

Table A-2.

Selected Measures of Household Income Dispersion: 1967 to 2014

(Income in 2014 CPI-U-RS adjusted dollars. Beginning with 2010, standard errors were calculated using replicate weights. For further explanation of income inequality measures, see Current Population Reports, Series P60-204, *The Changing Shape of the Nation's Income Distribution: 1947-1998*. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <ftp://ftp2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar15.pdf>)

Measures of income dispersion	2014	2013 ¹	2013 ²	2012	2011	2010 ³	2009 ⁴	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004 ⁵
MEASURE												
Household Income at Selected Percentiles												
10th percentile limit	12,276	12,399	12,604	12,617	12,632	12,880	13,378	13,372	13,887	14,091	13,690	13,670
20th percentile limit	21,432	21,344	21,242	21,240	21,329	21,718	22,576	22,775	23,170	23,526	23,258	23,171
40th percentile limit	41,186	41,707	40,845	41,002	40,549	41,263	42,552	42,885	44,647	44,356	43,659	43,462
50th (median)	53,657	54,462	52,789	52,606	52,691	53,508	54,944	55,314	57,359	56,601	56,182	55,569
60th percentile limit	68,212	68,300	66,573	66,593	65,723	66,782	68,216	68,973	70,796	70,456	69,928	69,226
80th percentile limit	112,262	112,036	107,643	107,337	106,933	108,619	110,380	110,225	114,187	113,941	111,216	110,303
90th percentile limit	157,479	157,969	152,455	150,546	151,176	150,695	151,919	152,077	155,294	156,177	152,917	151,496
95th percentile limit	206,568	208,485	199,207	197,107	195,797	195,985	198,686	197,931	202,110	204,335	201,318	196,977
Household Income Ratios of Selected Percentiles												
90th/10th	12.83	12.74	12.10	11.93	11.97	11.70	11.36	11.37	11.18	11.08	11.17	11.08
95th/20th	9.64	9.77	9.38	9.28	9.18	9.02	8.80	8.69	8.72	8.69	8.66	8.50
95th/50th	3.85	3.77	3.78	3.75	3.72	3.66	3.62	3.58	3.52	3.61	3.58	3.54
80th/50th	2.09	2.02	2.04	2.04	2.03	2.03	2.01	1.99	1.99	2.01	1.98	1.98
80th/20th	5.24	5.25	5.07	5.05	5.01	5.00	4.89	4.84	4.93	4.84	4.78	4.76
20th/50th	0.40	0.39	0.40	0.41	0.40	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.40	0.42	0.41	0.42
Mean Household Income of Quintiles												
Lowest quintile	11,676	11,784	11,841	11,848	11,831	11,938	12,751	12,818	13,190	13,330	12,922	12,840
Second quintile	31,087	31,317	31,008	30,620	30,742	30,982	32,294	32,457	33,618	33,792	33,178	32,855
Third quintile	54,041	54,620	53,178	52,773	52,468	53,390	54,676	55,126	57,057	56,626	56,152	55,665
Fourth quintile	87,834	87,888	84,885	84,654	84,299	85,651	86,863	87,705	90,334	89,630	88,320	87,772
Highest quintile	194,053	196,516	188,236	187,568	187,397	183,938	188,578	188,097	191,800	197,475	193,536	189,815
Top 5 percent	332,347	339,938	327,618	327,954	327,849	311,865	326,051	324,066	327,934	349,231	340,974	330,773
Shares of Household Income of Quintiles												
Lowest quintile	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4
Second quintile	8.2	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.7	8.6	8.6	8.7
Third quintile	14.3	14.3	14.4	14.4	14.3	14.6	14.6	14.7	14.8	14.5	14.6	14.7
Fourth quintile	23.2	23.0	23.0	23.0	23.0	23.4	23.2	23.3	23.4	22.9	23.0	23.2
Highest quintile	51.2	51.4	51.0	51.0	51.1	50.3	50.3	50.0	49.7	50.5	50.4	50.1
Top 5 percent	21.9	22.2	22.2	22.3	22.3	21.3	21.7	21.5	21.2	22.3	22.2	21.8
Summary Measures												
Gini index of income inequality	0.480	0.482	0.476	0.477	0.477	0.470	0.468	0.466	0.463	0.470	0.469	0.466
