

Arguably the single most important survey on the effects of government programs on Americans' lives.

"The Continuing Saga of SIPP"
The New York Times, May 31, 2007.

In 1996, [when welfare reform was passed], about one in eight low-income single mothers said they had neither welfare nor work. By 2008, the share had risen to one in five, and by 2010 it was one in four—twice the level of seeming destitution when welfare was more accessible.

"The Puzzle of Measuring Poverty," *The New York Times*, April 7, 2012.

...1.65 million U.S. households fell below the \$2 a day per person threshold in a given month. Those households included 3.55 million children, and accounted for 4.3 percent of all non-elderly households with children.

"Millions of Americans live in extreme poverty. Here's how they get by," *The Washington Post*, May 13, 2013.

SIPP is the best data we have.

"Millions of Americans live in extreme poverty. Here's how they get by," *The Washington Post*, May 13, 2013.

Using 2009 data, the U.S. Census finds that 7.8 million children live with at least one grandparent, up from 4.7 million in 1991.

"Census: More kids live with a grandparent in the house," *USA Today*, June 29, 2011.

Census data from 2005 show that only one-third of immigrants in the country for less than a decade speak English well, but that number climbs to nearly three-quarters for those here for 30 years or more.

"America's Assimilating Hispanics," *The Wall Street Journal*, June 1, 2013.

Child care costs have nearly doubled since the mid-1980's, but the portion of families paying for care had dropped, according to a new Census Bureau report.

"As Child Care Costs Rise, Families Seek Alternatives," *The New York Times*, April 3, 2013.

The richest 7% of American families saw their average wealth soar 20% from 2009 to 2011 while the remaining 93% of households lost 4% of their net worth over that same period, according to a new report.

"Rich get richer in recovery, but net worth of lower 93% declines," *The Los Angeles Times*, April 23, 2013.

SIPP in the News...

Dear Respondent,

The Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) is a household-based survey designed to measure the economic well-being of families over time. This allows policy makers, elected representatives, and researchers to examine the success or shortcomings of government programs and legislation.

Thus, SIPP is crucial to helping your government institute better policies and be good stewards of your tax dollars. SIPP is the sole source of national information for a wide variety of topics and allows for the investigation of the interaction between earnings, program transfers, and other government and private sector actions. Your household has been selected to represent thousands of similar households in the area.

Therefore, your response to the SIPP is vitally important so the economic situation of your household and others is accurately portrayed.

We thank you for your participation in the Survey of Income and Program Participation.

**Sincerely,
The SIPP Team**



Thank you for participating in this survey and for helping represent our nation's most important asset...

People Just Like You.



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

Connect with Us



United States™
Census
Bureau