

2004: BAD YEAR FOR AMERICAN POOR

Gas breaking \$3 a gallon is the least of it. The number of poor Americans rose by 1.1 million last year, with 37 million now below the federal poverty line. The Census Bureau's count of medically uninsured people rose for the fourth straight year, jumping to 45.8 million in 2004. Adding insult to injury, the titans of big business are raking it in. According to a study co-authored by the Institute for Policy Studies and United for a Fair Economy, for every dollar a worker earns the average CEO now makes \$431 – \$11.8 million annually to the worker's \$27,460. Leading the pack, Citigroup's CEO Sandy Weill has taken home over \$1.1 billion in pay since 1990.