Table A1. Brief descriptions of methods used in manuscripts included in the review.

Method	Description
Non-quasi-experimental	
Confounder-control	Uses measurement and conditioning on covariates that determine exposure and the health outcome as the primary method to isolate the relationship between exposure and outcome.
Paired sample t-tests	Compares mean outcomes from the same sample before and after an exposure, or the mean outcomes of two similar groups.
Quasi-experimental	
Difference-in-differences	Compares the difference in outcomes between two groups (a treated and a control group) before and after an exposure.
Heterogeneity-robust difference-in-differences	A subset of difference-in-differences estimators designed for when the treatment effects are expected to vary across groups and/or over time.
Fixed effects	When indicator variables are used to remove confounding by all observed and unobserved variables that are assumed to be constant within a larger grouping (e.g., state, year, or individual fixed effects).
Matching	Compares differences between groups that are either identified as similar or created in ways to make them comparable (e.g., propensity scores, marginal structural models).
Instrumental variables	Uses an instrument (e.g., social policy), a variable related to the exposure (e.g., resource) but independent of the outcome except through its effect on the exposure.
Interrupted time series	Compares outcomes before and after an exposure using long time series data, and commonly compares the observed outcome after the exposure to a simulated outcome based on pre-intervention trends.
Synthetic control	Compares the outcomes of a treated group to the weighted average of the outcomes of untreated units deemed similar to the treated group.
Regression discontinuity	Defines treated and control group based on a tightly-defined cutoff or threshold relevant to the policy (e.g., birthdate one day before a cutoff for a policy compared to a birthdate one day after the cutoff) and compares the groups under and over the threshold, assuming there should be little difference between the groups.
Experimental	
Randomization	The exposure is randomized (e.g., through a lottery), which limits confounding across groups because the only difference between those exposed and those not exposed was their selection through the lottery, and no characteristics relevant to the outcome.

Table A2. Complete search strategy.

Feature	Details
Search terms	(EITC[tiab] OR CTC[tiab] OR Temporary Assistance for Needy Families[tiab] OR TANF[tiab] OR Aid to Families with Dependent Children[tiab] OR AFDC[tiab] OR Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children[tiab] OR WIC[tiab] OR Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program*[tiab] OR SNAP[tiab] OR Tax credit*[tiab] OR Cash transfer*[tiab] OR Cash assistance[tiab] OR Safety net[tiab] OR Cash benefit*[tiab] OR "Food Assistance"[Mesh] OR food assistance[tiab] OR Food aid[tiab] OR Food stamp*[tiab] OR Income supplementation[tiab] OR Income maintenance[tiab] OR Welfare[tiab] OR Minimum wage*[tiab] OR subminimum wage*[tiab] OR "Family leave"[Mesh] OR family leave[tiab] OR parental leave[tiab] OR maternity leave[tiab] OR paternity leave[tiab] OR Paid leave[tiab] OR "Sick Leave"[Mesh] OR Sick leave[tiab] OR unemployment insurance[tiab] OR UI[tiab] OR "pensions"[Mesh] OR pension*[tiab] OR "Social Security"[Mesh] OR social security[tiab] OR social insurance[tiab] OR "Public Assistance"[Mesh:NoExp] OR public assistance[tiab] OR "Old Age Assistance"[Mesh] OR old age assistance[tiab] OR retirement benefit*[tiab] OR SSDI[tiab] OR housing polic*[tiab] OR Section 8[tiab] OR housing voucher*[tiab] OR Head start[tiab] OR economic support*[tiab] OR income support*[tiab] OR stimulus payment*[tiab] OR economic impact payment[tiab] OR guaranteed income[tiab] OR basic income[tiab] OR UBI[tiab] OR unemployment benefit*[tiab] OR Alaska permanent fund[tiab] OR child allowance*[tiab] OR school lunch*[tiab] OR school breakfast*[tiab] OR reduced price lunch*[tiab] OR reduced price meal*[tiab] OR school meal*[tiab] OR NSLP[tiab] OR compulsory school*[tiab] OR education polic*[tiab] OR compulsory education[tiab] OR "school voucher"[tiab] OR "school vouchers"[tiab]) AND ("American Journal of Epidemiology"[Journal] OR "Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health"[Journal] OR "Epidemiology"[Journal] OR "International Journal of Epidemiology"[Journal] OR "Annals of Epidemiology"[Journal] OR "European Journal of Epidemiology"[Journal] OR "Epidemiologic Reviews"[Journal] OR "Journal of Clinical Epidemiology"[Journal] OR "Current Epidemiology Reports"[Journal] OR JAMA [Journal] OR "American Journal of Public Health"[Journal] OR "The New England Journal of Medicine"[Journal] OR "Lancet"[Journal] OR "American Journal of Preventive Medicine"[Journal] OR "Soc Sci Med"[Journal] OR "Health Aff Millwood"[Journal] OR "Demography"[Journal]) NOT ("Review" [Publication Type] OR "Systematic Review" [Publication Type]) AND English[language]
Filters	Years: 2014-2014 (inclusive)

