

# Measuring Inequality and Poverty in the United States: Challenges and Opportunities in the International Context

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June 28, 2018

*The views expressed in this presentation are solely those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official positions or policies of the U.S. Census Bureau.*

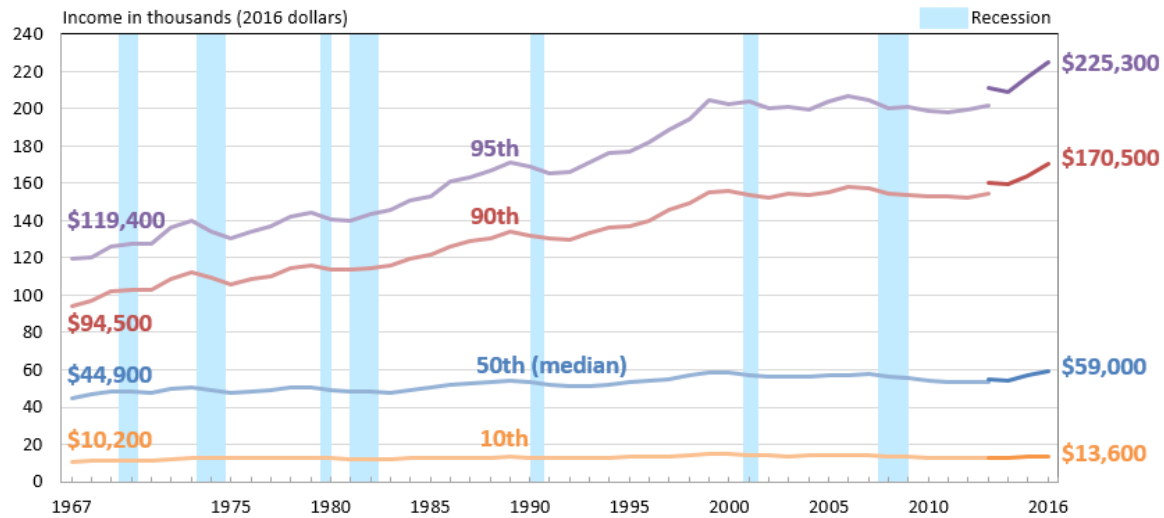
# Outline

- Measurement of poverty and inequality in the United States
  - Concepts and measures
  - Sources of data
  - Public access to inequality data
- Involvement in international initiatives
  - SDG 2030 Working Groups and Reporting Platform
  - Participation in the UNECE Expert Group on Income and Poverty
    - Annual conferences
    - Guide on poverty measurement
    - Working group on disaggregation of poverty statistics
  - Contribute to the OECD international data base

# Two basic dimensions of economic inequality

Separate but inter-related: income and wealth

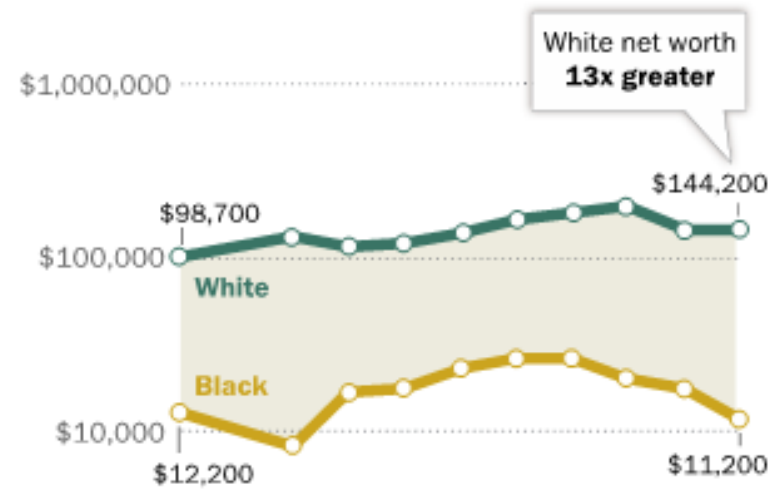
## Real Household Income at Selected Percentiles: 1967 to 2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1968 to 2017 Annual Social and Economic Supplements.

## Whites have significantly higher levels of wealth than blacks

Median net worth of U.S. households in 2014 dollars



\$1,000  
'83 '86 '89 '92 '95 '98 '01 '04 '07 '10 '13

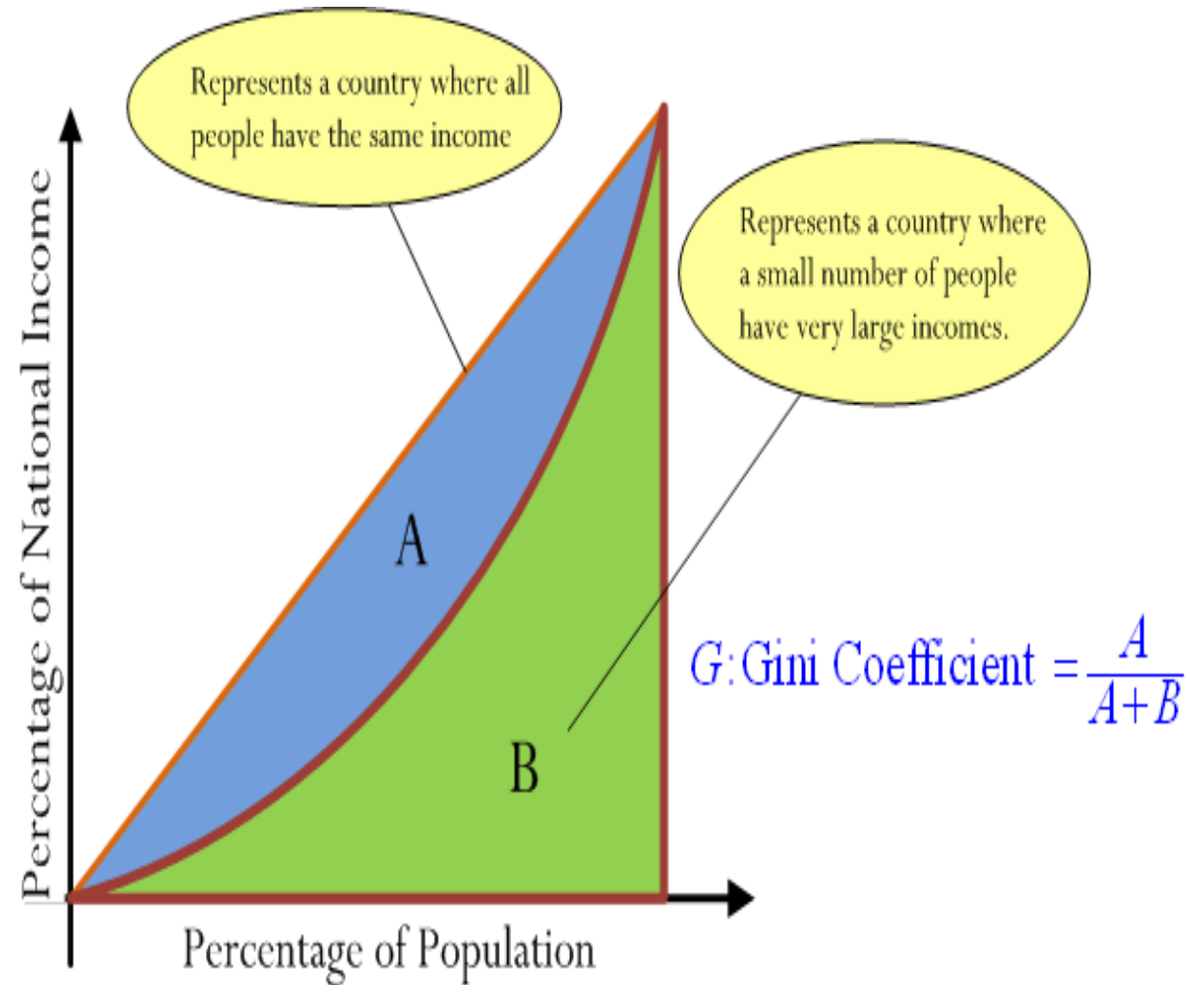
Source: Pew Research Center

# Economic inequality metrics

- Single index numbers to describe inequality (e.g. Gini index) that allow comparisons across time and geography
- Descriptions of the income/wealth distribution
  - Income amounts that define points in the income distribution, e.g. the middle, the top 5%, the top 1%
  - Share of wealth, income or income growth received by each fifth of the population
  - Ratios of the cutoffs for groups – e.g. Income amount that define the top quintile divided by the bottom quintile cutoff
- Poverty rates, poverty gaps, income to poverty ratios
- Size and/or well-being of the middle class
- Mobility – likelihood of moving up or down the income distribution

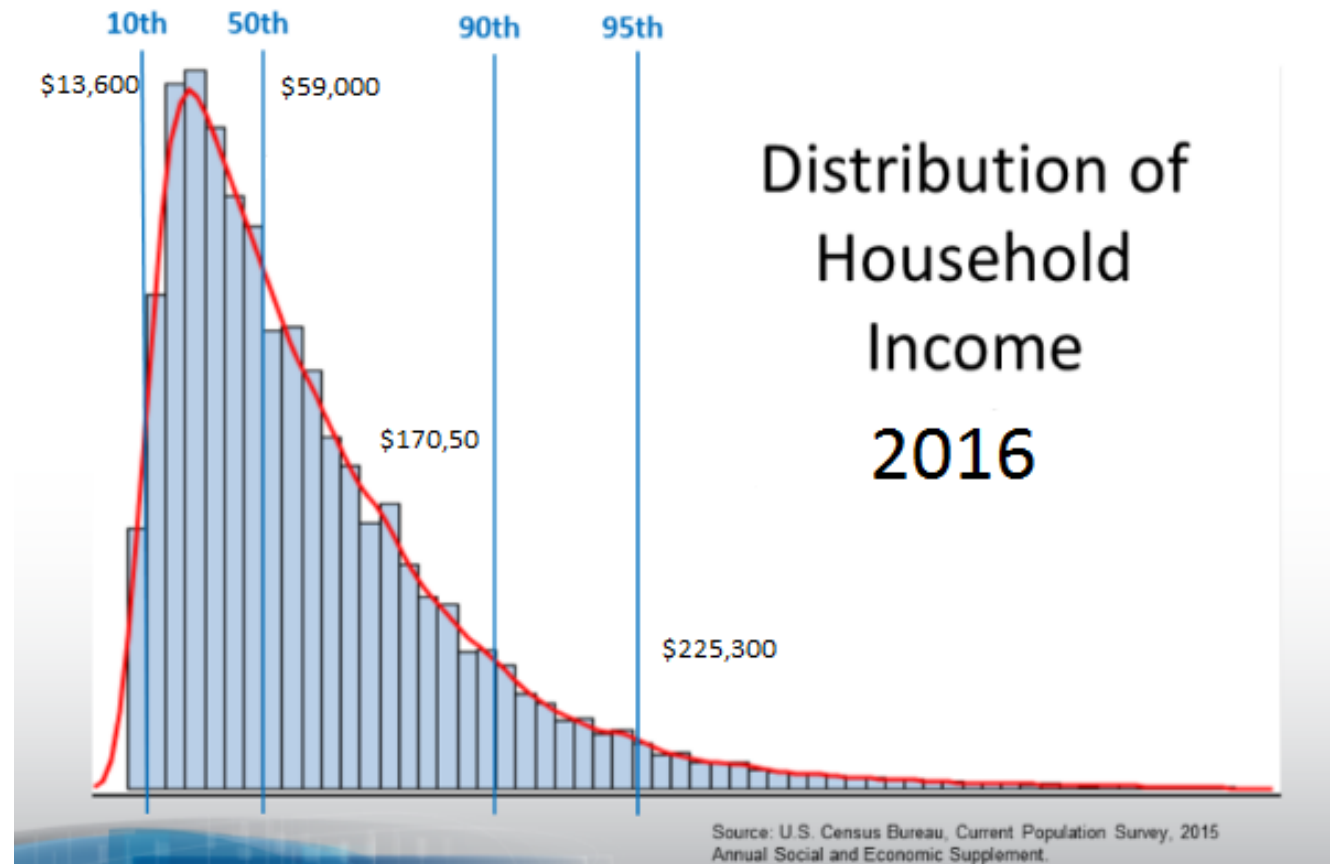
# Income inequality indices

- GINI index (2016=0.481)
  - Most commonly used measure. Area between the Lorenz curve and hypothetical line of absolute equality. (0 perfect equality, 1 perfect inequality)
- Other index numbers reported by the Census Bureau:
  - Theil index (0.425)
  - Mean logarithmic deviation of income (0.601)
  - Atkinson measures (0.103, 0.201, 0.306)



