

# Dollars & Data: Analyzing US Household Income with MySQL

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# Introduction:

- Household income is one of the most important indicators of economic well-being in the United States.
- It directly impacts living standards, access to healthcare, education, housing affordability, and social mobility.
- In recent decades, trends in household income have been influenced by inflation, wage stagnation, globalization, technological change, and demographic shifts.
- Understanding income distribution patterns helps policymakers, researchers, and businesses design better economic strategies and social programs.

# Project Overview:

- The project focuses on analyzing U.S. household income data to uncover patterns, disparities, and long-term trends.
- Data sources may include U.S. Census Bureau (Current Population Survey, American Community Survey), Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Federal Reserve reports.
- The analysis covers aspects such as:
  - Median household income (national, regional, state-level)
  - Income inequality (Gini coefficient, top vs. bottom percentiles)
  - Demographic breakdowns (race, gender, age, education, employment sector)
  - Cost of living vs. income growth
- The ultimate goal is to provide data-driven insights into how income is distributed and what factors drive disparities.

# Problem Statement:

- Despite being one of the wealthiest nations, the U.S. faces growing income inequality and stagnant wages for middle- and lower-income households.
- Median household income growth has not kept pace with inflation, reducing real purchasing power.
- Wealth is increasingly concentrated in the top income brackets, while many households struggle with basic affordability (housing, healthcare, education).
- Disparities in income are highly correlated with race, education, and geographic region, reflecting deep-rooted structural inequalities.
- Without accurate data analysis, policies may fail to address the real challenges of income disparity, leaving vulnerable populations behind.

# Unstructured Data:

|   | row_id | id    | State_Code | State_Name | State_ab | County         | City         | Place        | Type  | Primary | Zip_Code | Area_Code | ALand     | AWater   | Lat        | Lon         |
|---|--------|-------|------------|------------|----------|----------------|--------------|--------------|-------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|------------|-------------|
| ► | 1      | 1026  | 1          | Alabama    | AL       | Autauga County | Elmore       | Autaugaville | Track | Track   | 36025    | 334       | 8020338   | 60048    | 32.4473511 | -86.4768097 |
|   | 2      | 10216 | 1          | Alabama    | AL       | Autauga County | Robertsdale  | Autaugaville | Track | Track   | 36567    | 251       | 737211648 | 3860933  | 30.7200267 | -87.6245437 |
|   | 3      | 10226 | 1          | Alabama    | AL       | Autauga County | Silverhill   | Autaugaville | Track | Track   | 36576    | 251       | 71113244  | 190587   | 30.5345606 | -87.7548736 |
|   | 4      | 10236 | 1          | Alabama    | AL       | Autauga County | Orange Beach | Autaugaville | Track | Track   | 36561    | 251       | 15491986  | 20427550 | 30.3005856 | -87.5417985 |
|   | 5      | 10246 | 1          | Alabama    | AL       | Autauga County | Louisville   | Autaugaville | Track | Track   | 36048    | 334       | 517008078 | 983621   | 31.9222753 | -85.4498309 |
|   | 6      | 10256 | 1          | Alabama    | AL       | Autauga County | Brent        | Autaugaville | Track | Track   | 35034    | 205       | 691793540 | 3983687  | 32.9533249 | -87.0043466 |
|   | 7      | 10266 | 1          | alabama    | AL       | Autauga County | Remlap       | Autaugaville | Track | Track   | 35133    | 205       | 203716769 | 1004680  | 33.8405764 | -86.6350183 |
|   | 8      | 10276 | 1          | Alabama    | AL       | Autauga County | Georgiana    | Autaugaville | Track | Track   | 36033    | 334       | 352261684 | 177369   | 31.7163243 | -86.7533225 |
|   | 9      | 10286 | 1          | Alabama    | AL       | Autauga County | Anniston     | Autaugaville | Track | Track   | 36207    | 256       | 12116269  | 23502    | 33.6448084 | -85.796557  |
|   | 10     | 10296 | 1          | Alabama    | AL       | Autauga County | Jacksonville | Autaugaville | Track | Track   | 36265    | 256       | 41129558  | 487657   | 33.7661796 | -85.7864612 |

# Summary of Problems:

- Duplicate/confusing columns (row\_id vs id, Type vs Primary).
- Ambiguous names (Place, Type, Primary, Area\_Code).
- Inconsistent naming conventions (snake\_case + PascalCase mix).
- Abbreviations that aren't self-explanatory (ALand, AWater, Lat, Lon).
- Case-sensitivity inconsistency in values (Alabama vs alabama).

