Household Income: 2019

American Community Survey Briefs

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INTRODUCTION

This report presents data on median household income and the Gini index of income inequality based on the 2018 and 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) and Puerto Rico Community Survey (PRCS).[1] The ACS provides detailed estimates of demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics for states, congressional districts, counties, places, and other localities every year. A description of the ACS is provided in the text box "What Is the American Community Survey?"[2] The data collection period for the 2019 ACS spanned January to December 2019. Estimates presented here do not reflect the subsequent COVID-19 pandemic and its economic impact. Estimates from the 2019 ACS show a significant increase in median household income at the national level and for 39 states and the District of Columbia.[3, 4] Median household income increased between 2018 and 2019 for 23 of the 25

Household income: Includes pretax cash income of the householder and all other people 15 years and older in the household, whether or not they are related to the householder.

Median: The point that divides the household income distribution into halves, one half with income above the median and the other half with income below the median. The median is based on the income distribution of all households, including those with no income.

Gini index: A statistical measure of income inequality. It measures the amount that any two incomes differ, on average, relative to average income. It is a natural indicator of how far apart or "spread out" incomes are from one another. A value of 0 represents perfect equality, and a value of 1 indicates total inequality.

most populous metropolitan areas.[5] The Gini index was significantly lower in 2019 than 2018 for the United States and 15 states.

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[1] The U.S. Census Bureau reviewed this data product for unauthorized disclosure of confidential information and approved the disclosure avoidance practices applied to this release. CBDRB-FY20-POP001-0205.

[2] The text of this report discusses data for the United States, including the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Data for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, collected with the PRCS, are shown in Table 1 and Figures 1 and 3.

[3] The medians from this report were calculated from the microdata and household and family distributions using 2019 dollars. Inflation-adjusting previous year published estimates using the Consumer Price Index Research Series (CPI-U-RS) will not match exactly the estimates in this report.

[4] Between 2018 and 2019, the ACS retirement income question changed. These changes resulted in an increase in both the number of households reporting retirement income and higher aggregate retirement income at the national level. For more information, see <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation /user-notes/2020-01.html>.

[5] Metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas (metro and micro areas) are geographic entities delineated by the Office of Management and Budget for use by federal statistical agencies in collecting, tabulating, and publishing federal statistics. The term "Core Based Statistical Area" is a collective term for both metro and micro areas. A metro area contains a core urban area of 50,000 or more population, and a micro area contains an urban core of at least 10,000 (but less than 50,000) population. For more information, see <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/metro-micro/about.html/>.

Table 1.
Median Household Income and Gini Index in the Past 12 Months by State and Puerto Rico: 2018 and 2019

(In 2019 inflation-adjusted dollars. Data are limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and defintions, see <www.census.gov/acs>)

State	2018 ACS median house-hold income (dollars)		2019 ACS median house-hold income (dollars)		Change in median income (percent)		2018 ACS Gini coefficients		2019 ACS Gini coefficients		Change in Gini coefficients	
	Esti-mate	Margin of error (±)[1]	Esti-mate	Margin of error (±)[1]	Esti-mate	Margin of error (±)[1]	Esti-mate	Margin of error (±)[1]	Esti-mate	Margin of error (±)[1]	Esti-mate	Margin of error (±)[1]
United States . .	62,860	135	65,712	118	*4.5	0.3	0.485	0.001	0.481	0.001	*–0.003	0.001
Alabama	50,447	647	51,734	600	*2.6	1.8	0.486	0.005	0.474	0.005	*–0.012	0.007
Alaska.	75,545	2,302	75,463	2,694	–0.1	4.7	0.432	0.010	0.438	0.012	0.005	0.016
Arizona	60,236	543	62,055	446	*3.0	1.2	0.461	0.005	0.459	0.004	–0.002	0.006
Arkansas	47,787	714	48,952	863	*2.4	2.4	0.485	0.007	0.475	0.006	–0.010	0.010
California	76,418	360	80,440	313	*5.3	0.6	0.491	0.002	0.487	0.002	*–0.005	0.002
Colorado	73,140	801	77,127	791	*5.5	1.6	0.456	0.004	0.455	0.005	–0.001	0.006
Connecticut	77,659	1,053	78,833	1358	1.5	2.2	0.501	0.005	0.502	0.005	0.001	0.007
Delaware	65,743	1,312	70,176	1,623	*6.7	3.3	0.459	0.010	0.451	0.013	–0.008	0.016
District of Columbia . . .	86,689	3,362	92,266	2,497	*6.4	5.0	0.524	0.010	0.512	0.010	–0.013	0.014
Florida	56,292	390	59,227	443	*5.2	1.1	0.489	0.003	0.481	0.003	*–0.008	0.004
Georgia	59,803	609	61,980	437	*3.6	1.3	0.482	0.004	0.480	0.004	–0.003	0.005
Hawaii.	81,575	2,644	83,102	2,138	1.9	4.2	0.445	0.009	0.440	0.008	–0.005	0.012
Idaho	56,305	1,009	60,999	1,070	*8.3	2.7	0.445	0.011	0.434	0.010	–0.012	0.014
Illinois.	65,962	487	69,187	585	*4.9	1.2	0.485	0.003	0.480	0.003	*–0.005	0.004
Indiana	56,583	520	57,603	680	*1.8	1.5	0.451	0.004	0.458	0.005	*0.007	0.006

See footnotes at end of table.

