

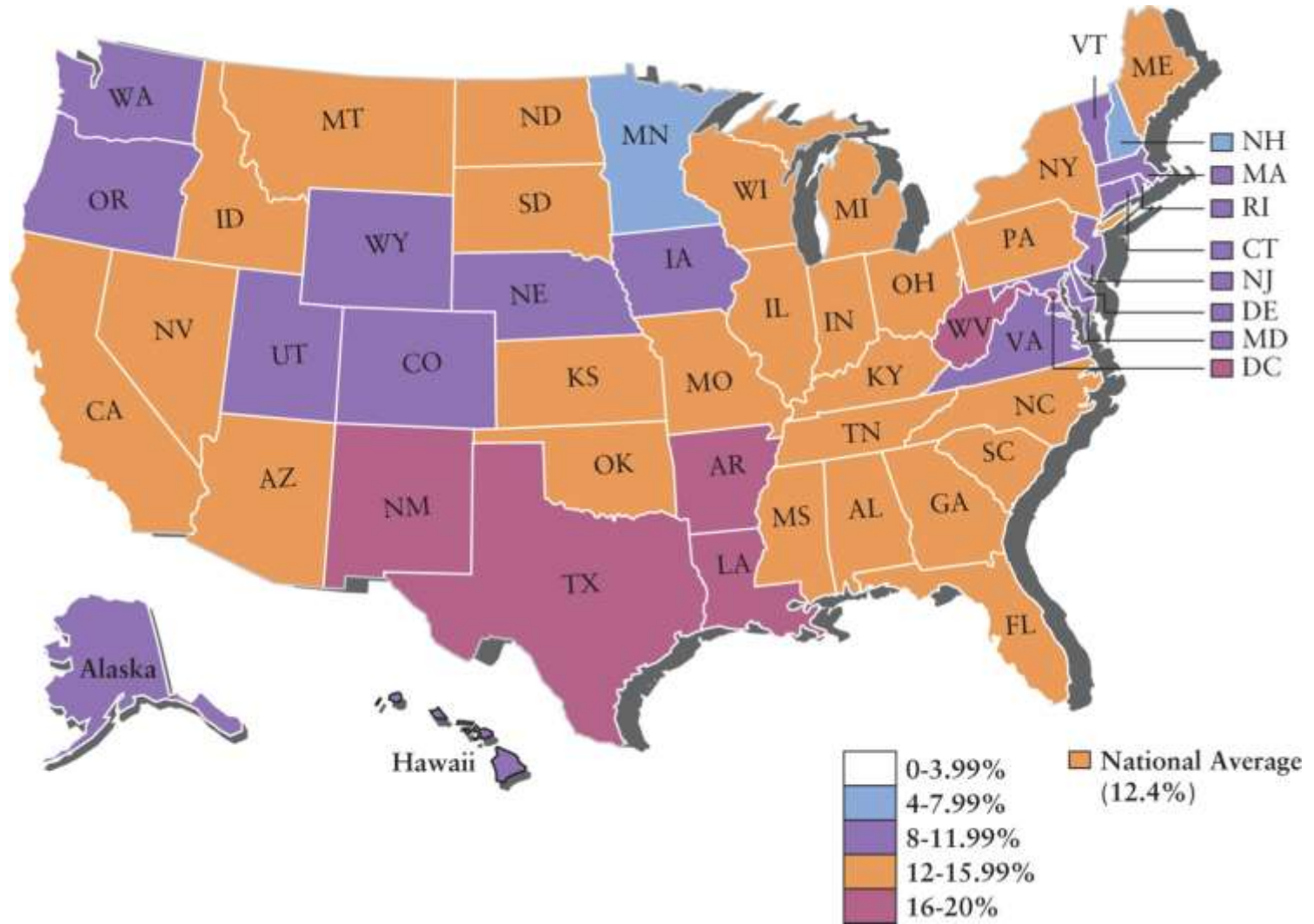
THE POLITICS OF POVERTY, WELFARE, AND HEALTH

