SECTION 11

Poverty Status of Aged Persons Based on Family Income



Key Terms and Concepts for Section 11 ¹

Age. Age classification is based on the age of the person at his or her last birthday as of March 2015. A married couple's age is defined as the age of the husband—unless he is under age 55 and the wife is 55 or older, in which case it is the age of the wife.

Aged unit. With age 55 as the cutoff, aged units are defined as married couples living together—at least one of whom is 55 or older—and non-married persons 55 or older.

Marital status. Married persons are married and living with their spouse. Nonmarried persons may be divorced, widowed, never married, separated, or married but living apart from their spouse.

Race. The categories White alone, Black alone, and Asian alone reflect respondents who reported only one race. Because of changes to the race category, data on race are not directly comparable to editions prior to 2002. A person's race is his or her reported race. A married couple's race is defined as the race of the husband.

Hispanic origin. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. A married couple is of Hispanic origin if the husband is of Hispanic origin.

Family. A family is a group of two or more people (one of whom is the householder) related by birth, marriage, or adoption and residing together; all such people (including related subfamily members) are considered as members of one family.

Social Security beneficiary. A beneficiary may be receiving retired-worker benefits, dependents' or survivor benefits, disability benefits, or transitionally insured benefits.

Per capita income. Per capita income is total family income divided by the number of persons in the family.

Poverty. The Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to detect who is poor. If a family's total income is less than that family's threshold, then that family, and every individual in it, is considered poor. The poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but they are updated annually for inflation with the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U). The official poverty definition counts money income before taxes and excludes capital gains and noncash benefits (such as public housing, Medicaid, and SNAP benefits).

The ratio of Social Security income to total income. This ratio is defined as Social Security income divided by total income. Units and persons in families with less than \$1 of total income or negative earnings or asset income are excluded from these tables.

¹ For more information, consult the Glossary at the front of this publication.

Table 11.1

By Social Security beneficiary status, marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex, and age, 2014

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	
		All persons			By t	peneficiary status (co Nonbeneficiary	nt.)	
All persons				All persons				
55–61	29,434	11.6	14.8	55–61	26,512	10.5	13.2	
62-64	10,983	11.5	15.4	62–64	7,315	11.4	14.1	
65 or older	45,994	10.0	15.2	65 or older	8,238	22.2	26.1	
Men				Men				
55–61	14,211	10.5	13.6	55–61	12,933	9.7	12.3	
62-64	5,245	10.7	14.7	62–64	3,585	10.4	13.2	
65 or older	20,439	7.4	11.5	65 or older	3,735	18.6	21.6	
Women				Women				
55–61	15,223	12.6	15.8	55–61	13,579	11.4	14.0	
62-64	5,738	12.2	16.1	62–64	3,730	12.3	14.9	
65 or older	25,555	12.1	18.2	65 or older	4,503	25.2	29.9	
	E	By beneficiary status				By marital status		
		Beneficiary		Married				
All persons				All persons				
55–61	2,923	20.9	28.8	55–61	18,841	5.4	7.4	
62-64	3,667	11.7	18.2	62–64	7,199	6.6	8.5	
65 or older	37,756	7.3	12.9	65 or older	25,854	5.0	7.5	
Men				Men				
55–61	1,278	18.4	26.3	55–61	9,537	5.3	7.4	
62-64	1,660	11.3	18.1	62–64	3,757	7.3	9.2	
65 or older	16,704	4.8	9.2	65 or older	14,305	5.1	7.6	
Women				Women				
55–61	1,644	22.9	30.7	55–61	9,305	5.4	7.4	
62-64	2,008	12.0	18.3	62–64	3,442	5.9	7.8	
65 or older	21,052	9.3	15.8	65 or older	11,550	4.9	7.4	

Table 11.1

By Social Security beneficiary status, marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex, and age, 2014—Continued