The estimates contained in this report are primarily based on the 2018 and 2019 ACS. The ACS is conducted every month, with income data collected for the 12 months preceding the interview. Since the survey is continuous, adjacent ACS years have income reference months in common. Therefore, comparing the 2018 ACS with the 2019 ACS is not an exact comparison of the economic conditions in 2018 with those in 2019, and comparisons should be interpreted with care.[6] For more information on the ACS sample design and other topics visit <www.census.gov /programs-surveys/acs/>.

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: 2018–2019 NATIONAL AND STATE COMPARISONS

The U.S. median household income from the 2019 ACS was $65,712 (Table 1). Real median house-hold income in the United States increased 4.5 percent between the 2018 ACS and 2019 ACS.[7]

In 2019, Maryland ($86,738), Massachusetts ($85,843), and New Jersey ($85,751) had the highest median household income, and Mississippi ($45,792) had the low-est (Table 1 and Figure 1).[8] In 2019, the median household income

for the District of Columbia was $92,266 and for Puerto Rico was $20,474. Median household income was lower than the U.S. median in 30 states and Puerto Rico. It was higher than the U.S. median in 18 states and the District of Columbia. The medians for Wyoming and North Dakota were not statistically different from the U.S. median.

Between the 2018 ACS and the 2019 ACS, 39 states and the District of Columbia showed an increase in real median household income. There were no states with a significant decrease. Real median household income in 2019 was not statistically different from 2018 for 11 states and Puerto Rico.

Table 1.
Median Household Income and Gini Index in the Past 12 Months by State and Puerto Rico: 2018 and 2019—Con.

(In 2019 inflation-adjusted dollars. Data are limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and defintions, see <www.census.gov/acs>)