Mean logarithmic deviation of income	0.611	0.606	0.578	0.586	0.585	0.574	0.550	0.541	0.532	0.543	0.545	0.543
Theil	0.419	0.428	0.415	0.423	0.422	0.400	0.403	0.398	0.391	0.417	0.411	0.406
Atkinson:												
e=0.25	0.102	0.103	0.100	0.101	0.101	0.097	0.097	0.096	0.095	0.099	0.098	0.097
e=0.50	0.200	0.202	0.196	0.198	0.198	0.191	0.190	0.188	0.185	0.192	0.192	0.190
e=0.75	0.307	0.307	0.298	0.300	0.300	0.293	0.288	0.285	0.281	0.289	0.289	0.286
STANDARD ERROR												
Household Income at Selected Percentiles												
10th percentile limit	200	290	175	223	17	142	93	92	92	97	93	93
20th percentile limit	250	262	220	246	186	129	118	118	127	129	129	130
40th percentile limit	387	466	323	345	377	143	180	174	143	209	152	163
50th (median)	457	665	281	216	264	353	235	151	160	243	188	246
60th percentile limit	520	763	510	532	491	472	192	294	306	192	306	226
80th percentile limit	669	648	728	623	596	181	344	337	343	430	390	390
90th percentile limit	1,084	1,767	764	954	1,011	961	704	641	673	663	651	616
95th percentile limit	1,504	2,099	2,304	1,419	1,555	1,227	971	1,014	979	1,176	1,355	1,149
Household Income Ratios of Selected Percentiles												
90th/10th	0.219	0.321	0.167	0.211	0.082	0.130	0.095	0.091	0.089	0.090	0.090	0.088
95th/20th	0.117	0.146	0.133	0.114	0.094	0.076	0.063	0.063	0.064	0.069	0.076	0.069
95th/50th	0.035	0.055	0.045	0.031	0.030	0.026	0.022	0.023	0.021	0.025	0.028	0.025
80th/50th	0.015	0.025	0.014	0.013	0.012	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.009	0.011	0.010	0.011
80th/20th	0.060	0.069	0.051	0.056	0.042	0.031	0.030	0.029	0.031	0.032	0.031	0.032
20th/50th	0.004	0.005	0.004	0.004	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003
Mean Household Income of Quintiles												
Lowest quintile	123	201	123	109	122	111	46	46	46	48	47	47
Second quintile	202	350	237	191	191	214	40	40	43	41	42	41
Third quintile	304	487	362	257	270	298	52	53	53	53	53	54
Fourth quintile	462	694	500	399	407	440	84	83	86	87	83	82
Highest quintile	1,655	2,737	1,928	1,671	1,393	1,374	929	909	920	1,109	1,038	1,027
Top 5 percent	4,998	9,171	6,035	5,315	4,434	4,360	2,928	2,846	2,894	3,644	3,335	3,346
Shares of Household Income of Quintiles												
Lowest quintile	0.03	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Second quintile	0.05	0.09	0.06	0.05	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Third quintile	0.07	0.12	0.08	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
Fourth quintile	0.09	0.17	0.11	0.09	0.08	0.09	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.15	0.15	0.16
Highest quintile	0.20	0.36	0.24	0.20	0.17	0.18	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.34	0.34	0.34
Top 5 percent	0.24	0.46	0.30	0.26	0.23	0.23	0.30	0.30	0.29	0.31	0.31	0.31
Summary Measures												
Gini index of income inequality	0.0021	0.0037	0.0025	0.0020	0.0018	0.0019	0.0028	0.0027	0.0027	0.0028	0.0029	0.0029
Mean logarithmic deviation of income	0.0073	0.0124	0.0079	0.0068	0.0067	0.0066	0.0064	0.0063	0.0062	0.0063	0.0063	0.0063
Theil	0.0054	0.0107	0.0067	0.0059	0.0050	0.0049	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0002	0.0001	0.0001
Atkinson:												
e=0.25	0.0011	0.0021	0.0013	0.0011	0.0010	0.0010	0.0011	0.0011	0.0011	0.0014	0.0013	0.0013
e=0.50	0.0018	0.0033	0.0022	0.0018	0.0016	0.0016	0.0018	0.0017	0.0018	0.0021	0.0020	0.0020
e=0.75	0.0025	0.0043	0.0028	0.0023	0.0021	0.0021	0.0024	0.0023	0.0024	0.0027	0.0026	0.0026

