The background features a collage of various American symbols. On the left is a bald eagle. In the center, there's a red field with white stars. To the right, there's a blue field with the Statue of Liberty. Above the central text, there are smaller images of the US Capitol dome and a US dollar bill.

State *of the* Union In Numbers

A data-driven, nonpartisan snapshot
of the state of our union

[Get Started](#)



The Issues

Article II of the US Constitution requires that the President of the United States deliver a State of the Union from time to time, including a budget report and legislative proposals. USAFacts analyzed 40 years of State of the Union speeches to find the most-covered issues; here are the numbers behind those popular topics. We provide historical metrics for perspective—using it to advocate for the change you want to see in the country is up to you.

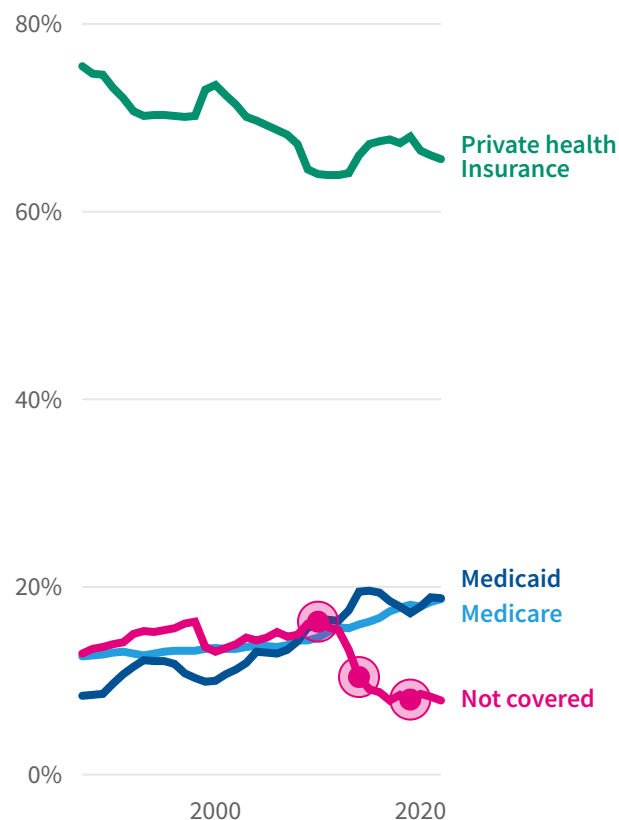
Published February 2nd, 2020

HEALTH

How do Americans receive health coverage, and are they getting healthier?

- Personal healthcare spending in 2018 reached \$3.1 trillion, or \$9,414 per capita. →
- Average insurance spending is unequal across programs. →
- The percent of Americans who are uninsured increased to 8.5% in 2018, up from the 2017 low of 7.9%. →
- Life expectancy increased for the first time since 2014, from 78.6 in 2017 to 78.7 in 2018. →
- Nearly half of deaths are caused by heart disease and cancer. →

[State of health](#)



HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

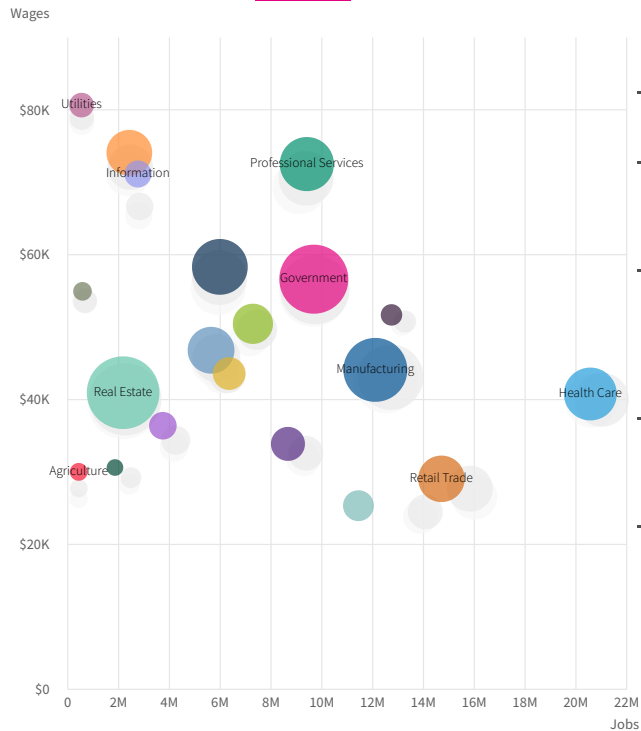
Sources: **Census Bureau.** [see more](#) ✓

Footnotes: Starting in 2017, people covered under TRICARE are... [see more](#) ✓

GDP, wages & jobs by sector ?

Adjusted for inflation

< **2020** > ▶



Sources: **Bureau of Economic Analysis.** [see more](#) ▼

ECONOMY

How strong is the US economy?

- GDP grew 2.3% in 2019. →
- Monthly unemployment reached a 50-year low of 3.5% in 2019. →
- The economy added 2.1 million jobs in 2019, a 1.4% increase from the total number of jobs at the end of 2018. →
- Median wages increased 0.1% (inflation adjusted) from 2017 to 2018. →
- From November 2018 to November 2019, we imported \$624 billion more in goods and services than we exported, a 1.1% increase from the previous 12 months. →

[State of our economy](#)



POPULATION

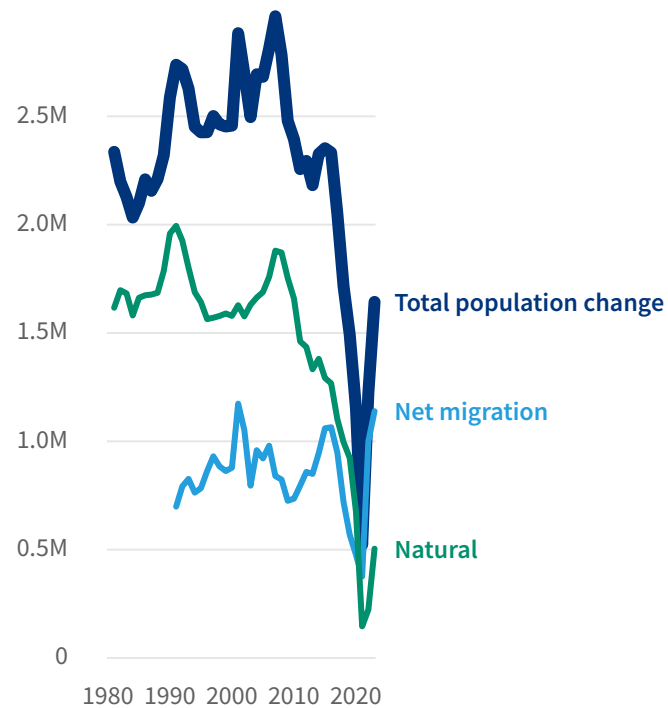
How is the population changing and growing?

