2020: A YEAR IN REVIEW

The COVID-19 pandemic created an ongoing economic crisis that has highlighted the strengths and shortfalls of our social policy and programs. Our expertise in measuring poverty and our work on income support has been especially salient in 2020. We also established a novel method of forecasting poverty throughout the COVID-19 crisis to help inform policy decisions in real-time. We released research on cash assistance, the Child Tax Credit, the impact of policy interventions and poverty projections during the COVID-19 crisis, and the state of poverty in New York City.

POVERTY AND SOCIAL POLICY BRIEFS

Monthly Poverty to Spike After Expiration of the CARES Act Unemployment Benefits: 4.8 million more people would move into poverty in January 2021 without CARES Act unemployment benefits

Parental Unemployment Reaches Historic Highs During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Monthly Poverty Rates in the United States during the COVID-19 Pandemic

The CARES Act and Poverty in the COVID-19 Crisis: Promises and pitfalls of the recovery rebates and expanded unemployment benefits

Teenage & Young Adult Dependents Left Out of Cash Payments in COVID-19 Crisis

Forecasting Estimates of Poverty During the COVID-19 Crisis: Poverty rates in the United States could reach highest levels in over 50 years

The Case for Cash Allowances for Children during Economic Crises: SNAP is critical, but leaves out 21 million low-income children

Housing Vouchers and Tax Credits: Pairing the proposal to transform Section 8 with expansions to the EITC and the Child Tax Credit could cut the national poverty rate by half

A Poverty Reduction Analysis of the American Family Act

Children Left Behind in Larger Families: The uneven receipt of the Federal Child Tax Credit by children’s family size

The Case for Counting Children in a Carbon Tax Dividend Plan: Net benefits and poverty implications for a per capita dividend

Comparing Recent Income Maintenance Proposals: Universal Basic Income, Negative Income Tax, and Child Allowance

Income Guarantee Benefits and Financing: Poverty and Distributional Impacts

The Center on Poverty and Social Policy at the Columbia School of Social Work produces cutting-edge research to advance our understanding of poverty and the role of social policy in New York City and the United States.

cpsp@columbia.edu | @cpsppoverty | povertycenter.columbia.edu
EVENTS

Income Support in Crisis and Beyond. CPSP Annual Conference.


We Built This: How Federal Policy Segregated America. Poverty and Social Policy Seminar with Dr. Jacob Faber of New York University.

FEATURED PRESS MENTIONS

How COVID has impacted poverty in America. PBS Frontline.

Pandemic Poverty: The CARES Act kept millions from going hungry. Why won’t the Senate Renew it? Democracy Now!

Why hunger can grow even when poverty doesn’t. The New York Times.


Joe Biden and Kamala Harris’s proposals could cut poverty in half. Vox.

Joe Biden’s surprisingly visionary housing plan, explained. Vox.

These charts show how economic progress has stalled for Black Americans since the Civil Rights era. CNN.

Black families were hit hard by the pandemic. The effects on children may be lasting. The New York Times.

Millions of Americans slipped into poverty when stimulus ran out. Yahoo Finance!


Trump’s tax reform is leaving millions of poor children behind. The Los Angeles Times.

POVERTY TRACKER

The State of Poverty and Disadvantage in New York City

Spotlight on Hunger: Food hardship in New York City is rising as New Yorkers wait for a second federal stimulus bill

Spotlight on Policing: Despite the end of stop-and-frisk, Black New Yorkers continue to be over-policed

Spotlight on COVID-19: Nearly half of all New York City workers lost employment income from the pandemic, deepening economic insecurity and racial inequity across the city

The COVID-19 Pandemic and the Housing Crisis: Pandemic Exacerbates Racial Divide in Housing Crisis

Paid Sick Leave in New York City: How are workers and families being protected during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Disability in New York City: Poverty, Hardship, and COVID-19

FEATURED OUTSIDE RESEARCH

Unleashing the Power of Poor and Low-Income Americans, Robert P. Hartley and the Poor People’s Campaign.

A Better Child Tax Credit During the COVID-19 Crisis, Megan A. Curran and the Century Foundation.

What a Child Allowance Like Canada’s Would Do for Child Poverty in America, Sophie Collyer et al. and the Century Foundation.

What We Owe Young Children: An Anti-Racist Policy Platform for Early Childhood, Center for the Study of Social Policy.

Contributing authors: Chantal Bannerman, Lily Bushman-Copp, Rebecca Charles, Sophie Collyer, Megan Curran, Katherine Friedman, Irwin Garfinkel, David Harris (Children’s Research and Education Institute), Robert Paul Hartley, Andrew Hinton, Sonia Huq, Lauren Kennedy, Jordan Matsudaira (Teachers College, Columbia University), Matthew Maury, Sophie Mitra (Fordham University), Kathryn Neckerman, Zachary Paroian, Julien Teitler, Jane Waldfogel, Kahlen Washington & Christopher Wimer.