Gini Coefficient California pre-tax income, 2000, Gini=62.1%
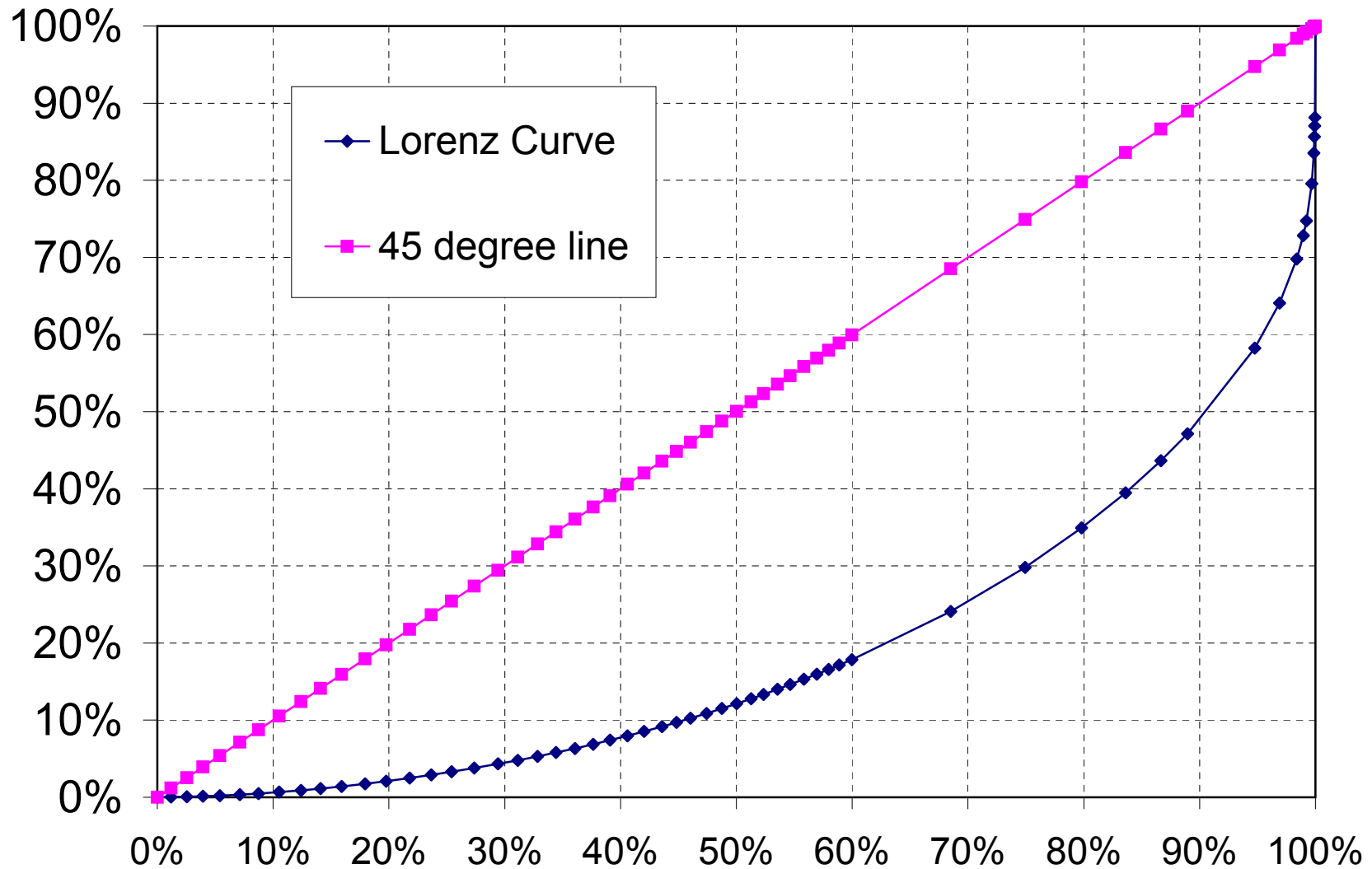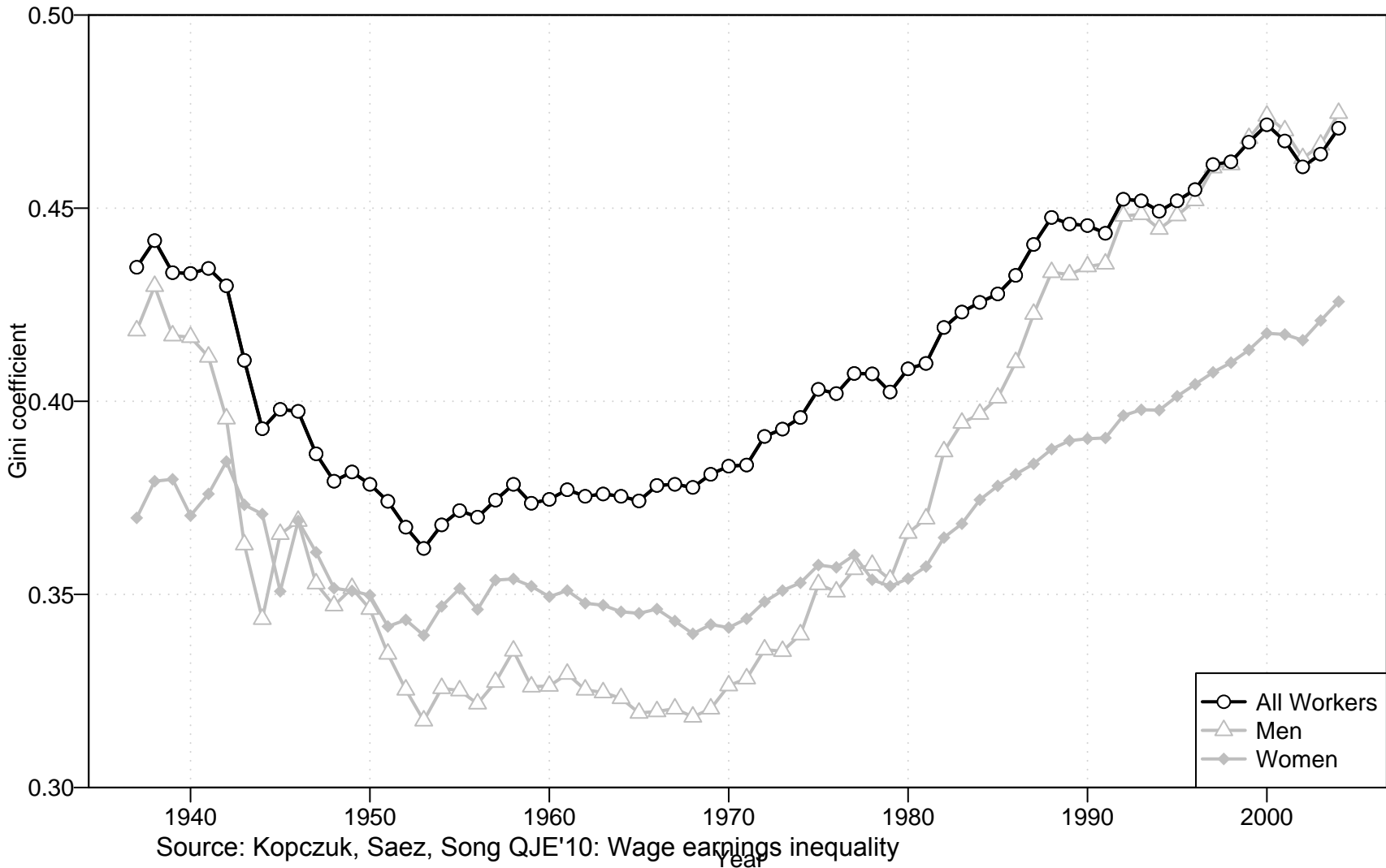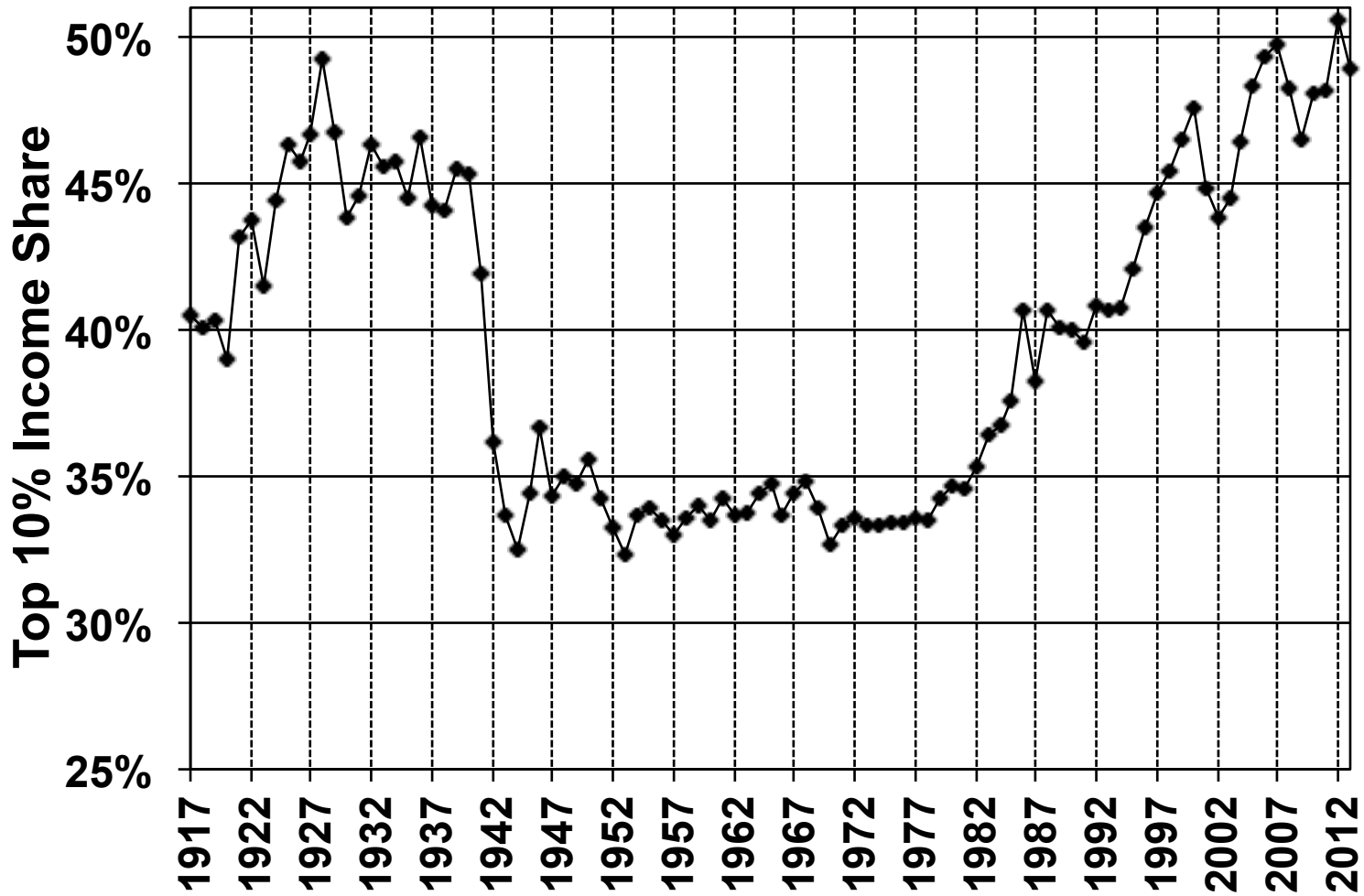

Legend:
- ◆ Lorenz Curve
- ■ 45 degree line

Figure 1: Gini coefficient

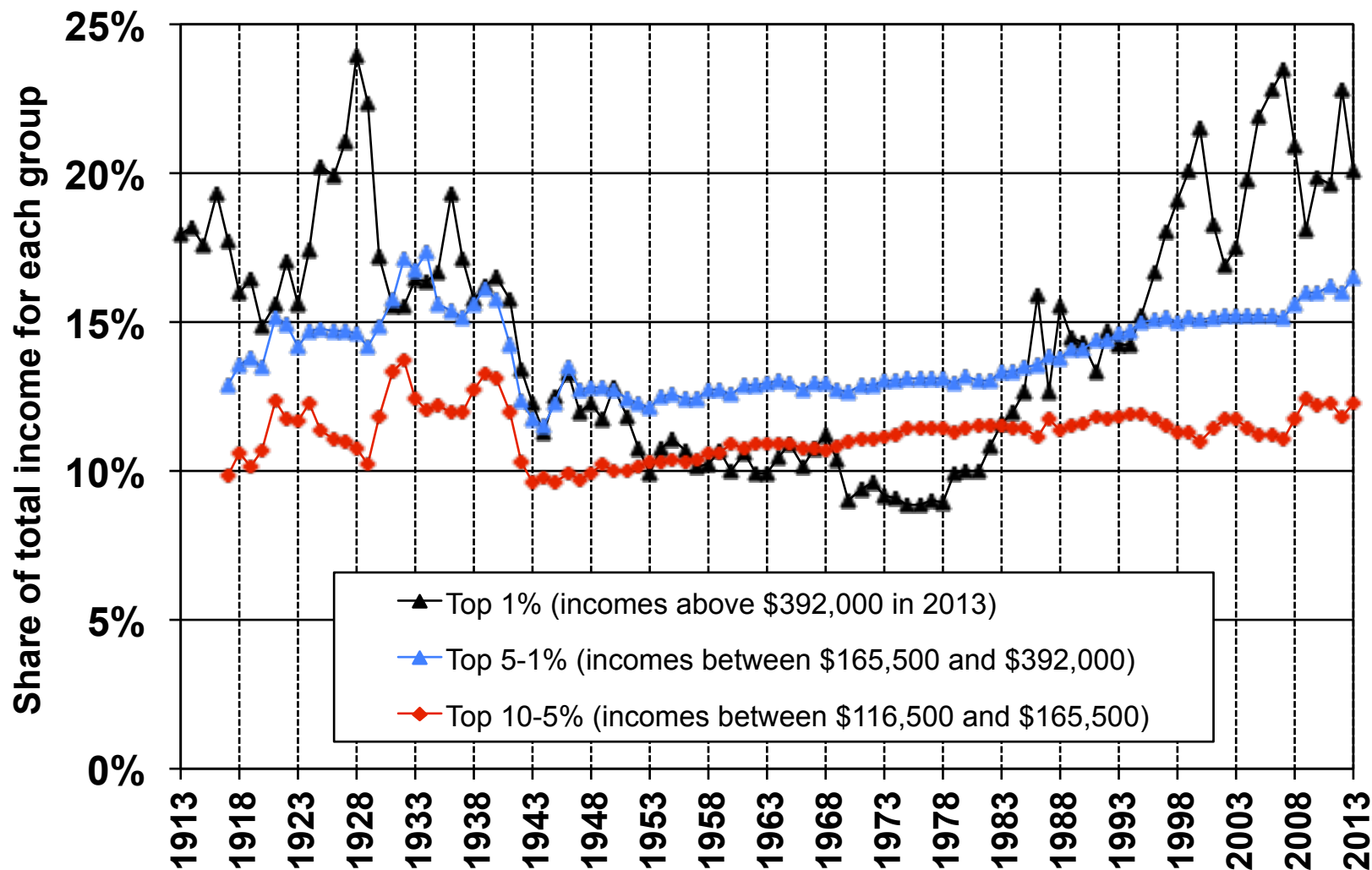Source: Kopczuk, Saez, Song QJE'10: Wage earnings inequality

Top 10% Pre-tax Income Share in the US, 1917-2013

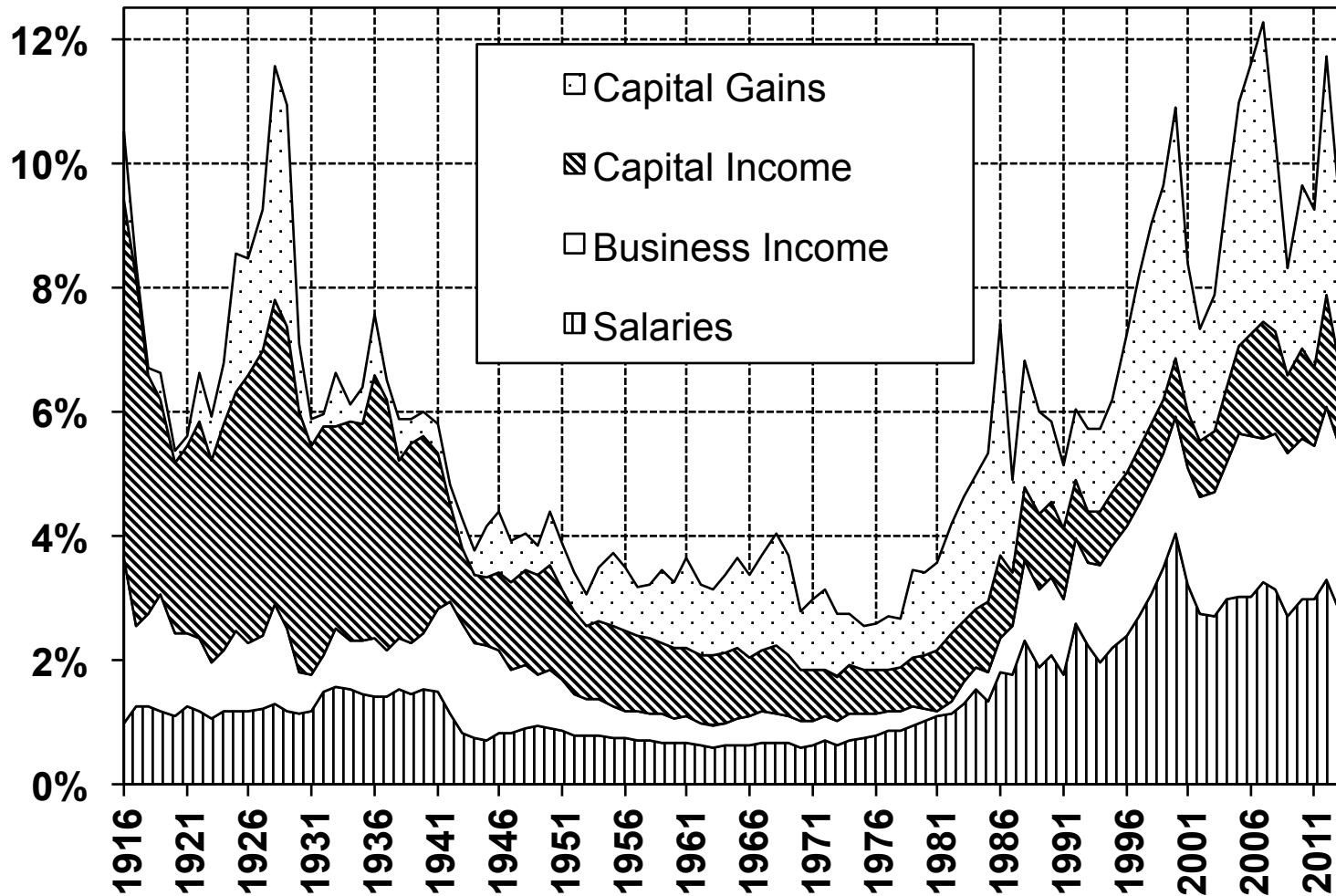Source: Piketty and Saez, 2003 updated to 2013. Series based on pre-tax cash market income including realized capital gains and excluding government transfers.

Decomposing Top 10% into 3 Groups, 1913-2013

Share of total income for each group

Legend:
- Top 1% (incomes above $392,000 in 2013)
- Top 5-1% (incomes between $165,500 and $392,000)
- Top 10-5% (incomes between $116,500 and $165,500)

US Top 0.1% Pre-Tax Income Share and Composition

Legend:
- Capital Gains
- Capital Income
- Business Income
- Salaries

Y-axis: 0%, 2%, 4%, 6%, 8%, 10%, 12%

X-axis: 1916, 1921, 1926, 1931, 1936, 1941, 1946, 1951, 1956, 1961, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011

Source: Piketty and Saez, 2003 updated to 2013. Series based on pre-tax cash market income including or excluding realized capital gains, and always excluding government transfers.

Table 1. Real Income Growth by Groups

	Average Income Real Growth	Top 1% Incomes Real Growth	Bottom 99% Incomes Real Growth	Fraction of total growth (or loss) captured by top 1%
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Full period 1993-2012	**17.9%**	**86.1%**	**6.6%**	**68%**
Clinton Expansion 1993-2000	31.5%	98.7%	20.3%	45%
2001 Recession 2000-2002	-11.7%	-30.8%	-6.5%	57%
Bush Expansion 2002-2007	16.1%	61.8%	6.8%	65%
Great Recession 2007-2009	-17.4%	-36.3%	-11.6%	49%
Recovery 2009-2012	6.0%	31.4%	0.4%	95%

Computations based on family market income including realized capital gains (before individual taxes).

Incomes exclude government transfers (such as unemployment insurance and social security) and non-taxable fringe benefits.
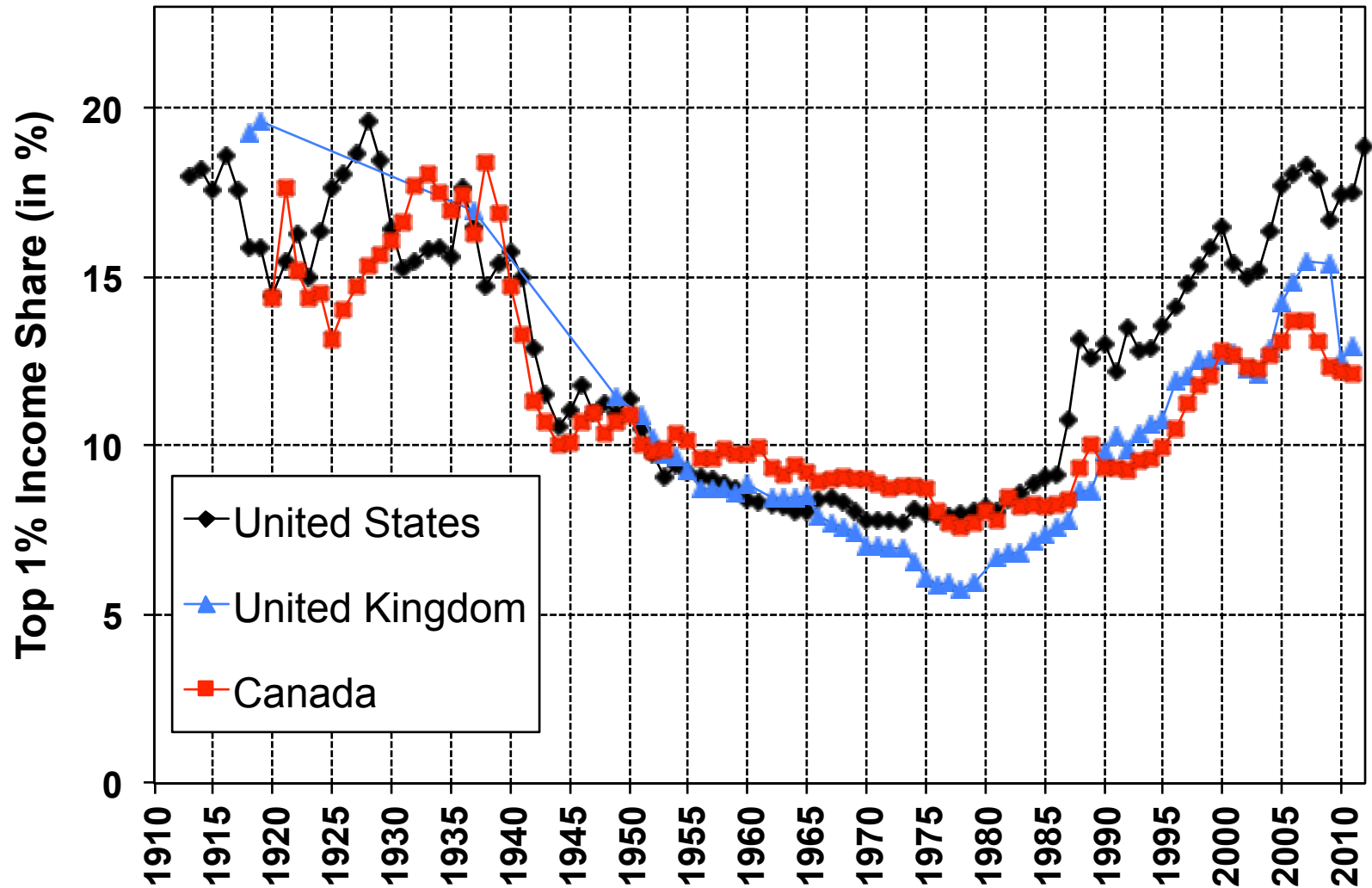
Incomes are deflated using the Consumer Price Index.

