

Poverty and Income - 2009

Poverty and Income Stats at a Glance

	2009	2008	1999
Poverty rate	14.3%	13.2%	11.9%
Number in poverty	43.6 million	39.8 million	32.8 million
Child poverty rate	20.7%	19.0%	17.1%
Number of children in poverty	15.5 million	14.1 million	12.3 million
Median household income (2009 \$)	\$49,777	\$50,112	\$52,388
Median earnings – men who work full-time, full-year (2009 \$)	\$49,164	\$47,598	\$48,209
Median earnings – women who work full-time, full-year (2009 \$)	\$37,234	\$36,549	\$35,228
Female-to-male earnings ratio	76%	77%	73%

- One in seven Americans lived in poverty in 2009 – the highest rate since 1994. More than one in five children are growing up in poverty.
- In 2009, the poverty threshold for a family of four was \$21,954.
- Poverty rate by race/ethnicity
 - African-American: 25.8%
 - White (non-Hispanic): 9.4%
 - Asian: 12.5%
 - Hispanic: 25.3%
- Median household income was \$49,777 in 2009. The purchasing power of the typical U.S. household is more than \$2,600 lower than it was in 1999.
- Median household income by race/ethnicity
 - African-American: \$32,584
 - White (non-Hispanic): \$54,461
 - Asian: \$65,469
 - Hispanic: \$38,039
- Income distribution
 - Poorest 20% of all households (income less than \$20,453) received just 3.4% of all income.
 - Richest 20% of all households (income over \$100,000) received 50.3% of all income.

- Richest 5% of all households (income over \$180,001) received 21.7% of all income.

The full Census Bureau report can be found at:
<http://www.census.gov/prod/2010pubs/p60-238.pdf>

Next release: 2010 figures will be available in late summer/early fall 2011.

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