Income in the United States: 2021

Live News Conference

September 13, 2022

United States® Census Bureau

Real Median Household Income: 1967 to 2021

Income in thousands (2021 R-CPI-U-RS adjusted dollars)

Recession
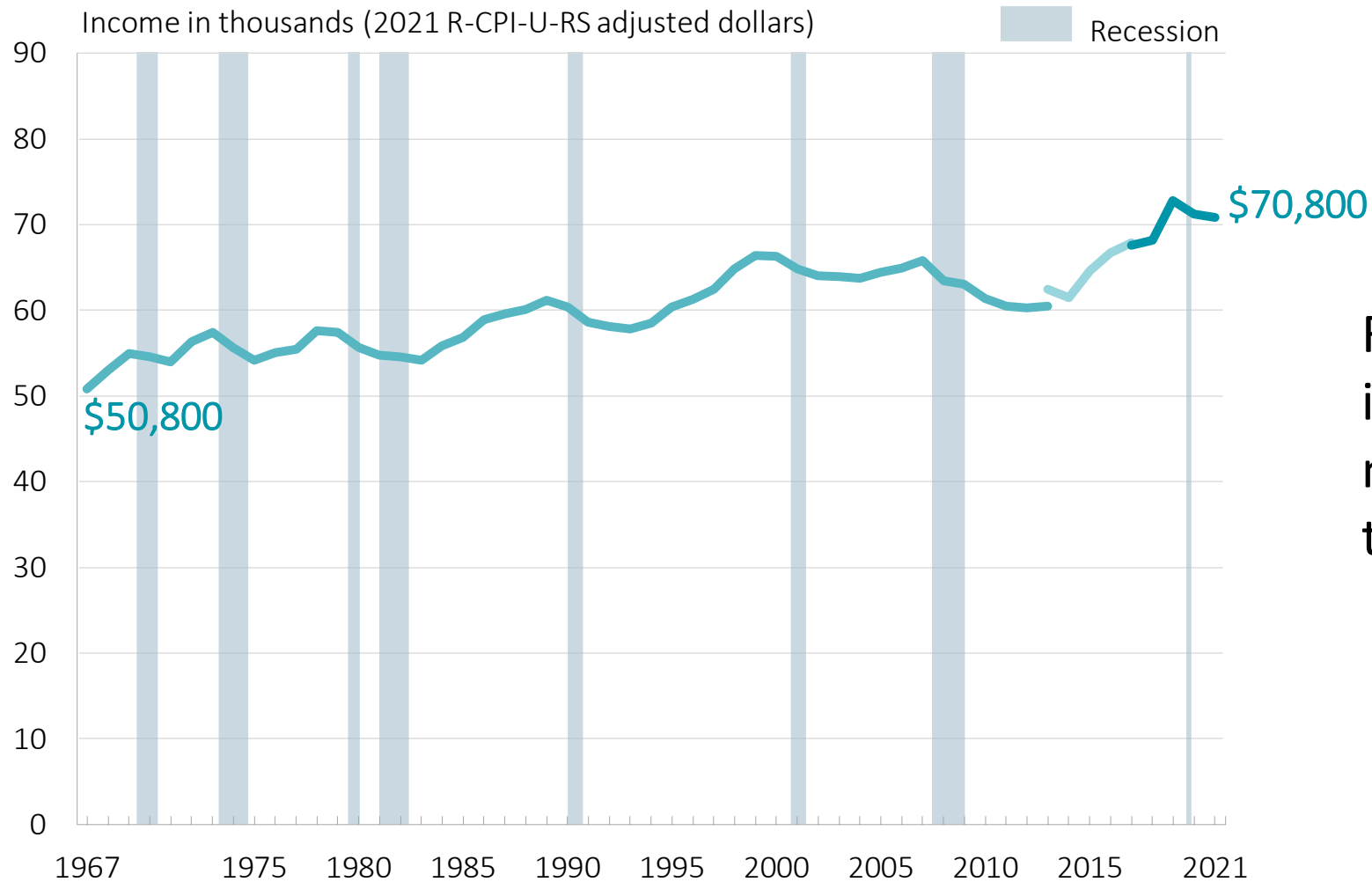
$70,800

$50,800

Real median household income was $70,800 in 2021, not statistically different from the 2020 estimate of $71,200.

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Real Median Household Income: 1967 to 2021

(Income in 2021 R-CPI-U-RS adjusted dollars)

Year	Median Income
1967	50,803
1968	52,992
1969	54,962
1970	54,536
1971	54,006
1972	56,319
1973	57,456
1974	55,636
1975	54,180
1976	55,078
1977	55,427
1978	57,572
1979	57,462
1980	55,596
1981	54,713
1982	54,564
1983	54,182
1984	55,828
1985	56,871
1986	58,607
1987	58,920
1988	59,624
1989	60,115
1990	61,153
1991	60,370
1992	58,607
1993	58,153
1994	57,843
1995	58,515
1996	60,348
1997	61,225
1998	62,484
1999	64,781
2000	66,385
2001	66,248
2002	64,779
2003	64,047
2004[1]	63,967
2005	63,745
2006	64,427
2007	64,930
2008	65,801
2009	63,455
2010	63,011
2011	61,364
2012	60,428
2013[2]	60,313
2013[3]	60,507
2014	62,425
2015	61,468
2016	64,631
2017	66,657
2017[4]	67,832
2018	67,571
2019	68,168
2020[5]	72,808
2021	71,186
	70,784

Recessions

Peak month	Year	Trough month	Year
November	1948	October	1949
July	1953	May	1954
August	1957	April	1958
April	1960	February	1961
December	1969	November	1970
November	1973	March	1975
January	1980	July	1980
July	1981	November	1982
July	1990	March	1991
March	2001	November	2001
December	2007	June	2009
February	2020	April	2020

Source: National Bureau of Economic Research, <www.nber.org/research/data/us-business-cycle-expansions-and-contractions>.

[1] The 2004 data have been revised to reflect a correction to the weights in the 2005 CPS ASEC.

[2] The 2014 CPS ASEC included redesigned questions for income and health insurance coverage. All of the approximately 98,000 addresses were eligible to receive the redesigned set of health insurance coverage questions. The redesigned income questions were implemented to a subsample of these 98,000 addresses using a probability split panel design. Approximately 68,000 addresses were eligible to receive a set of income questions similar to those used in the 2013 CPS ASEC and the remaining 30,000 addresses were eligible to receive the redesigned income questions. The source of these 2013 estimates is the portion of the CPS ASEC sample which received the income questions consistent with the 2013 CPS ASEC, approximately 68,000 addresses.

[3] The source of these 2013 estimates is the portion of the CPS ASEC sample which received the redesigned income questions, approximately 30,000 addresses.

[4] Implementation of an updated CPS ASEC processing system.

[5] Implementation of 2020 Census-based population controls.

Note: For changes in survey and data processing methodology, see footnotes in Table A-1 of the report, *Income and Poverty in the United States: 2021*, U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, P60-276. Information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, is available at <www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar22.pdf>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1968 to 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

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Income and Poverty Estimates

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Economic Characteristics

What is Money Income?

INCLUDES:
- Wages and earnings
- Social Security
- Unemployment
- Retirement
- Interest & dividends
- Public Assistance

DOES _NOT_ INCLUDE:
- Taxes Paid
- Tax Credits
- Stimulus payments
- Noncash assistance
(SNAP, Medicaid, etc.)

