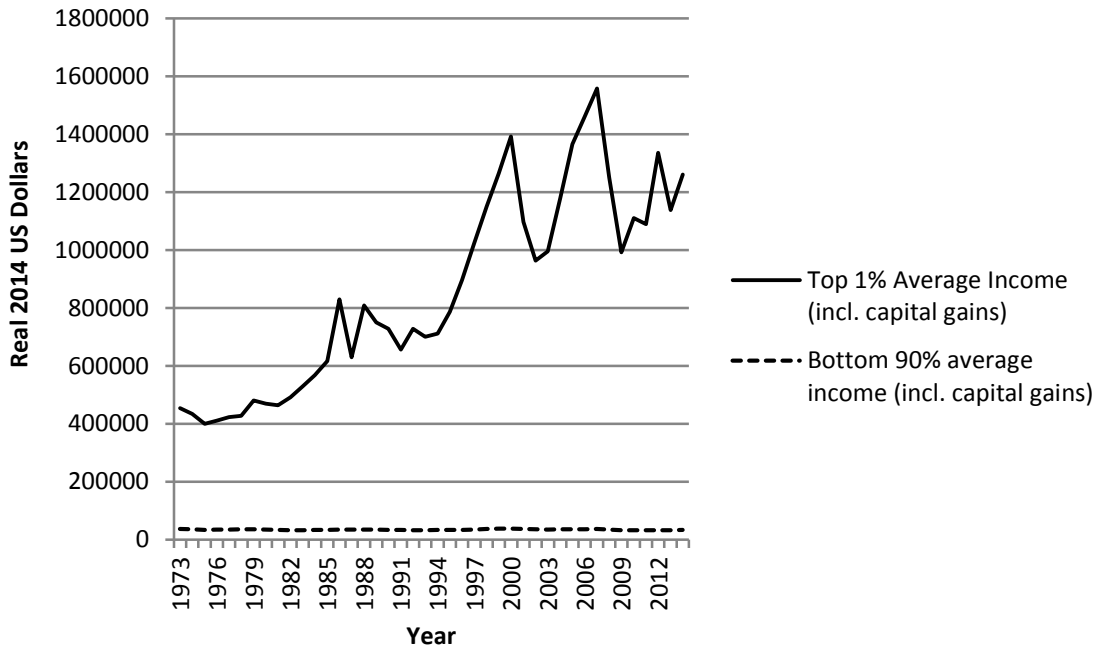


Inequality

Joseph E. Stiglitz
Virginia Festival of the Book
March 24, 2017

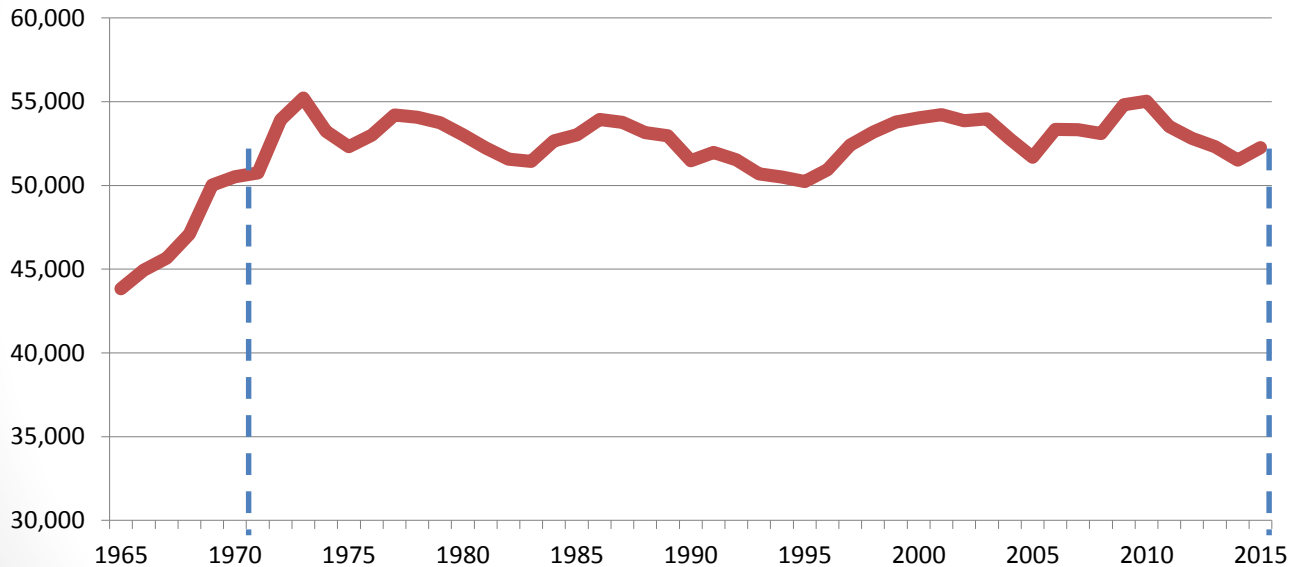
US: bottom 90% have seen little increase in income over last third of a century



