Federal laws and regulations provide broad guidelines on unemployment compensation (UC) benefit coverage, eligibility, and benefit determination, the specifics of regular UC benefits are determined by each state. This results in essentially 53 different programs. States determine UC benefit eligibility, payments, and duration through state laws and program regulations. Generally, UC eligibility is based on attaining qualified wages and employment in covered work over a 12-month period (called a base period) prior to unemployment.

However, according to the IRS millionaires have been recipients of unemployment benefits. The below is 2009 data: [www.irs.gov/pub/irs-soi/09in14ar.xls](http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-soi/09in14ar.xls)

In regard to food stamps, it’s more a matter of tightening existing requirements to protect the American taxpayer from abuse. However, this article from the Wall Street Journal may be of interest to you. <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304657804576401412033504294.html>