Highlights:
Income, earnings, and workers

Income in the United States: 2021

Current Population Reports

by Jessica Semega and Melissa Kollar
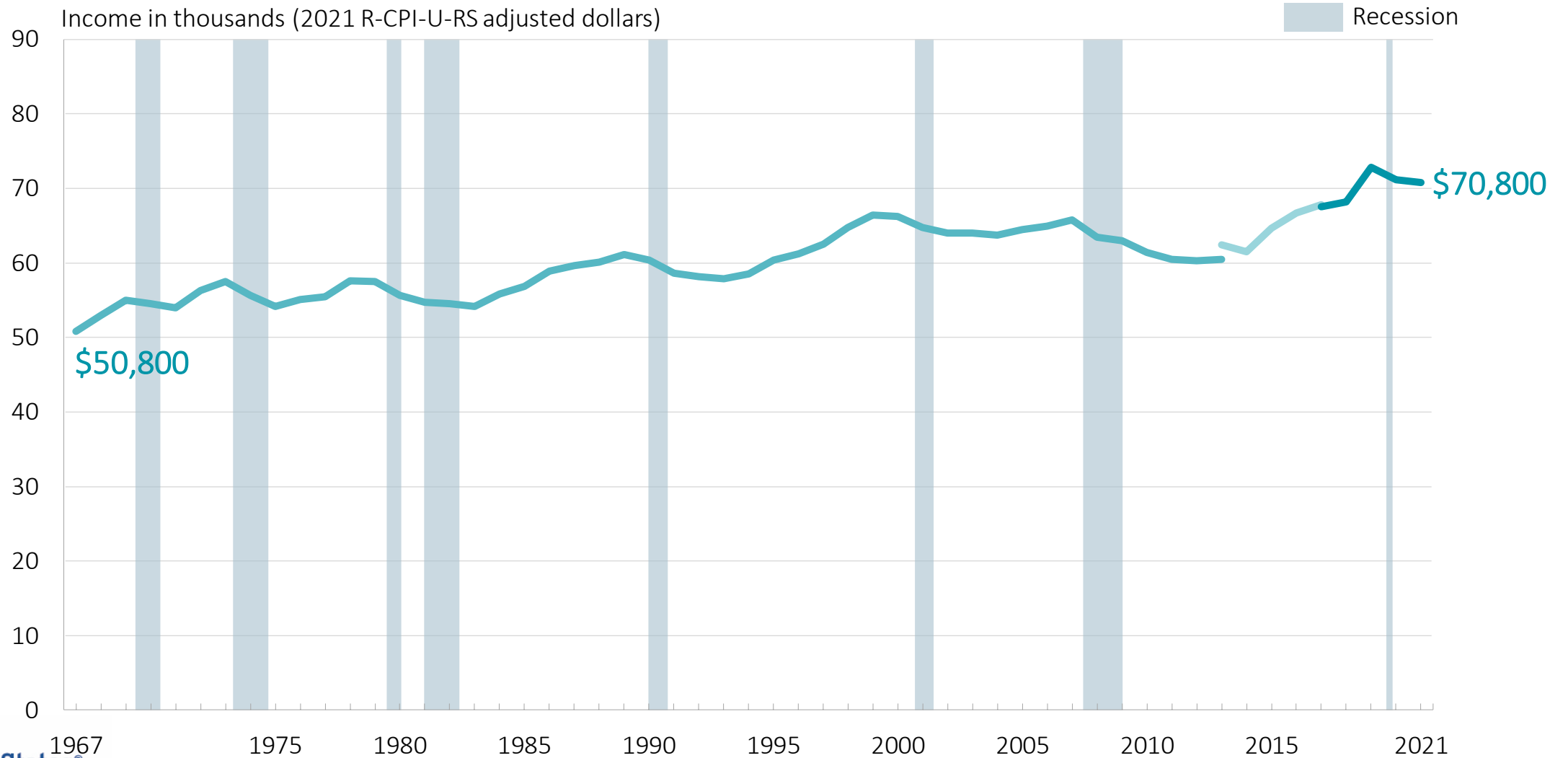Issued September 2022
P60-276

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U.S. Department of Commerce
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
census.gov

Between 2020 and 2021:

- Real median household income was not statistically different

- Income inequality as measured by the Gini index, increased by 1.2 percent

- The number of total workers was not statistically different, but there was an increase of about 11.1 million full-time, year-round workers

- The real median earnings of total workers increased 4.6 percent, while median earnings of those who worked full-time, year-round decreased 4.1 percent

Real Median Household Income: 1967 to 2021

Income in thousands (2021 R-CPI-U-RS adjusted dollars)

Recession

$50,800

$70,800

Note: Households 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. Income rounded to nearest $100.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1968 to 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

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Real Median Household Income: 1967 to 2021

(Income in 2021 R-CPI-U-RS adjusted dollars)

Year	Median Income
1967	50,803
1968	52,992
1969	54,962
1970	54,536
1971	54,006
1972	56,319
1973	57,456
1974	55,636
1975	54,180
1976	55,078
1977	55,427
1978	57,572
1979	57,462
1980	55,596
1981	54,713
1982	54,564
1983	54,182
1984	55,828
1985	56,871
1986	58,920
1987	59,624
1988	60,115
1989	61,153
1990	60,370
1991	58,607
1992	58,153
1993	57,843
1994	58,515
1995	60,348
1996	61,225
1997	62,484
1998	64,781
1999	66,385
2000	66,248
2001	64,779
2002	64,047
2003	63,967
2004[1]	63,745
2005	64,427
2006	64,930
2007	65,801
2008	63,455
2009	63,011
2010	61,364
2011	60,428
2012	60,313
2013[2]	60,507
2013[3]	62,425
2014	61,468
2015	64,631
2016	66,657
2017	67,832
2017[4]	67,571
2018	68,168
2019	72,808
2020[5]	71,186
2021	70,784

Recessions

Peak month	Year	Trough month	Year
November	1948	October	1949
July	1953	May	1954
August	1957	April	1958
April	1960	February	1961
December	1969	November	1970
November	1973	March	1975
January	1980	July	1980
July	1981	November	1982
July	1990	March	1991
March	2001	November	2001
December	2007	June	2009
February	2020	April	2020

Source: National Bureau of Economic Research, <www.nber.org/research/data/us-business-cycle-expansions-and-contractions>.

[1] The 2004 data have been revised to reflect a correction to the weights in the 2005 CPS ASEC.

[2] The 2014 CPS ASEC included redesigned questions for income and health insurance coverage. All of the approximately 98,000 addresses were eligible to receive the redesigned set of health insurance coverage questions. The redesigned income questions were implemented to a subsample of these 98,000 addresses using a probability split panel design. Approximately 68,000 addresses were eligible to receive a set of income questions similar to those used in the 2013 CPS ASEC and the remaining 30,000 addresses were eligible to receive the redesigned income questions. The source of these 2013 estimates is the portion of the CPS ASEC sample which received the redesigned income questions consistent with the 2013 CPS ASEC, approximately 68,000 addresses.

[3] The source of these 2013 estimates is the portion of the CPS ASEC sample which received the redesigned income questions, approximately 30,000 addresses.

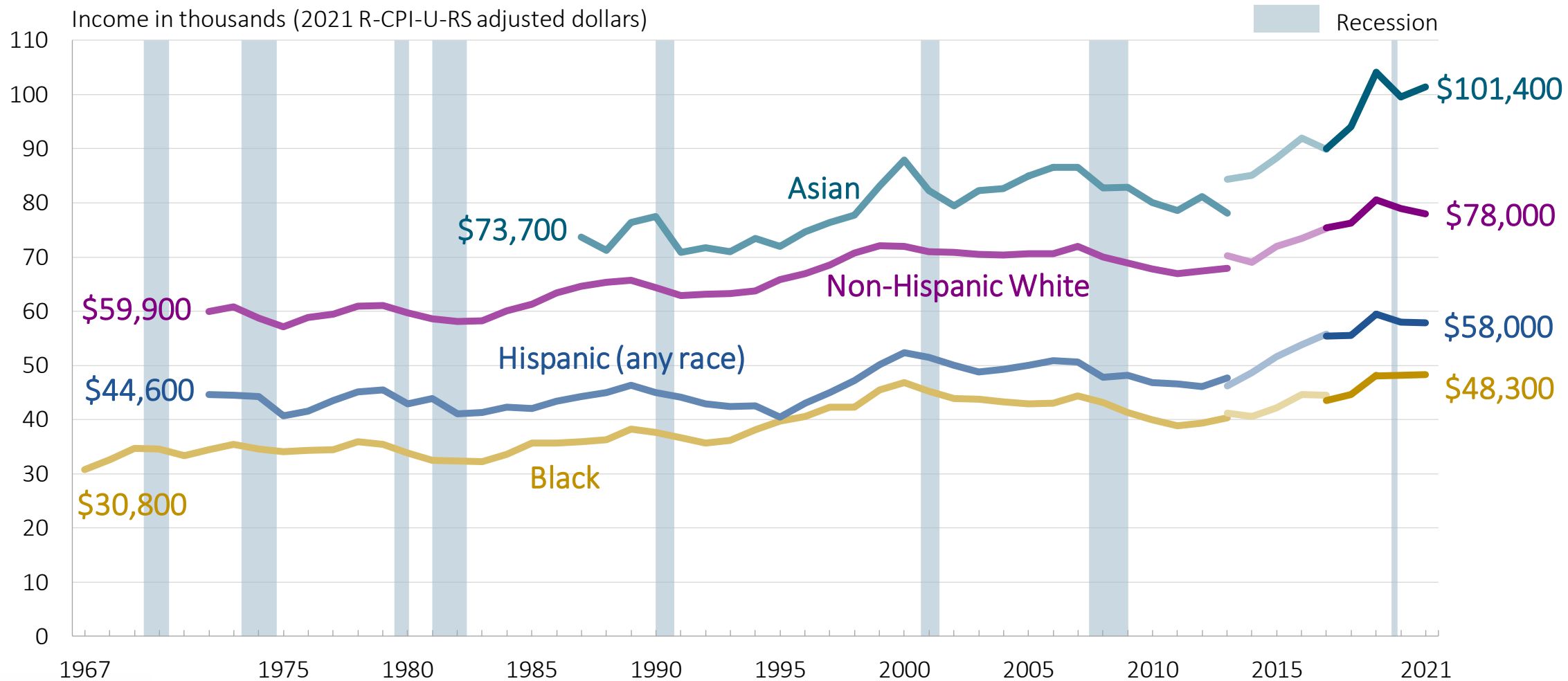[4] Implementation of an updated CPS ASEC processing system.

[5] Implementation of 2020 Census-based population controls.

