


 U.S. Census Bureau

Income Inequality - Table 1

Table 1. Share of Aggregate Income Received by Each Fifth and Top 5 P Families, 1947 to 1994. (Families as of March of the following year.)

Year	Number (thous.)	Percent distribution of aggreg					
		Lowest fifth	Second fifth	Third fifth	Fourth fifth	Highest fifth	Top perce
1994../21/..69,313		4.2	10.0	15.7	23.3	46.9	20
1993../20/..68,506		4.1	9.9	15.7	23.3	47.0	20
1993../19/..68,506		4.2	10.1	15.9	23.6	46.2	19
1992../18/..68,216		4.3	10.5	16.5	24.0	44.7	17
1992.....68,144		4.4	10.5	16.5	24.0	44.6	17
1991.....67,173		4.5	10.7	16.6	24.1	44.2	17
1990.....66,322		4.6	10.8	16.6	23.8	44.3	17
1989.....66,090		4.6	10.6	16.5	23.7	44.6	17
1988.....65,837		4.6	10.7	16.7	24.0	44.0	17
1987../17/..65,204		4.6	10.7	16.8	24.0	43.8	17
1986.....64,491		4.6	10.8	16.8	24.0	43.7	17
1985../16/..63,558		4.6	10.9	16.9	24.2	43.5	16
1984.....62,706		4.7	11.0	17.0	24.4	42.9	16
1983../15/..62,015		4.7	11.1	17.1	24.3	42.8	15
1982.....61,393		4.7	11.2	17.1	24.3	42.7	16
1981.....61,019		5.0	11.3	17.4	24.4	41.9	15
1980.....60,309		5.1	11.6	17.5	24.3	41.6	15
1979../14/..59,550		5.2	11.6	17.5	24.1	41.7	15
1978.....57,804		5.2	11.6	17.5	24.1	41.5	15
1977.....57,215		5.2	11.6	17.5	24.2	41.5	15
1976../13/..56,710		5.4	11.8	17.6	24.1	41.1	15
1975../12/..56,245		5.4	11.8	17.6	24.1	41.1	15
1974../12/11/55,698		5.5	12.0	17.5	24.0	41.0	15
1973.....55,053		5.5	11.9	17.5	24.0	41.1	15
1972.....54,373		5.4	11.9	17.5	23.9	41.4	15
1971../10/..53,296		5.5	12.0	17.6	23.8	41.1	15
1970.....52,227		5.4	12.2	17.6	23.8	40.9	15
1969.....51,586		5.6	12.4	17.7	23.7	40.6	15
1968.....50,823		5.6	12.4	17.7	23.7	40.5	15
1967../9/...49,834		5.4	12.2	17.5	23.5	41.4	16
1966../8/...49,214		5.6	12.4	17.8	23.8	40.5	15
1965../7/...48,509		5.2	12.2	17.8	23.9	40.9	15
1964.....47,956		5.1	12.0	17.7	24.0	41.2	15
1963.....47,540		5.0	12.1	17.7	24.0	41.2	15
1962../6/...47,059		5.0	12.1	17.6	24.0	41.3	15
1961../5/...46,418		4.7	11.9	17.5	23.8	42.2	16

1960.....	45,539	4.8	12.2	17.8	24.0	41.3	15
1959.....	45,111	4.9	12.3	17.9	23.8	41.1	15
1958.....	44,232	5.0	12.5	18.0	23.9	40.6	15
1957.....	43,696	5.1	12.7	18.1	23.8	40.4	15
1956.....	43,497	5.0	12.5	17.9	23.7	41.0	16
1955.....	42,889	4.8	12.3	17.8	23.7	41.3	16
1954.....	41,951	4.5	12.1	17.7	23.9	41.8	16
1953.....	41,202	4.7	12.5	18.0	23.9	40.9	15
1952../4/...	40,832	4.9	12.3	17.4	23.4	41.9	17
1951.....	40,578	5.0	12.4	17.6	23.4	41.6	16
1950.....	39,929	4.5	12.0	17.4	23.4	42.7	17
1949../3/...	39,303	4.5	11.9	17.3	23.5	42.7	16
1948.....	38,624	4.9	12.1	17.3	23.2	42.4	17
1947../2/...	37,237	5.0	11.9	17.0	23.1	43.0	17

NOTES to Table 1:

- 1/ [not used]
- 2/ Based on 1940 census population controls.
- 3/ Implementation of expanded income questions to show wage and salar self-employment and nonfarm self-employment and all other nonearned in separately.
- 4/ Implementation of 1950 census population controls.
- 5/ Implementation of first hot deck procedure to impute missing incom (all income data imputed if any missing).
- 6/ Implementation of 1960 census population controls.
- 7/ Implementation of new procedures to impute missing data only.
- 8/ Questionnaire expanded to ask eight income questions.
- 9/ Implementation of a new March CPS processing system.
- 10/ Implementation of 1970 population controls.
- 11/ Implementation of a new March CPS processing system. Questionnair to ask eleven income questions.
- 12/ These estimates were derived using pareto interpolation and may di published data which were derived using linear interpolation.
- 13/ First year medians are derived using both pareto and linear interp Prior to this year all medians were derived using linear interpolation
- 14/ Implementation of 1980 census population controls. Questionnaire to show 27 possible values from 51 possible sources of income.
- 15/ Implementation of Hispanic population weighting controls.
- 16/ Recording of amounts for earnings from longest job increased to \$2
- 17/ Implementation of a new March CPS processing system.
- 18/ Implementation of 1990 census population controls.
- 19/ See footnote 20. To maintain comparability, income data topcoded limits.
- 20/ Data collection method changed from paper and pencil to computer-interviewing. In addition, the March 1994 income supplement was revis allow for the coding of different income amounts on selected questionn items. Limits either increased or decreased in the following categori earnings increased to \$999,999; Social Security increased to \$49,999; Supplemental Security Income and Public Assistance increased to \$24,99 Veterans' Benefits increased to \$99,999; Child Support and Alimony dec \$49,999.

21/ Introduction of new 1990 census sample design.

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