- In 2019, 328 million people lived in the United States. →
- Our population grew by 1.6 million from 2018 to 2019, with 38% of growth coming from immigration. →
- Our population is getting older. →
- A greater proportion of people are living alone than at any point since 1980. →
- There were 12% fewer children born in 2018 than in the recent 2007 peak. →
- The absolute number of non-Hispanic white people has been falling since 2017. →


State of population

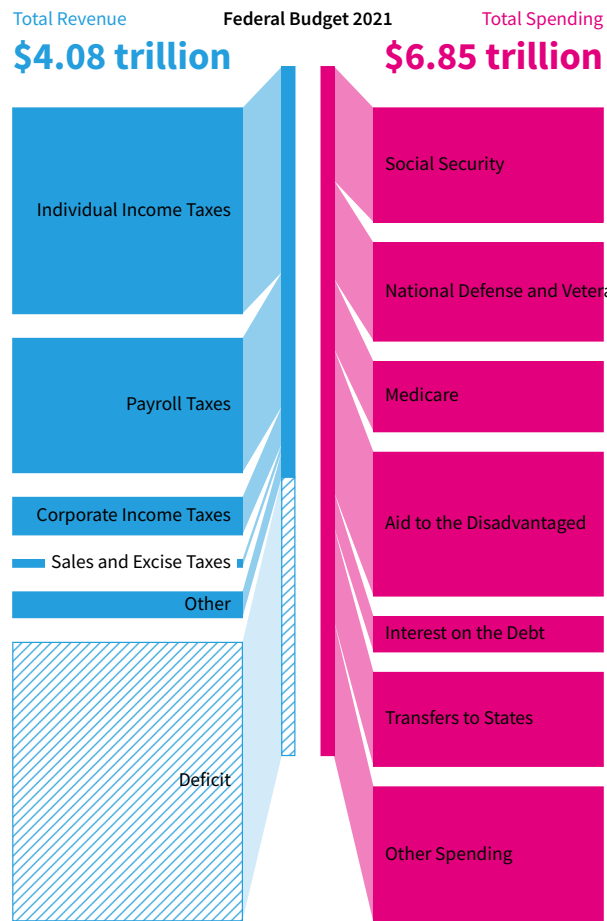


POPULATION GROWTH BY COMPONENT



Source: [Census Bureau](#). 

Footnotes: 1. Population change shows the estimate of change ... [see more](#) 



BUDGET

How much does the government spend and where does the money go?

The federal government collected \$3.5 trillion in revenue in 2019, or \$10,548 per person. →

The federal government spent \$4.4 trillion in 2019, or \$13,547 per person. →

Federal revenue grew 2% (inflation adjusted) in 2019. →

Federal spending grew 6% (inflation adjusted) in 2019. →

We spent 28% more than we collected in revenue, creating a \$984 billion deficit. →

[State of our budget](#)



Sources: [USAFacts](#). [see more](#) ✓

STANDARD OF LIVING

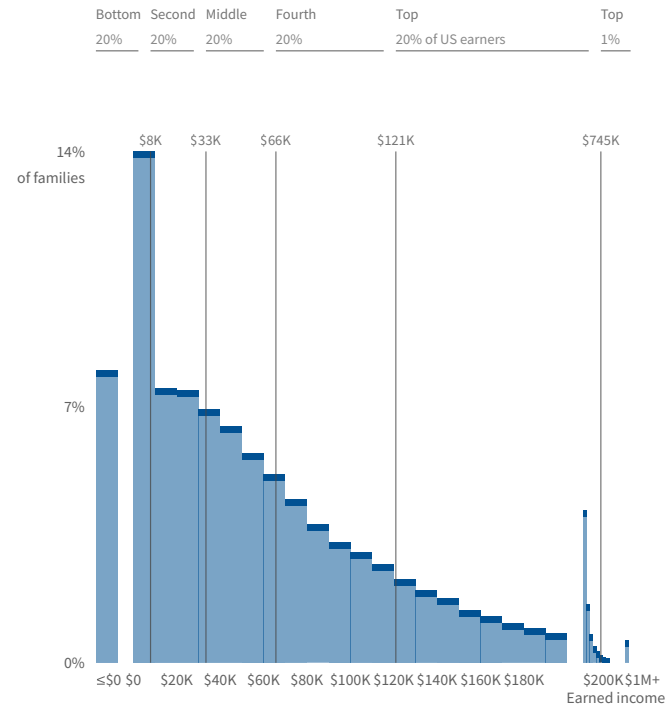
How has the standard of living for Americans changed? How does the government help the disadvantaged?

- Middle-class families (the middle 20% of income earners) average \$49,000 in market income from sources including wages, investments, and retirement. →
- Middle-class families receive an average \$19,000 in government assistance from programs like Medicare, Social Security, and food stamps. →
- On average, middle-class families pay \$15,000 in combined federal, state, and local taxes. →
- Middle-class families collectively own 7% of all wealth. →
- The poverty rate decreased from 15% in 2010 to 11.8% in 2018. →

State of our standard of living

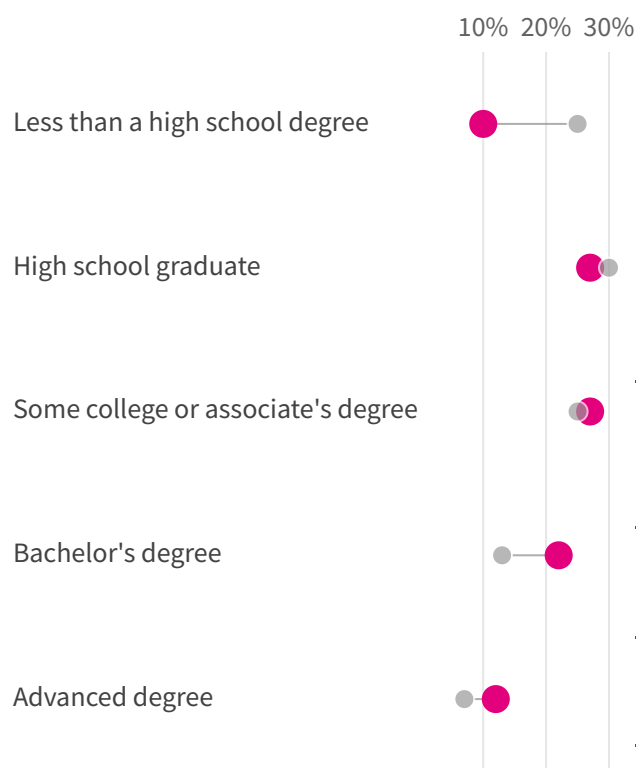


US income distribution 2017 ?



Sources: **USAFacts calculations using data from the Internal Revenue Service and the US Census Bureau** . [see more](#) ✓

Footnotes: Market income is equivalent to total income minus... [see more](#) ✓



EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AGE 25+ **1990** ▾
VS **2020** ▾

Sources: **Census Bureau.** [see more](#) ▾

EDUCATION

How well is the government educating our population, and what is the cost?

Explore more on education in the US

- Since 2000, spending per public school student increased 22% to \$12,000, adjusting for inflation. →
- Two-thirds of 8th graders are not proficient in math and reading. →
- Two out of three high school graduates attend college. →
- College tuition averaged \$23,835 in 2016, nearly double the cost in 1993, adjusting for inflation. →
- People with a bachelor's degree earn 64% more than those with just a high school diploma. →
- More than a third of the adult population has a bachelor's degree or higher. →

[State of education](#)



CRIME

Is our criminal justice system working, and are we safer?

- Reported property and violent crime rates are falling, and are down more than 50% since their 1991 peaks. →
- Arrests are decreasing. →
- The number of prisoners is falling, and is down 8% from a peak in 2009. →
- Firearm deaths increased 18% from 2014 to 2017, accounting for 1.5% of all deaths. →
- Active shooter events are increasing but make up a small proportion of gun deaths. →