Note: For changes in survey and data processing methodology, see footnotes in Table A-1 of the report, *Income and Poverty in the United States: 2021*, U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, P60-276. Information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, is available at <www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar22.pdf>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1968 to 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

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Real Median Household Income by Race and Hispanic Origin of Householder: 1967 to 2021

Income in thousands (2021 R-CPI-U-RS adjusted dollars)

Recession

- Asian — $73,700 ... $101,400
- Non-Hispanic White — $59,900 ... $78,000
- Hispanic (any race) — $44,600 ... $58,000
- Black — $30,800 ... $48,300

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Real Median Household Income by Race[1] and Hispanic Origin of Householder: 1967 to 2021

(Income in 2021 dollars, adjusted using the R-CPI-U-RS)

Years	All races	White, not Hispanic	Black	Asian	Hispanic (any race)
1967	50,803	N	30,761	N	N
1968	52,992	N	32,536	N	N
1969	54,962	N	34,672	N	N
1970	54,536	N	34,574	N	N
1971	54,006	N	33,368	N	N
1972	56,319	59,926	34,487	N	44,587
1973	57,456	60,746	35,445	N	44,513
1974	55,636	58,682	34,603	N	44,253
1975	54,180	57,086	34,014	N	40,704
1976	55,078	58,873	34,308	N	41,545
1977	55,427	59,442	34,395	N	43,482
1978	57,572	60,977	35,967	N	45,109
1979	57,462	61,096	35,372	N	45,527
1980	55,596	59,693	33,791	N	42,854
1981	54,713	58,642	32,439	N	43,887
1982	54,564	58,081	32,374	N	41,058
1983	54,182	58,280	32,244	N	41,265
1984	55,828	60,119	33,551	N	42,321
1985	56,871	61,326	35,684	N	42,055
1986	58,920	63,352	35,688	N	43,431
1987	59,624	64,547	35,855	73,728	44,238
1988	60,115	65,302	36,228	71,248	44,954
1989	61,153	65,710	38,256	76,377	46,376
1990	60,370	64,407	37,654	77,522	45,021
1991	58,607	62,881	36,587	70,908	44,143
1992	58,153	63,191	35,601	71,754	42,893
1993	57,843	63,272	36,166	71,000	42,374
1994	58,515	63,706	38,135	73,420	42,477
1995	60,348	65,841	39,657	71,926	40,484
1996	61,225	66,909	40,507	74,653	42,964
1997	62,484	68,516	42,298	76,404	44,962
1998	64,781	70,702	42,234	77,696	47,197
1999	66,385	72,030	45,528	83,128	50,154
2000	66,248	71,979	46,806	87,968	52,329
2001	64,779	71,033	45,208	82,277	51,490
2002	64,047	70,829	43,836	82,875	49,993
2003	63,967	70,552	43,776	82,250	48,726
2004[2]	63,745	70,325	43,272	82,681	49,276
2005	64,427	70,627	42,915	84,965	50,020
2006	64,930	70,617	43,064	86,533	50,893
2007	65,801	71,941	44,427	86,589	50,666
2008	63,455	70,049	43,165	82,798	47,826
2009	63,011	68,940	41,247	82,875	48,152
2010	61,364	67,820	40,005	80,023	46,863
2011	60,428	66,897	38,909	78,628	46,629
2012	60,313	67,397	39,393	81,143	46,113
2013[3]	60,507	67,882	40,305	78,128	47,720
2013[4]	62,425	70,281	41,151	84,324	46,234
2014	61,468	69,027	40,551	85,112	48,676
2015	64,631	71,989	42,196	88,247	51,631
2016	66,657	73,433	44,585	91,938	53,827
2017	67,832	75,318	44,496	89,892	55,800
2017[5]	67,571	75,367	43,509	89,960	55,448
2018	68,168	76,220	44,627	94,079	55,513
2019	72,808	80,602	48,153	104,041	59,467
2020[6]	71,186	78,912	48,175	99,622	58,015
2021	70,784	77,999	48,297	101,418	57,981

N Not available.

[1] Starting with the 2003 CPS ASEC, respondents were allowed to choose more than one race. This table presents the single-race population for 2002 to present. For example White alone refers to people who reported White and did not report any other race category. For 2001 and earlier years, the CPS allowed respondents to report only one race group.

[2] The 2004 data have been revised to reflect a correction to the weights in the 2005 CPS ASEC.

[3] The 2014 CPS ASEC included redesigned questions for income and health insurance coverage. The redesigned income questions were implemented to a subsample of these 98,000 addresses using a probability split panel design. Approximately 68,000 addresses were eligible to receive a set of income questions similar to those used in the 2013 CPS ASEC and the remaining 30,000 addresses were eligible to receive the redesigned income questions. The source of these 2013 estimates is the portion of the CPS ASEC sample which received the income questions consistent with the 2013 CPS ASEC, approximately 68,000 addresses.

[4] The source of these 2013 estimates is the portion of the CPS ASEC sample which received the redesigned income questions, approximately 30,000 addresses.

[5] Estimates reflect the implementation of an updated data processing system, allowing users to evaluate the impact, and should be used to make comparisons to 2018 and subsequent years.

[6] Implementation of 2020 Census-based population controls.

Note: For changes in survey and data processing methodology, refer to footnotes in Appendix Table A-2 of the report, *Income in the United States: 2021*, Current Population Reports, P60-276. Information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions is available at <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar22.pdf>.

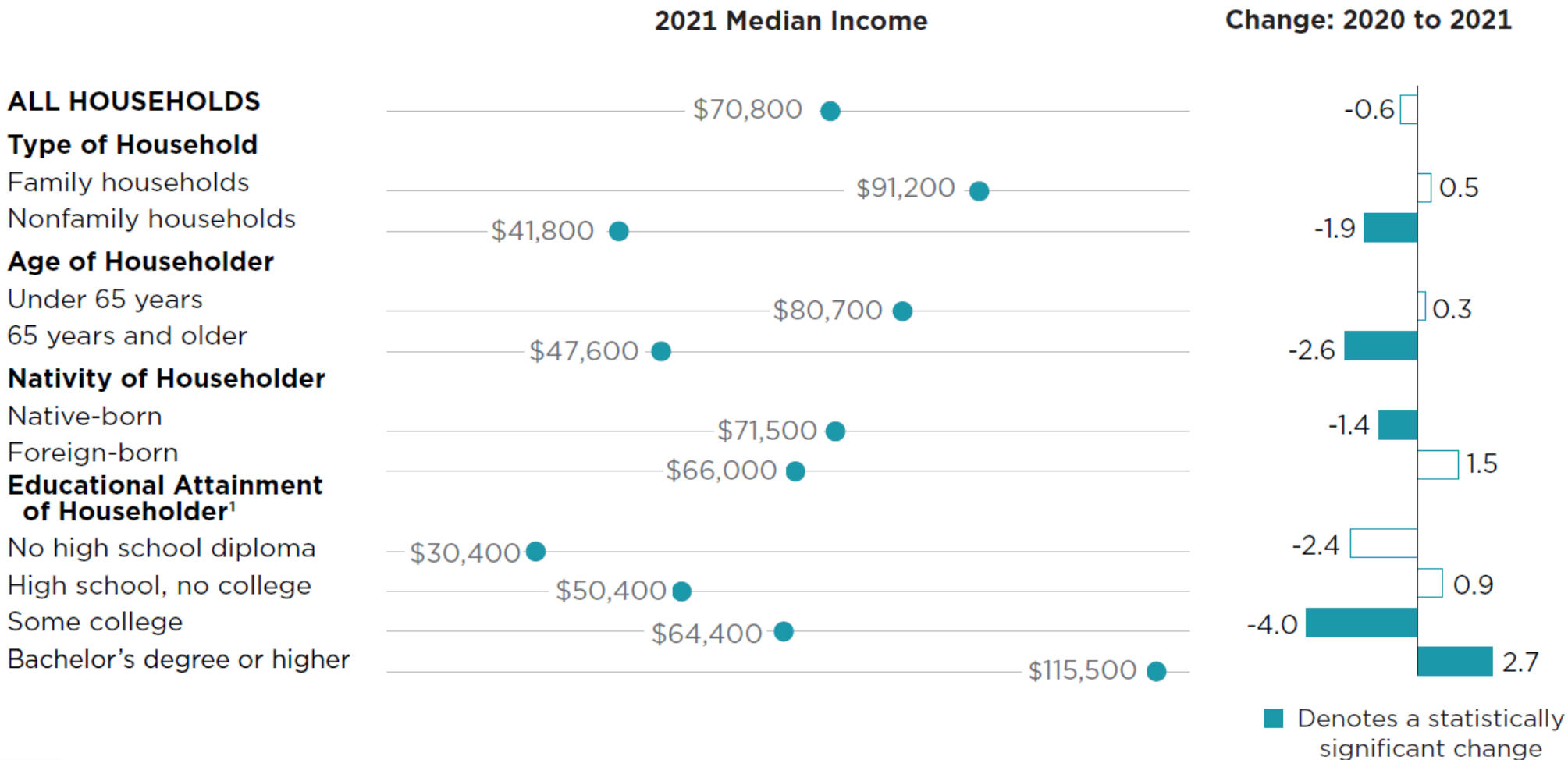Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1968 to 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

Recessions

Peak month	Year	Trough month	Year
November	1948	October	1949
July	1953	May	1954
August	1957	April	1958
April	1960	February	1961
December	1969	November	1970
November	1973	March	1975
January	1980	July	1980
July	1981	November	1982
July	1990	March	1991
March	2001	November	2001
December	2007	June	2009
February	2020	April	2020

Source: National Bureau of Economic Research, <www.nber.org/research/data/us-business-cycle-expansions-and-contractions>.