See footnotes at end of table.

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Selected Measures of Household Income Dispersion: 1967 to 2014—Con.

(Income in 2014 CPI-U-RS adjusted dollars. Beginning with 2010, standard errors were calculated using replicate weights. For further explanation of income inequality measures, see Current Population Reports, Series P60-204, *The Changing Shape of the Nation's Income Distribution: 1947-1998*. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <ftp://ftp2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar15.pdf>)

Measures of income dispersion	2003	2002	2001	2000 ⁶	1999 ⁷	1998	1997	1996	1995 ⁸	1994 ⁹
MEASURE										
Household Income at Selected Percentiles										
10th percentile limit	13,563	13,976	14,290	14,549	14,701	14,070	13,553	13,388	13,383	12,682
20th percentile limit	23,151	23,578	24,031	24,637	24,349	23,377	22,650	22,190	22,213	21,209
40th percentile limit	43,768	43,926	44,551	45,370	45,356	44,109	42,948	41,712	41,517	39,809
50th (median)	55,763	55,812	56,472	57,730	57,826	56,405	54,427	53,330	52,565	50,968
60th percentile limit	70,097	69,963	70,877	71,731	71,591	70,116	67,657	66,123	64,792	63,347
80th percentile limit	111,823	110,569	111,665	112,416	112,582	108,792	105,163	102,198	100,459	99,272
90th percentile limit	152,158	150,176	151,955	153,983	153,144	146,941	143,642	138,313	135,283	134,092
95th percentile limit	198,398	197,409	201,263	199,655	201,770	191,762	186,130	179,619	174,312	173,487
Household Income Ratios of Selected Percentiles										
90th/10th	11.22	10.75	10.63	10.58	10.42	10.44	10.60	10.33	10.11	10.57
95th/20th	8.57	8.37	8.38	8.10	8.29	8.20	8.22	8.10	7.85	8.18
95th/50th	3.56	3.54	3.56	3.46	3.49	3.40	3.42	3.37	3.32	3.40
80th/50th	2.01	1.98	1.98	1.95	1.95	1.93	1.93	1.92	1.91	1.95
80th/20th	4.83	4.69	4.65	4.56	4.62	4.65	4.64	4.61	4.52	4.68
20th/50th	0.42	0.42	0.43	0.43	0.42	0.41	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42
Mean Household Income of Quintiles										
Lowest quintile	12,868	13,147	13,555	13,964	14,088	13,378	13,001	12,915	12,873	12,186
Second quintile	33,055	33,427	34,058	34,867	34,593	33,781	32,502	31,700	31,465	30,368
Third quintile	56,110	56,329	57,008	58,064	57,903	56,524	54,680	53,321	52,611	51,160
Fourth quintile	88,816	88,604	89,383	90,263	90,118	87,419	84,692	82,525	80,876	79,610
Highest quintile	189,333	189,172	195,206	195,598	192,178	184,988	180,562	173,569	168,776	167,364
Top 5 percent	325,993	330,339	348,319	347,010	334,025	322,434	316,865	302,351	291,283	289,160
Shares of Household Income of Quintiles										
Lowest quintile	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.6
Second quintile	8.7	8.8	8.7	8.9	8.9	9.0	8.9	9.0	9.1	8.9
Third quintile	14.8	14.8	14.6	14.8	14.9	15.0	15.0	15.1	15.2	15.0
Fourth quintile	23.4	23.3	23.0	23.0	23.2	23.2	23.2	23.3	23.3	23.4
Highest quintile	49.8	49.7	50.1	49.8	49.4	49.2	49.4	49.0	48.7	49.1
Top 5 percent	21.4	21.7	22.4	22.1	21.5	21.4	21.7	21.4	21.0	21.2
