Dataviz - Homework 2
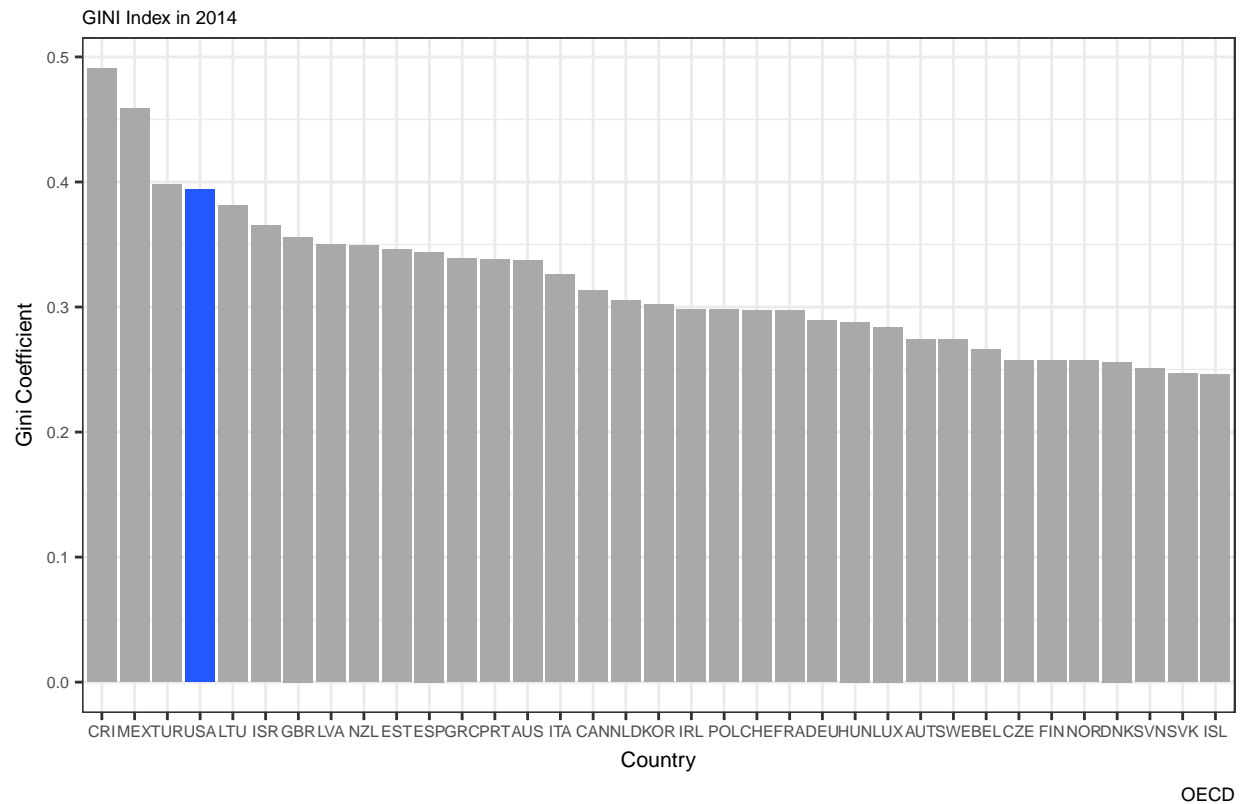
Jasmin Dial

10/15/2017
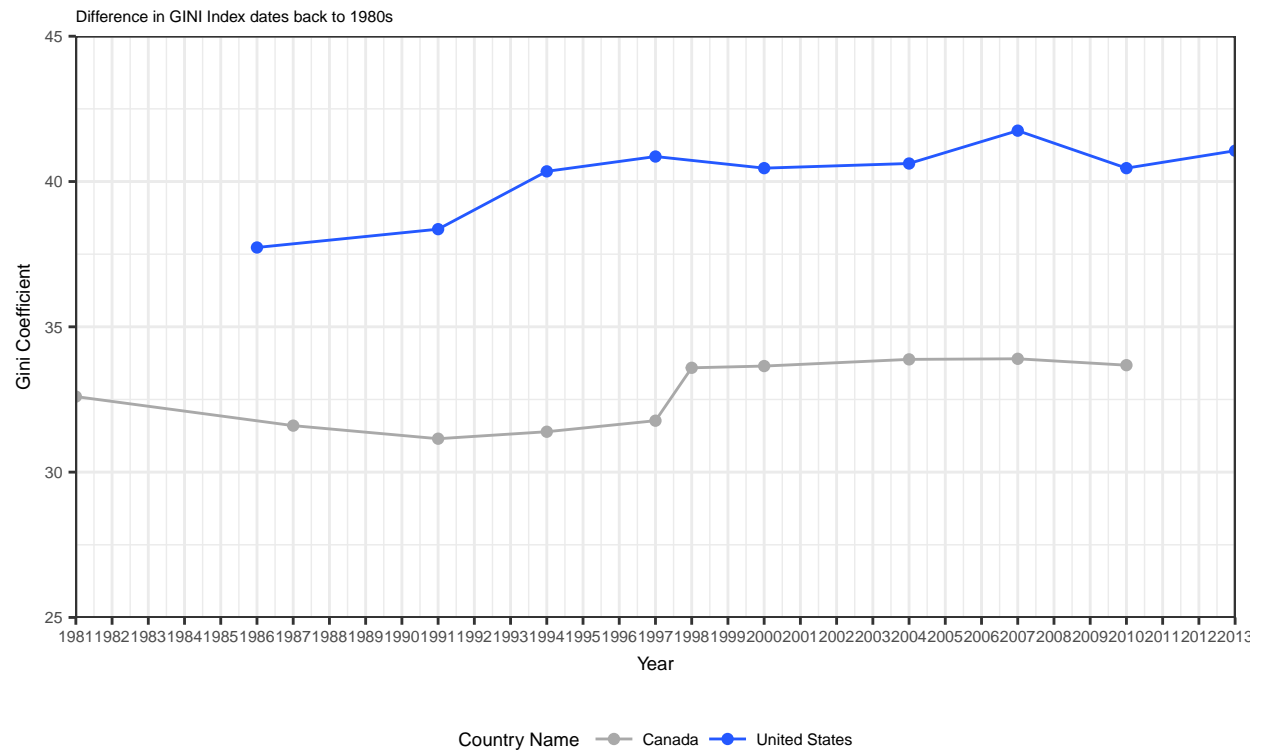
Plot 1

USA Fourth Highest in Income Inequality across OECD Countries

GINI Index in 2014

OECD