Median Household Income and Percent Change by Selected Characteristics: 2020 to 2021

2021 Median Income

Change: 2020 to 2021

	2021 Median Income	Change
ALL HOUSEHOLDS	$70,800	-0.6
Type of Household		
Family households	$91,200	0.5
Nonfamily households	$41,800	-1.9
Age of Householder		
Under 65 years	$80,700	0.3
65 years and older	$47,600	-2.6
Nativity of Householder		
Native-born	$71,500	-1.4
Foreign-born	$66,000	1.5
Educational Attainment of Householder[1]		
No high school diploma	$30,400	-2.4
High school, no college	$50,400	0.9
Some college	$64,400	-4.0
Bachelor's degree or higher	$115,500	2.7

■ Denotes a statistically significant change

[1] Householders aged 25 and older.
Note: Households as of March of the following year. Statistically significant indicates the change is statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level. Income rounded to nearest $100. Percent changes calculated with unrounded estimates.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2021 and 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

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Income Summary Measures by Selected Characteristics: 2020 and 2021

(Income in 2021 dollars, adjusted using the R-CPI-U-RS. Households as of March of the following year. Information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions is available at <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar22.pdf>)

Characteristic	2020 [1]			2021			Percent change* in real median income (2021 less 2020)	
	Number (thousands)	Median income (dollars)		Number (thousands)	Median income (dollars)		Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)
		Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)		Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)		
HOUSEHOLDS								
All households	129,244	71,186	921	131,202	70,784	605	-0.6	1.31
Type of Household								
Family households	83,711	90,722	894	84,265	91,162	787	0.5	1.15
Nonfamily households	45,533	42,607	676	46,937	41,797	590	*-1.9	1.75
Age of Householder								
Under 65 years	94,593	80,456	771	95,370	80,734	613	0.3	1.09
65 years and older	34,651	48,866	976	35,832	47,620	1,037	*-2.6	2.46
Nativity of Householder								
Native-born	109,633	72,552	1,022	110,800	71,522	692	*-1.4	1.41
Foreign-born	19,611	65,061	1,052	20,402	66,043	1,494	1.5	2.57
Educational Attainment of Householder								
No high school diploma	9,961	31,130	1,098	10,012	30,378	774	-2.4	3.90
High school, no college	31,401	49,965	1,103	32,214	50,401	795	0.9	2.30
Some college	33,434	67,075	1,426	33,791	64,378	1,483	*-4.0	2.59
Bachelor's degree or higher	48,950	112,393	1,692	49,125	115,456	1,771	*2.7	1.94

*An asterisk preceding an estimate indicates change is statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

[1] Implementation of 2020 Census-based population controls.

[2] A margin of error (MOE) is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the MOE in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This

Note: Inflation-adjusted estimates may differ slightly from other published data due to rounding.

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Gini Index of Money Income: 1967 to 2021
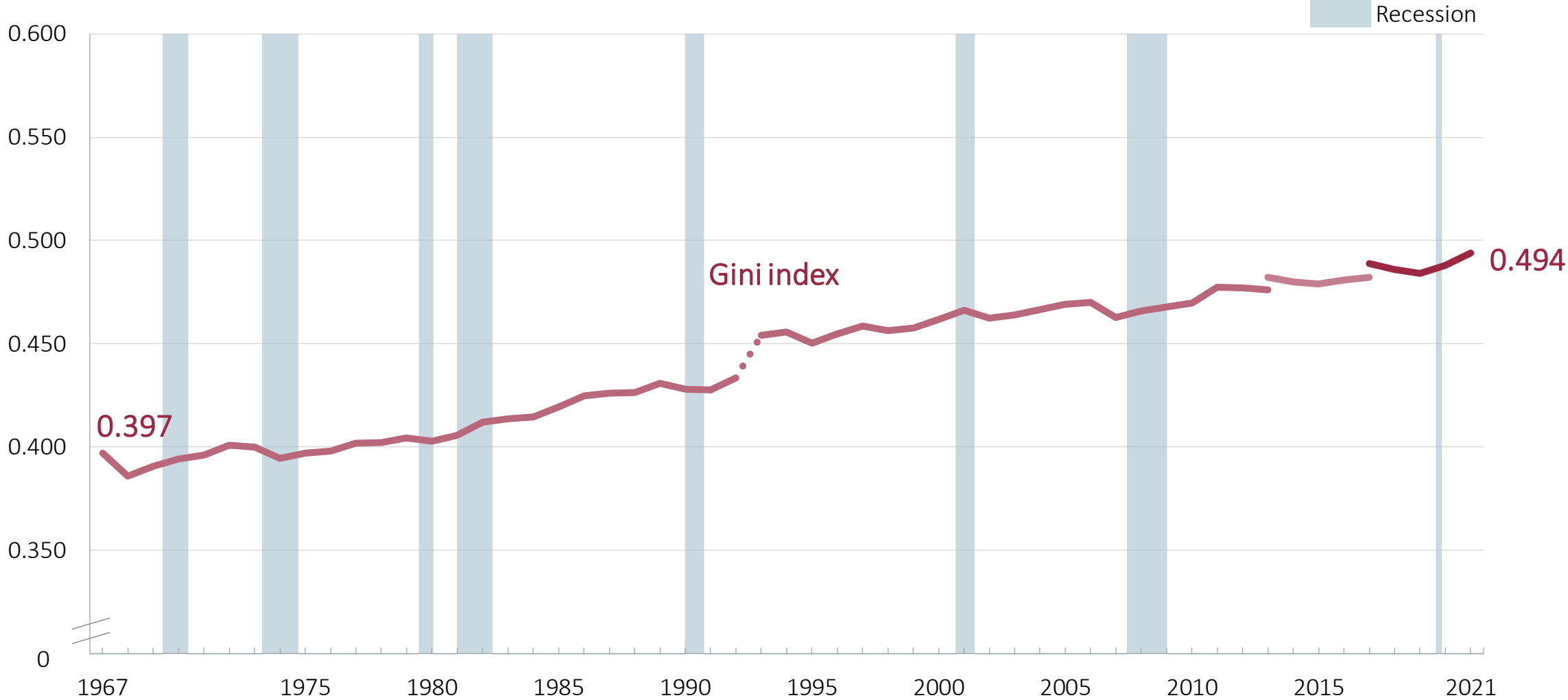
Note: The data for 2017 and beyond reflect the implementation of an updated processing system. The data for 2013 and beyond reflect the implementation of the redesigned income questions. In 1993, there was a change in data collection methodology.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1968 to 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

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Gini Index of Money Income: 1967 to 2021

Recessions

Peak month	Year	Trough month	Year
November	1948	October	1949
July	1953	May	1954
August	1957	April	1958
April	1960	February	1961
December	1969	November	1970
November	1973	March	1975
January	1980	July	1980
July	1981	November	1982
July	1990	March	1991
March	2001	November	2001
December	2007	June	2009
February	2020	April	2020

Source: National Bureau of Economic Research
Cambridge, MA 02138
www.nber.org

Year	Money Income Gini Index
1967	0.397
1968	0.386
1969	0.391
1970	0.394
1971	0.396
1972	0.401
1973	0.400
1974	0.395
1975	0.397
1976	0.398
1977	0.402
1978	0.402
1979	0.404
1980	0.403
1981	0.406
1982	0.412
1983	0.414
1984	0.415
1985	0.419
1986	0.425
1987	0.426
1988	0.426
1989	0.431
1990	0.428
1991	0.428
1992[1]	0.433
1993	0.454
1994	0.456
1995	0.450
1996	0.455
1997	0.459
1998	0.456
1999	0.458
2000	0.462
2001	0.466
2002	0.462
2003	0.464
2004[2]	0.466
2005	0.469
2006	0.470
2007	0.463
2008	0.466
2009	0.468
2010	0.470
2011	0.477
2012	0.477
2013[3]	0.476
2013[4]	0.482
2014	0.480
2015	0.479
2016	0.481
2017	0.482
2017[5]	0.489
2018	0.486
2019	0.484
2020[6]	0.488
2021	0.494

[1] Change in data collection methodology suggests pre-1993 and post-1992 estimates are not comparable. (See Current Population Reports, "The Changing Shape of the Nation's Income Distribution: 1947-1998," P60-204, for more details.)

[2] The 2004 data have been revised to reflect a correction to the weights in the 2005 CPS ASEC.

[3] The 2014 CPS ASEC included redesigned questions for income and health insurance coverage. All of the approximately 98,000 addresses were eligible to receive the redesigned set of health insurance coverage questions. The redesigned income questions were implemented to a subsample of these 98,000 addresses using a probability split panel design. Approximately 68,000 addresses were eligible to receive a set of income questions similar to those used in the 2013 CPS ASEC and the remaining 30,000 addresses were eligible to receive the redesigned income questions. The source of these 2013 estimates is the portion of the CPS ASEC sample which received the income questions consistent with the 2013 CPS ASEC, approximately 68,000 addresses.

