

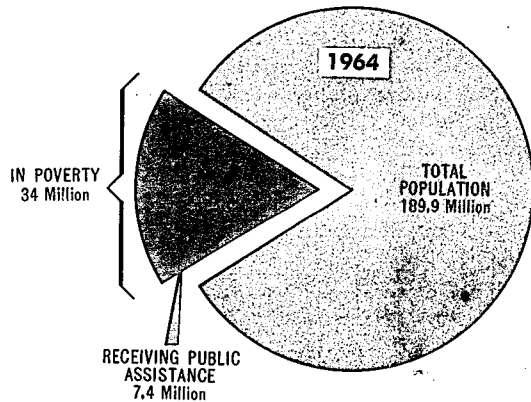


It is widely known, for example, that nearly 8 million persons (half of them white) now subsist on welfare, but it is not generally known that for every person on the rolls at least one more probably meets existing criteria of eligibility but is not obtaining assistance.

**PROPORTION
OF POVERTY
GROUP
RECEIVING
PUBLIC
ASSISTANCE**

The average monthly total of New York City residents receiving assistance in 1959 was 325,771, but according to the 1960 census, 716,000 persons (unrelated or in families) appeared to be subsisting on incomes at or below the prevailing welfare eligibility levels (e.g., \$2,070 for a family of four). In that same year, 539,000 people subsisted on incomes *less than 80 per cent* of the welfare minimums, and 200,000 lived alone or in families on incomes reported to be *less than half* of eligibility levels. Thus it appears that for every person on welfare in 1959, at least one more was eligible.

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Under the public assistance titles of the Social Security Act, Federal aid is authorized to assist States, as far as practicable, to provide financial assistance, medical care, and appropriate social services only to specified categories of needy people: the needy aged, the blind, the permanently and totally disabled, and certain needy families with dependent children. No one else, however destitute, can qualify for financial assistance or other welfare services.