Column (4) reports the fraction of total real family income growth (or loss) captured by the top 1%.
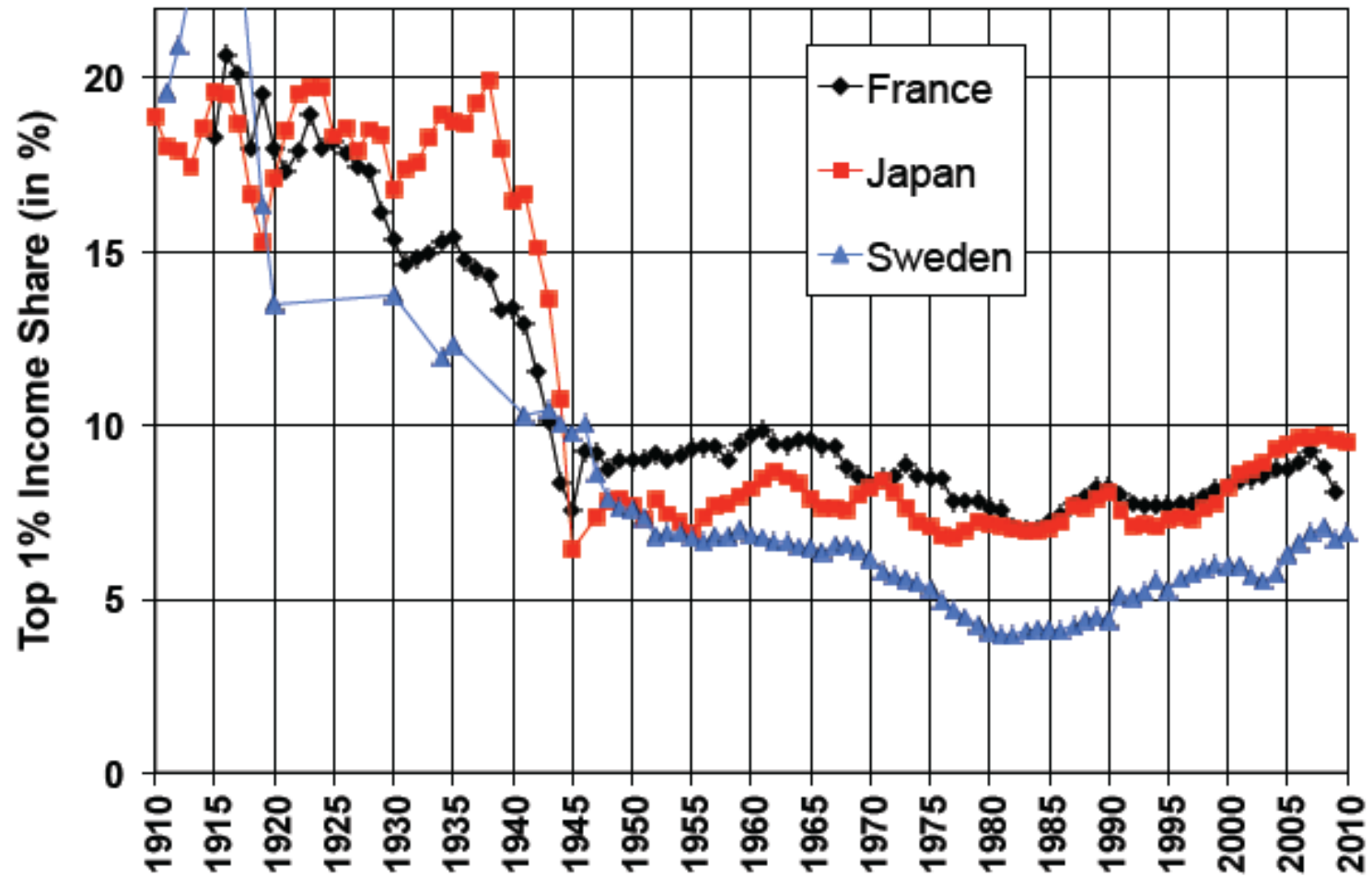
For example, from 2002 to 2007, average real family incomes grew by 16.1% but 65% of that growth

accrued to the top 1% while only 35% of that growth accrued to the bottom 99% of US families.

Source: Piketty and Saez (2003), series updated to 2012 in August 2013 using IRS preliminary tax statistics for 2012.

Top 1% share: English Speaking countries (U-shaped)

Legend:
- United States
- United Kingdom
- Canada

Y-axis: Top 1% Income Share (in %)

X-axis: 1910–2010

Top 1% share: Continenal Europe and Japan (L-shaped)

Source: THE WORLD TOP INCOMES DATABASE

17.1

Relative Income Inequality: Select OECD Countries

	Income Quintile					
	Bottom	**Second**	**Third**	**Fourth**	**Highest**	**Top 10%**
Sweden	10.7	14.4	17.6	21.5	35.7	10.9
Austria	8.4	12.4	16.8	22.3	40.1	13.6
France	9.4	12.9	16.3	21	40.4	15.2
UK	7.9	11.2	15	20.6	45.4	19.8
USA	3.3	8.5	14.6	23.4	50.2	21.3
Mexico	4.6	7.8	11.6	18.3	57.6	32.3
OECD Average	8.5	12.2	16	21.1	42.2	16.7

Poverty Lines by Family Size (2012)

Size of Family Unit	Poverty Line
1	$11,170
2	15,130
3	19,090
4	23,050
5	27,010
For each additional person, add	3,960

Figure 1

Trends in Individual Poverty Rates and Real GDP per Capita, 1959–2003
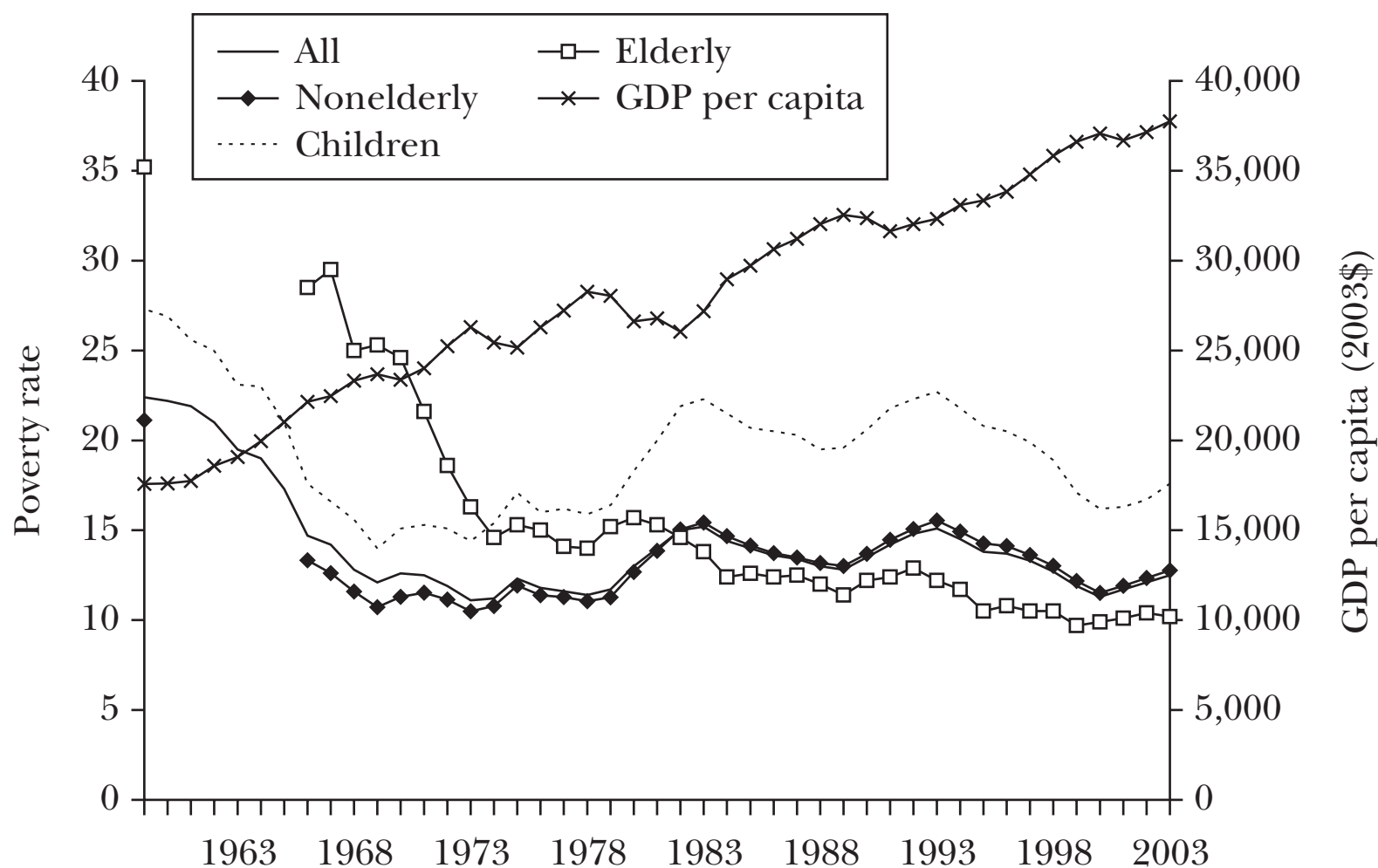
Source: Poverty rates are from U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplements. The GDP per capita series is from the Economic Report of the President (2005).

Note: The poverty rate data are unavailable for some subgroups for 1960–1965.

Table 1

Characteristics of the Nonelderly Poor, 2003

(percentage with given characteristic)

	Among nonelderly poor	*Among all nonelderly*
Individual characteristics		
Age <18	39.8%	28.8%
Male	45.5%	49.8%
Female	54.5%	50.2%
Family head is		
Married	35.0%	66.6%
Single with kids	39.1%	14.4%
Single without kids	25.8%	18.9%
White	42.2%	65.7%
Black	24.1%	12.6%
Hispanic	26.8%	15.1%
Family head's education		
<High school	35.3%	14.4%
Native-born	82.6%	87.4%
Immigrant	17.4%	12.6%
Head worked last year	50.0%	81.1%

Source: Author's tabulations of the 2004 March CPS.
Note: The age, gender, race and ethnicity are assigned using the individual's characteristics. Family type, immigrant status, education and employment are assigned based on characteristics of the head of the family.

Figure 2

Nonelderly Poverty Rates, Unemployment Rates and Median Wages, 1967–2003
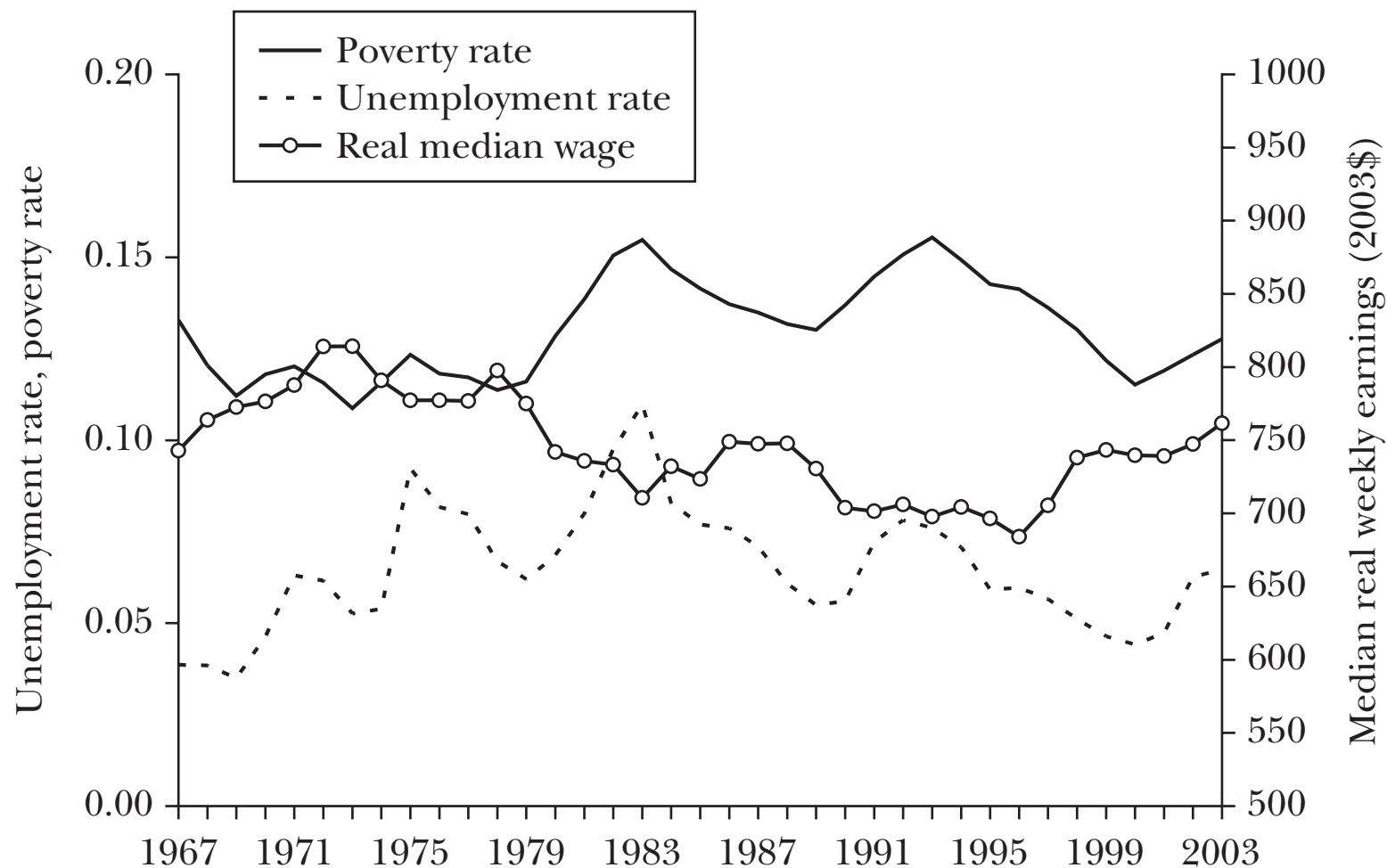
Source: Authors' tabulations of the 1968–2004 March CPS.
Notes: Median hourly wages are defined for all full-time working men. See text for more details.

Source: Hilary W. Hoynes, Marianne E. Page and Ann Huff Stevens (2006)

Table 3
Effect of Family Structure on Nonelderly Poverty Rates

	Percentage of nonelderly persons by family type		Percentage of nonelderly persons in poverty by family type	
	1967	*2003*	*1967*	*2003*
Persons by family type				
Married couples with children	67.3	44.2	10.7	8.1
Married couples without children	18.7	22.4	5.8	4.1
Single women with children	6.2	11.9	51.2	37.3
Single men with children	0.8	2.5	28.4	22.0
Single women without children	4.4	9.6	25.4	18.6
Single men without children	2.6	9.3	18.1	16.2
All persons				
Percentage in poverty, actual			13.3	12.8
Predicted poverty, changes in family type only				17.0

Source: Authors' tabulations of the 1968 and 2004 March CPS.

Table 4

Percentage of Persons in Poverty by Alternative Definition of Income, 2003, Measuring Impacts of Government Programs

	Nonelderly persons	Children
(a) Official poverty measure (Money income = pretax, postgovernment cash transfers)	12.7	17.6
Poverty reduction due to EITC		
(b) Money income (official measure) less all taxes except EITC	13.9	19.1
(c) Money income less all taxes (including EITC)	12.2	16.0
Poverty reduction due to means-tested cash transfers		
(d) Full income less taxes less means tested government cash transfers[a]	12.2	15.8
(e) Full income less taxes	11.4	14.9
Poverty reduction due to non means-tested cash transfers		
(f) Pregovernment transfer money income less taxes[b]	15.2	17.8
(g) Pregovernment transfer money income less taxes plus nonmeans tested cash government transfers	12.4	15.9
Poverty reduction due to means-tested noncash transfers		
(h) Full income less taxes (definition e above)	11.4	14.9
(i) Full income less taxes plus Medicaid	10.8	13.8
(j) Full income less taxes plus Medicaid plus other means-tested government noncash transfers	9.9	12.3

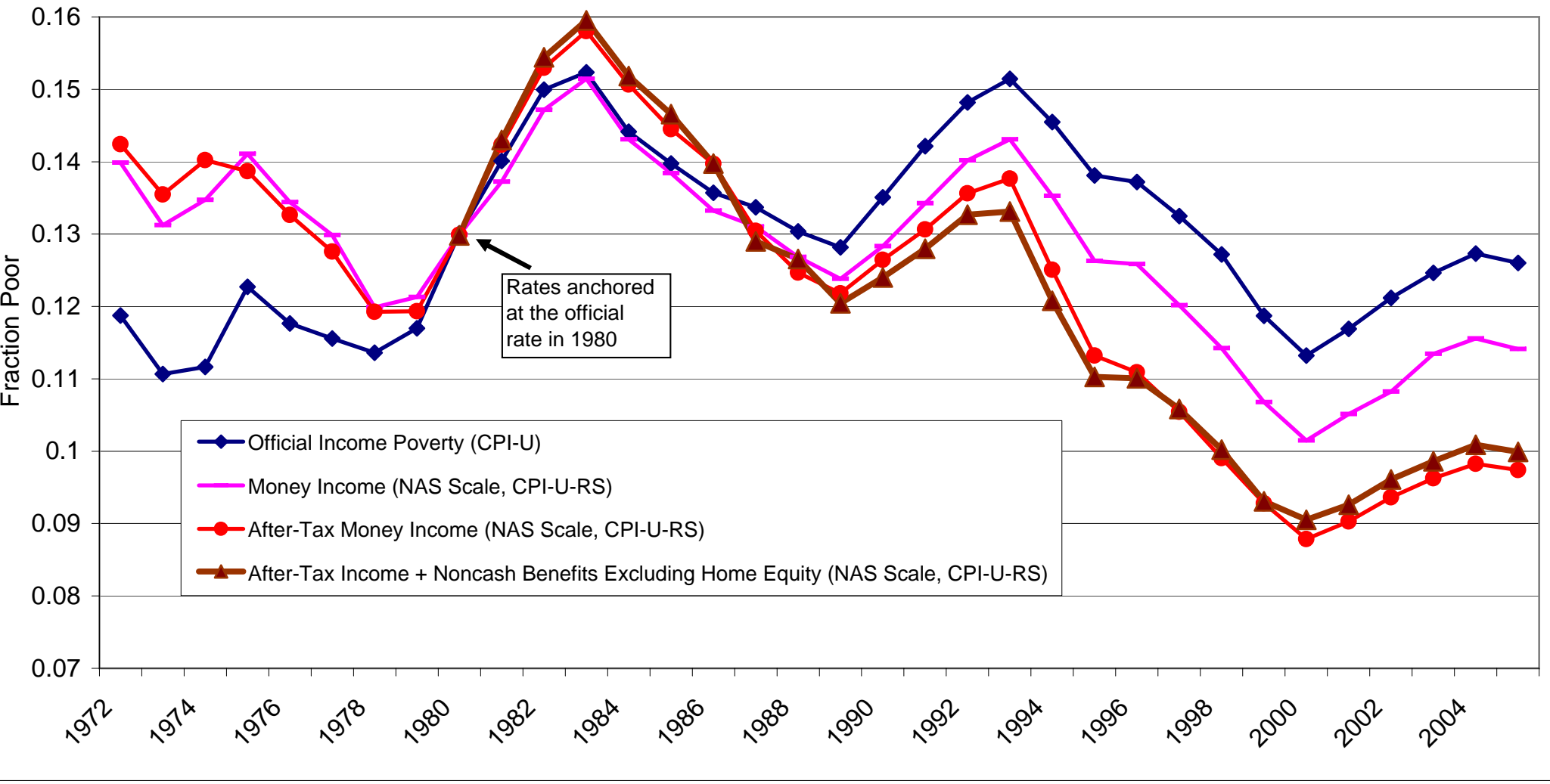Source: Hilary W. Hoynes, Marianne E. Page and Ann Huff Stevens (2006)

Table 5

Nonelderly Poverty Rates in Native and Immigrant Households, by Year

|	All persons	Persons in households headed by a native		Persons in households headed by an immigrant	
	Poverty rate	Poverty rate	Percentage of population	Poverty rate	Percentage of population
1959	20.6	20.9	95.8	14.1	4.2
1969	12.4	12.5	95.9	11.2	4.1
1979	12.3	12.1	94.0	15.6	6.0
1989	12.9	12.5	91.4	17.5	8.6
1999	12.4	11.8	87.9	17.4	12.1

Source: Authors' tabulations of 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000 Census files.

Figure 1: Official and Alternative Income Poverty Rates, 1972-2005

Fraction Poor (y-axis: 0.07 to 0.16)

Legend:
- Official Income Poverty (CPI-U)
- Money Income (NAS Scale, CPI-U-RS)
- After-Tax Money Income (NAS Scale, CPI-U-RS)
- After-Tax Income + Noncash Benefits Excluding Home Equity (NAS Scale, CPI-U-RS)

Rates anchored at the official rate in 1980

Notes: The rates are anchored at the official rate in 1980. Data are from the CPS-ASEC/ADF. Official Income Poverty follows the U.S. Census definition of income poverty using official thresholds. For measures other than the official one, the threshold in 1980 is equal to the value that yields a poverty rate equal to the official poverty rate in 1980 (13.0 percent). The thresholds in 1980 are then adjusted overtime using the CPI-U-RS. Poverty status is determined at the family level and then person weighted. After-Tax Money Income includes taxes and credits (calculated using TAXSIM). After-Tax Money Income + Noncash Benefits Excluding Home Equity also includes food stamps and CPS-imputed measures of housing and school lunch subsidies, and the fungible value of Medicaid and Medicare. This last series is only available starting with the 1980 CPS-ASEC/ADF. See Data Appendix for more details.