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	
	Ву	marital status (cont			By	y marital status (cont		
	•	Nonmarried	,		·	Divorced	•	
All persons				All persons				
55–61	10,593	22.6	27.8	55–61	5,058	20.7	25.3	
62-64	3,784	20.7	28.6	62–64	1,755	19.5	27.8	
65 or older	20,140	16.4	25.1	65 or older	5,611	16.2	24.8	
Men				Men				
55–61	4,675	21.0	26.1	55–61	2,206	18.8	22.8	
62-64	1,488	19.2	28.8	62–64	687	13.3	25.2	
65 or older	6,135	12.7	20.4	65 or older	2,207	12.8	19.9	
Women				Women				
55–61	5,918	23.9	29.1	55–61	2,853	22.1	27.3	
62-64	2,296	21.7	28.5	62–64	1,068	23.5	29.5	
65 or older	14,005	18.0	27.2	65 or older	3,405	18.4	27.9	
		Widowed		Never married				
All persons				All persons				
55–61	1,220	23.4	29.0	55–61	3,202	24.0	30.0	
62-64	731	18.1	26.7	62–64	926	24.0	31.7	
65 or older	11,220	14.8	23.6	65 or older	2,214	23.6	31.4	
Men				Men				
55–61	280	12.5	19.2	55–61	1,690	24.4	31.4	
62-64	168	21.7	25.9	62–64	453	28.4	39.0	
65 or older	2,443	9.2	17.1	65 or older	995	20.4	27.8	
Women				Women				
55–61	940	26.6	31.9	55–61	1,512	23.5	28.4	
62-64	563	17.0	27.0	62–64	473	19.7	24.7	
65 or older	8,777	16.3	25.4	65 or older	1,219	26.1	34.3	

Table 11.1

By Social Security beneficiary status, marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex, and age, 2014—Continued

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	-
		By race White alone				By race (cont.) Asian alone	
All persons				All persons			
55–61	23,885	10.3	13.2	55–61	1,453	9.0	13.0
62-64	8,997	10.0	13.8	62–64	548	8.8	12.5
65 or older	39,054	8.7	13.6	65 or older	2,029	14.7	19.6
Men				Men			
55–61	11,677	9.4	12.1	55–61	671	10.2	14.0
62-64	4,345	9.6	13.4	62–64	255	5.2	11.0
65 or older	17,513	6.1	9.9	65 or older	925	13.1	17.9
Women				Women			
55–61	12,208	11.2	14.2	55–61	781	7.9	12.1
62-64	4,652	10.4	14.2	62–64	293	11.9	13.8
65 or older	21,541	10.8	16.7	65 or older	1,104	16.0	21.0
		Black alone				Hispanic origin	
All persons				All persons			
55–61	3,463	20.2	24.9	55–61	3,173	15.8	22.0
62–64	1,211	22.1	27.8	62–64	1,008	19.4	
65 or older	4,143	19.2	27.7	65 or older	3,636	18.1	28.4
Men				Men			
55–61	1,559	17.8	22.7	55–61	1,532	13.7	20.3
62–64	548	19.8	25.0	62–64	479	18.9	
65 or older	1,662	16.7	24.0	65 or older	1,567	16.2	25.7
Women				Women			
55–61	1,904	22.2	26.6	55–61	1,640	17.7	23.6
62-64	663	24.1	30.2	62–64	529	20.0	28.2
65 or older	2,481	20.9	30.2	65 or older	2,069	19.6	30.5

NOTE: The family money income of aged persons is compared with the official poverty lines of families in 2014.

