Unit			
Married couple	5.4	7.7	*2.3
Cohabiting partners	24.2	13.9	*-10.3
Female reference person	25.3	25.0	-0.3
Male reference person	11.6	15.1	*3.5
Unrelated individuals	19.7	21.9	*2.2
Race and Hispanic Origin			
White	10.1	11.2	*1.1
White, not Hispanic	8.1	8.7	*0.6
Black	20.8	20.4	-0.4
Asian	10.1	13.9	*3.8
Hispanic (any race)	17.6	20.3	*2.8
Educational Attainment (aged 25 and older)			
No high school diploma	25.9	28.8	*2.9
High school, no college	12.7	14.9	*2.2
Some college	8.4	9.7	*1.4
Bachelor's degree or higher	4.4	6.2	*1.9
Work Experience (aged 18 to 64)			
All workers	5.1	7.2	*2.1
Worked full-time, year-round	2.3	4.3	*2.1
Less than full-time, year-round	12.7	14.9	*2.1
Did not work at least 1 week	29.7	29.4	-0.4



* An asterisk preceding an estimate indicates change is statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.
[1] Includes unrelated individuals under the age of 15.
Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. For more details, see Appendix Table A-2. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2019 Annual Social and Economic Supplement.

Figure 4.
Poverty Rates Using the Official and Supplemental Poverty Measures: 2009 to 2018



[1] Includes unrelated individuals under the age of 15.
Note: The data for 2017 and beyond reflect the implementation of an updated processing system. The data for 2013 and beyond reflect the implementation of the redesigned income questions. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2010–2019 Annual Social and Economic Supplements.

and broken down by major age category. Dividing income by the respective poverty threshold controls income by unit size and composition. Appendix Table A-4 shows the distribution of income-to-threshold ratios for various groups in 2017 and 2018.

Overall, the comparison shows that a smaller share of the population had incomes below half of their poverty threshold using the SPM compared to the official measure. Including targeted noncash benefits and subtracting necessary expenses reduced the percentage of the population in the lowest category for children under the age of 18 and adults aged 18 to 64. However, individuals aged 65 and older had a higher share below half of the poverty line with the SPM—5.0 percent compared with 4.0 percent with the official measure.

Many of the noncash benefits included in the SPM are not targeted toward the 65 and older population. Further, many transfers received by this group are in cash, especially Social Security payments, and are captured in the official measure, as well as the SPM. Note that the percentage of the 65 and older age group with income below half their threshold was lower than that of other age groups using the official measure (4.0 percent), while the percentage for children was higher (6.9 percent). Subtracting necessary expenses and adding noncash benefits in the SPM narrowed the differences across the three age groups.[10]

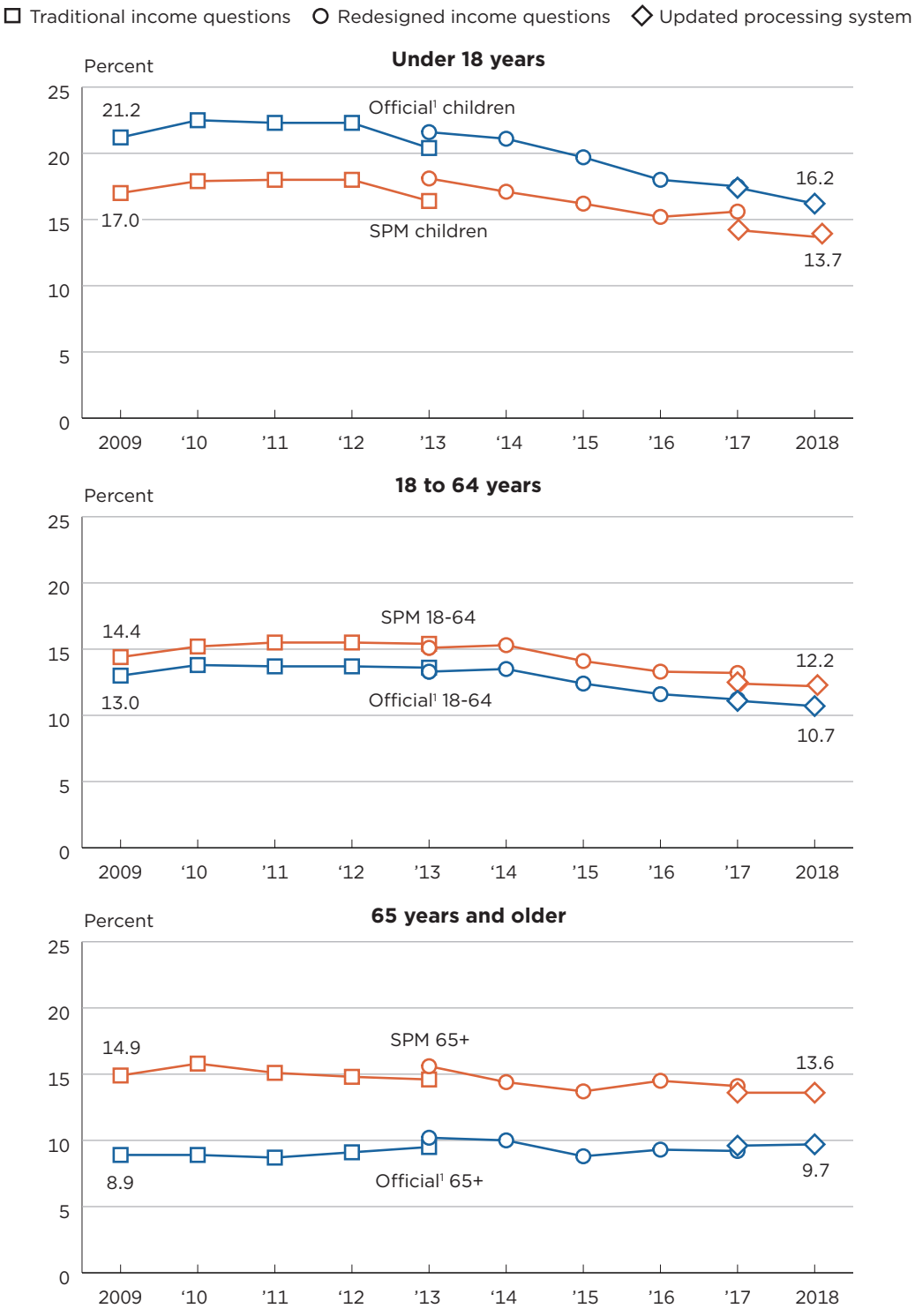
At the other end of the distribution, relative to the official measure, the SPM shows a smaller percentage of the population with income four or more times the poverty threshold relative to the official measure. The SPM resource measure subtracts taxes—compared with the official measure, which does not—bringing down the percentage of people with income in the highest category.

Another notable difference between the distributions using these two measures was the larger number of individuals with income-to-threshold ratios in the middle categories, 1.00 to 3.99, using the SPM. Since the effect of taxes and transfers is often to move income from the extremes of the distribution to the center of the distribution, that is, from the very bottom with targeted transfers or from the very top via taxes and other expenses, the increase in the size of these middle categories is to be expected.

[10] The range of age groups under half their official poverty measure threshold (ranging from 4.0 to 6.9 percent) is larger than the range for those under half their SPM threshold (ranging from 3.3 to 5.0 percent).

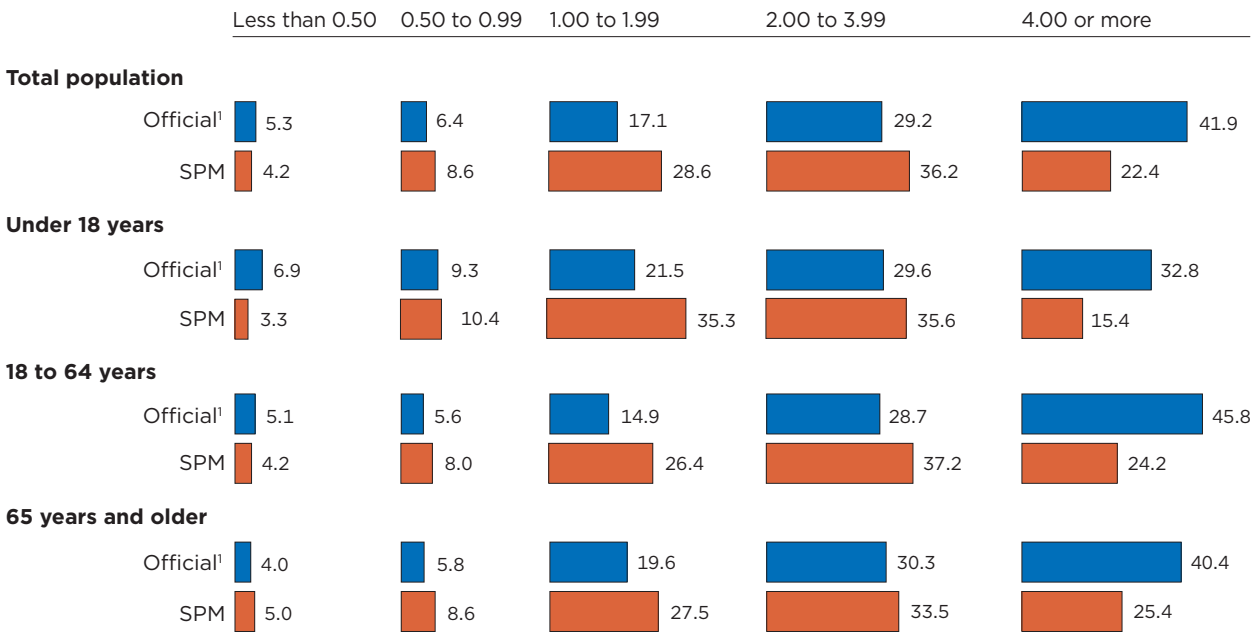
Figure 5.

Poverty Rates Using the Official and Supplemental Poverty Measures by Age Group: 2009 to 2018



[1] Includes unrelated individuals under the age of 15.
Note: The data for 2017 and beyond reflect the implementation of an updated processing system. The data for 2013 and beyond reflect the implementation of the redesigned income questions. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2010–2019 Annual Social and Economic Supplements.

Figure 6.
Distribution of People by Income-to-Threshold Ratios: 2018
(In percent)



[1] Includes unrelated individuals under the age of 15.
Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2019 Annual Social and Economic Supplement.

Appendix Table A-4 shows similar calculations by race and ethnicity. For all groups, except Asians, smaller percentages had income below half of their poverty thresholds when using the SPM compared with the official measure. The share of Asians with income below half of their poverty thresholds in the SPM was not statistically different than the share below half in the official measure.

