



SCHOOL *of*
PUBLIC POLICY

Work and the Social Safety Net

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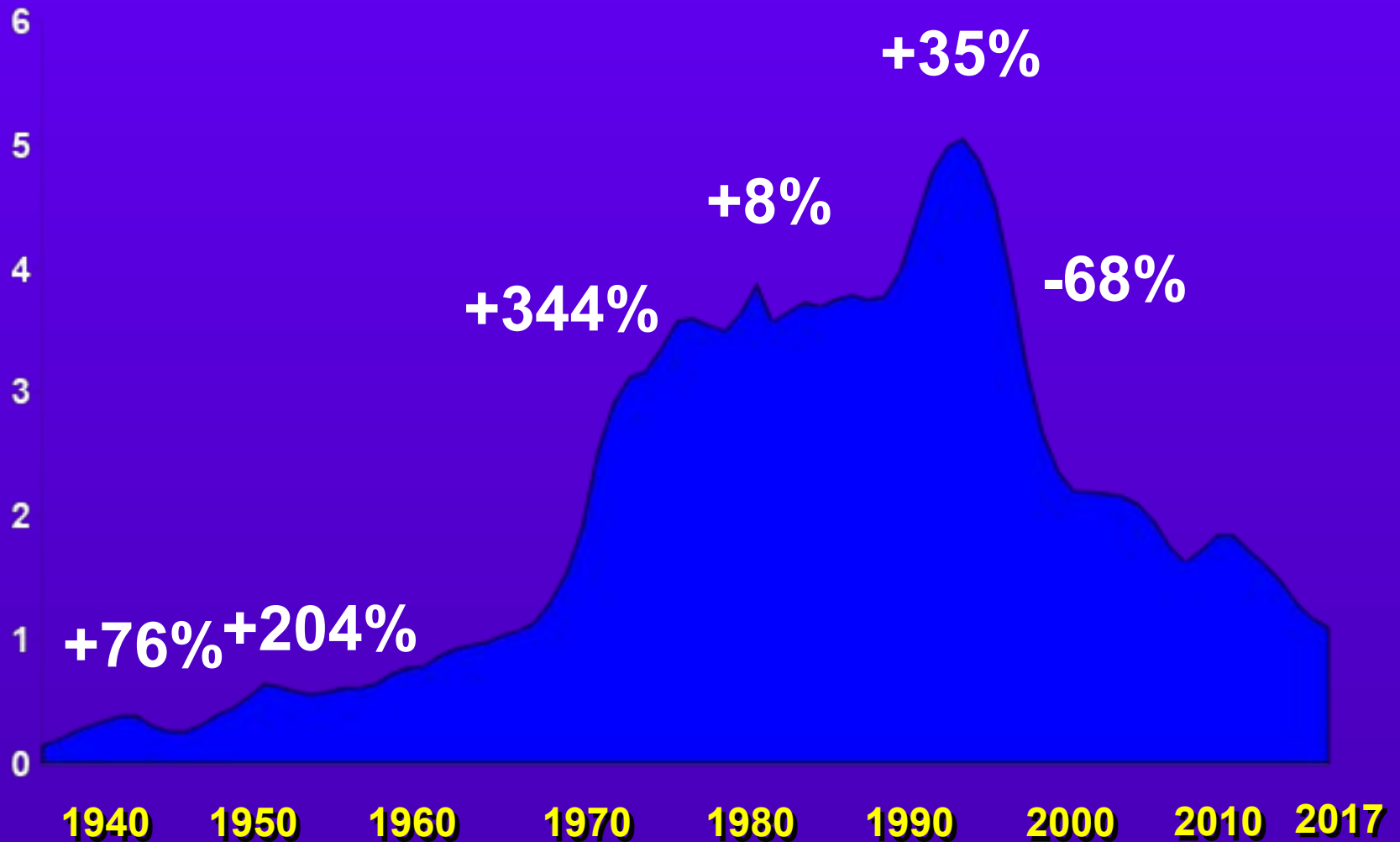
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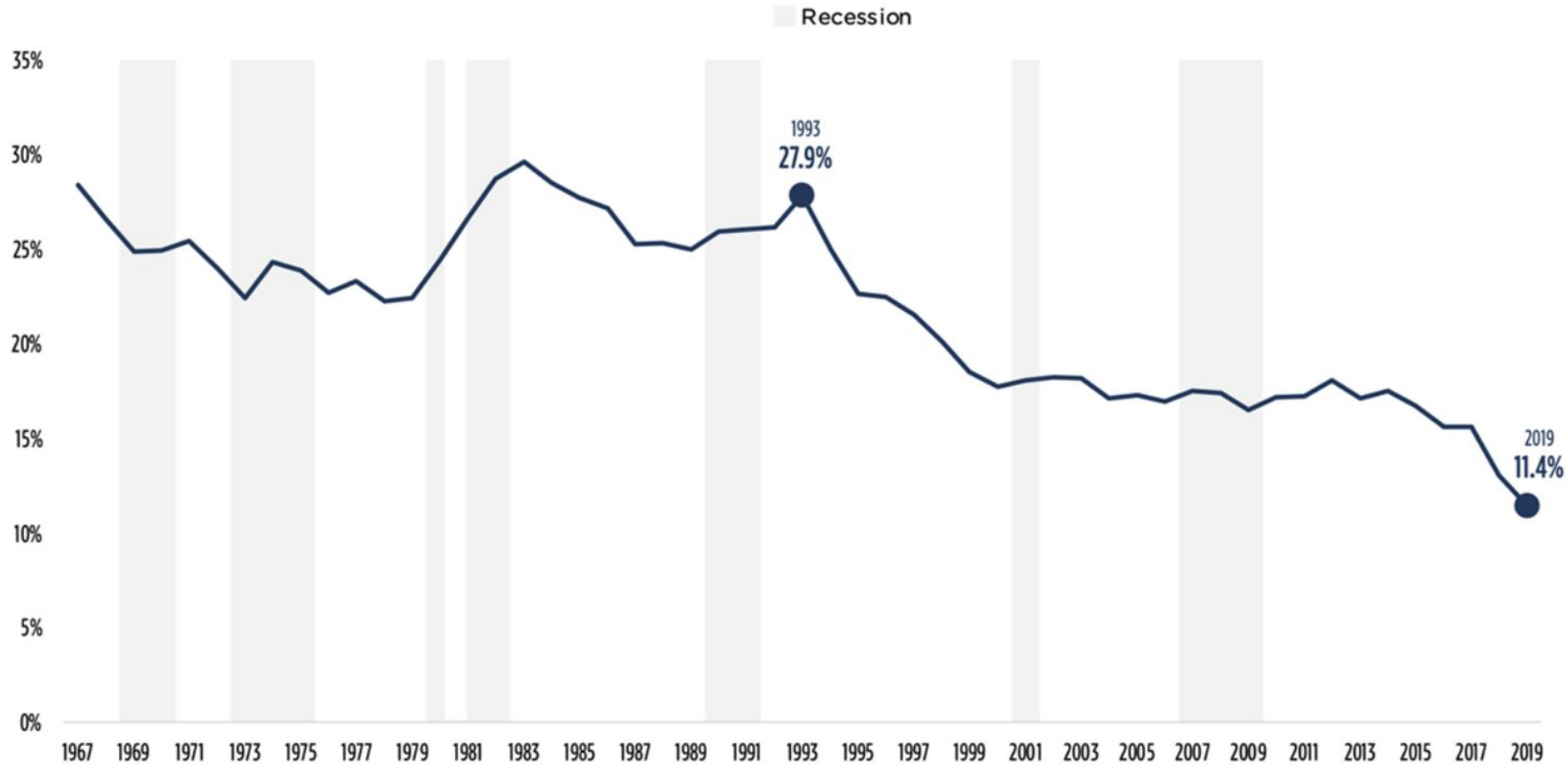
November 16, 2022