Table 11.2

By Social Security beneficiary status, marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex, and age, 2014

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	
		All persons			By b	eneficiary status (co Nonbeneficiary	ont.)	
All persons				All persons				
65–69	15,728	8.6	12.7	65–69	4,370	14.6	18.0	
70–74	11,209	8.9	13.1	70–74	1,609	25.9	28.8	
75–79	8,002	11.1	16.6	75–79	977	32.4	37.2	
80 or older	11,054	12.2	20.0	80 or older	1,281	35.9	41.9	
Men				Men				
65–69	7,391	7.3	10.6	65–69	2,167	12.9	15.1	
70–74	5,163	7.1	10.9	70–74	751	22.3	24.9	
75–79	3,580	7.1	11.5	75–79	337	25.2		
80 or older	4,304	7.9	13.5	80 or older	481	33.6	38.9	
Women				Women				
65–69	8,337	9.8	14.6	65–69	2,204	16.2	20.9	
70–74	6,046	10.5	14.9	70–74	858	29.1	32.2	
75–79	4,422	14.3	20.8	75–79	641	36.2	40.3	
80 or older	6,750	14.9	24.1	80 or older	800	37.2	43.7	
	В	y beneficiary status				By marital status		
	•	Beneficiary		Married				
All persons				All persons				
65–69	11,358	6.3	10.7	65–69	10,075	4.5	6.5	
70–74	9,600	6.1	10.4	70–74	6,878	4.5	7.1	
75–79	7,025	8.1	13.8	75–79	4,598	5.5	8.1	
80 or older	9,774	9.1	17.1	80 or older	4,303	6.3	10.0	
Men				Men				
65–69	5,225	5.0	8.8	65–69	5,307	4.7	6.6	
70–74	4,412	4.5	8.6	70–74	3,695	4.8	7.5	
75–79	3,244	5.3	9.5	75–79	2,641	5.0	7.4	
80 or older	3,824	4.7	10.3	80 or older	2,661	6.3	10.0	
Women				Women				
65–69	6,133	7.4	12.4	65–69	4,767	4.3	6.4	
70–74	5,188	7.4	12.0	70–74	3,183	4.2		
75–79	3,781	10.6	17.5	75–79	1,957	6.2		
80 or older	5,950	11.9	21.4	80 or older	1,642	6.2	10.0	

Table 11.2
By Social Security beneficiary status, marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex, and age, 2014—Continued

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line		
	Ву	marital status (cont Nonmarried	.)		By marital status (cont.) Divorced				
All persons				All persons					
65–69	5,654	16.0	23.8	65–69	2,538	15.0	22.9		
70–74	4,331	15.9	22.5	70–74	1,530	15.2	22.4		
75–79	3,404	18.6	28.2	75–79	809	17.3	30.1		
80 or older	6,751	16.0	26.3	80 or older	734	21.0	30.2		
Men				Men					
65–69	2,084	14.1	20.8	65–69	1,053	12.7	19.4		
70–74	1,468	12.8	19.6	70–74	627	13.5	19.5		
75–79	940	13.2	23.1	75–79	302	13.9	25.7		
80 or older	1,643	10.6	19.2	80 or older	225	9.4	15.3		
Women				Women					
65–69	3,570	17.0	25.6	65–69	1,485	16.5	25.4		
70–74	2,863	17.5	24.0	70–74	903	16.4	24.4		
75–79	2,465	20.7	30.1	75–79	507	19.3	32.7		
80 or older	5,108	17.7	28.6	80 or older	509	26.1	36.7		
		Widowed		Never married					
All persons				All persons					
65–69	1,707	14.0	21.1	65–69	1,000	20.2	27.8		
70–74	2,035	14.9	21.4	70–74	512	21.7	27.5		
75–79	2,089	16.7	24.8	75–79	309	31.6	40.0		
80 or older	5,389	14.2	24.8	80 or older	393	28.3	38.9		
Men				Men					
65-69	364	7.6	12.9	65–69	507	20.9	27.2		
70–74	488	10.4	18.1	70–74	234	18.1	24.9		
75–79	442	9.4	15.4	75–79	106	24.0	37.2		
80 or older	1,150	9.0	18.6	80 or older	147	20.0	27.7		
Women				Women					
65–69	1,343	15.8	23.3	65–69	493	19.4	28.3		
70–74	1,548	16.2	22.4	70–74	278	24.7	29.6		
75–79	1,647	18.6	27.3	75–79	203	35.5	41.4		
80 or older	4,240	15.6	26.4	80 or older	246	33.3	45.6		