# Descriptions of the income distribution

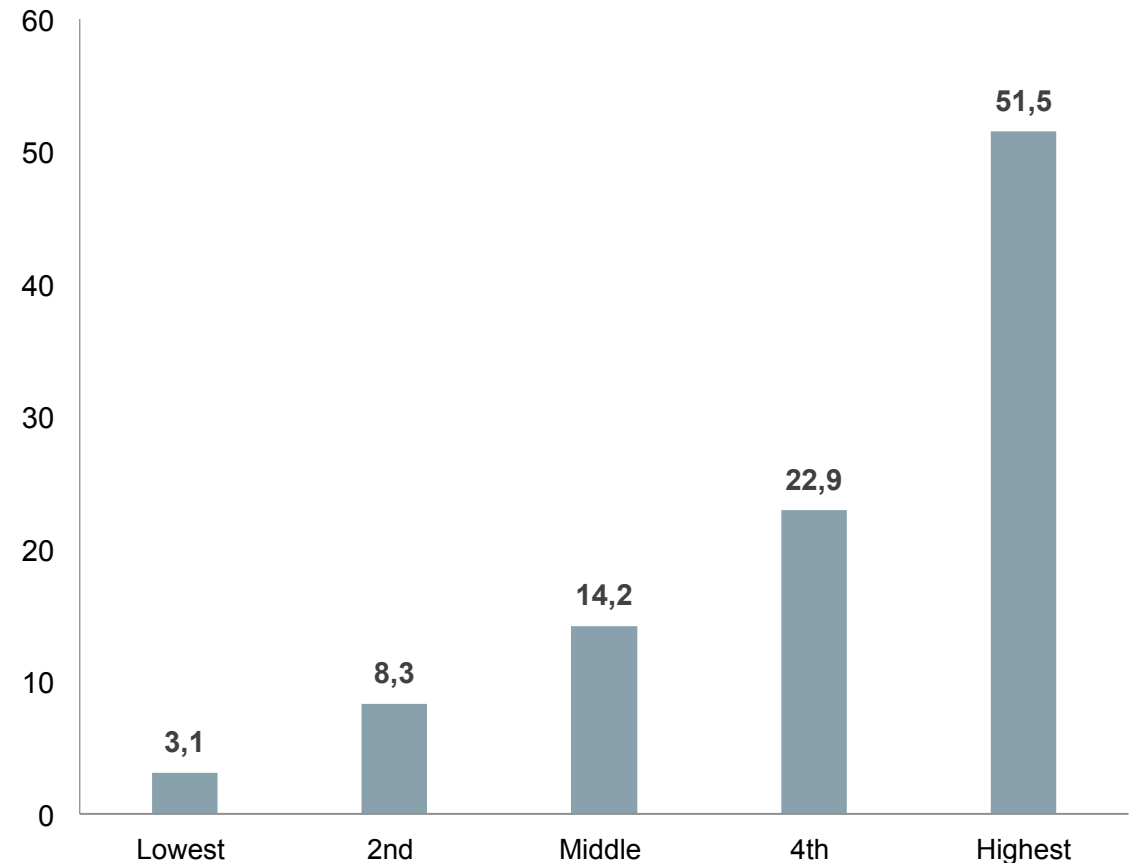
- Examine income cutoffs for each segment of the distribution: lowest quintile, median, highest quintile, 95<sup>th</sup> percentile
- Ratio of two cutoffs, 2016
  - 90<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> = 12.53
  - 95<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> = 9.38



# Inequality measures based on shares

- Shares of aggregate income received by each quintile
- Some analyses look at the share of “growth” by quintile
- SDG 10.1 indicator is growth of per capita income of the bottom 40 percent compared to per capita income growth of the total population

Share of Income by Quintile: 2016

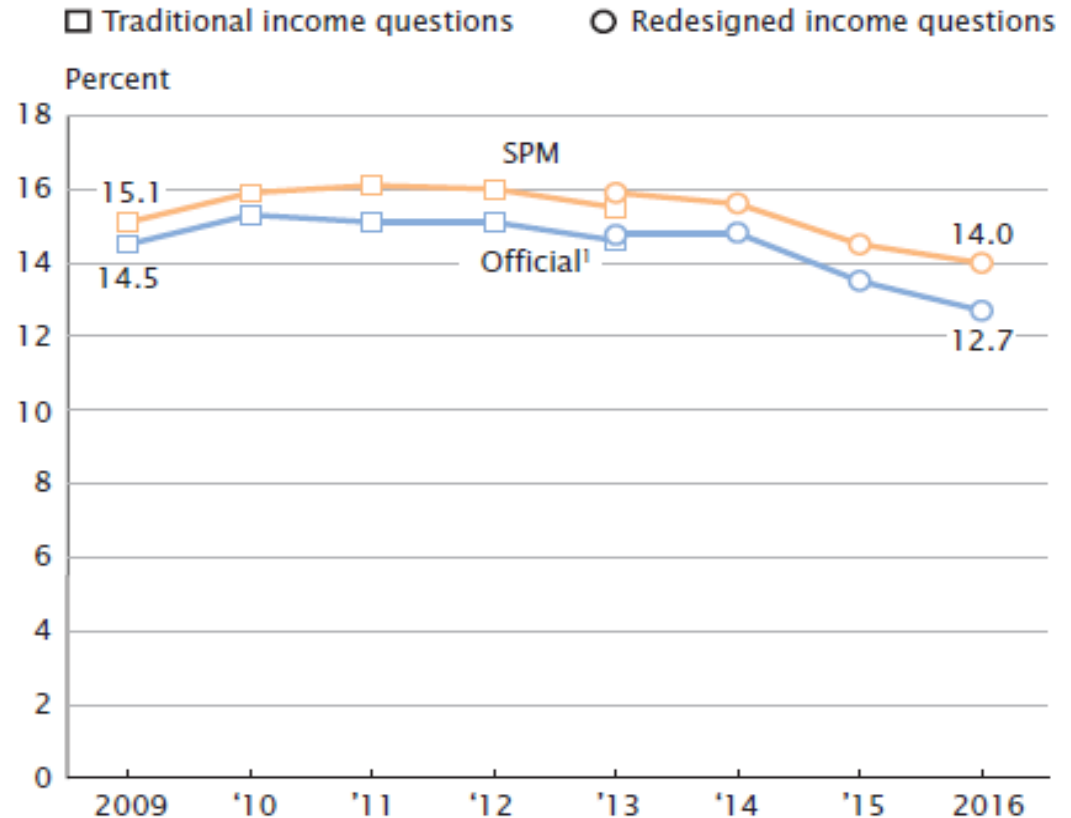


Source: Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement

# Poverty measures

- Poverty – official or supplemental poverty measures
  - Head count – how many people have income below the poverty thresholds?
  - Poverty gap – what is the difference between the poverty thresholds and income for those in poverty
  - Income-to-poverty ratios – how many people have income below 50% of poverty thresholds; below 125% of poverty thresholds, etc.
- Multi-dimensional poverty – expand concept beyond income to include health, housing, neighborhoods, educational opportunities, employment, etc.

**Poverty Rates Using the Official Measure and the SPM: 2009 to 2016**



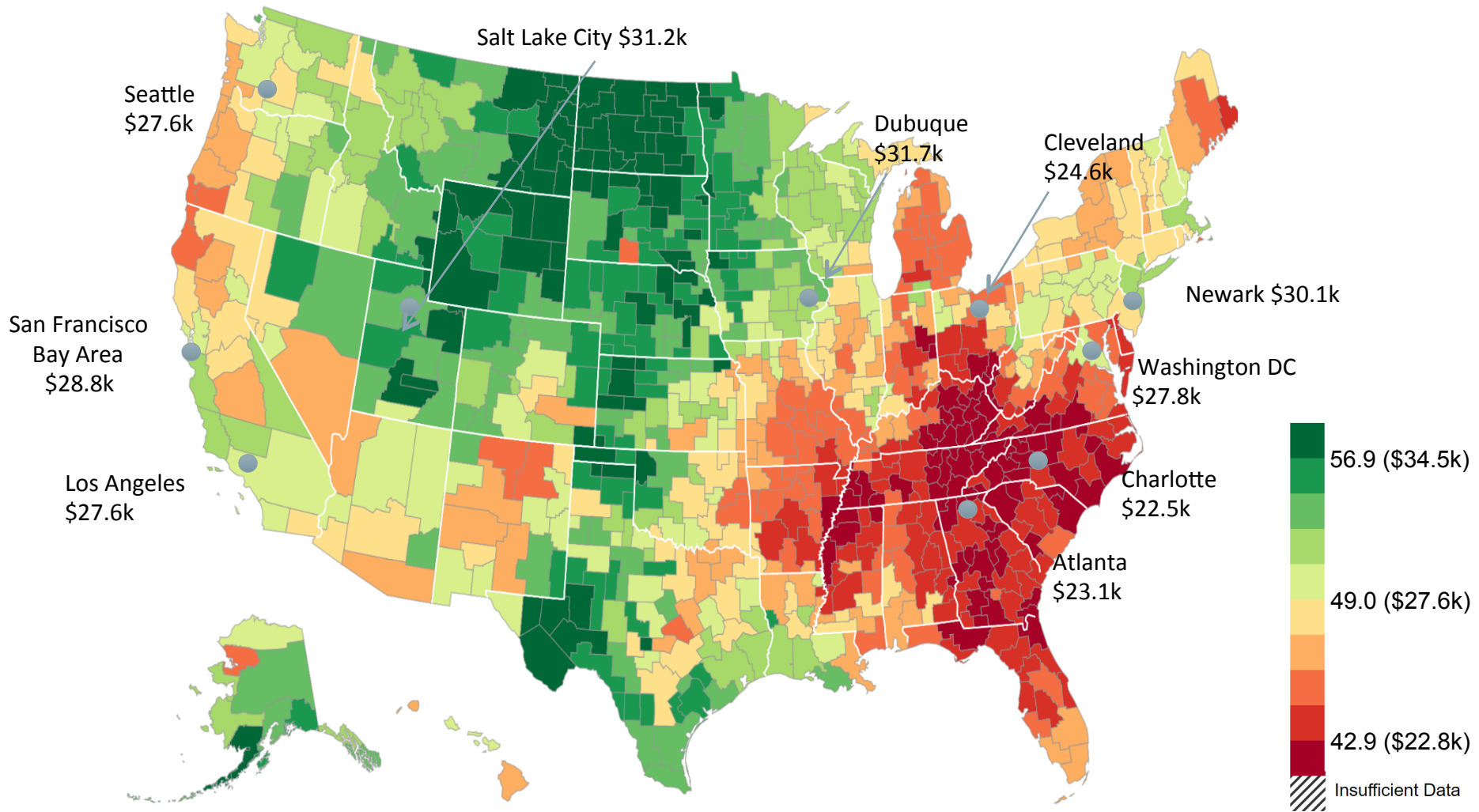
<sup>1</sup> Includes unrelated individuals under the age of 15.

Note: The data for 2013 and beyond reflect the implementation of the redesigned income questions.  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2010–2017 Annual Social and Economic Supplements.