Chapter 17

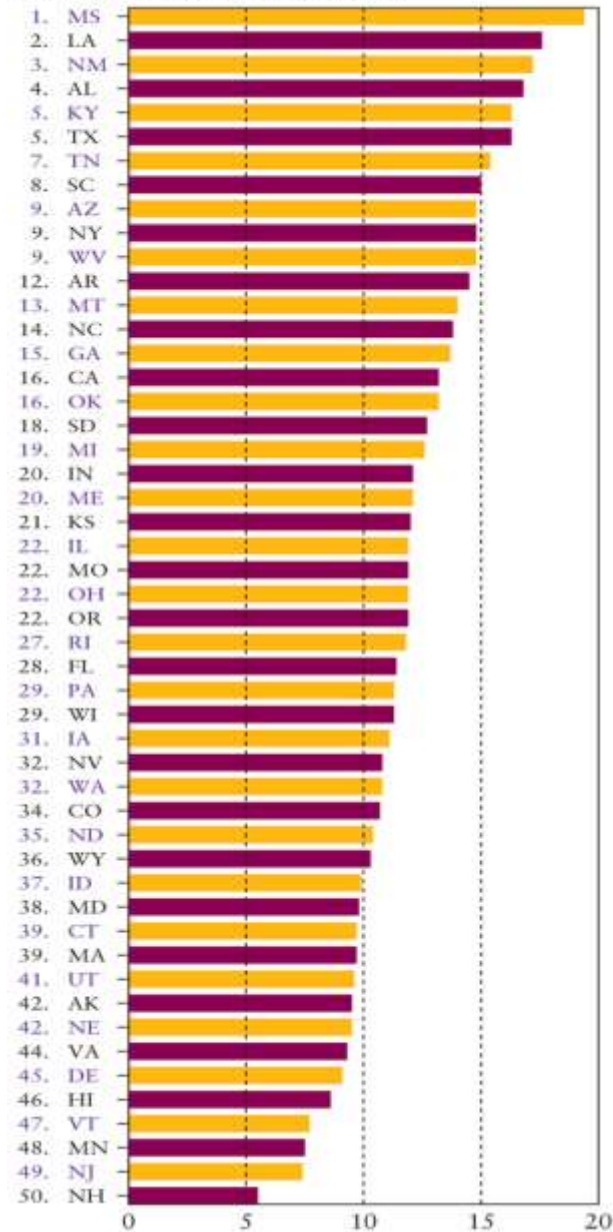
Poverty in America

- Political conflict over poverty in America begins with disagreements over its nature and extent, and then it proceeds to disputes over its causes and remedies
- The official poverty rate is the percentage of the population whose annual cash income falls below that which is required, according to the federal government, to maintain a decent standard of living

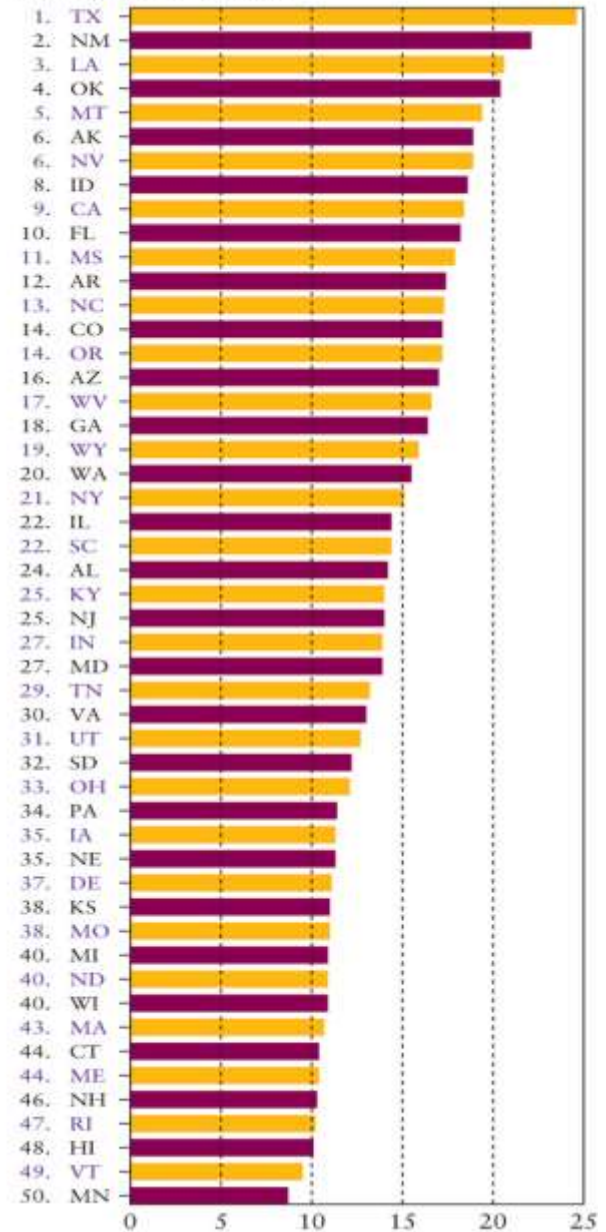
Poverty Levels by State



Percentage of Population in Poverty



Lacking Health Insurance



Inequality in America

- Income Distribution: a measure of inequality; generally the percent of total family income received by each percentage of families from highest to lowest in terms of income
- Wealth: the net worth of all one's possessions