Source: Meyer, Bruce D., and James X. Sullivan (2009)

Figure 2: Consumption and Income Poverty Rates, 1972-2005
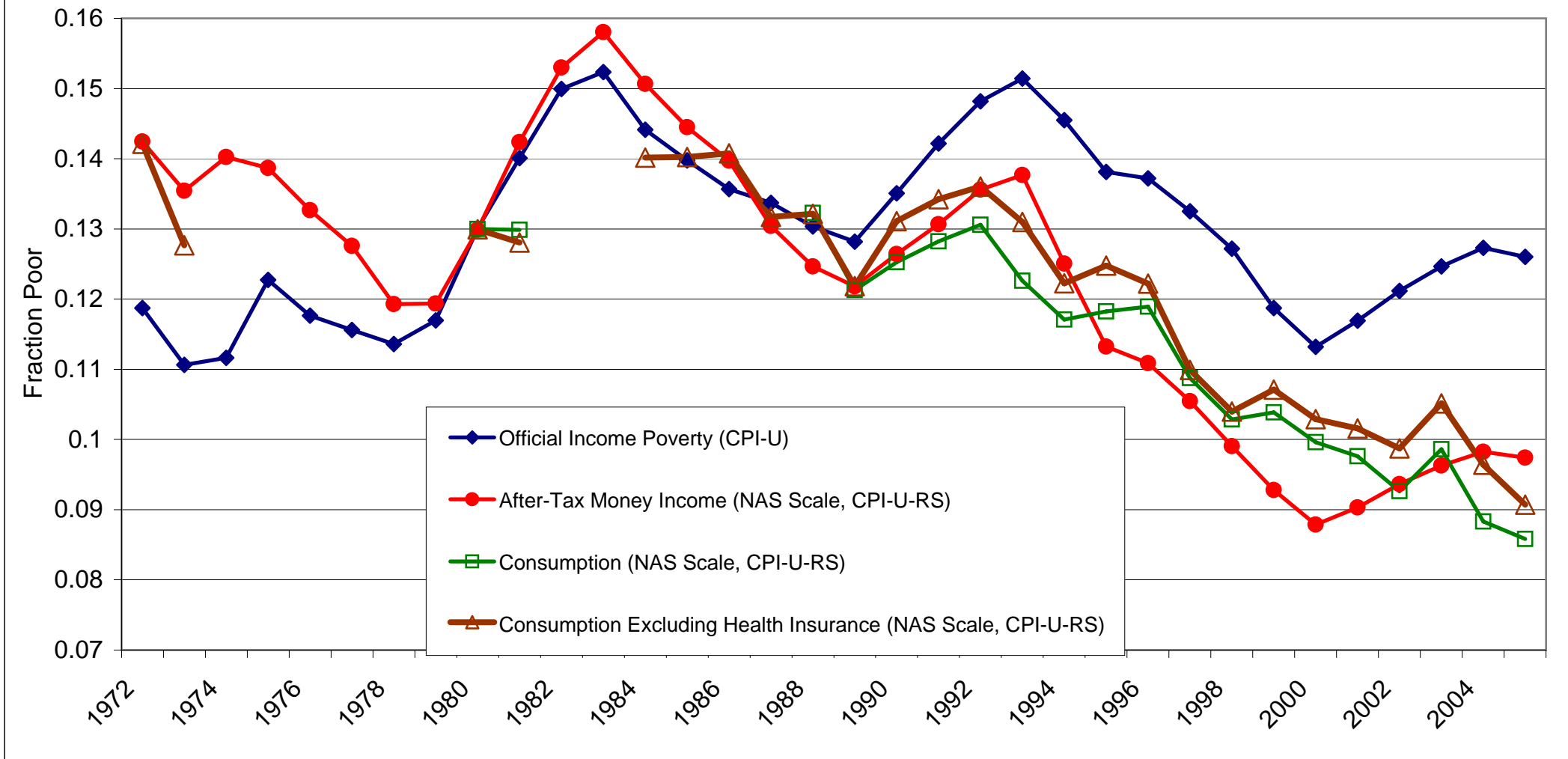
Notes: The rates are anchored at the official rate in 1980. Poverty status is determined at the family level and then person weighted. Consumption data are from the CE Survey and income data are from the CPS-ASEC/ADF. Official Income Poverty and After-Tax Money Income Poverty are as in Figure 1. CE Survey data are not available for the years 1974-1979 and 1982-1983. Also, consumption data are not available for the years 1984-1987 for measures that include health insurance.

Source: Meyer, Bruce D., and James X. Sullivan (2009)

18.1

Tax Revenue by Type of Tax in the United States (2010, % of Total Tax Revenue)

	Federal	State and Local	Total
Individual income taxes	42%	20%	34%
Social insurance contributions (payroll tax)	35	0	24
Corporate taxes	13	4	10
Consumption tax	3	34	14
Property tax	0	33	11
Other	7	9	7

18.1

Taxation Around the World

	Norway	**Denmark**	**OECD Average**
Individual income taxes	24%	55%	25%
Social insurance contributions (payroll tax)	23	2	27
Corporate taxes	22	5	8
Consumption tax	26	30	31
Property tax	3	4	5
Other	2	4	4

2. Federal Average Tax Rates by Income Groups
(individual+corporate+payroll+estate taxes)

Legend:
- 1970
- 2000
- 2005

X-axis categories: P0-20, P20-40, P40-60, P60-80, P80-90, P90-95, P95-99, P99-99.5, P99.5-99.9, P99.9-99.99, P99.99-100

Y-axis: 0% to 80%
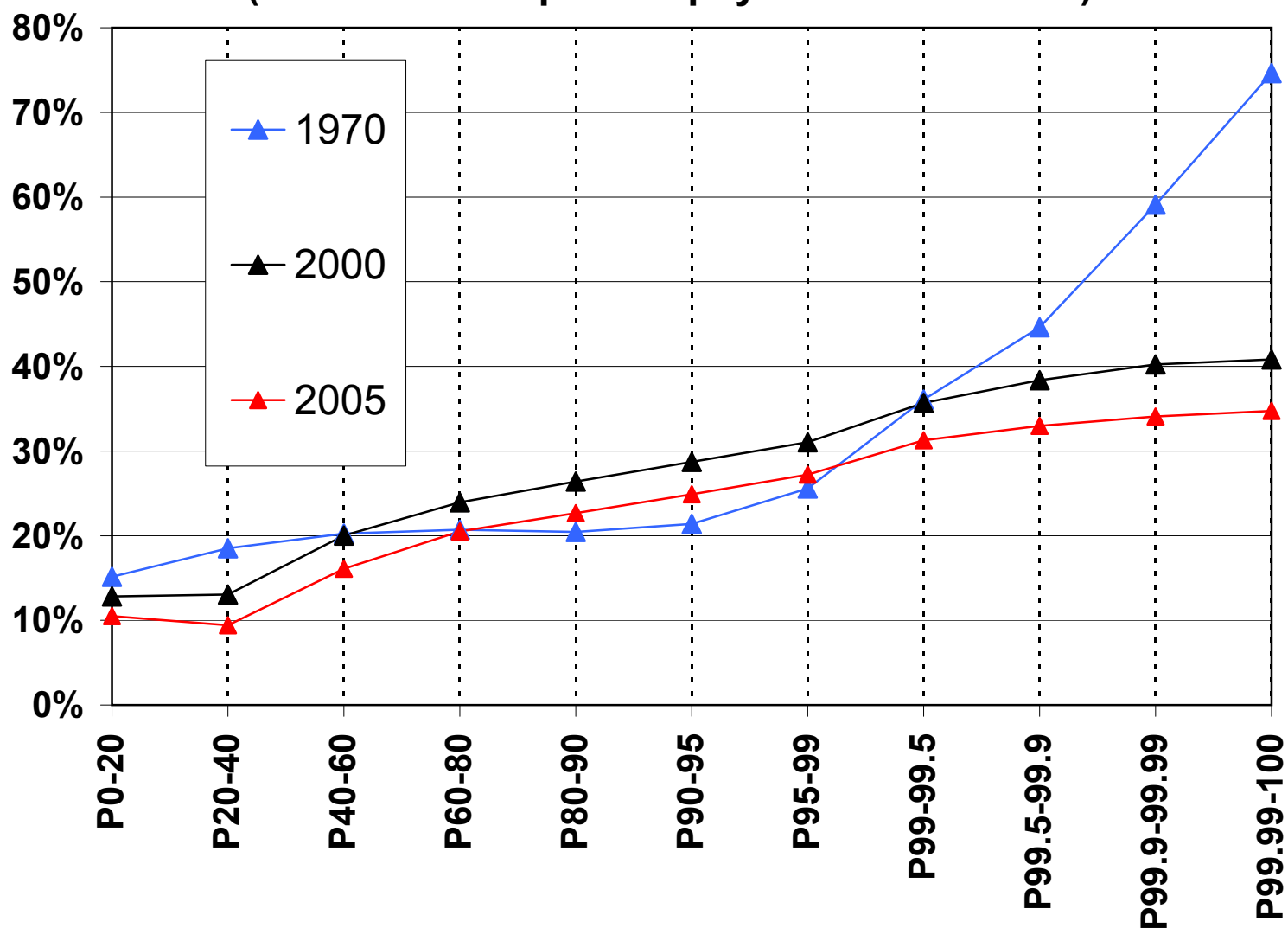
Figure 12: Capital shares in factor-price national income 1975-2010
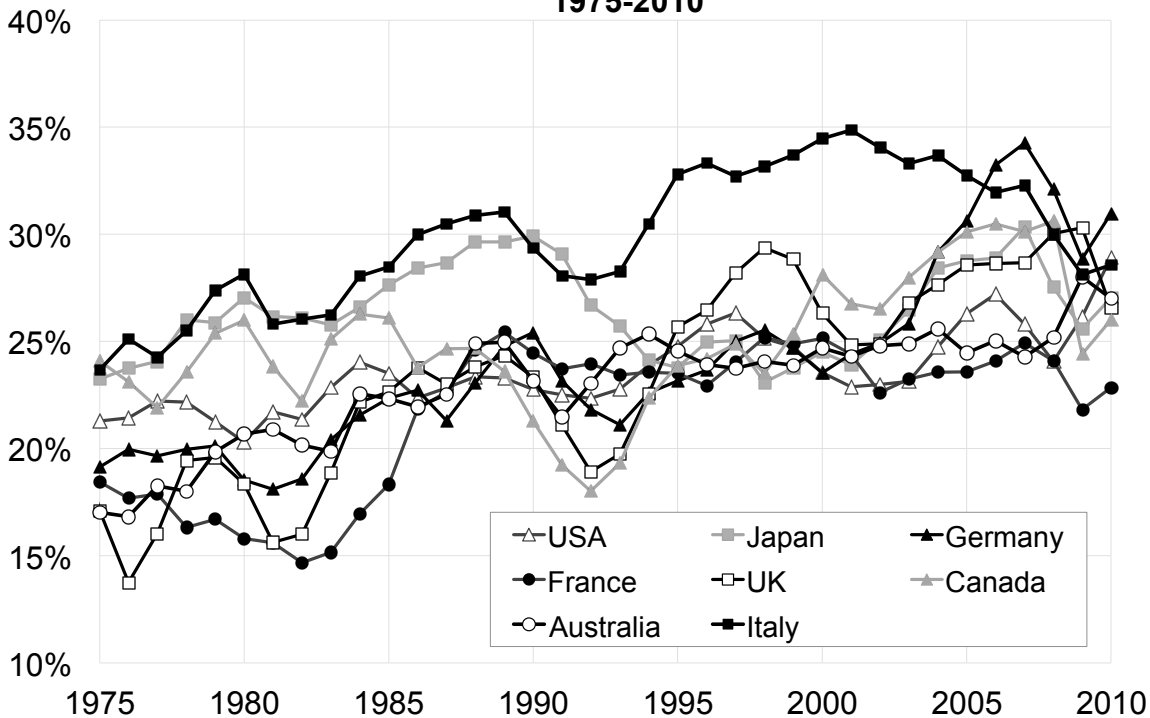
Source: Piketty and Zucman (2014)

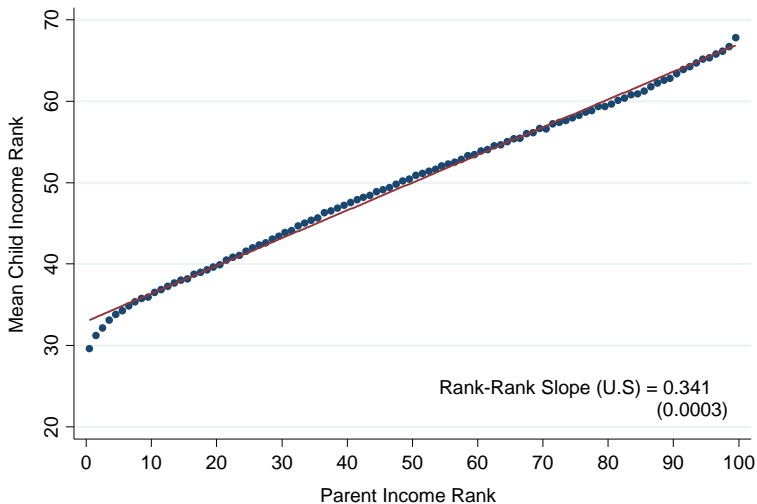**Figure 8** The rise of private versus the decline of public wealth in rich countries, 1970-2020
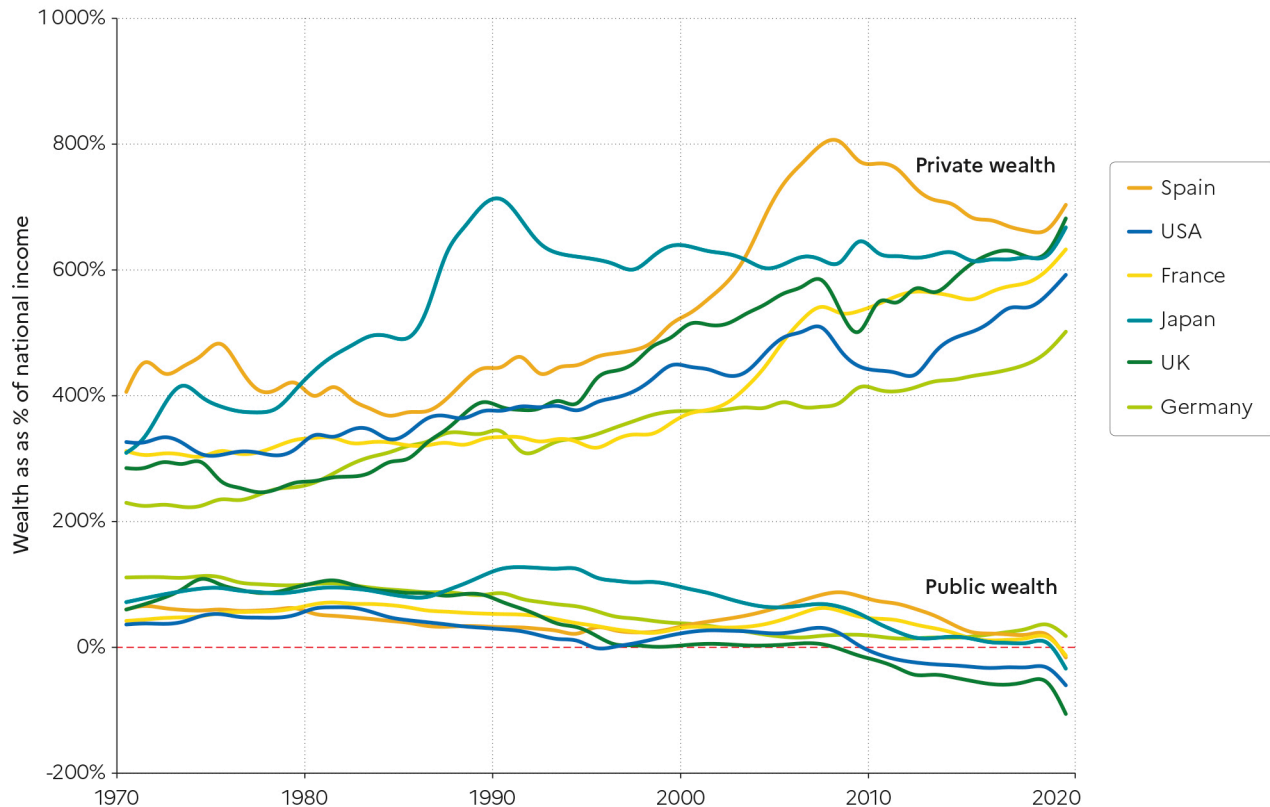
Interpretation: *Public wealth is the sum of all financial and non-financial assets, net of debts, held by governments. Public wealth dropped from 60% of national income in 1970 to -106% in 2020 in the UK.* **Sources and series:** *wir2022.wid.world/methodology, Bauluz et al. (2021) and updates.*

**B. Probability of Reaching Top Quintile Given Parents in Bottom Quintile**

	17.1% - 35.0%
	13.9% - 17.1%
	11.9% - 13.9%
	10.4% - 11.9%
	9.6% - 10.4%
	8.7% - 9.6%
	7.7% - 8.7%
	6.6% - 7.7%
	5.4% - 6.6%
	2.0% - 5.4%
	Insufficient Data

Source: Chetty, Hendren, Kline, and Saez (2014)
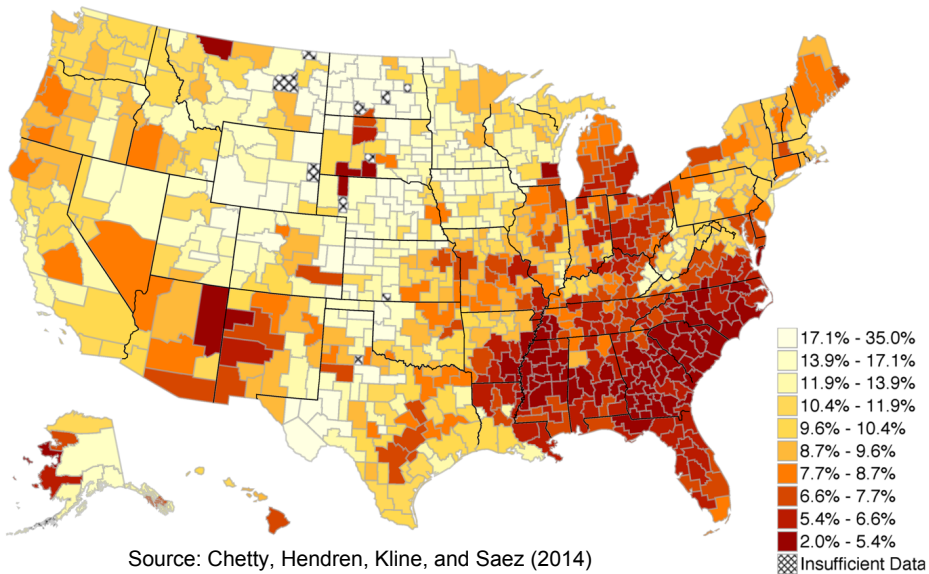
A. Mean Child Income Rank vs. Parent Income Rank in the U.S.

Rank-Rank Slope (U.S) = 0.341
(0.0003)

Source: Chetty, Hendren, Kline, Saez (2014)

B. United States vs. Denmark

Rank-Rank Slope (Denmark) = 0.180
(0.0063)
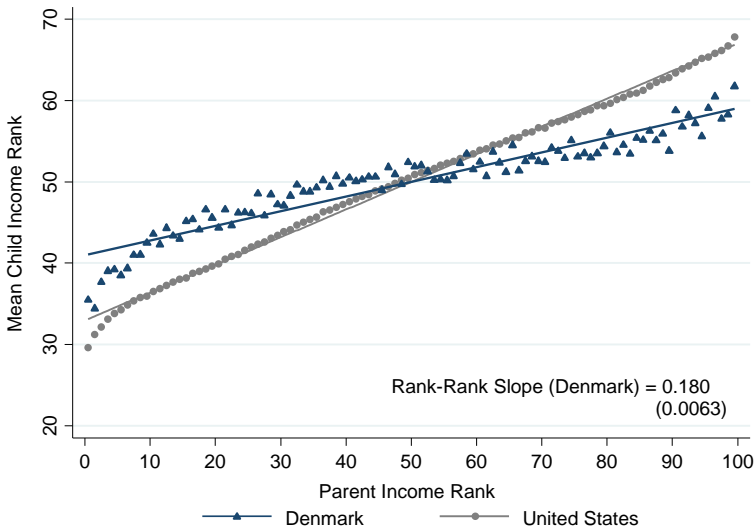
Source: Chetty, Hendren, Kline, Saez (2014)

Figure 1.
Number in Poverty and Poverty Rate Using the Official Poverty Measure: 1959 to 2021
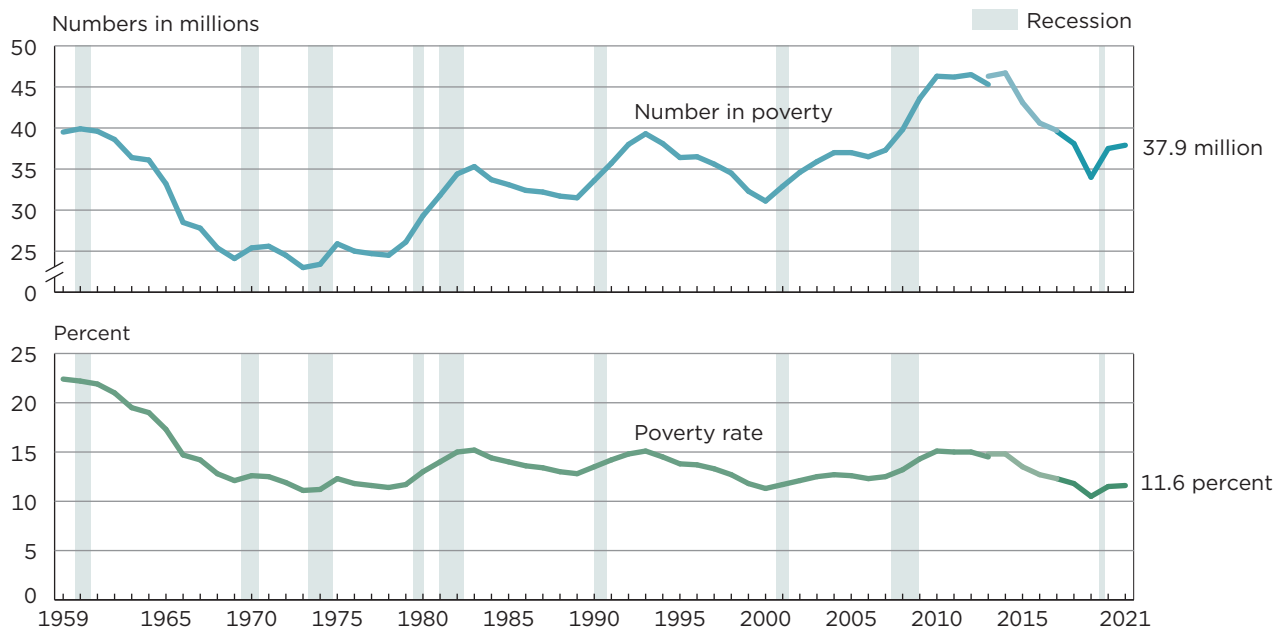
Note: Population as of March of the following year. The data for 2017 and beyond reflect the implementation of an updated processing system. The data for 2013 and beyond reflect the implementation of the redesigned income questions. Refer to Table A-4 for historical footnotes. The data points are placed at the midpoints of the respective years. Information on recessions is available in Appendix D. Information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions is available at <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar22.pdf>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1960 to 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).
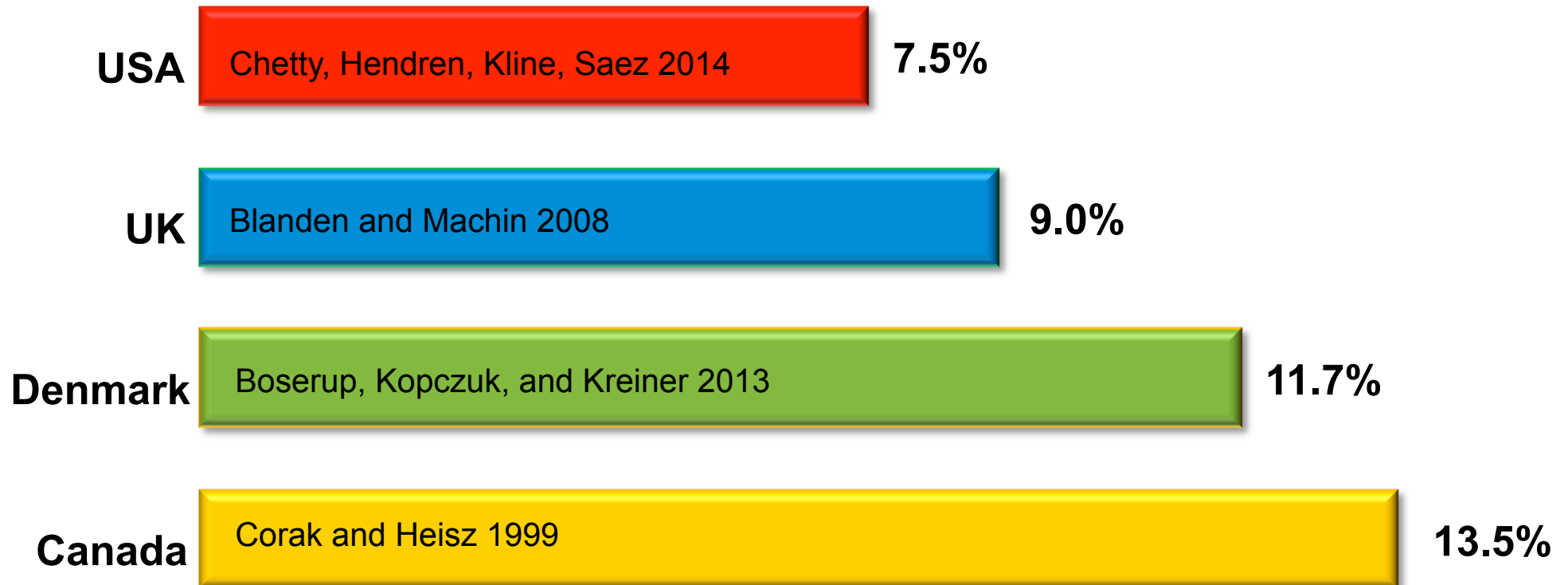
Table 1. Upward Mobility in the 50 Largest Metro Areas: The Top 10 and Bottom 10