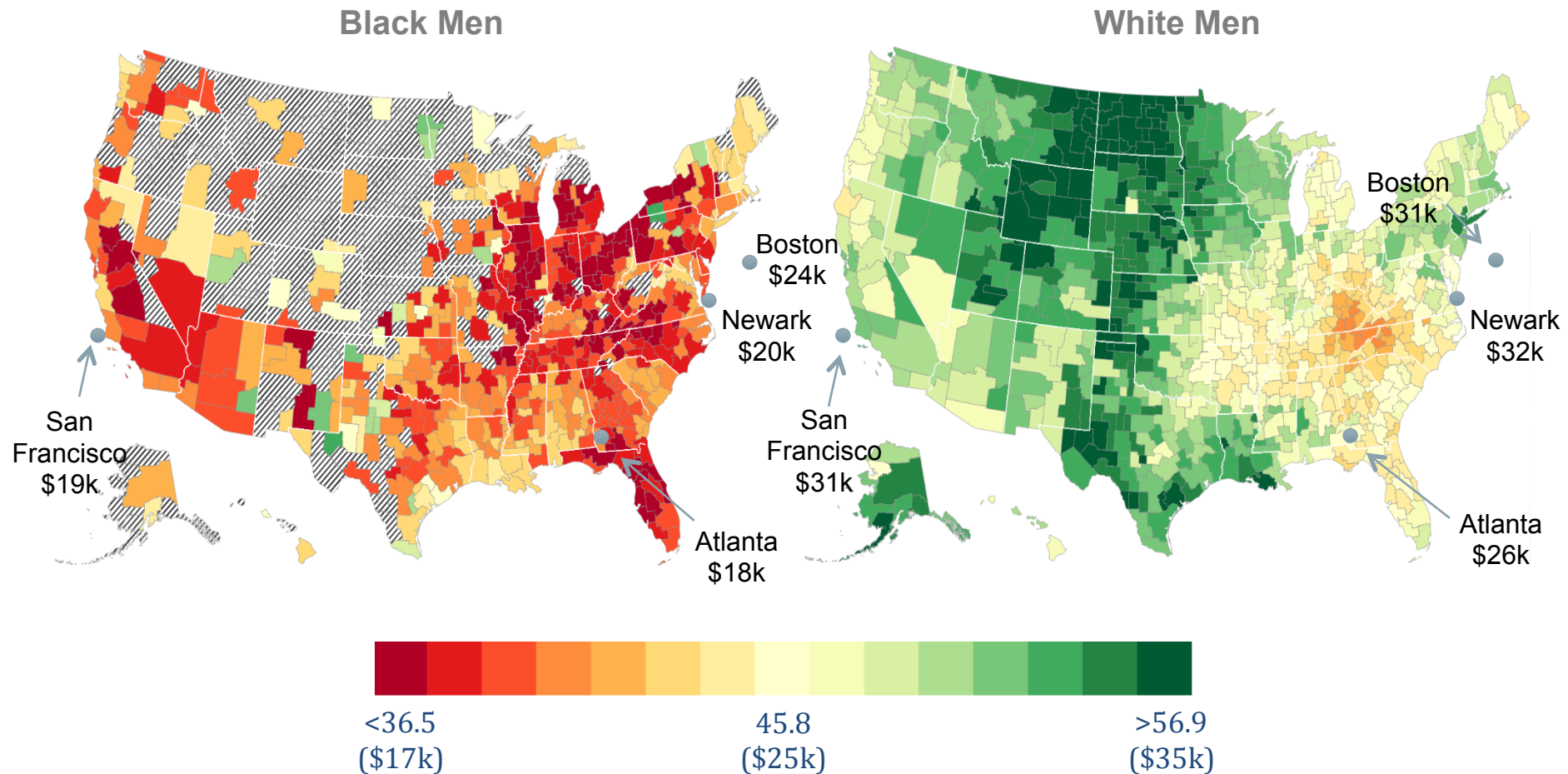
# The Geography of Upward Mobility in the United States

## Average Individual Income for Males with Parents Earning \$25,000 (25<sup>th</sup> percentile)



## Two Americas: The Geography of Upward Mobility by Race

Average Individual Income of Males with Parents Earning \$25,000 (25<sup>th</sup> percentile)

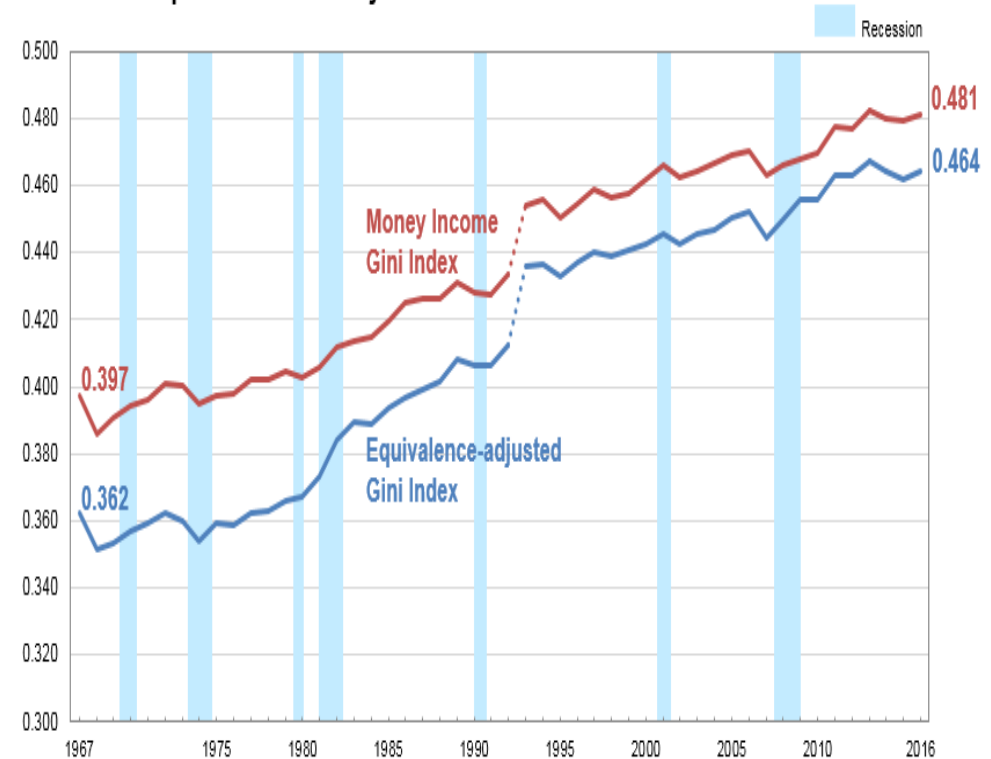


Note: Green = More Upward Mobility, Red = Less Upward Mobility; Grey = Insufficient Data

# How to measure resources?

- Income vs. wealth vs. consumption vs. earnings
- Measurement concerns
  - After tax payments and tax credits
  - Include the value of noncash benefits – e.g. SNAP, housing assistance
  - Include value of health insurance?
- Adjust for differences in family size – equivalence adjustment
- Adjust for geographic differences in the cost of living

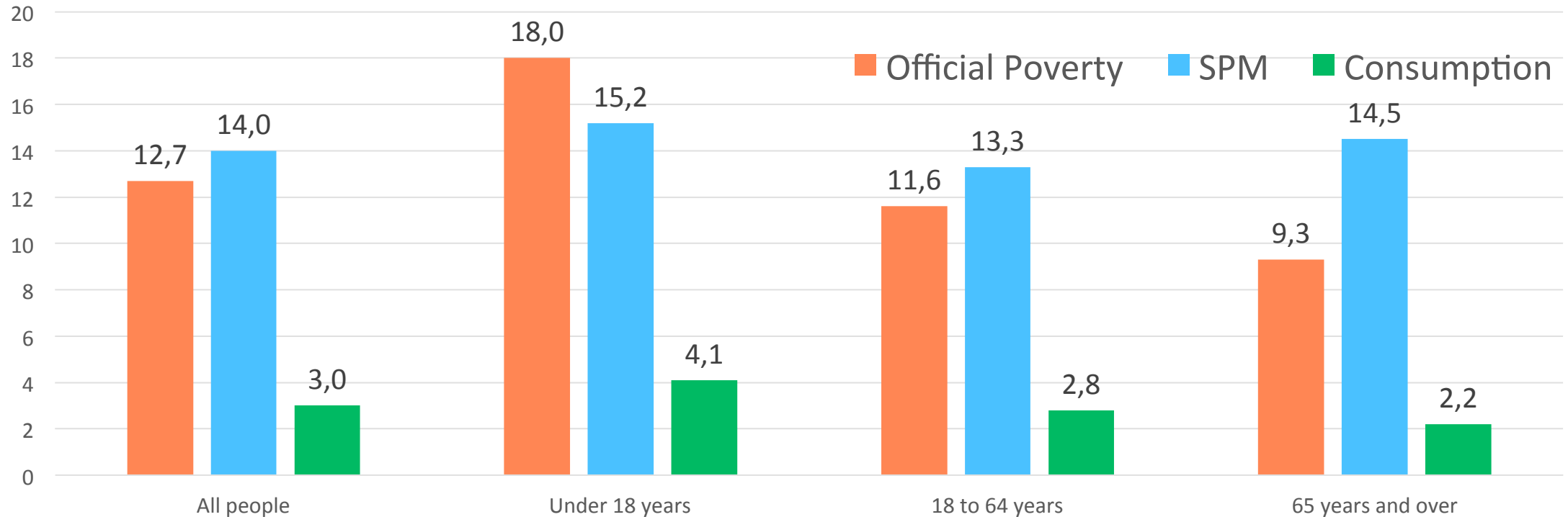
Gini Index of Money Income and Equivalence-Adjusted Income: 1967 to 2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

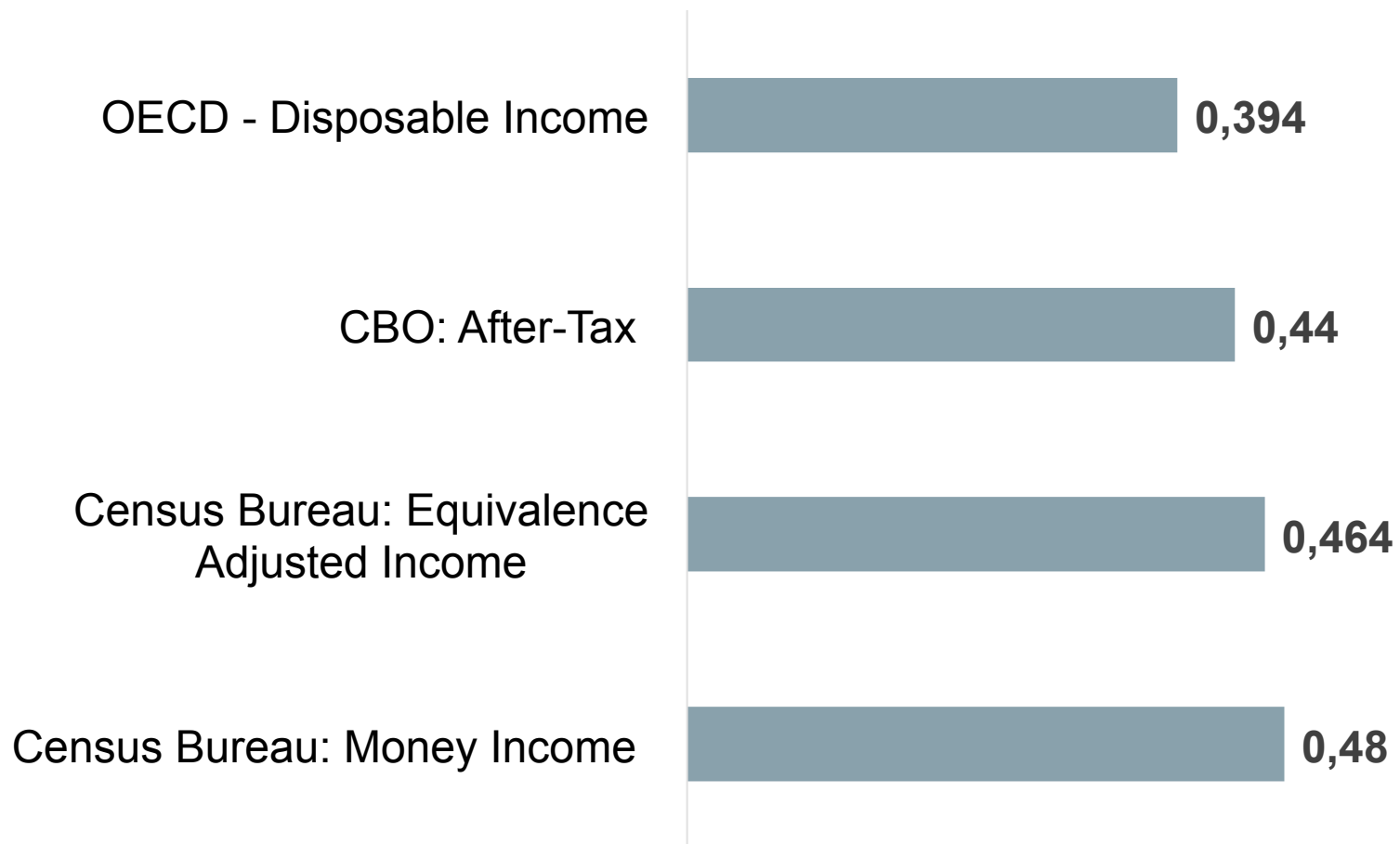
# U.S. Poverty by Different Poverty Measures: 2016

Percentage of People in Poverty by Different Poverty Measures: 2016 (In Percent)



Sources: Official and Supplemental Poverty Measure, 2017 Annual Social and Economic Supplement. Consumption poverty estimates from American Enterprise Institute, Annual Report on U.S. Consumption Poverty: 2016