State of crime

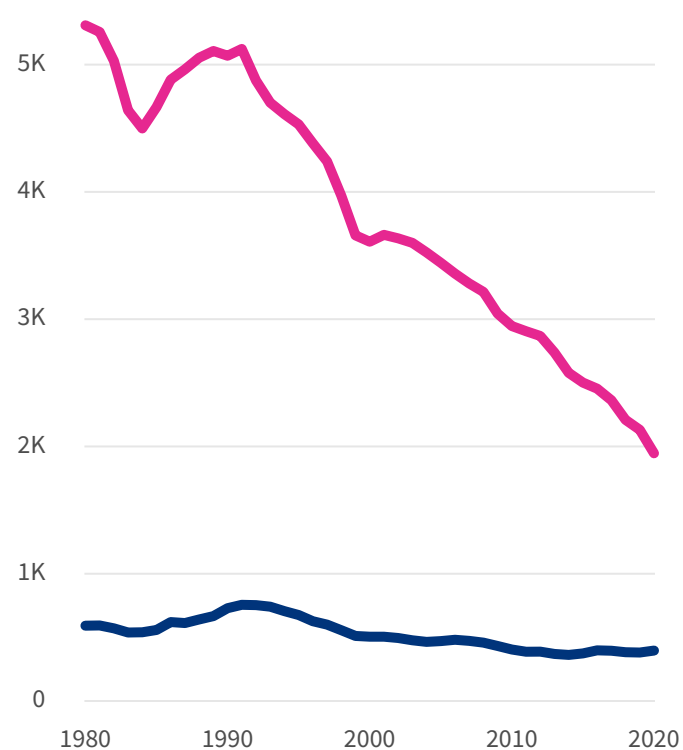


Crime rates per 100,000 people

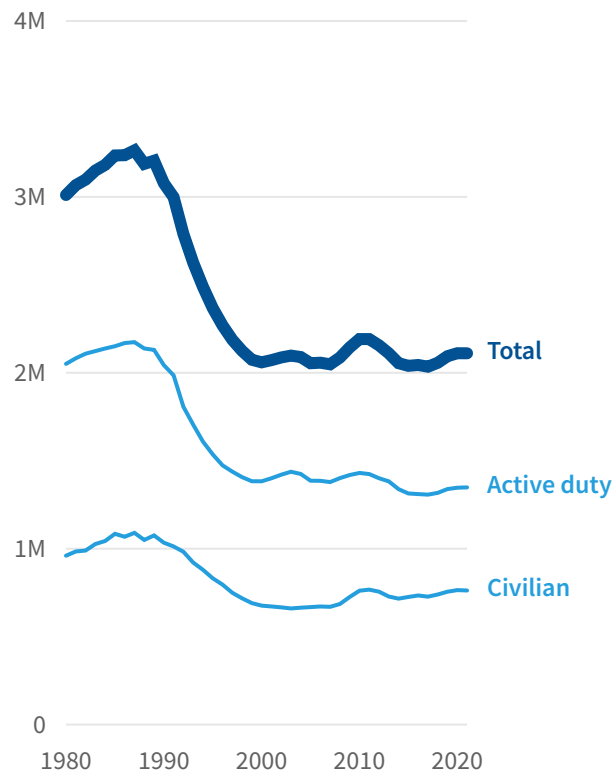
SELECT A LINE

■ Property crime per 100K

■ Violent crime per 100K



Sources: **Federal Bureau of Investigation**; . [see more](#) ▼



ARMED FORCES

Sources: **Defense Manpower Data Center.** [see more](#) ▼

Footnotes: This total represents the sum of active duty
membe... [see more](#) ▼

DEFENSE

What is the state of our military, and how are veterans faring?

- Defense spending increased in 2019 but is 14% lower than its 2010 peak. →
- The military is larger today than in 2016 but smaller than in 1980. →
- We have fewer troops abroad, particularly in the Middle East and Afghanistan. →
- Adjusting for inflation, foreign aid has declined slightly since 2008, and makes up less than 1% of the federal budget →
- Veterans have higher levels of employment, lower rates of poverty, and higher rates of disability than the overall population. →

[State of defense](#)



IMMIGRATION

How many people are coming to the US and who are they?

- We are again increasingly a nation of immigrants. →
- Excluding tourism, most people who come to the US on visas or green cards are temporary workers, students, or coming to be with their families. →
- The number of non-tourist visas and green cards granted as well as the number of refugees and asylees admitted fell from 2017 to 2018 →
- In 2015, the federal government estimated there were 12 million unauthorized immigrants in the country. →
- Border apprehensions more than doubled from 2018 to 2019. →
- In 2018, immigration officials removed 337,000 people from the US. →

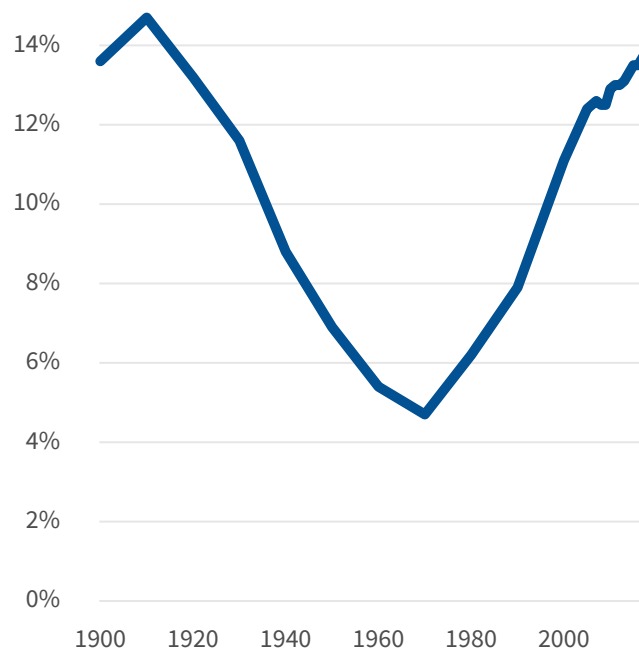
[State of immigration](#)



FOREIGN-BORN RESIDENTS AS A PERCENT OF THE POPULATION

SELECT A LINE

■ Foreign-born population

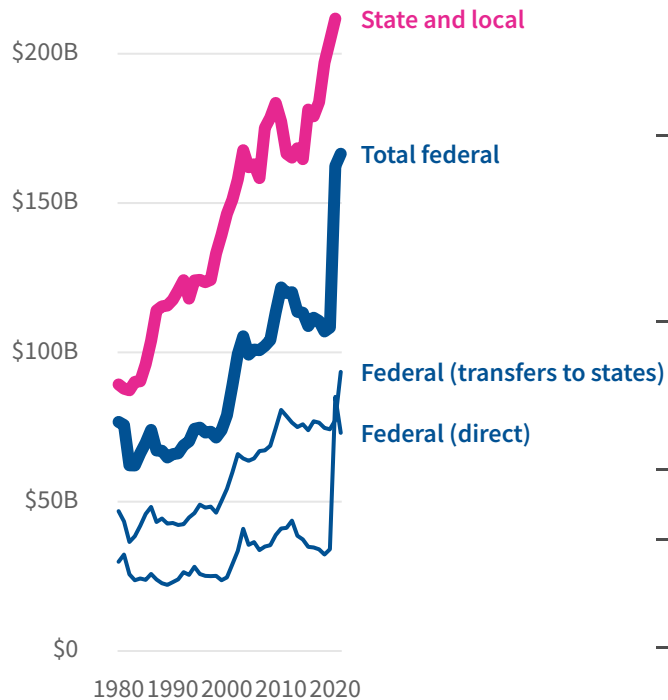


Source: [Census Bureau](#). [↗](#)

Footnotes: This excludes 2020 data that relies on the America... [see more](#) ▼

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE SPENDING

Adjusted for inflation



Source: USAFacts aggregation of data from Office of Manage... [Manage...](#)

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

What does America spend on infrastructure? Is the state of our infrastructure improving?

