

TABLE 6: United States—National Hunger and Poverty Trends

	1970	1980	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total population (millions)	205.1	227.8	249.4	262.9	281.4	284.8^d	288.0^d	290.8^d	293.6^d
Food insecurity prevalence estimates									
All U.S. households - food insecure (%)	..	..	..	11.9	10.5	10.7	11.1	11.2	11.9
Without hunger	..	..	..	7.8	7.3	7.4	7.6	7.7	8.0
With hunger	..	..	..	4.2	3.1	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.9
Adult members (total) - food insecure (%)	..	..	..	11.0	10.1	10.2	10.5	10.8	11.3
Without hunger	..	..	..	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.5	7.7	7.9
With hunger	..	..	..	3.6	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.4
Child members (total) - food insecure (%)	..	..	..	19.5	18.0	17.6	18.1	18.2	19.0
Without hunger	..	..	..	13.4	13.9	16.9	17.3	17.6	18.2
With hunger	..	..	..	6.1	4.1	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.7
Percent of federal budget spent on food assistance^a	0.5	2.4	1.9	2.48	1.83^{e,f}	1.83^{e,f}	1.90^{e,f,1}	1.97^{e,f,1}	2.02^{e,f,1}
Total infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	20.0	12.6	9.1	7.6	6.9	6.9	7.0	..	..
White	17.8	11.0	7.7	6.3	5.7	..	5.8	..	..
White, non-Hispanic	..	..	..	..	5.7 ^c	..	..	..	..
African American	32.6	21.4	17.0	15.1	14.1	..	14.4	..	..
Hispanic	..	..	7.8	..	5.6 ^c	..	..	..	..
American Indian	..	..	..	..	7.4 ^c	..	..	..	..
Asian or Pacific Islander	..	..	..	..	4.1 ^c	..	..	..	..
Total poverty rate (%)	12.6	13.0	13.5	13.8	11.3	11.7	12.1	12.5	12.7
Northeast	..	..	10.2	12.5	10.3	10.7	10.9	11.3	11.6
Midwest	..	..	11.9	11.0	9.5	9.4	10.3	10.7	11.6
South	..	..	15.9	15.7	12.5	13.5	13.8	14.1	14.1
West	..	..	11.6	14.9	11.9	12.1	12.4	12.6	12.6
White	9.9	10.2	10.7	11.2	9.4	9.9	10.2	10.6	10.8
non-Hispanic	..	..	..	..	7.5	7.8	8.0	8.2	8.6
African American	33.5	32.5	31.9	29.3	22.1	22.7	24.1	24.3	24.7
Hispanic	..	25.7	28.1	30.3	21.2	21.4	21.8	22.5	21.9
American Indian/Alaskan Native	..	..	..	..	25.9 ^b	..	..	20.0 ^h	..
Asian and Pacific Islander	..	..	..	..	10.8	10.2	10.2	11.8	9.8
Elderly (65 years and older)	24.6	15.7	12.2	10.5	10.2	10.1	10.4	10.2	9.8
Female-headed households	38.1	36.7	33.4	32.4	24.7	26.4	26.5	28.0	28.4
Total child poverty rate (%) (18 years and under)	15.1	18.3	20.6	20.8	16.2	16.3	16.7	17.6	17.8
White	..	13.9	15.9	16.2	13.0	13.4	13.6	14.3	14.8
non-Hispanic	..	..	..	..	9.4	9.5	9.4	9.8	10.5
African American	..	42.3	44.8	41.9	30.9	30.2	32.3	34.1	33.6
Hispanic	..	33.2	38.4	40.0	28.0	28.0	28.6	29.7	28.9
Asian and Pacific Islander	..	..	17.6	19.5	14.5	11.5	11.7 ^g	12.5	10.0
Unemployment rate (%)	4.9	7.1	5.6	5.6	4.0	4.8	5.8	6.0	5.5
White	4.5	6.3	4.8	4.9	3.5	4.2	5.1	5.2	4.8
African American	..	14.3	11.4	10.4	7.6	8.7	10.2	10.8	10.4
Hispanic	..	10.1	8.2	9.3	5.7	6.6	7.5	7.7	7.0

TABLE 6: United States—National Hunger and Poverty Trends

	1970	1980	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Household income distribution (per quintile in %)									
All races									
Lowest 20 percent	4.1	4.2	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.4
Second quintile	10.8	10.2	9.6	9.1	8.9	8.7	8.8	8.7	8.7
Third quintile	17.4	16.8	15.9	15.2	14.8	14.6	14.8	14.8	14.7
Fourth quintile	24.5	24.8	24.0	23.3	23.0	23.0	23.3	23.4	23.2
Highest 20 percent	43.3	44.1	46.6	48.7	49.6	50.1	49.7	49.8	50.1
Ratio of highest 20 percent to lowest 20 percent	10.6	10.5	11.9	13.2	13.8	14.3	14.2	14.6	14.7
White									
Lowest 20 percent	4.2	4.4	4.2	4.0	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6
Second quintile	11.1	10.5	10.0	9.3	9.0	8.9	9.0	8.9	8.8
Third quintile	17.5	17.0	16.0	15.3	14.9	14.7	15.0	14.8	14.8
Fourth quintile	24.3	24.6	23.9	23.3	22.9	22.9	23.2	23.2	23.1
Highest 20 percent	42.9	43.5	46.0	48.1	49.4	49.8	49.2	49.4	49.6
Ratio of highest 20 percent to lowest 20 percent	10.2	9.9	11.0	12.0	13.4	13.5	13.2	21.4	13.8
African American									
Lowest 20 percent	3.7	3.7	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.8
Second quintile	9.3	8.7	7.9	8.2	8.6	8.6	8.2	8.2	8.3
Third quintile	16.3	15.3	15.0	14.8	15.2	15.0	14.5	14.7	14.6
Fourth quintile	25.2	25.2	25.1	24.2	23.8	24.2	23.3	24.0	23.8
Highest 20 percent	45.5	47.1	49.0	49.6	49.3	49.2	51.1	50.2	50.5
Ratio of highest 20 percent to lowest 20 percent	12.3	12.7	15.8	15.5	15.4	16.4	17.6	17.3	18.0
Hispanic									
Lowest 20 percent	..	4.3	4.0	3.8	4.3	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.8
Second quintile	..	10.1	9.5	8.9	9.8	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.3
Third quintile	..	16.4	15.9	14.8	15.7	15.2	14.8	15.0	14.9
Fourth quintile	..	24.8	24.3	23.3	23.8	23.2	22.9	23.1	22.9
Highest 20 percent	..	44.5	46.3	49.3	46.4	48.3	49.0	48.6	49.1
Ratio of highest 20 percent to lowest 20 percent	..	10.3	11.6	13.0	10.8	12.1	12.6	12.5	12.9

.. Data not available.

a Data refer to fiscal year.

b 3-year average, 1998, 1999 and 2000.

c Preliminary

d U.S. Census estimate

e Bread for the World Institute estimate.

f "Food Assistance" includes the following programs: Food stamp-related, Child nutrition, Supplemental food (including WIC), Food donations, Nutrition for the elderly, and Administrative costs.

g Data for 2002 is "Asian alone," or "people who reported Asian and did not report any other race category." (U.S. Census Bureau, Poverty in the United States: 2002, 32).

h 3-year average, 2001, 2002 and 2003.

i Estimate was made by adding the budgets of USDA Food and Nutrition programs and the budget of Senior Nutrition Programs under Health and Human Services (HHS). The total budget for food assistance programs was then divided by the federal budget. All figures are taken from the U.S. Budget.