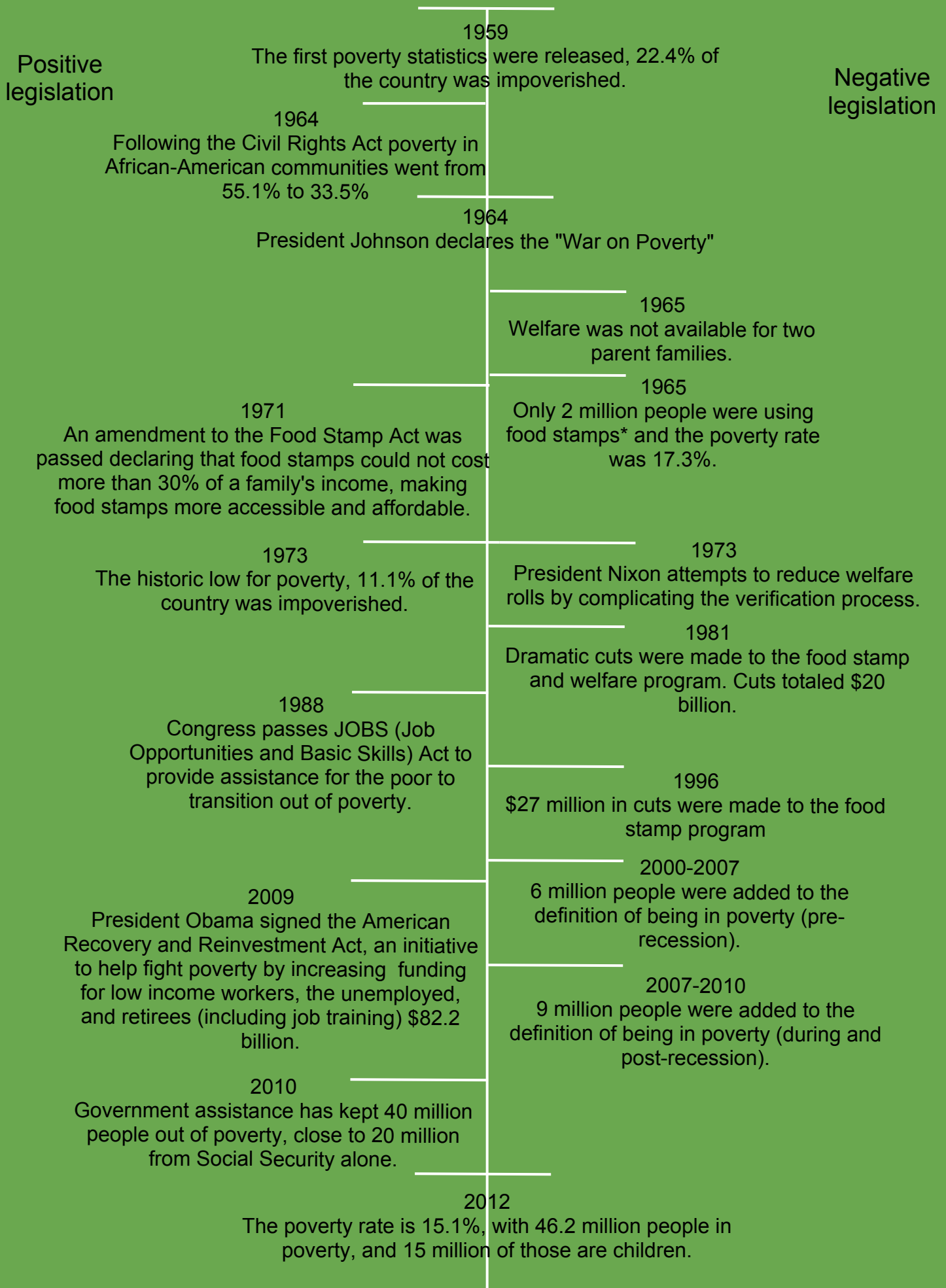


Timeline of Federal Actions Affecting Poverty in the United States



The biggest change in American poverty has been the group that is considered most impoverished. Historically this group was senior citizens, now the most impoverished Americans are children.

For an interactive look at how government benefits have supported Americans through the years go to:

<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2012/02/12/us/entitlement-map.html?ref=us>

*The process for getting food stamps involved complicated paperwork, and paying a fee, even for families with zero income. The free alternative was "surplus commodities" which while free were often spoiled and maggots infested.