State	2018 ACS median household income (dollars)		2019 ACS median household income (dollars)		Change in median income (percent)		2018 ACS Gini coefficients		2019 ACS Gini coefficients		Change in Gini coefficients	
	Esti-mate	Margin of error (±)[1]	Esti-mate	Margin of error (±)[1]	Esti-mate	Margin of error (±)[1]	Esti-mate	Margin of error (±)[1]	Esti-mate	Margin of error (±)[1]	Esti-mate	Margin of error (±)[1]
Iowa	60,674	717	61,691	750	1.7	1.7	0.441	0.005	0.442	0.006	0.001	0.008
Kansas	59,224	793	62,087	692	*4.8	1.8	0.463	0.006	0.450	0.006	*−0.013	0.008
Kentucky	50,889	586	52,295	625	*2.8	1.7	0.479	0.006	0.476	0.005	−0.002	0.008
Louisiana	48,694	690	51,073	586	*4.9	1.9	0.494	0.006	0.498	0.005	0.004	0.008
Maine	56,513	1,117	58,924	1,758	*4.3	3.7	0.452	0.007	0.449	0.008	−0.003	0.011
Maryland	84,845	872	86,738	934	*2.2	1.5	0.454	0.004	0.456	0.004	0.002	0.005
Massachusetts	80,976	900	85,843	991	*6.0	1.7	0.488	0.004	0.480	0.004	*−0.007	0.005
Michigan	57,518	475	59,584	572	*3.6	1.3	0.468	0.003	0.463	0.003	−0.005	0.005
Minnesota	71,394	586	74,593	826	*4.5	1.4	0.454	0.004	0.443	0.004	*−0.010	0.005
Mississippi	45,441	736	45,792	1,184	0.8	3.1	0.483	0.007	0.490	0.009	0.007	0.011
Missouri	55,371	643	57,409	642	*3.7	1.7	0.466	0.005	0.463	0.004	−0.002	0.006
Montana.	56,167	1,136	57,153	1,205	1.8	3.0	0.454	0.010	0.460	0.010	0.006	0.015
Nebraska	60,490	796	63,229	936	*4.5	2.1	0.449	0.006	0.440	0.006	*−0.009	0.008
Nevada.	59,737	912	63,276	1,021	*5.9	2.4	0.469	0.007	0.471	0.007	0.002	0.010
New Hampshire	76,066	1,548	77,933	1,994	2.5	3.3	0.453	0.008	0.441	0.009	*−0.012	0.012
New Jersey	83,206	936	85,751	760	*3.1	1.5	0.484	0.004	0.478	0.004	*−0.005	0.005
New Mexico.	47,894	953	51,945	969	*8.5	3.0	0.489	0.008	0.477	0.007	*−0.012	0.011
New York.	69,110	606	72,108	452	*4.3	1.1	0.513	0.003	0.515	0.003	0.002	0.004
North Carolina	54,756	543	57,341	611	*4.7	1.5	0.478	0.004	0.474	0.003	−0.004	0.005
North Dakota	65,246	2,173	64,577	3,011	−1.0	5.7	0.443	0.012	0.456	0.010	0.013	0.016
Ohio	56,990	425	58,642	563	*2.9	1.3	0.467	0.003	0.465	0.003	−0.002	0.004
Oklahoma	52,654	631	54,449	599	*3.4	1.7	0.469	0.005	0.474	0.004	0.005	0.006
Oregon.	64,520	964	67,058	873	*3.9	2.1	0.458	0.005	0.450	0.005	*−0.008	0.007
Pennsylvania.	61,713	345	63,463	429	*2.8	0.9	0.475	0.003	0.475	0.003	0.000	0.004
Rhode Island.	65,552	1,946	71,169	1,559	*8.6	4.0	0.470	0.010	0.463	0.010	−0.007	0.014
South Carolina	53,222	833	56,227	835	*5.6	2.3	0.476	0.006	0.475	0.006	−0.002	0.008
South Dakota	57,030	1,567	59,533	1,949	4.4	4.5	0.445	0.013	0.436	0.009	−0.009	0.016
Tennessee	53,274	593	56,071	658	*5.3	1.7	0.478	0.005	0.475	0.005	−0.003	0.006
Texas.	61,355	301	64,034	500	*4.4	1.0	0.482	0.002	0.475	0.002	*−0.007	0.003
Utah	72,484	962	75,780	1,093	*4.5	2.0	0.427	0.006	0.427	0.007	0.000	0.009
Vermont.	61,759	1,451	63,001	1,755	2.0	3.7	0.447	0.015	0.447	0.011	0.000	0.019
Virginia.	73,955	645	76,456	842	*3.4	1.5	0.475	0.004	0.469	0.004	*−0.006	0.005
Washington.	75,231	662	78,687	923	*4.6	1.5	0.457	0.004	0.458	0.004	0.000	0.005
West Virginia	44,870	1,024	48,850	1,131	*8.9	3.5	0.474	0.008	0.464	0.007	−0.010	0.010
Wisconsin	61,521	397	64,168	600	*4.3	1.2	0.448	0.004	0.439	0.004	*−0.009	0.006
Wyoming.	62,343	1,921	65,003	2,118	4.3	4.7	0.456	0.020	0.435	0.015	−0.021	0.025
Puerto Rico	20,583	429	20,474	382	−0.5	2.8	0.542	0.008	0.551	0.007	0.009	0.011

* Statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

[1] Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the margin of error 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.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 and 2019 American Community Surveys, 1-Year Estimates, and 2018 and 2019 Puerto Rico Community Surveys.
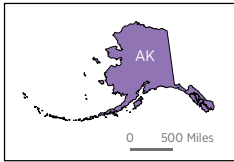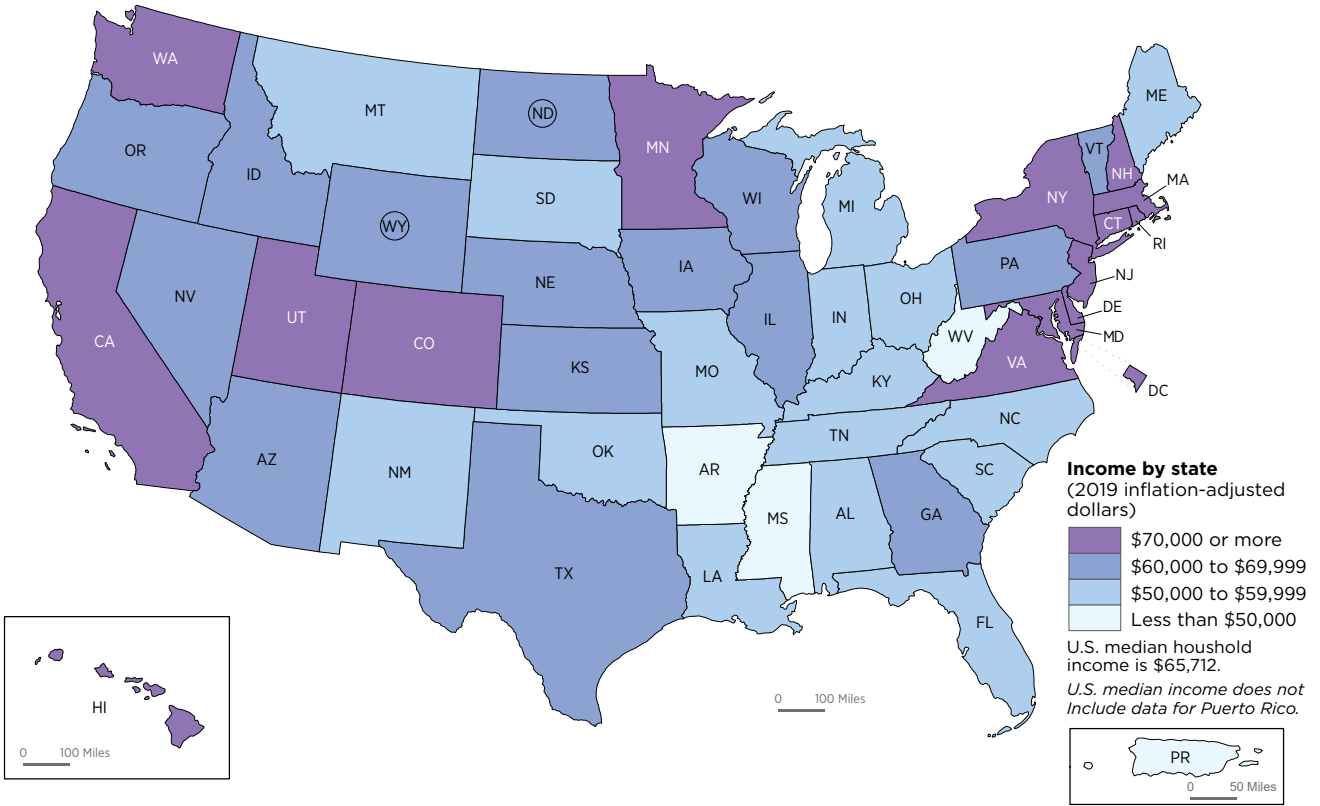
Figure 1.
Median Household Income in the Past 12 Months for the United States and Puerto Rico: 2019

Income by state
(2019 inflation-adjusted dollars)

- $70,000 or more
- $60,000 to $69,999
- $50,000 to $59,999
- Less than $50,000

U.S. median houshold income is $65,712.

U.S. median income does not Include data for Puerto Rico.

Note: A state abbreviation surrounded by the "O" symbol denotes the value for the state is not statistically different from the U.S. median. For more information about sample design, methodology, and accuracy of the data, see <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs /technical-documentation/code-lists.html>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates and 2019 Puerto Rico Community Survey.

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: 25 MOST POPULOUS METROPOLITAN AREAS

Table 2 shows median household income for the 25 most populous metropolitan areas.

According to the 2019 ACS, median household income ranged from $114,696 in the San Francisco-Oakland-Berkeley, CA Metro Area to $57,906 in the Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL Metro Area. Median household income increased in 23 of the 25 most populous metropolitan areas between 2018 and 2019.

None of these 25 metropolitan areas experienced a statistically significant decrease. Changes for the Baltimore-Columbia-Towson, MD Metro Area and Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA Metro Area were not statistically significant (see Figure 2).

Table 2.
Median Household Income in the Past 12 Months by 25 Most Populous Metropolitan Areas: 2018 and 2019

(In 2019 inflation-adjusted dollars. Data are limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and defintions, see <www.census.gov/acs>)