POVERTY RATES BY STATE: OFFICIAL AND SPM

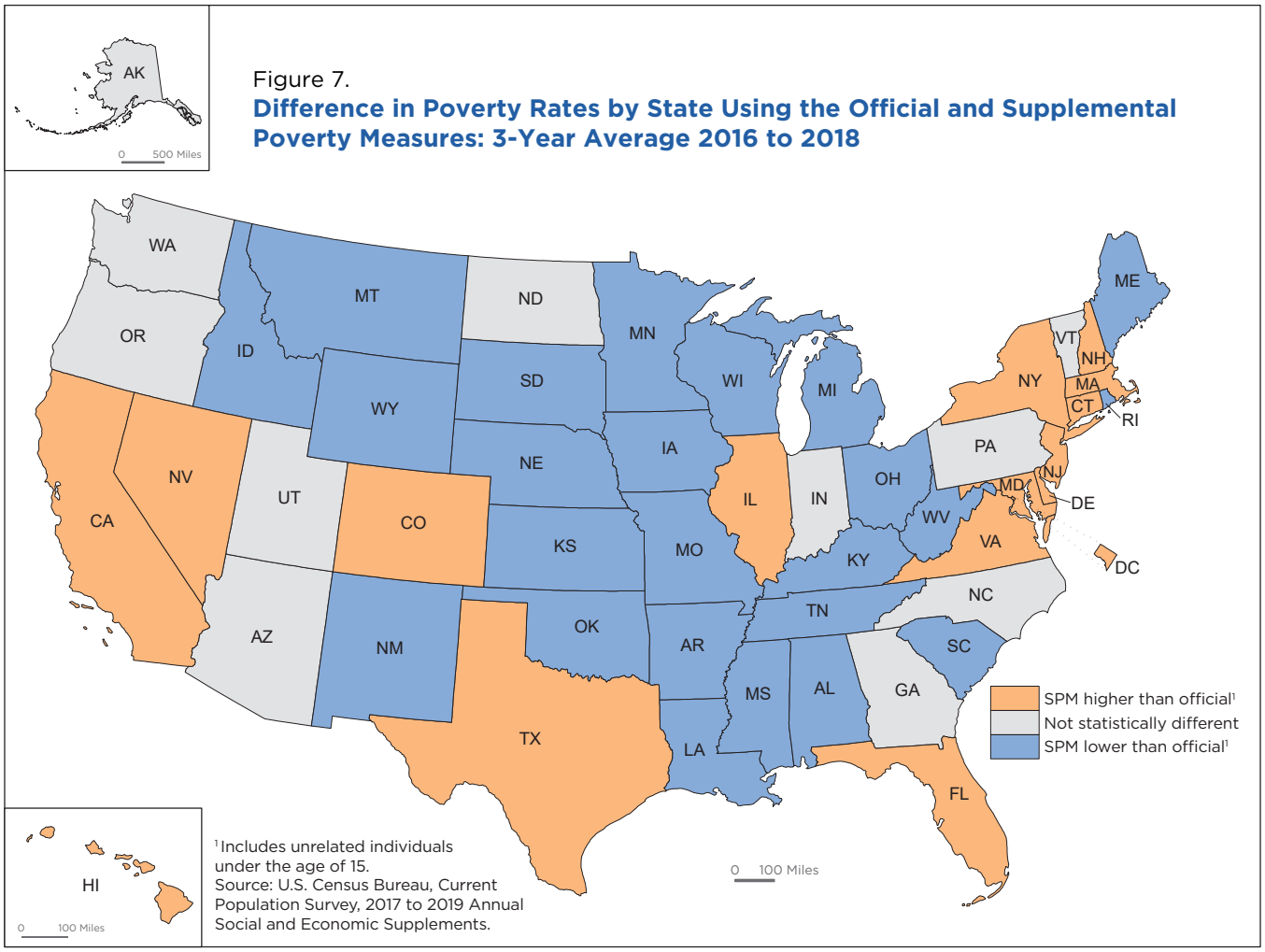
To create state-level estimates using the CPS ASEC, the Census Bureau recommends using 3-year averages for additional statistical reliability.[11] Appendix Table A-5 shows 3-year averages of poverty rates by poverty measure for the United States and each state. The 3-year average poverty rate for the United States in 2016–2018 was 12.3 percent with the official measure and 13.1 percent using the SPM.

While the SPM national poverty rate was higher than the official, that difference varies by geographic area. Figure 7 shows the United States divided into three categories by state. States where the SPM rates were higher than official are shaded orange; states where SPM was lower than official are shaded blue; and states where the differences in the rates were not statistically significant are grey.

The 15 states for which the SPM rates were higher than the official poverty rates were California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Texas, and Virginia. The SPM rate for the District of Columbia was also higher. Higher SPM rates by state may occur for many reasons. Geographic adjustments for housing costs and/or different mixes of housing tenure may result in higher SPM thresholds. Higher nondiscretionary expenses, such

[11] The Census Bureau recommends using the American Community Survey (ACS) for state-level poverty estimates; however, it is difficult to calculate the SPM with data from that survey. Ongoing research is exploring the use of the ACS for this purpose.

Figure 7.
Difference in Poverty Rates by State Using the Official and Supplemental Poverty Measures: 3-Year Average 2016 to 2018



[1] Includes unrelated individuals under the age of 15.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2017 to 2019 Annual Social and Economic Supplements.

as taxes or medical expenses, may also drive higher SPM rates.

The 24 states where SPM rates were lower than the official poverty rates were Alabama, Arkansas, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Lower SPM rates could occur due to lower thresholds reflecting lower housing costs, a different mix of housing tenure, or more generous noncash benefits.

The 11 states that were not statistically different under the two measures include Alaska, Arizona, Georgia, Indiana, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Utah, Vermont, and Washington. Details are provided in Appendix Table A-5.

THE SPM AND THE EFFECT OF CASH AND NONCASH TRANSFERS, TAXES, AND OTHER NONDISCRETIONARY EXPENSES

This section moves away from comparing the SPM with the official measure and looks only at the SPM. This analysis allows one to gauge the effects of taxes and transfers and other necessary expenses using the SPM as a measure of economic well-being.

Income used for estimating the official poverty measure includes cash benefits from the government (e.g., Social Security, unemployment insurance benefits, public assistance benefits, and workers' compensation benefits), but does not take account of taxes or noncash benefits aimed at improving the economic situation of the poor. The SPM incorporates all of these elements, adding in cash benefits and noncash transfers, while subtracting necessary expenses such as taxes, medical expenses, and expenses related to work. An important contribution of the SPM is that it allows us to gauge the potential magnitude of the effect of tax credits and transfers in alleviating poverty. We

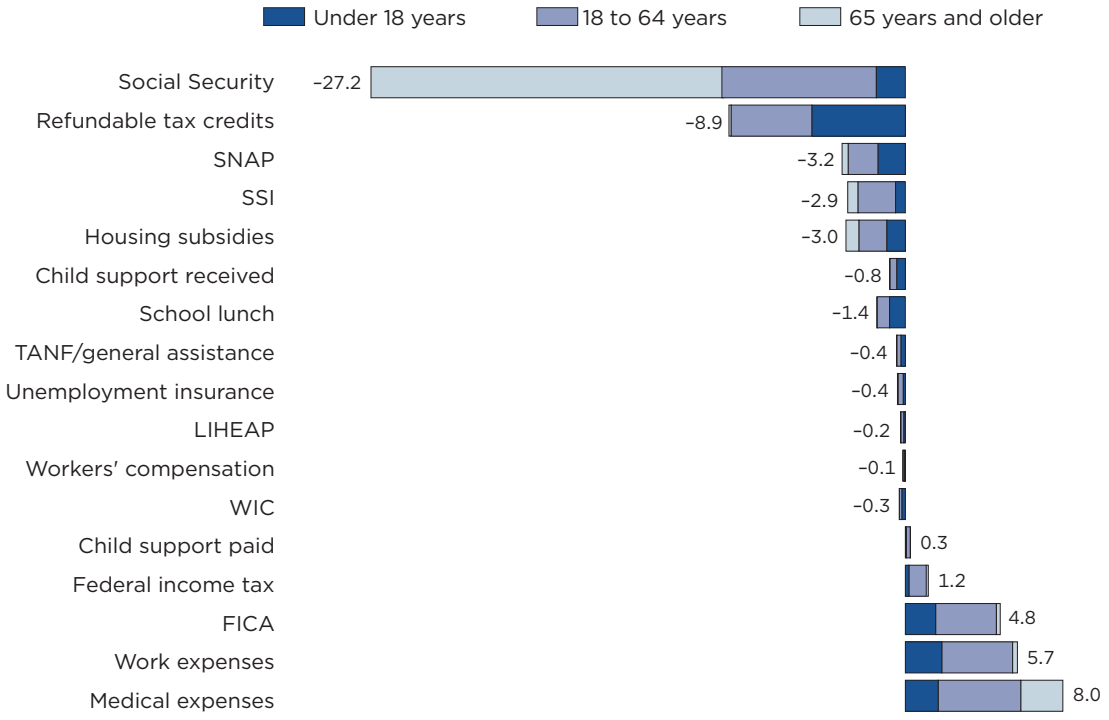
can also examine the effects of nondiscretionary expenses such as work and medical expenses.

Figure 8 shows the effect that various additions and subtractions had on the number of people who would have been considered poor in 2018, holding all else the same and assuming no behavioral changes. Additions and subtractions are shown for the total population and by three age groups. Additions shown in the figure include cash benefits, also included in the official measure, as well as noncash benefits, included only in the SPM. This allows us to examine the effects of government transfers on poverty estimates. Since child support paid is subtracted from income, we also examine the effect of child support received on alleviating poverty. Child support payments received are counted as income in both the official measure and the SPM (but child support paid is only deducted in the SPM).

Figure 8 allows us to compare the effect of transfers, both cash and noncash, and nondiscretionary expenses on numbers of individuals in poverty, all else equal. Social Security transfers and refundable tax credits had the largest impacts, preventing 27.2 million and 8.9 million individuals, respectively, from falling into poverty. Medical expenses were the largest contributor to increasing the number of individuals in poverty.

Appendix Table A-6 shows the effect that various additions and subtractions had on the SPM rate in 2017 and 2018, holding all else the same and assuming no behavioral changes. Appendix Table A-7

Figure 8.
Change in Number of People in Poverty After Including Each Element: 2018
(In millions)



Note: For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2019 Annual Social and Economic Supplement.

shows the same set of additions and subtractions but shows the number of people affected by removing each element from the SPM, rather than the change in the SPM rate.

Removing one item from the calculation of SPM resources and recalculating poverty rates shows, for example, that Social Security benefits decrease the SPM rate by 8.4 percentage points, from 21.2 percent to 12.8 percent (see Appendix Table A-6). This means that with Social Security benefits, 27.2 million fewer people are living below the poverty line (see Figure 8 and Appendix Table A-7). When including refundable tax credits (the Earned Income Tax Credit [EITC] and the refundable portion of the child tax credit) in resources, 8.9 million fewer people are considered poor, all else constant. On the other hand, when the SPM subtracts amounts paid for child support, income and payroll taxes, work-related expenses, and medical expenses, the number and percentage in poverty are higher. When subtracting medical expenses from income, the SPM rate is 2.5 percentage points higher. In numbers, 8.0 million more people are classified as poor.

In comparison to 2017, the 2018 antipoverty impacts of housing subsidies, child support received, unemployment insurance, and workers' compensation decreased, lifting 0.4 million, 0.2 million, 0.2 million, and 0.1 million fewer individuals out of poverty, respectively (Table A-7). Conversely, FICA pushed 0.5 million additional individuals into poverty in 2018 than in 2017.

Appendix Tables A-6 and A-7 also show effects of individual elements for different age groups. In 2018, accounting for refundable tax credits resulted in a 6.4 percentage point decrease in the child poverty rate, representing 4.7 million children prevented from falling into poverty by the inclusion of these credits. Subtracting medical expenses, such as contributions toward the cost of medical care and health insurance premiums, from the income of families with children resulted in a child poverty rate 2.3 percentage points higher. For the 65 and older group, SPM rates increased by about 4.0 percentage points with the inclusion of medical expense deductions from income, while Social Security benefits lowered poverty rates by 33.9 percentage points for the 65 and older group, lifting 17.9 million individuals above the poverty line.

SUMMARY

This report provides estimates of poverty using the SPM for the United States. The results illustrate differences between the official measure of poverty and a poverty measure that takes account of noncash benefits received by families and nondiscretionary expenses that they must pay. The SPM also employs a poverty threshold that is updated by the BLS with information on expenditures for food, clothing, shelter, and utilities. Results show higher poverty rates using the SPM than the official measure for most groups, with children being an exception with lower poverty rates using the SPM.

The SPM allows us to examine the effect of taxes, noncash transfers, and necessary expenses on the poor and on important groups within the population in poverty. As such, there are lower percentages of the SPM poverty populations in the very high and very low resource categories than we find using the official measure. Since noncash benefits help those in extreme poverty, there were lower percentages of individuals with resources below half the SPM threshold for most groups. In addition, the effect of benefits received from each program and taxes and other nondiscretionary expenses on SPM rates were examined.