Summary Measures										
Gini index of income inequality	0.464	0.462	0.466	0.462	0.458	0.456	0.459	0.455	0.450	0.456
Mean logarithmic deviation of income	0.530	0.514	0.515	0.490	0.476	0.488	0.484	0.464	0.452	0.471
Theil	0.397	0.398	0.413	0.404	0.386	0.389	0.396	0.389	0.378	0.387
Atkinson:										
e=0.25	0.095	0.095	0.098	0.096	0.092	0.093	0.094	0.093	0.090	0.092
e=0.50	0.187	0.186	0.189	0.185	0.180	0.181	0.183	0.179	0.175	0.180
e=0.75	0.283	0.279	0.282	0.275	0.268	0.271	0.272	0.266	0.261	0.268
STANDARD ERROR										
Household Income at Selected Percentiles										
10th percentile limit	93	93	98	98	99	96	101	94	95	89
20th percentile limit	129	135	133	141	135	142	134	135	124	123
40th percentile limit	209	205	204	223	164	225	281	272	226	238
50th (median)	242	183	173	181	270	334	252	269	304	232
60th percentile limit	243	292	283	261	216	361	314	346	286	293
80th percentile limit	411	302	323	330	351	339	466	355	377	323
90th percentile limit	652	592	576	667	643	556	594	640	586	593
95th percentile limit	917	939	1,011	1,280	1,123	1,112	972	884	1,036	983
Household Income Ratios of Selected Percentiles										
90th/10th	0.091	0.083	0.083	0.085	0.083	0.082	0.091	0.087	0.084	0.087
95th/20th	0.062	0.062	0.063	0.070	0.065	0.069	0.065	0.063	0.064	0.066
95th/50th	0.021	0.022	0.023	0.026	0.024	0.024	0.022	0.022	0.023	0.024
80th/50th	0.011	0.009	0.010	0.009	0.010	0.010	0.011	0.011	0.010	0.010
80th/20th	0.032	0.030	0.029	0.029	0.029	0.032	0.034	0.032	0.031	0.031
20th/50th	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003
Mean Household Income of Quintiles										
Lowest quintile	47	47	48	49	49	48	47	44	45	44
Second quintile	42	42	43	43	44	44	43	42	42	41
Third quintile	54	54	55	55	56	56	53	53	51	51
Fourth quintile	85	83	84	84	85	82	80	77	77	79
Highest quintile	973	1,022	1,152	1,141	1,004	1,047	1,075	1,046	984	988
Top 5 percent	3,123	3,307	3,791	3,748	3,164	4,799	4,996	4,908	4,579	4,608
Shares of Household Income of Quintiles										
Lowest quintile	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
Second quintile	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.07
Third quintile	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11
Fourth quintile	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17
Highest quintile	0.34	0.34	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.36
Top 5 percent	0.30	0.31	0.32	0.32	0.31	0.44	0.45	0.45	0.44	0.45
Summary Measures										
Gini index of income inequality	0.0028	0.0029	0.0030	0.0030	0.0041	0.0042	0.0043	0.0043	0.0043	0.0042
Mean logarithmic deviation of income	0.0054	0.0052	0.0051	0.0049	0.0059	0.0069	0.0067	0.0064	0.0063	0.0061
Theil	0.0001	0.0001	0.0002	0.0002	0.0001	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002
Atkinson:										
e=0.25	0.0012	0.0012	0.0014	0.0013	0.0013	0.0015	0.0016	0.0016	0.0015	0.0015
e=0.50	0.0018	0.0020	0.0022	0.0021	0.0021	0.0023	0.0025	0.0024	0.0024	0.0023
e=0.75	0.0024	0.0025	0.0027	0.0026	0.0027	0.0029	0.0030	0.0030	0.0029	0.0028