Rank	Commuting Zone	Odds of Reaching Top Fifth from Bottom Fifth	Rank	Commuting Zone	Odds of Reaching Top Fifth from Bottom Fifth
1	San Jose, CA	12.9%	41	Cleveland, OH	5.1%
2	San Francisco, CA	12.2%	42	St. Louis, MO	5.1%
3	Washington DC	11.0%	43	Raleigh, NC	5.0%
4	Seattle, WA	10.9%	44	Jacksonville, FL	4.9%
5	Salt Lake City, UT	10.8%	45	Columbus, OH	4.9%
6	New York, NY	10.5%	46	Indianapolis, IN	4.9%
7	Boston, MA	10.5%	47	Dayton, OH	4.9%
8	San Diego, CA	10.4%	48	Atlanta, GA	4.5%
9	Newark, NJ	10.2%	49	Milwaukee, WI	4.5%
10	Manchester, NH	10.0%	50	Charlotte, NC	4.4%

Source: Chetty et al. 2014

The American Dream?

- Probability that a child born to parents in the bottom fifth of the income distribution reaches the top fifth:
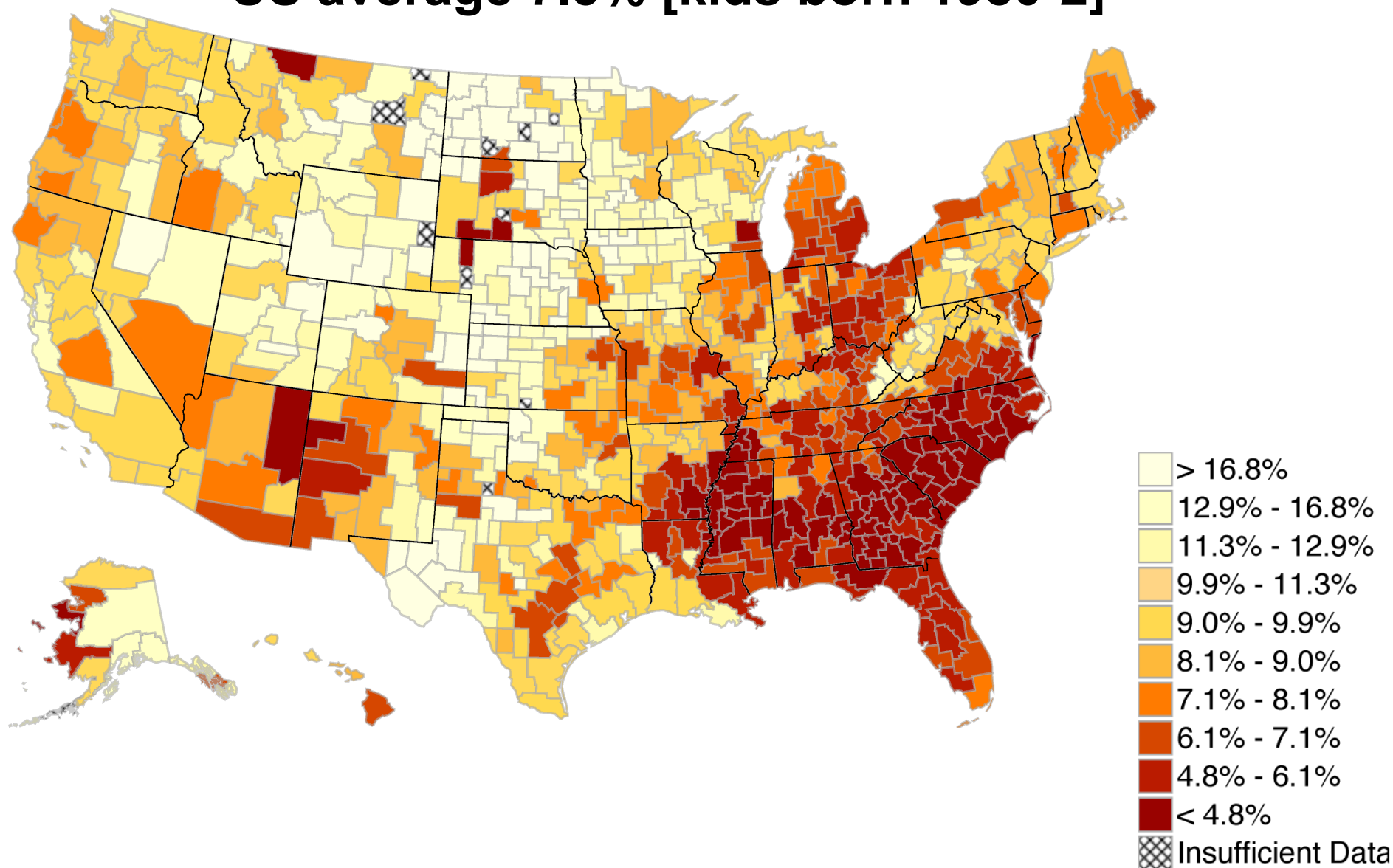
USA | Chetty, Hendren, Kline, Saez 2014 — **7.5%**

UK | Blanden and Machin 2008 — **9.0%**

Denmark | Boserup, Kopczuk, and Kreiner 2013 — **11.7%**

Canada | Corak and Heisz 1999 — **13.5%**

→ Chances of achieving the "American Dream" are almost two times higher in Canada than in the U.S.

The Geography of Upward Mobility in the United States
Probability of Reaching the Top Fifth Starting from the Bottom Fifth

US average 7.5% [kids born 1980-2]

	> 16.8%
	12.9% - 16.8%
	11.3% - 12.9%
	9.9% - 11.3%
	9.0% - 9.9%
	8.1% - 9.0%
	7.1% - 8.1%
	6.1% - 7.1%
	4.8% - 6.1%
	< 4.8%
	Insufficient Data

Note: Lighter Color = More Upward Mobility
Download Statistics for Your Area at www.equality-of-opportunity.org

The Geography of Upward Mobility in the United States
Odds of Reaching the Top Fifth Starting from the Bottom Fifth
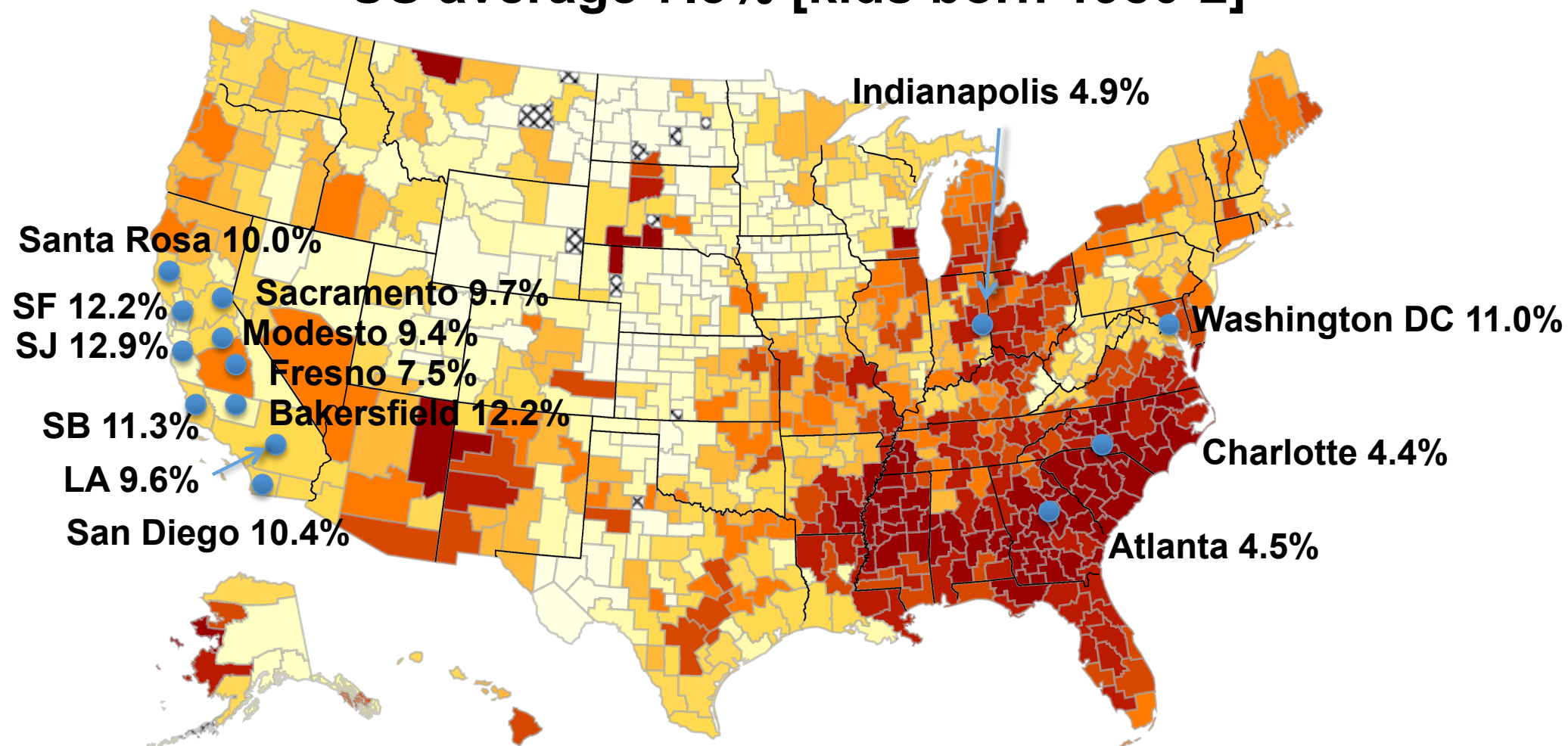
US average 7.5% [kids born 1980-2]

Indianapolis 4.9%

Santa Rosa 10.0%

Sacramento 9.7%

SF 12.2%

SJ 12.9%

Modesto 9.4%

Washington DC 11.0%

Fresno 7.5%

SB 11.3%

Bakersfield 12.2%

Charlotte 4.4%

LA 9.6%

San Diego 10.4%

Atlanta 4.5%

Note: Lighter Color = More Upward Mobility
Download Statistics for Your Area at www.equality-of-opportunity.org

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4	Seattle, WA	10.9%	44	Jacksonville, FL	4.9%
5	Salt Lake City, UT	10.8%	45	Columbus, OH	4.9%
6	New York, NY	10.5%	46	Indianapolis, IN	4.9%
7	Boston, MA	10.5%	47	Dayton, OH	4.9%
8	San Diego, CA	10.4%	48	Atlanta, GA	4.5%
9	Newark, NJ	10.2%	49	Milwaukee, WI	4.5%
10	Manchester, NH	10.0%	50	Charlotte, NC	4.4%

Note: This table reports selected statistics from a sample of the 50 largest commuting zones (CZs) according to their populations in the 2000 Census. The columns report the percentage of children whose family income is in the top quintile of the national distribution of child family income conditional on having parent family income in the bottom quintile of the parental national income distribution—these probabilities are taken from Online Data Table VI of Chetty et al., 2014a.
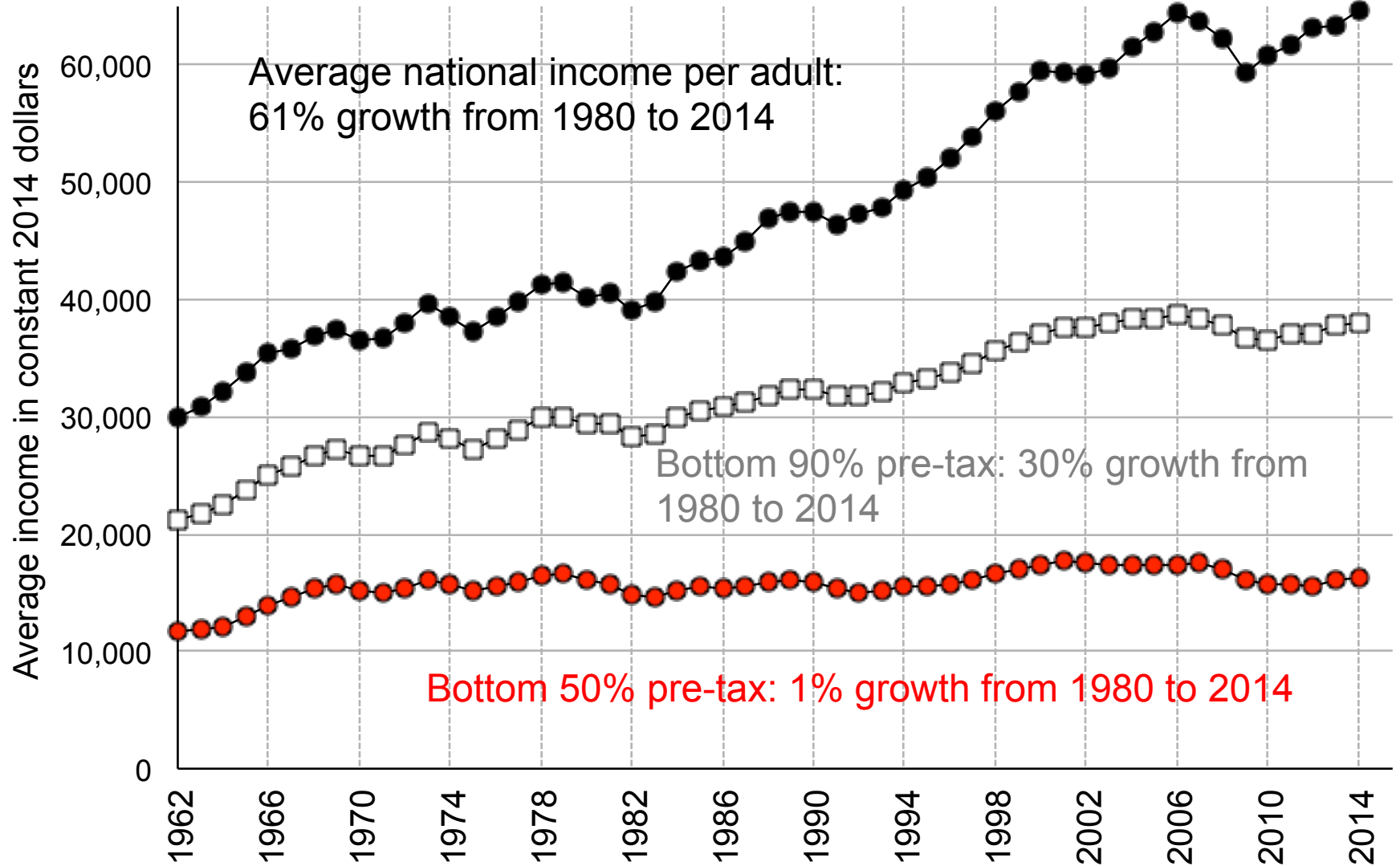
Source: Chetty et al., 2014a.

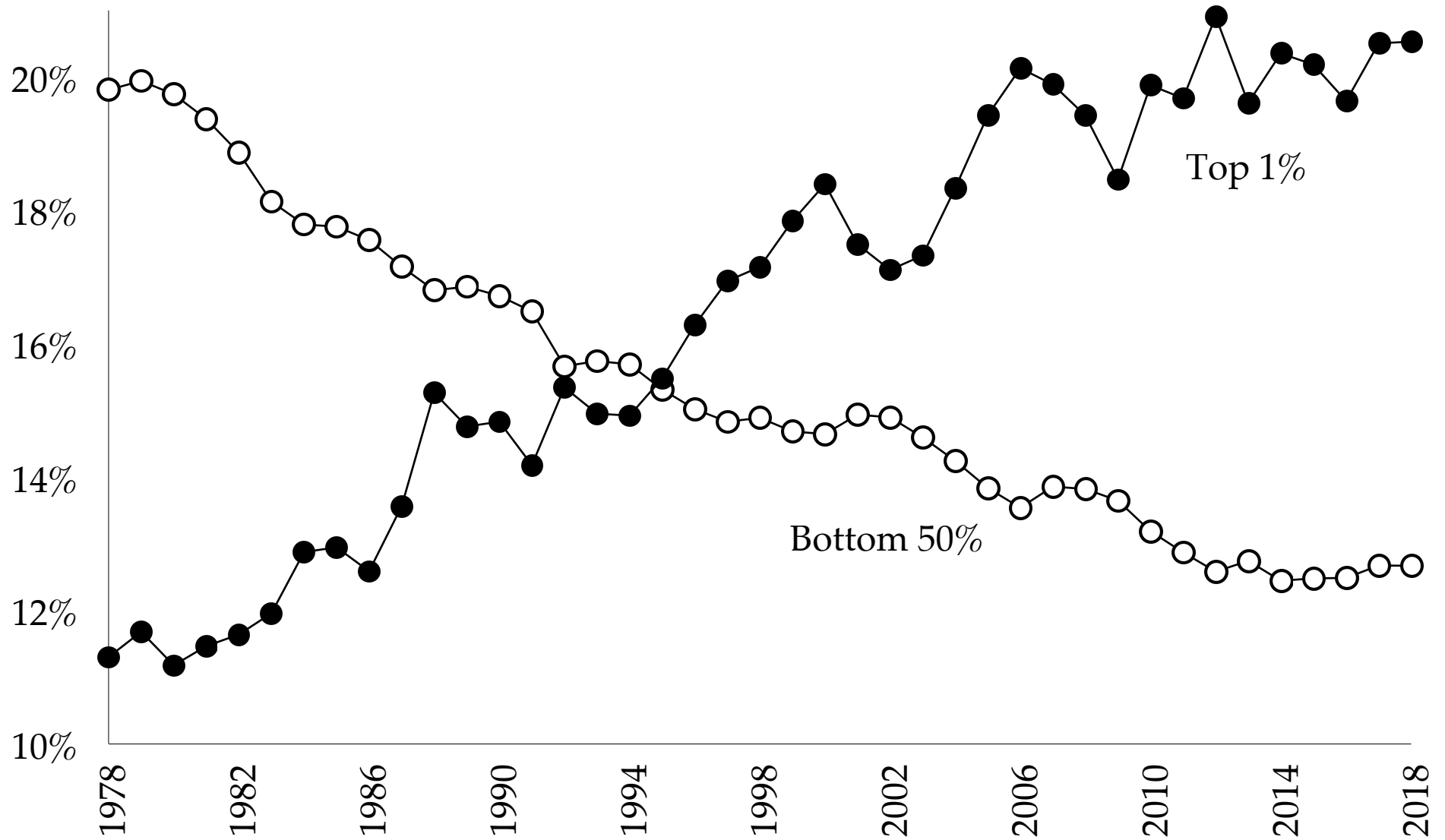# Top 10% Pre-tax Income Share in the US, 1913-2018
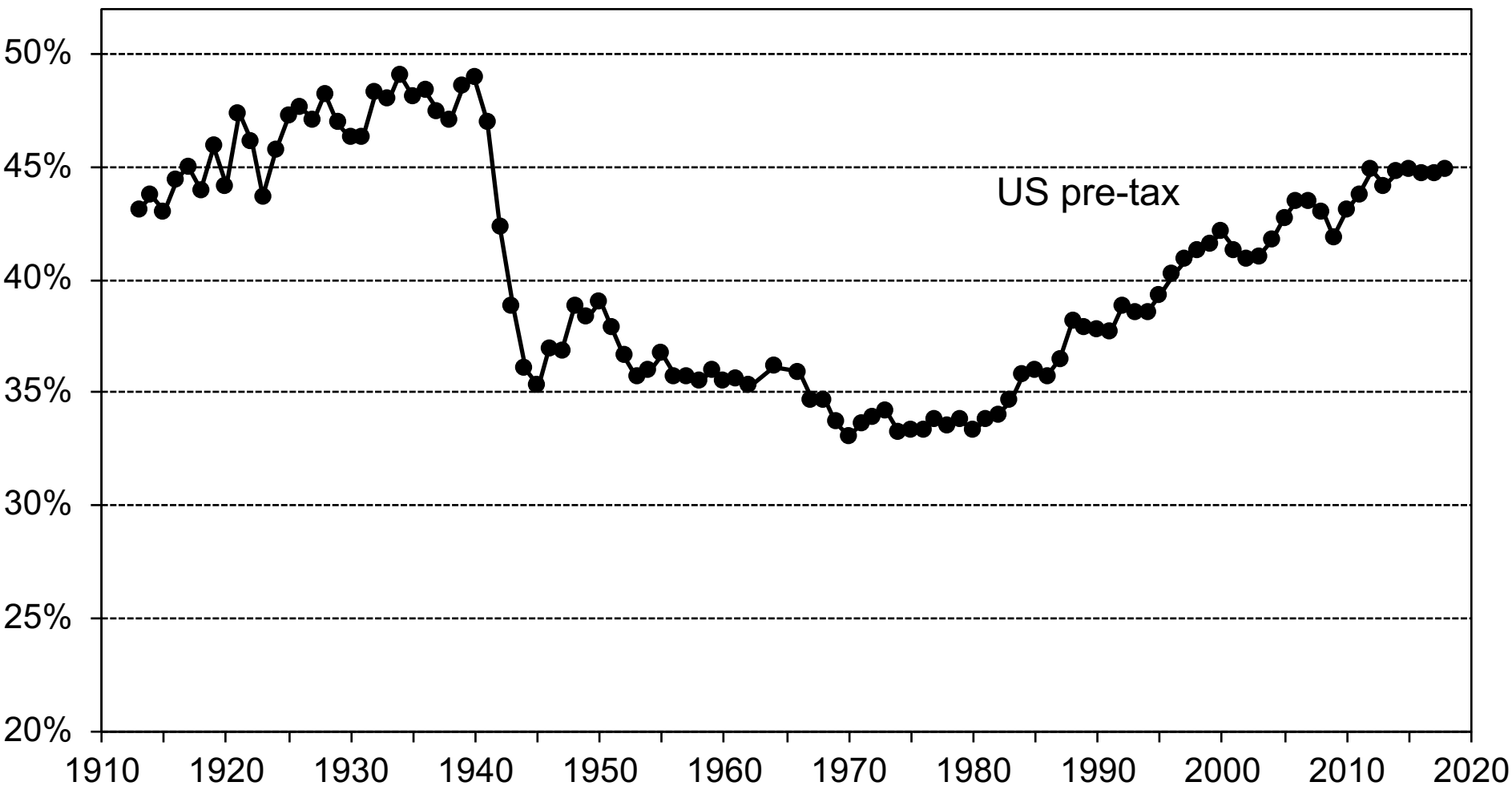
US pre-tax

Top income shares of pretax national income among adults aged 20+ (income within couples equally split).
Source is World Inequality Database wid.world (from Piketty, Saez, Zucman 2018).