Metropolitan area	2018 ACS median household income (dollars)		2019 ACS median household income (dollars)		Change in median income (percent)	
	Estimate	Margin of error (±)[1]	Estimate	Margin of error (±)[1]	Estimate	Margin of error (±)[1]
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Alpharetta, GA Metro Area[2]	70,455	871	71,742	702	*1.8	1.6
Baltimore-Columbia-Towson, MD Metro Area	81,619	1,210	83,160	1,702	1.9	2.6
Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH Metro Area	90,219	1,288	94,430	1,212	*4.7	2.0
Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, NC-SC Metro Area[3]	63,152	1,227	66,399	1,371	*5.1	3.0
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI Metro Area	71,828	595	75,379	696	*4.9	1.3
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX Metro Area[3]	70,437	748	72,265	610	*2.6	1.4
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, CO Metro Area	80,788	1,255	85,641	1,147	*6.0	2.2
Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI Metro Area......................	61,223	618	63,474	891	*3.7	1.8
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX Metro Area.............	66,435	863	69,193	1,380	*4.2	2.5
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA Metro Area	73,997	634	77,774	850	*5.1	1.5
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, FL Metro Area[2]	57,036	733	60,141	680	*5.4	1.8
Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI Metro Area[3]	80,833	1,006	83,698	1,193	*3.5	2.0
New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA Metro Area[3]	79,844	632	83,160	791	*4.2	1.3
Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford, FL Metro Area....................	59,596	1,361	61,876	1,173	*3.8	3.1
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD Metro Area	71,948	800	74,533	889	*3.6	1.7
Phoenix-Mesa-Chandler, AZ Metro Area[2].......................	65,524	823	67,896	986	*3.6	2.0
Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA Metro Area	76,776	1,287	78,439	1,786	2.2	2.9
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA Metro Area	66,668	1,068	70,954	1,028	*6.4	2.3
St. Louis, MO-IL Metro Area	64,036	1,306	66,417	905	*3.7	2.5
San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX Metro Area	58,465	1,458	62,355	940	*6.7	3.1
San Diego-Chula Vista-Carlsbad, CA Metro Area[2]	80,451	1,238	83,985	1,908	*4.4	2.9
San Francisco-Oakland-Berkeley, CA Metro Area[2]...............	109,783	1,647	114,696	1,965	*4.5	2.4
Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA Metro Area	89,604	1,114	94,027	1,540	*4.9	2.2
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL Metro Area	55,659	825	57,906	1,146	*4.0	2.6
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area[3]....	104,252	755	105,659	1,128	*1.3	1.3

* Statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

[1] Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the margin of error 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.

[2] The title of this Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) in 2019 ACS data differs from its title in 2018 ACS data. The 2019 ACS data reflect September 2018 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) delineations of metropolitan, micropolitan, and related statistical areas, and 2018 ACS data reflect August 2017 OMB delineations of metropolitan, micropolitan, and related statistical areas. More information on metropolitan, micropolitan, and related statistical areas is found at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/metro-micro.html>.
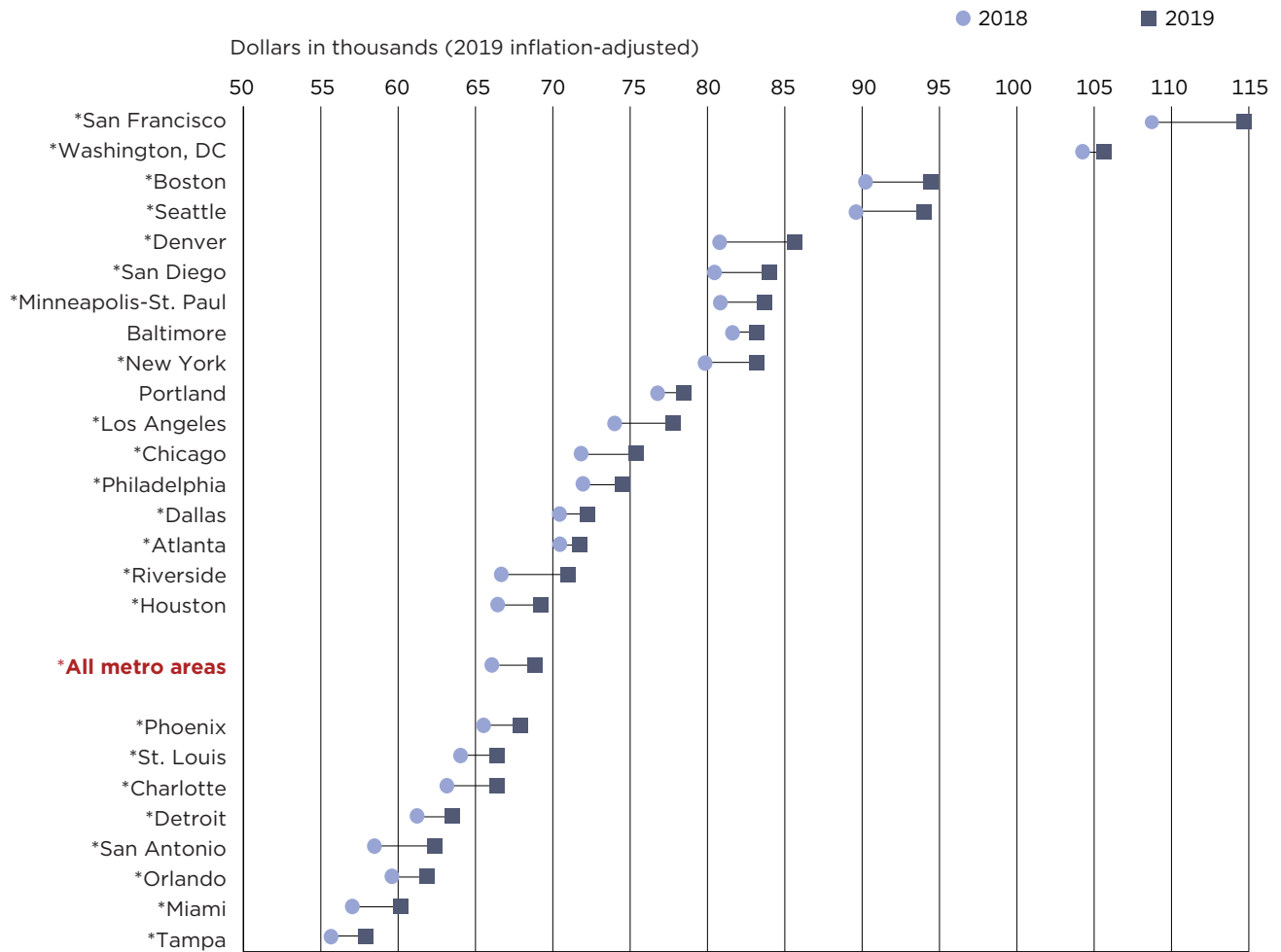
[3] The county composition of this Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) in 2019 ACS data differs from its county composition in 2018 ACS data. The 2019 ACS data reflect September 2018 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) delineations of metropolitan, micropolitan, and related statistical areas, and 2018 ACS data reflect August 2017 OMB delineations of metropolitan, micropolitan, and related statistical areas. More information on metropolitan, micropolitan, and related statistical areas is found at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/metro-micro.html>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 and 2019 American Community Surveys, 1-Year Estimates.

