A Different Way of Measuring Poverty

Supplemental Poverty Measure

The official poverty rate is based on pretax money income. The supplemental poverty measure also factors in costs for critical goods and services and government benefits to determine the number of people living in poverty.

People kept out of poverty by ...

- Social Security
- Refundable tax credits
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- Supplemental Security Income
- Housing subsidies
- Unemployment compensation
- School lunch
- Child support received
- Public assistance
- Women, Infants, and Children
- Workers compensation
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

People falling into poverty due to ...

- Medical out of pocket
- Work expenses
- Federal Insurance Contributions Act
- Federal income tax
- Child support paid

A person may receive more than one of the above benefits and may have more than one of the above expenses.