

20	million children;
10.5	" employed persons;
7	" retired persons;
4	" housekeepers/mothers;
3	" mothers collecting AFDC;
2	" disabled;
2.5	" unemployed;
1	" discouraged workers;
1	" collecting general assistance.

Sixty-four percent of the adult poor are women. 76% are White. 71% are in families. 51% of all Non-White children, 29% of white children, and one-third of all children live in poverty.

Altogether, these households have incomes which are \$140 billion less than what they need to break even, which is called the "income deficit."

73% of this burden is borne by White households. Although they are only 16% of the total adult population, Non-Whites bear 27% of the income deficit.

Single mothers, especially Non-White female householders, when compared to married couples, unrelated individuals, and multiple-person households, are hit hardest with the largest average deficits per household.

The largest total deficits are also borne by single mothers, with single women placing second. Combined, female householders and single women carry 50% of the total deficit, although they constitute only 30% of all poor households, and 18% of the total adult population.

Looking at the extremely poor, there are three million family households with incomes below \$5,000, and one million singles with incomes below \$2,500 per year. 37% of the total deficit is carried by these extremely poor households.

The retired and disabled bear one-third of the deficit, and the working poor suffer 30% of the total burden.

These numbers paint a harsh picture. Poverty is a pervasive and severe problem, striking hardest those who are most vulnerable: children, the retired, single parents, women, the disabled, victims of racial discrimination. Moreover, among poor adults who are not retired or disabled, 70% are in families with an employed head of household: they work, but they don't earn enough to stay out of poverty.

Though the country as a whole has become increasingly prosperous, poverty is still a major problem, and it's getting worse. Since 1977, a peak in the economy, the poverty rate has increased about five percent. But this