

Skewed: Income Inequality in America. The American Dream has Gone...

By [Finance Degree Center](#)

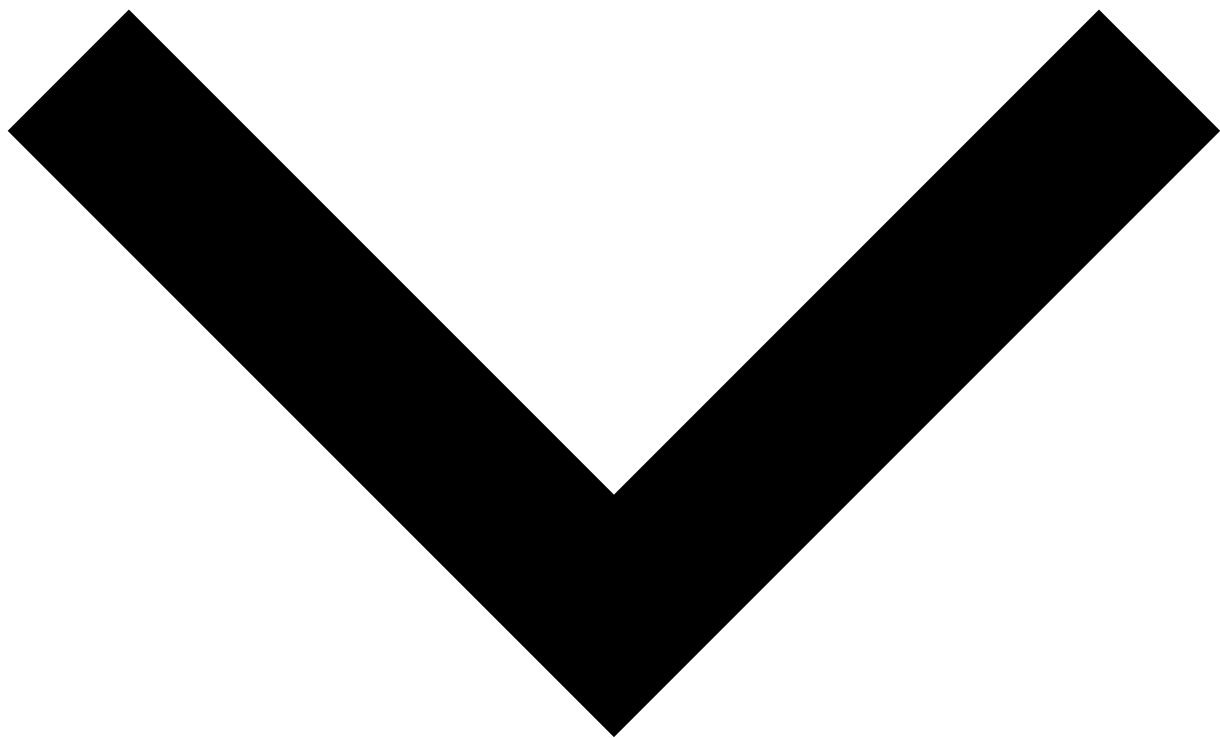
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Opportunity in America: It's shrinking

Except for the few

[% wealth held by percentile][4]

0-50th: 1.1

50-90th: 24.3

90-99th: 40

99-100th: 34.5

Lowest 60% of earners are making < the wealthiest 400 Americans:

\$1.22 trillion vs. \$1.27 trillion [6]

To put that in context: The average wealth of one of the 400 richest Americans is equal to the average wealth of 510,000 people in the bottom 60%

With the 1%'s wealth much more tied to the real estate, stock market

Note: The SNAP (food stamp) budget of \$78 billion is less than the investing budget of 20 wealthy Americans[8]

CEO vs. Worker inequality

The Average CEO makes 354 times what the average worker makes[3]

[year: ratio between worker/CEO earnings]

1982: 42:1

1992: 201:1

2002: 281:1

2012: 354:1

Differences in expendable income are staggering

The average nationwide 1 adult living wage is \$19546.17. Here's how that breaks down per quintile:

Per month:

20%- -\$3188

40%- +\$12641

60%- +\$37655

80%- +\$77751

90%- +\$134,584

99%- +\$487,006

Or:

20%- -\$61.3

40%- +\$243.09

60%- +\$724.13

80%- +\$1495.21

90%- +\$2588.15

99%- +\$9365.5

Per week.

With Strong Racial Correlates

The Average White household in 2007 had a net worth of \$143,600

14 TIMES the average net worth of Hispanic or black households[7]

Myth: rich Americans don't pay their taxes

But at least the super rich pay their taxes.

With the top 400 earners paying \$16 billion in taxes.[5]

But that doesn't help the 21.4% of children who grow up in poverty. [7]

Without greater income equality democratic ideals are a sham.

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