## Gini Index 2014

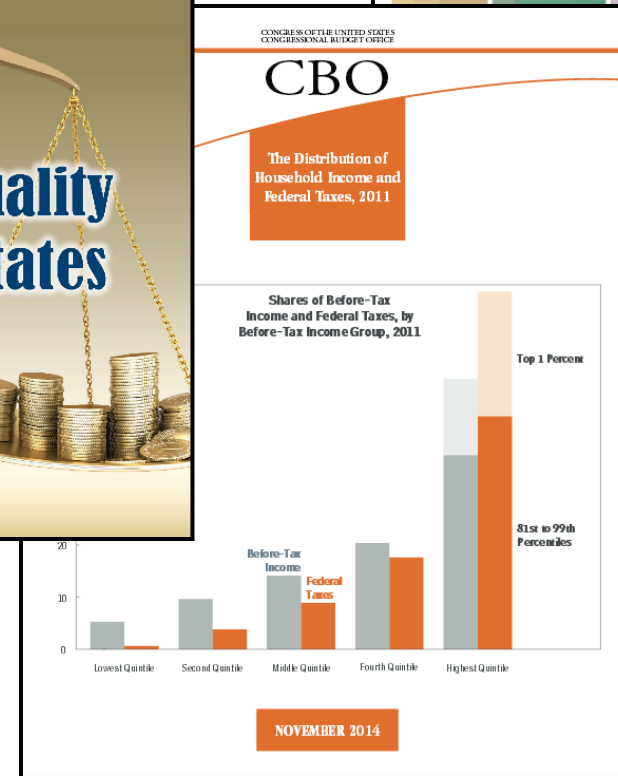
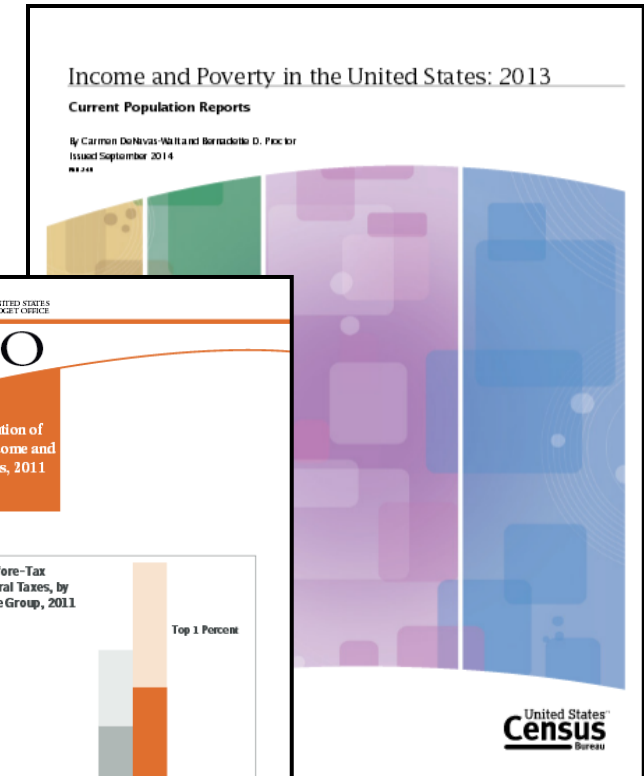
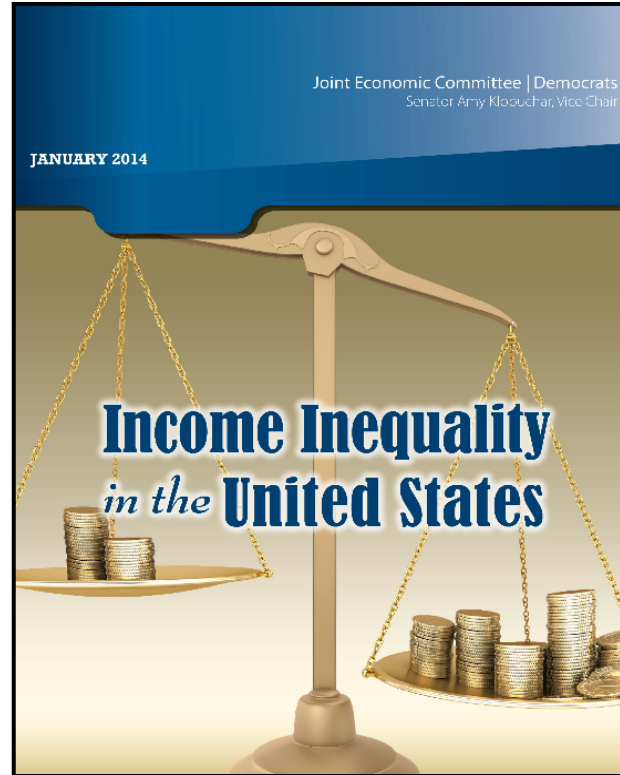


# Sources of Data

- Household surveys:
  - CPS ASEC – national data, long time series
  - American Community Survey – smaller geographies
  - Survey of Income and Program Participation - wealth
  - Consumer Expenditure Survey - consumption
  - Federal Reserve Survey of Consumer Finances - wealth
- Administrative Data
  - IRS Statistics of Income – sample of tax returns
- Bureau of Economic Analysis
  - Per capita income
  - Gross domestic product

# How we disseminate data

- Reports
- Websites
- Table packages
- Infographics
- Maps
- Tools
- Microdata files
- Application Programming Interface



# International Initiatives



# SDG 2030

<https://sdg.data.gov/>

## MEASURING AMERICA: U.S. STATISTICS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Official US Federal Statistics for the UN  
Sustainable Development Goals

**START HERE**





**THE GLOBAL GOALS**  
For Sustainable Development

[Reporting Status](#)

[U.S. Statistics](#)

[Training Materials](#)

[FAQs](#)

## Goal 10 – Reduce inequality within and among countries

★ = Updated!

★	Reported online	10.1.1 Growth rates of household expenditure or income per capita among the bottom 40 per cent of the population and the total population
	Improving measures	10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
	Improving measures	10.3.1 Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law
★	Reported online	10.4.1 Labour share of GDP, comprising wages and social protection transfers



# Goal 1 – Poner fin a la pobreza en todas sus formas en todo el mundo

★ = Actualizado!

	Explorando fuentes de datos	1.1.1 Proporción de la población que vive por debajo del umbral internacional de la pobreza, desglosada por sexo, edad, situación laboral y ubicación geográfica (urbana o rural)
★	Datos disponibles	1.2.1 Proporción de la población que vive por debajo del umbral nacional de la pobreza, desglosada por sexo y edad
	Explorando fuentes de datos	1.2.2 Proporción de hombres, mujeres y niños de todas las edades que viven en la pobreza, en todas sus dimensiones, con arreglo a las definiciones nacionales
★	Datos disponibles	1.3.1 Proporción de la población cubierta por niveles mínimos o sistemas de protección social, desglosada por sexo, distinguiendo entre los niños, los desempleados, los ancianos, las personas con discapacidad, las mujeres embarazadas, los recién nacidos, las víctimas de accidentes de trabajo y los pobres y los grupos

# UK data for Sustainable Development Goal indicators

Click on each goal, or [search](#), for UK statistics for Sustainable Development Goal global indicators.



# Percentage of people in households at risk of poverty (below 50% of median UK household income)

## Sub-categories

Choose categories from the dropdowns below to see different breakdowns of the data. Some will not be available until a higher level is chosen.

Click on the legend to remove individual lines from the chart.

Clear selections ✕

Age ▼

Select all Clear all

16 to 24

25 to 49

50 to 64

65 to 74

75 and over

Under 16

Sex ▼

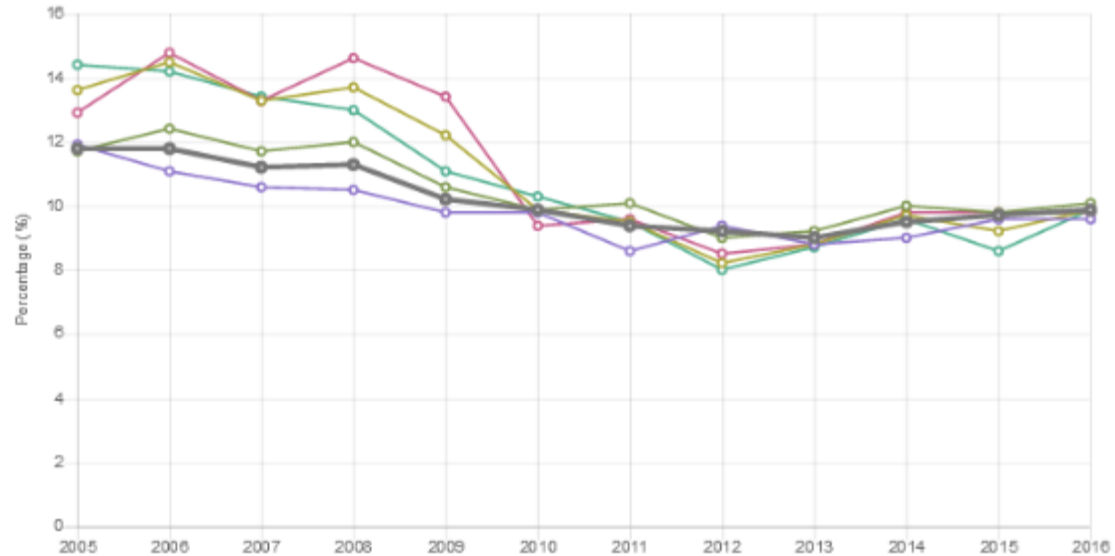
Select all Clear all

Female

Male

Chart Table

Percentage of people in households at risk of poverty (below 50% of median UK household income)



Source: Eurostat  
 Geographical Area: United Kingdom  
 Unit of Measurement: Percentage (%)

United Kingdom Female Male Under 16 Under 16, Female Under 16, Male

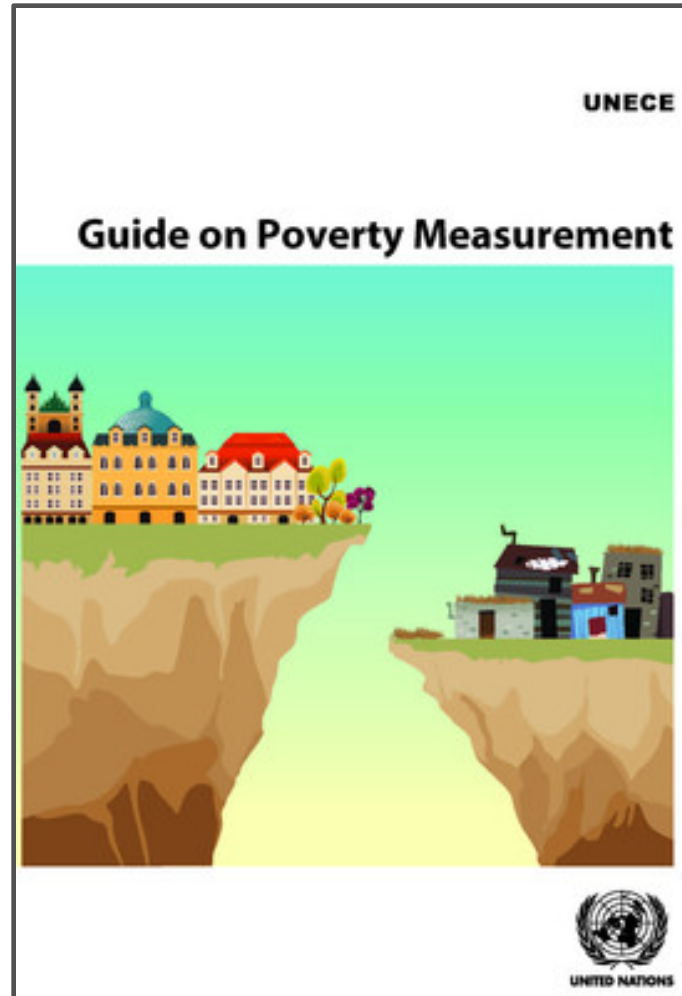
[Download Chart CSV](#) [Download Source CSV](#)

[National Metadata](#) [Global Metadata](#) [Sources](#)

# UNECE Expert Task Force on Poverty and Inequality

- Annual meetings with other poverty and inequality measurement experts:
  - Geneva – 2016
  - Montenegro – 2017
  - Vienna – 2018
- Opportunity to share experiences and challenges with colleagues from many different countries
- Other international initiatives:
  - UN Expert Group Meeting on Time Use Statistics
  - OECD/OCDE data base
  - Eurostat/OECD Expert Group on Income, Consumption and Wealth

