



Lopsided income growth in Hawaii

On average, income in Hawaii grew 12.4% between 1979 and 2007.

Income growth, 1979–2007:
12.4%

Good thing for everybody, right? Not quite. The top 1% snared a disproportionate share of that growth—70.9%. So their massive income growth far eclipsed income growth of the bottom 99%, whose raise was meager when you divide it over three decades.

Change in income, 1979–2007:
Top 1%: **118.0%** Bottom 99%: **3.9%**
Top 1%'s share of all growth: **70.9%**

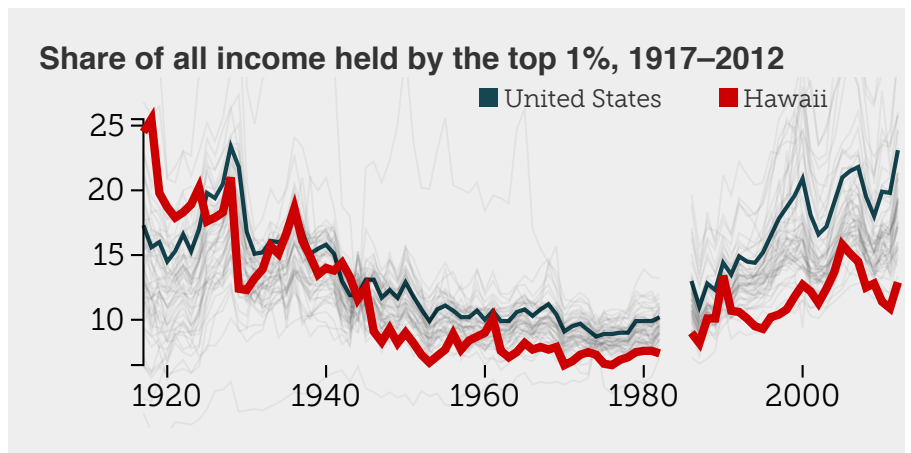
And unfortunately the Great Recession was no great leveler: Recovery for the bottom 99% has been weak relative to the gains of the top 1%.

Change in income, 2009–2012:
Top 1%: **4.2%** Bottom 99%: **3.4%**

Thus, the lopsided income growth from 1979 to 2007 extended through 2012.

Change in income, 1979–2012:
Top 1%: **76.9%** Bottom 99%: **-3.3%**

Due to this extended period of lopsided income growth, the share of all income held by the top 1% is on a three-decade upswing.



The upshot of these trends? A lopsided Hawaii economy, where top 1% average income is 15 times greater than the average income of the bottom 99%.

Average income in 2012:
Top 1%: **\$770,679** Bottom 99%: **\$52,630**
15 times greater