

Household Income Distributions, 1967 through 2020
(current dollars)

2016		2017		2018		2019		2020		
Quintile	Upper Limit	Mean								
Lowest quintile	\$24,002	\$12,943	\$24,638	\$13,258	\$25,600	\$13,775	\$28,084	\$15,286	\$27,026	\$14,589
Second quintile	\$45,600	\$34,504	\$47,110	\$35,401	\$50,000	\$37,293	\$53,503	\$40,652	\$52,179	\$39,479
Middle quintile	\$74,869	\$59,149	\$77,552	\$61,564	\$79,542	\$63,572	\$86,488	\$68,938	\$85,076	\$67,846
Fourth quintile	\$121,018	\$95,178	\$126,855	\$99,030	\$130,000	\$101,570	\$142,501	\$111,112	\$141,110	\$109,732
Top quintile	--	\$213,941	--	\$221,846	--	\$233,895	--	\$254,449	--	\$253,484
Top 5% ¹	\$225,251	\$375,088	\$237,034	\$385,289	\$248,728	\$416,520	\$270,002	\$451,122	\$273,739	\$446,030
2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		
Quintile	Upper Limit	Mean								
Lowest quintile	\$20,262	\$11,239	\$20,599	\$11,490	\$21,000	\$11,594	\$21,432	\$11,676	\$22,800	\$12,457
Second quintile	\$38,520	\$29,204	\$39,764	\$29,696	\$41,035	\$30,812	\$41,186	\$31,087	\$43,511	\$32,631
Middle quintile	\$62,434	\$49,842	\$64,582	\$51,179	\$67,200	\$53,741	\$68,212	\$54,041	\$72,001	\$56,832
Fourth quintile	\$101,582	\$80,080	\$104,096	\$82,098	\$110,232	\$86,473	\$112,262	\$87,834	\$112,262	\$92,031
Top quintile	--	\$178,020	--	\$181,905	--	\$193,352	--	\$194,053	--	\$202,366
Top 5% ¹	\$186,000	\$311,444	\$191,156	\$318,052	\$205,128	\$334,465	\$206,568	\$332,347	\$214,462	\$350,870
2006		2007		2008		2009		2010		
Quintile	Upper Limit	Mean								
Lowest quintile	\$20,035	\$11,352	\$20,291	\$11,551	\$20,712	\$11,656	\$20,453	\$11,552	\$20,000	\$10,994
Second quintile	\$37,774	\$28,777	\$39,100	\$29,442	\$39,000	\$29,517	\$38,550	\$29,257	\$38,000	\$28,532
Middle quintile	\$60,000	\$48,223	\$62,000	\$49,968	\$62,725	\$50,132	\$61,801	\$49,534	\$61,500	\$49,167
Fourth quintile	\$97,032	\$76,329	\$100,000	\$79,111	\$100,240	\$79,760	\$100,000	\$78,694	\$100,029	\$78,877
Top quintile	--	\$168,170	--	\$167,971	--	\$171,057	--	\$170,844	--	\$169,391
Top 5% ¹	\$174,012	\$297,405	\$177,000	\$287,191	\$180,000	\$294,709	\$180,001	\$295,388	\$180,485	\$287,201