REFERENCES

Many of the working papers listed below are available at <www.census.gov/topics/income-poverty/supplemental-poverty-measure/library/working-papers.html> or <https://stats.bls.gov/pir/spmhome.htm>.

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APPENDIX

SPM HISTORY

This is the ninth report describing the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) released by the U.S. Census Bureau, with support from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

The SPM was developed following decades of research on poverty measurement. Concerns about the adequacy of the official measure culminated in a congressional appropriation in 1990 for an independent scientific study of the concepts, measurement methods, and information needed for a poverty measure. In response, the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) convened a Panel on Poverty and Family Assistance, which released its report, Measuring Poverty: A New Approach in 1995 (Citro and Michael, 1995).

The Interagency Technical Working Group on Developing a Supplemental Poverty Measure (ITWG) was formed in 2009 and charged with developing a set of initial starting points to permit the Census Bureau, in cooperation with the BLS, to produce the SPM. In 2010, the ITWG (which included representatives from the BLS, the Census Bureau, the Economics and Statistics Administration, the Council of Economic Advisers, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the Office of Management and Budget [OMB]) issued a series of suggestions to the Census Bureau and the BLS on how to develop the SPM.[12] Their suggestions drew on the recommendations of the 1995 NAS report and the subsequent extensive research on poverty measurement. The ITWG suggestions were published in the Federal Register and the Census Bureau and the BLS reviewed comments from the public.[13] In November 2011, the Census Bureau released the first SPM report, providing SPM estimates for 2009 and 2010.

In 2016, OMB convened a new interagency technical working group to provide advice on challenges and opportunities brought before it by the Census Bureau and the BLS concerning data sources, estimation, survey production, and processing activities for development, implementation, publication, and improvement of the SPM. The SPM Working Group is composed of career federal employees representing their respective agencies and chaired by the OMB. The agencies currently represented include the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the BLS, the Council of Economic Advisors, the Census Bureau, the Economic Research Service, the Food and Nutrition Service, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Internal Revenue Service, the National Center for Education Statistics, the National Center for Health Statistics, the OMB, and the Social Security Administration.

Currently the ITWG is reviewing potential changes to implement in 2021, the 10-year anniversary of the first SPM report. Among others, ideas under consideration include new estimation of work expenses, modifications to the thresholds, including updating geographic adjustments (Renwick, Figueroa, and Aten, 2017), expanding the estimation sample, moving the base of the thresholds from the 33rd percentile to the median of the FCSU distribution (Fox and Garner, 2018), as well as incorporating additional noncash benefits in the threshold (for example, see Garner, Gudrais, and Short, 2016). Before adopting any major changes, researchers at the Census Bureau and the BLS will present results showing the need for and impact of such a change. Potential changes to the SPM will be presented and discussed at conferences, expert meetings, and posted on the Census Bureau's SPM Web site <www.census.gov/topics/income-poverty/supplemental-poverty-measure.html>. The ITWG will make the final decision on changes in September 2020 and these changes, if any, will be implemented in the September 2021 SPM report.

In 2019, OMB established the Interagency Technical Working Group on Evaluating Alternative Measures of Poverty in order to evaluate possible alternative measures of poverty, how such measures might be constructed, and whether to publish those measures along with the measures currently being published.[14] The group is chaired by OMB's Statistical and Science Policy Office and includes career representatives from various federal agencies and offices. The group

[12] See <www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/topics/income/supplemental-poverty-measure/spm-twgobservations.pdf>.

[13] Federal Register notice (Vol. 75, No. 101, p. 29513) was issued on May 26, 2010, soliciting public comments regarding specific methods and data sources in developing the SPM.

[14] OMB also established a second interagency technical working group in 2019 to examine consumer inflation measures.

plans to publish a Federal Register Notice (FRN) providing for 60 days of public comment, soliciting feedback on the preliminary findings and recommendations on alternative poverty measures. The group will submit a final report to the Chief Statistician of the United States that includes a set of final recommendations with regard to producing and publishing alternative measure(s), remaining research questions, proposed timelines for implementation, and other pertinent topics.

CHANGES IN CPS ASEC PROCESSING SYSTEM

The Census Bureau has been engaged for the past several years in implementing improvements to the Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement (CPS ASEC). These changes have been implemented in a two-step process, beginning first, with questionnaire design changes incorporated over the period of 2014 to 2016 followed by more recent changes to the data processing system.

In 2014, the Census Bureau introduced redesigned income and health insurance questions in the CPS ASEC in an effort to improve data quality. The redesigned income questions were tested in the field using a split-panel design, where about 70 percent of respondents received the traditional income questionnaire used in the 2013 CPS ASEC and prior years, and 30 percent received the redesigned income questions.

In the redesigned questionnaire, income and means-tested benefit questions were updated with the goals of improving income reporting, increasing response rates, and reducing reporting errors by taking better advantage of the automated questionnaire. These updates included: (1) new retirement income questions to reflect the shift from defined-benefit to defined-contribution plans; (2) the option to provide income in "ranges" when a respondent could not, or would not, give a specific dollar amount; and (3) the elimination of "screeners," which filtered questions by household income.

Based on the success of this field test, the redesigned income questions were used for the full CPS ASEC sample in 2015 and subsequent years.[15] Additionally, changes were introduced beginning in 2015 to better identify opposite- or same-sex spouses and unmarried partners.[16]

While data collection methods reflected these changes immediately, data processing changes to take advantage of this new content have only recently been finalized. Estimates released from the CPS ASEC for calendar years 2013 through 2017 reflect questionnaire changes, but did not take full advantage of the new questionnaire content in data processing.

In the second phase of implementation, the updated processing system changes how the Census Bureau edits and imputes income data and determines family relationships (including among same-sex couples). For income, the data processing and imputation system has been overhauled to improve data quality, this included:[17]

- For many income sources the top codes, or maximum allowed values, were increased.
- The creation of additional income variables.
- Changes to improve data on means-tested benefit receipt and the presence of mortgages.
- Additional information on nonresponse and allocation.

For family relationships, the processing system was updated to treat members of same-sex and opposite-sex marriages consistently.

In April 2019, the Census Bureau released a rerun of the 2018 CPS ASEC public-use data using the updated processing system. The original data had previously been released in September 2018 using the legacy edit procedures. The April 2019 release was accompanied by several working papers, notes, and tables summarizing differences in estimates from the two processing systems. Public-use microdata files, a data dictionary, and supplemental technical documentation are available on the Census Bureau Web site.[18] Similar resources were released for the 2017 CPS ASEC.

[15] For details on the redesigned income questions, see Semega, Jessica L. and Edward Welniak, Jr., "The Effects of the Changes to the Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement on Estimates of Income, January 2015, <www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/working-papers/2015/demo/ASSA-Income-CPSASEC-Red.pdf>.

[16] For details on changes to the CPS ASEC relationship data, see Krieder, Rose and Benjamin Gurrentz, "Changes to the Household Relationship Data in the Current Population Survey," SEHSD Working Paper 2019-13, April 2019, <www.census.gov/library/working-papers/2019/demo/SEHSD-WP2019-13.html>.

[17] For details on the updated processing system, see Rothbaum, Jonathan, "Changes to Income Processing in the CPS ASEC," SEHSD Working Paper 2019-18, April 2019, <www.census.gov/library/working-papers/2019/demo/SEHSD-WP2019-18.html>.

[18] See resources at <https://census.gov/data/datasets/time-series/demo/income-poverty/cps-asec-design.html>.

This report, *The Supplemental Poverty Measure: 2018* is the first release of SPM estimates reflecting both data collection and processing system changes. Comparisons between 2017 and 2018 estimates in this report are based on estimates derived from the updated processing system. In some cases, as shown in Appendix Table A-8, the 2017 estimates in this report diverge from the estimates published in *The Supplemental Poverty Measure: 2017* report released in September 2018, which were produced using the legacy processing system.

Appendix Table A-8 shows the difference in the number and percentage of people in SPM poverty using the legacy and the updated processing system. In 2017, the overall SPM rate was 0.9 percentage points lower in the updated processing system compared with the legacy processing system. For nearly every demographic group examined in Table A-8, SPM rates were lower using the updated processing system. Individuals living in a cohabiting partner unit or those with public, no private insurance had higher poverty rates under the updated processing system, while those living in a male reference person unit, outside metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs), and individuals without health insurance did not show a statistically significant difference between the two systems. Updates to means-tested benefit caps and improvements to medical expenditure imputations resulted in more individuals moved out of poverty based on housing subsidies and fewer individuals moved into poverty based on federal income taxes and medical expenses under the updated processing system compared with the legacy processing system.

SPM METHODOLOGY

Poverty Thresholds

Consistent with the NAS panel recommendations and the suggestions of the ITWG, the SPM thresholds are based on out-of-pocket spending on a basic set of goods and services that includes food, clothing, shelter, and utilities (FCSU), and a small additional amount to allow for other needs (e.g., household supplies, personal care, non-work-related transportation). SPM thresholds are produced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics Division of Price and Index Number Research (BLS DPINR) using 5 years of quarterly Consumer Expenditure Survey (CE) interview data for consumer units with exactly two children.[19] All individuals who share expenses with others in the household are included in the consumer unit.[20] FCSU expenditures are converted to equivalized values using a three-parameter equivalence scale (see "Equivalence Scales" section). The three-parameter equivalence scale is used to convert the estimation sample FCSU expenditures to those of a reference consumer unit composed of two adults with two children.

SPM thresholds are produced for three housing tenure groups to account for differences in housing costs. The three groups are owners with mortgages, owners without mortgages, and renters. Thresholds reflect average spending within the 30th to 36th percentile range of FCSU expenditures for the estimation sample, multiplied by 1.2 to account for additional basic needs, with adjustments for shelter and utilities for each housing group. See the BLS DPINR Research Experimental Poverty Measures Web page for specifics regarding the production of the SPM thresholds and related statistics.[21]

The ITWG recommended that adjustments to thresholds should be made over time to reflect real changes in expenditures on the basic bundle of goods and services around the 33rd percentile of the expenditure distribution. The thresholds used here include the value of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in the measure of spending on food. As much as possible given available data, the calculation of the FCSU should include any noncash benefits that are counted on the resource side for FCSU. This is necessary for consistency of the threshold and resource definitions. Current research at the BLS is investigating the feasibility of incorporating additional noncash benefits in the threshold (for example, see Garner, Gudrais, and Short, 2016).

Equivalence Scales

The ITWG guidelines state that the "three-parameter equivalence scale" is to be used to adjust SPM reference thresholds for the number of adults and children.[22] The three-parameter scale allows for

[19] See <https://stats.bls.gov/cex/> for information on the CE.

[20] This includes unmarried partners and others making joint expenditure decisions. For full definition, see <https://stats.bls.gov/cex/faq.htm#q3>.

[21] These are referred to as BLS-DPINR Research Experimental Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) Thresholds. For further information, see <https://stats.bls.gov/pir/spmhome.htm>.

[22] The official measure adjusts thresholds based on family size, number of children and adults, as well as whether or not the householder is aged 65 or older.

a different adjustment for single parents (Betson, 1996). This scale has been used in several BLS and Census Bureau studies (Short et al., 1999; Short, 2001). The three-parameter scale is calculated in the following way:

One and two adults: scale = $(\text{adults})^{0.5}$

Single parents: scale = $(\text{adults} + 0.8 * \text{first child} + 0.5 * \text{other children})^{0.7}$

All other families: scale = $(\text{adults} + 0.5 * \text{children})^{0.7}$

In the calculation used to produce thresholds for two adults, the scale is set to 1.41. The economy of scale factor is set at 0.70 for other family types, which is within the 0.65 to 0.75 range recommended by the NAS panel.

