

Family income limits by quintile and top 5%, 1947-2003 (2003 dollars)

		Number (thousands)	Upper limit of each fifth (dollars)				
			Lowest fifth	Second fifth	Middle fifth	Fourth fifth	Lower limit of top 5%
1947	5/	37,237	11,080	17,879	24,244	34,400	56,462
1948		38,624	10,710	17,608	23,509	32,795	53,405
1949	6/	39,303	10,107	17,266	23,292	32,914	52,833
1950		39,929	10,748	18,481	24,596	34,186	55,748
1951		40,578	11,705	19,083	25,244	34,467	54,018
1952	7/	40,832	12,088	19,554	26,454	35,781	55,670
1953		41,202	12,484	21,187	28,430	38,288	59,545
1954		41,951	11,667	20,522	27,782	38,063	60,318
1955		42,889	12,907	21,967	29,533	39,999	61,629
1956		43,497	13,986	23,537	31,224	42,336	65,615
1957		43,696	13,800	23,484	31,028	41,627	63,752
1958		44,232	13,638	23,130	30,833	42,045	64,684
1959		45,111	14,343	24,459	32,582	44,900	68,582
1960		45,539	14,653	25,264	33,495	46,317	71,244
1961	8/	46,418	14,594	25,122	34,191	47,091	76,096
1962	9/	47,059	15,486	25,809	35,101	49,038	76,912
1963		47,540	15,768	26,484	36,335	50,774	77,131
1964		47,956	16,335	27,644	37,697	51,273	79,355
1965	10/	48,509	17,332	29,033	39,170	53,481	82,673
1966	11/	49,214	18,926	30,772	41,185	55,985	86,575
1967	12/	49,834	19,178	31,481	42,215	57,874	92,990
1968		50,823	20,391	32,758	44,695	60,132	92,396
1969		51,237	21,501	34,401	46,442	63,432	97,627
1970		51,948	20,923	34,134	46,355	63,718	99,488
1971	13/	53,296	20,470	33,892	46,454	63,707	99,480
1972	14/	54,373	21,386	35,441	48,988	67,680	106,078
1973		55,053	21,809	35,985	50,209	69,048	107,644
1974	16/15/	55,698	21,886	35,757	49,201	67,964	106,749
1975	16/	56,245	21,055	34,670	48,216	66,758	104,568
1976	17/	56,710	21,389	35,622	49,550	68,434	107,559
1977		57,215	21,432	35,891	50,740	69,911	110,777
1978		57,804	22,624	38,015	53,220	73,974	117,280
1979	18/	59,550	23,153	38,072	53,937	74,270	119,149
1980		60,309	21,990	37,024	52,438	73,583	116,294
1981		61,019	21,291	36,242	51,721	73,064	115,959
1982		61,393	20,802	35,626	51,007	73,183	119,192
1983	19/	62,015	20,736	35,517	51,644	73,847	121,533
1984		62,706	21,188	36,856	53,385	76,769	125,694
1985	20/	63,558	21,662	37,317	54,056	78,640	128,757
1986		64,491	22,418	38,592	56,238	80,978	133,550
1987	21/	65,204	22,606	38,996	56,988	82,584	134,645
1988		65,837	22,565	39,120	57,525	83,532	137,463
1989		66,090	22,926	40,113	58,451	85,313	141,776
1990		66,322	22,991	39,638	57,374	83,918	139,693
1991		67,173	22,391	38,342	56,636	82,966	135,430
1992	22/	68,216	21,474	38,128	56,535	82,297	136,214
1993	23/	68,506	21,274	37,609	56,451	83,735	141,888
1994	24/	69,313	22,026	38,429	57,705	85,942	147,386
1995	25/	69,597	22,858	39,538	58,716	86,615	148,221
1996		70,241	22,973	40,057	59,634	87,918	149,417
1997		70,884	23,528	41,145	61,279	91,433	156,671
1998		71,551	24,344	42,481	63,137	94,326	163,647
1999		72,031	25,196	43,712	65,568	97,228	171,138
2000	30/	73,778	25,636	43,625	65,506	97,604	171,037
2001		74,340	24,940	42,738	64,949	97,839	170,533
2002		75,616	24,550	42,389	64,443	96,633	168,088
2003		76,232	24,117	42,057	65,000	98,200	170,082

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Footnotes:

- 5/ Based on 1940 census population controls.
- 6/ Implementation of expanded income questions to show wage and salary, farm self-employment, nonfarm self-employment and all other nonearned income separately.
- 7/ Implementation of 1950 census population controls.
- 8/ Implementation of first hotdeck procedure to impute missing income entries (all income data imputed if any missing). Introduction of 1960 census sample design.
- 9/ Full implementation of 1960 census-based sample design and population controls.
- 10/ Implementation of new procedures to impute missing data only.
- 11/ Questionnaire expanded to ask eight income questions.
- 12/ Implementation of a new March CPS processing system.
- 13/ Introduction of 1970 census sample design and population controls.
- 14/ Full implementation of 1970 census-based sample design.
- 15/ Implementation of a new March CPS processing system. Questionnaire expanded to ask 11 income questions.
- 16/ These estimates were derived using Pareto interpolation and may differ from published data which were derived using linear interpolation.
- 17/ First year medians are derived using both Pareto and linear interpolation. Prior to this year all medians were derived using linear interpolation.
- 18/ Implementation of 1980 census population controls. Questionnaire expanded to show 27 possible values from 51 possible sources of income.
- 19/ Implementation of Hispanic population weighting controls and introduction of 1980 census sample design.
- 20/ Recording of amounts for earnings from longest job increased to \$299,999. Full implementation of 1980 census-based sample design.
- 21/ Implementation of a new March CPS processing system.
- 22/ Implementation of 1990 census population controls.
- 23/ Data collection method changed from paper and pencil to computer-assisted interviewing. In addition, the March 1994 income supplement was revised to allow for the coding of different income amounts on selected questionnaire items. Limits either increased or decreased in the following categories: earnings increased to \$999,999; social security increased to \$49,999; supplemental security income and public assistance increased to \$24,999; veterans' benefits increased to \$99,999; child support and alimony decreased to \$49,999.
- 24/ Introduction of 1990 census sample design.
- 25/ Full implementation of the 1990 census-based sample design and metropolitan definitions, 7,000 household
- 30/ Implementation of a 28,000 household sample expansion.