2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		
Quintile	Upper Limit	Mean								
Lowest quintile	\$17,970	\$10,136	\$17,916	\$9,990	\$17,984	\$9,996	\$18,486	\$10,224	\$19,178	\$10,655
Second quintile	\$33,314	\$25,468	\$33,377	\$25,400	\$34,000	\$25,678	\$34,675	\$26,212	\$36,000	\$27,357
Middle quintile	\$53,000	\$42,629	\$53,162	\$42,802	\$54,453	\$43,588	\$55,230	\$44,411	\$57,660	\$46,301
Fourth quintile	\$83,500	\$66,839	\$84,016	\$67,326	\$86,867	\$68,994	\$88,002	\$70,026	\$91,705	\$72,825
Top quintile	--	\$145,970	--	\$143,743	--	\$147,078	--	\$151,438	--	\$159,583
Top 5% ¹	\$150,499	\$260,464	\$150,002	\$251,010	\$154,120	\$253,239	\$157,152	\$263,896	\$166,000	\$281,155
1996		1997		1998		1999		2000		
Quintile	Upper Limit	Mean								
Lowest quintile	\$14,768	\$8,595	\$15,400	\$8,839	\$16,116	\$9,223	\$17,136	\$9,915	\$17,955	\$10,190
Second quintile	\$27,760	\$21,097	\$29,200	\$22,098	\$30,408	\$23,288	\$31,920	\$24,345	\$33,006	\$25,334
Middle quintile	\$44,006	\$35,486	\$46,000	\$37,177	\$48,337	\$38,967	\$50,384	\$40,750	\$52,272	\$42,361
Fourth quintile	\$68,015	\$54,922	\$71,500	\$57,582	\$75,000	\$60,266	\$79,232	\$63,423	\$81,960	\$65,729
Top quintile	--	\$115,514	--	\$122,764	--	\$127,529	--	\$135,250	--	\$141,620
Top 5% ¹	\$119,540	\$201,220	\$126,550	\$215,436	\$132,199	\$222,283	\$142,000	\$235,077	\$145,526	\$250,146
1991		1992		1993		1994		1995		
Quintile	Upper Limit	Mean								
Lowest quintile	\$12,591	\$7,226	\$12,600	\$7,256	\$12,967	\$7,359	\$13,426	\$7,714	\$14,400	\$8,345
Second quintile	\$24,000	\$18,150	\$24,140	\$18,181	\$24,679	\$18,656	\$25,200	\$19,224	\$26,914	\$20,397
Middle quintile	\$37,070	\$30,148	\$37,900	\$30,631	\$38,793	\$31,272	\$40,100	\$32,385	\$42,002	\$34,106
Fourth quintile	\$56,759	\$45,957	\$58,007	\$47,021	\$60,300	\$48,599	\$62,841	\$50,395	\$65,124	\$52,429
Top quintile	--	\$88,127	--	\$91,110	--	\$101,253	--	\$105,945	--	\$109,411
Top 5% ¹	\$96,400	\$137,530	\$99,020	\$144,608	\$104,639	\$173,784	\$109,821	\$183,044	\$113,000	\$188,828