Geographic Adjustments

The American Community Survey (ACS) is used to adjust the FCSU thresholds for differences in prices across geographic areas. The geographic adjustments are based on 5-year ACS estimates of median gross rents for two-bedroom units with complete kitchen and plumbing facilities. Separate medians were estimated for each of 260 MSAs large enough to be identified on the public-use version of the CPS ASEC file. For each state, a median is estimated for all nonmetropolitan areas (47) and for a combination of all smaller metropolitan areas within a state (35). This results in 342 adjustment factors. For details, see Renwick (2011).[23]

[23] Renwick, Figueroa, and Aten (2017) examined an alternative method of calculation for the geographic indexes using Regional Price Parities from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Unit of Analysis

The ITWG suggested that the resource unit in the SPM include all related individuals who live at the same address, any coresident unrelated children who are cared for by the family (such as foster children), and any cohabiters and their children.[24, 25] This definition corresponds broadly with the unit of data collection (the consumer unit) that is employed for the CE data that are used to calculate poverty thresholds. They are referred to as SPM Resource Units. For all resource units that contain a set of male/female unmarried partners, the female partner's weight is used as the SPM family weight. For all other units, there is no change in family weight.[26]

Official Poverty Treatment of Unrelated Individuals Under the Age of 15

Unrelated children under the age of 15 are excluded from the official poverty measure universe but included in the SPM universe. To compare the two measures in the SPM report, unrelated individuals under the age of 15 are assigned an official poverty status to match that of the reference person of the household in which they reside. The official poverty status is not recalculated for anyone else in the household. See Fox (2017a) for a comparison of official poverty estimates using different methods. Prior to the 2016 SPM report, all unrelated children under the age of 15 were considered poor in the official poverty estimates used in the SPM report. Since these children were not asked any income questions, they were assigned income of $0 and a poverty threshold for a single person unit.

[24] Foster children up to the age of 22 are included in the new unit.

[25] The official measure of poverty uses the census-defined family that includes all individuals residing together who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption and treats all unrelated individuals aged 15 and older independently.

[26] Appropriate weighting of these new units is an area of additional research at the Census Bureau.

Noncash Benefits

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

SNAP benefits (formerly known as food stamps) are designed to allow eligible low-income households to afford a nutritionally adequate diet. Households that participate in the SNAP program are assumed to devote 30 percent of their countable monthly cash income to the purchase of food, and SNAP benefits make up the remaining cost of an adequate low-cost diet. This amount is set at the level of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Thrifty Food Plan. In the CPS ASEC, respondents report if anyone in the household ever received SNAP benefits in the previous calendar year and, if so, the face value of those benefits. The annual household amount is prorated to the SPM Resource Units within each household.

National School Lunch Program

This program offers children free school lunches if family income is below 130 percent of federal poverty guidelines, reduced-price school meals if family income is between 130 and 185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, and a subsidized school meal for all other children.[27] In the CPS ASEC, the reference person is

[27] The poverty guidelines are issued each year by the Department of Health and Human Services. The guidelines are a simplified version of the Census Bureau's poverty thresholds used for administrative purposes—for instance, determining financial eligibility for certain federal programs. For more details and guidelines, see <https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines>.

asked how many children "usually" ate a complete lunch at school, and if so, if it was a free or reduced-price school lunch. The value of school meals is assigned based on the assumption that the children received the lunches every day during the last school year. Note that this method may overestimate the benefits received by each family. To value benefits, we obtain amounts on the cost per lunch from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service, which administers the school lunch program. There is no value included for school breakfast.

Supplementary Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

This program is designed to provide food assistance and nutritional screening to low-income pregnant and postpartum women and their infants and to low-income children up to the age of 5. Incomes must be at or below 185 percent of the poverty guidelines and participants must be nutritionally at-risk (having abnormal nutritional conditions, nutrition-related medical conditions, or dietary deficiencies). Benefits include supplemental foods in the form of food items or vouchers for purchases of specific food items. There are questions on current receipt of WIC in the CPS ASEC. Lacking additional information, we assume 12 months of participation and value the benefit using program information obtained from the Department of Agriculture. As with school lunch, assuming yearlong participation may overestimate the value of WIC benefits received by a given SPM unit. In these estimates, we assume that all children less than 5 years old in a household where someone reports receiving WIC are also assigned receipt of WIC. If the child is aged 0 or 1 year, then we assume that the mother also gets WIC. If there is no child in the family, but the household reference person said "yes" to the WIC question, we assume this is a pregnant woman receiving WIC.

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

This program provides three types of energy assistance. Under this program, states may help pay heating or cooling bills, provide allotments for low-cost weatherization, or provide assistance during energy-related emergencies. States determine eligibility and can provide assistance in various ways, including cash payments, vendor payments, two-party checks, vouchers/coupons, and payments directly to landlords. In the CPS ASEC, the question on energy assistance asks for information about the entire previous year. Many households receive both a "regular" benefit and one or more crisis or emergency benefits. Since LIHEAP payments are often made directly to a utility company or fuel oil vendor, many households may have difficulty reporting the precise amount of the LIHEAP payment made on their behalf.

Housing Assistance

Households can receive housing assistance from a plethora of federal, state, and local programs. Federal housing assistance consists of a number of programs administered primarily by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These programs traditionally take the form of rental subsidies and mortgage-interest subsidies targeted to very-low-income renters and are either project-based (public housing) or tenant-based (vouchers). The value of housing subsidies is estimated as the difference between the "market rent" for the housing unit and the total tenant payment. The "market rent" for the household is estimated using a statistical match with HUD administrative data from the Public and Indian Housing Information Center and the Tenant Rental Assistance Certification System. For each household identified in the CPS ASEC as receiving help with rent or living in public housing, an attempt was made to match on state, core-based statistical area (CBSA), and household size.[28] The total tenant payment is estimated by applying HUD program rules to total household income reported in the CPS ASEC. Generally, participants in either public housing or tenant-based subsidy programs administered by HUD are expected to contribute the greater of one-third of their "adjusted" income or 10 percent of their gross income towards

[28] HUD operates two major housing assistance programs: public housing and tenant-based or voucher programs. Previous research has found that households misreport whether they receive public housing or rental assistance in the CPS ASEC and that the value of public housing is not unambiguously worth less than the value of rental assistance (Renwick, 2017). Given these ambiguities and increasing challenges in the reporting of housing subsidy values across various types of housing assistance, beginning in the 2016 SPM report, we have eliminated the adjustment factor previously applied to public housing subsidy values.

housing costs.[29] See Johnson et al. (2010) for more details on this method. Initially, subsidies are estimated at the household level. If there is more than one SPM unit in a household, then the value of the subsidy is prorated based on the number of people in the SPM unit relative to the total number of people in the household.

Housing subsidies help families pay their rent and, as such, are added to income for the SPM. However, there is general agreement that, while the value of a housing subsidy can free up a family's income to purchase food and other basic items, it will do so only to the extent that it meets the need for shelter. Thus, the values for housing subsidies included as income are limited to the proportion of the threshold that is allocated to housing costs. The subsidy is capped at the housing portion of the appropriate threshold MINUS the total tenant payment.

Necessary Expenses Subtracted From Resources

Taxes

The NAS panel and the ITWG recommended that the calculation of family resources for poverty measurement should subtract necessary expenses that must be paid by the family. The measure subtracts federal, state, and local income taxes and Social Security payroll taxes (FICA) before assessing the ability of a family to obtain basic necessities such as FCSU. Taking account of taxes allows us to account for receipt of the federal or state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and other tax credits. The CPS ASEC does not collect information on taxes paid, but relies on a tax calculator to simulate taxes paid. These simulations include federal and state income taxes and FICA taxes.[30] These simulations also use a statistical match to the IRS Statistics of Income public-use microdata file of tax returns. The 2019 CPS ASEC tax model has incorporated changes from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. These changes include increased personal exemptions, new limitations to itemized deductions, increased credit eligibility and amounts, and reduced tax rates.

Work-Related Expenses

Going to work and earning a wage often entails incurring expenses, such as travel to work and purchase of uniforms or tools. For work-related expenses (other than childcare), the NAS panel recommended subtracting a fixed amount for each earner 18 years or older. Their calculation was based on 1987 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) data that collected information on work expenses in a set of supplementary questions. They calculated 85 percent of median weekly expenses—$14.42 per week worked for anyone aged 18 or older in the family in 1992. Total expenses were obtained by multiplying this fixed amount by the number of weeks respondents reported working in the year. Each person in the SIPP reports their own expenditures on work-related items in a given week. The most recent available data are used to calculate median weekly expenses.[31] The number of weeks worked, reported in the CPS ASEC, is multiplied by 85 percent of median weekly work-related expenses for each person to arrive at annual work-related expenses.[32]

Child Care Expenses

Another important part of work-related expenses is paying someone to care for children while parents work. These expenses have become important for families with young children in which both parents (or a single parent) work. To account for childcare expenses while parents worked, the CPS ASEC asks parents whether or not they pay for child care and how much they spent. The amounts paid for any type of child care while parents are at work are summed over all children. The ITWG, following the recommendations of the NAS report, suggested capping the amount subtracted from income, when combined with other work-related expenses, so that these do not exceed total reported earnings of the lowest earning reference person or spouse/partner of the reference person in the family. This capping procedure is applied

[29] HUD regulations define "adjusted household income" as cash income, excluding income from certain sources minus numerous deductions. Three of the income exclusions can be identified from the CPS ASEC: income from the employment of children, student financial assistance, and earnings in excess of $480 for each full-time student 18 years or older. Deductions that can be modeled from the CPS ASEC include $480 for each dependent, $400 for any elderly or disabled family member, childcare, and medical expenses.

[30] Wheaton and Stevens (2016) compare the Census Bureau's tax calculator to TAXSIM and the Bakija tax model and find consistency in tax estimates across the models.

[31] Median weekly work expenses were $43.65 for 2018 using the 2014 SIPP Panel.

[32] Edwards et al. (2014) examined an alternative method of valuing work-related expenses using the ACS.

before determining poverty status.[33]

Child Support Paid

The NAS panel recommended that since child support received from other households is counted as income, child support paid out to those households should be deducted from the resources of those households that paid it. Without this subtraction, all child support is double counted in overall income statistics. Questions ascertaining amounts paid in child support are included in the CPS ASEC, and these reported amounts are subtracted in the estimates presented here.

Medical Expenses

The ITWG recommended subtracting medical expenses from income, following the NAS panel. The NAS panel was aware that expenditures for health care are a significant portion of a family budget and have become an increasingly larger budget item since the 1960s. These expenses include the payment of health insurance premiums plus other medically necessary items such as prescription drugs and doctor copayments that are not covered or reimbursed by insurance. Subtracting these amounts from income, like taxes and work expenses, leaves the amount of income that the family has available to purchase the basic bundle of goods.

When reporting medical expenses, respondents are asked not to report Medicare Part B premiums. Instead, Medicare Part B premiums are estimated using other information collected in the CPS ASEC. If respondents received Social Security benefits, they may have reported Medicare premiums, and the reported amount is taken. For respondents aged 65 and older who reported that their Social Security payment was after deduction, but did not report a deduction amount greater than $0, the Medicare Part B premium is set at the standard amount per month and added to income and medical expenditures. For the remaining respondents who reported being covered by Medicare, Medicare Part B premiums are simulated using the rules for income and tax filing status for people aged 65 and older (see <www.medicare.gov/>).[34] For married respondents with a "spouse present," combined reported income is used to determine the appropriate Medicare Part B premium assuming that these couples filed married-joint returns. Finally, the simulation model assumes two groups paid zero Part B premiums: (1) respondents enrolled in Medicare and Medicaid and (2) those with a family income less than 135 percent of the federal poverty level.[35] This strategy for estimating Medicare Part B premiums largely follows the methodology developed by Caswell and Short (2011). Estimates for 2017 and beyond reflect the implementation of an updated processing system.[36]

[33] Some analysts have suggested that this cap may be inappropriate in certain cases, such as if the parent is in school, looking for work, or receiving types of compensation other than earnings.