- In 2019, the federal government spent \$29 billion on infrastructure and transferred an additional \$67 billion in infrastructure spending to states. →
- Half of federal transportation spending goes to highways, with air and rail the next biggest categories. →
- Our bridges are improving. →
- The condition of urban interstates and minor roads is improving. →
- Train infrastructure is degrading. →
- In 2017, traffic congestion delayed vehicle commuters by an average of 54 hours a year. →

[State of infrastructure](#)



ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

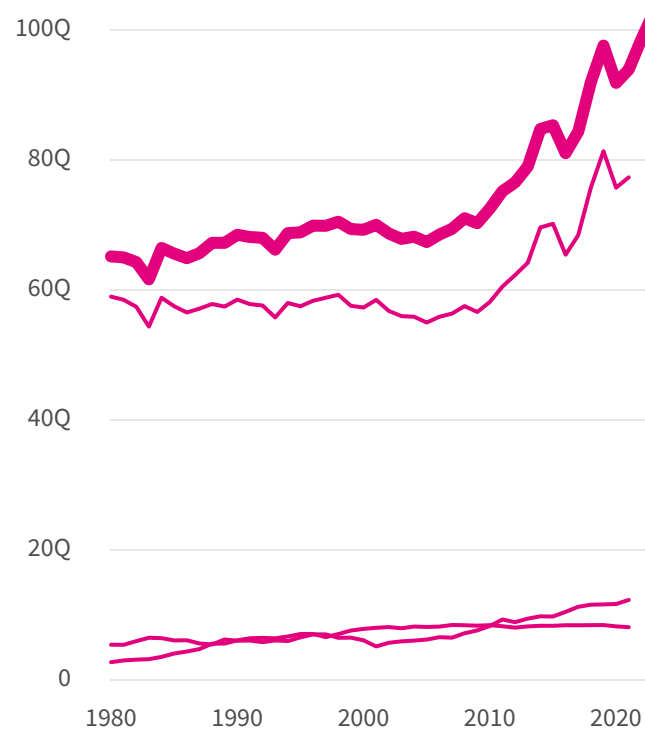
What are our major sources of energy? What environmental challenges do we face?

- We are producing more energy than ever. →
- Energy consumption per person in 2018 was 11% lower than in 2000. →
- The share of our energy consumption from nuclear and renewable sources has nearly doubled since 1980. →
- We are emitting less greenhouse gases per person than in 1990. →
- We import 17% more energy than we export. →
- Last decade averaged twelve \$1 billion natural disasters per year. →
- Wildfires burned an average of 7 million acres of land per year last decade. →

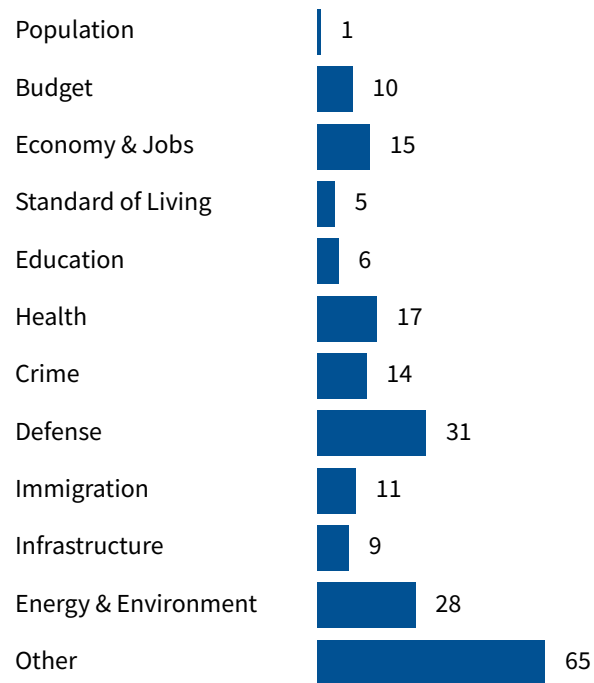
[State of energy & environment](#)



ENERGY PRODUCTION (BTU)



Source: [Energy Information Administration](#). [↗](#)



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

What are some of the actions the federal government took in 2019 in these issue areas?

[State of government actions](#)



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS IN 2019

Sources: **USAFacts** calculations using data from the
Federal Register and the Library of Congress..
[see more](#) ✓

HEALTH

How do Americans receive health coverage, and are they getting healthier?

- Personal healthcare spending in 2018 reached \$3.1 trillion, or \$9,414 per capita. →
- Average insurance spending is unequal across programs. →
- The percent of Americans who are uninsured increased to 8.5% in 2018, up from the 2017 low of 7.9%. →
- Life expectancy increased for the first time since 2014, from 78.6 in 2017 to 78.7 in 2018. →
- Nearly half of deaths are caused by heart disease and cancer. →

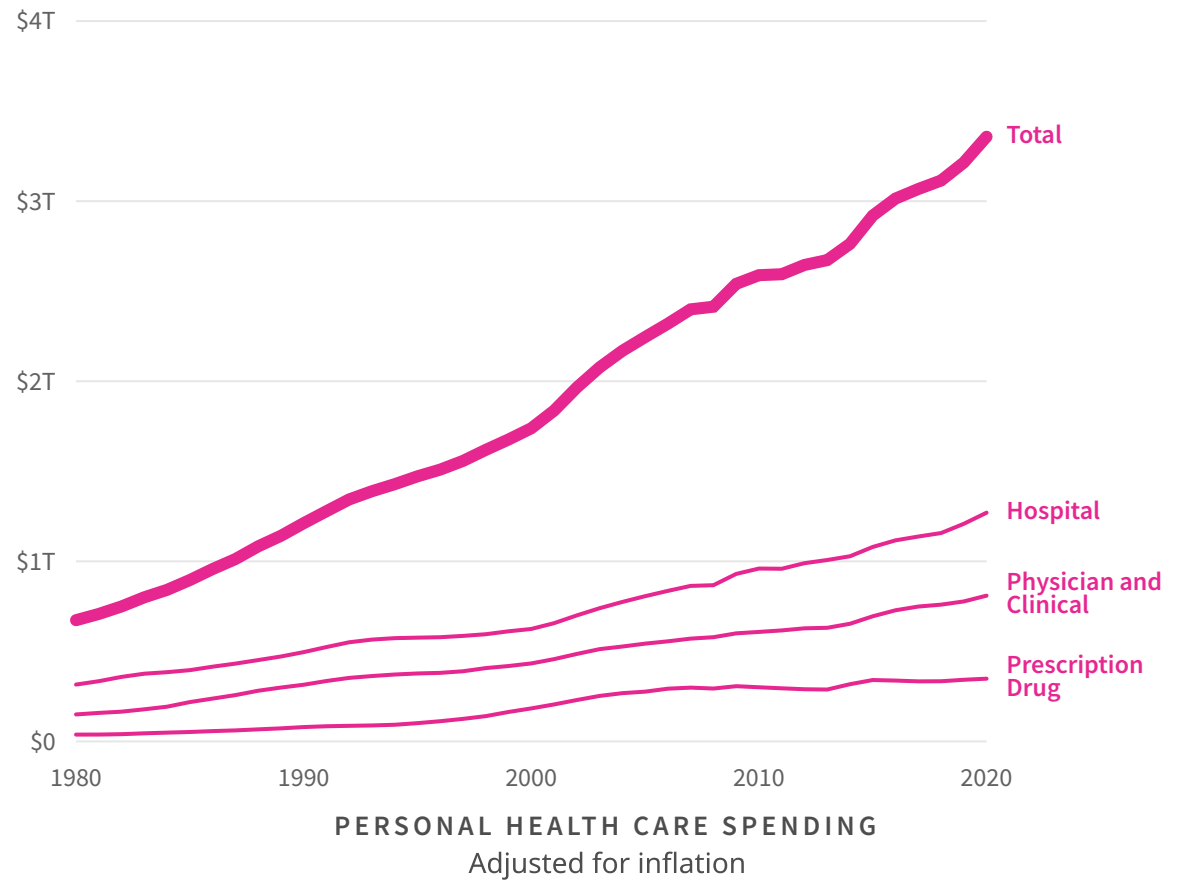


HEALTH

Personal healthcare spending in 2018 reached \$3.1 trillion, or \$9,414 per capita.

Most is spent on hospitals (39%), physicians (24%), and prescription drugs (11%), with the remainder spent on dental services, nursing care, and other health needs.