Quintile	1986		1987		1988		1989		1990	
	Upper Limit	Mean								
Lowest quintile	\$10,247	\$5,774	\$10,800	\$6,132	\$11,382	\$6,465	\$12,096	\$6,994	\$12,500	\$7,166
Second quintile	\$19,600	\$14,853	\$20,500	\$15,584	\$21,500	\$16,317	\$23,000	\$17,401	\$23,662	\$18,030
Middle quintile	\$30,419	\$24,855	\$32,000	\$26,055	\$33,506	\$27,291	\$35,350	\$28,925	\$36,200	\$29,781
Fourth quintile	\$45,982	\$37,443	\$48,363	\$39,383	\$50,593	\$41,254	\$53,710	\$43,753	\$55,205	\$44,901
Top quintile	--	\$70,871	--	\$74,897	--	\$78,759	--	\$85,529	--	\$87,137
Top 5% ¹	\$77,106	\$111,024	\$80,928	\$118,000	\$85,640	\$124,215	\$91,750	\$138,185	\$94,748	\$138,756
Quintile	1981		1982		1983		1984		1985	
	Upper Limit	Mean								
Lowest quintile	\$8,024	\$4,602	\$8,400	\$4,790	\$8,949	\$5,053	\$9,500	\$5,436	\$9,941	\$5,614
Second quintile	\$15,000	\$11,464	\$15,976	\$12,121	\$16,640	\$12,693	\$17,780	\$13,540	\$18,704	\$14,227
Middle quintile	\$23,200	\$18,991	\$24,410	\$20,064	\$25,539	\$20,986	\$27,393	\$22,438	\$28,975	\$23,615
Fourth quintile	\$34,300	\$28,309	\$36,400	\$29,840	\$38,596	\$31,492	\$41,380	\$33,784	\$43,578	\$35,522
Top quintile	--	\$50,568	--	\$54,729	--	\$57,819	--	\$62,121	--	\$66,353
Top 5% ¹	\$55,200	\$75,144	\$60,086	\$82,697	\$63,500	\$87,359	\$68,500	\$93,774	\$72,004	\$102,354
Quintile	1976		1977		1978		1979		1980	
	Upper Limit	Mean								
Lowest quintile	\$5,405	\$3,152	\$5,734	\$3,335	\$6,318	\$3,685	\$7,000	\$4,006	\$7,478	\$4,310
Second quintile	\$10,070	\$7,717	\$10,800	\$8,209	\$11,946	\$9,050	\$13,000	\$9,964	\$14,024	\$10,727
Middle quintile	\$15,340	\$12,691	\$16,462	\$13,579	\$18,075	\$14,943	\$20,001	\$16,428	\$21,500	\$17,701
Fourth quintile	\$22,070	\$18,430	\$24,000	\$19,896	\$26,288	\$21,890	\$29,000	\$24,108	\$31,480	\$26,078
Top quintile	--	\$32,619	--	\$35,480	--	\$39,081	--	\$43,265	--	\$46,497
Top 5% ¹	\$35,000	\$49,700	\$38,000	\$54,277	\$42,055	\$59,486	\$46,860	\$65,984	\$55,661	\$69,484
Quintile	1971		1972		1973		1974		1975	
	Upper Limit	Mean								
Lowest quintile	\$3,800	\$2,092	\$4,050	\$2,283	\$1,973	\$2,539	\$4,860	\$2,783	\$5,000	\$2,909
Second quintile	\$7,244	\$5,529	\$7,800	\$5,897	\$0	\$6,384	\$9,015	\$6,917	\$9,384	\$7,146
Middle quintile	\$10,660	\$8,965	\$11,528	\$9,624	\$0	\$10,471	\$13,321	\$11,147	\$14,180	\$11,724
Fourth quintile	\$15,200	\$12,745	\$16,500	\$13,817	\$0	\$15,064	\$19,333	\$16,099	\$20,360	\$17,036
Top quintile	--	\$22,583	--	\$24,805	--	\$26,953	--	\$28,523	--	\$30,078
Top 5% ¹	\$24,138	\$34,638	\$26,555	\$38,447	\$28,950	\$41,516	\$30,600	\$43,355	\$32,129	\$45,644
Quintile	1967		1968		1969		1970			
	Upper Limit	Mean								
Lowest quintile		\$3,000	\$1,600	\$3,323	\$1,806	\$3,575	\$1,932	\$3,688	\$1,992	
Second quintile		\$5,850	\$4,433	\$6,300	\$4,842	\$6,860	\$5,216	\$7,065	\$5,396	
Middle quintile		\$8,303	\$7,077	\$9,030	\$7,680	\$9,921	\$8,335	\$10,276	\$8,689	
Fourth quintile		\$11,840	\$9,902	\$12,688	\$10,713	\$13,900	\$11,675	\$14,661	\$12,248	
Top quintile		--	\$17,820	--	\$18,616	--	\$20,520	--	\$21,683	
Top 5% ¹		\$19,000	\$28,110	\$19,850	\$28,461	\$21,800	\$31,585	\$23,175	\$33,281	

Notes: Households as of March of the following year.

¹ Lower income limit, not upper limit as provided for other income quintiles.

Source: US Census Bureau Historical Income Tables. January 2022.

Tables H-1 and H-3: <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/historical-income-households.html>