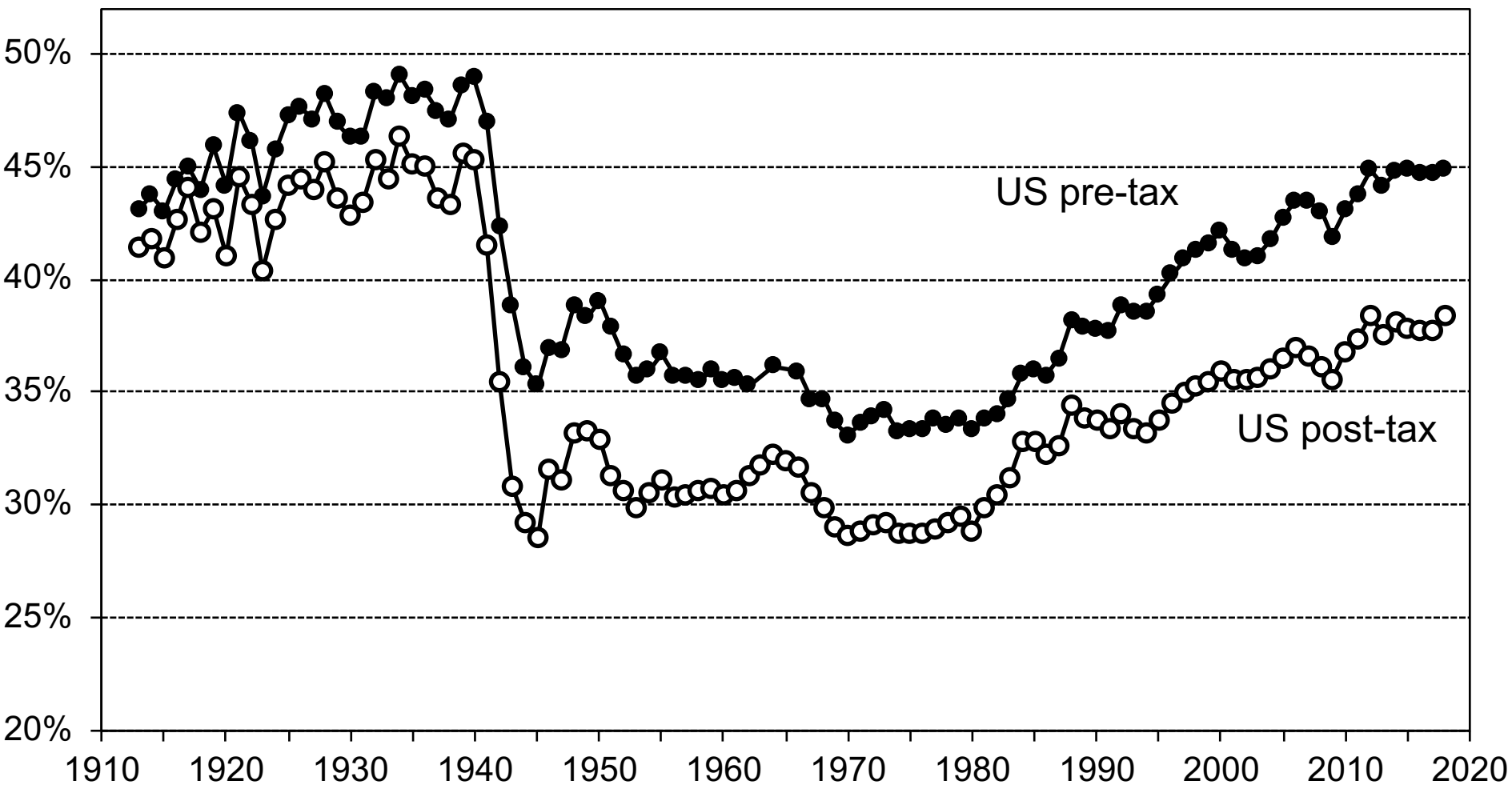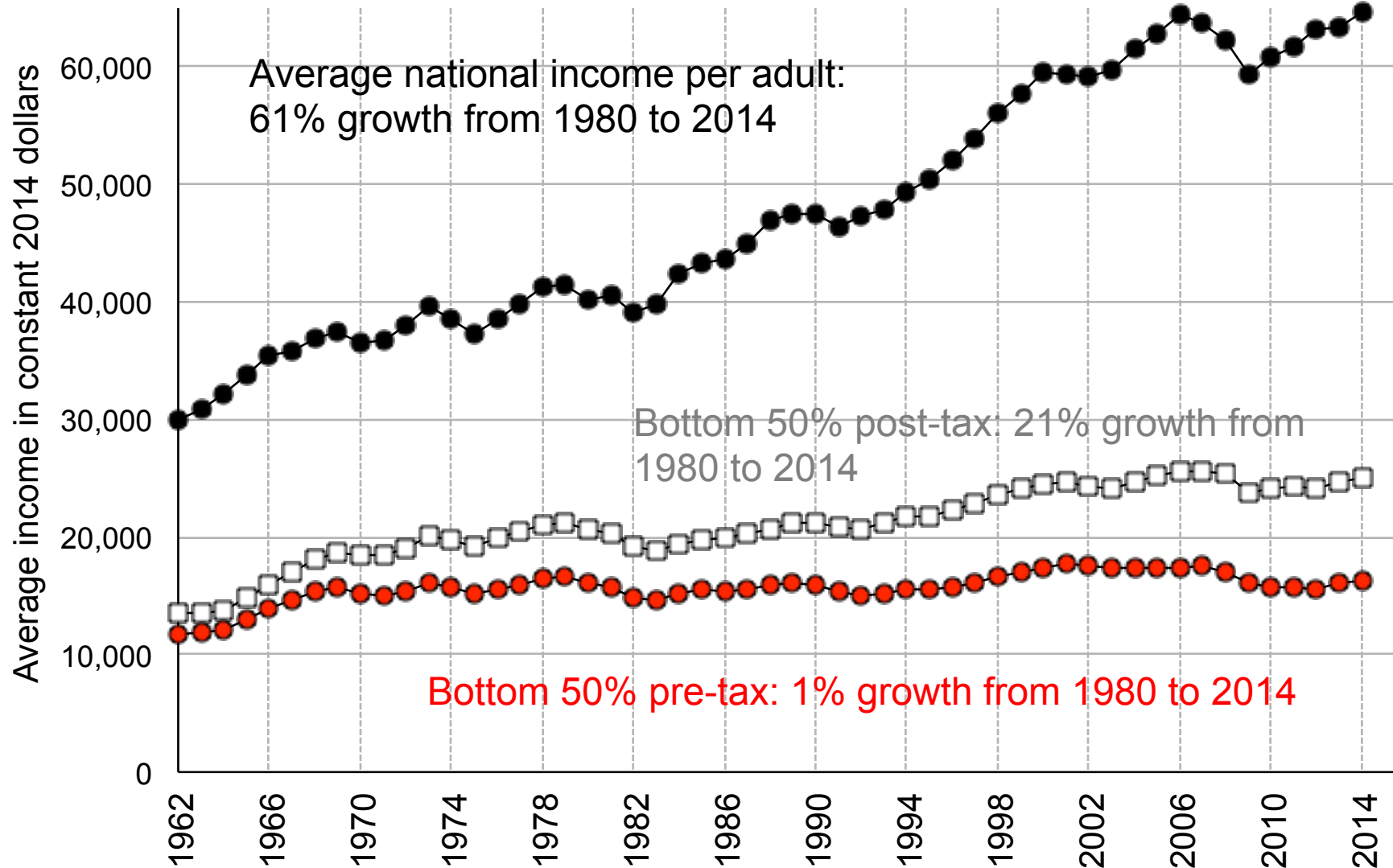**Average, bottom 90%, bottom 50% real incomes per adult**

Average income in constant 2014 dollars

Average national income per adult:
61% growth from 1980 to 2014

Bottom 90% pre-tax: 30% growth from
1980 to 2014

Bottom 50% pre-tax: 1% growth from 1980 to 2014

Share of pre-tax national income

US Top 10% Income Shares pre-tax vs. post-tax, 1913-2018

Top income shares of pretax and posttax national income among adults (income within married couples equally split). Source is Piketty, Saez, Zucman (2018) for US and Piketty et al. (2020) for France.

Average vs. bottom 50% income growth per adult

Average national income per adult:
61% growth from 1980 to 2014

Bottom 50% post-tax: 21% growth from
1980 to 2014

Bottom 50% pre-tax: 1% growth from 1980 to 2014

Average income in constant 2014 dollars

Income group	Number of adults	Pre-tax income		Post-tax income	
		Average income	Income share	Average income	Income share
Full Population	234,400,000	$64,600	100%	$64,600	100%
Bottom 50%	117,200,000	$16,200	12.5%	$25,000	19.4%
Middle 40%	93,760,000	$65,400	40.5%	$67,200	41.6%
Top 10%	23,440,000	$304,000	47.0%	$252,000	39.0%
Top 1%	2,344,000	$1,300,000	20.2%	$1,010,000	15.6%
Top 0.1%	234,400	$6,000,000	9.3%	$4,400,000	6.8%
Top 0.01%	23,440	$28,100,000	4.4%	$20,300,000	3.1%
Top 0.001%	2,344	$122,000,000	1.9%	$88,700,000	1.4%

National Income Distribution 2014 from Piketty, Saez, and Zucman NBER '16

Tax progressivity has declined since the 1960s

Average tax rates by pre-tax income group
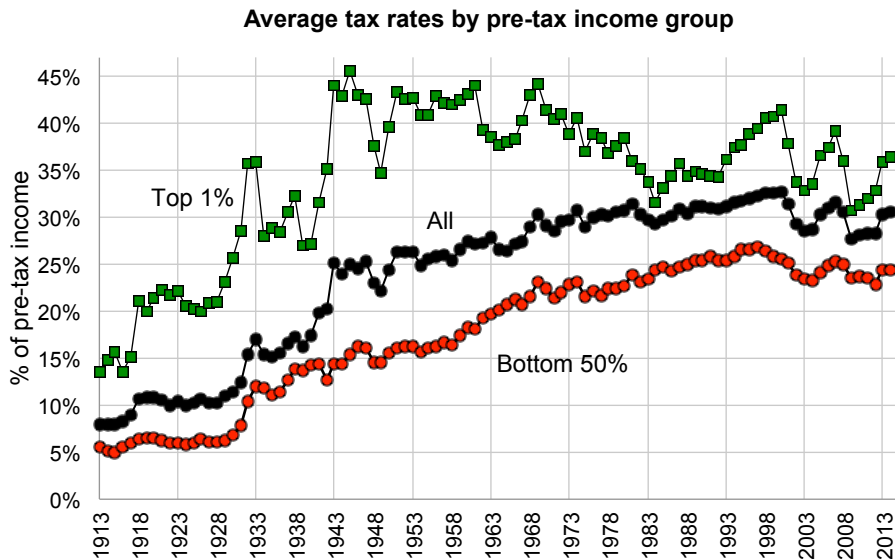
Source: Appendix Table II-G1.

Source: Piketty, Saez, Zucman (2016)

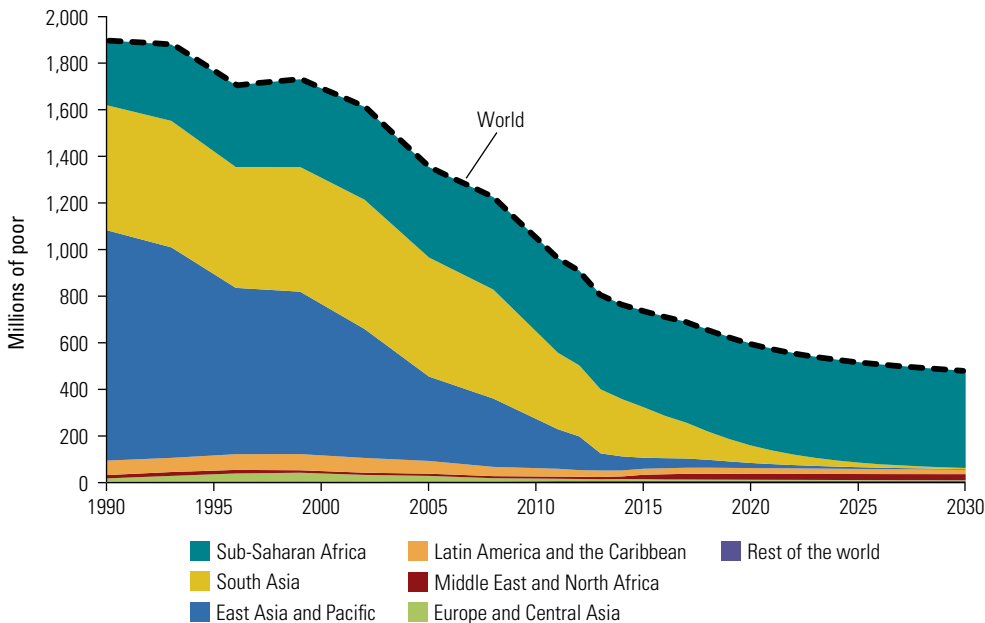**Figure S.13: Average individualized transfer by post-tax income group (including Social Security)**
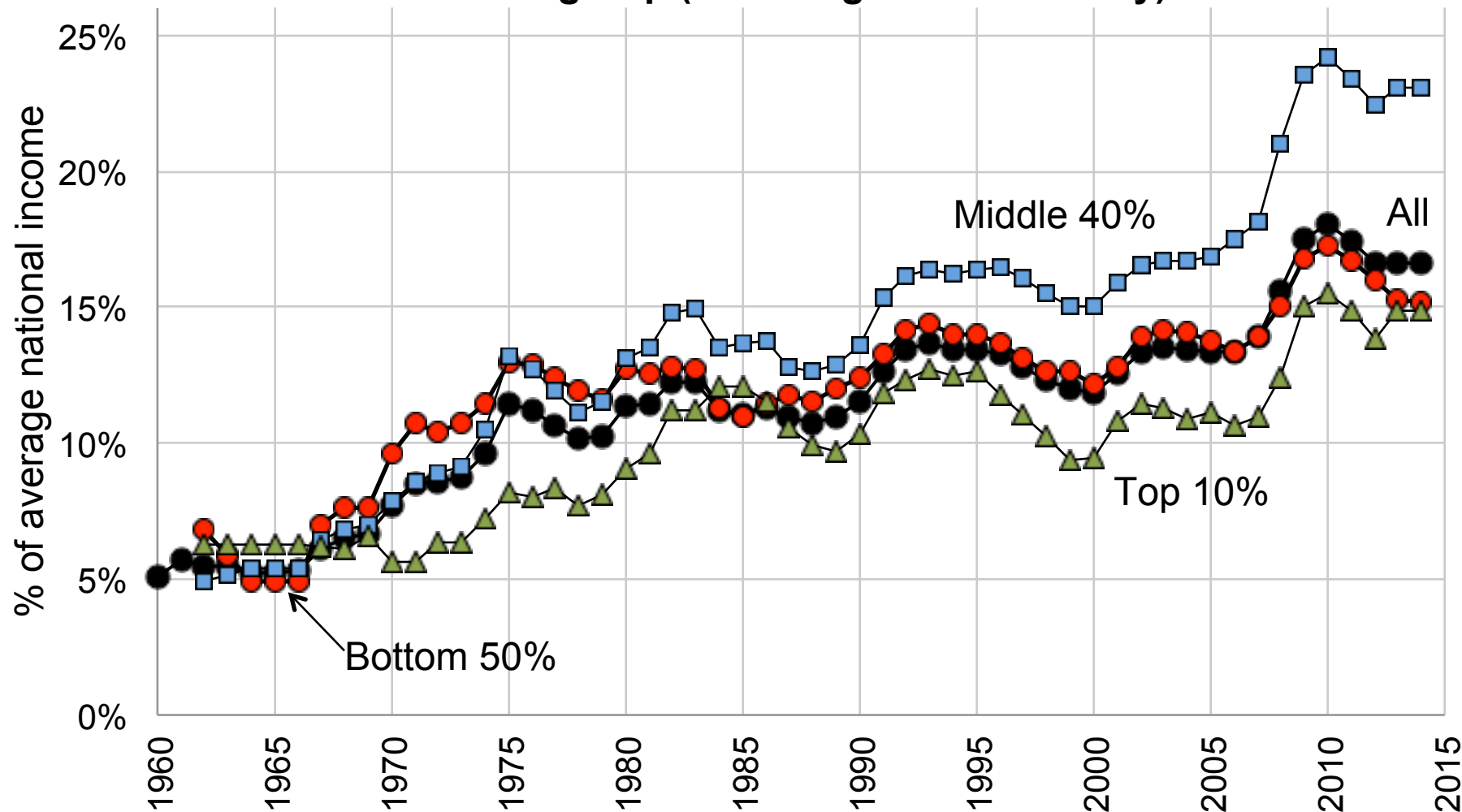
Source: Appendix Table II-G4b.

Men still make 85% of the top 1% of the labor income distribution

**Share of women in the employed population, by fractile of labor income**

All

Top 10%

Top 1%
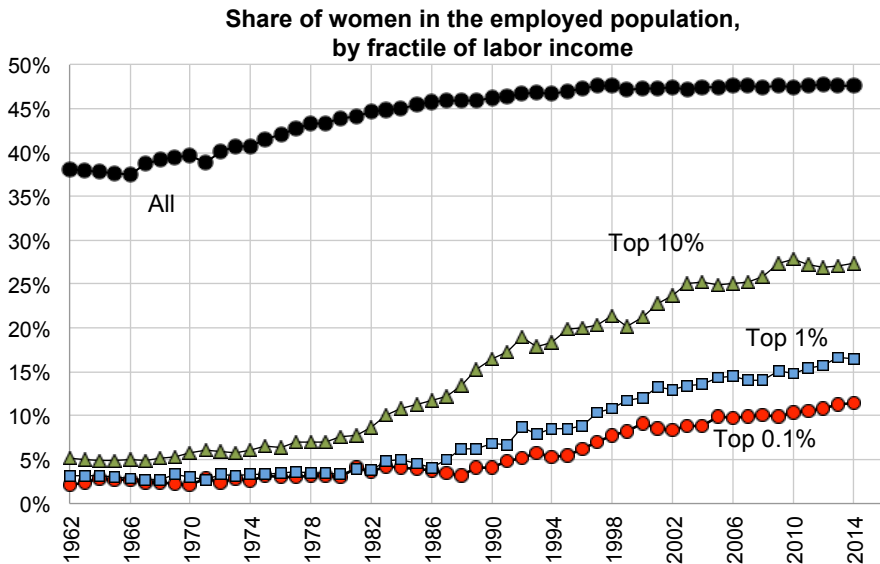
Top 0.1%

FIGURE 1.3 Number of Extreme Poor by Region, 1990–2030

Source: PovcalNet (online analysis tool), http://iresearch.worldbank.org/PovcalNet/. World Bank, Washington, DC, World Development Indicators; World Economic Outlook; Global Economic Prospects; Economist Intelligence Unit.