Source: The World Wealth and Income Database (latest data available at <http://www.wid.world/>).

Median income of a full time male worker at the level that it was more than 4 decades ago

(constant 2015 \$)

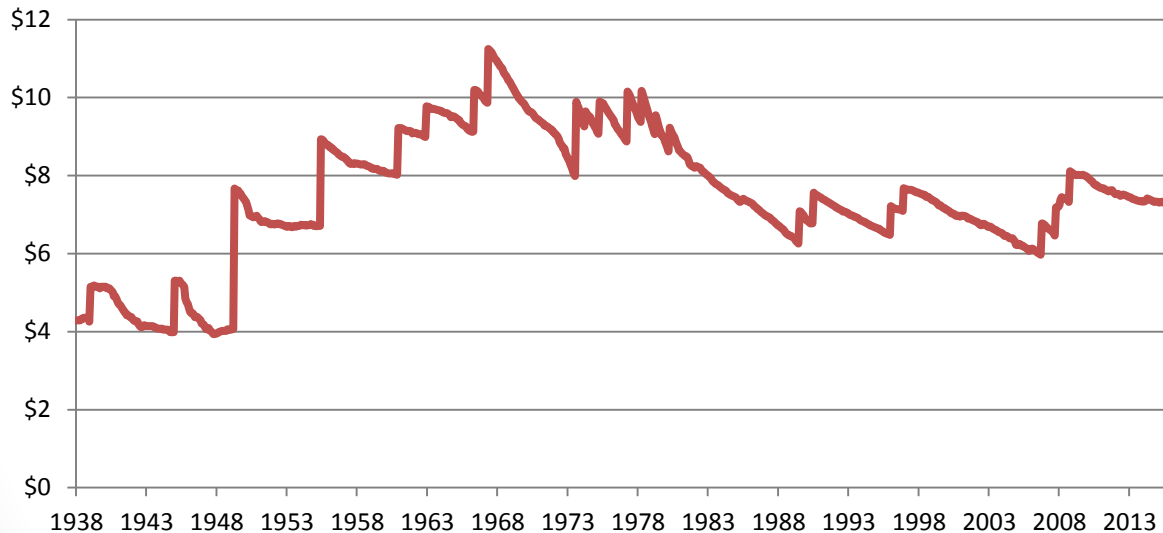


Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Note: Data is adjusted for the methodological change of 2013.

