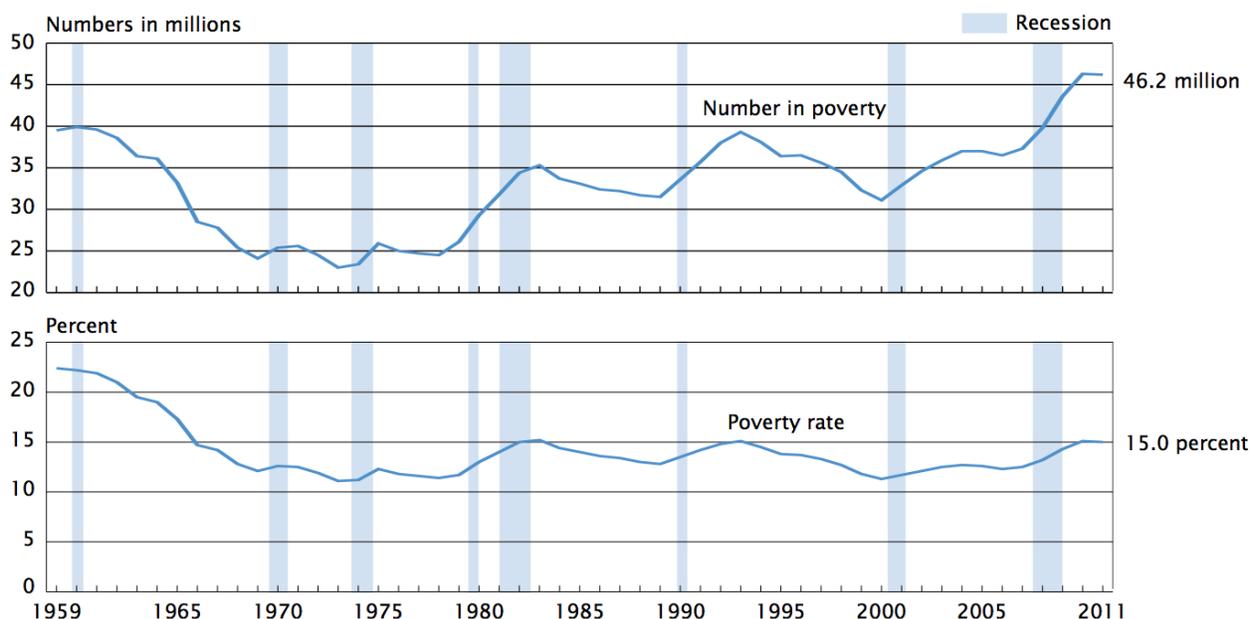


1 in 6 Americans live in poverty.

Number in Poverty and Poverty Rate: 1959 to 2011



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1960 to 2012 Annual Social and Economic Supplements.

Fall 2013

Topics in Contemporary Economics (Econ 4389-5)

Poverty & Discrimination in the U.S.

Course Description

An upper-level economics course examining important policy issues surrounding inequality, poverty, and discrimination in the U.S. The course will cover both theoretical and empirical research and demonstrate the complexity of these issues using statistical and theoretical arguments. The goal of the course is to provide students with a more balanced, rigorous, and analytical understanding of how economic theory and statistics can help us understand and evaluate social, education, and labor policies.

Some topics covered include: 1) shortcomings of the official definition of poverty; 2) impact of high-stakes testing; 3) welfare reform and incentives to work; 4) vouchers and charter school debate; 5) intergenerational transmission of poverty; 6) teen pregnancy and single-motherhood; 7) race and sex discrimination in the labor market; 8) discrimination in education, housing, and sports.

Instructor: Jee-Yeon Lehmann, Assistant Professor of Economics

Class Time: Tuesdays and Thursday, 10 AM to 11:30 AM