

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: [The Economic Experience of Non-College Americans Over the Pandemic](#)

Article Link: <https://www.thirdway.org/report/the-economic-experience-of-non-college-americans-over-the-pandemic>

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Tweet: Real median weekly earnings for non-college workers grew by 4.6% from Q4 2019 to Q1 2024, vs. 3.3% for their college peers, a reversal from the Great Recession “when real college wages consistently grew faster than non-college wages.” @ernietedeschi

Summary: The pandemic has been extraordinary among recent US recessions in the growth of non-college wages. In 2019, the typical non-college worker aged 25-64 earned \$829 a week in inflation-adjusted 2023 dollars. Over the four quarters ending in 2024 Q1, their weekly earnings were \$867, a 4.6% increase and higher than any pre-pandemic quarter on record. In contrast, college workers have seen a 3.3% increase in real median weekly earnings since 2019. The stronger performance of non-college wages is in stark contrast with the Great Recession when real college wages consistently grew faster than non-college wages. [Similarly,] Inflation-adjusted wealth has grown by 5.5% for non-college households, versus 4.8% for college households.

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Primary Topic: Wages/Income

Topics: Business Cycle, Database, GDP, Inequality, Op-Ed/Blog Post, Wages/Income, Workforce

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