Real wages at the bottom are at the level that they were roughly sixty years ago

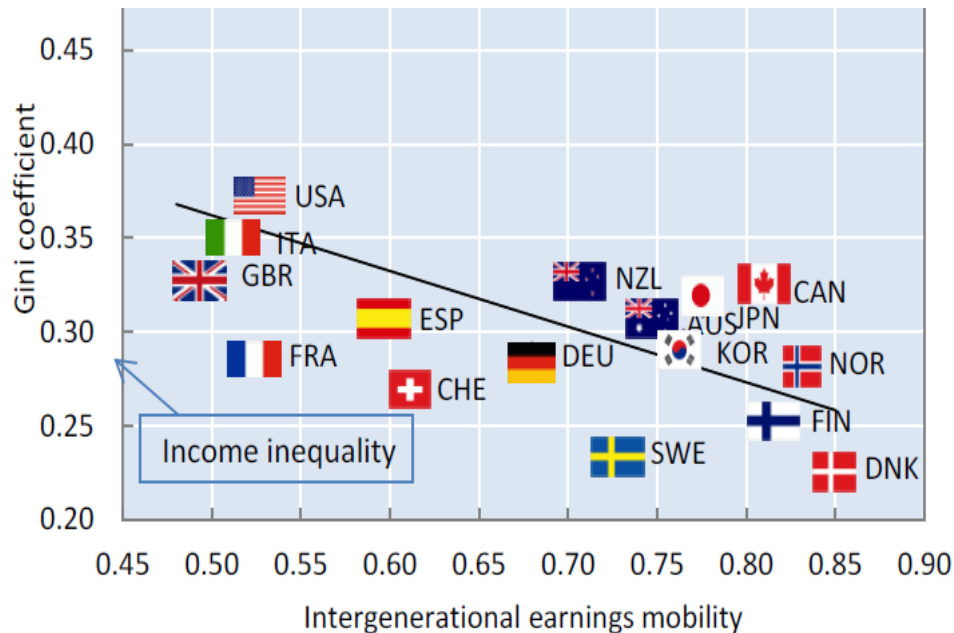
US Minimum wage in 2016 Dollars



Source: Federal Reserve. <https://www.quandl.com/data/FRED?keyword=>

Levels of opportunity correlated with income

Income inequality and intergenerational earnings mobility, mid-2000s



Source: "United States, Tackling High Inequalities Creating Opportunities for All", June 2014, OECD.

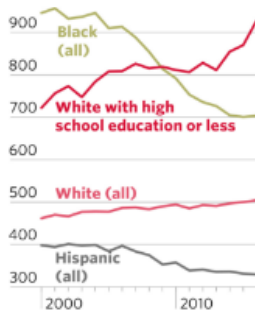
Even health and life expectancy is in decline

A Rising Toll

New research shows the increasing mortality rate among white Americans spans age groups and is most acute among the less-educated.

White deaths are rising...

Mortality rate by race, ages 50-54

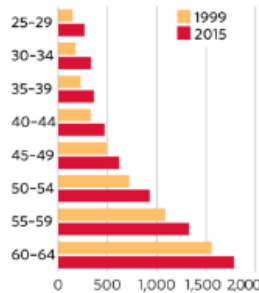


Mortality rate=deaths per 100,000

Anne Case and Angus Deaton of Princeton University

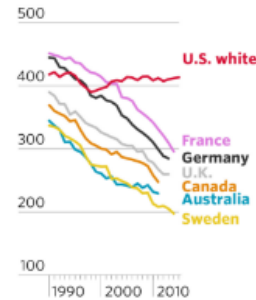
...among all age groups of less-educated whites...

Mortality rate for whites with high school education or less, by age



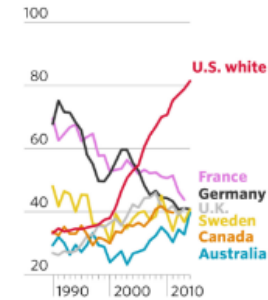
...in contrast to elsewhere...

Mortality rate for all causes, ages 45-54



...due in part to increases in 'deaths of despair'.

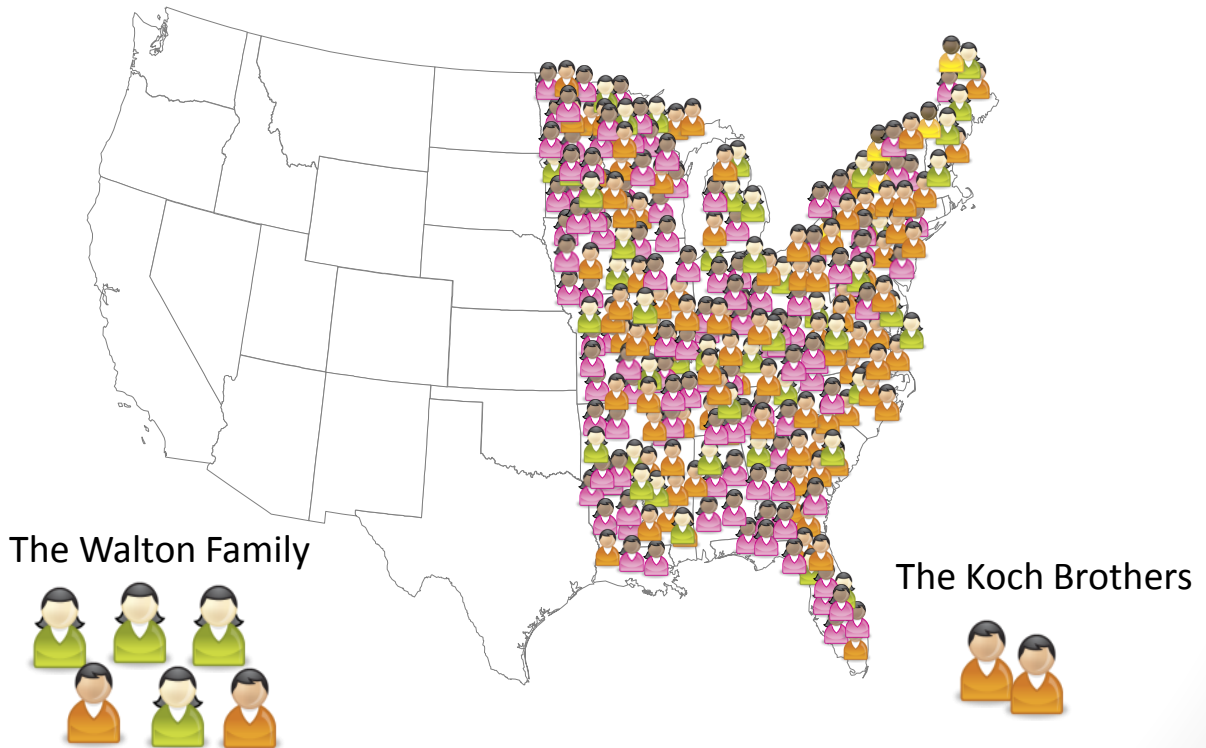
Mortality rate due to alcohol, drugs and suicide, ages 50-54