# Guide on Poverty Measurement



- Chapter 1 – Introduction
- Chapter 2 – Overview of poverty and related concepts
- Chapter 3 – Income and consumption expenditure measures
- Chapter 4 – Non-monetary deprivations
- Chapter 5 – Multi-dimensional poverty
- Chapter 6 – Challenges for the future

# Task Force on Disaggregated Poverty Measures

- Introduction: measurement of poverty for policy relevant target groups
- Standard core variables for disaggregation
- Addressing coverage problems in poverty measurement
- Improving response rates and sampling precision for target groups
- Improving accuracy of measurement
- Summary of recommendations on the production, analysis and dissemination of disaggregated indicators
- Topics for further work



# OECD/OCDE

- Contribute to the OECD Database

## Income inequality

### Related topics

[Society](#)

### Latest publication

[In It Together: Why Less Inequality Benefits All](#)

PUBLICATION (2015)

Income is defined as household disposable income in a particular year. It consists of earnings, self-employment and capital income and public cash transfers; income taxes and social security contributions paid by households are deducted. The income of the household is attributed to each of its members, with an adjustment to reflect differences in needs for households of different sizes. Income inequality

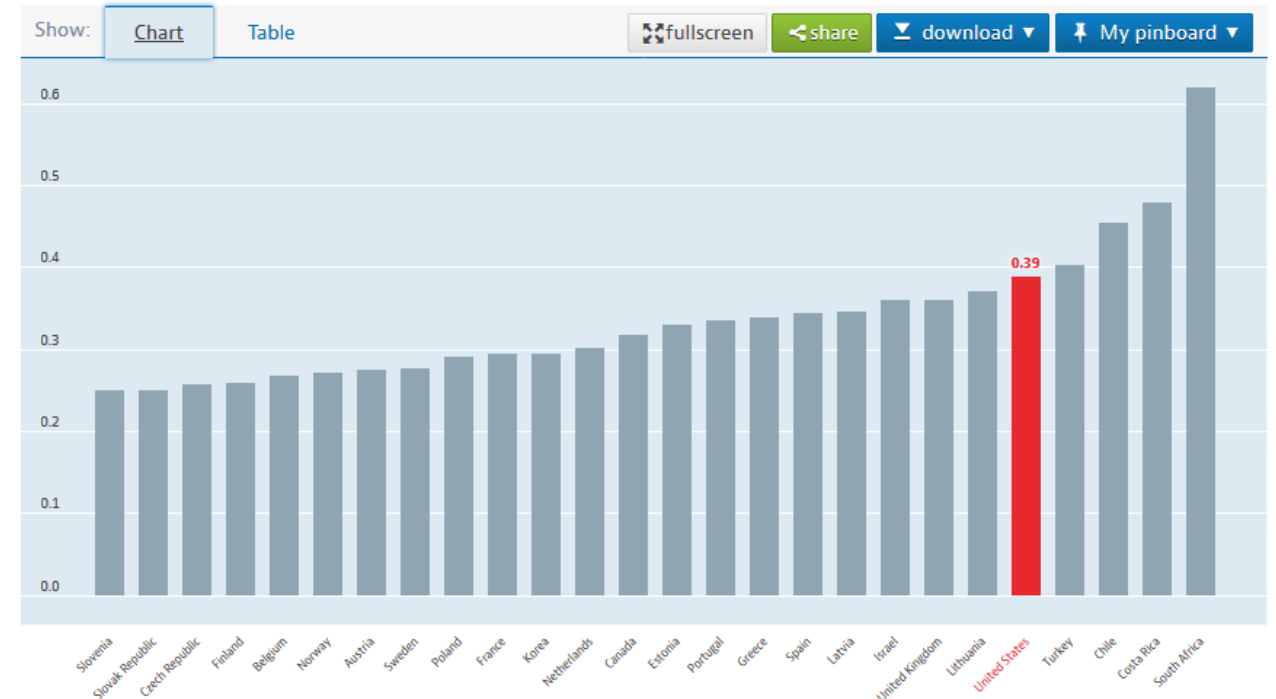
[» More ...](#)

### Indicators

- Income inequality
- Poverty rate
- Poverty gap
- Discriminatory family code
- Violence against women
- Women in politics
- Social Institutions and Gender

### Income inequality Gini coefficient, 0 = complete equality; 1 = complete inequality, 2015

Source: Income distribution



# Contact Information

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301-763-5133

# Government Reports on Income and Wealth Inequality:

- Census Bureau: Income and Poverty in the United States (September 2017).  
<https://www.census.gov/library/publications/2017/demo/p60-259.html>
- Congressional Budget Office: The Distribution of Household Income and Federal Taxes, 2014 (November 2014). Combines Census and SOI data.  
<https://www.cbo.gov/publication/53597>
- Internal Revenue Service - Individual Income Tax Return (Form 1040) Statistics. (Spring 2015).  
<http://www.irs.gov/uac/SOI-Tax-Stats-Individual-Income-Tax>Returns>
- Joint Economic Committee: Income Inequality in the United States (January 2014).  
[http://www.jec.senate.gov/public/\\_cache/files/04a5e372-05d5-4f06-a95e-ed43027c6cd/inequality-report--01-16-2014.pdf](http://www.jec.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/04a5e372-05d5-4f06-a95e-ed43027c6cd/inequality-report--01-16-2014.pdf)
- U.S. Department of Commerce: Middle Class in America (January 2010).  
<http://www.esa.doc.gov/sites/default/files/middleclassreport.pdf>
- Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System: Report on the Economic Well-Being of U.S. Households in 2017 (May 2018).  
<https://www.federalreserve.gov/publications/files/2017-report-economic-well-being-us-households-201805.pdf>
- Bureau of Labor Statistics: A look at pay at the top, the bottom, and in between (May 2015).  
<http://www.bls.gov/spotlight/2015/a-look-at-pay-at-the-top-the-bottom-and-in-between/home.htm>

# International Reports on Income and Wealth Inequality:

- Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) In It Together Why Less Inequality Benefits All.

<http://www.oecd.org/els/soc/OECD2015-In-It-Together-Chapter1-Overview-Inequality.pdf>

- The World Bank, Taking on Inequality: Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2016

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/poverty-and-shared-prosperity>

- World Inequality Lab, World Inequality Report, 2018

<http://wir2018.wid.world/files/download/wir2018-full-report-english.pdf>

# Tables:

- Census Bureau – income and poverty websites. Include detailed tables for each year and historical tables

<https://www.census.gov/topics/income-poverty.html>

- Internal Revenue Service – Statistics of income

<http://www.irs.gov/uac/SOI-Tax-Stats-Individual-Income-Tax>Returns>

- Bureau of Economic Analysis – Personal income

<http://www.bea.gov/itable/index.cfm>

- Bureau of Labor Statistics – Consumer expenditures

<https://www.bls.gov/cex/tables.htm>

# Census Bureau Data Tools:

- American Factfinder – ACS Data  
<http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>
  - Median household/family income
  - Poverty rates/Gini coefficients
- CPS ASEC Table Creator  
<http://www.census.gov/cps/data/cpstablecreator.html>
  - Customize income definitions
  - Poverty rates/median income
- Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates  
<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe.html>
- Poverty rates by county 1959-2010  
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/data/census/Poverty-Rates-by-County-1960-2010.xlsm>
- Census Application Programming Interface (API)  
<http://www.census.gov/developers/>

# Inequality Maps:

- <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2013/09/19/watch-the-growth-of-u-s-income-inequality-with-this-animated-map/>
- <http://www.reuters.com/subjects/income-inequality>
- <http://www.bloomberg.com/infographics/2014-05-12/income-inequality-map.html>
- <http://www.movoto.com/blog/opinions/income-inequality-map/>
- [http://www.nytimes.com/2015/03/31/upshot/income-inequality-its-also-bad-for-your-health.html?\\_r=0&abt=0002&abg=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/03/31/upshot/income-inequality-its-also-bad-for-your-health.html?_r=0&abt=0002&abg=0)
- <http://www.citylab.com/work/2014/05/mapping-three-decades-income-inequality-state-state/9067/>

# Infographics:

- [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/06/12/inequality-us-\\_n\\_3421381.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/06/12/inequality-us-_n_3421381.html)
- <http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2011/02/income-inequality-in-america-chart-graph>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QPkkQnijnsM>
- <http://www.ibtimes.com/infographic-data-income-inequality-us-do-not-paint-pretty-picture-1540868>
- <http://budgetandpolicy.org/schmudget/infographic-income-inequality-is-pulling-washington-state-apart>
- <http://randycoffeyillustration.com/wp-content/uploads/the-distribution-of-wealth-in-the-u.s.pdf>
- <http://www.business2community.com/infographics/defining-americas-future-rising-inequality-01030632>
- <http://visual.ly/inequality-wealth>

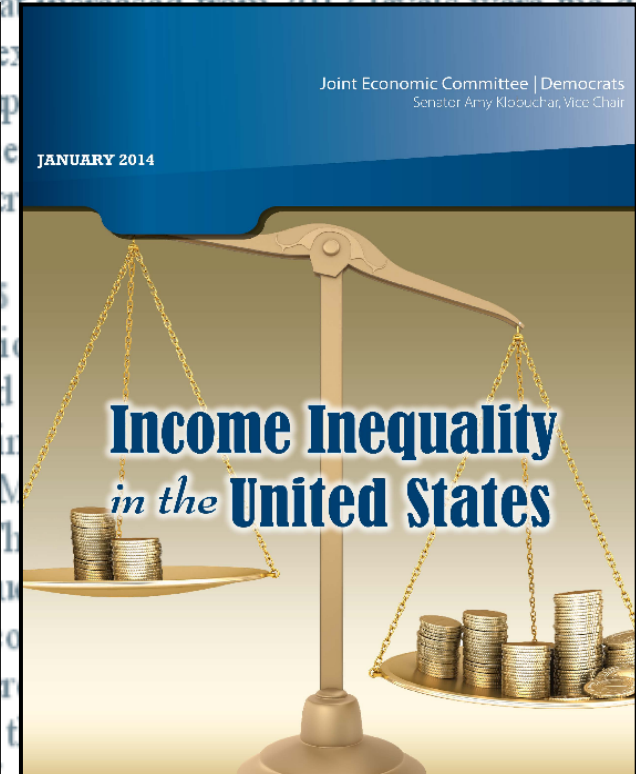
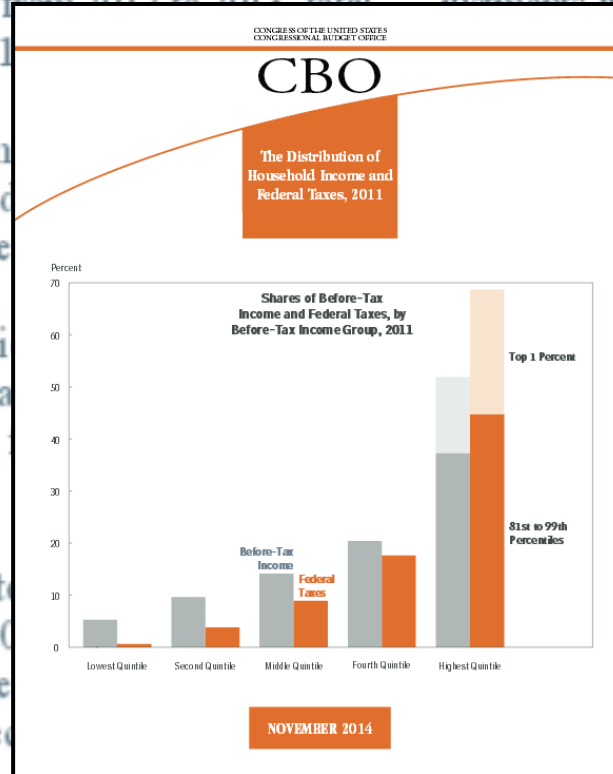


# Inequality Related Websites:

- <http://inequality.is/real> (Economic Policy Institute)
- <http://inequality.org>
- <http://www.equality-of-opportunity.org/>
- <http://wealthinequality.org/>
- <http://www.oecd.org/inequality.htm>