Figure 2.
Median Household Income for the 25 Most Populous Metro Areas: 2018 and 2019
(For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/code-lists.html>)

Dollars in thousands (2019 inflation-adjusted)

Legend: ● 2018   ■ 2019

Metro Area	2018	2019
*San Francisco		
*Washington, DC		
*Boston		
*Seattle		
*Denver		
*San Diego		
*Minneapolis-St. Paul		
Baltimore		
*New York		
Portland		
*Los Angeles		
*Chicago		
*Philadelphia		
*Dallas		
*Atlanta		
*Riverside		
*Houston		
*All metro areas		
*Phoenix		
*St. Louis		
*Charlotte		
*Detroit		
*San Antonio		
*Orlando		
*Miami		
*Tampa		

* Statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 and 2019 American Community Surveys, 1-Year Estimates.

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN OF HOUSEHOLDER[9]

Real median household income between 2018 and 2019 increased for all households across all major race and Hispanic-origin groups.[10]

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[9] The householder is the person in whose name the home is owned or rented. This brief uses the characteristics of the householder to describe the household.

[10] Federal surveys give respondents the option of reporting more than one race. Therefore, two basic ways of defining a race group are possible. A group, such as Asian, may be defined as those who reported Asian and no other race (the race-alone or single-race concept) or as those who reported Asian regardless of whether they also reported another race (the race-alone-or-in-combination concept). This report shows data using the race alone approach. Use of the single-race population does not imply that it is the preferred method of presenting or analyzing data. The Census Bureau uses a variety of approaches. In this report, the terms "White, not Hispanic" and "non-Hispanic White" are used interchangeably and refer to people who are not Hispanic and who reported White and no other race. Since Hispanics may be any race, data in this report for Hispanics overlap with data for race groups.

Median household income ranged from $93,759 for households with Asian householders to $43,862 for households with Black householders. The median household income for households with Hispanic householders increased by 6.9 percent, from $52,048 in 2018 to $55,658 in 2019. Median household income for households with non-Hispanic White householders increased by 3.5 percent, from $69,213 in 2018 to $71,664 in 2019. Median household income for households with Asian householders increased by 5.4 percent, while median household income for households with Black householders increased by 4.3 percent.[11]

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[11] The percent change for households with Black householders was not significantly different from households with Asian or non-Hispanic White householders.

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: AGE OF HOUSEHOLDER

Real median household income between 2018 and 2019 increased for households across all age groups. Median household income for households maintained by householders 65 years and older increased by 6.7 percent. Households maintained by householders aged 45 to 64 had the highest median household income in 2019 ($79,165), followed by those with householders aged 25 to 44 ($72,029), and those with householders 65 and older ($48,893). Those maintained by householders under the age of 25 had the lowest median household income ($35,999).