Table A3. Complete data extraction tool.

Field	Instructions	Response options
Reviewer	*None provided*	Author A Author B
Start date of review	Please write in the date that you began this review	*Open-text response*
End date of review	Please write in the date that you completed this review	*Open-text response*
IDENTIFICATION		
First author	Please enter the last name of the first author	*Open-text response*
Year published	Please enter a four-digit year	*Open-text response*
Journal	*None provided*	American Journal of Epidemiology; American Journal of Preventive Medicine; American Journal of Public Health; Annals of Epidemiology; Current Epidemiology Reports; Demography; Epidemiologic Reviews; Epidemiology; European Journal of Epidemiology; Health Affairs; International Journal of Epidemiology; JAMA; Journal of Clinical Epidemiology; Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health; Lancet; New England Journal of Medicine; Social Science and Medicine
FOCUS OF ARTICLE		
Population of interest: age	Specify the age groups included (e.g. all ages, children, adults, working-age adults); only for main analysis	*Open-text response*
Population of interest: geographic location	E.g., United States; New York City	*Open-text response*
Methods		
Type of data	Please input all that apply	Administrative (e.g., birth certificate, vital statistics); Survey; Claims; Other (specify in text box)
Analytic method	Please input all that apply	DD/DDD Fixed effects Heterogeneity robust/staggered DD RD IV Synthetic control RCT ITS Matching method (including propensity score) Regression Other (specify in text box)
Exposure operationalization	Please input all that apply	Self-reported survey question about participation in program; Imputed eligibility/proxy measure of eligibility using self-reported variables (e.g., education, income, marital status, place of residence, place of work);

		Linkage to administrative data to verify self-reported eligibility/participation; Other (specify in text box)
Comparison group	Please enter/paste the features of the comparison group for the primary analysis only	*Open-text response*
Sample size of largest analysis	Do not consider subgroup analyses here (unless all analyses are subgroup analyses)	*Open-text response*
Health outcome(s)		
Description	Please write out/paste the specific outcome(s) included	*Open-text response*
Type(s) of outcome: general	Please input all that apply	Physical health; Mental health; Health behavior; Health care
Physical health outcomes: detailed	Please input all that apply	Chronic disease; Infectious disease; Maternal and/or child health; Injury and violence; Disability; General well-being; Other (specify in text box)
Health behavior outcomes: detailed	Please input all that apply	Nutrition, diet, food security; Substance use (e.g., smoking, alcohol, other drugs); Physical activity; Vaccination; Other (specify in text box)
Health care outcomes: detailed	Please input all that apply	Health care; Health insurance; Other (specify in text box)
Policy(ies)		
Level at which policy was implemented	Please input all that apply	Federal/national; State; County; City/town/municipality; Other (specify in text box)
Policy(ies) examined	Please input all that apply	SNAP or food stamps; WIC; EITC; CTC; TANF; AFDC; Social Security; COVID-19 social and economic support; Unemployment insurance/benefits; Paid sick leave; Paid family and/or medical leave; Minimum wage; Housing assistance (e.g., vouchers; tax credits); Head Start/early childhood education; Stimulus or economic impact; Compulsory schooling; School meal financial support; School meal nutritional guidelines; Other (specify in text box)
Heterogeneity by subgroup		

