

Table 2.

Income of Households by Race and Hispanic Origin Using 2- and 3-Year-Average Medians: 2002 to 2004

(Income in 2004 dollars)

Race ¹ and Hispanic origin	3-year average ² 2002–2004 (dollars)		2-year average ³ (dollars)				Change in real median income (2003–2004 average less 2002–2003 average)	
	Median income	90-percent confidence interval ⁴ (±)	2003–2004		2002–2003		Dollars	Percentage change
			Median income	90-percent confidence interval ⁴ (±)	Median income	90-percent confidence interval ⁴ (±)		
All races	44,473	208	44,436	263	44,514	230	–79	–0.2
White	46,971	214	46,777	248	47,108	254	*–331	*–0.7
White, not Hispanic	49,101	253	49,019	312	49,162	292	–143	–0.3
Black	30,355	430	30,288	475	30,465	545	–177	–0.6
American Indian and Alaska Native	33,132	1,477	32,510	1,732	33,749	1,785	–1,239	–3.7
Asian	56,664	1,273	57,357	1,581	56,237	1,415	1,120	2.0
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	51,687	4,044	54,378	4,423	52,311	4,903	2,068	4.0
Hispanic origin (any race)	34,299	558	34,062	643	34,328	661	–265	–0.8

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.

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

¹ Federal surveys now 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 table shows data using the first approach (race alone). The 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. Information on people who reported more than one race, such as White **and** American Indian and Alaska Native or Asian **and** Black or African American, is available from Census 2000 through American FactFinder. About 2.6 percent of people reported more than one race in Census 2000.

² The 3-year-average median is the sum of three inflation-adjusted single-year medians divided by 3.

³ The 2-year-average median is the sum of two inflation-adjusted single-year medians divided by 2.

⁴ A 90-percent confidence interval is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the confidence interval in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. For more information, see "Standard Errors and Their Use" at <www.census.gov/hhes/www/p60_229sa.pdf>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2003 to 2005 Annual Social and Economic Supplements.

and may cause single-year estimates to fluctuate more widely. To reduce the chances of misinterpreting changes in income or comparisons of income with other groups, the Census Bureau uses 2-year-average medians for measuring changes in the income of the American Indian and Alaska Native and the Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander populations over time, and 3-year-average medians when comparing the income of these groups with other racial groups also shown in Table 2.⁹

⁹ The 2-year-average median is the sum of two inflation-adjusted (real) single-year medians, divided by 2. The 3-year-average median is the sum of three inflation-adjusted (real) single-year medians, divided by 3.

Comparison of 2-year moving averages (2002–2003 and 2003–2004) shows that the real median income for American Indian and Alaska Native households was statistically unchanged over that period. The same was true for the Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander households.

The 3-year-average (2002–2004) median income for American Indian and Alaska Native households was:

- Higher than the median for Black households.
- Not statistically different from the median for Hispanic households.
- Lower than the medians for non-Hispanic White households, Asian

households, and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander households.

The 3-year-average (2002–2004) median income for Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander households was:

- Higher than the medians for Black households, Hispanic households, and American Indian and Alaska Native households.
- Not statistically different from the median for non-Hispanic White households.
- Lower than the median for Asian households.