

Elderly Poverty and Social Security Expenditures Over Time Answer Key

Directions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

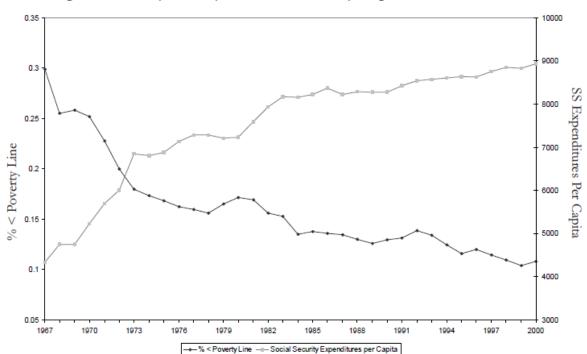


Figure 1: Elderly Poverty and Social Security Expenditures Over Time

Source: National Bureau of Economic Research. (2004). Elderly poverty and Social Security expenditures over time [Chart]. Retrieved from http://www.phor.org/aginghoalth/cummor04/cummor04.pdf

http://www.nber.org/aginghealth/summer04/summer04.pdf





Questions

- 1. What information does the graph provide? The graph depicts changes in the poverty rate of the elderly and Social Security expenditures between 1967 and 2000.
- 2. Describe the relationship between the two lines. The lines are moving in opposite directions. The poverty rate for the elderly has generally declined since 1967, whereas Social Security expenditures have generally increased since 1967.
- **3.** From the information provided in this graph, what can we infer about Social Security expenditures and the poverty rate among the elderly? *A decrease in poverty among the elderly is correlated with increased spending on Social Security.*
- 4. From the information provided in this graph, what do you hypothesize an extension of the graph to 2025 would look like? Why? Answers will vary.