Top 10% Income Shares Across Countries
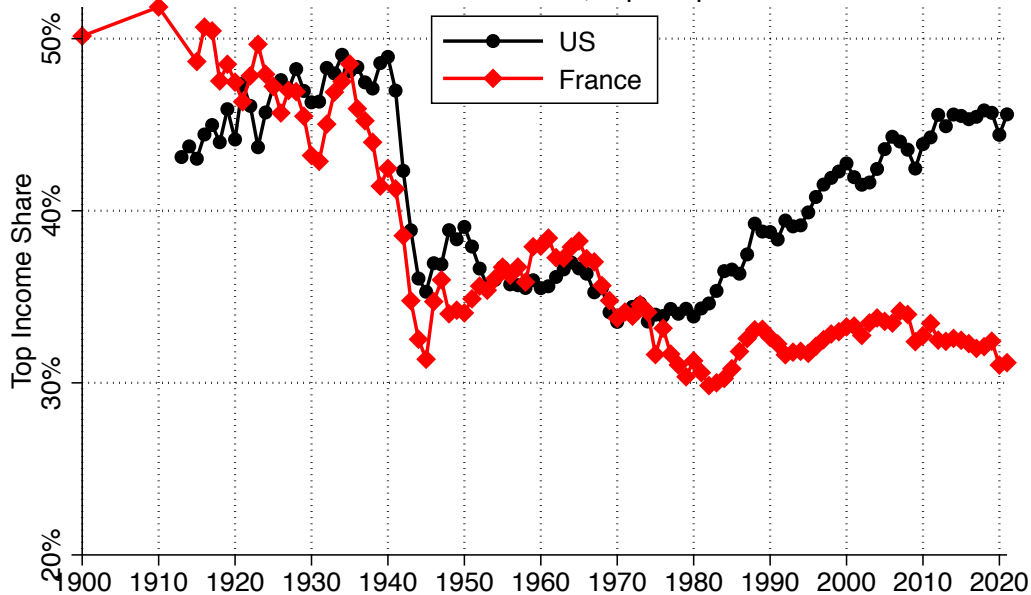
Pre-tax National Income, equal-split adults

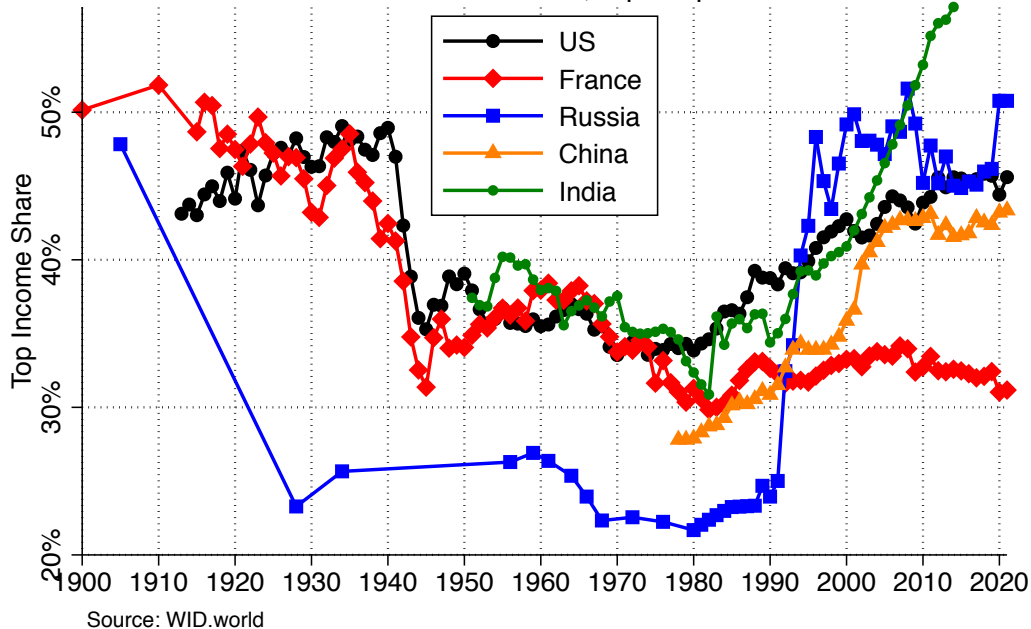Source: WID.world

Top 10% Income Shares Across Countries
Pre-tax National Income, equal-split adults

Source: WID.world

Top 10% Income Shares Across Countries

Pre-tax National Income, equal-split adults

Legend:
- US (black circles)
- France (red diamonds)
- Russia (blue squares)
- China (orange triangles)

Y-axis: Top Income Share (20% to 50%)
X-axis: 1900 to 2020

Source: WID.world

Top 10% Income Shares Across Countries
Pre-tax National Income, equal-split adults

Legend:
- US
- France
- Russia
- China
- India

Y-axis: Top Income Share (20% to 50%)
X-axis: 1900 to 2020
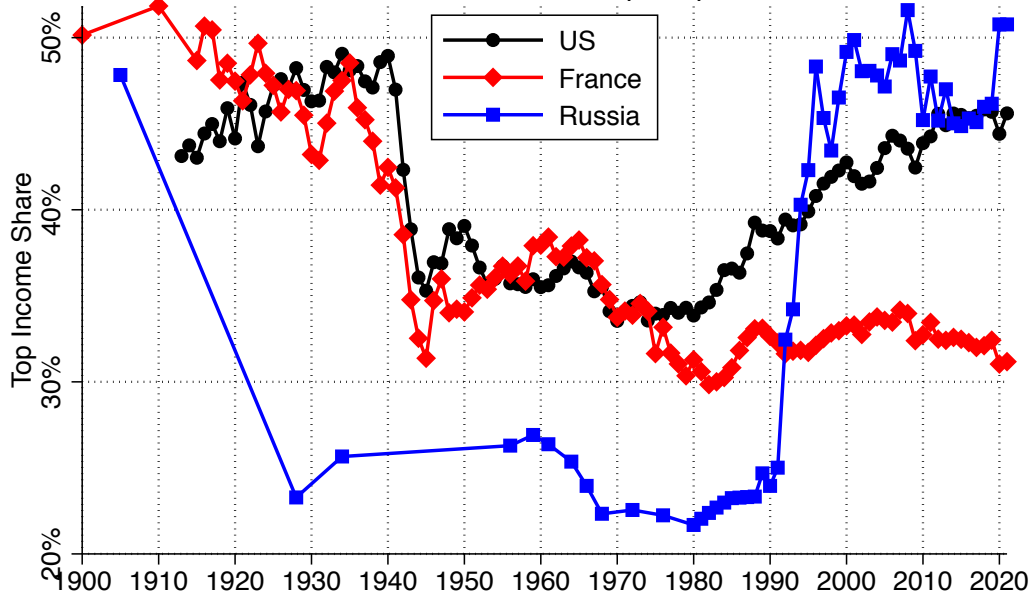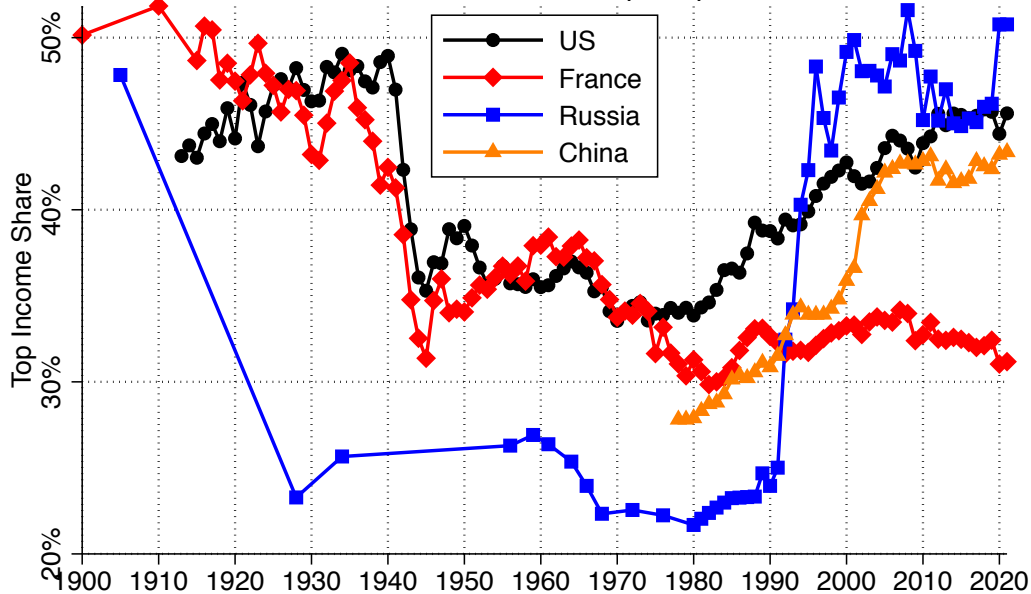
Source: WID.world

WORLD VIEW

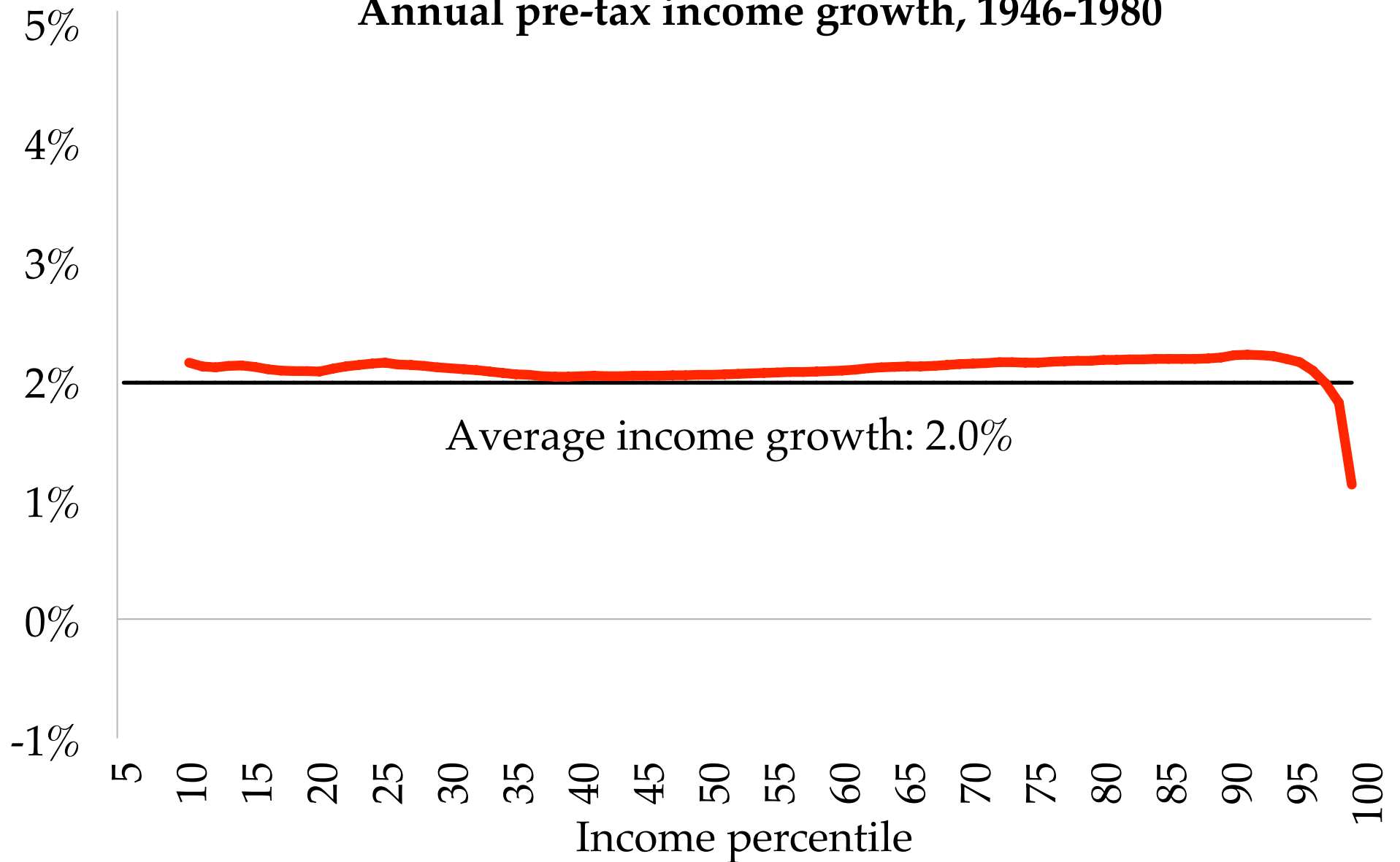Compare inequality between countries on an interactive world map

COUNTRY GRAPHS
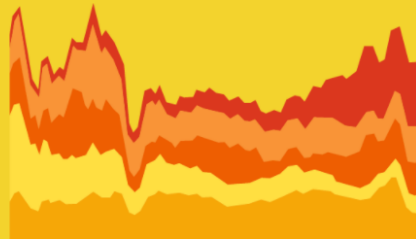
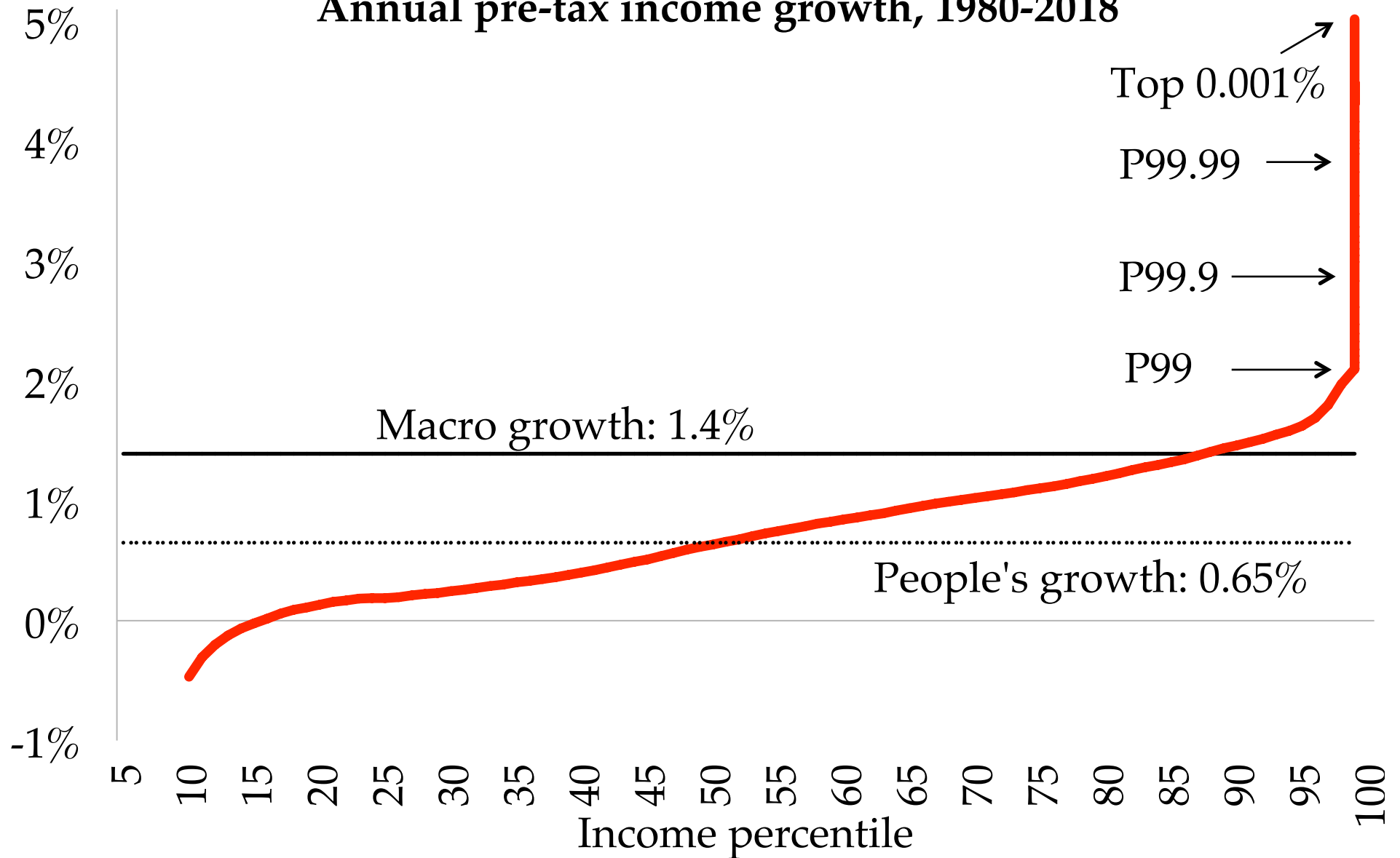Follow the evolution of inequality within countries with user-friendly graphs

DATA TABLES

Download our open-access datasets

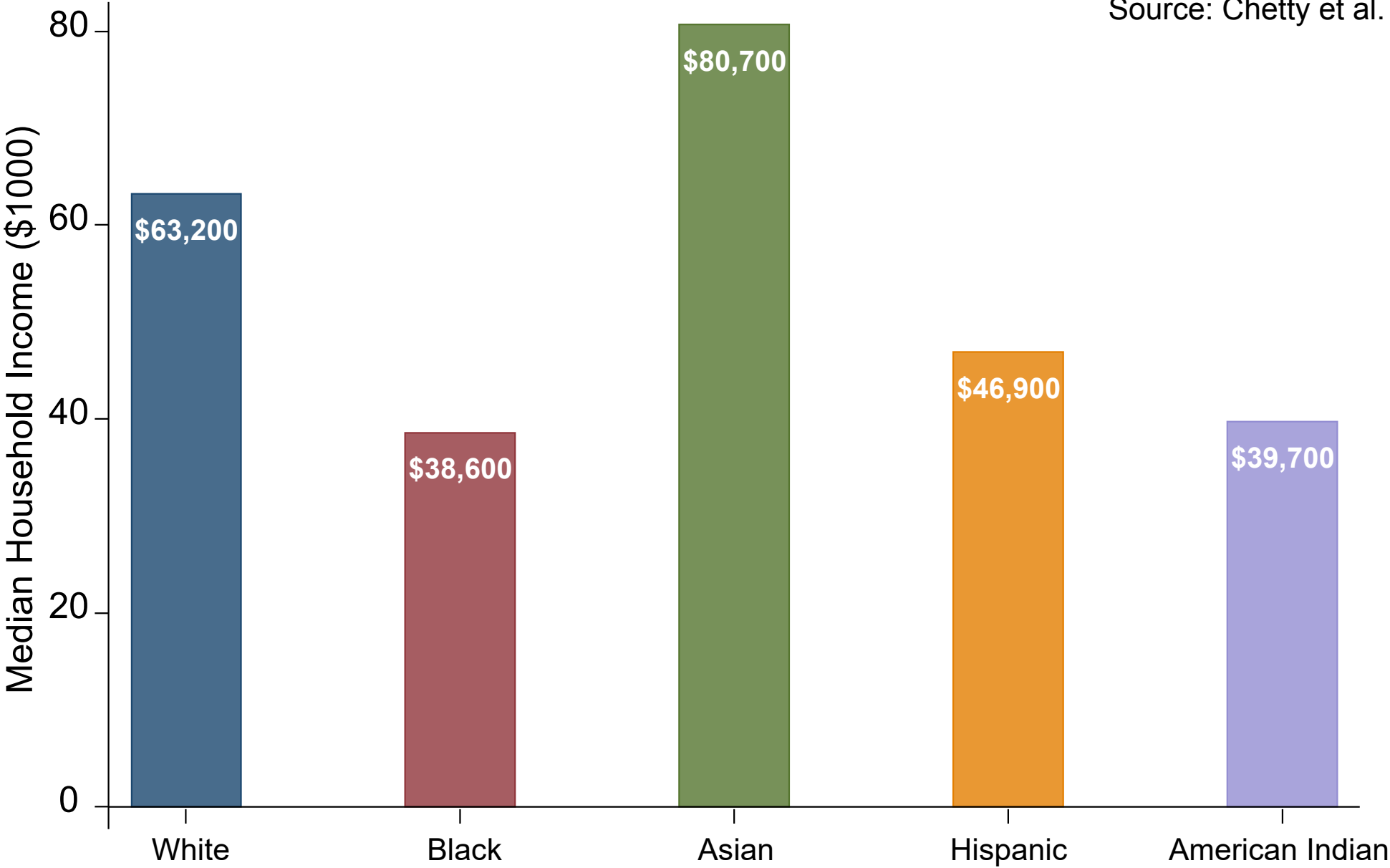# Annual pre-tax income growth, 1946-1980

Average income growth: 2.0%

Income percentile

Annual pre-tax income growth, 1980-2018

Top 0.001%

P99.99 →

P99.9 →

P99 →

Macro growth: 1.4%

People's growth: 0.65%

Income percentile

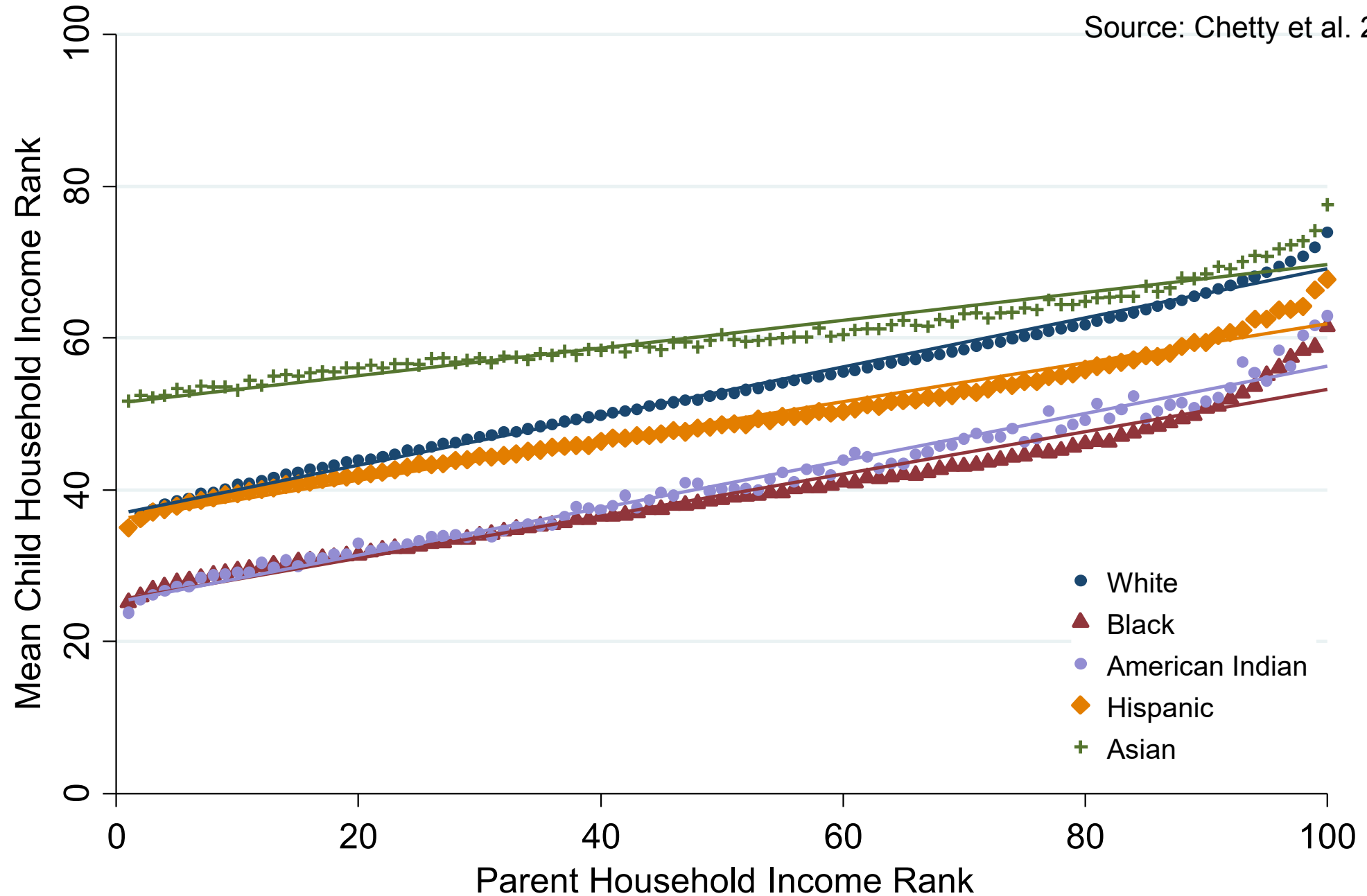# Median Household Income by Race and Ethnicity in 2016
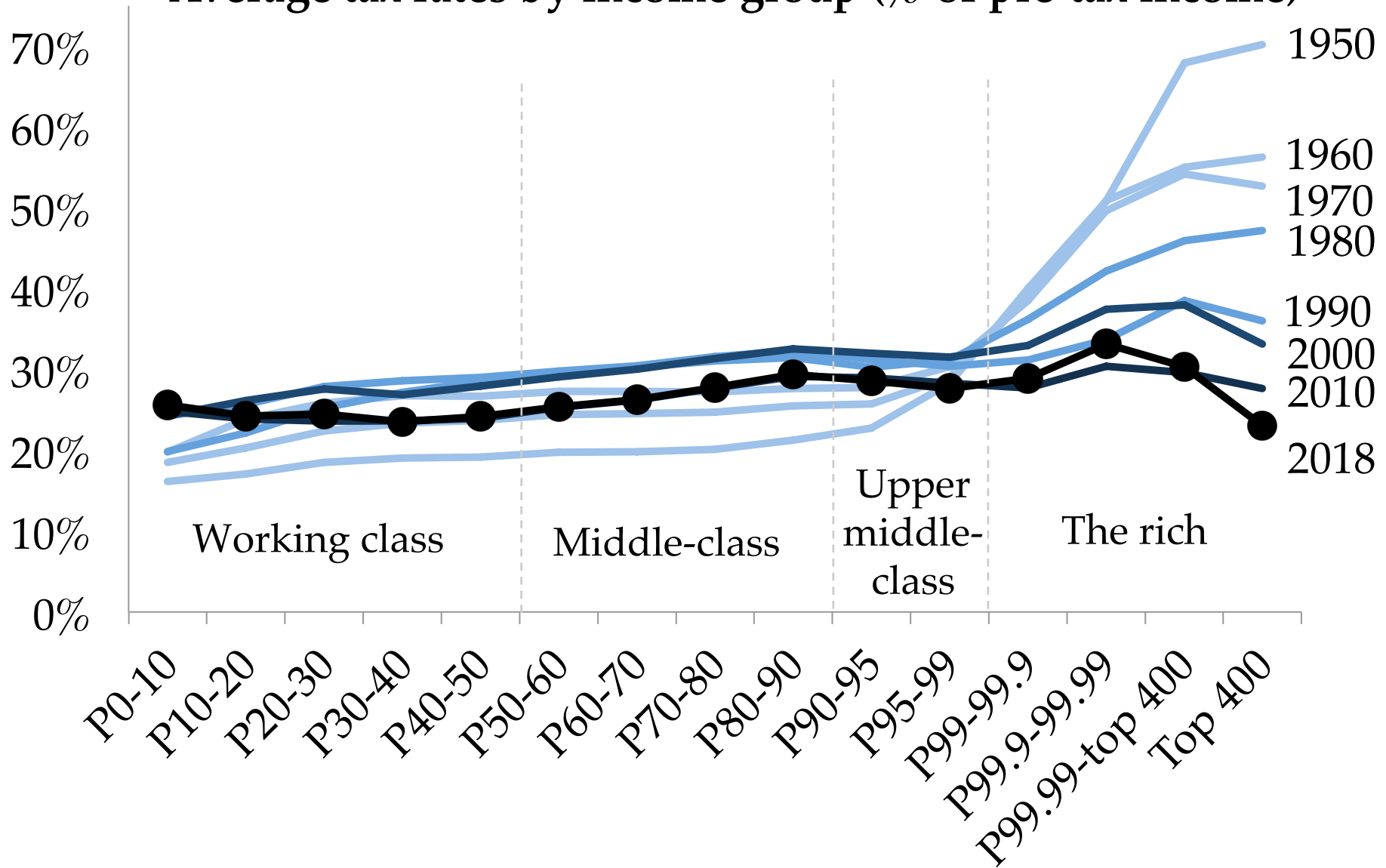
Source: Chetty et al. 2020

Note: We focus here and in subsequent analyses on four non-Hispanic single-race groups (white, black, Asian, American Indian and Alaska Native) and Hispanics. Source: American Community Survey 2016.