[34] We make the simplifying assumption that respondents were insured by Medicare for the entire year.

[35] The family income assumption is based on a rough estimate of eligibility and participation in at least one of the following programs: Qualified Medicare Beneficiary, Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary, or Qualified Individual or Qualified Disabled and Working Individuals. We do not take into account the possibility of (state-specific) asset requirements.

[36] For more details on changes to the medical expenditures estimation, see Berchick, Edward R. and Heide M. Jackson, "Health Insurance Coverage in the 2017 CPS ASEC Research File," SEHSD Working Paper Number 2019-01, 2019, <www.census.gov/library/working-papers/2019/demo/SEHSD-WP2019-01.html> and "Updates to the Processing of Out of Pocket Medical Expenditures and Medicare Premiums," SEHSD Working Paper 2019-31, <www.census.gov/library/working-papers/2019/demo/SEHSD-WP2019-31.html>.

Table A-1.

Number and Percentage of People in Poverty Using the Supplemental Poverty Measure: 2017 and 2018

(Numbers in thousands. Margin of error in thousands or percentage points as appropriate. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>)

Characteristic	SPM 2018				SPM 2017[1]				Difference	
	Number		Percent		Number		Percent			
	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Number	Percent
All people	**41,420**	**861**	**12.8**	**0.3**	**42,075**	**1,004**	**13.0**	**0.3**	**–655**	**–0.3**
Sex										
Male	19,269	479	12.1	0.3	19,505	541	12.3	0.3	–237	–0.2
Female	22,151	454	13.4	0.3	22,570	547	13.7	0.3	–418	–0.3
Age										
Under 18 years	10,096	381	13.7	0.5	10,532	394	14.2	0.5	–437	–0.5
18 to 64 years	24,151	564	12.2	0.3	24,582	655	12.4	0.3	–432	–0.2
65 years and older	7,174	250	13.6	0.5	6,960	276	13.6	0.5	213	Z
Type of Unit										
Married couple	15,043	526	7.7	0.3	14,899	585	7.6	0.3	144	Z
Cohabiting partners	3,659	267	13.9	0.9	3,877	294	14.9	1.1	–218	–1.0
Female reference person	10,390	461	25.0	0.9	10,621	451	25.3	0.9	–231	–0.2
Male reference person	2,197	214	15.1	1.4	2,488	230	17.3	1.5	–291	*–2.2
Unrelated individuals	10,132	329	21.9	0.6	10,191	382	22.3	0.7	–59	–0.4
Race[3] and Hispanic Origin										
White	27,820	665	11.2	0.3	28,380	797	11.5	0.3	–560	–0.2
White, not Hispanic	16,932	522	8.7	0.3	17,689	555	9.0	0.3	*–757	*–0.4
Black	8,727	432	20.4	1.0	8,775	375	20.6	0.9	–47	–0.2
Asian	2,749	220	13.9	1.1	2,743	210	14.0	1.1	7	–0.1
Hispanic (any race)	12,216	442	20.3	0.7	12,146	533	20.5	0.9	70	–0.2
Nativity										
Native-born	32,540	744	11.7	0.3	33,314	860	12.0	0.3	–774	–0.3
Foreign-born	8,880	344	19.4	0.7	8,761	398	19.3	0.8	119	0.1
Naturalized citizen	3,297	193	14.8	0.8	3,238	188	14.8	0.8	58	Z
Not a citizen	5,584	272	23.7	1.0	5,522	301	23.4	1.1	61	0.3
Educational Attainment										
Total aged 25 and older	26,158	576	11.8	0.3	25,990	611	11.8	0.3	168	Z
No high school diploma	6,320	241	28.8	1.0	6,137	254	27.4	1.0	183	1.4
High school, no college	9,272	315	14.9	0.5	9,500	329	15.2	0.5	–228	–0.3
Some college	5,599	218	9.7	0.4	5,879	219	10.2	0.4	*–280	–0.4
Bachelor's degree or higher	4,967	246	6.2	0.3	4,474	218	5.8	0.3	*493	*0.4
Tenure										
Owner/mortgage	7,831	383	5.9	0.3	8,588	454	6.4	0.3	*–756	*–0.6
Owner/no mortgage/rent free	10,146	415	11.8	0.4	9,967	438	11.7	0.5	179	Z
Renter	23,443	651	22.4	0.5	23,521	690	22.4	0.6	–78	Z
Residence[4]										
Inside metropolitan statistical areas	36,249	860	12.9	0.3	36,790	1,003	13.1	0.3	–541	–0.3
Inside principal cities	16,818	689	16.0	0.6	17,413	755	16.7	0.6	–595	–0.7
Outside principal cities	19,431	669	11.0	0.4	19,377	701	11.0	0.4	54	Z
Outside metropolitan statistical areas	5,171	439	12.2	0.7	5,285	469	12.3	0.7	–114	–0.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table A-1.

Number and Percentage of People in Poverty Using the Supplemental Poverty Measure: 2017 and 2018—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Margin of error in thousands or percentage points as appropriate. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>)

Characteristic	SPM 2018				SPM 2017[1]				Difference	
	Number		Percent		Number		Percent			
	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Number	Percent
Region										
Northeast	6,768	339	12.2	0.6	7,218	357	12.9	0.6	–450	–0.7
Midwest	6,223	344	9.2	0.5	6,874	378	10.2	0.6	*–652	*–1.0
South	17,219	606	13.9	0.5	16,846	624	13.8	0.5	372	0.2
West	11,211	434	14.4	0.6	11,137	472	14.4	0.6	74	Z
Health Insurance Coverage										
With private insurance	12,747	456	5.9	0.2	13,552	508	6.2	0.2	*–805	*–0.4
With public, no private insurance	21,805	613	27.8	0.7	21,707	636	27.6	0.7	98	0.2
Not insured	6,868	312	24.4	1.0	6,816	336	26.0	1.1	52	*–1.6
Work Experience										
Total 18 to 64 years	24,151	564	12.2	0.3	24,582	655	12.4	0.3	–432	–0.2
All workers	10,959	318	7.2	0.2	11,319	372	7.4	0.2	–360	–0.3
Worked full-time, year-round	4,847	214	4.3	0.2	4,925	197	4.5	0.2	–78	–0.1
Less than full-time, year-round	6,112	228	14.9	0.5	6,394	279	15.0	0.6	–282	–0.2
Did not work at least 1 week	13,191	383	29.4	0.7	13,263	456	29.0	0.8	–72	0.4
Disability Status[5]										
Total 18 to 64 years	24,151	564	12.2	0.3	24,582	655	12.4	0.3	–432	–0.2
With a disability	3,609	187	24.3	1.1	3,429	176	22.7	1.1	180	*1.6
With no disability	20,500	497	11.3	0.3	21,116	593	11.6	0.3	–616	–0.3

* An asterisk preceding an estimate indicates change is statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

Z Rounds to zero.

[1] 2017 data reflect the implementation of an updated processing system. For more details, see appendix.

[2] The margin of error (MOE) is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the MOE in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval. The MOEs shown in this table are based on standard errors calculated using replicate weights. For more information see "Standard Errors and Their Use" at <https://www2.census.gov/library/publications/2019/demo/p60-266sa.pdf>.

[3] Federal surveys give respondents the option of reporting more than one race. Therefore, two basic ways of defining a race group are possible. A group, such as Asian, may be defined as those who reported Asian and no other race (the race-alone or single-race concept) or as those who reported Asian regardless of whether they also reported another race (the race-alone-or-in-combination concept). This table shows data using the first approach (race alone). The use of the single-race population does not imply that it is the preferred method of presenting or analyzing data. The Census Bureau uses a variety of approaches. Information on people who reported more than one race, such as White *and* American Indian and Alaska Native or Asian *and* Black or African American, is available from the 2010 Census through American FactFinder. About 2.9 percent of people reported more than one race in the 2010 Census. Data for American Indians and Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders, and those reporting two or more races are not shown separately.

[4] For the definition of metropolitan statistical areas and principal cities, see <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/metro-micro/about/glossary.html>.

[5] The sum of those with and without a disability does not equal the total because disability status is not defined for individuals in the U.S. armed forces.

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2018–2019 Annual Social and Economic Supplements.

Table A-2.

Number and Percentage of People in Poverty by Different Poverty Measures: 2018

(Numbers in thousands. Margin of error in thousands or percentage points as appropriate. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>)

Characteristic	Number[1] (in thousands)	Official[1]				SPM				Difference	
		Number		Percent		Number		Percent			
		Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Number	Percent
All people	**324,356**	**38,200**	**794**	**11.8**	**0.2**	**41,420**	**861**	**12.8**	**0.3**	***3,220**	***1.0**
Sex											
Male	159,028	16,820	432	10.6	0.3	19,269	479	12.1	0.3	*2,448	*1.5
Female	165,328	21,380	462	12.9	0.3	22,151	454	13.4	0.3	*772	*0.5
Age											
Under 18 years	73,793	11,924	418	16.2	0.6	10,096	381	13.7	0.5	*–1,828	*–2.5
18 to 64 years	197,775	21,130	479	10.7	0.2	24,151	564	12.2	0.3	*3,020	*1.5
65 years and older	52,788	5,146	206	9.7	0.4	7,174	250	13.6	0.5	*2,028	*3.8
Type of Unit											
Married couple	195,760	10,530	447	5.4	0.2	15,043	526	7.7	0.3	*4,512	*2.3
Cohabiting partners	26,339	6,374	339	24.2	1.0	3,659	267	13.9	0.9	*–2,716	*–10.3
Female reference person	41,543	10,506	475	25.3	1.0	10,390	461	25.0	0.9	–116	–0.3
Male reference person	14,527	1,684	184	11.6	1.2	2,197	214	15.1	1.4	*512	*3.5
Unrelated individuals	46,187	9,105	306	19.7	0.5	10,132	329	21.9	0.6	*1,027	*2.2
Race[3] and Hispanic Origin											
White	248,001	24,984	616	10.1	0.2	27,820	665	11.2	0.3	*2,836	*1.1
White, not Hispanic	195,060	15,742	455	8.1	0.2	16,932	522	8.7	0.3	*1,190	*0.6
Black	42,842	8,891	417	20.8	1.0	8,727	432	20.4	1.0	–164	–0.4
Asian	19,790	2,004	159	10.1	0.8	2,749	220	13.9	1.1	*746	*3.8
Hispanic (any race)	60,095	10,548	403	17.6	0.7	12,216	442	20.3	0.7	*1,667	*2.8
Nativity											
Native-born	278,536	31,878	716	11.4	0.3	32,540	744	11.7	0.3	*662	*0.2
Foreign-born	45,820	6,322	283	13.8	0.6	8,880	344	19.4	0.7	*2,558	*5.6
Naturalized citizen	22,296	2,215	147	9.9	0.6	3,297	193	14.8	0.8	*1,082	*4.9
Not a citizen	23,524	4,107	227	17.5	0.8	5,584	272	23.7	1.0	*1,476	*6.3
Educational Attainment											
Total, aged 25 and older	221,478	21,916	440	9.9	0.2	26,158	576	11.8	0.3	*4,242	*1.9
No high school diploma	21,975	5,693	222	25.9	0.9	6,320	241	28.8	1.0	*627	*2.9
High school, no college	62,259	7,925	255	12.7	0.4	9,272	315	14.9	0.5	*1,347	*2.2
Some college	57,428	4,812	183	8.4	0.3	5,599	218	9.7	0.4	*787	*1.4
Bachelor's degree or higher	79,816	3,486	214	4.4	0.3	4,967	246	6.2	0.3	*1,481	*1.9
Tenure											
Owner/mortgage	133,390	5,249	300	3.9	0.2	7,831	383	5.9	0.3	*2,583	*1.9
Owner/no mortgage/rent free	86,285	9,773	411	11.3	0.4	10,146	415	11.8	0.4	*373	*0.4
Renter	104,680	23,179	713	22.1	0.6	23,443	651	22.4	0.5	264	0.3
Residence[4]											
Inside metropolitan statistical areas	281,961	31,978	770	11.3	0.3	36,249	860	12.9	0.3	*4,271	*1.5
Inside principal cities	104,940	15,309	612	14.6	0.5	16,818	689	16.0	0.6	*1,509	*1.4
Outside principal cities	177,021	16,669	614	9.4	0.3	19,431	669	11.0	0.4	*2,762	*1.6
Outside metropolitan statistical areas	42,395	6,222	529	14.7	0.8	5,171	439	12.2	0.7	*–1,051	*–2.5

See footnotes at end of table.

