

Poverty and Income - 2006

Poverty and Income Stats at a Glance

	2006	2000	Change
Poverty rate	12.3 %	11.3 %	+1 percentage point
Number in poverty	36.5 million	31.6 million	+4.9 million
Median household income (2006 \$)	\$48,201	\$49,163	-\$962
Median earnings – men who work full-time, full-year (2006 \$)	\$42,261	\$43,615	-\$1,354
Median earnings – women who work full-time, full-year (2006 \$)	\$32,515	\$32,153	+\$362
Female-to-male earnings ratio	77%	74%	+ 3 percentage points

Note: Households have an average of 1.36 earners.

- Despite five years of economic growth, poverty in 2006 remained worse than in 2000. Although the poverty rate fell slightly between 2005 and 2006, it remained a full percentage point higher than in 2000.
- The average family in poverty had earnings \$8,302 below the poverty line. In 2006, the poverty line for a family of four was \$20,444.
- Poverty rate by race/ethnicity
 - African-American: 24.3 %
 - White (non-Hispanic): 8.2 %
 - Asian: 10.3 %
 - Hispanic: 20.6 %
- Median household income by race/ethnicity
 - African-American: \$31,969
 - White (non-Hispanic): \$52,423
 - Asian: \$64,238
 - Hispanic: \$37,781
- Income distribution
 - Poorest 20% of all households (2006 incomes less than \$20,035) received just 3.4% of all income
 - Richest 20% of all households (2006 incomes more than \$97,032) received 50.5% of all income

An equal distribution of income would mean that each group gets 20%

The Census Bureau's report can be found at:
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/income/income06.html>

Next release: 2007 figures will be available in late summer/early fall 2008.

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