The Great Recession: GDP, Employment, Poverty, the Safety Net

Ron Haskins

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U.S. GDP per Capita, 1980-2009

Real GDP Growth Rate, 1980-2010

Source: National Income and Product Accounts Table 1.1.1 (http://www.bea.gov/national/nipaweb/index.asp)
Employment-to-Population Ratios for All Men, Young Black Men, All Single Mothers, and Never-Married Mothers, 1980 - 2009

Employment-Population Ratio in Select Countries, 1984-2009

Long Term Unemployment (> 6 Months) in U.S. and Selected European Nations, 1985-2009

Source: OECD Stat Extracts (http://stats.oecd.org/)
Median Duration of Unemployment, 1980-2011

Change in Employment Rate from Peak, by Recession

Unemployed Workers per Job Opening, 2000-2010

Average Monthly Job Creation by Best Single Year of Decade and after the Great Recession

Poverty and Deep Poverty in Female-Headed Households with Children, 1974-2009

# People Removed from Poverty by Various Programs, 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Removed from Poverty (Millions)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>21.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental Security Income</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment Compensation</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNAP (Food Stamps)</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes and Recovery Payments</td>
<td>5.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Definition of poverty is based on post-tax, post-transfer income (not the official poverty definition).

Effects of Stimulus Provisions on Poverty Rates, 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stimulus Provision</th>
<th>Poverty Rate (2009)</th>
<th>Persons Raised Above Poverty (Millions)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Official Rate plus SNAP</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If no employment benefits</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>1.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If no SNAP</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>1.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If no Economic Recovery Payment</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>0.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If none of above</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>3.13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Analysis by Richard Bavier based on the Survey on Income and Program Participation.
Poverty Rates of All Persons Under 18 by Various Measures of Income

Unemployment Rate, and Number of SNAP, Unemployment Compensation, and TANF Recipients, Nov 2007 - July 2010

- SNAP Caseload
- Unemployment Compensation
- TANF (Families)
- Unemployment Rate

Number of Program Recipients (in Millions)

Unemployment Rate (Percent)
Conclusions

- The Great Depression by every measure was long and deep
- Employment fell more than in previous recessions and is not recovering quickly
- The safety net kept many Americans out of poverty
- TANF did not increase as much as other safety net programs