Table A-2.

Number and Percentage of People in Poverty by Different Poverty Measures: 2018—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Margin of error in thousands or percentage points as appropriate. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>)

Characteristic	Number[1] (in thousands)	Official[1]				SPM				Difference	
		Number		Percent		Number		Percent			
		Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Number	Percent
Region											
Northeast	55,358	5,689	304	10.3	0.6	6,768	339	12.2	0.6	*1,079	*1.9
Midwest	67,630	7,008	378	10.4	0.6	6,223	344	9.2	0.5	*–785	*–1.2
South	123,671	16,786	576	13.6	0.5	17,219	606	13.9	0.5	*432	*0.3
West	77,697	8,716	419	11.2	0.5	11,211	434	14.4	0.6	*2,495	*3.2
Health Insurance Coverage											
With private insurance	217,780	8,376	319	3.8	0.1	12,747	456	5.9	0.2	*4,371	*2.0
With public, no private insurance	78,426	23,520	641	30.0	0.7	21,805	613	27.8	0.7	*–1,714	*–2.2
Not insured	28,150	6,305	279	22.4	0.9	6,868	312	24.4	1.0	*563	*2.0
Work Experience											
Total 18 to 64 years	197,775	21,130	479	10.7	0.2	24,151	564	12.2	0.3	*3,020	*1.5
All workers	152,835	7,781	256	5.1	0.2	10,959	318	7.2	0.2	*3,178	*2.1
Worked full-time, year-round	111,702	2,544	133	2.3	0.1	4,847	214	4.3	0.2	*2,303	*2.1
Less than full-time, year-round	41,133	5,237	213	12.7	0.5	6,112	228	14.9	0.5	*876	*2.1
Did not work at least 1 week	44,940	13,349	354	29.7	0.7	13,191	383	29.4	0.7	–158	–0.4
Disability Status[5]											
Total 18 to 64 years	197,775	21,130	479	10.7	0.2	24,151	564	12.2	0.3	*3,020	*1.5
With a disability	14,845	3,818	186	25.7	1.1	3,609	187	24.3	1.1	*–209	*–1.4
With no disability	182,010	17,279	391	9.5	0.2	20,500	497	11.3	0.3	*3,221	*1.8

* An asterisk preceding an estimate indicates change is statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

[1] Includes unrelated individuals under the age of 15.

[2] The margin of error (MOE) is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the MOE in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval. The MOEs shown in this table are based on standard errors calculated using replicate weights. For more information see "Standard Errors and Their Use" at <https://www2.census.gov/library/publications/2019/demo/p60-266sa.pdf>.

[3] Federal surveys give respondents the option of reporting more than one race. Therefore, two basic ways of defining a race group are possible. A group, such as Asian, may be defined as those who reported Asian and no other race (the race-alone or single-race concept) or as those who reported Asian regardless of whether they also reported another race (the race-alone-or-in-combination concept). This table shows data using the first approach (race alone). The use of the single-race population does not imply that it is the preferred method of presenting or analyzing data. The Census Bureau uses a variety of approaches. Information on people who reported more than one race, such as White *and* American Indian and Alaska Native or Asian *and* Black or African American, is available from the 2010 Census through American FactFinder. About 2.9 percent of people reported more than one race in the 2010 Census. Data for American Indians and Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders, and those reporting two or more races are not shown separately.

[4] For the definition of metropolitan statistical areas and principal cities, see <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/metro-micro/about/glossary.html>.

[5] The sum of those with and without a disability does not equal the total because disability status is not defined for individuals in the U.S. armed forces.

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2019 Annual Social and Economic Supplement.

Table A-3.

Two-Adult-Two-Child Poverty Thresholds: 2017 and 2018

(In nominal dollars)

Measure	2017[1]	Standard error	2018	Standard error
Official poverty measure	**24,858**	**N**	**25,465**	**N**
Research supplemental poverty measure				
Owners with mortgages	27,085	276	28,342	329
Owners without mortgages	23,261	471	24,173	424
Renters	27,005	263	28,166	253

N Not available.

[1] The thresholds for 2017 in the table above were finalized on August 15, 2018. After the release of the 2017 SPM thresholds in September 2018, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) made updates to the last year of the underlying data; revised 2017 thresholds and associated statistics are available on the BLS poverty thresholds' Web page for comparison to the ones published in the table above.

Source: The thresholds, shares, and means were produced by Juan D. Munoz under the guidance of Thesia I. Garner. Munoz and Garner work in the Division of Price and Index Number Research, BLS. These thresholds and statistics are produced for research purposes only using the U.S. Consumer Expenditure Interview Survey. The thresholds are not BLS production quality. This work is solely that of the authors and does not necessarily reflect the official positions or policies of the BLS, or the views of other staff members within this agency. For methodological details and related research regarding the SPM thresholds, see <https://stats.bls.gov/pir/spmhome.htm>.

Table A-4.

Percentage of People by Ratio of Income/Resources to Poverty Threshold: 2017 and 2018

(Margin of error in percentage points. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>)

Characteristic	Less than 0.50	Margin of error[1] (±)	0.50 to 0.99	Margin of error[1] (±)	1.00 to 1.49	Margin of error[1] (±)	1.50 to 1.99	Margin of error[1] (±)	2.00 to 3.99	Margin of error[1] (±)	4.00 or more	Margin of error[1] (±)
2018												
OFFICIAL[2]												
All people	**5.3**	**0.2**	**6.4**	**0.2**	**8.3**	**0.2**	**8.8**	**0.2**	**29.2**	**0.3**	**41.9**	**0.4**
Age												
Under 18 years	6.9	0.4	9.3	0.4	11.1	0.5	10.4	0.4	29.6	0.6	32.8	0.6
18 to 64 years	5.1	0.2	5.6	0.2	7.0	0.2	7.9	0.2	28.7	0.4	45.8	0.5
65 years and older	4.0	0.3	5.8	0.3	9.4	0.4	10.2	0.5	30.3	0.7	40.4	0.7
Race[3] and Hispanic Origin												
White	4.5	0.2	5.6	0.2	7.7	0.2	8.6	0.3	29.2	0.4	44.5	0.4
White, not Hispanic	3.9	0.2	4.2	0.2	6.0	0.2	7.3	0.2	28.4	0.4	50.2	0.5
Black	9.4	0.6	11.4	0.7	11.9	0.8	10.8	0.7	30.4	1.0	26.2	1.0
Asian	5.3	0.6	4.9	0.7	6.0	0.8	6.9	0.8	24.9	1.6	52.1	1.6
Hispanic (any race)	6.9	0.5	10.6	0.5	14.0	0.6	12.9	0.6	32.0	0.8	23.6	0.7
SPM												
All people	**4.2**	**0.1**	**8.6**	**0.2**	**15.0**	**0.3**	**13.6**	**0.3**	**36.2**	**0.4**	**22.4**	**0.3**
Age												
Under 18 years	3.3	0.2	10.4	0.5	19.0	0.6	16.3	0.5	35.6	0.6	15.4	0.4
18 to 64 years	4.2	0.2	8.0	0.2	13.3	0.3	13.0	0.3	37.2	0.4	24.2	0.4
65 years and older	5.0	0.3	8.6	0.4	15.3	0.4	12.1	0.4	33.5	0.7	25.4	0.6
Race[3] and Hispanic Origin												
White	3.7	0.2	7.5	0.2	13.7	0.3	13.1	0.3	37.3	0.4	24.7	0.4
White, not Hispanic	3.4	0.2	5.3	0.2	10.7	0.3	11.8	0.3	39.8	0.5	29.0	0.5
Black	5.9	0.5	14.5	0.9	21.5	1.0	16.4	0.8	30.9	1.0	10.7	0.6
Asian	5.4	0.6	8.5	1.0	13.4	1.0	13.4	1.2	34.3	1.4	25.0	1.2
Hispanic (any race)	4.8	0.4	15.6	0.6	24.8	0.9	18.0	0.8	28.1	0.9	8.8	0.4
2017[4]												
OFFICIAL[2]												
All people	**5.6**	**0.2**	**6.6**	**0.2**	**8.6**	**0.2**	**8.7**	**0.2**	**29.0**	**0.4**	**41.4**	**0.4**
Age												
Under 18 years	7.8	0.4	9.6	0.4	11.4	0.4	9.9	0.4	29.0	0.6	32.3	0.6
18 to 64 years	5.3	0.2	5.7	0.2	7.3	0.2	7.9	0.2	28.6	0.4	45.2	0.5
65 years and older	3.8	0.3	5.7	0.3	10.0	0.5	10.2	0.5	30.5	0.7	39.7	0.8
Race[3] and Hispanic Origin												
White	4.8	0.2	5.8	0.2	7.9	0.3	8.4	0.2	29.1	0.4	44.0	0.5
White, not Hispanic	4.1	0.2	4.5	0.2	6.4	0.2	7.3	0.2	28.1	0.4	49.6	0.5
Black	10.5	0.7	11.2	0.6	12.6	0.7	10.4	0.6	29.7	1.0	25.5	1.0
Asian	4.9	0.7	4.8	0.6	7.4	0.9	7.2	0.8	25.2	1.4	50.5	1.6
Hispanic (any race)	7.5	0.5	10.8	0.6	13.1	0.7	12.6	0.6	33.0	1.0	22.9	0.8

See footnotes at end of table.

Table A-4.

Percentage of People by Ratio of Income/Resources to Poverty Threshold: 2017 and 2018—Con.

(Margin of error in percentage points. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>)

Characteristic	Less than 0.50	Margin of error[1] (±)	0.50 to 0.99	Margin of error[1] (±)	1.00 to 1.49	Margin of error[1] (±)	1.50 to 1.99	Margin of error[1] (±)	2.00 to 3.99	Margin of error[1] (±)	4.00 or more	Margin of error[1] (±)
SPM												
All people	**4.4**	**0.2**	**8.6**	**0.3**	**15.7**	**0.3**	**14.0**	**0.3**	**35.1**	**0.4**	**22.2**	**0.3**
Age												
Under 18 years	4.0	0.3	10.2	0.5	20.4	0.6	16.5	0.5	33.9	0.6	15.0	0.4
18 to 64 years	4.4	0.2	8.0	0.2	14.0	0.3	13.4	0.3	36.2	0.4	24.0	0.4
65 years and older	5.0	0.3	8.6	0.4	15.4	0.6	12.5	0.5	32.7	0.7	25.8	0.7
Race[3] and Hispanic Origin												
White	3.9	0.2	7.5	0.3	14.2	0.3	13.4	0.3	36.3	0.4	24.6	0.4
White, not Hispanic	3.5	0.2	5.6	0.2	11.2	0.3	12.2	0.3	38.6	0.5	28.9	0.5
Black	6.6	0.5	14.0	0.8	22.9	1.0	16.6	0.8	29.6	1.1	10.3	0.6
Asian	5.2	0.7	8.8	1.0	14.3	1.2	12.8	1.1	34.8	1.5	24.0	1.3
Hispanic (any race)	5.6	0.5	14.9	0.8	25.7	0.8	17.9	0.8	27.3	0.8	8.6	0.5

[1] The margin of error (MOE) is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the MOE in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval. The MOEs shown in this table are based on standard errors calculated using replicate weights. For more information see "Standard Errors and Their Use" at <https://www2.census.gov/library/publications/2019/demo/p60-266sa.pdf>.