Table 11.2

By Social Security beneficiary status, marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex, and age, 2014—Continued

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	
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		By race White alone				By race (cont.) Asian alone		
All persons				All persons				
65–69	13,105	7.3	11.1	65–69	723	11.2	14.6	
70–74	9,532	7.2	11.2	70–74	504	18.1	21.9	
75–79	6,778	9.8	15.0	75–79	359	15.0	18.4	
80 or older	9,640	11.3	18.6	80 or older	443	16.4	26.0	
Men				Men				
65-69	6,229	5.8	8.7	65–69	338	11.3	14.1	
70–74	4,435	5.8	9.4	70–74	226	15.5	19.0	
75–79	3,070	6.2	10.2	75–79	164	12.3	16.2	
80 or older	3,780	6.9	12.0	80 or older	197	14.3	24.8	
Women				Women				
65–69	6,876	8.7	13.2	65–69	385	11.0	15.1	
70–74	5,097	8.5	12.7	70–74	278	20.3	24.2	
75–79	3,708	12.8	18.9	75–79	194	17.3	20.2	
80 or older	5,860	14.0	22.8	80 or older	246	18.1	27.0	
		Black alone		Hispanic origin				
All persons				All persons				
65–69	1,587	17.8	24.9	65–69	1,395	15.8	23.4	
70–74	974	20.9	26.9	70–74	834	16.7	26.5	
75–79	735	19.8	30.5	75–79	595	19.9	33.7	
80 or older	847	19.5	31.7	80 or older	812	22.3	35.1	
Men				Men				
65-69	697	18.3	24.5	65–69	616	15.1	20.2	
70–74	397	17.3	23.6	70–74	364	17.0	27.9	
75–79	296	13.2	22.2	75–79	269	17.9	29.9	
80 or older	272	15.5	25.5	80 or older	318	15.8	30.3	
Women				Women				
65–69	890	17.4	25.1	65–69	779	16.3	26.0	
70–74	577	23.3	29.1	70–74	471	16.4	25.5	
75–79	439	24.2	36.1	75–79	326	21.5	36.9	
80 or older	575	21.4	34.7	80 or older	494	26.4	38.2	

NOTE: The family money income of aged persons is compared with the official poverty lines of families in 2014.

Table 11.3 Social Security beneficiaries, by marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex and age, 2014

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	
		By marital status Married			Ву	v marital status (cont Widowed	t.)	
All persons 65 or	20,915	2.5	4.9	All persons 65 or	9,912	11.5	21.0	
65–69	7,208	2.4	4.2	65–69	1,400	11.3	18.9	
70–74	5,901	2.1	4.7	70–74	1,776	11.0	18.1	
75–79	4,045	3.0	5.4	75–79	1,864	13.0	21.7	
80 or older	3,761	3.0	6.2	80 or older	4,872	11.3	22.3	
Men 65 or older	11,573	2.5	5.0	Men 65 or older	2,204	7.0	15.6	
65–69	3,682	2.3	4.2	65–69	299	5.8	12.2	
70–74	3,169	2.4	5.2	70–74	422	7.6	16.4	
75–79	2,376	2.8	5.1	75–79	416	8.6	15.0	
80 or older	2,347	2.7	6.0	80 or older	1,068	6.4	16.5	
Women 65 or older	9,342	2.5	4.8	Women 65 or older	7,708	12.9	22.5	
65–69	3,527	2.5	4.2	65–69	1,102	12.8	20.7	
70–74	2,732	1.8	4.1	70–74	1,354	12.0	18.7	
75–79	1,669	3.3	5.8	75–79	1,449	14.2	23.6	
80 or older	1,414	3.4	6.4	80 or older	3,804	12.6	23.9	
		Nonmarried		Divorced				
All persons 65 or	16,841	13.2	22.7	All persons 65 or	4,522	14.1	23.8	
65–69	4,149	13.2	22.0	65–69	1,848	13.2	22.4	
70–74	3,699	12.4	19.6	70–74	1,317	12.8	20.7	
75–79	2,980	15.0	25.2	75–79	722	15.4	29.0	
80 or older	6,013	12.9	23.9	80 or older	635	18.2	28.5	
Men 65 or older	5,131	10.0	18.6	Men 65 or older	1,814	11.2	19.3	
65–69	1,543	11.4	19.6	65–69	808	11.8	19.9	
70–74	1,243	9.7	17.2	70–74	530	10.2	17.2	
75–79	868	11.9	21.5	75–79	281	13.4	24.6	
80 or older	1,477	7.8	17.2	80 or older	195	7.8	14.7	
Women 65 or older	11,710	14.6	24.5	Women 65 or older	2,707	16.1	26.8	
65–69	2,606	14.2	23.4	65–69	1,040	14.2	24.3	
70–74	2,456	13.7	20.8	70–74	786	14.5	23.1	
75–79	2,112	16.3	26.7	75–79	441	16.7	31.8	
80 or older	4,536	14.6	26.1	80 or older	440	22.8	34.6	

