

Bureau of the Census Income Definition

The Bureau of the Census defines income to include the following:

1. Money, wages, and salaries before any deductions.
2. Net receipts from non-farm self employment. These are receipts from a person's own business, professional enterprise, or partnership, after deductions for business expenses.
3. Net receipts from self-employment. These are receipts from a farm which one operates as an owner, renter, or sharecropper, after deductions for farm operating expenses.
4. Regular payments from social security, railroad retirement, unemployment compensation, strike benefits from union funds, workers' compensation, veterans' payments, public assistance (including Aid to Families with Dependent Children, Supplemental Security Income, Emergency Assistance money payments, and non-Federally-funded General Assistance or General Relief money payments).
5. Alimony, child support, and military family allotments or other regular support from an absent family member or someone not living in the household.
6. Private pensions, government employee pensions (including military retirement pay), and regular insurance or annuity payments.
7. College or university scholarships, grants fellowships, and assistantships.
8. Dividends, interest, net rental income, net royalties, periodic receipts from estates or trusts, and net gambling or lottery winnings.

Income does not include the following:

1. Money received from the sale of property such as stocks, bonds, a house, or a car, unless a person is in the business of selling such property.
2. Withdrawals of bank deposits and borrowed money.
3. Tax refunds, gifts, loans, lump-sum inheritances, one-time insurance payments.