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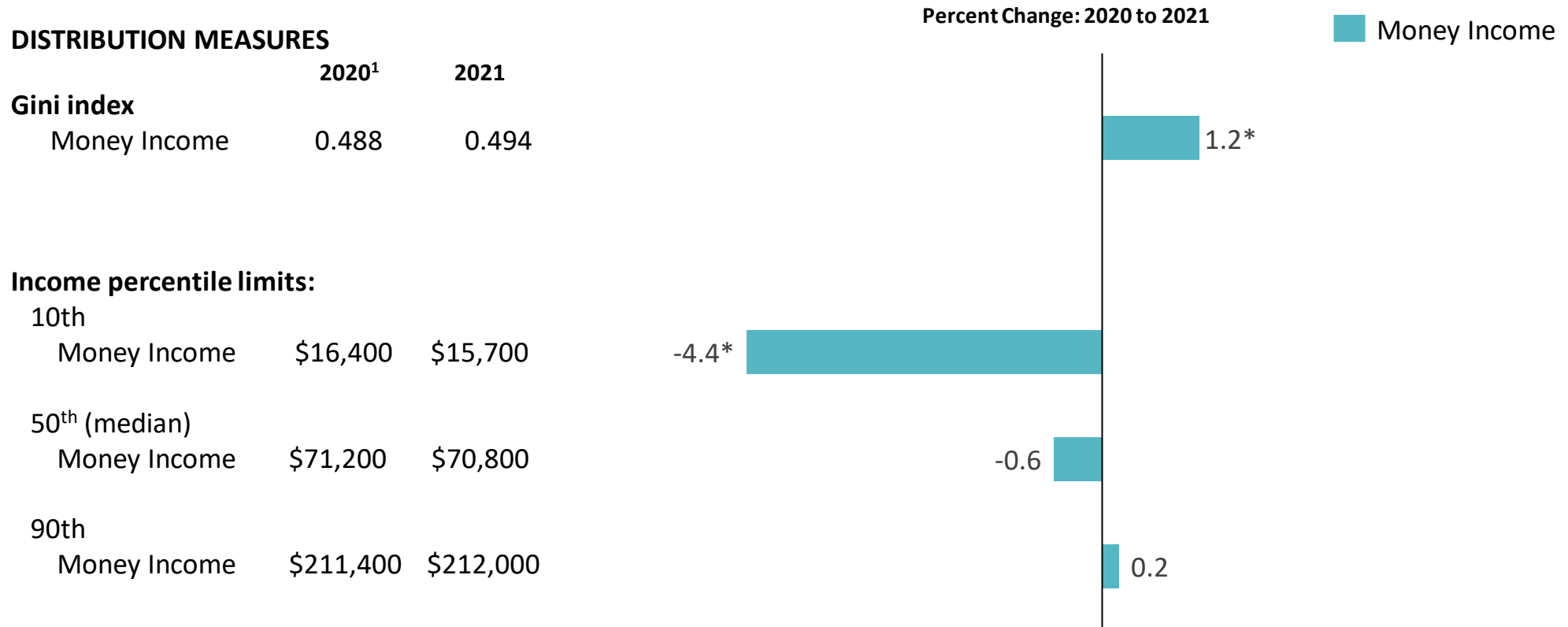
[5] Implementation of an updated CPS ASEC processing system.

[6] Implementation of 2020 Census-based population controls.

Note: For changes in survey and data processing methodology, refer to footnotes in Appendix Table A-4b of the report, *Income in the United States: 2021*, U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, P60-276. 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, 1968 to 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

Percent Changes in Income Distribution Measures Using Money Income: 2020 to 2021

DISTRIBUTION MEASURES

	2020[1]	2021
Gini index		
Money Income	0.488	0.494
Income percentile limits:		
10th		
Money Income	$16,400	$15,700
50th (median)		
Money Income	$71,200	$70,800
90th		
Money Income	$211,400	$212,000

Percent Change: 2020 to 2021

■ Money Income

- Gini index: 1.2*
- 10th: -4.4*
- 50th (median): -0.6
- 90th: 0.2

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Percent Changes in Income Distribution Measures Using Money Income: 2020 and 2021

(Information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions is available at <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar22.pdf>)

Measure	2020 [1]		2021		Percent change (2021 less 2020) [*,3]	
	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)
MONEY INCOME						
Summary Measure						
Gini index of income inequality	0.488	0.0040	0.494	0.0038	*1.2	0.96
Household income at selected percentiles						
10th percentile limit	16,386	400	15,660	488	*-4.4	1.87
50th (median)	71,186	921	70,784	605	-0.6	0.77
90th percentile limit	211,438	2,591	211,956	2,354	0.2	0.81

*An asterisk preceding an estimate indicates change is statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

[1] Implementation of 2020 Census-based population controls.

[2] A margin of error (MOE) is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the MOE in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval. MOEs shown in this table are based on standard errors calculated using replicate weights.

[3] Calculated estimate may be different due to rounded components.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2021 and 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

Percent Changes in Income Distribution Measures Using Money Income and Post-Tax Income: 2020 and 2021

(Information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions is available at <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar22.pdf>)

Measure	2020 [1]		2021		Percent change (2021 less 2020) [*,3]	
	Estimate	Margin of error [2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error [2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error [2] (±)
MONEY INCOME						
Summary Measure						
Gini index of income inequality	0.488	0.0040	0.494	0.0038	*1.2	0.96
Household income at selected percentiles						
10th percentile limit	16,386	400	15,660	488	*-4.4	1.87
50th (median)	71,186	921	70,784	605	-0.6	0.77
90th percentile limit	211,438	2,591	211,956	2,354	0.2	0.81
POST-TAX INCOME [4]						
Summary Measure						
Gini index of income inequality	0.428	0.0034	0.430	0.0033	0.5	0.94
Household income at selected percentiles						
10th percentile limit	18,893	383	18,504	381	-2.1	1.4
50th (median)	66,008	605	65,345	582	-1.0	0.6
90th percentile limit	165,650	1,959	165,428	1,772	-0.1	0.8

*An asterisk preceding an estimate indicates change is statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

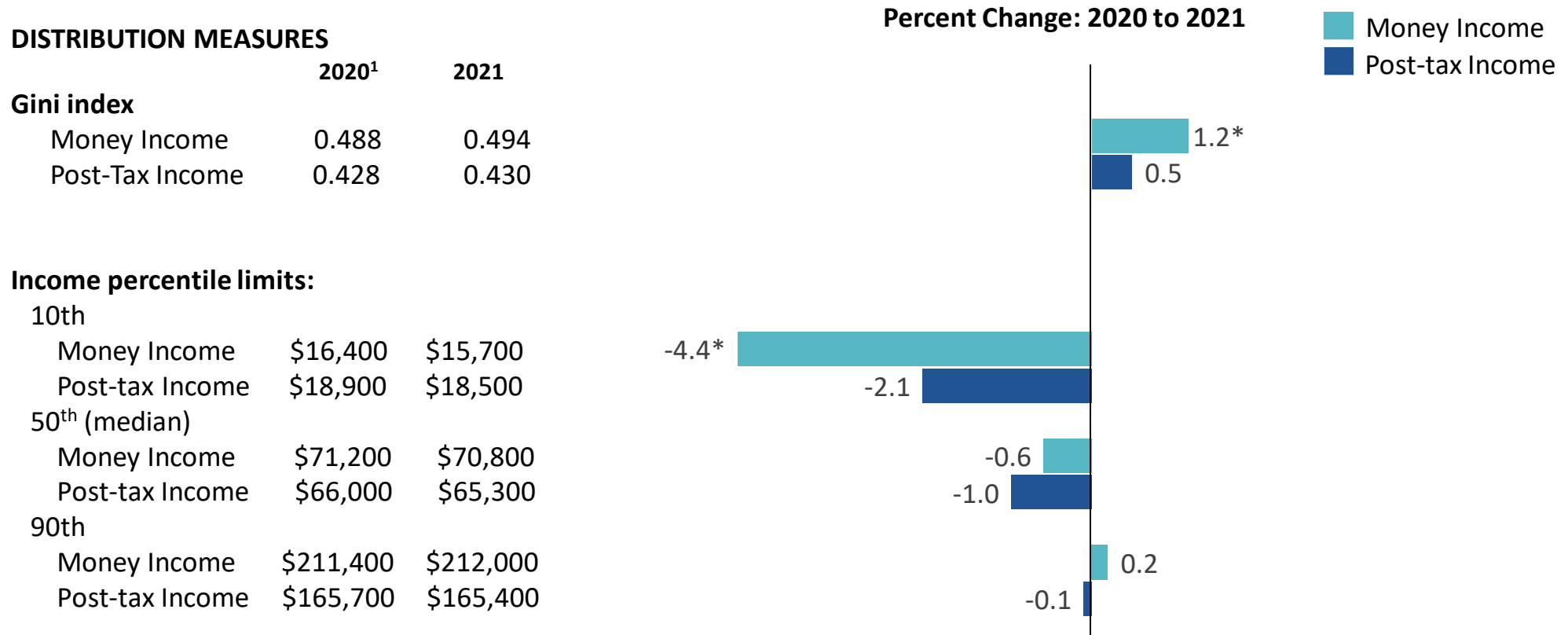[1] Implementation of 2020 Census-based population controls.

[2] A margin of error (MOE) is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the MOE in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval. MOEs shown in this table are based on standard errors calculated using replicate weights.

[3] Calculated estimate may be different due to rounded components.