Table 11.3 Social Security beneficiaries, by marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex and age, 2014—Continued

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line		
	Ву	marital status (cont. Never married)			By race (cont.) Black alone			
All persons 65 or	1,535	18.8	27.0	All persons 65 or	3,240	15.3	24.4		
65–69	627	16.1	24.0	65–69	1,115	13.2	21.1		
70–74	396	16.1	21.5	70–74	813	16.6	22.6		
75–79	222	25.7	32.2	75–79	609	15.8	26.7		
80 or older	290	23.3	36.9	80 or older	703	16.6	29.9		
Men 65 or older	700	14.8	22.5	Men 65 or older	1,276	12.1	20.3		
65–69	322	14.3	22.2	65–69	457	11.7	20.0		
70–74	189	14.8	19.7	70–74	324	12.0	17.5		
75–79	84	18.8	29.4	75–79	266	10.8	19.8		
80 or older	105	13.1	23.0	80 or older	229	14.4	25.5		
Women 65 or older	835	22.2	30.7	Women 65 or older	1,964	17.4	27.1		
65–69	305	17.9	25.9	65–69	658	14.2	21.9		
70–74	207	17.2	23.2	70–74	489	19.7	25.9		
75–79	138	29.8	34.0	75–79	343	19.6	32.1		
80 or older	185	29.0	44.8	80 or older	473	17.7	32.0		
		By race White alone			Asian alone				
All persons 65 or	32,645	6.4	11.6	All persons 65 or	1,288	9.7	14.1		
65–69	9,612	5.4	9.4	65–69	399	7.9	11.3		
70–74	8,303	4.9	9.1	70–74	329	9.2	12.4		
75–79	6,029	7.2	12.5	75–79	283	10.8	13.9		
80 or older	8,701	8.4	15.9	80 or older	278	11.8	20.2		
Men 65 or older	14,564	4.1	8.1	Men 65 or older	605	8.2	12.7		
65–69	4,487	4.2	7.5	65–69	190	7.5	10.1		
70–74	3,854	3.7	7.7	70–74	155	8.6	12.2		
75–79	2,793	4.5	8.3	75–79	140	9.5	14.1		
80 or older	3,430	4.0	9.2	80 or older	121	7.1	15.6		
Women 65 or older	18,081	8.3	14.5	Women 65 or older	683	11.1	15.4		
65–69	5,125	6.5	11.1	65–69	209	8.3	12.5		
70–74	4,450	6.0	10.3	70–74	174	9.7	12.6		
75–79	3,235	9.5	16.1	75–79	143	12.1	13.8		
80 or older	5,271	11.2	20.3	80 or older	157	15.4	23.8		

Table 11.3 Social Security beneficiaries, by marital status, race, Hispanic origin, sex and age, 2014—Continued