Based on the value of Gini Coefficients, a metric for inequality of income distribution, the United States is one of the most unequal countries in the OECD. In 2014, it ranked below only three other countries.
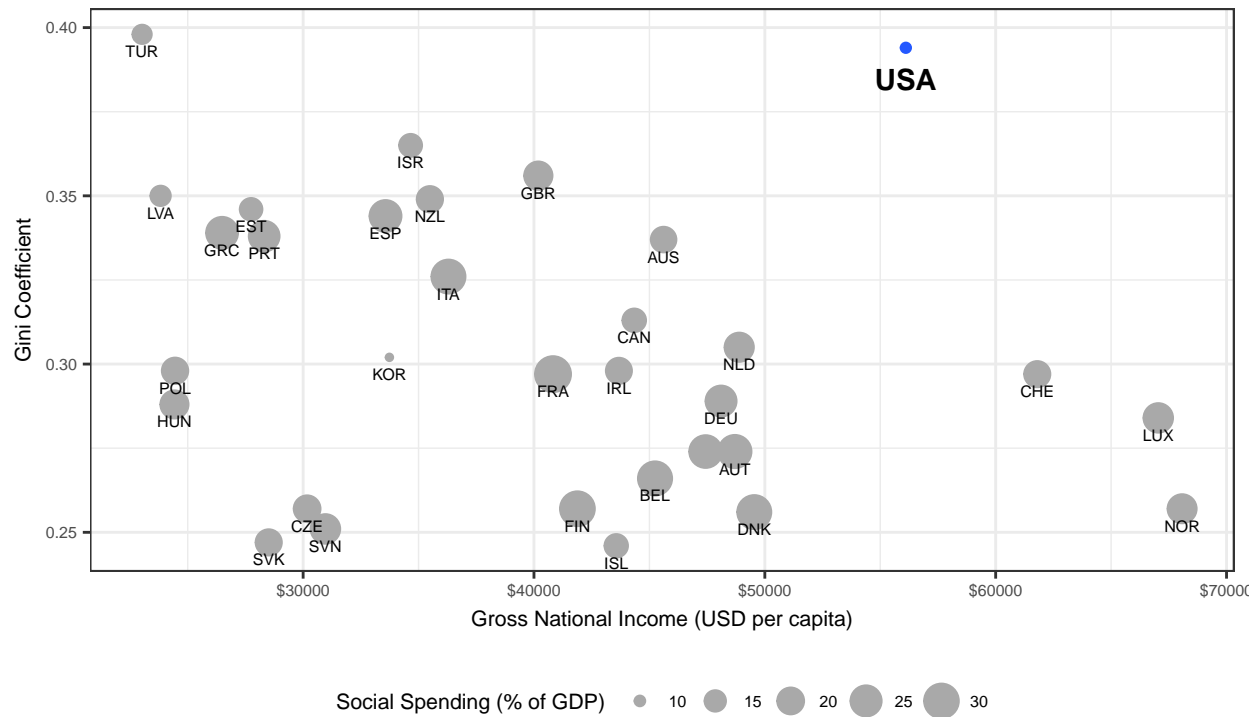
Plot 2