[4] Post-tax income is defined as money income net of federal and state income taxes and credits, payroll taxes (FICA), economic impact payments (EIP), and state stimulus payments. Information on money income collected in the CPS ASEC is available in Appendix A. "How Income Is Measured".

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2021 and 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

United States® Census Bureau

Median Earnings and Percent Change by Work Status and Sex: 2020 to 2021

2021 Median Earnings

Change: 2020 to 2021

Total Workers
- $45,500 — 4.6
- Men — $51,000 — -0.9
- Women — $39,200 — 4.5

Full-Time, Year-Round Workers
- $56,500 — -4.1
- Men — $61,200 — -4.7
- Women — $51,200 — -4.0

■ Denotes a statistically significant change

Note: People 15 years and older with earnings as of March of the following year. Statistically significant indicates the change is statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level. Income rounded to nearest $100. Percent changes calculated with unrounded estimates. Total workers include both part-time and full-time workers. A full-time, year-round worker is a person who worked at least 35 hours per week (full-time), and at least 50 weeks per year (year-round).
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2021 and 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

United States® Census Bureau

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Median Earnings and Percent Change by Work Status and Sex: 2020 to 2021

(Earnings in 2021 dollars, adjusted using the R-CPI-U-RS. People 15 years and older as of March of the following year with earnings. Information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions is available at <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar22.pdf>)

Characteristic	2020 [1]		2021		Percent change* (2021 less 2020)	
	Median earnings (dollars)		Median earnings (dollars)			
	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)
PEOPLE WITH EARNINGS						
Total Workers	43,461	209	45,470	303	*4.6	0.76
Men	51,446	973	50,983	222	-0.9	1.85
Women	37,527	319	39,201	753	*4.5	2.02
Full-Time, Year-Round Workers	58,897	396	56,473	356	*-4.1	0.74
Men	64,217	296	61,180	294	*-4.7	0.58
Women	53,387	290	51,226	295	*-4.0	0.66

*An asterisk preceding an estimate indicates change is statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

[1] Implementation of 2020 Census-based population controls.

[2] A margin of error (MOE) is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the MOE in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval. MOEs shown in this table are based on standard errors calculated using replicate weights.

Note: Inflation-adjusted estimates may differ slightly from other published data due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2021 and 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

Workers with Earnings by Sex: 1967 to 2021

Numbers in millions

Recession

- 88.9 million — Male workers
- 79.1 million — Female workers
- 66.4 million — Male full-time, year-round workers
- 51.0 million — Female full-time, year-round workers

Note: Male and female workers include both part-time and full-time workers. A full-time, year-round worker is a person who worked at least 35 hours per week (full-time), and at least 50 weeks per year (year-round). Workers aged 15 and older as of March of the following year with earnings. Data are for workers aged 14 and older for years prior to 1980.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1968 to 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

Workers With Earnings by Sex: 1967 to 2021

(Numbers in thousands. People 15 years and older beginning in 1980, and people 14 years and older as of the following year for previous years. Before 1989 civilian workers only.)

Years	Total Workers		Full-Time, Year-Round Workers	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
1959	N	N	N	N
1960	N	N	N	N
1961	N	N	N	N
1962	N	N	N	N
1963	N	N	N	N
1964	N	N	N	N
1965	N	N	N	N
1966	N	N	N	N
1967	53,222	34,391	36,645	14,846
1968	54,026	35,695	37,068	15,013
1969	55,273	37,737	37,008	15,374
1970	55,821	38,273	36,132	15,476
1971	56,886	38,485	36,819	16,002
1972	57,774	39,470	38,184	16,675
1973	59,438	41,583	39,581	17,195
1974	59,866	42,854	37,916	16,945
1975	59,268	42,926	37,267	17,452
1976	60,450	44,565	38,184	18,073
1977	61,704	46,194	39,263	19,238
1978	62,903	48,398	41,036	20,914
1979	64,648	50,897	42,437	22,082
1980	64,730	51,448	41,881	22,859
1981	65,233	51,940	41,773	23,329
1982	64,730	51,820	40,105	23,702
1983	65,138	53,108	41,528	25,166
1984	66,454	55,226	43,808	26,466
1985	67,809	56,296	44,943	27,383
1986	68,728	57,686	45,912	28,420
1987	69,545	59,359	47,013	29,912
1988	70,467	60,658	48,285	31,237
1989	72,045	61,338	49,678	31,340
1990	72,348	61,732	49,171	31,682
1991	72,040	61,796	47,888	32,436
1992	73,120	62,408	48,551	33,241
1993	73,198	63,660	49,818	33,524
1994	74,264	64,706	51,580	34,155
1995	74,619	65,557	52,667	35,482
1996	76,121	66,661	53,787	36,430
1997	76,694	67,736	54,909	37,683
1998	77,295	68,846	56,951	38,785
1999	79,322	71,053	58,299	40,871
2000	80,494	71,657	59,602	41,719
2001	80,209	71,232	58,712	41,639
2002	80,500	71,411	58,761	41,876
2003	80,508	71,372	58,772	41,908
2004¹	81,448	71,930	60,088	42,380
2005	82,934	72,476	61,500	43,351
2006	83,928	73,683	63,055	44,663
2007	84,482	74,295	62,984	45,613
2008	84,039	74,538	59,861	44,156
2009	81,934	72,972	56,053	43,217
2010	80,856	72,716	56,283	43,179
2011	81,366	73,094	57,993	43,683
2012	83,003	74,188	59,009	44,042
2013²	83,855	74,821	61,240	44,629
2014	84,494	75,572	62,455	46,226
2015	86,435	76,974	63,887	47,211
2016	86,886	77,742	64,953	48,328
2017³	88,020	78,291	66,500	49,227
2018	88,115	79,440	67,205	50,795
2019	89,023	80,779	67,123	52,035
2020⁴	88,645	79,504	60,295	46,002
2021	88,941	79,100	66,366	50,991

N Not available.

¹ The 2004 data have been revised to reflect a correction to the weights in the 2005 CPS ASEC.

² Data are based on the CPS ASEC sample of 68,000 addresses. The 2014 CPS ASEC included redesigned questions for income and health insurance coverage. All of the approximately 98,000 addresses were eligible to receive the redesigned set of health insurance coverage questions. The redesigned income questions were implemented to a subsample of these 98,000 addresses using a probability split panel design. Approximately 68,000 addresses were eligible to receive a set of income questions similar to those used in the 2013 CPS ASEC and the remaining 30,000 addresses were eligible to receive the redesigned income questions. The source of these 2013 data is the portion of the CPS ASEC sample which received the redesigned income questions, approximately 30,000 addresses.

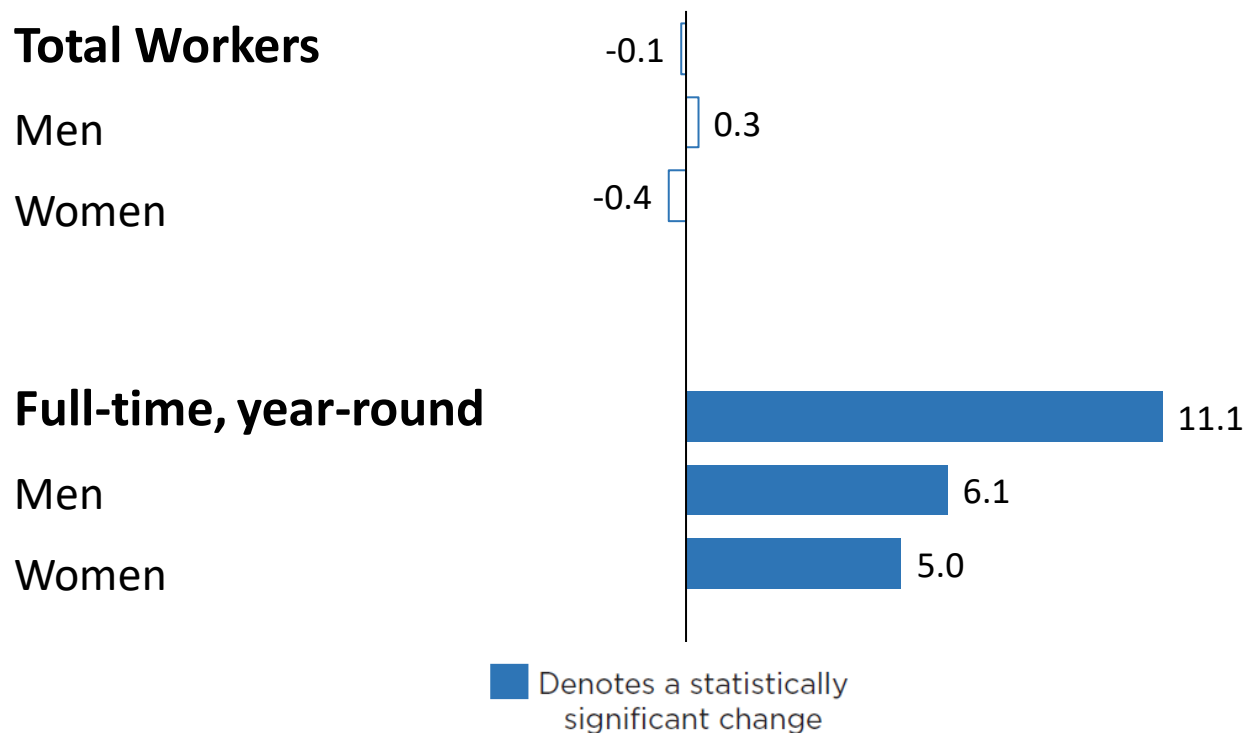³ Implementation of an updated CPS ASEC processing system.