Table 3.
Household Income by Selected Characteristics: 2018 and 2019

(In 2019 inflation-adjusted dollars. Data are limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and defintions, see <www.census.gov/acs>)

Characteristic	2018 ACS median household income (dollars)		2019 ACS median household income (dollars)		Percentage change in median household income	
	Estimate	Margin of error (±)[1]	Estimate	Margin of error (±)[1]	Estimate	Margin of error (±)[1]
HOUSEHOLDS						
All households	62,860	135	65,712	118	*4.5	0.3
Race and Hispanic Origin of Householder						
White	66,943	128	69,823	164	*4.3	0.3
White, not Hispanic	69,213	139	71,664	127	*3.5	0.3
Black.	42,052	197	43,862	335	*4.3	0.9
Asian	88,996	805	93,759	942	*5.4	1.4
Hispanic (any race)	52,048	195	55,658	279	*6.9	0.7
Age of Householder						
Under 25 years.	33,991	405	35,999	322	*5.9	1.6
25 to 44 years	69,999	187	72,029	155	*2.9	0.4
45 to 64 years	76,440	234	79,165	289	*3.6	0.5
65 years and older.	45,813	159	48,893	166	*6.7	0.5

* Statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

[1] Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the margin of error 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.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 and 2019 American Community Surveys, 1-Year Estimates, and 2018 and 2019 Puerto Rico Community Surveys.
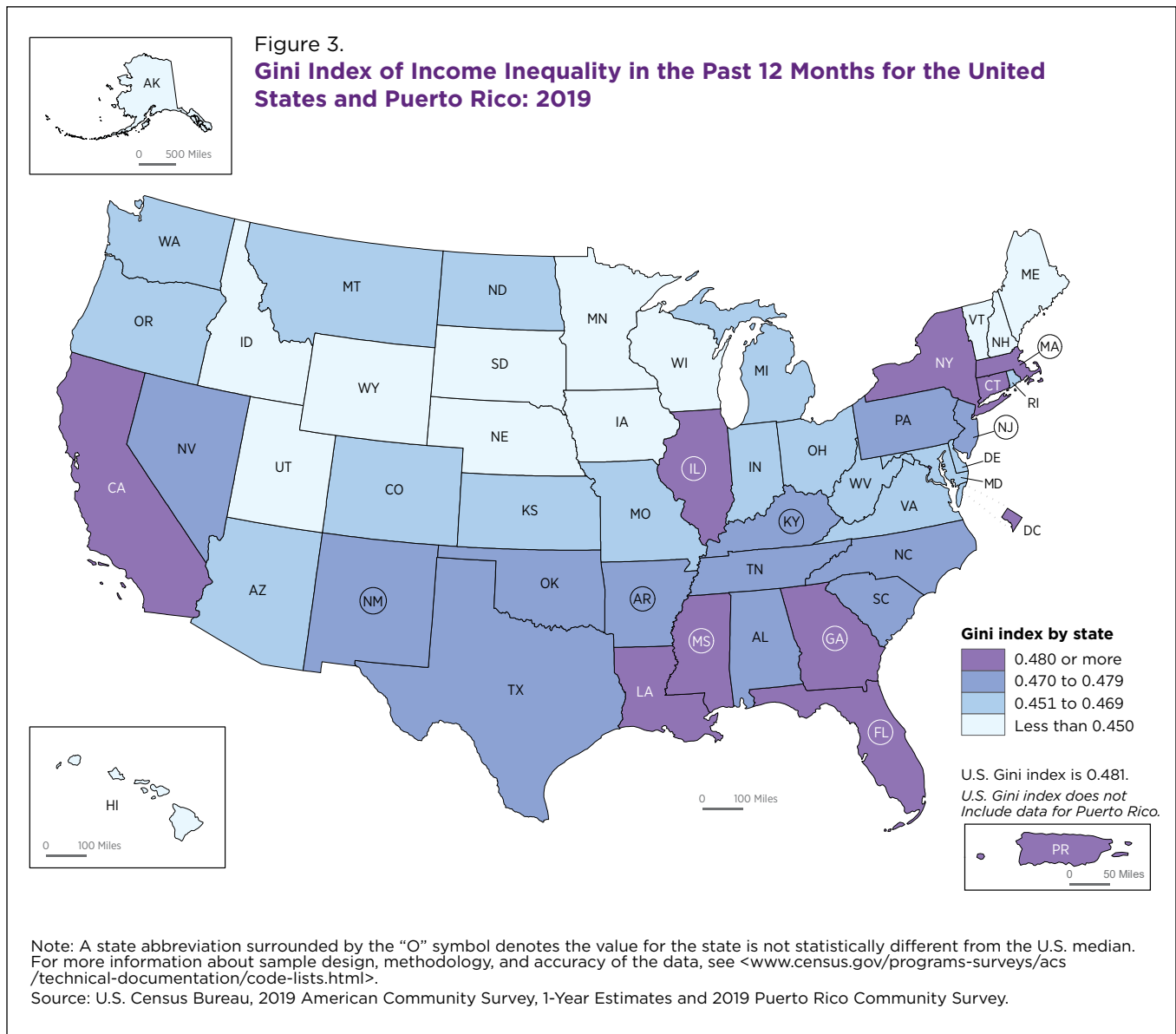
INCOME INEQUALITY

The Gini index for the United States from the 2019 ACS (0.481) was lower than the 2018 ACS estimate (0.485). The 2019 ACS Gini index decreased in 15 states and increased in Indiana. Changes were not statistically significant for 34 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Puerto Rico (0.551) had the highest Gini index and Utah (0.427) was among the lowest (Table 1 and Figure 3). Four states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico had Gini indexes higher than the index for the United States. There were 37 states with Gini indexes lower than the U.S. index. Nine states had Gini indexes that were not statistically different from the U.S. index (Table 1 and Figure 3). Since 2006, the earliest year available in the ACS, the national Gini index increased 3.7 percent, from 0.464 to 0.481.