See footnotes at end of table.

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(Income in 2014 CPI-U-RS adjusted dollars. Beginning with 2010, standard errors were calculated using replicate weights. For further explanation of income inequality measures, see Current Population Reports, Series P60-204, *The Changing Shape of the Nation's Income Distribution: 1947–1998*. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <ftp://ftp2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar15.pdf>)

Measures of income dispersion	1993 ¹⁰	1992 ¹¹	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987 ¹²	1986	1985 ¹³
MEASURE									
Household Income at Selected Percentiles									
10th percentile limit	12,401	12,400	12,582	12,854	13,274	12,623	12,435	12,329	12,374
20th percentile limit	20,922	20,832	21,345	21,951	22,300	21,889	21,532	21,120	20,860
40th percentile limit	39,818	39,912	40,686	41,552	42,402	41,347	40,871	40,396	39,248
50th (median)	50,406	50,652	51,071	52,581	53,290	52,357	51,957	51,314	49,559
60th percentile limit	62,591	62,662	62,843	63,569	65,170	64,436	63,798	62,695	60,800
80th percentile limit	97,291	95,906	96,221	96,943	99,018	97,296	96,421	94,771	91,442
90th percentile limit	131,885	128,217	128,642	130,123	132,653	128,848	127,205	124,384	119,938
95th percentile limit	168,830	163,714	163,423	166,382	169,148	164,695	161,345	158,919	151,090
Household Income Ratios of Selected Percentiles									
90th/10th	10.64	10.34	10.22	10.12	9.99	10.21	10.23	10.09	9.69
95th/20th	8.07	7.86	7.66	7.58	7.59	7.52	7.49	7.53	7.24
95th/50th	3.35	3.23	3.20	3.16	3.17	3.15	3.11	3.10	3.05
80th/50th	1.93	1.89	1.88	1.84	1.86	1.86	1.86	1.85	1.85
80th/20th	4.65	4.60	4.51	4.42	4.44	4.45	4.48	4.49	4.38
20th/50th	0.42	0.41	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.41	0.41	0.42
Mean Household Income of Quintiles									
Lowest quintile	11,874	11,997	12,251	12,584	12,894	12,432	12,225	11,901	11,780
Second quintile	30,100	30,059	30,769	31,661	32,080	31,380	31,070	30,612	29,853
Third quintile	50,456	50,643	51,108	52,297	53,326	52,484	51,945	51,226	49,553
Fourth quintile	78,412	77,742	77,909	78,849	80,661	79,337	78,518	77,172	74,538
Highest quintile	163,367	150,636	149,399	153,016	157,679	151,462	149,320	146,068	139,233
Top 5 percent	280,392	239,087	233,149	243,662	254,754	238,879	235,255	228,826	214,775
Shares of Household Income of Quintiles									
Lowest quintile	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.9
Second quintile	9.0	9.4	9.6	9.6	9.5	9.6	9.6	9.7	9.8
Third quintile	15.1	15.8	15.9	15.9	15.8	16.0	16.1	16.2	16.2
Fourth quintile	23.5	24.2	24.2	24.0	24.0	24.2	24.3	24.3	24.4
Highest quintile	48.9	46.9	46.5	46.6	46.8	46.3	46.2	46.1	45.6
Top 5 percent	21.0	18.6	18.1	18.5	18.9	18.3	18.2	18.0	17.6
Summary Measures									
Gini index of income inequality	0.454	0.433	0.428	0.428	0.431	0.426	0.426	0.425	0.419
Mean logarithmic deviation of income	0.467	0.416	0.411	0.402	0.406	0.401	0.414	0.416	0.403
Theil	0.385	0.323	0.313	0.317	0.324	0.314	0.311	0.310	0.300
Atkinson:									
e=0.25	0.092	0.080	0.078	0.078	0.080	0.078	0.077	0.077	0.075
e=0.50	0.178	0.160	0.156	0.156	0.158	0.155	0.155	0.155	0.151
e=0.75	0.266	0.242	0.237	0.236	0.239	0.236	0.238	0.237	0.231
STANDARD ERROR									
Household Income at Selected Percentiles									
10th percentile limit	89	88	91	98	98	98	98	98	95
20th percentile limit	125	125	130	135	139	137	139	140	137
40th percentile limit	238	246	243	251	266	236	237	239	227
50th (median)	236	240	246	269	293	256	245	266	269
60th percentile limit	346	316	266	265	293	336	279	259	292
80th percentile limit	365	317	349	373	307	342	331	368	300
90th percentile limit	461	423	462	499	800	523	461	567	511
95th percentile limit	839	828	836	940	903	1,023	752	664	1,260
Household Income Ratios of Selected Percentiles									
90th/10th	0.085	0.081	0.082	0.087	0.095	0.089	0.088	0.093	0.085
95th/20th	0.063	0.062	0.061	0.063	0.062	0.066	0.060	0.059	0.077
95th/50th	0.022	0.021	0.021	0.022	0.021	0.023	0.020	0.018	0.028
80th/50th	0.011	0.010	0.011	0.010	0.009	0.010	0.010	0.011	0.010
80th/20th	0.033	0.032	0.032	0.032	0.031	0.032	0.033	0.034	0.032
20th/50th	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003
Mean Household Income of Quintiles									
Lowest quintile	44	43	44	45	46	45	45	46	46
Second quintile	42	42	43	44	45	44	45	44	43
Third quintile	50	50	50	50	52	51	52	52	50
Fourth quintile	77	73	73	74	75	74	73	72	70
Highest quintile	988	548	521	576	637	577	566	534	486
Top 5 percent	4,667	1,951	1,853	2,098	2,398	2,167	2,221	1,850	1,662
Shares of Household Income of Quintiles									
Lowest quintile	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
Second quintile	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.08
Third quintile	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.13	0.13
Fourth quintile	0.17	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.19	0.19	0.19
Highest quintile	0.36	0.35	0.34	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35
Top 5 percent	0.45	0.38	0.37	0.39	0.40	0.38	0.41	0.37	0.37
Summary Measures									
Gini index of income inequality	0.0042	0.0038	0.0038	0.0039	0.0040	0.0041	0.0038	0.0038	0.0037
Mean logarithmic deviation of income	0.0061	0.0055	0.0056	0.0053	0.0053	0.0055	0.0055	0.0057	0.0056
Theil	0.0002	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001
Atkinson:									
e=0.25	0.0015	0.0007	0.0007	0.0007	0.0008	0.0008	0.0007	0.0007	0.0006
e=0.50	0.0024	0.0013	0.0012	0.0013	0.0014	0.0014	0.0013	0.0012	0.0011
e=0.75	0.0029	0.0019	0.0018	0.0018	0.0019	0.0020	0.0018	0.0018	0.0017