⁴ Implementation of 2020 Census-based population controls.

Note: For changes in survey and data processing methodology, see footnotes in Appendix Table A-7 of the report, *Income and Poverty in the United States: 2021*, U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, P60-276. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar22.pdf>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1968 to 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

Recessions

Peak month	Year	Trough month	Year
November	1948	October	1949
July	1953	May	1954
August	1957	April	1958
April	1960	February	1961
December	1969	November	1970
November	1973	March	1975
January	1980	July	1980
July	1981	November	1982
July	1990	March	1991
March	2001	November	2001
December	2007	June	2009
February	2020	April	2020

Source: National Bureau of Economic Research
Cambridge, MA 02138
www.nber.org

Change in the Number of Workers by Work Status: 2020 to 2021

Difference in Workers: 2020 to 2021
(Numbers in millions)

Total Workers	-0.1
Men	0.3
Women	-0.4
Full-time, year-round	11.1
Men	6.1
Women	5.0

■ Denotes a statistically significant change

Note: People 15 years and older with earnings as of March of the following year. Statistically significant indicates the change is statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level. Total workers include both part-time and full-time workers. A full-time, year-round worker is a person who worked at least 35 hours per week (full-time), and at least 50 weeks per year (year-round).
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2021 and 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

Change in the Number of Workers by Work Status: 2020 to 2021

(Earnings in 2021 dollars, adjusted using the R-CPI-U-RS. People 15 years and older as of March of the following year with earnings. Information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions is available at <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar22.pdf>)

Characteristic	2020 [1]	2021	Difference in Number (thousands) of Workers* (2021 less 2020)	
	Number (thousands)	Number (thousands)	Estimate	Margin of error[2] (±)
PEOPLE WITH EARNINGS				
All Workers	168,148	168,041	-107	525
Men	88,645	88,941	296	377
Women	79,504	79,100	-404	333
Full-Time, Year-Round Workers	106,297	117,357	*11060	500
Men	60,295	66,366	*6071	429
Women	46,002	50,991	*4989	327

*An asterisk preceding an estimate indicates change is statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

[1] Implementation of 2020 Census-based population controls.

[2] A margin of error (MOE) is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the MOE in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval. MOEs shown in this table are based on standard errors calculated using replicate weights.

Note: Inflation-adjusted estimates may differ slightly from other published data due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2021 and 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

Changes in Number of Workers and Median Earnings by Work Status: 2020 to 2021

Difference in Workers: 2020 to 2021
(Numbers in millions)
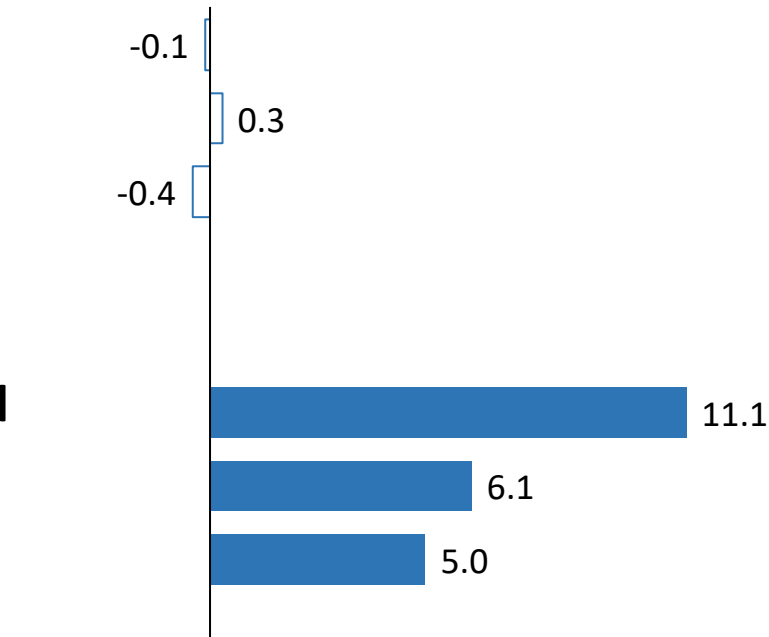
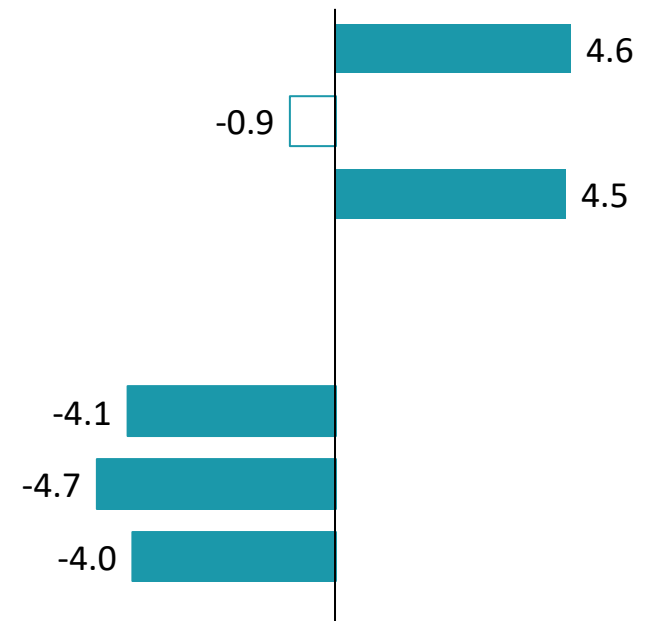**Median Earnings: 2020 to 2021**
(Percent change)

	Difference in Workers	Median Earnings
Total Workers	-0.1	4.6
Men	0.3	-0.9
Women	-0.4	4.5
Full-time, year-round	11.1	-4.1
Men	6.1	-4.7
Women	5.0	-4.0

Denotes a statistically significant change

Denotes a statistically significant change

Note: People 15 years and older with earnings as of March of the following year. Statistically significant indicates the change is statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level. Percent changes calculated with unrounded estimates. Total workers include both part-time and full-time workers. A full-time, year-round worker is a person who worked at least 35 hours per week (full-time), and at least 50 weeks per year (year-round).
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2021 and 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

Change in the Number of Workers and Median Earnings by Work Status: 2020 to 2021

(Earnings in 2021 dollars, adjusted using the R-CPI-U-RS. People 15 years and older as of March of the following year with earnings. Information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions is available at <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar22.pdf>)

Characteristic	2020 [1]			2021			Difference in Number (thousands) of Workers* (2021 less 2020)		Median Earnings Percent Change* (2021 less 2020)	
	Number (thousands)	Median earnings (dollars)		Number (thousands)	Median earnings (dollars)					
		Estimate	Margin of error [2] (±)		Estimate	Margin of error [2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error [2] (±)	Estimate	Margin of error [2] (±)
PEOPLE WITH EARNINGS										
All Workers	168,148	43,461	209	168,041	45,470	303	-107	525	*4.6	0.76
Men	88,645	51,446	973	88,941	50,983	222	296	377	-0.9	1.85
Women	79,504	37,527	319	79,100	39,201	753	-404	333	*4.5	2.02
Full-Time, Year-Round Workers	106,297	58,897	396	117,357	56,473	356	*11060	500	*-4.1	0.74
Men	60,295	64,217	296	66,366	61,180	294	*6071	429	*-4.7	0.58
Women	46,002	53,387	290	50,991	51,226	295	*4989	327	*-4.0	0.66

*An asterisk preceding an estimate indicates change is statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