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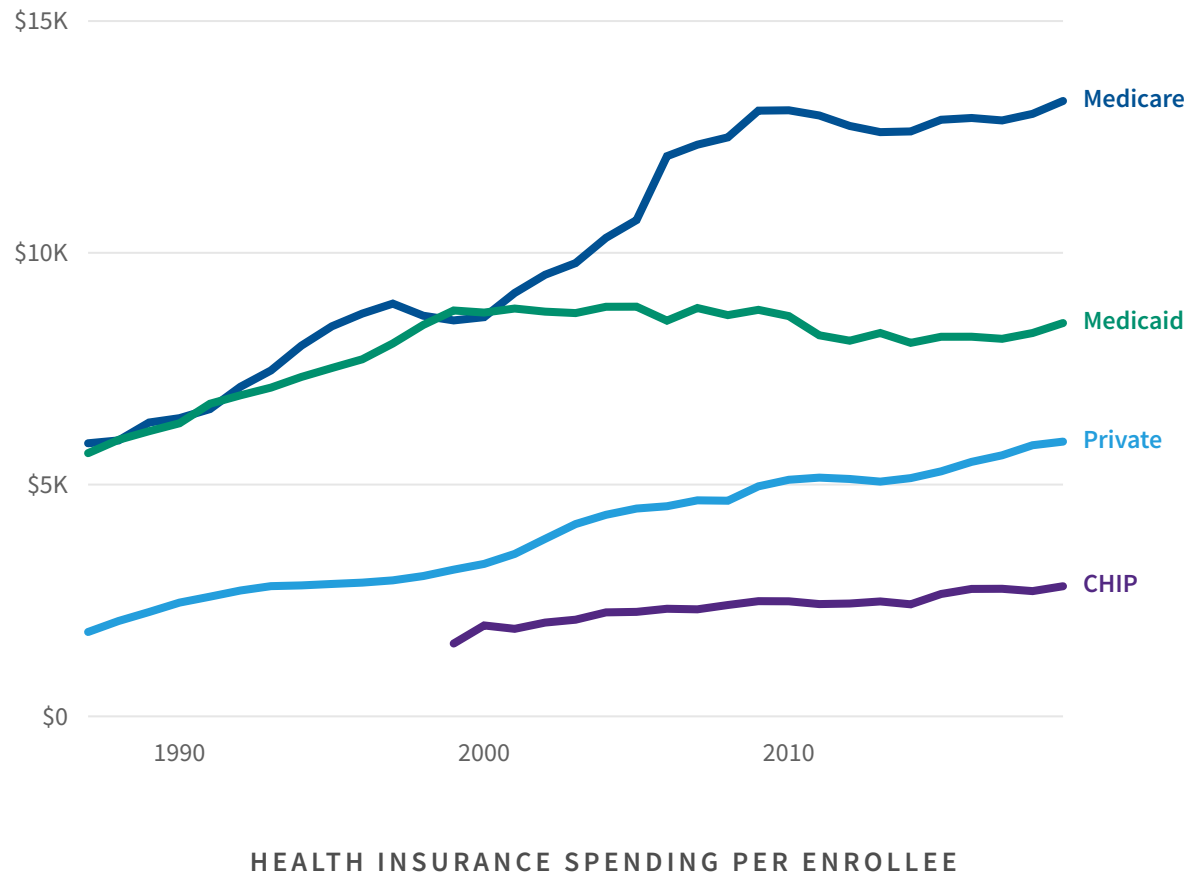
Sources: **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.** [see more](#) ▼

HEALTH

Average insurance spending is unequal across programs.

Medicare and Medicaid spend more per enrollee than private insurance while covering populations that are older and more impoverished, respectively. Per enrollee spending for Medicare and Medicaid has remained flat, however, while private insurance spending is increasing, adjusting for inflation.

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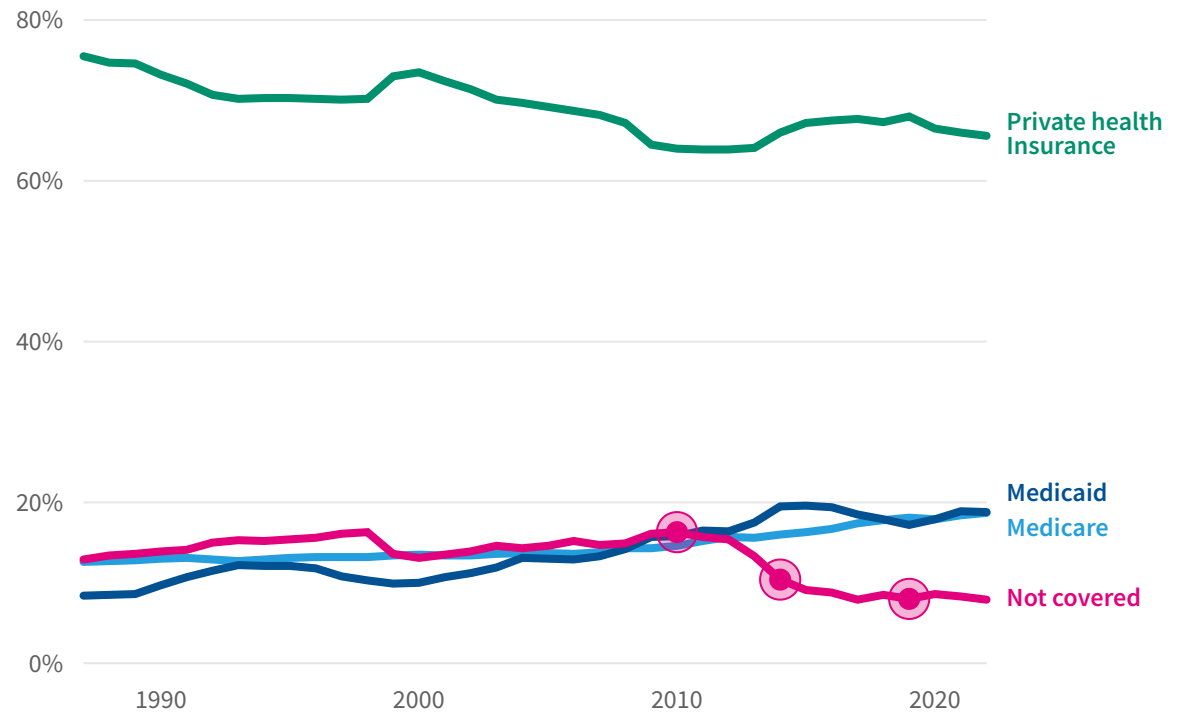
Sources: **National Health Expenditures.** [see more](#) ▼

HEALTH

The percent of Americans who are uninsured increased to 8.5% in 2018, up from the 2017 low of 7.9%.

Fewer Americans directly buy insurance or receive Medicaid coverage than in 2016.

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HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