SOURCE AND ACCURACY

The data presented in this report are based on the ACS sample interviewed from January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2018 (2018 ACS) and the ACS sample interviewed January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019 (2019 ACS). The estimates based on this sample describe the average values of person, household, and housing unit characteristics over this period

Figure 3.
Gini Index of Income Inequality in the Past 12 Months for the United States and Puerto Rico: 2019

Gini index by state
- 0.480 or more
- 0.470 to 0.479
- 0.451 to 0.469
- Less than 0.450

U.S. Gini index is 0.481.
U.S. Gini index does not Include data for Puerto Rico.

Note: A state abbreviation surrounded by the "O" symbol denotes the value for the state is not statistically different from the U.S. median. For more information about sample design, methodology, and accuracy of the data, see <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs /technical-documentation/code-lists.html>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates and 2019 Puerto Rico Community Survey.

of collection. Sampling error is the uncertainty between an estimate based on a sample and the corresponding value that would be obtained if the estimate were based on the entire population (as from a census). Measures of sampling error are provided in the form of margins of error for all estimates included in this report. All comparative statements in this report have undergone statistical testing, and comparisons are significant at the 90 percent level unless otherwise noted. In addition to sampling error, nonsampling error may be introduced during any of the operations used to collect and process survey data such as editing, reviewing, or keying data from questionnaires. For more information on sampling and estimation methods, confidentiality protection, and sampling and nonsampling errors, please see the 2019 ACS Accuracy of the Data document located at <www.census .gov/programs-surveys/acs /technical-documentation/code -lists.html>.

NOTES

The Census Bureau also reports income estimates based on data from the Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS is the longest-running survey conducted by the Census Bureau. The CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) asks detailed questions categorizing income into over 50 sources. The key purpose of the CPS ASEC is to provide timely and detailed estimates of income and to measure change in national-level estimates. The CPS ASEC is the official source of national poverty estimates. Please visit <www.census .gov/Census/library/publications /2019/demo/p60-270.pdf>.

For information on income estimates from the ACS and how they differ from those based on the CPS ASEC, see the "Fact Sheet: Differences Between the American Community Survey and the Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey" available at <www.census.gov /topics/income-poverty/poverty /guidance/data-sources/acs-vs -cps.html>.

WHAT IS THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY?

The American Community Survey (ACS) is a nationwide survey designed to provide communities with reliable and timely demographic, social, economic, and housing data for the nation, states, congressional districts, counties, places, and other localities every year. It has an annual sample size of about 3.5 million addresses across the United States and Puerto Rico and includes both housing units and group quarters (e.g., nursing facilities and prisons). The ACS is conducted in every county throughout the nation and every municipio in Puerto Rico (the Puerto Rico Community Survey). Beginning in 2006, ACS 1-year data have been released annually for geographic areas with populations of 65,000 and greater. For information on the ACS sample design and other topics, visit <www.census.gov/acs>.

HOW TO ACCESS AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY INCOME DATA

The 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-year estimates were released on Thursday, September 17, 2020. Releases from the 2019 ACS include the following data products:

September 17, 2020	1-year data release (data profiles, detailed tables, summary file, comparison profiles, selected population profiles, and subject tables) for geographies of 65,000 or greater
October 15, 2020	1-year Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) file and supplemental 1-year estimates for geographies with populations of 20,000 or more
December 10, 2020	5-year data release (data profiles, detailed tables, summary file, comparison profiles, subject tables, and narrative profiles) for all geographies
January 14, 2021	5-year Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) file

All ACS data products are now released on data.census.gov, the U.S. Census Bureau's primary data dissemination and digital content platform located at <https://data.census.gov>. The centralized experience allows data users of all skill levels to search tables, visualize and download data, and create custom statistics. ACS data from 2010 forward are available on data.census.gov.

An additional method for obtaining ACS data is through the Census Bureau's application programming interface (API) at <www.census.gov/developers/>. This tool provides the public with maximum flexibility to query data directly from Census Bureau servers.

Additional income estimates, publications, working papers, visualizations, and data from other surveys can be found at <www.census.gov/topics/income-poverty/income.html>.