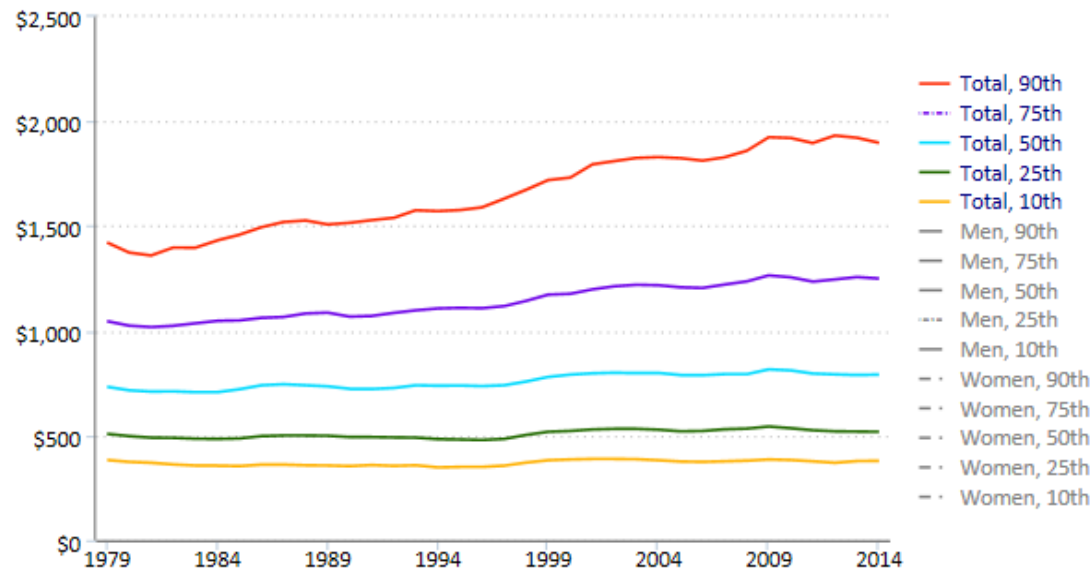
For Tax Year 2013, taxpayers filed 147.7 million U.S. individual income tax returns, an increase of 1.9 percent from the 144.9 million returns filed for Tax Year 2012. Several notable items showed increases in 2013. While AGI and taxable income both increased just 0.8 percent from 2012 to 2013, total

self-employment health insurance deduction grew to \$1.1 billion, a 6.0-percent increase. Payments to self-employment (Keogh) plans rose 4.9 percent to \$20.2 billion, while payments to IRAs increased 10.1 percent to \$13.3 billion. Investments that increased from 2012 levels were the de



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

### Selected percentiles of usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers age 16 and older, in 2014 dollars, 1979–2014



Click legend items to change data display. Hover over chart to view data.  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

[View Chart Data](#)

## Real earnings increased for highest earners since 1979, unchanged for lowest earners

In 2014, median weekly earnings for full-time wage and salary workers age 16 and older were \$791. That means that half of these workers earned at least \$791 per week and half earned less than that amount. In 1979, median weekly earnings in 2014 dollars were \$733. So what we call “real” or inflation-adjusted median weekly earnings increased by about 8 percent over that 35-year span. Over that same period, real earnings for the the highest paid 10 percent of workers—those whose earnings were at or above the 90th percentile—increased from a minimum of \$1,422 per week in 1979 to \$1,898 per week in 2014, a gain of 33 percent. By contrast, real weekly earnings for the lowest paid 10 percent of workers (or those whose earnings are below the 10th percentile) were basically unchanged over the period, as these workers earned less than \$383 per week in 1979 and less than \$379 per week in 2014.

Women’s real median weekly earnings

## Selected Measures of Household Income Dispersion: 1967 to 2016

(Income in 2016 CPI-U-RS adjusted dollars. Beginning with 2010, standard errors were calculated using replicate weights. For further explanatory measures, see Current Population Reports, Series P60-204, *The Changing Shape of the Nation's Income Distribution: 1947-1998*. For informal protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar17.pdf](http://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar17.pdf))

Measures of income dispersion	2016	2015	2014	2013 <sup>1</sup>	2013 <sup>2</sup>	2012	2011	2010 <sup>3</sup>	2009 <sup>4</sup>	
<b>MEASURE</b>										
<b>Household Income at Selected Percentiles</b>										
10th percentile limit .....	13,608	13,427	12,445	12,570	12,778	12,791	12,802	13,057	13,558	
20th percentile limit .....	24,002	23,088	21,728	21,638	21,535	21,533	21,617	22,017	22,890	
40th percentile limit .....	45,600	44,061	41,754	42,282	41,408	41,568	41,096	41,832	43,124	
50th (median) .....	59,039	57,230	54,398	55,214	53,518	53,331	53,401	54,245	55,683	
60th percentile limit .....	74,869	72,911	69,153	69,242	67,482	67,511	66,609	67,702	69,134	
80th percentile limit .....	121,018	118,480	113,811	113,582	109,129	108,818	108,375	110,116	111,865	
90th percentile limit .....	170,536	164,229	159,652	160,150	154,559	152,623	153,214	152,772	153,963	
95th percentile limit .....	225,251	217,172	209,419	211,362	201,957	199,827	198,438	198,686	201,359	
<b>Household Income Ratios of Selected Percentiles</b>										
90th/10th .....	12.53									
95th/20th .....	9.38									
95th/50th .....	3.82									
80th/50th .....	2.05									
80th/20th .....	5.04									
20th/50th .....	0.41									
<b>Mean Household Income of Quintiles</b>										
Lowest quintile .....	12,943									
Second quintile .....	34,504									
Third quintile .....	59,149									
Fourth quintile .....	95,178									
Highest quintile .....	213,941									
Top 5 percent .....	375,088									
<b>Shares of Household Income of Quintiles</b>										
Lowest quintile .....	3.1									
Second quintile .....	8.3									
Third quintile .....	14.2									
Fourth quintile .....	22.9									
Highest quintile .....	51.5									
Top 5 percent .....	22.6									

TABLE	
<a href="#">IE-1</a>	Selected Measures of Household Income Dispersion [PDF]
<a href="#">IE-2</a>	Measures of Individual Earnings Inequality for Full-Time Year-R
<a href="#">H-1 All Races</a>	Income Limits for Each Fifth and Top 5 Percent of Households
<a href="#">H-1 White</a>	Income Limits for Each Fifth and Top 5 Percent of White House
<a href="#">H-1 White, Not Hispanic</a>	Income Limits for Each Fifth and Top 5 Percent of White, Not H
<a href="#">H-1 Black</a>	Income Limits for Each Fifth and Top 5 Percent of Black House
<a href="#">H-1 Asian</a>	Income Limits for Each Fifth and Top 5 Percent of Asian House
<a href="#">H-1 Hispanic</a>	Income Limits for Each Fifth and Top 5 Percent of Hispanic (of
<a href="#">H-2 All Races</a>	Share of Aggregate Income Received by Each Fifth and Top 5
<a href="#">H-2 White</a>	Share of Aggregate Income Received by Each Fifth and Top 5
<a href="#">H-2 White, Not Hispanic</a>	Share of Aggregate Income Received by Each Fifth and Top 5
<a href="#">H-2 Black</a>	Share of Aggregate Income Received by Each Fifth and Top 5
<a href="#">H-2 Asian</a>	Share of Aggregate Income Received by Each Fifth and Top 5
<a href="#">H-2 Hispanic</a>	Share of Aggregate Income Received by Each Fifth and Top 5
<a href="#">H-3 All Races</a>	Mean Household Income Received by Each Fifth and Top 5 Pe
<a href="#">H-3 White</a>	Mean Household Income Received by Each Fifth and Top 5 Pe
<a href="#">H-3 White, Not Hispanic</a>	Mean Household Income Received by Each Fifth and Top 5 Pe
<a href="#">H-3 Black</a>	Mean Household Income Received by Each Fifth and Top 5 Pe
<a href="#">H-3 Asian</a>	Mean Household Income Received by Each Fifth and Top 5 Pe

### Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates

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SAIPE Map Table Trends

#### Ages 5 to 17 in Families in Poverty

Year	ID	Name	Grade	Total Population	Relevant Ages 5 to 17	Relevant Ages 5 to 17 in Families in Poverty	Relevant Ages 5 to 17 Ratio	Reference Map
2013	0600001	Acton-Agua Dulce Unified School District	KG-12	12,864	2,024	324	16.0	Map
2013	0600006	Ross Valley Elementary School District	KG-08	24,024	2,888	229	7.9	Map
2013	0600005	Cuyama Joint Unified School District	KG-12	1,188	235	61	26.0	Map
2013	0600011	Fort Sage Unified School District (CA)	KG-12	3,064	308	37	12.0	Map
2013	0600017	Twin Ridges Elementary School District	KG-08	2,530	197	54	27.4	Map
2013	0600013	Rocklin Unified School District (CA)	KG-12	59,643	12,140	931	7.7	Map
2013	0600014	Hesperia Unified School District (CA)	KG-12	102,040	23,012	6,142	26.7	Map
2013	0600014	Lucerne Valley Unified School District	KG-12	6,843	1,140	257	22.5	Map
2013	0600014	Upland Unified School District (CA)	KG-12	75,438	13,010	2,097	16.1	Map
2013	0600017	Apple Valley Unified School District (KG-12)	KG-12	79,722	15,649	3,984	25.5	Map
2013	0600018	Mountain Valley Unified School District	KG-12	3,037	365	150	41.1	Map
2013	0600015	Dublin Unified School District (CA)	KG-12	47,729	6,915	389	5.6	Map
2013	0600020	Pleasanton Unified School District (KG-12)	KG-12	73,927	15,331	713	4.7	Map
2013	0600021	Sunol Glen Unified School District (C)	KG-12	988	127	8	6.3	Map
2012	0600022	Meadowdale Unified School District (CA)	KG-12	12,626	2,828	1,638	57.4	Map

United States Census Bureau

Search

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### DataFerrett

DataFerrett is a data analysis and extraction tool to customize federal, state, and local data to suit your requirements. Using DataFerrett, you can develop an unlimited array of customized spreadsheets that are as versatile and complex as your usage demands then turn those spreadsheets into graphs and maps without any additional software.

What you should check before getting started:

- ✓ Java Installed: [Check your version](#) or [Download the latest version](#)
- ✓ Allow Pop-ups
- ✓ Run in IE/Firefox



DATAFERRETT

- DataFerrett Home
- Getting Started
- About the Datasets
- User Resources
- FAQs
- Launch DataFerrett

### CPS Table Creator

Table Criteria: Get Table Clear Form

Data Options

Get Count of: Persons - All

Number of Years: 1 Latest Year: 2014

One Table Showing Multi-Year Averages  
 Separate Table For Each Year

Census 2010 Weights

Define Your Table

Statistics

Customized Formatting

Get Table Clear Form Hide Panel

Filters/Subsets: Help

All States All Sexes All Races All Origins All Nationalities Full/Part Time


All Worker Status

The CPS Table Creator gives you the ability to create customized tables from the Current Population Survey's Annual Social and Economic Supplement.

- Complete the form to the left and press the "Get Table" button at the top or bottom of the form to create your table.
- To create a table, you must make one or more selections in the Define Your Table section. For all other sections, you may use the default selections or enter alternate selections to customize the table to meet your needs.
- For help in getting started, see the [detailed examples](#) of completing the form to create a table.

Disclaimer:  
 While tabulations may be conceptually the same as published estimates, in many cases they will not exactly match published estimates because the Table Creator uses the CPS public use file. The CPS public use file lacks some of the detailed income information, topcodes several categories of income, and suppresses some geographic identifiers in order to protect survey confidentiality.

\* This tool is best viewed with normal font settings and in the Firefox web browser.



AMERICAN FactFinder

GUIDED SEARCH ADVANCED SEARCH DOWNLOAD CENTER

A preview version of the U.S. Census Bureau's newly designed website for the American Community Survey (ACS) is now available.

### Community Facts


Find popular facts (population, income, etc.) and frequently requested data about your community.

