Transfers from programs like Medicaid, CHIP, SNAP, and SSI represent an increasing share of income for low to middle income groups.

**SHARE OF INCOME FROM MEANS-TESTED TRANSFER PROGRAMS BY INCOME QUINTILE (%)**

- **Lowest Quintile**
- **Second Quintile**
- **Middle Quintile**


**NOTES:** A quintile is one-fifth of the population. The share of income for the highest two quintiles has been less than 2 percent since 1979. Means-tested transfers include Medicaid, the Children’s Health Insurance Program, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance program, and Supplemental Security Income. Eligibility for those programs is primarily determined by income. The grey shaded areas represent economic recessions and are based on the National Bureau of Economic Research’s classification.

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