1. Record Nr. UNINA9910825909503321 Measuring poverty: a new approach // Constance F. Citro and Robert **Titolo** T. Michael, editors: Panel on Poverty and Family Assistance: Concepts. Information Needs, and Measurement Methods ... [et al.] Washington, D.C., : National Academy Press, c1995 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-309-17684-0 1-280-19353-0 9786610193530 0-309-53848-3 0-585-02255-0 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica xviii, 501 p.: ill Altri autori (Persone) CitroConstance F <1942-> (Constance Forbes) MichaelRobert T Disciplina 362.5/2/015195 Soggetti Poverty - United States - Statistical methods Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Note generali Includes bibliographical references (p. 449-482) and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Measuring Poverty -- Copyright -- Acknowledgments -- Contents --Preface -- Summary and Recommendations -- THE CURRENT POVERTY MEASURE: EVALUATION -- RECOMMENDATION: A NEW POVERTY MEASURE -- SETTING AND UPDATING THE POVERTY THRESHOLD --ADJUSTING THE THRESHOLD -- DEFINING FAMILY RESOURCES --

Preface -- Summary and Recommendations -- THE CURRENT POVERTY MEASURE: EVALUATION -- RECOMMENDATION: A NEW POVERTY MEASURE -- SETTING AND UPDATING THE POVERTY THRESHOLD -- ADJUSTING THE THRESHOLD -- DEFINING FAMILY RESOURCES -- EFFECTS -- NEEDED DATA -- OTHER ISSUES IN POVERTY MEASUREMENT -- RELATING THE POVERTY MEASURE TO ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS -- 1 Introduction and Overview -- WHAT IS POVERTY? -- THE OFFICIAL U.S. POVERTY MEASURE -- Development of the Measure -- Adequacy of the Current Measure -- Work Patterns of Families with Children -- Composition of Families and Households -- Geographic Differences in Prices -- Increases in Medical Care Costs and Benefits -- Taxes -- Provision of In-Kind Benefits -- Increase in the Standard of Living -- ALTERNATIVE POVERTY MEASURES AND CRITERIA FOR A MEASURE -- Types of Poverty Thresholds -- Absolute and Relative Thresholds -- Expert Budgets: The U.S. Experience -- Other Approaches -- Definitions of Family Resources -- Criteria for a Poverty Measure --

-- A NEW APPROACH TO POVERTY MEASUREMENT: RECOMMENDATIONS -- A New Poverty Measure -- Periodic Reviews -- The Poverty Threshold -- Updating the Thresholds -- Threshold Concepts: Assessment -- Recommended Threshold Concept and Updating --Setting the Initial Threshold -- Adjusting the Thresholds-Equivalence Scale -- Adjusting the Thresholds-Geographic Variations -- Defining Family Resources -- In-Kind Benefits-Nonmedical -- Medical Care Costs -- Taxes -- Work-Related Expenses -- Child Support Payments -- Services from Home Ownership -- Assets -- Effects --Distributional Effects -- Effects of Selected Components -- Effects on the Poverty Rate -- Time Trends -- Needed Data -- Other Issues in Poverty Measurement. Time Period -- Unit of Analysis -- Other Measures -- USE OF THE POVERTY MEASURE IN GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS -- The Poverty Measure and Program Eligibility -- Need Standards for Programs That Use the Official Measure -- Need Standards for AFDC -- The Poverty Measure and AFDC Benefit Standards -- 2 Poverty Thresholds --THRESHOLD CONCEPTS -- RECOMMENDATIONS -- The Two-Adult/Two-Child Reference Family -- Nondiscretionary Expenses --Updating the Thresholds -- Setting the Initial Threshold -- EXPERT BUDGETS -- Multiplier Approaches -- The Original U.S. Poverty Thresholds -- The Orshansky Multiplier over Time -- Other Multiplier Approaches -- Categorical Approaches -- Detailed Budget Approaches -- York Family Budget Unit -- BLS Family Budgets Program -- Schwarz and Volgy Budget -- Conclusions -- Updating for Price Changes --RELATIVE THRESHOLDS -- International Examples -- U.S. Expert Committee on Family Budget Revisions -- Issues in Deriving Relative Thresholds -- Behavior of Relative Thresholds Over Time -- SUBJECTIVE THRESHOLDS -- Research Findings -- Behavior of Subjective Thresholds Over Time -- CONCLUSIONS -- IMPLEMENTING THE PROPOSED APPROACH -- Setting the Initial Threshold -- Analysis of 1989-1991 CEX Data -- The Basic Bundle -- The Multiplier -- The Basic Bundle and Multiplier Together -- Comparison with Other Thresholds -- Analysis Over Time -- Further Evaluation -- 3 Adjusting Poverty Thresholds -- ADJUSTMENTS BY FAMILY TYPE -- The Concept of an Equivalence Scale -- Overview and Recommendation -- The Current Equivalence Scale -- Alternative Equivalence Scales --Programmatic Equivalence Scales -- Behavioral Scales -- The Engel and Iso-Prop Methods -- The Rothbarth and Other Methods -- Subjective Scales -- Recommended Procedure -- ADJUSTMENTS BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA -- Overview and Recommendations -- Feasibility and Desirability. Research Findings on Price Differences -- Estimating Geographic Variations in Housing Costs -- HUD Fair Market Rents -- BLS Family Budgets Program -- Hedonic Models -- Discussion -- Recommended Approach -- Updating the Housing Cost Index -- Further Research -- 4 Defining Resources -- OVERVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION --ALTERNATIVES FOR DEFINING RESOURCES -- Resources as Disposable Income -- Adjusting Income, Not Thresholds -- Recommendation --Resources as Consumption or Expenditures -- Rationale --Implications -- Assessment -- A Crisis Definition of Resources --Methodological and Measurement Issues -- Implications -- Assessment -- PROPOSED RESOURCE DEFINITION -- Money Income -- Nonmedical In-Kind Benefits -- Census Bureau Valuation Procedures -- Assessment of Valuation Approaches -- Needed Research and Development --Medical Care Needs and Resources -- Proposed Approach: Recommendation -- Alternative Approaches -- Current Poverty Measure -- Adding Health Insurance Benefits to Income -- A