Enter a state, county, city, town, or zip code:  
 e.g., Atlanta, GA GO

### Guided Search

### Advanced Search

### Download Center

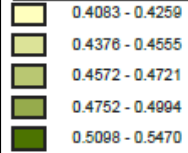


Popular Tables

- Population and Housing
  - Annual Population Estimates (2014 PER, PE9ANNRES)
  - Demographic and Housing Estimates (2013 ACS, DP05)
  - General Housing Characteristics (2013 ACS, DP04)
  - General Demographic Characteristics (2010 Census, DP-1)
- Poverty and Income
  - General Economic Characteristics (2013 ACS, DP03)
- Age, Race, Sex and Education
  - Selected Social Characteristics (2013 ACS, DP02)
  - Educational Attainment (2013 ACS, S1501)

**Legend:**

**Data Classes**



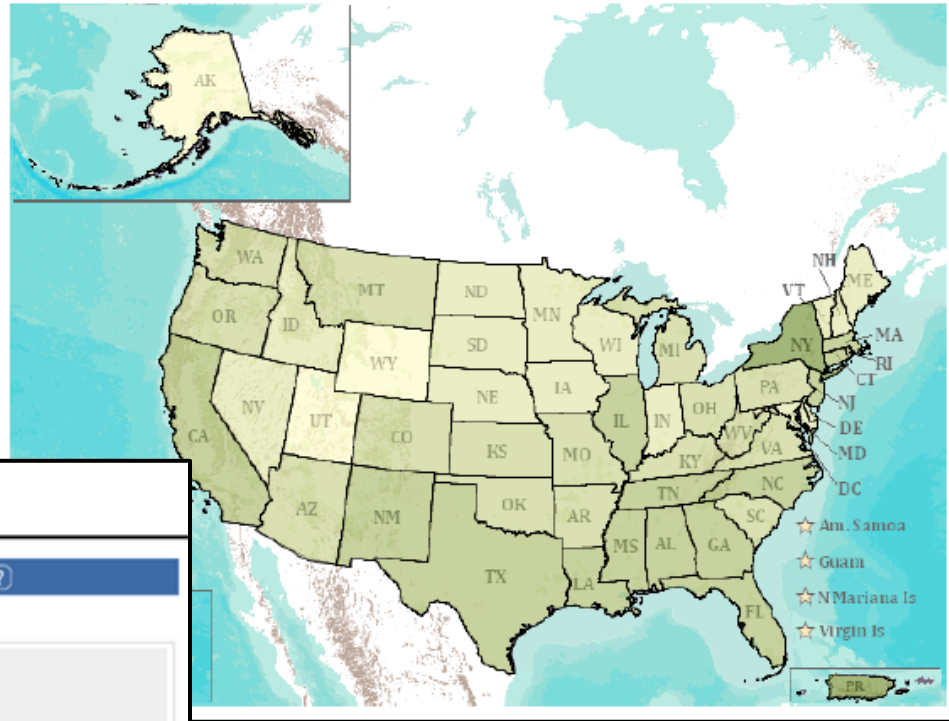
**Boundaries**

- State
- \*13 County

**Features**

- Major Road
- Street
- Stream/Waterbody

*Items in gray text are not visible at this zoom level.*



### Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates

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SAIPE Map Table Trends

Poverty Rates or Income:

- All Ages (state/county)
- Under Age 18 (state/county)
- Ages 5 to 17 in Families (state/county)
- Ages 5 to 17 in Families (school district)
- Under Age 5 (state)
- Median Household Income (state/county)

Filter By:

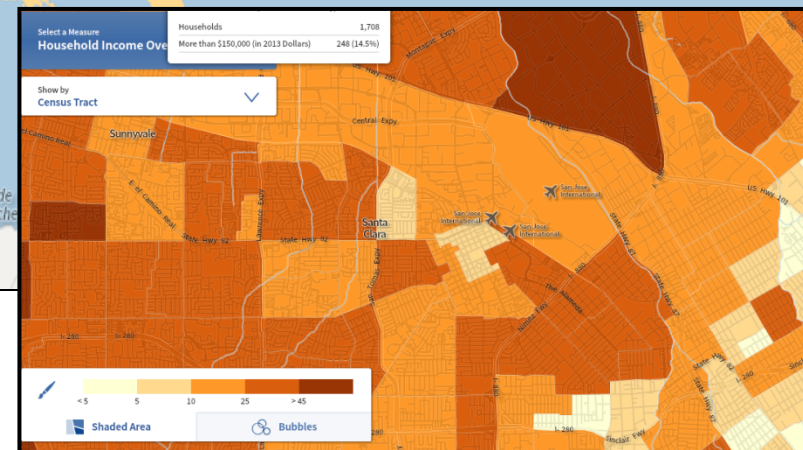
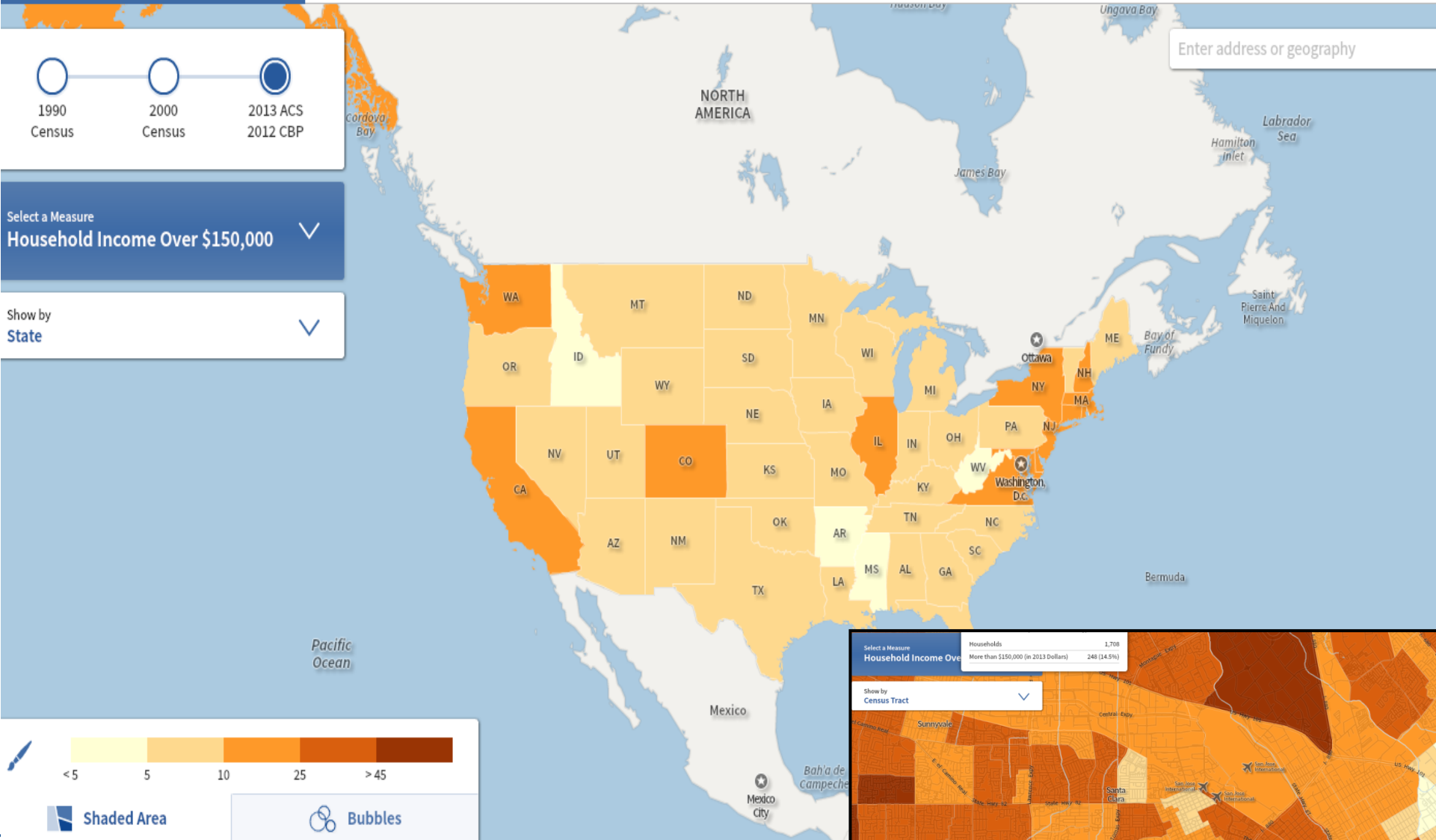
- States: -All-
- Counties: -All-
- Geography: County
- Year: 2013

Reset

Note: You can select items on the map and then look at just those entries on the Table or Trend pages. Use the area selector tool on the toolbar and drag around the areas you wish to select.

#### 2013 All Ages in Poverty

Filter Data: 3.0% - 55.1%



[COMPARE AND CONTRAST STATES](#)[THE GROWTH OF INEQUALITY](#)[LISTS AND RANKINGS](#)

## SEE INEQUALITY GROW

[CREDITS & INFO](#)

Explore how income inequality has worsened, median income has fallen and poverty has risen over time

The 51 circles represent each state and the District of Columbia. They're sized according to degree of inequality (smaller is better); median income (bigger is better); or poverty rate (smaller is better). Hover over or tap a circle to see underlying data.

### Year

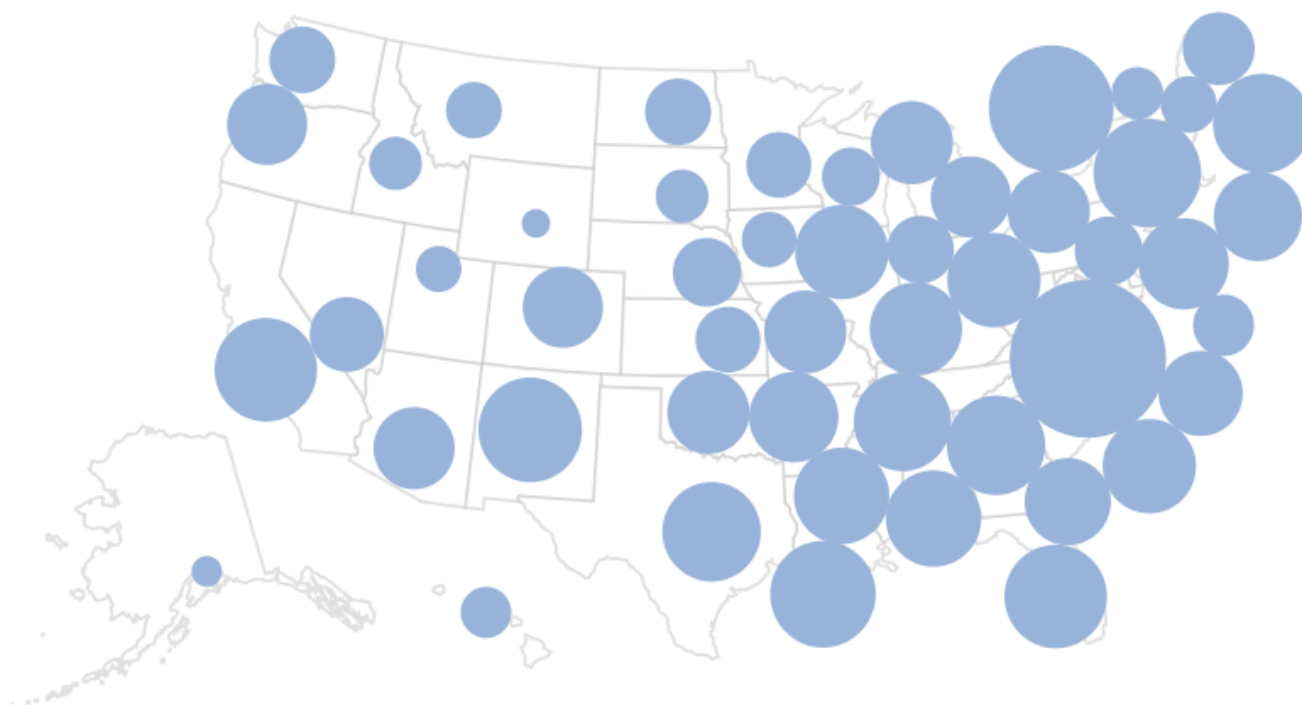
[prev](#) [1989](#) [1999](#) [2006](#) [2007](#) [2008](#) [2009](#) [2010](#) **[2011](#)** [next](#) [play](#)

### Show

**[Gini Index](#)** [Median Income](#) [Poverty Rate](#)

### Map

**[On](#)** [Off](#)





# How Census Measures Poverty

The Census Bureau releases two reports every year that describe who is poor in the United States. The first report calculates the nation's official poverty measure based on cash resources. The second is known as the supplemental poverty measure (SPM) and takes account of cash resources and noncash benefits from government programs aimed at low-income families.



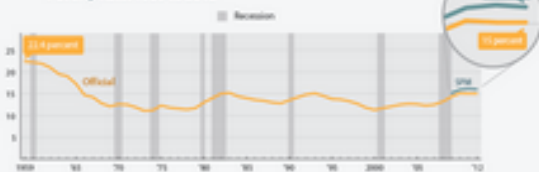
In 2012, there were 46.5 million people in poverty.

### The Official Measure



The United States has an official measure of poverty. The current official poverty measure was developed in the early 1960s when President Lyndon Johnson declared war on poverty. This measure does not reflect the key government policies enacted since that time to help low-income individuals meet their needs.