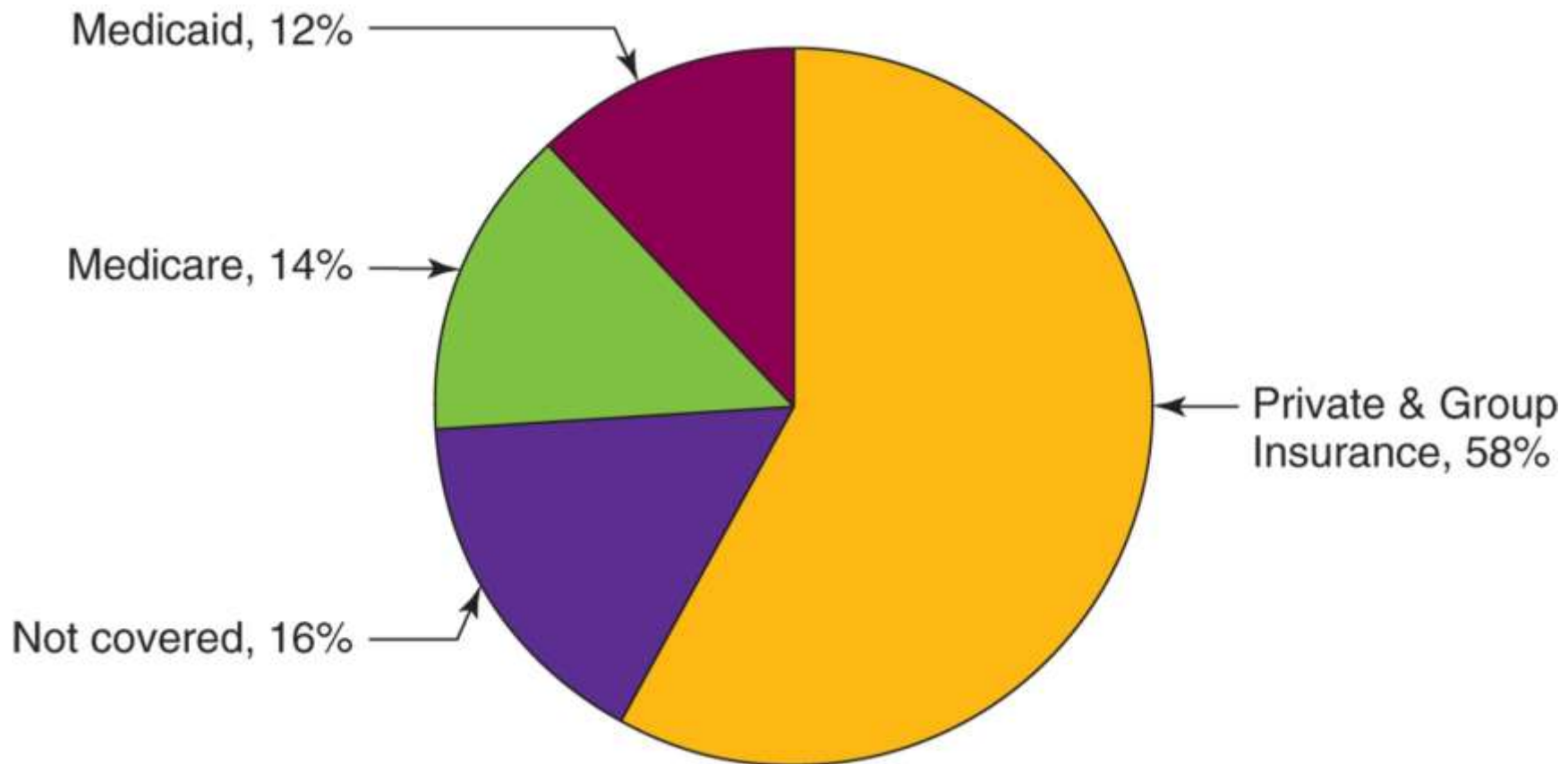
Welfare Programs

- Social Security
- Unemployment Compensation
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Family Assistance: Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
- Food Stamps
- Earned Income Tax Credit
- Variety of Other Programs: school lunches, housing assistance, job training, home heating and weatherization, etc.