[2] Includes unrelated individuals under the age of 15.

[3] Federal surveys give respondents the option of reporting more than one race. Therefore, two basic ways of defining a race group are possible. A group, such as Asian, may be defined as those who reported Asian and no other race (the race-alone or single-race concept) or as those who reported Asian regardless of whether they also reported another race (the race-alone-or-in-combination concept). This table shows data using the first approach (race alone). The use of the single-race population does not imply that it is the preferred method of presenting or analyzing data. The Census Bureau uses a variety of approaches. Information on people who reported more than one race, such as White *and* American Indian and Alaska Native or Asian *and* Black or African American, is available from the 2010 Census through American FactFinder. About 2.9 percent of people reported more than one race in the 2010 Census. Data for American Indians and Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders, and those reporting two or more races are not shown separately.

[4] The 2017 data reflect the implementation of an updated processing system. For more details, see appendix.

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2018–2019 Annual Social and Economic Supplements.

Table A-5.

Number and Percentage of People in Poverty by State Using 3-Year Average Over: 2016, 2017, and 2018

(Numbers in thousands. Margin of error in thousands or percentage points as appropriate. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>)

State	Official[1]				SPM				Difference	
	Number		Percent		Number		Percent			
	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Number	Percent
United States . . .	**39,605**	**549**	**12.3**	**0.2**	**42,285**	**580**	**13.1**	**0.2**	***2,681**	***0.8**
Alabama	779	74	16.1	1.5	667	64	13.8	1.3	*−111	*−2.3
Alaska	87	13	12.2	1.8	92	12	12.8	1.6	5	0.7
Arizona	1,013	113	14.4	1.6	989	102	14.0	1.4	−24	−0.3
Arkansas	454	33	15.5	1.1	379	31	12.9	1.0	*−75	*−2.6
California	4,923	200	12.5	0.5	7,098	243	18.1	0.6	*2,174	*5.5
Colorado	500	50	8.9	0.9	607	68	10.8	1.2	*107	*1.9
Connecticut	346	44	9.8	1.3	407	50	11.6	1.4	*61	*1.7
Delaware	92	10	9.6	1.1	115	11	11.9	1.2	*22	*2.3
District of Columbia	103	7	14.9	1.1	126	9	18.2	1.2	*23	*3.3
Florida	2,843	196	13.6	0.9	3,390	190	16.2	0.9	*547	*2.6
Georgia	1,522	113	14.7	1.1	1,479	112	14.3	1.1	−43	−0.4
Hawaii	133	16	9.5	1.2	192	18	13.7	1.3	*59	*4.2
Idaho	195	21	11.3	1.2	155	18	9.0	1.0	*−39	*−2.3
Illinois	1,376	125	10.9	1.0	1,548	121	12.3	1.0	*171	*1.4
Indiana	777	70	11.9	1.1	725	74	11.1	1.1	−52	−0.8
Iowa	284	34	9.2	1.1	206	30	6.7	1.0	*−78	*−2.5
Kansas	310	37	10.8	1.3	222	27	7.8	1.0	*−87	*−3.0
Kentucky	675	65	15.3	1.5	552	51	12.5	1.2	*−123	*−2.8
Louisiana	898	46	19.8	1.0	750	60	16.5	1.3	*−148	*−3.3
Maine	167	22	12.7	1.7	134	24	10.1	1.9	*−34	*−2.5
Maryland	429	53	7.2	0.9	746	69	12.4	1.2	*316	*5.3
Massachusetts	671	66	9.8	1.0	778	67	11.4	1.0	*107	*1.6
Michigan	1,085	85	10.9	0.9	998	85	10.1	0.9	*−87	*−0.9
Minnesota	489	65	8.7	1.2	394	77	7.0	1.4	*−95	*−1.7
Mississippi	580	33	19.8	1.1	465	29	15.8	1.0	*−116	*−3.9
Missouri	713	88	11.9	1.5	627	69	10.5	1.1	*−87	*−1.4
Montana	109	14	10.5	1.4	98	11	9.4	1.1	*−11	*−1.1
Nebraska	196	27	10.4	1.4	172	24	9.1	1.3	*−25	*−1.3
Nevada	363	37	12.2	1.2	403	39	13.5	1.3	*40	*1.3
New Hampshire	85	11	6.4	0.8	110	14	8.2	1.1	*25	*1.9
New Jersey	808	78	9.1	0.9	1,242	102	14.0	1.1	*434	*4.9
New Mexico	382	39	18.7	1.9	295	24	14.4	1.2	*−87	*−4.2
New York	2,305	136	11.8	0.7	2,731	141	14.0	0.7	*427	*2.2
North Carolina	1,440	104	14.0	1.0	1,375	103	13.4	1.0	−64	−0.6
North Dakota	81	10	10.9	1.4	75	8	10.0	1.0	−6	−0.9
Ohio	1,477	100	12.9	0.9	1,196	99	10.4	0.9	*−281	*−2.4
Oklahoma	543	77	14.0	1.9	429	61	11.1	1.5	*−114	*−2.9
Oregon	445	67	10.6	1.6	481	56	11.5	1.3	36	0.9
Pennsylvania	1,447	112	11.5	0.9	1,353	125	10.8	1.0	−95	−0.8
Rhode Island	107	16	10.2	1.6	84	13	8.0	1.3	*−23	*−2.2
South Carolina	701	64	14.1	1.3	624	55	12.6	1.1	*−77	*−1.6
South Dakota	101	16	11.8	1.9	85	11	9.8	1.3	*−17	*−1.9
Tennessee	847	89	12.7	1.4	768	70	11.5	1.1	*−79	*−1.2
Texas	3,843	190	13.7	0.7	3,999	209	14.2	0.7	*156	*0.6
Utah	248	40	7.9	1.3	259	43	8.3	1.4	11	0.3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table A-5.

Number and Percentage of People in Poverty by State Using 3-Year Average Over: 2016, 2017, and 2018—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Margin of error in thousands or percentage points as appropriate. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>)

State	Official[1]				SPM				Difference	
	Number		Percent		Number		Percent			
	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Number	Percent
Vermont	59	7	9.6	1.1	58	7	9.4	1.2	–1	–0.2
Virginia	882	81	10.7	1.0	1,060	81	12.8	1.0	*177	*2.1
Washington	767	79	10.3	1.0	780	86	10.5	1.1	13	0.2
West Virginia	308	37	17.2	2.1	260	20	14.5	1.1	*–48	*–2.7
Wisconsin	550	44	9.5	0.8	453	58	7.8	1.0	*–97	*–1.7
Wyoming	64	9	11.4	1.6	57	8	10.1	1.5	*–7	*–1.2

* An asterisk preceding an estimate indicates change is statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

[1] Includes unrelated individuals under the age of 15.

[2] The margin of error (MOE) is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the MOE in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval. The MOEs shown in this table are based on standard errors calculated using replicate weights. For more information see "Standard Errors and Their Use" at <https://www2.census.gov/library/publications/2019/demo/p60-266sa.pdf>.

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. The data for 2016 and 2017 reflect the implementation of an updated processing system. For more details, see appendix.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2017–2019 Annual Social and Economic Supplements.

Table A-6.

Effect of Individual Elements on Supplemental Poverty Measure Rates: 2017 and 2018

(Margin of error in percentage points. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>)

Element	All people		Under 18 years		18 to 64 years		65 years and over	
	Estimate	Margin of error[1] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[1] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[1] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[1] (±)
2018								
All people	**12.77**	**0.27**	**13.68**	**0.52**	**12.21**	**0.28**	**13.59**	**0.47**
ADDITIONS								
Social Security	−8.39	0.19	−1.99	0.19	−3.96	0.18	−33.90	0.67
Refundable tax credits	−2.76	0.14	−6.42	0.34	−2.07	0.11	−0.22	0.06
SNAP	−0.99	0.09	−1.87	0.22	−0.77	0.07	−0.60	0.09
SSI	−0.90	0.07	−0.67	0.12	−0.96	0.08	−1.00	0.14
Housing subsidies	−0.93	0.07	−1.27	0.16	−0.71	0.06	−1.26	0.15
Child support received	−0.24	0.04	−0.58	0.11	−0.17	0.03	−0.03	0.02
School lunch	−0.45	0.06	−1.08	0.16	−0.31	0.05	−0.04	0.02
TANF/general assistance	−0.14	0.03	−0.29	0.08	−0.10	0.03	−0.04	0.02
Unemployment insurance	−0.12	0.03	−0.14	0.05	−0.13	0.03	−0.07	0.04
LIHEAP	−0.08	0.02	−0.10	0.04	−0.07	0.02	−0.05	0.02
Workers' compensation	−0.04	0.02	−0.04	0.02	−0.04	0.02	−0.03	0.02
WIC	−0.09	0.03	−0.23	0.06	−0.07	0.02	Z	Z
SUBTRACTIONS								
Child support paid	0.08	0.02	0.07	0.03	0.10	0.02	0.02	0.02
Federal income tax	0.36	0.05	0.25	0.07	0.44	0.06	0.20	0.06
FICA	1.48	0.11	2.08	0.22	1.56	0.11	0.38	0.07
Work expenses	1.75	0.12	2.51	0.25	1.82	0.12	0.46	0.08
Medical expenses	2.46	0.13	2.26	0.21	2.12	0.13	4.05	0.30
2017[2]								
All people	**13.02**	**0.31**	**14.22**	**0.53**	**12.41**	**0.33**	**13.63**	**0.54**
ADDITIONS								
Social Security	−8.38	0.20	−1.90	0.16	−4.11	0.18	−34.32	0.78
Refundable tax credits	−2.67	0.14	−6.30	0.35	−1.96	0.11	−0.17	0.05
SNAP	−1.06	0.10	−2.01	0.22	−0.84	0.08	−0.54	0.10
SSI	−1.00	0.07	−0.62	0.09	−1.08	0.09	−1.22	0.16
Housing subsidies	−1.05	0.08	−1.42	0.18	−0.85	0.08	−1.28	0.15
Child support received	−0.31	0.05	−0.75	0.12	−0.22	0.04	−0.03	0.02
School lunch	−0.45	0.06	−1.12	0.16	−0.30	0.05	−0.05	0.03
TANF/general assistance	−0.17	0.04	−0.41	0.09	−0.12	0.03	−0.03	0.02
Unemployment insurance	−0.17	0.04	−0.23	0.07	−0.18	0.04	−0.04	0.02
LIHEAP	−0.06	0.02	−0.08	0.05	−0.06	0.02	−0.06	0.03
Workers' compensation	−0.07	0.02	−0.06	0.03	−0.09	0.03	−0.04	0.03
WIC	−0.08	0.03	−0.20	0.07	−0.06	0.02	0.00	0.00
SUBTRACTIONS								
Child support paid	0.08	0.02	0.10	0.03	0.10	0.02	0.01	0.01
Federal income tax	0.39	0.04	0.25	0.06	0.48	0.06	0.24	0.06
FICA	1.34	0.10	1.72	0.18	1.45	0.10	0.39	0.09
Work expenses	1.66	0.10	2.17	0.20	1.78	0.11	0.45	0.09
Medical expenses	2.57	0.12	2.12	0.19	2.26	0.12	4.40	0.32

Z Rounds to zero.

[1] The margin of error (MOE) is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the MOE in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval. The MOEs shown in this table are based on standard errors calculated using replicate weights. For more information see "Standard Errors and Their Use" at <https://www2.census.gov/library/publications/2019/demo/p60-266sa.pdf>.

[2] The 2017 data reflect the implementation of an updated processing system. For more details, see appendix.