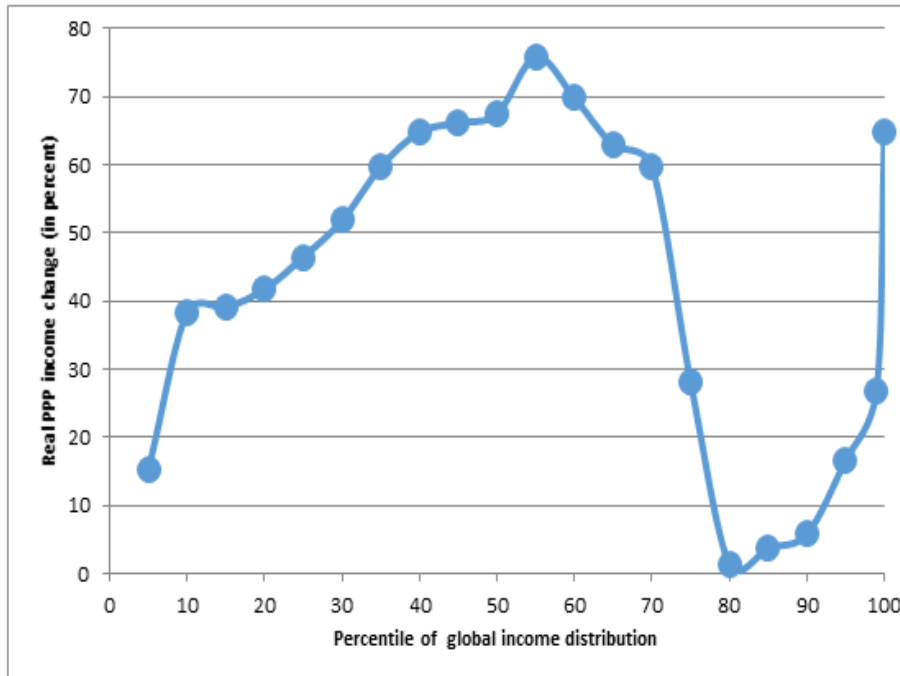
Source: Anne Case and Angus Deaton of Princeton University, charts published in Wall Street Journal.

The Walton Family and The Koch Brothers' net worth = \$230 billion

That's the net worth of 150 million Americans or 44% of the country.



Global inequality: income growth by percentile, 1988-2008



Source: Branko Milanovic, <http://glineq.blogspot.co.ke/2015/02/trends-in-global-income-inequality-and.html>

Globally, matters are even worse

Oxfam reports on wealth concentration at the top: how many of the richest people have as much wealth as bottom 50% (bottom 3.6 billion!)

- In 2014: 85
- In 2017: just 8 *men*

Big winners during last quarter century

- Global 1% and global middle class (middle class in China and India)

Big losers during last quarter century (not sharing in gains)

- Those at the bottom and the middle class in advanced countries