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below poverty line	Percentage below 125% of poverty line
		Hispanic origin	
All persons 65 or	2,561	12.5	23.8
65–69	853	10.8	18.3
70–74	616	9.7	21.6
75–79	462	13.6	28.1
80 or older	630	16.9	30.5
Men 65 or older	1,124	11.6	22.5
65–69	379	11.3	16.7
70–74	261	10.3	24.2
75–79	220	14.4	25.6
80 or older	264	10.9	26.5
Women 65 or older	1,437	13.3	24.9
65–69	474	10.4	19.5
70–74	355	9.2	19.6
75–79	242	12.9	30.3
80 or older	366	21.2	33.3

NOTE: The family money income of aged persons is compared with the official poverty lines of families in 2014.

Table 11.4
Persons in Social Security beneficiary families, by proportion of family from Social Security, sex, and age, 2014

Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below	Percentage below 125% of poverty line	Sex and age	Number (thousands)	Percentage below	Percentage below 125% of poverty line		
Sex and age	, , , , ,		<u> </u>	Sex and age	, , , , ,	· · · · ·	· · · · ·		
		lies receiving less th ome from Social Sec	-		Persons in families receiving 90 to 99 per from Social Security				
All persons 65 or older	18,891	1.1	1.8	All persons 65 or older	4,620	14.8	28.8		
65–69	7,159	0.9	1.5	65–69	1,030	17.0	31.9		
70–74	4,848	1.2	1.7	70–74	1,119	10.3	21.9		
75–79	3,074	0.8	1.8	75–79	903	16.2	28.6		
80 or older	3,810	1.3	2.2	80 or older	1,567	15.9	31.7		
Men 65 or older	9,091	0.9	1.5	Men 65 or older	1,845	10.9	22.9		
65–69	3,500	0.9	1.4	65–69	403	15.8	31.6		
70–74	2,353	1.1	1.6	70–74	491	8.7	20.0		
75–79	1,553	0.6	1.4	75–79	402	10.7	18.0		
80 or older	1,685	0.9	1.7	80 or older	549	9.3	22.7		
Women 65 or older	9,800	1.2	2.0	Women 65 or older	2,775	17.5	32.7		
65–69	3,659	1.0	1.6	65–69	628	17.7	32.2		
70–74	2,495	1.3	1.8	70–74	628	11.5	23.5		
75–79	1,521	1.1	2.3	75–79	502	20.6	37.1		
80 or older	2,125	1.6	2.6	80 or older	1,018	19.5	36.6		
	Persons in familie	s receiving 50 to 89	percent of income		Persons in families	s receiving 100 perce	ent of income from		
		from Social Security	•	Social Security					
All persons 65 or older	10,616	5.1	9.2	All persons 65 or older	5,077	28.4	46.7		
65–69	2,869	5.4	10.5	65–69	1,214	31.1	46.9		
70–74	2,747	4.5	7.6	70–74	1,190	26.1	42.0		
75–79	2,164	5.2	7.8	75–79	1,014	29.3	48.4		
80 or older	2,836	5.3	10.4	80 or older	1,658	27.4	49.0		
Men 65 or older	4,524	4.2	7.6	Men 65 or older	1,850	21.6	38.0		
65–69	1,226	5.7	10.0	65–69	497	25.2	40.0		
70–74	1,216	3.6	6.5	70–74	481	20.4	37.1		
75–79	975	3.9	6.8	75–79	362	23.3	41.0		
80 or older	1,107	3.3	7.0	80 or older	511	18.1	34.9		
Women 65 or older	6,092	5.8	10.3	Women 65 or older	3,227	32.2	51.7		
65–69	1,643	5.2	10.9	65–69	717	35.3	51.6		
70–74	1,531	5.3	8.5	70–74	710	29.9	45.4		
75–79	1,189	6.3	8.7	75–79	652	32.6	52.4		
80 or older	1,729	6.5	12.5	80 or older	1,148	31.6	55.2		

NOTES: The family money income of aged persons is compared with the official poverty lines of families in 2014.

Persons in families with zero total income or with negative total income, earnings, or income from assets are excluded.