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2018-2019 Annual Social and Economic Supplements.

Table A-7.

Effect of Individual Elements on the Number of Individuals in Poverty: 2017 and 2018

(Numbers and margin of error in thousands. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar19.pdf>)

Element	All people		Under 18 years		18 to 64 years		65 years and over	
	Number	Margin of error[1] (±)	Number	Margin of error[1] (±)	Number	Margin of error[1] (±)	Number	Margin of error[1] (±)
2018								
All people	**41,420**	**861**	**10,096**	**381**	**24,151**	**564**	**7,174**	**250**
ADDITIONS								
Social Security	–27,205	614	–1,471	141	–7,837	350	–17,897	361
Refundable tax credits	–8,950	448	–4,735	250	–4,098	224	–117	34
SNAP	–3,210	298	–1,381	164	–1,514	145	–315	48
SSI	–2,923	233	–497	86	–1,900	155	–526	75
Housing subsidies	–3,013	239	–936	120	–1,412	127	–665	80
Child support received	–789	138	–429	79	–344	67	–16	11
School lunch	–1,445	206	–800	118	–622	98	–22	11
TANF/general assistance	–444	111	–216	60	–207	62	–21	11
Unemployment insurance	–399	90	–103	33	–259	61	–38	20
LIHEAP	–247	61	–72	27	–147	39	–28	12
Workers' compensation	–124	49	–27	16	–79	32	–18	12
WIC	–302	89	–169	48	–132	44	–2	2
SUBTRACTIONS								
Child support paid	260	67	51	21	196	47	12	12
Federal income tax	1,163	172	182	52	876	121	105	34
FICA	4,813	344	1,537	165	3,077	210	200	38
Work expenses	5,686	375	1,849	186	3,591	229	245	44
Medical expenses	7,990	409	1,665	152	4,189	257	2,136	159
2017[2]								
All people	**42,075**	**1,004**	**10,532**	**394**	**24,582**	**655**	**6,960**	**276**
ADDITIONS								
Social Security	–27,072	642	–1,409	117	–8,139	351	–17,524	401
Refundable tax credits	–8,639	447	–4,665	261	–3,886	211	–89	24
SNAP	–3,427	307	–1,491	164	–1,660	163	–276	53
SSI	–3,229	239	–457	69	–2,148	170	–624	80
Housing subsidies	–3,392	268	–1,055	132	–1,683	156	–654	74
Child support received	–1,008	156	–555	90	–439	76	–14	8
School lunch	–1,445	203	–828	120	–589	89	–28	14
TANF/general assistance	–557	116	–302	70	–238	53	–18	10
Unemployment insurance	–556	119	–173	49	–362	83	–20	11
LIHEAP	–205	75	–59	35	–117	45	–30	14
Workers' compensation	–241	73	–47	21	–171	59	–23	14
WIC	–264	82	–151	49	–113	39	0	0
SUBTRACTIONS								
Child support paid	267	58	71	26	189	42	7	5
Federal income tax	1,256	138	185	46	950	112	121	33
FICA	4,331	316	1,272	136	2,862	205	197	44
Work expenses	5,360	334	1,611	146	3,519	223	230	46
Medical expenses	8,294	397	1,572	141	4,476	244	2,245	164

[1] The margin of error (MOE) is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the MOE in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval. The MOEs shown in this table are based on standard errors calculated using replicate weights. For more information see "Standard Errors and Their Use" at <https://www2.census.gov/library/publications/2019/demo/p60-266sa.pdf>.

[2] The 2017 data reflect the implementation of an updated processing system. For more details, see appendix.

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2018-2019 Annual Social and Economic Supplements.

Table A-8.

Comparison of 2017 Supplemental Poverty Estimates Using the Updated and Legacy Processing System

(Numbers in thousands. Margin of error in thousands or percentage points as appropriate. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar18.pdf>)

Characteristic	Updated[1]				Legacy[2]				Difference	
	Number		Percent		Number		Percent			
	Estimate	Margin of error[3] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[3] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[3] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[3] (±)	Number	Percent
All people	**42,075**	**1,004**	**13.0**	**0.3**	**44,972**	**993**	**13.9**	**0.3**	***–2,897**	***–0.9**
Sex										
Male	19,505	541	12.3	0.3	20,717	501	13.1	0.3	*–1,211	*–0.8
Female	22,570	547	13.7	0.3	24,255	570	14.7	0.3	*–1,686	*–1.0
Age										
Under 18 years	10,532	394	14.2	0.5	11,521	399	15.6	0.5	*–989	*–1.4
18 to 64 years	24,582	655	12.4	0.3	26,244	628	13.2	0.3	*–1,662	*–0.8
65 years and older	6,960	276	13.6	0.5	7,207	274	14.1	0.5	*–247	*–0.5
Type of Unit										
Married couple	14,899	585	7.6	0.3	16,879	663	8.7	0.3	*–1,980	*–1.1
Cohabiting partners	3,877	294	14.9	1.1	3,558	298	13.3	1.1	*319	*1.6
Female reference person	10,621	451	25.3	0.9	11,408	448	26.9	0.9	*–788	*–1.6
Male reference person	2,488	230	17.3	1.5	2,382	208	16.3	1.3	105	1.0
Unrelated individuals	10,191	382	22.3	0.7	10,745	375	23.5	0.7	*–554	*–1.2
Race[4] and Hispanic Origin										
White	28,380	797	11.5	0.3	30,433	780	12.3	0.3	*–2,053	*–0.8
White, not Hispanic	17,689	555	9.0	0.3	19,249	594	9.8	0.3	*–1,559	*–0.8
Black	8,775	375	20.6	0.9	9,394	410	22.1	1.0	*–619	*–1.5
Asian	2,743	210	14.0	1.1	2,948	204	15.1	1.0	*–205	*–1.1
Hispanic (any race)	12,146	533	20.5	0.9	12,654	488	21.4	0.8	*–509	*–0.9
Nativity										
Native-born	33,314	860	12.0	0.3	35,538	864	12.8	0.3	*–2,223	*–0.8
Foreign-born	8,761	398	19.3	0.8	9,435	367	20.8	0.7	*–674	*–1.5
Naturalized citizen	3,238	188	14.8	0.8	3,513	195	16.1	0.8	*–275	*–1.3
Not a citizen	5,522	301	23.4	1.1	5,921	297	25.1	1.1	*–399	*–1.7
Educational Attainment										
Total aged 25 and older	25,990	611	11.8	0.3	27,801	635	12.6	0.3	*–1,812	*–0.8
No high school diploma	6,137	254	27.4	1.0	6,429	259	28.7	1.0	*–291	*–1.3
High school, no college	9,500	329	15.2	0.5	10,038	350	16.0	0.5	*–538	*–0.9
Some college	5,879	219	10.2	0.4	6,263	247	10.8	0.4	*–384	*–0.7
Bachelor's degree or higher	4,474	218	5.8	0.3	5,072	207	6.6	0.3	*–598	*–0.8
Tenure										
Owner/mortgage	8,588	454	6.4	0.3	10,492	478	7.6	0.3	*–1,904	*–1.1
Owner/no mortgage/rent free	9,967	438	11.7	0.5	9,886	444	12.5	0.5	80	*–0.7
Renter	23,521	690	22.4	0.6	24,594	706	23.5	0.6	*–1,073	*–1.0
Residence[5]										
Inside metropolitan statistical areas	36,790	1,003	13.1	0.3	39,472	955	14.1	0.3	*–2,682	*–1.0
Inside principal cities	17,413	755	16.7	0.6	18,216	687	17.5	0.5	*–802	*–0.8
Outside principal cities	19,377	701	11.0	0.4	21,257	666	12.1	0.4	*–1,880	*–1.1
Outside metropolitan statistical areas	5,285	469	12.3	0.7	5,500	463	12.8	0.6	–215	–0.5

See footnotes at end of table.

Table A-8.

Comparison of 2017 Supplemental Poverty Estimates Using the Updated and Legacy Processing System—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Margin of error in thousands or percentage points as appropriate. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar18.pdf>)

Characteristic	Updated[1]				Legacy[2]				Difference	
	Number		Percent		Number		Percent			
	Estimate	Margin of error[3] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[3] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[3] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[3] (±)	Number	Percent
Region										
Northeast	7,218	357	12.9	0.6	7,976	396	14.2	0.7	*–758	*–1.3
Midwest	6,874	378	10.2	0.6	7,198	372	10.7	0.6	*–323	*–0.5
South	16,846	624	13.8	0.5	18,147	651	14.8	0.5	*–1,301	*–1.1
West	11,137	472	14.4	0.6	11,652	404	15.1	0.5	*–515	*–0.7
Health Insurance Coverage										
With private insurance	13,552	508	6.2	0.2	17,872	602	8.2	0.3	*–4,320	*–2.0
With public, no private insurance	21,707	636	27.6	0.7	19,851	579	25.6	0.7	*1,856	*2.0
Not insured	6,816	336	26.0	1.1	7,249	343	25.4	1.0	*–433	0.6
Work Experience										
Total 18 to 64 years	24,582	655	12.4	0.3	26,244	628	13.2	0.3	*–1,662	*–0.8
All workers	11,319	372	7.4	0.2	12,172	362	8.0	0.2	*–853	*–0.6
Worked full-time, year-round	4,925	197	4.5	0.2	5,368	205	4.9	0.2	*–443	*–0.4
Less than full-time, year-round	6,394	279	15.0	0.6	6,804	270	16.0	0.6	*–410	*–1.0
Did not work at least 1 week	13,263	456	29.0	0.8	14,072	434	30.6	0.7	*–809	*–1.7
Disability Status[6]										
Total 18 to 64 years	24,582	655	12.4	0.3	26,244	628	13.2	0.3	*–1,662	*–0.8
With a disability	3,429	176	22.7	1.1	3,550	163	23.5	1.0	*–121	*–0.8
With no disability	21,116	593	11.6	0.3	22,656	576	12.4	0.3	*–1,541	*–0.8

* An asterisk preceding an estimate indicates change is statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

[1] Estimates from the 2018 CPS ASEC Bridge file reflect the updated processing system with different underlying universes and weights. For more information, see the Bridge file documentation at <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/datasets/income-poverty/time-series/data-extracts/2018/cps-asec-bridge-file/2018-asec-bridge-file-documentation.pdf>. For more information on the updated processing system, see <www.census.gov/data/datasets/time-series/demo/income-poverty/cps-asec-design.html>.

[2] Estimates from the 2018 CPS ASEC Legacy file correspond to those previously released in the report "The Supplemental Poverty Measure: 2017," available at <www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2018/demo/p60-265.pdf>.

[3] The margin of error (MOE) is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the MOE in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval. The MOEs shown in this table are based on standard errors calculated using replicate weights. For more information see "Standard Errors and Their Use" at <https://www2.census.gov/library/publications/2018/demo/p60-263sa.pdf>.

[4] Federal surveys give respondents the option of reporting more than one race. Therefore, two basic ways of defining a race group are possible. A group, such as Asian, may be defined as those who reported Asian and no other race (the race-alone or single-race concept) or as those who reported Asian regardless of whether they also reported another race (the race-alone-or-in-combination concept). This table shows data using the first approach (race alone). The use of the single-race population does not imply that it is the preferred method of presenting or analyzing data. The Census Bureau uses a variety of approaches. Information on people who reported more than one race, such as White *and* American Indian and Alaska Native or Asian *and* Black or African American, is available from the 2010 Census through American FactFinder. About 2.9 percent of people reported more than one race in the 2010 Census. Data for American Indians and Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders, and those reporting two or more races are not shown separately.

[5] For the definition of metropolitan statistical areas and principal cities, see <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/metro-micro/about/glossary.html>.

[6] The sum of those with and without a disability does not equal the total because disability status is not defined for individuals in the U.S. armed forces.

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding.

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