See footnotes at end of table.

Table A-2.

Selected Measures of Household Income Dispersion: 1967 to 2014—Con.

(Income in 2014 CPI-U-RS adjusted dollars. Beginning with 2010, standard errors were calculated using replicate weights. For further explanation of income inequality measures, see Current Population Reports, Series P60-204, *The Changing Shape of the Nation's Income Distribution: 1947-1998*. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <ftp://ftp2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar15.pdf>)

Measures of income dispersion	1984 ¹⁴	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979 ¹⁵	1978	1977	1976 ¹⁶
MEASURE									
Household Income at Selected Percentiles									
10th percentile limit	12,365	11,877	11,922	12,139	12,310	12,476	12,719	12,463	12,311
20th percentile limit	20,619	20,218	19,788	20,043	20,457	21,275	21,042	20,406	20,450
40th percentile limit	38,590	37,594	37,634	37,467	38,364	39,511	39,785	38,435	38,099
50th (median)	48,650	47,184	47,516	47,644	48,448	50,030	50,170	48,301	47,997
60th percentile limit	59,454	57,699	57,502	57,950	58,816	60,789	60,198	58,586	58,038
80th percentile limit	89,811	87,198	85,747	85,676	86,118	88,140	87,551	85,412	83,501
90th percentile limit	118,135	114,126	113,080	111,915	111,895	114,093	113,235	108,936	107,071
95th percentile limit	148,673	143,462	141,543	137,880	138,590	142,423	140,062	135,236	132,420
Household Income Ratios of Selected Percentiles									
90th/10th	9.55	9.61	9.49	9.22	9.09	9.15	8.90	8.74	8.70
95th/20th	7.21	7.10	7.15	6.88	6.78	6.69	6.66	6.63	6.48
95th/50th	3.06	3.04	2.98	2.89	2.86	2.85	2.79	2.80	2.76
80th/50th	1.85	1.85	1.80	1.80	1.78	1.76	1.75	1.77	1.74
80th/20th	4.36	4.31	4.33	4.28	4.21	4.14	4.16	4.19	4.08
20th/50th	0.42	0.43	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.43	0.42	0.42	0.43
Mean Household Income of Quintiles									
Lowest quintile	11,798	11,416	11,283	11,496	11,791	12,176	12,274	11,869	11,927
Second quintile	29,387	28,678	28,554	28,635	29,346	30,285	30,141	29,213	29,198
Third quintile	48,699	47,412	47,264	47,437	48,424	49,931	49,767	48,327	48,017
Fourth quintile	73,326	71,147	70,294	70,711	71,341	73,272	72,902	70,807	69,731
Highest quintile	134,827	130,628	128,925	126,310	127,198	131,497	130,157	126,266	123,410
Top 5 percent	203,527	197,365	194,807	187,696	190,084	200,547	198,113	193,164	188,038
Shares of Household Income of Quintiles									
Lowest quintile	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.3
Second quintile	9.9	9.9	10.0	10.1	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.3
Third quintile	16.3	16.4	16.5	16.7	16.8	16.8	16.8	16.9	17.0
Fourth quintile	24.6	24.6	24.5	24.8	24.7	24.6	24.7	24.7	24.7
Highest quintile	45.2	45.1	45.0	44.3	44.1	44.2	44.1	44.0	43.7
Top 5 percent	17.1	17.0	17.0	16.5	16.5	16.9	16.8	16.8	16.6
Summary Measures									
Gini index of income inequality	0.415	0.414	0.412	0.406	0.403	0.404	0.402	0.402	0.398
Mean logarithmic deviation of income	0.391	0.397	0.401	0.387	0.375	0.369	0.363	0.364	0.361
Theil	0.290	0.288	0.287	0.277	0.274	0.279	0.275	0.276	0.271
Atkinson:									
e=0.25	0.073	0.072	0.072	0.070	0.069	0.070	0.069	0.069	0.068
e=0.50	0.147	0.147	0.146	0.141	0.140	0.141	0.139	0.139	0.137
e=0.75	0.225	0.226	0.226	0.220	0.216	0.216	0.213	0.213	0.211
STANDARD ERROR									
Household Income at Selected Percentiles									
10th percentile limit	93	95	95	143	140	139	140	133	133
20th percentile limit	124	127	127	129	135	145	145	142	145
40th percentile limit	236	205	215	224	233	240	212	220	221
50th (median)	221	215	214	250	249	237	203	182	178
60th percentile limit	272	254	264	291	242	253	276	241	242
80th percentile limit	319	289	319	255	301	254	325	250	289
90th percentile limit	407	503	434	419	475	457	375	516	376
95th percentile limit	743	686	816	767	735	787	765	663	763
Household Income Ratios of Selected Percentiles									
90th/10th	0.079	0.088	0.084	0.114	0.110	0.108	0.102	0.102	0.099
95th/20th	0.056	0.056	0.062	0.059	0.057	0.059	0.059	0.056	0.059
95th/50th	0.020	0.019	0.021	0.020	0.019	0.020	0.020	0.018	0.020
80th/50th	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.009	0.010	0.009	0.010	0.009	0.010
80th/20th	0.030	0.031	0.032	0.030	0.031	0.031	0.033	0.032	0.032
20th/50th	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.004
Mean Household Income of Quintiles									
Lowest quintile	45	46	46	47	47	48	49	50	49
Second quintile	42	41	42	41	43	44	46	45	45
Third quintile	49	48	47	49	49	52	52	50	51
Fourth quintile	71	68	67	65	65	66	67	66	64
Highest quintile	428	413	415	389	421	469	467	478	474
Top 5 percent	1,357	1,276	1,306	1,228	1,431	1,529	1,511	1,609	1,622
Shares of Household Income of Quintiles									
Lowest quintile	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04
Second quintile	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.09
Third quintile	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.15
Fourth quintile	0.19	0.19	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.21	0.21	0.21
Highest quintile	0.35	0.36	0.36	0.35	0.36	0.36	0.37	0.37	0.37
Top 5 percent	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.35	0.36	0.35	0.35	0.36	0.36
Summary Measures									
Gini index of income inequality	0.0037	0.0037	0.0038	0.0038	0.0036	0.0038	0.0039	0.0039	0.0041
Mean logarithmic deviation of income	0.0055	0.0056	0.0057	0.0056	0.0051	0.0050	0.0054	0.0054	0.0054
Theil	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001
Atkinson:									
e=0.25	0.0006	0.0006	0.0006	0.0006	0.0006	0.0006	0.0006	0.0006	0.0006
e=0.50	0.0011	0.0011	0.0011	0.0011	0.0010	0.0011	0.0011	0.0011	0.0011
e=0.75	0.0016	0.0016	0.0017	0.0017	0.0016	0.0017	0.0016	0.0017	0.0017

See footnotes at end of table.

