

Table 3.23: Poverty Rates in Nineteen Rich Countries, by Age Group in the 1990s

	Year	Poverty rate ¹ (% of population)			Rank of country		
		Overall	Children ²	Aged ³	Overall	Children ²	Aged ³
United States	1997	10.7	14.7	12.0	1	1	2
Italy	1995	8.9	14.1	4.7	2	2	5
Australia	1994	7.0	7.4	12.2	3	5	1
Japan ⁴	1992	6.9	na	na	4	na	na
Canada	1994	6.6	8.5	1.2	5	3	14
United Kingdom	1995	5.7	8.3	4.0	6	4	7
Israel	1992	5.2	4.8	11.2	7	8	3
Spain	1990	5.1	7.0	3.9	8	6	9
Netherlands	1994	4.7	4.6	3.1	9	9	12
Sweden	1995	4.6	1.3	0.7	10	18	17
Germany ⁵	1994	4.2	6.0	4.0	11	7	7
Switzerland	1992	4.0	4.4	3.1	12	10	12
Denmark	1992	3.6	2.1	3.7	13	15	10
France	1994	3.2	2.6	3.6	14	11	11
Norway	1995	3.0	2.2	0.7	15	13	17
Austria	1992	2.8	2.6	6.8	16	11	4
Finland	1995	2.1	1.5	0.9	17	17	15
Belgium	1992	1.9	1.6	4.2	18	16	6
Luxembourg	1994	1.3	2.2	0.9	19	13	15
Overall Average		4.8	5.3	4.5			

Source: Timothy Smeeding, Lee Rainwater, Gary Burtless (September 2000). *United States Poverty in a Cross-National Context*, Prepared for IRP Volume "Understanding Poverty in America: Progress and Problems".

¹ Poverty is measured at 40% median adjusted disposable personal income (ADPI) for individuals. Incomes are adjusted by E=0.5 where ADPI= adjusted DPI divided by household size (S) to the power E: ADPI= DPI/sE.

² Children are under age 18.

³ Adults aged 65 and over.

⁴ Japanese data runs were made for LIS by Professor Tsuneo Ishikawa.

⁵ Includes all of Germany, including the eastern states of the former GDR.

Source: Authors' tabulations of LIS files, except for Japan.