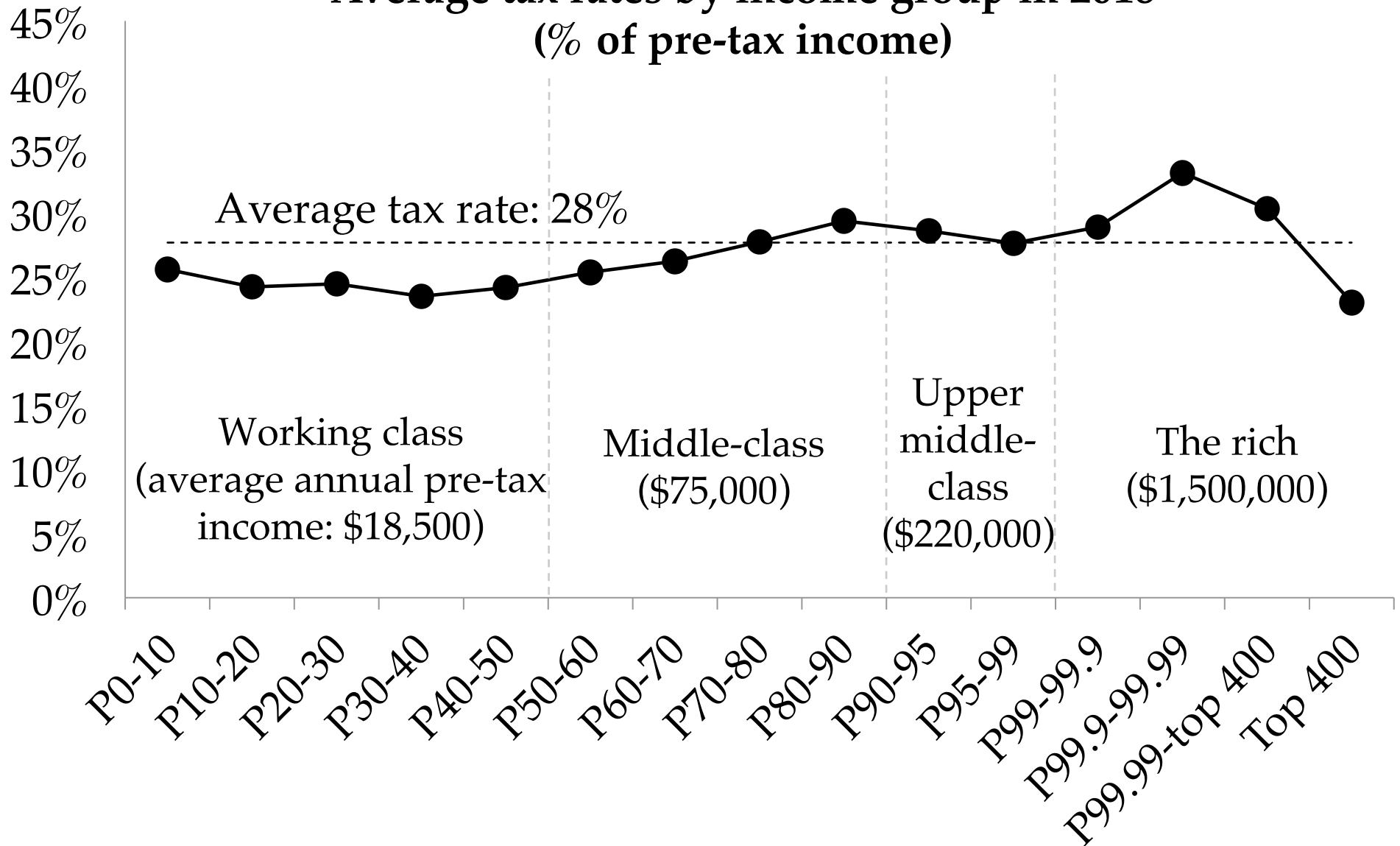Mean Child Income Rank vs. Parent Income Rank by Race and Ethnicity
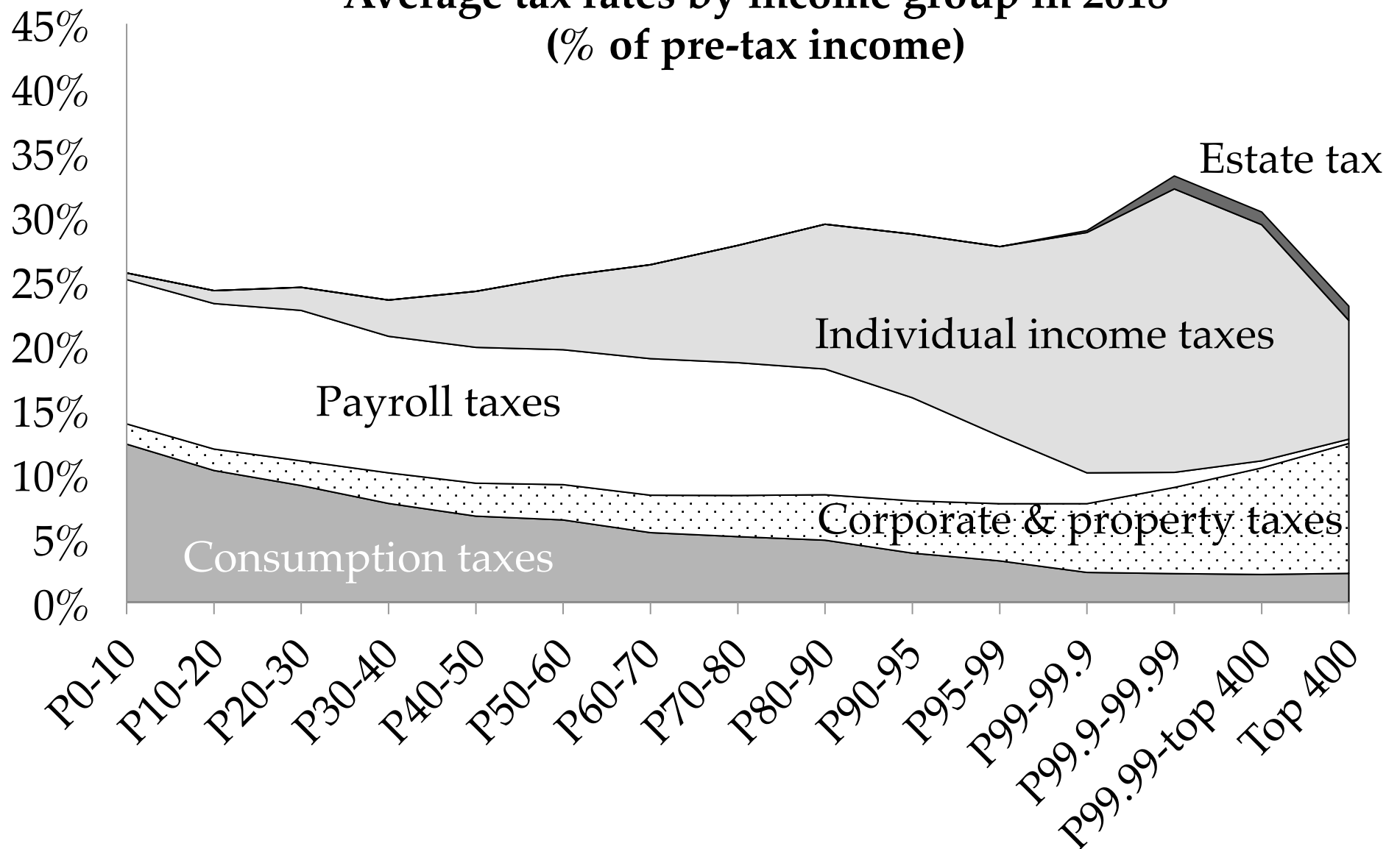
Source: Chetty et al. 2020

Parent Household Income Rank

Mean Child Household Income Rank

- White
- Black
- American Indian
- Hispanic
- Asian

Average tax rates by income group (% of pre-tax income)

Working class | Middle-class | Upper middle-class | The rich

x-axis: P0-10, P10-20, P20-30, P30-40, P40-50, P50-60, P60-70, P70-80, P80-90, P90-95, P95-99, P99-99.9, P99.9-99.99, P99.99-top 400, Top 400

Series labels: 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010, 2018

Average tax rates by income group in 2018 (% of pre-tax income)

Average tax rate: 28%

Working class (average annual pre-tax income: $18,500)

Middle-class ($75,000)

Upper middle-class ($220,000)

The rich ($1,500,000)

P0-10 P10-20 P20-30 P30-40 P40-50 P50-60 P60-70 P70-80 P80-90 P90-95 P95-99 P99-99.9 P99.9-99.99 P99.99-top 400 Top 400

**Average tax rates by income group in 2018
(% of pre-tax income)**

Estate tax

Individual income taxes

Payroll taxes

Corporate & property taxes

Consumption taxes

45%
40%
35%
30%
25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%

P0-10 P10-20 P20-30 P30-40 P40-50 P50-60 P60-70 P70-80 P80-90 P90-95 P95-99 P99-99.9 P99.9-99.99 P99.99-top 400 Top 400

Average tax rates by income group (% of pre-tax income)

Working class   Middle-class   Upper middle-class   The rich

1950
1960
1970
1980
1990
2000
2010
2018

P0-10, P10-20, P20-30, P30-40, P40-50, P50-60, P60-70, P70-80, P80-90, P90-95, P95-99, P99-99.9, P99.9-99.99, P99.99-top 400, Top 400

**Average tax rates by income group in 2018
(% of pre-tax income)**

Estate tax

Individual income taxes

Payroll taxes

Corporate & property taxes

Consumption taxes

45%
40%
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With equitable growth since 1980, pre-tax incomes in 2018 would be higher by:

Working class: 57% pay raise

Middle class: 16% pay raise

Upper middle-class: -8%
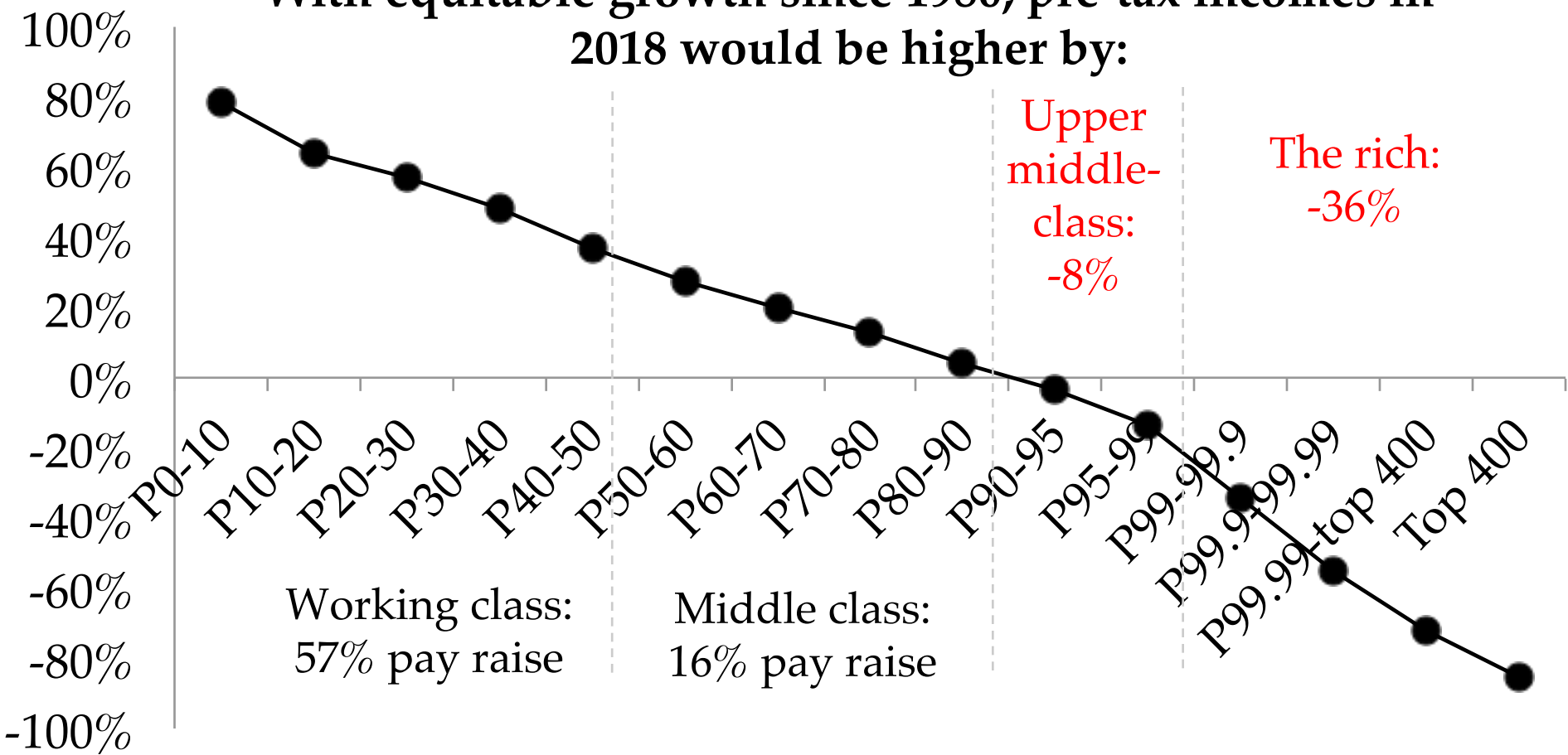
The rich: -36%

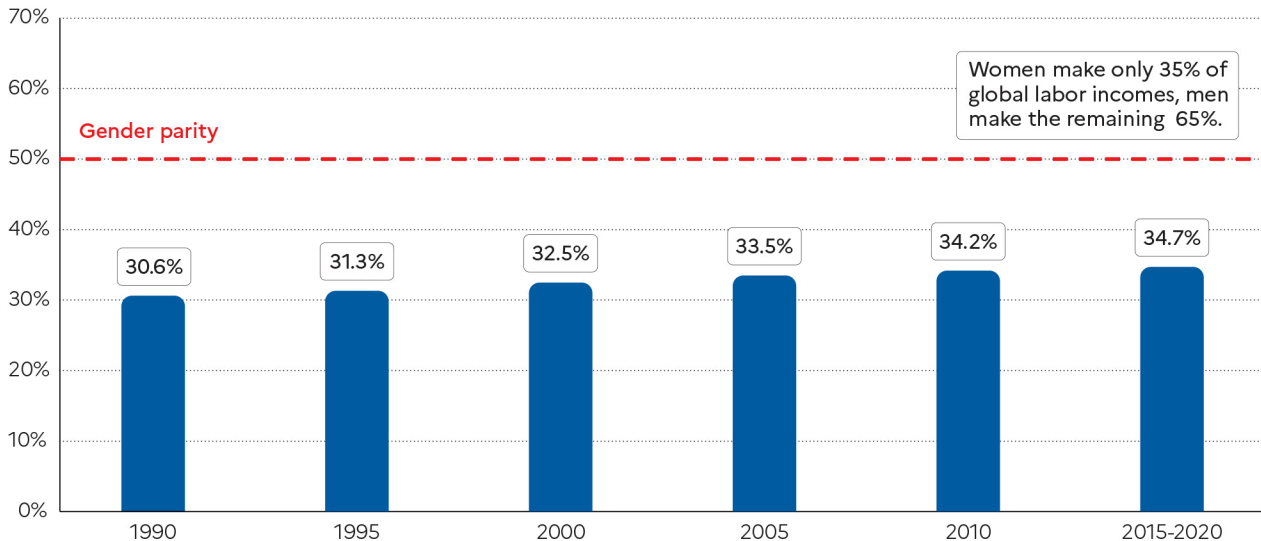**The Evolution of Bottom 50 Percent Incomes**

Source: Saez and Zucman JEP2020
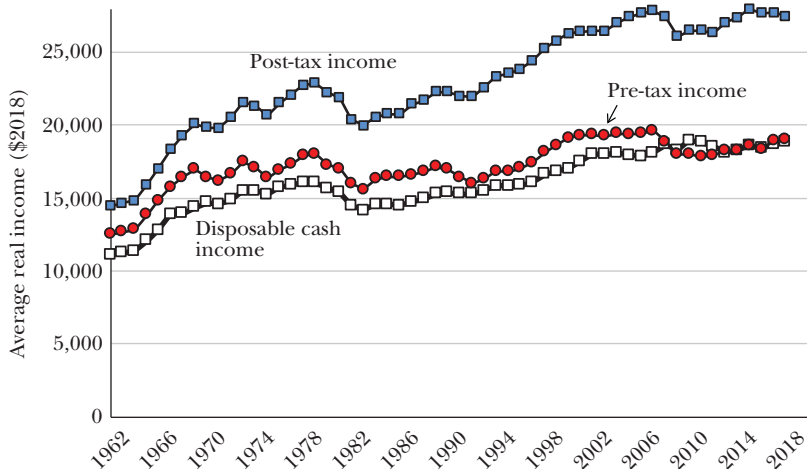
Source: Piketty, Saez, and Zucman (2018), updated September 2020.
Note: The figure depicts the evolution of the real incomes per adult (in 2018 dollars) for the bottom half of the income distribution for three income concepts: (1) pre-tax income before deducting taxes or adding government transfers (concept sums up to national income), (2) post-tax income that deducts all taxes and adds all transfers (cash and in-kind) and collective public expenditures minus the government deficit (also sums up to national income), (3) disposable cash income which is pre-tax income minus all taxes plus cash (or quasi-cash) transfers, i.e., (3) does not include in-kind transfers (primarily Medicaid and Medicare) and collective public expenditures that are included in (2).

Figure 12   *Female share in global labor incomes, 1990-2020*

Women make only 35% of global labor incomes, men make the remaining 65%.

| Year	Female share
1990	30.6%
1995	31.3%
2000	32.5%
2005	33.5%
2010	34.2%
2015-2020	34.7%

Gender parity

Interpretation: *The share of female incomes in global labour incomes was 31% in 1990 and nears 35% in 2015-2020. Today, males make up 65% of total labor incomes.* **Sources and series:** *wir2022.wid.world/methodology and Neef and Robilliard (2021).*

Disposable Income During the Pandemic

> Thanks to government transfers to help with covid losses (such as checks to families, extra unemployment benefits, the paycheck protection program, etc.), disposable income (defined as income after taxes and cash transfers) increased a lot, especially so for the Bottom 50%.