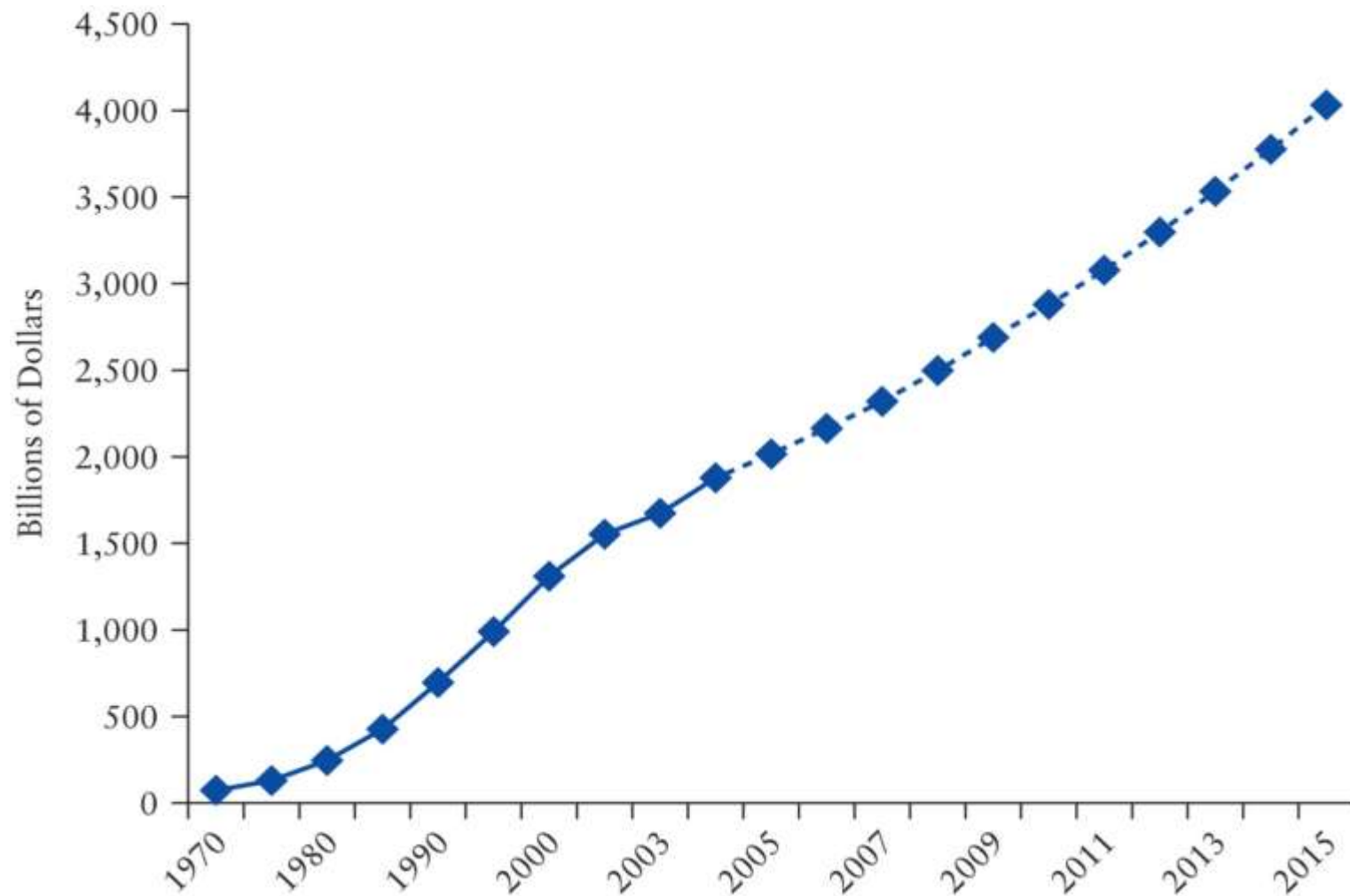
Health Care and Health Policy

- Community Public Health and Hospitals
- Medicare
- Medicaid
- Medically Uninsured
- SCHIP: State Children's Health Insurance Program
- Health Care Reform Efforts

Health Insurance Coverage in the U.S.



U.S. Health Care Expenditures



“Obamacare” and the States

- Controversial provisions:
 - Individual Mandate
 - Employer Mandate
 - Medicaid Expansion
 - Health Insurance Exchanges
 - Taxes
 - No “Public Option”
 - Costs