Welfare's Growth and Decline

Millions of families



Child Poverty Rates Measured Using the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM), 1967-2019

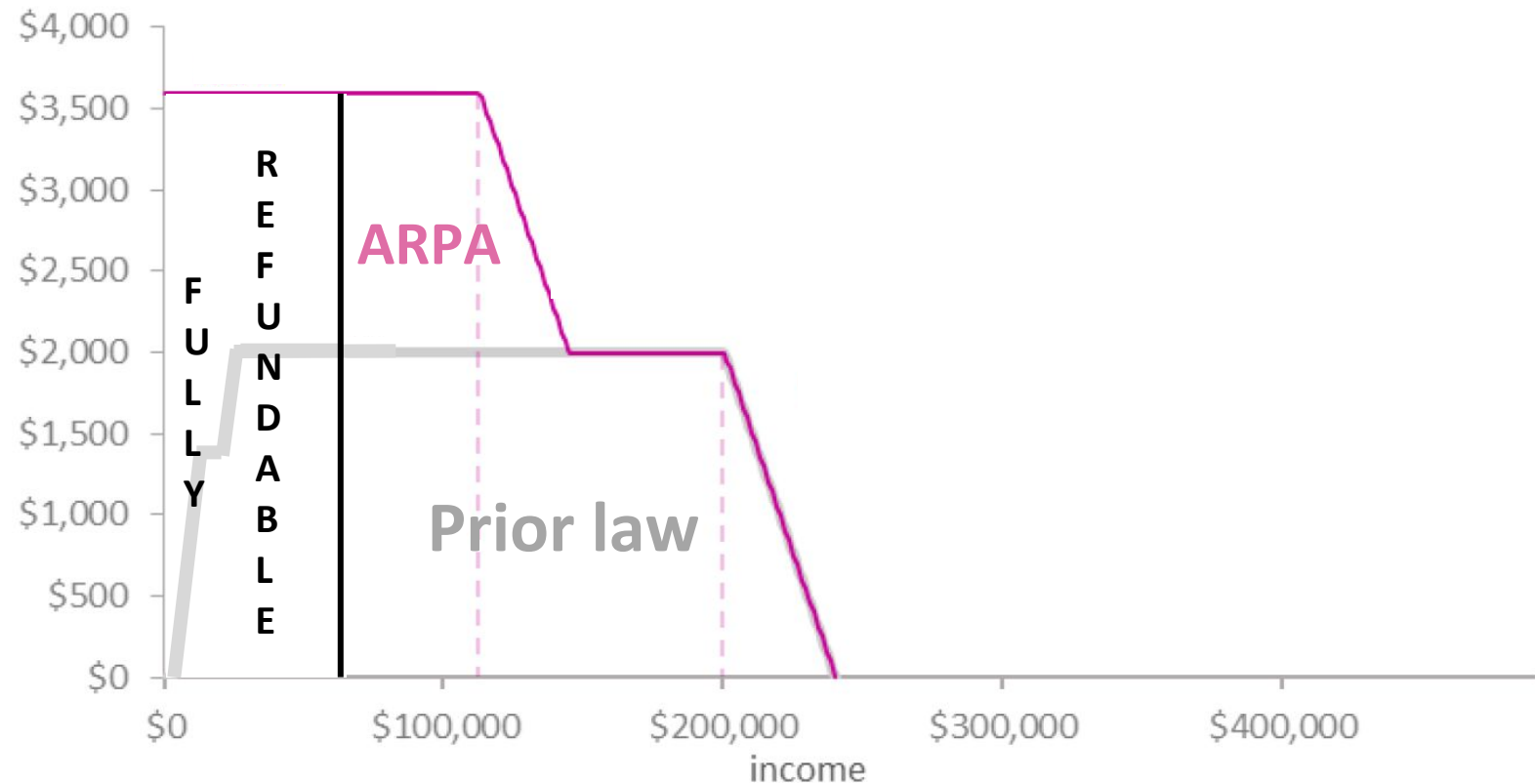


Expanded Child Tax Credit

Single Mother with 1 Child (0-5): American Rescue Plan vs Prior Law

Unmarried Taxpayer

credit amount (\$)



Approximate Safety-Net Benefits

Nonworking Single Mother with 2 Children

(1 under 6 and 1 over 6)

	2020	2021
<i>Cash or near-cash assistance</i>		
CTC	\$0	\$6,600
TANF	\$5,400	\$5,400
SNAP	\$6,420	\$7,896
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$11,820</i>	<i>\$19,896</i>
<i>In-kind assistance often available</i>		
Housing	\$10,000	\$10,000
Child care (under 6)	\$8,975	\$8,975
School meals (over 6)	\$785	\$785
WIC (under 6)	\$381	\$381
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$20,141</i>	<i>\$20,141</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$31,961</i>	<i>\$40,037</i>

Notes: Additional programs for which low-income families may be eligible include the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (if one of the family members have a disability), and Unemployment Insurance (if the mother is eligible for unemployment benefits).

EC Report on “Adequate Minimum Income Ensuring Active Inclusion”

Incentivizing to more active job-search, together with availability of a wider range of jobs, leads to increased employment. Overall, the results suggest that positive incentives and supportive elements, providing claimants with the resources they need to effectively look for work, are more effective than sanctions. The nature of the different sanctions for not participating in ALMP measures applied across Member States suggests that there is a balance to be struck for the sanctions not to be too moderate (in the sense that they impose some requirements) and - at the same time - not to be too strict (in the sense that they do not excessively sanction non-compliance).

	Tighten eligibility (income or categorical)	Limit duration of full benefits (reduce or end)	Require work-first activities	Consolidate/synchronize programs	Devolve authority	Outsource services (privatization)	Incentive systems of financing and reimbursement
Australia	W	W	UI	UI, D, W		UI, W	UI, W
Austria			D				
Denmark	UI, W	UI, D	UI, D	UI, D, W			D, W
Finland							D
France	W		W	UI, W			
Germany		UI	UI, W	UI, W	UI, W	UI, W	
Ireland			UI, W			UI, W	
Italy			UI		UI		
Netherlands	UI, D	UI, D	W		W	W	D
Norway				UI, D, W			
Spain						UI	
Sweden	D	D	D				
UK	D	UI, D	UI, D, W	UI, D, W		UI, W	