Sources: **Census Bureau.** [see more](#) ✓

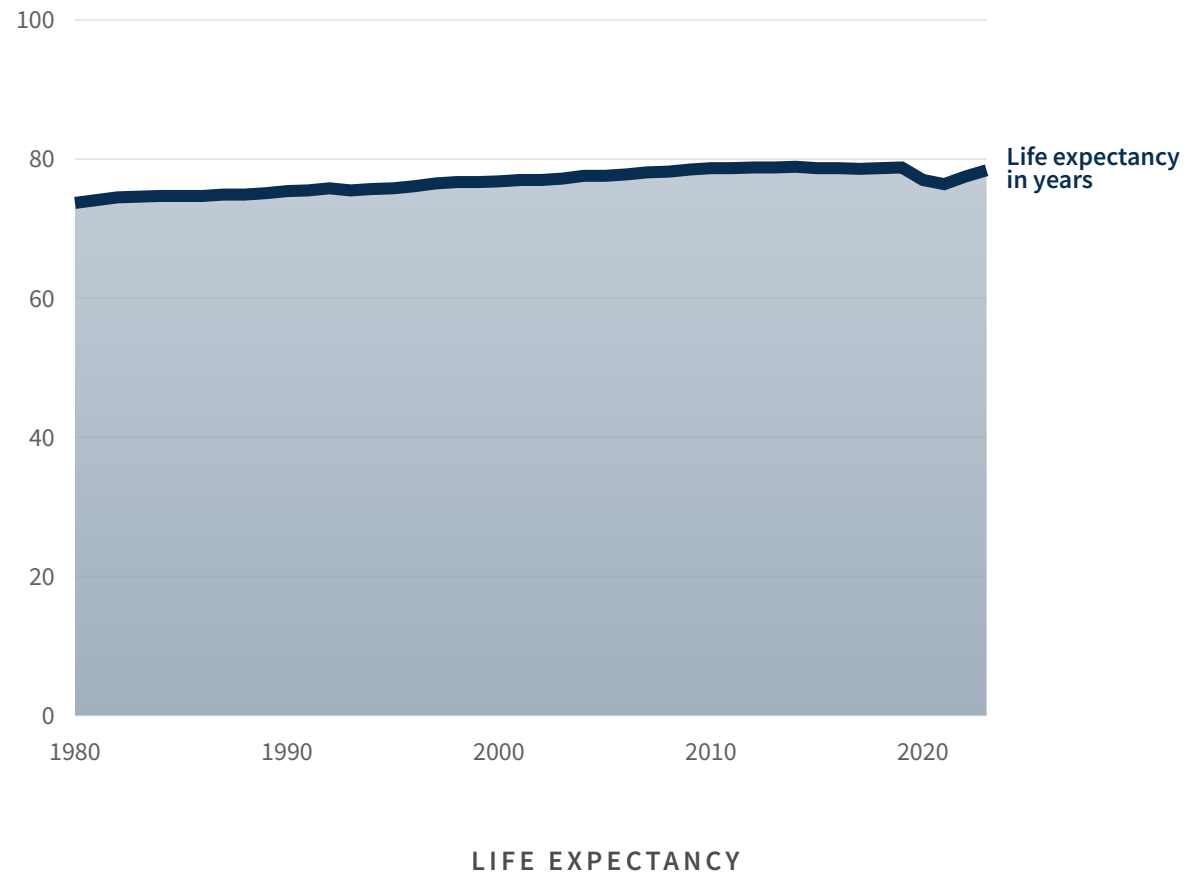
Footnotes: Starting in 2017, people covered under TRICARE are... [see more](#) ✓

HEALTH

Life expectancy increased for the first time since 2014, from 78.6 in 2017 to 78.7 in 2018.

The life expectancy for Non-Hispanic white people is more than three years longer than for Black people.

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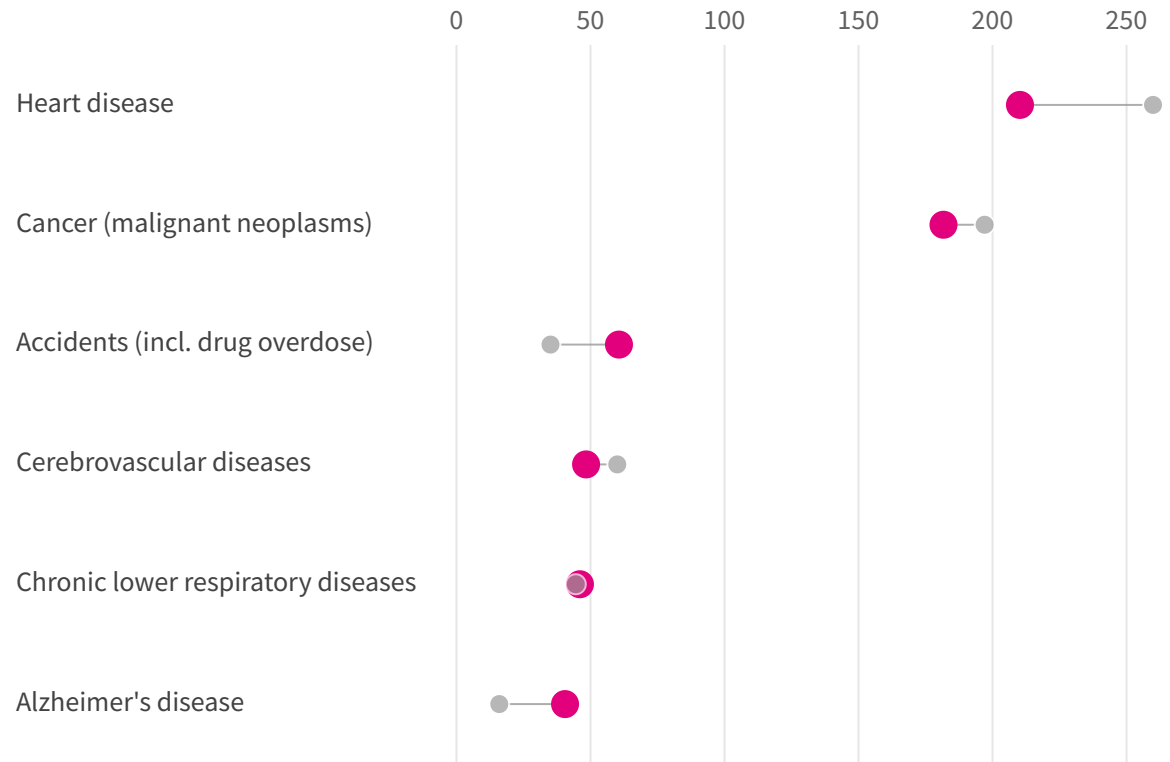
Sources: **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.** [see more](#) ✓

HEALTH

Nearly half of deaths are caused by heart disease and cancer.

However, the fastest growing causes of death since 1999 are accidents (including drug overdoses) and Alzheimer's, for which age-adjusted death rates have increased 36% and 85%, respectively.

[f](#) [twitter](#) [in](#) [envelope](#) [printer](#) [code](#) [download csv](#)



TOP CAUSES OF DEATH PER 100,000 PERSONS 1999 VS 2020

Sources: **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.** [see more](#) ✓

ECONOMY

How strong is the US economy?

- GDP grew 2.3% in 2019. →
- Monthly unemployment reached a 50-year low of 3.5% in 2019. →
- The economy added 2.1 million jobs in 2019, a 1.4% increase from the total number of jobs at the end of 2018. →
- Median wages increased 0.1% (inflation adjusted) from 2017 to 2018. →
- From November 2018 to November 2019, we imported \$624 billion more in goods and services than we exported, a 1.1% increase from the previous 12 months. →