US Consistenly More Unequal than CAN

Difference in GINI Index dates back to 1980s

This high level of income inequality is not new for the United States. For example, US has had a significanlty higher Gini Coefficient than Canada since the 1980s.

Plot 3

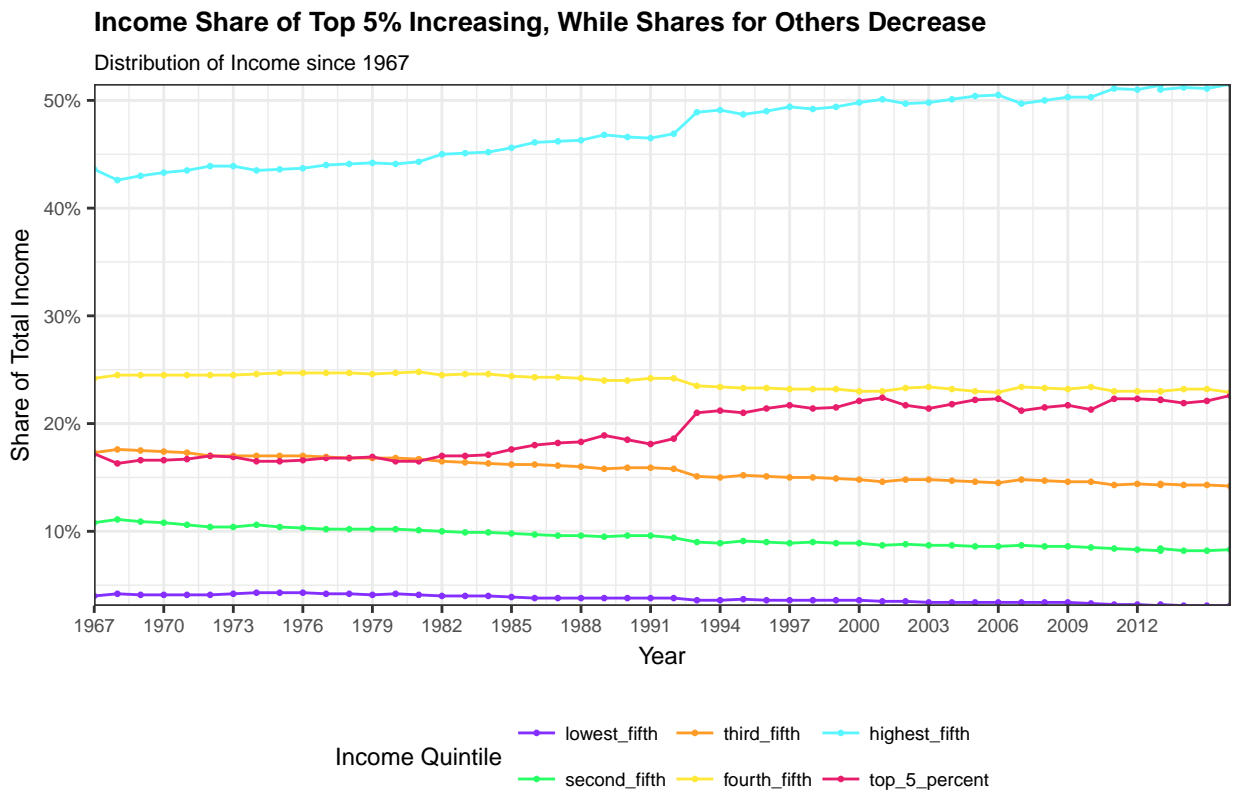## US Most Unequal among High–Income Countries