Q1: Show me all the unique state names from the table us\_household\_income.

|   | State_Name           |
|---|----------------------|
| ► | Alabama              |
|   | Alaska               |
|   | Arizona              |
|   | Arkansas             |
|   | California           |
|   | Colorado             |
|   | Connecticut          |
|   | Delaware             |
|   | District of Columbia |
|   | Florida              |
|   | Georgia              |
|   | georgia              |
|   | Hawaii               |
|   | Idaho                |
|   | Illinois             |
|   | Indiana              |
|   | Iowa                 |
|   | Kansas               |
|   | Kentucky             |

Q2: Write a SQL query to display each state name along with the count of rows (places/records) for that state in the us\_household\_income table.

|   | State_Name           | place_count |
|---|----------------------|-------------|
| ► | Alabama              | 527         |
|   | Alaska               | 87          |
|   | Arizona              | 606         |
|   | Arkansas             | 340         |
|   | California           | 3268        |
|   | Colorado             | 513         |
|   | Connecticut          | 355         |
|   | Delaware             | 88          |
|   | District of Columbia | 64          |



Q3: Write a SQL query to list all states along with the number of places they contain, and display them in descending order of place count.

|   | State_Name     | place_count |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| ► | California     | 3268        |
|   | Texas          | 2275        |
|   | New York       | 2161        |
|   | Florida        | 1658        |
|   | Pennsylvania   | 1475        |
|   | Illinois       | 1431        |
|   | Ohio           | 1349        |
|   | Michigan       | 1171        |
|   | North Carolina | 915         |

Q4: Write a SQL query to display the Avg\_Land and Avg\_Water values from the us\_household\_income table.

|   | Avg_Land  | Avg_Water |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| ▶ | 8020338   | 60048     |
|   | 737211648 | 3860933   |
|   | 71113244  | 190587    |
|   | 15491986  | 20427550  |
|   | 517008078 | 983621    |
|   | 691793540 | 3983687   |
|   | 203716769 | 1004680   |
|   | 352261684 | 177369    |
|   | 12116269  | 23502     |
|   | .....     | .....     |

Q5: Write a SQL query to calculate the average land area and average water area for each state in the us\_household\_income table, rounded to two decimal places.

|   | State_Name           | avg_land_area | avg_water_area |
|---|----------------------|---------------|----------------|
| ► | Alabama              | 108850171.23  | 4587846.74     |
|   | Alaska               | 142930048.80  | 41725737.98    |
|   | Arizona              | 89332785.31   | 279511.36      |
|   | Arkansas             | 171057374.72  | 3497673.13     |
|   | California           | 27679818.89   | 1182868.28     |
|   | Colorado             | 87163383.73   | 738978.45      |
|   | Connecticut          | 16466399.97   | 1250218.31     |
|   | Delaware             | 23022086.76   | 7650982.52     |
|   | District of Columbia | 3420132.58    | 379241.31      |

Q6: Write a SQL query to display, for each state, the largest and smallest land area values and the largest and smallest water area values from the us\_household\_income table.

|   | State_Name           | largest_land_area | smallest_land_area | largest_water_area | smallest_water_area |
|---|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| ► | Alabama              | 973585771         | 0                  | 780526158          | 0                   |
|   | Alaska               | 1908739435        | 482353             | 1396368032         | 0                   |
|   | Arizona              | 1896284469        | 290861             | 39469850           | 0                   |
|   | Arkansas             | 1371775477        | 287351             | 104495490          | 0                   |
|   | California           | 2031989773        | 0                  | 869682228          | 0                   |
|   | Colorado             | 2075296718        | 396151             | 39406513           | 0                   |
|   | Connecticut          | 157070494         | 0                  | 93371616           | 0                   |
|   | Delaware             | 295740336         | 0                  | 534631228          | 0                   |
|   | District of Columbia | 158364992         | 204236             | 18633403           | 0                   |