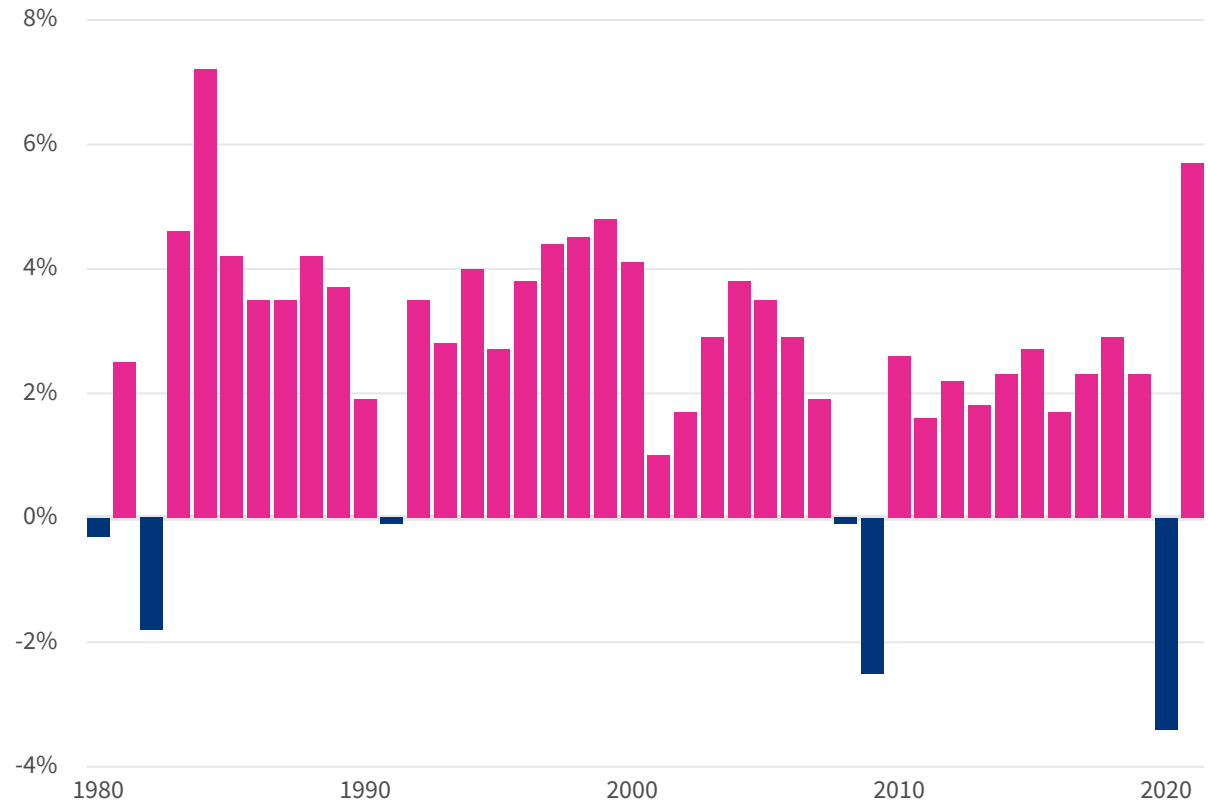


GDP grew 2.3% in 2019.

This is consistent with the 2.1% average annual growth rate of the past 20 years. GDP reached \$21.4 trillion in 2019.

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Annual percent change in real gross domestic product (GDP)



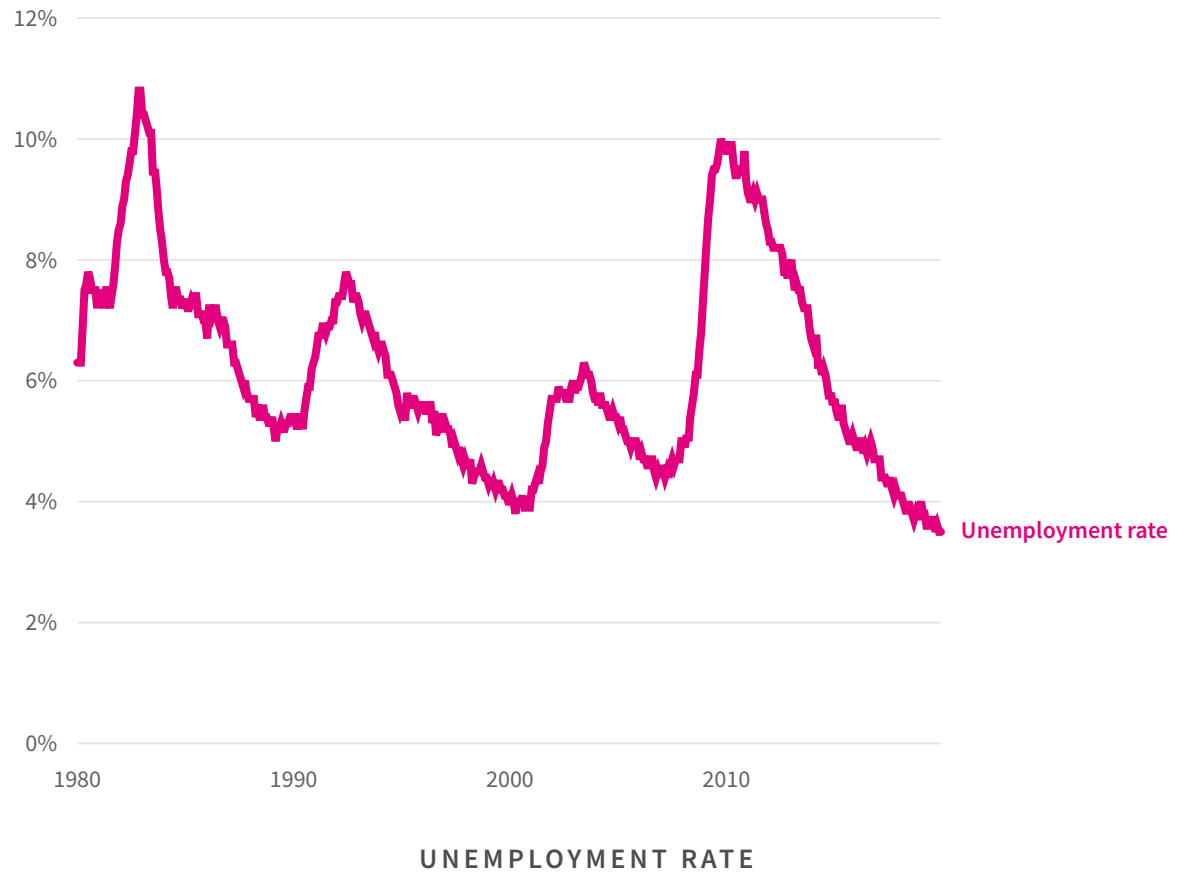
Source: [Bureau of Economic Analysis](#). [↗](#)

The S&P 500, Dow Jones, and NASDAQ stock indexes reached **all-time highs** in 2019.

Monthly unemployment reached a 50-year low of 3.5% in 2019.

However, the labor force participation rate (meaning employed or looking for jobs) is lower than before the recession.

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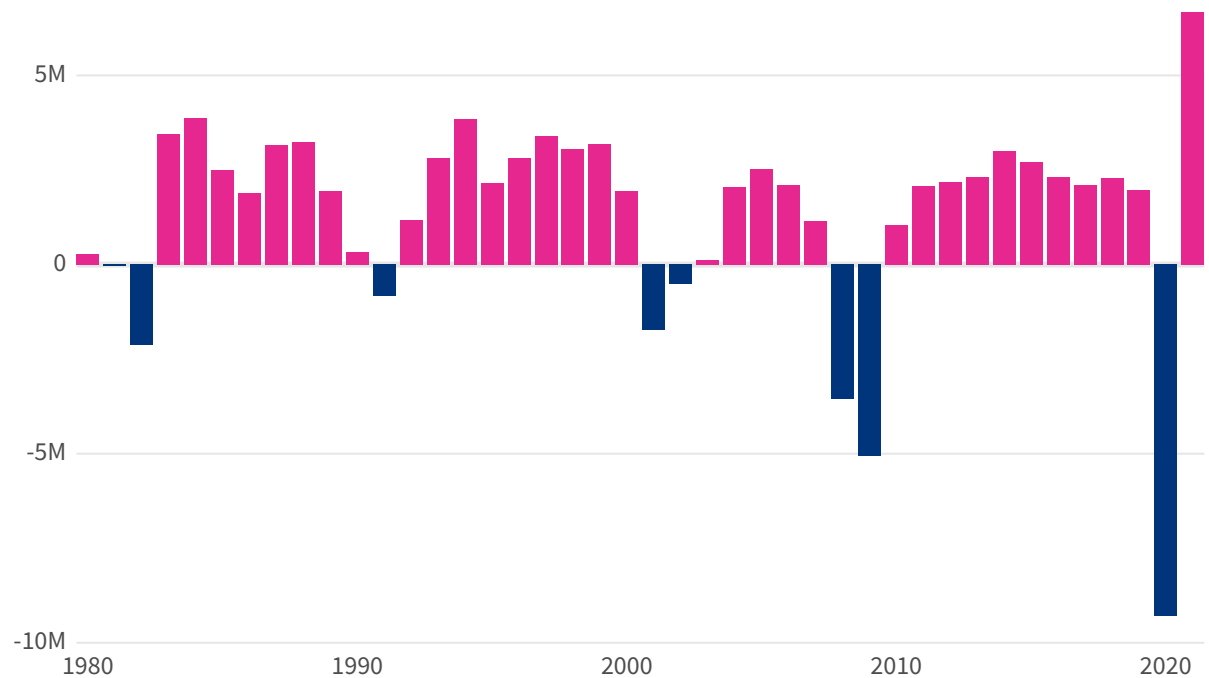
Sources: **Bureau of Labor Statistics.** [see more](#) ▼

The economy added 2.1 million jobs in 2019, a 1.4% increase from the total number of jobs at the end of 2018.