Public Acceptability -- Statistical Defensibility -- Operational Feasibility

Comprehensive Single Index -- A Two-Index Poverty Measure -- Separate Measures of Medical Care Risk and Economic Poverty -- Taxes -- Census Bureau Tax Estimation Procedures -- Assessment -- Work-Related Expenses -- Child Care -- Other Work-Related Expenses -- Child Support Payments -- Home Ownership Services -- 5 Effects of the Proposed Poverty Measure -- DATA AND PROCEDURES -- Poverty Measure Alternatives -- Threshold Adjustments -- Imputation Procedures for Proposed Resource Definition -- In-Kind Benefit Values and Taxes -- Out-of-Pocket Medical Care Expenditures -- Child Care Expenses -- Other Work-Related Expenses -- Distribution of Imputed Values -- RESULTS -- Effects with a Constant Poverty Rate -- Effects with a New Threshold -- The Overall Rate -- Groups -- Marginal Effects -- Equivalence Scale Effects -- Accuracy of Medical Care Expense Imputations.

Expense Imputations. Prior Income Years -- Data and Procedures -- Results -- Poverty Rates Using SIPP -- DATA SOURCES -- Recommendations -- Data Sources for Income -- The March CPS -- The Alternative of SIPP -- Orienting SIPP to Poverty Measurement -- Transition -- Research Recommendations -- Income Data in Other Surveys -- Income Data in the Decennial Census -- Expenditure Data -- 6 Other Issues in Measuring Poverty --TIME PERIOD -- Recommendation -- Short-Term Measures -- Long-Term Measures -- UNIT OF ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION -- Unit of Analysis -- Recommendations -- Discussion -- Unit of Presentation --INDEXES OF POVERTY -- Recommendation -- Alternative Indexes --Indexes with Alternative Resource Definitions -- THE LIMITED SCOPE OF MEASURING ECONOMIC POVERTY -- 7 Use of the Poverty Measure in Government Assistance Programs -- RECOMMENDATION --GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS -- Overview -- Determining Income Eligibility: Selected Programs -- Head Start -- School Nutrition Programs -- WIC -- Food Stamps -- USING THE PROPOSED POVERTY MEASURE -- The Thresholds -- The Family Resource Definition --Simplified Determination of Disposable Income -- Full Determination of Disposable Income -- Other Issues -- 8 The Poverty Measure and AFDC -- DETERMINING PROGRAM BENEFIT LEVELS -- Proposals for AFDC Minimum Benefits: A Brief History -- The Matching Formula -- A Supplementary Program with a National Benefit Standard-Food Stamps -- A National Minimum Benefit Standard for AFDC -- Issues in Program Benefit Design -- Budget Constraints -- Targeting Strategies and Preferences -- Program Interactions -- Program Incentives -- Work Effects -- Family Structure Decisions -- Migration Effects -- Summary -- Federal-State Cost Sharing -- Summary -- DETERMINING STATE AFDC STANDARDS OF NEED -- Recommendation -- Program Regulations -- Standard Setting in the 1970s. Standard Setting in the 1980s -- Differences Among States --Differences in Need Standards and Benefits -- Differences in Equivalence Scales -- Trends in Need Standards and Benefits --Conclusions -- Comparative Advantage of the Proposed Poverty Measure -- Problematic Aspects of the Proposed Poverty Measure --Program Interactions -- Implications of Updating for Costs and Caseloads -- Effects of Updating on Program Incentives -- Summary --APPENDICES -- APPENDIX A Dissent -- MEASURING THE POVERTY LINE -- UPDATING THE POVERTY LINE -- CHOOSING A RANGE FOR THE POVERTY LINE -- MEASURING FAMILY RESOURCES: THE ISSUE OF MEDICAL CARE -- CONCLUSION -- REFERENCES -- APPENDIX B Data Sources for Measuring Poverty -- MAJOR FEATURES OF THE CEX, MARCH CPS, PSID, AND SIPP -- Consumer Expenditure Survey --Design and Use -- Content of the Interview Survey -- CPS March

Income Supplement -- Design -- Content -- Panel Study of Income

Dynamics -- Design -- Content -- Survey of Income and Program Participation -- Design -- Content -- Summary Comparisons -- Quality of Income Data -- THE MARCH CPS AND SIPP COMPARED -- Categories of Information -- Taxes -- Nonmedical In-Kind Benefits -- Medical Benefits/Costs -- Child Care and Other Work Expenses -- Child Support Payments -- Asset Holdings -- Ability to Support Other Estimates -- Shorter or Longer Term Measures -- State Estimates -- Related Measures -- Quality of Income Data -- Population Undercoverage -- Household and Person Nonresponse -- Item Nonresponse -- Other Sources of Error -- Aggregate Comparisons -- APPENDIX C The Interdependence of Time and Money -- "TIME IS MONEY -- Illustration -- Expenditure Data -- Discussion -- RESEARCH APPROACHES -- Time Poor: A Measurement -- Calculating Earnings Capacity -- CONCLUSION -- APPENDIX D Assistance Programs for People with Low-Incomes.

PROGRAMS THAT TIE ELIGIBILITY TO THE POVERTY GUIDELINES.