STATE of the UNION

POVERTY

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POVERTY SOLUTIONS
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Finding new ways to prevent and alleviate poverty in Michigan, the nation and the world.
Women, Men and Poverty

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Note: Limited to those aged 25 years and older. Estimates are unweighted because of historical changes in weight construction.
Risk of eviction is graded by income in the SIPP

Analysis by Sam Dickman, MD, Department of Medicine, San Francisco General Hospital, UCSF
An artifact of measurement?

OPM and SPM both find that women have higher rates of poverty than men

But SPM narrows the disparity

Does SPM get it right?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures of Economic Need by Gender, 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official Poverty Measure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental Poverty Measure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Official poverty and supplemental poverty rates are in line with the rates of core metrics of material hardship.
Relative to men, women report:
about 1.4 times the rate of poverty by OPM
almost 1.2 times the rate of SPM, and
a bit less than 1.2 times the rate of household food insecurity

### TABLE 1. Measures of Economic Need by Gender, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Official Poverty Measure</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental Poverty Measure</td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td>11.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Insecurity</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Limited to those aged 25 years and older. Food insecurity includes those who reported low or very low food security. Analyses are weighted to adjust for sampling.
Adult women report higher rates of poverty and hardship than men

This holds true by:

- Deep poverty, overall poverty, and near poverty;
- by the official and supplemental poverty measure—although SPM narrows the disparity
- and by household food insecurity, which finds food hardship rates in line with SPM

Stratifying by other characteristics such as race would likely offer a more nuanced story

And it is unclear how the story might change if the institutionalized population was added