Do the authors examine any type of heterogeneity in the effect of the policy on the outcome(s)?	Examples include: heterogeneity-robust DiD, stratified regression analysis, interaction analysis, moderation analysis	Yes; No
Brief summary of analysis(es) of heterogeneity	Please enter/paste a brief description of their approach to analyzing heterogeneity	*Open-text response*
RESULTS		
Results from study of policy effects on health	For studies that examine multiple health outcomes: 1) select improved health if the policy improved some health outcomes and found null for others 2) select adversely affected health if the policy adversely affected some health outcomes and found null for others. Selecting "mixed results" should be reserved for studies that found the policy improved some outcomes but adversely affected others.	The policy generally improved health outcome(s); The policy generally adversely affected health outcome(s); The policy did not affect health outcome(s); The policy produced mixed results (e.g., improved some health outcomes but adversely affected other health outcomes); Other (specify in text box)
OTHER REVIEWER COMMENTS		
Any other comments?	*None provided*	*Open-text response*

Table A4. Journals included in the systematic review.

Epidemiology
- American Journal of Epidemiology
- Annals of Epidemiology
- Current Epidemiology Reports
- Epidemiologic Reviews
- Epidemiology
- European Journal of Epidemiology
- International Journal of Epidemiology
- Journal of Clinical Epidemiology
- Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health

Public Health/Health Policy
- American Journal of Preventive Medicine
- American Journal of Public Health
- Demography
- Health Affairs
- Social Science and Medicine

Medical
- JAMA
- Lancet
- New England Journal of Medicine

Table A5. Brief descriptions of policies included in the review.

Policy	Description
Minimum wage	Sets the lowest hourly wage most employers must pay their employees.
Paid sick leave	Mandates that employers provide paid time off to employees to care for their health needs or those of a family member for a set number of hours and/or days.
Paid family and/or medical leave	Mandates that employers provide longer-term paid time off to employees to address family (e.g., birth, adoption) or serious health needs (e.g., caring for a chronically ill family member).
Social security benefits	Monthly income retirees are paid based on their pre-retirement income.
Unemployment insurance	Monthly benefit paid to unemployed persons who lost their job due to no fault of their own (e.g., layoffs, business closures).
Workers' compensation	Cash benefits and/or medical care for employees who experience a work-related illness or injury.
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	Means-tested program that provides monthly benefits to be spent on groceries.
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)	Means-tested program that provides monthly benefits to be spent on groceries and offers support programs for new parents and their children (such as breastfeeding support).
School meal financial support	Funds school meals (such as the National School Lunch Program).
School meal nutritional guidelines	Regulates the nutritional profile of school meals (such as the guidelines of meals funded by the National School Lunch Program).
Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)	Means-tested program that provides yearly tax credits for individuals who file taxes.
Child Tax Credit (CTC)	Provides yearly tax credits to adults with dependent children.
Rental assistance	Means-tested program that provides financial assistance for housing, for example through housing vouchers.
Neighborhood and community development	Provides funding to revitalize public housing projects. Hope VI is an example of this type of program.
Eviction policy	Regulation prohibiting or restricting landlords from evicting tenants.
Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)	Means-tested program that provided monthly benefits to low-income families. This program was replaced by TANF in 1996.
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Means-tested program that provides monthly benefits to low-income families. This program replaced AFDC in 1996.
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	Means-tested program that provides monthly benefits to disabled individuals and adults 65 years and older.
Compulsory schooling laws	Require children to attend school until they reach a specific age.
Head Start	Means-tested daycare and education program for children aged 0-5 and their families.

Figure A1. PRISMA Flow Chart

Identification

Studies from PubMed **(n = 1459)**

Screening

Studies screened **(n = 1459)** → Studies excluded **(n = 1316)**

Studies assessed for eligibility **(n = 143)** → Studies excluded **(n = 26)**
 No health outcome (n = 2)
 Exposure was not a social policy (n = 21)
 Article was not an original study (n = 3)

Included

Studies included in review **(n = 117)**