A Nation of Government Dependents?
49% of U.S. Population Lives in Households Receiving Government Benefits

One or More Programs 49%
Means-Tested Programs 35%
Medicaid 26%
Social Security 16%
Food Stamps 15%
Medicare 15%
Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) 8%
Supplemental Security Income 6%
Housing Assistance 4%
Unemployment Compensation 2%
Temp Assistance for Needy Families 2%

Over 148 Million Americans Live in a Household Receiving Some Government Benefits

(Share of Population by Receipt of Benefits from Selected Programs)

Notes: Figures do not add up to 100 percent because people may receive benefits from more than one program.
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