Table A-2.

Selected Measures of Household Income Dispersion: 1967 to 2014—Con.

(Income in 2014 CPI-U-RS adjusted dollars. Beginning with 2010, standard errors were calculated using replicate weights. For further explanation of income inequality measures, see Current Population Reports, Series P60-204, *The Changing Shape of the Nation's Income Distribution: 1947–1998*. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <ftp://ftp2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar15.pdf>)

Measures of income dispersion	1975 ¹⁷	1974 ^{17,18}	1973	1972 ¹⁹	1971 ²⁰	1970	1969	1968	1967 ²¹
MEASURE									
Household Income at Selected Percentiles									
10th percentile limit	12,243	12,587	12,503	11,939	11,197	11,024	11,282	10,998	10,102
20th percentile limit	20,006	21,044	20,943	20,498	19,809	20,067	20,411	19,818	18,593
40th percentile limit	37,547	39,035	40,271	39,477	37,762	38,443	39,166	37,573	36,257
50th (median)	47,213	48,483	50,069	49,078	47,062	47,524	47,896	46,179	44,271
60th percentile limit	56,736	57,680	59,585	58,344	55,569	55,915	56,642	53,854	51,461
80th percentile limit	81,463	83,712	85,791	83,508	79,236	79,775	79,360	75,671	73,382
90th percentile limit	104,430	107,942	110,740	107,296	101,651	101,616	100,696	95,423	93,215
95th percentile limit	128,552	132,498	137,889	134,398	125,828	126,102	124,463	118,384	117,759
Household Income Ratios of Selected Percentiles									
90th/10th	8.53	8.58	8.86	8.99	9.08	9.22	8.93	8.68	9.23
95th/20th	6.43	6.30	6.58	6.56	6.35	6.28	6.10	5.97	6.33
95th/50th	2.72	2.73	2.75	2.74	2.67	2.65	2.60	2.56	2.66
80th/50th	1.73	1.73	1.71	1.70	1.68	1.68	1.66	1.64	1.66
80th/20th	4.07	3.98	4.10	4.07	4.00	3.98	3.89	3.82	3.95
20th/50th	0.42	0.43	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.43	0.43	0.42
Mean Household Income of Quintiles									
Lowest quintile	11,640	12,049	12,094	11,555	10,906	10,838	11,030	10,769	9,915
Second quintile	28,592	29,948	30,407	29,847	28,824	29,361	29,780	28,880	27,473
Third quintile	46,911	48,268	49,875	48,709	46,731	47,280	47,587	45,802	43,865
Fourth quintile	68,162	69,708	71,747	69,928	66,437	66,644	66,654	63,893	61,372
Highest quintile	120,345	123,506	128,376	125,541	117,721	117,985	117,156	111,023	110,447
Top 5 percent	182,628	187,729	197,739	194,583	180,563	181,093	180,328	169,742	174,219
Shares of Household Income of Quintiles									
Lowest quintile	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.0
Second quintile	10.4	10.6	10.4	10.4	10.6	10.8	10.9	11.1	10.8
Third quintile	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.3	17.4	17.5	17.6	17.3
Fourth quintile	24.7	24.6	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.2
Highest quintile	43.6	43.5	43.9	43.9	43.5	43.3	43.0	42.6	43.6
Top 5 percent	16.5	16.5	16.9	17.0	16.7	16.6	16.6	16.3	17.2
Summary Measures									
Gini index of income inequality	0.397	0.395	0.400	0.401	0.396	0.394	0.391	0.386	0.397
Mean logarithmic deviation of income	0.361	0.352	0.355	0.370	0.370	0.370	0.357	0.356	0.380
Theil	0.270	0.267	0.270	0.279	0.273	0.271	0.268	0.273	0.287
Atkinson:									
e=0.25	0.067	0.067	0.068	0.070	0.068	0.068	0.067	0.067	0.071
e=0.50	0.136	0.134	0.136	0.140	0.138	0.138	0.135	0.135	0.143
e=0.75	0.210	0.207	0.210	0.216	0.214	0.214	0.209	0.208	0.220
STANDARD ERROR									
Household Income at Selected Percentiles									
10th percentile limit	127	134	133	132	128	133	136	134	129
20th percentile limit	147	179	177	176	171	178	181	178	173
40th percentile limit	220	228	244	238	225	231	229	216	205
50th (median)	192	186	191	187	182	174	177	167	161
60th percentile limit	250	268	290	239	234	249	230	225	235
80th percentile limit	345	237	275	326	386	206	220	246	290
90th percentile limit	473	390	400	540	289	327	388	512	689
95th percentile limit	693	874	627	847	506	626	771	532	500
Household Income Ratios of Selected Percentiles									
90th/10th	0.097	0.096	0.100	0.109	0.107	0.115	0.113	0.115	0.136
95th/20th	0.059	0.068	0.063	0.070	0.060	0.064	0.066	0.060	0.065
95th/50th	0.019	0.022	0.018	0.021	0.016	0.017	0.020	0.016	0.016
80th/50th	0.010	0.009	0.010	0.010	0.011	0.008	0.008	0.009	0.010
80th/20th	0.035	0.036	0.037	0.038	0.040	0.037	0.036	0.036	0.040
20th/50th	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004
Mean Household Income of Quintiles									
Lowest quintile	49	52	50	52	51	54	53	54	51
Second quintile	45	47	51	50	48	50	51	50	50
Third quintile	49	47	51	50	48	47	47	45	44
Fourth quintile	63	66	67	66	63	63	62	59	58
Highest quintile	475	480	520	545	517	531	542	508	552
Top 5 percent	1,674	1,632	1,762	1,923	1,872	1,935	1,997	1,869	2,014
Shares of Household Income of Quintiles									
Lowest quintile	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04
Second quintile	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.11	0.10
Third quintile	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.17	0.17
Fourth quintile	0.21	0.21	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23
Highest quintile	0.38	0.38	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.41
Top 5 percent	0.36	0.36	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.41
Summary Measures									
Gini index of income inequality	0.0056	0.0066	0.0040	0.0069	0.0063	0.0078	0.0066	0.0042	0.0044
Mean logarithmic deviation of income	0.0059	0.0058	0.0057	0.0060	0.0061	0.0060	0.0058	0.0057	0.0060
Theil	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001
Atkinson:									
e=0.25	0.0007	0.0006	0.0007	0.0007	0.0007	0.0007	0.0008	0.0007	0.0008
e=0.50	0.0012	0.0011	0.0012	0.0013	0.0013	0.0013	0.0014	0.0012	0.0014
e=0.75	0.0018	0.0017	0.0017	0.0018	0.0019	0.0019	0.0020	0.0018	0.0020