# Structured Data:

|   | row_id | id    | State_Code | State_Name | County_Information | County         | Full_Address                          | Type  | Primary | Area_Code | Avg_Land  | Avg_Water | Latitude | Longitude |
|---|--------|-------|------------|------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|-------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| ▶ | 1      | 1026  | 1          | Alabama    | NULL               | Autauga County | Elmore, Autaugaville, AL, 36025       | Track | Track   | 334       | 8020338   | 60048     | 32       | -86       |
|   | 2      | 10216 | 1          | Alabama    | NULL               | Autauga County | Robertsdale, Autaugaville, AL, 36567  | Track | Track   | 251       | 737211648 | 3860933   | 31       | -88       |
|   | 3      | 10226 | 1          | Alabama    | NULL               | Autauga County | Silverhill, Autaugaville, AL, 36576   | Track | Track   | 251       | 71113244  | 190587    | 31       | -88       |
|   | 4      | 10236 | 1          | Alabama    | NULL               | Autauga County | Orange Beach, Autaugaville, AL, 36561 | Track | Track   | 251       | 15491986  | 20427550  | 30       | -88       |
|   | 5      | 10246 | 1          | Alabama    | NULL               | Autauga County | Louisville, Autaugaville, AL, 36048   | Track | Track   | 334       | 517008078 | 983621    | 32       | -85       |
|   | 6      | 10256 | 1          | Alabama    | NULL               | Autauga County | Brent, Autaugaville, AL, 35034        | Track | Track   | 205       | 691793540 | 3983687   | 33       | -87       |
|   | 7      | 10266 | 1          | alabama    | NULL               | Autauga County | Remlap, Autaugaville, AL, 35133       | Track | Track   | 205       | 203716769 | 1004680   | 34       | -87       |
|   | 8      | 10276 | 1          | Alabama    | NULL               | Autauga County | Georgiana, Autaugaville, AL, 36033    | Track | Track   | 334       | 352261684 | 177369    | 32       | -87       |
|   | 9      | 10286 | 1          | Alabama    | NULL               | Autauga County | Anniston, Autaugaville, AL, 36207     | Track | Track   | 256       | 12116269  | 23502     | 34       | -86       |
|   | 10     | 10296 | 1          | Alabama    | NULL               | Autauga County | Jacksonville, Autaugaville, AL, 36265 | Track | Track   | 256       | 41129558  | 487657    | 34       | -86       |

# Summary of Structured Data:

1. row\_id ek surrogate key hai jo har row ko uniquely identify karta hai.
2. id dataset ka actual unique identifier hai jo source se aaya hai.
3. State\_Code ek numeric code hai jo state ko represent karta hai.
4. State\_Name me state ka naam hai lekin casing inconsistent hai (Alabama vs alabama).
5. County\_Information mostly NULL hai aur redundant lag raha hai.
6. County county ka naam store karta hai.
7. Full\_Address composite field hai jisme city, county, state aur zip combine hain.
8. Type aur Primary dono hi "Track" repeat kar rahe hain aur extra lag rahe hain.
9. Area\_Code census ka geographic area code hai, phone code nahi.
10. Avg\_Land land area value hai, lekin naam misleading hai (better hota Land\_Area).
11. Avg\_Water water area value hai, iska bhi naam misleading hai (better hota Water\_Area).
12. Latitude aur Longitude coordinates hain mapping aur GIS analysis ke liye.



# Final Takeaways:

- Household income isn't just numbers, it's quality of life. Income trends directly shape affordability, opportunity, and long-term economic security.
- Inequality is widening. Wealth is concentrating at the top, while middle- and lower-income households face wage stagnation and rising costs of living.
- Demographics matter. Race, education, gender, and geography all play a huge role in shaping income outcomes, reflecting systemic imbalances.
- Real vs. nominal income. Even when incomes rise on paper, inflation often erodes actual purchasing power.
- Data is power. Careful analysis of household income data helps identify structural issues, forecast trends, and guide evidence-based policymaking.
- Future focus: Without addressing disparities, income inequality could threaten social mobility, economic stability, and trust in institutions.