Poverty Rate: 1959 to 2012

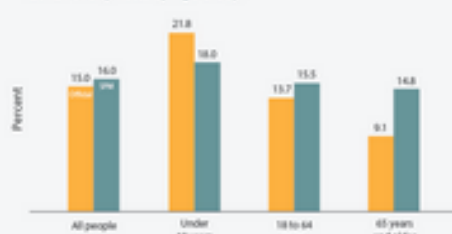


Note: The data points are placed at the midpoint of the respective year.  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1960 to 2012 Annual Social and Economic Supplements.

### The Supplemental Measure

There is now a second measure of poverty called the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM). Every year since 2010, the Census Bureau has released a report describing the SPM. The SPM extends the official poverty measure by taking account of government benefits and necessary expenses like taxes that are not in the official measure. In 2012, the SPM rate was slightly higher than the official rate, identifying 46.7 million people as poor. This was 14 percent of the population.

2012 Poverty Rates by Age Group



## THE PRESIDENT IS TAKING ACTION: ENSURING EQUAL PAY FOR WOMEN

How do you know if you're earning fair pay at work?



IT STARTS WITH A CONVERSATION.

But...

51% of women report that they are either discouraged or forbidden from discussing their wages.

IF THEY DON'T KNOW THEY'RE BEING UNDERPAID COMPARED TO MEN, WOMEN CAN'T TAKE STEPS TO ADDRESS THAT GAP.

PRESIDENT OBAMA SIGNED FEDERAL CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEES WHO CHOOSE

But Congress By passing the Paycheck standards apply to all employees

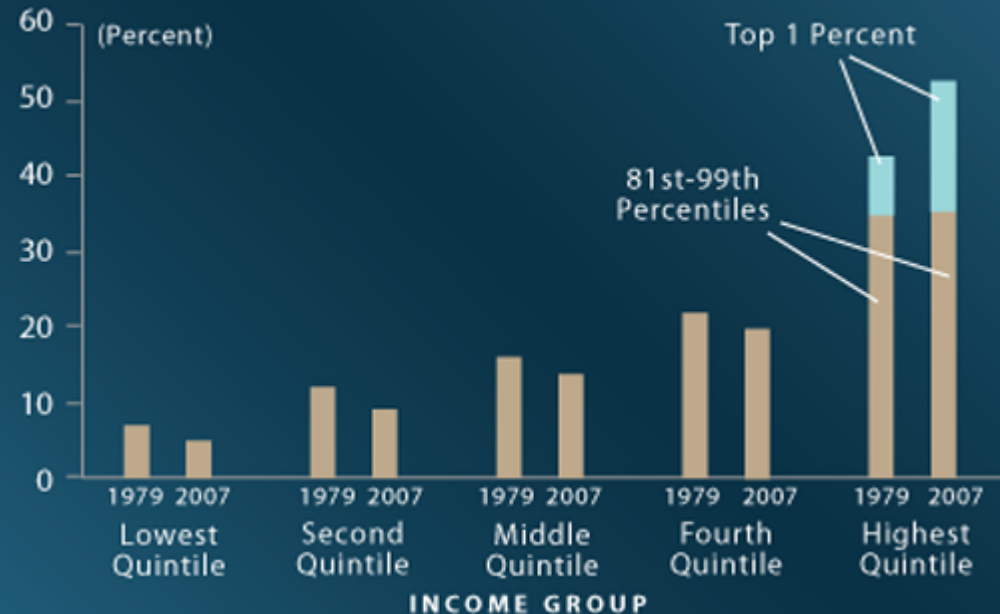
WOMEN MAKE UP NEARLY HALF OF THE WORKFORCE. IN 2014, THERE SHOULD BE MORE

LEARN SOME

## 40 Congressional Budget Office

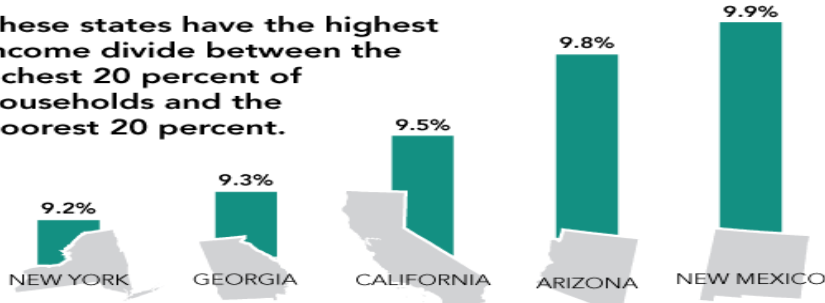
Nonpartisan Analysis for the U.S. Congress

### Shares of Income After Transfers and Federal Taxes, 1979 and 2007

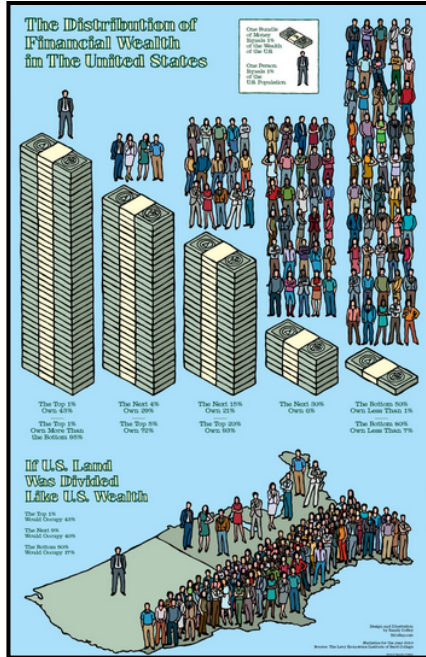


**WORST STATES FOR INCOME INEQUALITY**

These states have the highest income divide between the richest 20 percent of households and the poorest 20 percent.

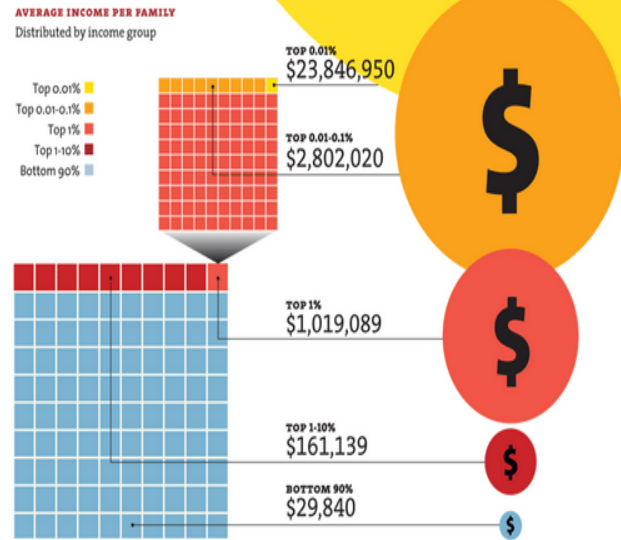


Sources: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Economic Policy Institute THE HUFFINGTON POST



**HOW RICH ARE THE SUPERRICH?**

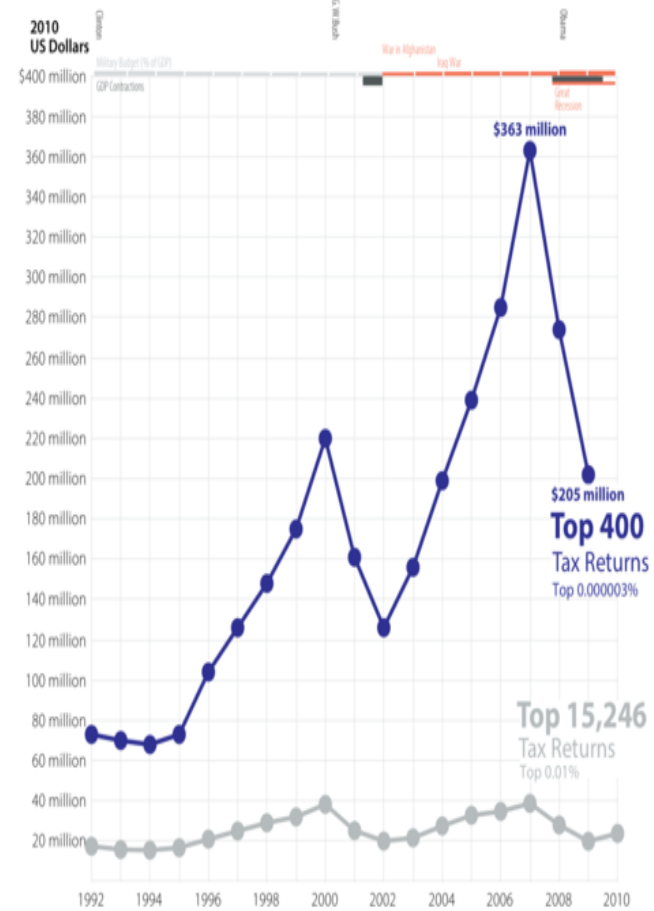
A huge share of the nation's economic growth over the past 30 years has gone to the top one-hundredth of one percent, who now make an average of \$27 million per household. The average income for the bottom 90 percent of us? \$31,244.



2010 data. Includes capital gains. Source: Emmanuel Saez, University of California-Berkeley

1040 1992-2008 IRS

**Average Income of the Top 400 Tax Returns**



VisualizingEconomics.com

Sources: IRS, Statistics of Income Division • World Top Incomes Database, March 2012 (Compiled from data collected by IRS) 31

**Inequality.org** A project of the Institute for Policy Studies

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 by Janet Redman  
 June 18, 2015 at 11:55 am


**BLOGGING OUR GRAND DIVIDE**  
[JFK and Today's Free Trade Agreements](#)  
 by Sarah Anderson  
 June 18, 2015 at 12:30 pm

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*Growing Apart*, an intro to our economic inequality basics.  
[More on Inequality 101](#)

**INEQUALITY SCORECARD**  
 A ranking of proposals to narrow the corporate pay divide.  
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 Beyond Piketty: a wealth of new work on maldistribution.  
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 A sampling of recent new inequality-related studies  
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 THE EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY PROJECT

HOME EXECUTIVE PAPERS & SUMMARIES SLIDES & VIDEOS CITY RANKINGS DATA DOWNLOADS & FAQs RESEARCH PREVIOUS TEAM RESEARCH PRESS CONTACT US

How can we improve economic opportunities for low-income children? The Equality of Opportunity Project uses "big data" to develop new answers to this question. The [previous phase](#) of the project presented statistics on how upward mobility varies across areas of the U.S. and over time. In the [current phase](#), we focus on families who moved across areas to study how neighborhoods affect upward mobility. We find that every year of exposure to a better environment improves a child's chances of success, both in a [national quasi-experimental study](#) of five million families and in a [re-analysis of the Moving to Opportunity Experiment](#). We use the new methodology and data to present estimates of the causal effect of each county in America on upward mobility.

**The Causal Effects of Growing up in Different Counties on Earnings in Adulthood**  
 Percentage Gains/Losses Relative to National Average

Philadelphia Metro Area




Economic Inequality is Real, Personal, Expensive and it was Created.

We'll show you how >

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Carrier 10:17 AM

FRED

FRED NEWS

### The mean vs. the median of family income

05/28/2015 | FRED has several datasets to help you investigate the distribution of income. One of them is the [Income and Poverty in the United States](#) release from the U.S. Census Bureau. The graph above shows real family income in the United States in constant (2013) dollars. The mean is the average across all families. The median identifies the family income in the middle of the sample for every year: half of incomes are higher, half are

[Read More >](#)

AT A GLANCE

FRED ad — Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: All Items

Source: US. Bureau of Labor Statistics  
Shaded areas indicate US recessions - 2015 research.ftovisfred.org

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Source: US. Bureau of Economic A  
Shaded areas indicate US re

ECONOMIC DATA IN YOUR LOCATION

Poverty&Inequality DataFinder

World Bank - September 5, 2013 - Everyone Business

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★★★★★ (42) +18 Recommend this on Google

Poverty

### Mobile Apps

Our users are not only changing how they want our statistics, they're changing how they access them. To increase and improve access to our statistics, the Census Bureau is providing free mobile apps that deliver information when and where you need it.



#### Census PoP Quiz

Test your knowledge with Census PoP Quiz, a new population challenge about the 50 states and the District of Columbia from the U.S. Census Bureau.



#### America's Economy

The America's Economy app provides real-time updates for 19 key economic indicators released from the Census Bureau, BLS, and BEA.



#### dwellr

Download the U.S. Census Bureau's dwellr app today to discover the top 25 U.S. cities and towns that best fit your lifestyle.