See footnotes on next page.

¹ The 2014 CPS ASEC included redesigned questions for income and health insurance coverage. All of the approximately 98,000 addresses were eligible to receive the redesigned set of health insurance coverage questions. The redesigned income questions were implemented to a subsample of these 98,000 addresses using a probability split panel design. Approximately 68,000 addresses were eligible to receive a set of income questions similar to those used in the 2013 CPS ASEC and the remaining 30,000 addresses were eligible to receive the redesigned income questions. The source of these 2013 estimates is the portion of the CPS ASEC sample which received the redesigned income questions, approximately 30,000 addresses.

² The source of these 2013 estimates is the portion of the CPS ASEC sample which received the income questions consistent with the 2013 CPS ASEC, approximately 68,000 addresses.

³ Implementation of Census 2010-based population controls.

⁴ Medians are calculated using \$2,500 income intervals. Beginning with 2009 income data, the Census Bureau expanded the upper income intervals used to calculate medians to \$250,000 or more. Medians falling in the upper open-ended interval are plugged with "\$250,000." Before 2009, the upper open-ended interval was \$100,000 and a plug of "\$100,000" was used.

⁵ The 2004 data have been revised to reflect a correction to the weights in the 2005 ASEC.

⁶ Implementation of a 28,000 household sample expansion.

⁷ Implementation of Census 2000-based population controls.

⁸ Full implementation of 1990 census-based sample design and metropolitan definitions, 7,000 household sample reduction, and revised editing of responses on race.

⁹ Introduction of 1990 census sample design.

¹⁰ Data collection method changed from paper and pencil to computer-assisted interviewing. In addition, the 1994 ASEC was revised to allow for the coding of different income amounts on selected questionnaire items. Limits either increased or decreased in the following categories: earnings limits increased to \$999,999; social security limits increased to \$49,999; supplemental security income and public assistance limits increased to \$24,999; veterans' benefits limits increased to \$99,999; child support and alimony limits decreased to \$49,999.

¹¹ Implementation of 1990 census population controls.

¹² Implementation of a new CPS ASEC processing system.

¹³ Recording of amounts for earnings from longest job increased to \$299,999. Full implementation of 1980 census-based sample design.

¹⁴ Implementation of Hispanic population weighting controls and introduction of 1980 census-based sample design.

¹⁵ Implementation of 1980 census population controls. Questionnaire expanded to allow the recording of up to 27 possible values from a list of 51 possible sources of income.

¹⁶ First year medians were derived using both Pareto and linear interpolation. Before this year, all medians were derived using linear interpolation.

¹⁷ Some of these estimates were derived using Pareto interpolation and may differ from published data, which were derived using linear interpolation.

¹⁸ Implementation of a new CPS ASEC processing system. Questionnaire expanded to ask 11 income questions.

¹⁹ Full implementation of 1970 census-based sample design.

²⁰ Introduction of 1970 census sample design and population controls.

²¹ Implementation of a new CPS ASEC processing system.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1968 to 2015 Annual Social and Economic Supplements.