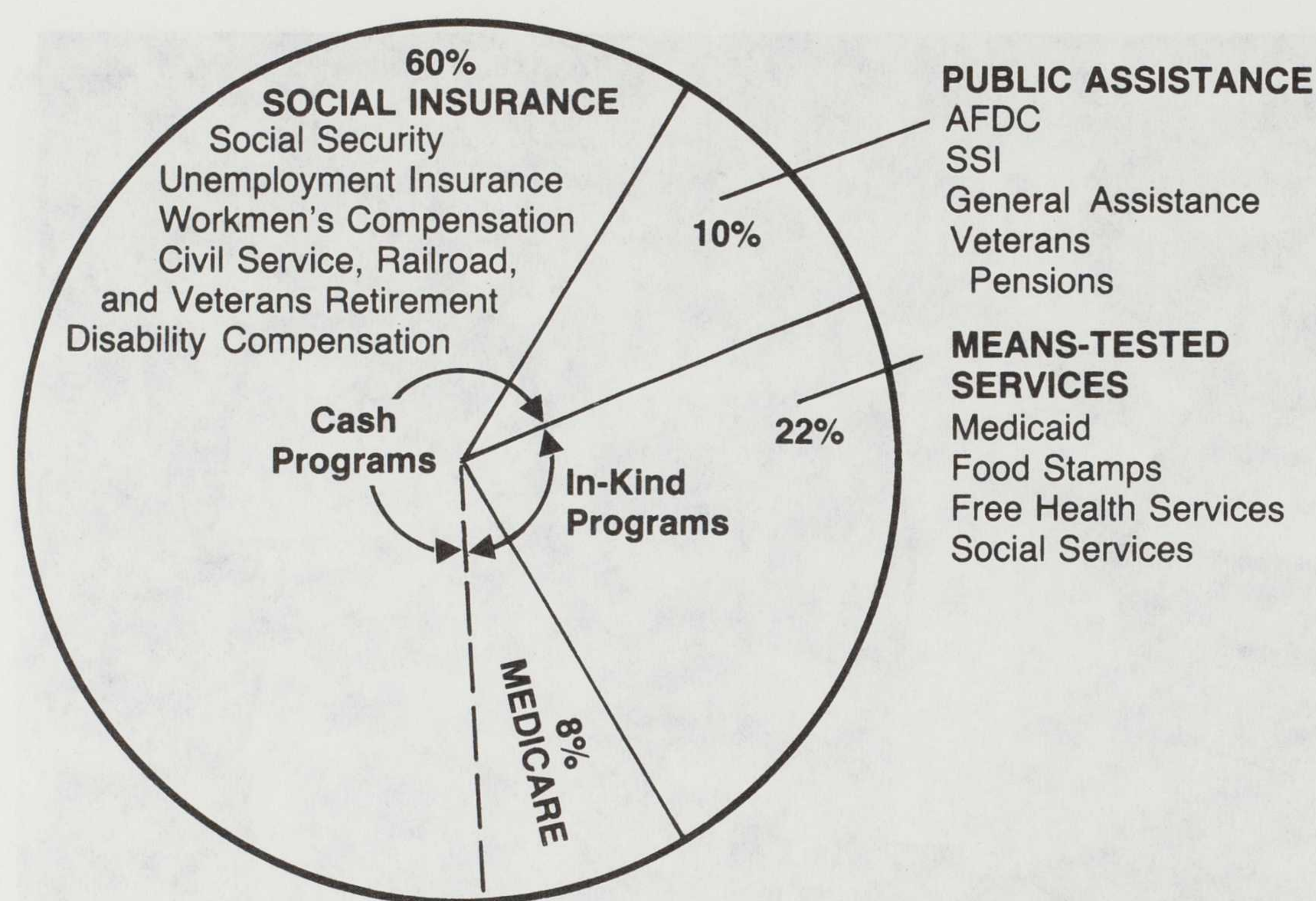




Distribution of federal social services in 1979.

Social Insurance. And a big part of that is Social Security, the monthly checks going to the aged and the disabled. One out of every seven Americans gets a Social Security check each month, and in 1978 the cost was well over \$81 billion.

However, this is not a government handout! It has already been paid for by the workers and their employers!

In the published budget for 1978 that \$81 billion plus unemployment insurance and disability compensation were added together under the heading of "Income Security" and came to \$146.2 billion. But none of these securities are paid out of government revenues. The government only administers them.

Before the era of Richard Nixon, those necessary safeguards working people had fought so hard for were not listed as part of the government's expenses—and rightly so. They are paid for by the workers themselves and

their employers every payday. Why, then, after more than thirty years, are they included now?

Perhaps it's to make the staggering war budget seem not so staggering. In 1978 the cost for the military was put at \$105.2 billion, so spending \$146 billion for social welfare makes it look prettier. (In March 1980 Carter proposed raising the military budget to \$150.5 billion for 1981. And this doesn't count many military related expenses like officers' pensions.) Listing other items that ***should*** be classified as part of the war budget under other headings soothes the unwary even more. For instance, a good part of the \$73 billion paid in interest to the banks should rightly come under the heading of military spending. And how about the National Aeronautics & Space Agency's share of \$4 billion? And the \$10 billion going for officers' pensions? Aren't they all really part of the war budget?

Unemployment and the Welfare Rolls

The official rate of unemployment in 1980 was around 7.6 percent, which means about 7.8 million people out of a labor force of 102 million were out of work. But the real rate is much higher. It should include all those who have been looking for work for months and have given up going to the unemployment offices to register, knowing there wasn't a chance. It should include all those who live far from the centers and haven't the carfare to go, and those who have part-time jobs but feel that's better than nothing. Studies by labor groups have shown that the real rate is much higher—15 or 20 percent of the work force. Among youth in their teens and Black and Latin workers the rate is 25 or 30 percent.

Anyone who doubts that the unemployed really want to work should pick up a newspaper on any day when an industrial plant advertises it will hire a hundred work-