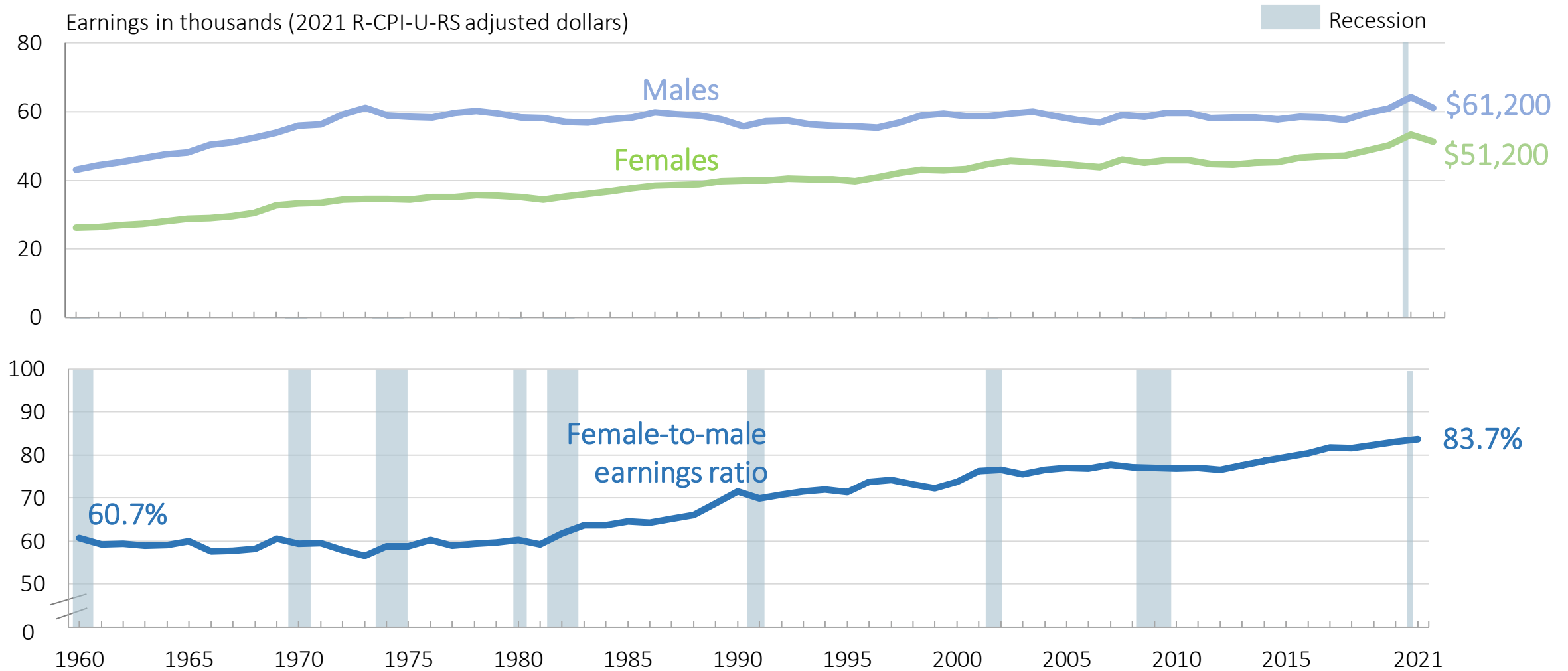[1] Implementation of 2020 Census-based population controls.

[2] A margin of error (MOE) is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the MOE in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. This number, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, forms the 90 percent confidence interval. MOEs shown in this table are based on standard errors calculated using replicate weights.

Note: Inflation-adjusted estimates may differ slightly from other published data due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2021 and 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

United States® Census Bureau

Female-to-Male Earnings Ratio and Median Earnings by Sex: 1960 to 2021

(Full-time, year-round workers, aged 15 and older)

Earnings in thousands (2021 R-CPI-U-RS adjusted dollars)

Recession

Males — $61,200

Females — $51,200

Female-to-male earnings ratio

60.7%

83.7%

Note: Workers aged 15 and older as of March of the following year with earnings. Data are for workers aged 14 and older for years prior to 1980. Earnings rounded to nearest $100.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1961 to 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

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Female-to-Male Earnings Ratio and Median Earnings of Full-Time, Year-Round Workers by Sex: 1960 to 2021

(Earnings in 2021 dollars, adjusted using the R-CPI-U-RS)

Year	Full-time, year-round Workers				Women's-to-Men's earnings ratio
	Men		Women		
	Number with earnings (thousands)	Median earnings (dollars)	Number with earnings (thousands)	Median earnings (dollars)	
1960	N	43,095	N	26,148	0.607
1961	N	44,470	N	26,348	0.592
1962	N	45,283	N	26,852	0.593
1963	N	46,421	N	27,363	0.589
1964	N	47,505	N	28,098	0.591
1965	N	48,182	N	28,873	0.599
1966	N	50,286	N	28,942	0.576
1967	36,645	51,081	14,846	29,516	0.578
1968	37,068	52,452	15,013	30,503	0.582
1969	37,008	53,901	15,374	32,608	0.605
1970	36,132	55,985	15,476	33,238	0.594
1971	36,819	56,225	16,002	33,457	0.595
1972	38,184	59,252	16,675	34,284	0.579
1973	39,581	61,140	17,195	34,626	0.566
1974	37,916	58,946	16,945	34,633	0.588
1975	37,267	58,578	17,452	34,454	0.588
1976	38,184	58,417	18,073	35,163	0.602
1977	39,263	59,732	19,238	35,195	0.589
1978	41,036	60,118	20,914	35,734	0.594
1979	42,437	59,393	22,082	35,435	0.597
1980	41,881	58,428	22,859	35,150	0.602
1981	41,773	58,115	23,329	34,424	0.592
1982	40,105	57,015	23,702	35,204	0.617
1983	41,528	56,765	25,166	36,099	0.636
1984	43,808	57,828	26,466	36,812	0.637
1985	44,943	58,261	27,383	37,622	0.646
1986	45,912	59,770	28,420	38,414	0.643
1987	47,013	59,360	29,912	38,690	0.652
1988	48,285	58,859	31,237	38,875	0.660
1989	49,678	57,821	31,340	39,707	0.687
1990	49,171	55,804	31,682	39,965	0.716
1991	47,888	57,235	32,436	39,984	0.699
1992	48,551	57,320	33,241	40,574	0.708
1993	49,818	56,299	33,524	40,265	0.715
1994	51,580	55,958	34,155	40,272	0.720
1995	52,667	55,779	35,482	39,842	0.714
1996	53,787	55,449	36,430	40,901	0.738
1997	54,909	56,860	37,683	42,168	0.742
1998	56,951	58,884	38,785	43,085	0.732
1999	58,299	59,362	40,871	42,928	0.723
2000	59,602	58,772	41,719	43,327	0.737
2001	58,712	58,715	41,639	44,817	0.763
2002	58,761	59,546	41,876	45,613	0.766
2003	58,772	60,054	41,908	45,370	0.755
2004[1]	60,088	58,658	42,380	44,918	0.766
2005	61,500	57,557	43,351	44,306	0.770
2006	63,055	56,928	44,663	43,800	0.769
2007	62,984	59,094	45,613	45,981	0.778
2008	59,861	58,490	44,156	45,091	0.771
2009	56,053	59,656	43,217	45,923	0.770
2010	56,283	59,714	43,179	45,937	0.769
2011	57,993	58,192	43,683	44,811	0.770
2012	59,009	58,399	44,042	44,677	0.765
2013[2]	61,240	58,266	44,629	45,192	0.776
2014	62,455	57,717	46,226	45,388	0.786
2015	63,887	58,566	47,211	46,592	0.796
2016	64,953	58,303	48,328	46,916	0.805
2017[3]	66,500	57,679	49,227	47,105	0.817
2018	67,205	59,657	50,795	48,658	0.816
2019	67,123	60,890	52,035	50,126	0.823
2020[4]	60,295	64,217	46,002	53,387	0.831
2021	66,366	61,180	50,991	51,226	0.837

N Not available.

[1] The 2004 data have been revised to reflect a correction to the weights in the 2005 CPS ASEC.

[2] The 2014 CPS ASEC included redesigned questions for income and health insurance coverage. The redesigned income questions were implemented to a subsample of these 98,000 addresses using a probability split panel design. Approximately 68,000 addresses were eligible to receive a set of income questions similar to those used in the 2013 CPS ASEC and the remaining 30,000 addresses were eligible to receive the redesigned income questions. The source of these 2013 estimates is the portion of the CPS ASEC sample which received the redesigned income questions consistent with the 2015 CPS ASEC, approximately 30,000 addresses.

[3] Data reflect the implementation of an updated CPS ASEC processing system.

[4] Implementation of 2020 Census-based population controls.

Note: For changes in survey and data processing methodology, refer to footnotes in Table A-7 of the report, *Income in the United States: 2021*, U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, P60-276. 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, 1961 to 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

Recessions

Peak month	Year	Trough month	Year
November	1948	October	1949
July	1953	May	1954
August	1957	April	1958
April	1960	February	1961
December	1969	November	1970
November	1973	March	1975
January	1980	July	1980
July	1981	November	1982
July	1990	March	1991
March	2001	November	2001
December	2007	June	2009
February	2020	April	2020

Source: National Bureau of Economic Research, <www.nber.org/research/data/us-business-cycle-expansions-and-contractions>.

United States® Census Bureau

Income in the United States: 2021

Current Population Reports

by Jessica Semega and Melissa Kollar
Issued September 2022
P60-276

United States Census Bureau

U.S. Department of Commerce
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
census.gov

For more information:

- *Income in the United States: 2021*

- Detailed and Historical Tables

- Information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions

Random Samplings:
- How Inflation Affects the Census Bureau's Income and Earnings Estimates

America Counts: Stories Behind the Numbers
- 2021 Income Inequality Increased for First Time Since 2011

Research Matters:
- How did the Pandemic Affect Survey Response: Using Administrative Data to Evaluate Nonresponse in the 2022 Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement

United States Census Bureau

Federal Register Notice on Proposed Changes to Income Inflation Index

o Request for comment:

- Refer to the *Federal Register* Notice #220715-0157 issued on 9/1/2022

o For more information refer to, Alternative Inflation Indices for Adjusting Historical Income Estimates from the CPS ASEC

- www.census.gov/topics/income-poverty/income/guidance/alternative-inflation.html

o The Census Bureau welcomes the comments and advice of data users. If you have comments, please email: sehsd.isb.inflation.comments@census.gov.