Remains behind less unequal countries in social spending

Social Spending (% of GDP)   • 10   ● 15   ● 20   ● 25   ● 30

According to Our World in Data, countries with higher income have lower inequality. However, the Unites States is once again an outlier, having the highest income inequality even among higher income countries. The US also lags behind OECD countries in terms of public social spending.

Plot 4

Income Share of Top 5% Increasing, While Shares for Others Decrease
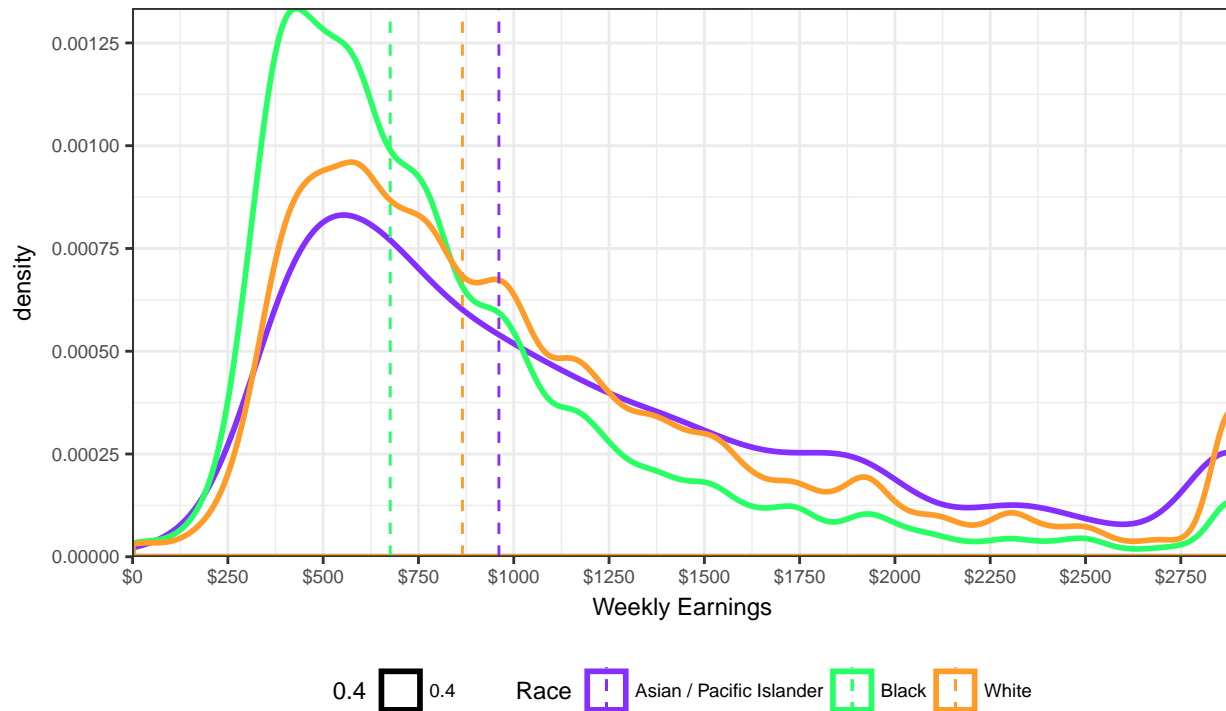
Distribution of Income since 1967

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With a closer focus on inequality within the United States, we can see that the top 5% of earners hold nearly 25% of the income share. Over time, more of the income share has gone to the top 20% of earners, and the income share for the top 5% has grown the fastest.

Plot 5

Black workers more likely to earn less than $1000/week

Distribution of Full–Time Earnings by Race

2016 CPS Merged Outgoing Rotation Group

Further patterns of income inequality emerge when earnings are separated by race. A larger percentage of Black workers earned less than $1000 per week in 2016 compared to White and Asian workers. The dashed lines show median income for each group - black workers have the lowest median, and the earnings of Asian workers are less skewed than White earners.