● Top 10% ● Middle 40% ● Bottom 50% ● Total
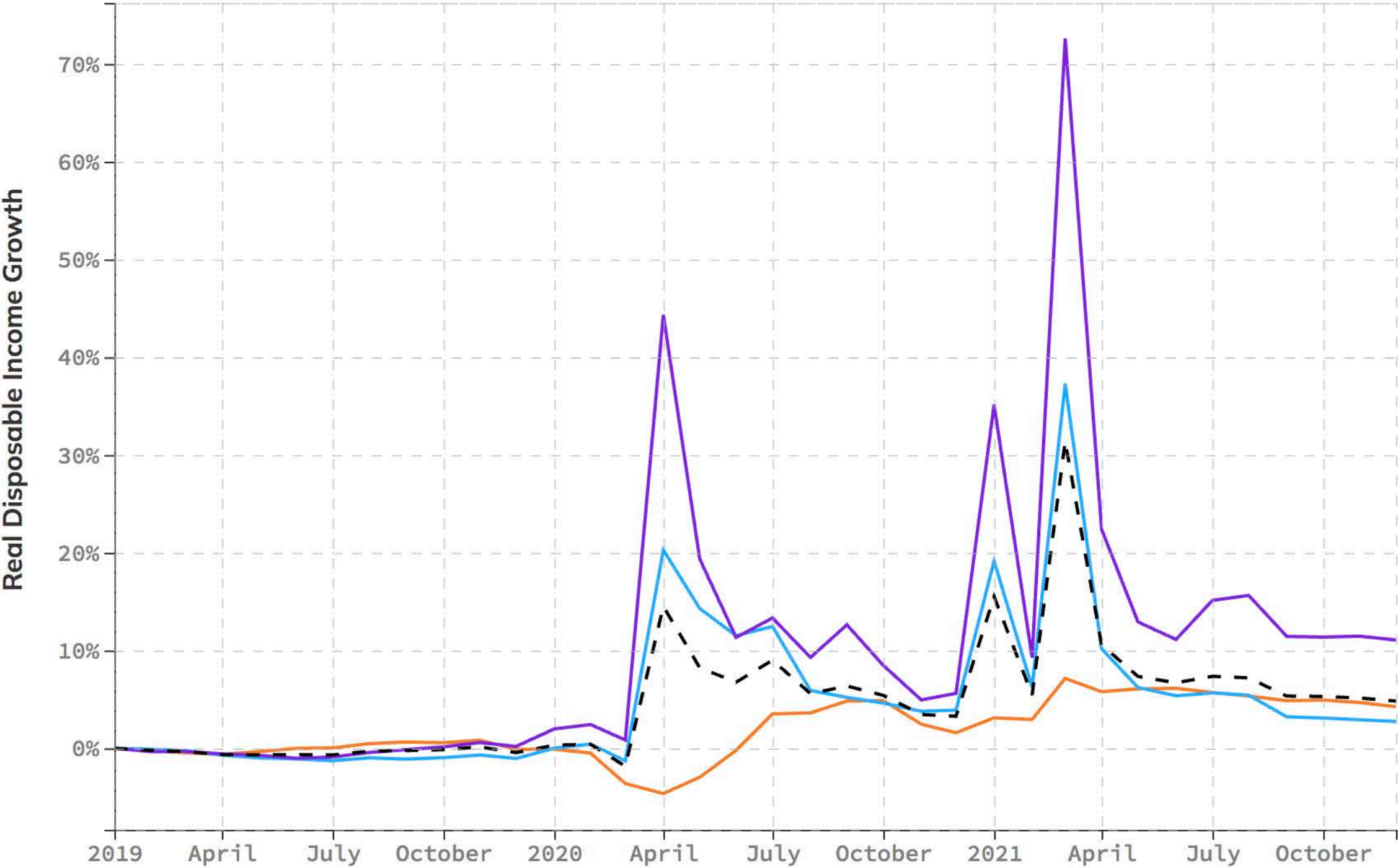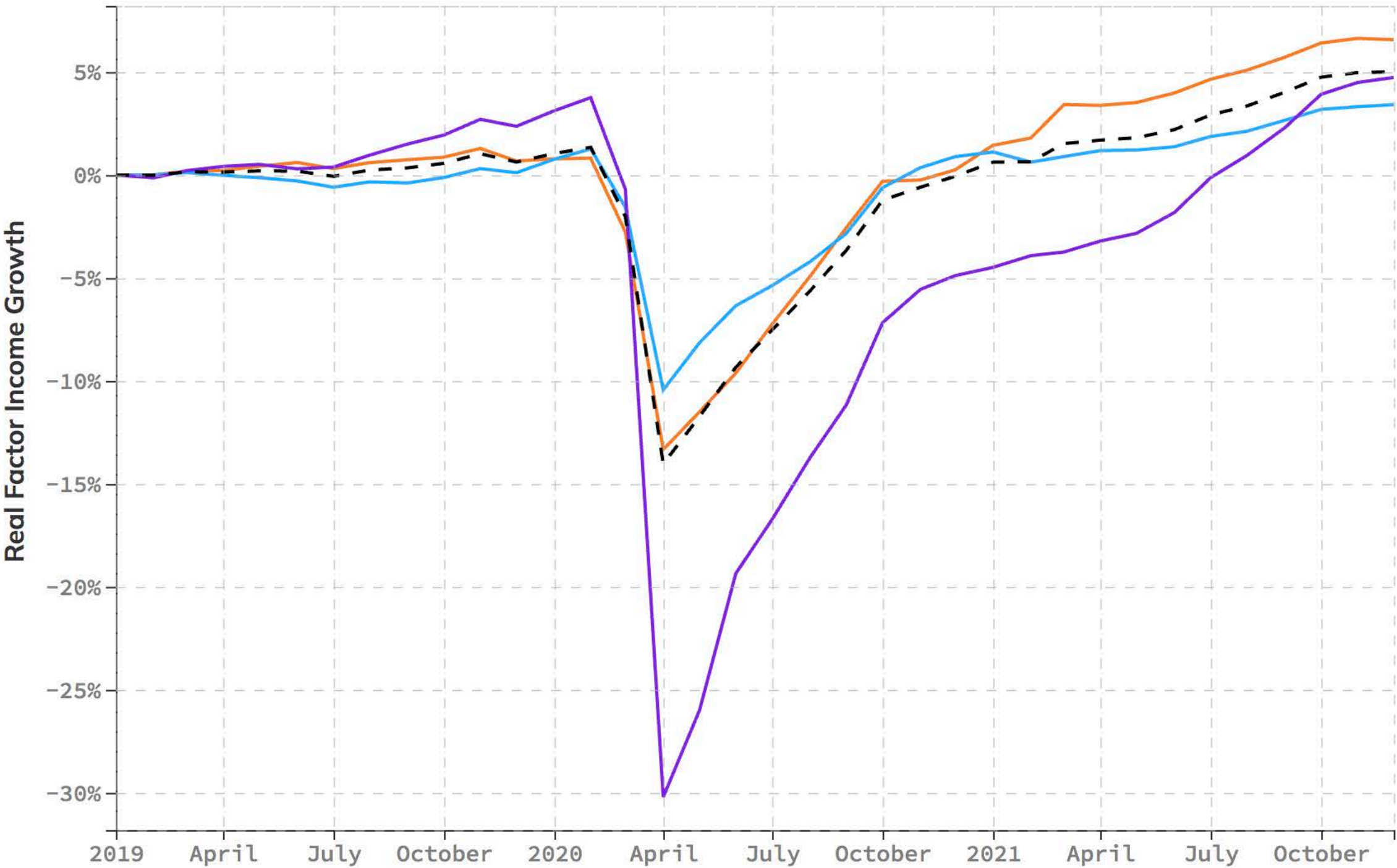

Disposable income growth per unit
From 01/2019 to 12/2021

Group	Growth (%)	Gain ($)
☐ ● Top 0.01%	4.6%	$910k
☐ ● Top 0.1%	5.8%	$260k
☐ ● Top 1%	6.4%	$67k
☑ ● Top 10%	**4.2%**	$11k
☑ ● Middle 40%	**2.7%**	$1.9k
☑ ● Bottom 50%	**11.1%**	$2.6k
☑ ● Total	**4.8%**	$3.2k

Factor Income During the Pandemic

Factor income (defined as labor income from work and capital income from ownership) fell a lot during COVID and the fall was much more dramatic for people in the Bottom 50%. But factor income recovered fast for all groups. All income figures adjust for price inflation.

● Top 10%　　● Middle 40%　　● Bottom 50%　　● Total

📈 Factor income growth per unit

From 01/2019 to 12/2021

Group	Growth (%)	Gain ($)
☐ ● Top 0.01%	5.7%	$1.8M
☐ ● Top 0.1%	6.9%	$470k
☐ ● Top 1%	8.2%	$120k
☑ ● Top 10%	**6.6%**	$24k
☑ ● Middle 40%	**3.4%**	$2.9k
☑ ● Bottom 50%	**4.7%**	$870
☑ ● Total	**5%**	$4.0k

Income of the bottom 50% since COVID (working age population, 20–64) (equal-split within couples, ranking by factor national income)

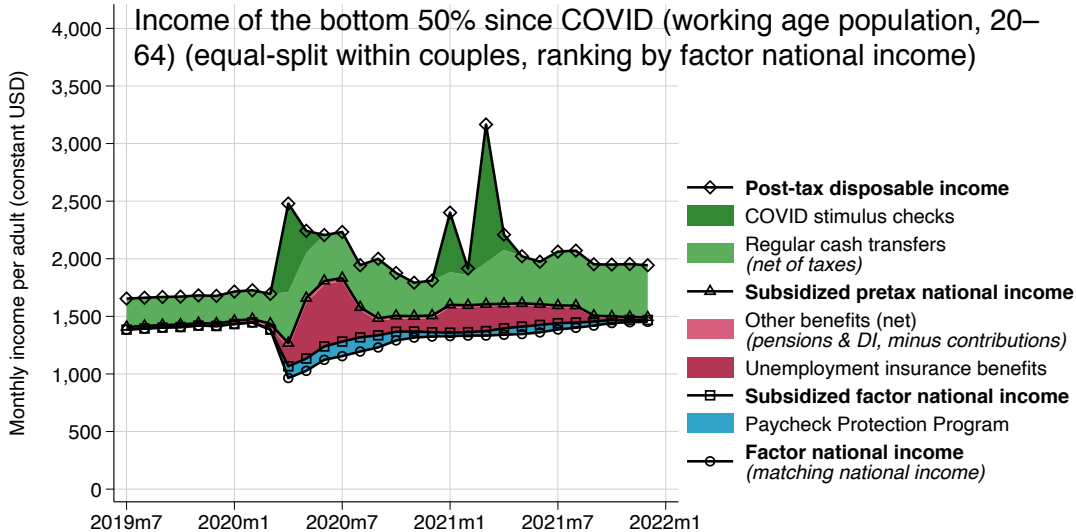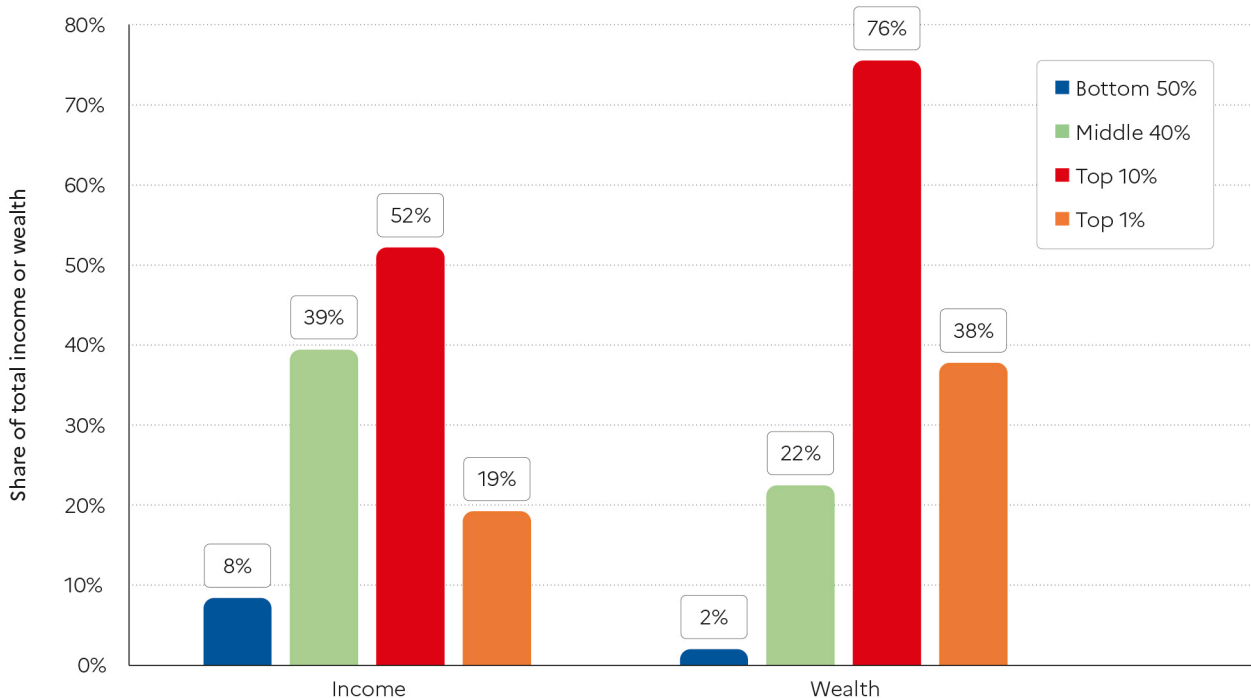**Figure 1.1**   *Global income and wealth inequality, 2021*

Interpretation: *The global 50% captures 8% of total income measured at Purchasing Power Parity (PPP). The global bottom 50% owns 2% of wealth (at Purchasing Power Parity). The global top 10% owns 76% of total Household wealth and captures 52% of total income in 2021. Note that top wealth holders are not necessarily top income holders. Income is measured after the operation of pension and unemployment systems and before taxes and transfers.* **Sources and series:** *wir2022.wid.world/methodology*

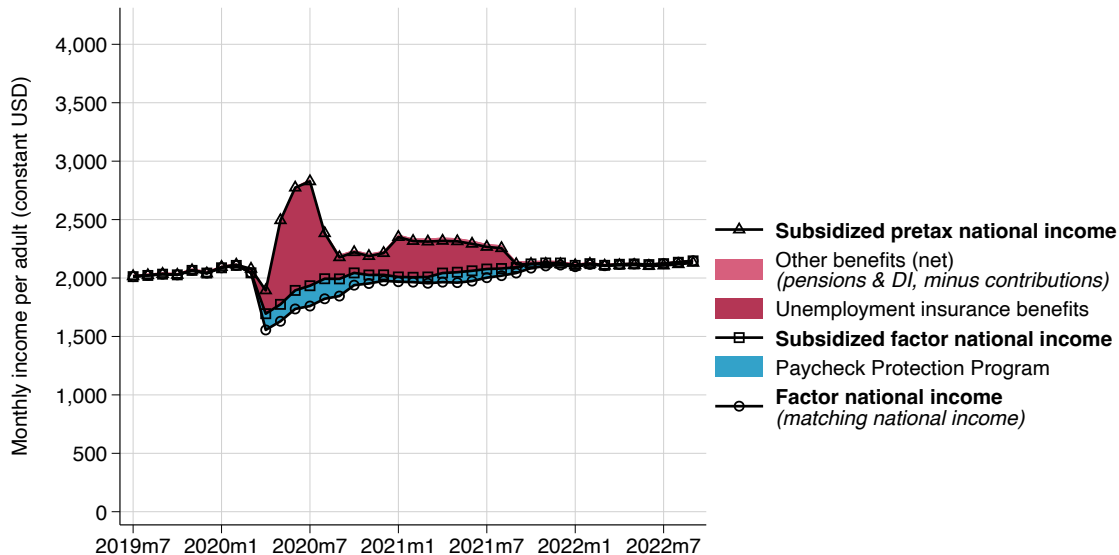# Bottom 50% Incomes (aged 20-64): The Role of Government Transfers
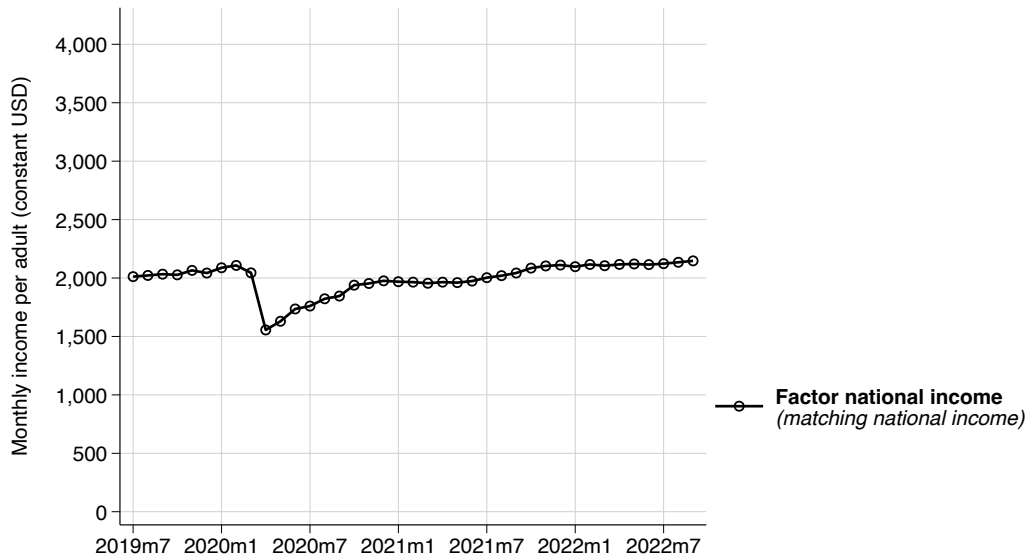
Bottom 50% Incomes (aged 20-64): The Role of Government Transfers
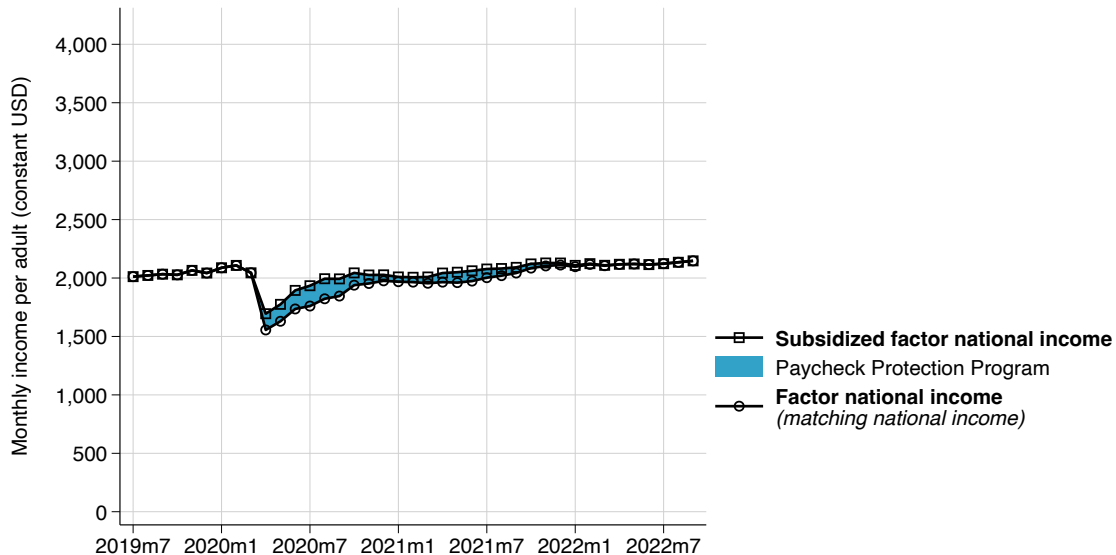
Bottom 50% Incomes (aged 20-64): The Role of Government Transfers

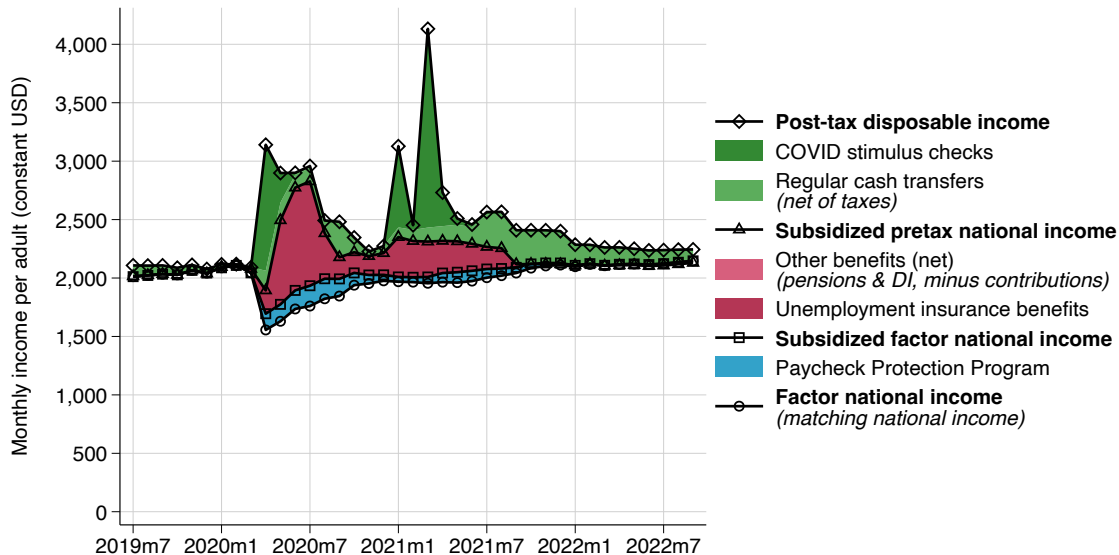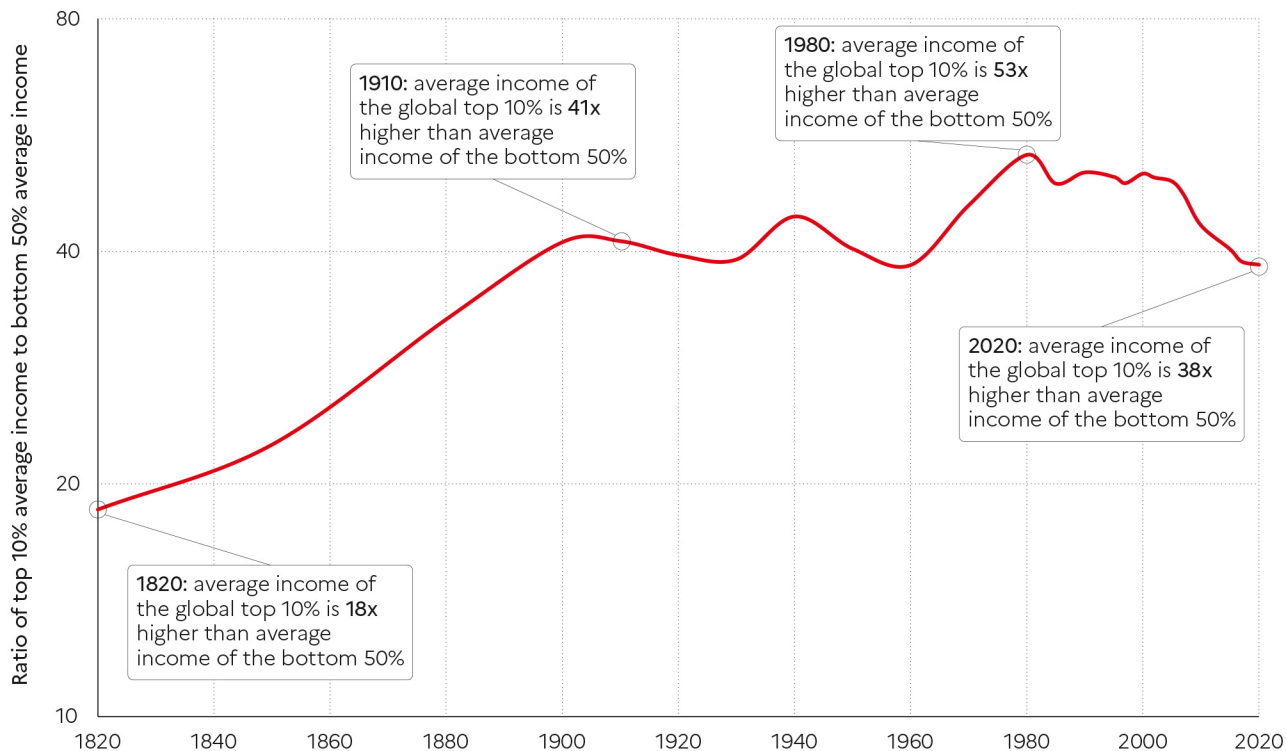Bottom 50% Incomes (aged 20-64): The Role of Government Transfers

Figure 5 *Global income inequality: T10/B50 ratio, 1820-2020*

1820: average income of the global top 10% is **18x** higher than average income of the bottom 50%

1910: average income of the global top 10% is **41x** higher than average income of the bottom 50%

1980: average income of the global top 10% is **53x** higher than average income of the bottom 50%

2020: average income of the global top 10% is **38x** higher than average income of the bottom 50%

*Interpretation: Global inequality, as measured by the ratio T10/B50 between the average income of the top 10% and the average income of the bottom 50%, more than doubled between 1820 and 1910, from less than 20 to about 40, and stabilized around 40 between 1910 and 2020. It is too early to say whether the decline in global inequality observed since 2008 will continue. Income is measured per capita after pension and unemployement insurance transfers and before income and wealth taxes. **Sources and series:** wir2022.wid.world/lmethodology and Chancel and Piketty (2021).*