Healthcare generated 398,000 jobs — more than any other industry — while manufacturing created 46,000 jobs.

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Net change in employment



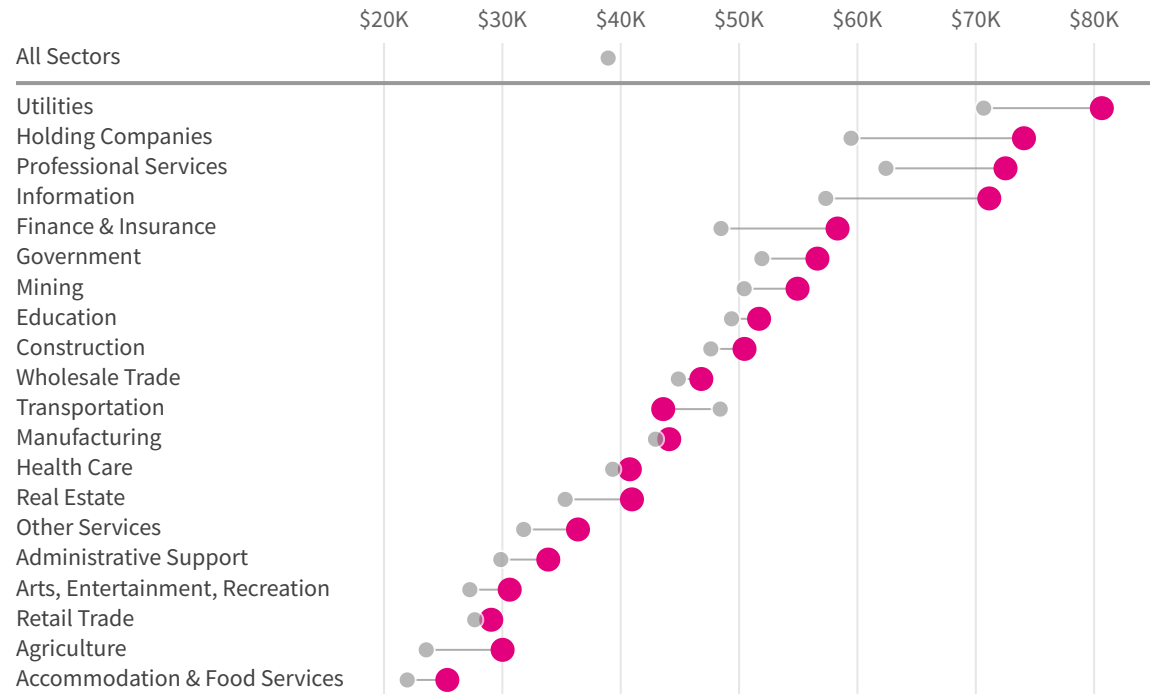
Source: [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#). [↗](#)

Footnotes: Data reflect December over December employment ch... [see more](#) [▼](#)

Median wages increased 0.1% (inflation adjusted) from 2017 to 2018.

They're up 1% since 2004, adjusting for inflation. Holding company wages increased 20% since 2004, whereas wages in retail and transportation decreased 4% and 11%, respectively.

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MEDIAN SECTOR WAGES 2004 ▼ VS 2020 ▼
Adjusted for inflation

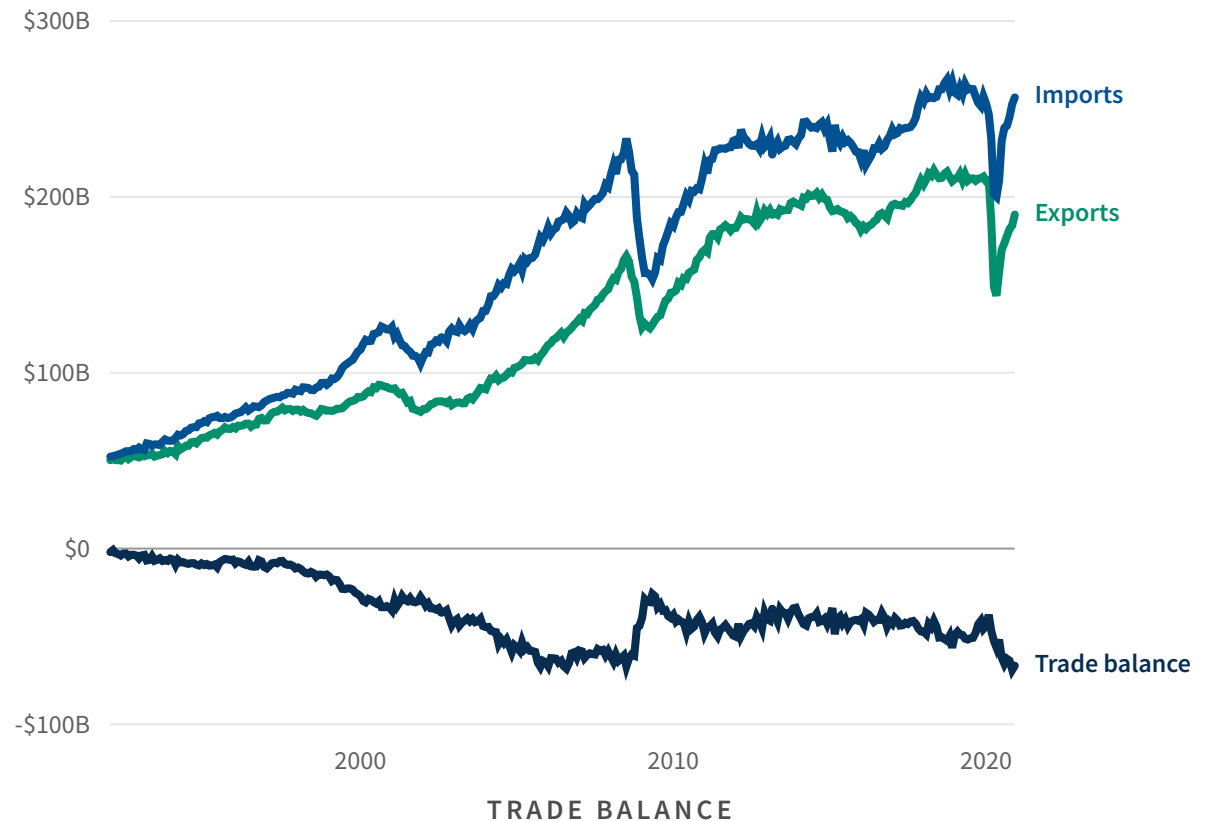
Sources: **Bureau of Labor Statistics.** [see more](#) ▼

Footnotes: Holding companies refers to the management of comp... [see more](#) ▼

From November 2018 to November 2019, we imported \$624 billion more in goods and services than we exported, a 1.1% increase from the previous 12 months.

Our trade deficit with China in the third quarter of 2019 was \$77 billion, a 20% decrease from the same time in 2018.

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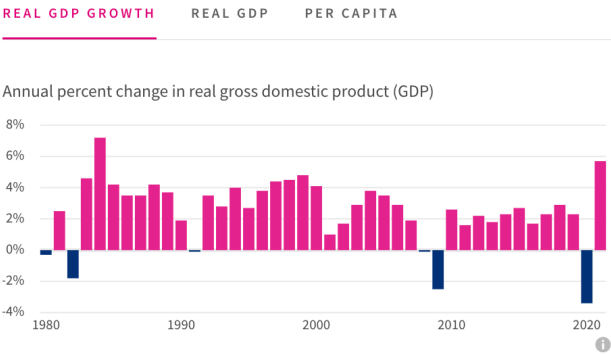


Sources: **Bureau of Economic Analysis.** [see more](#) ✓

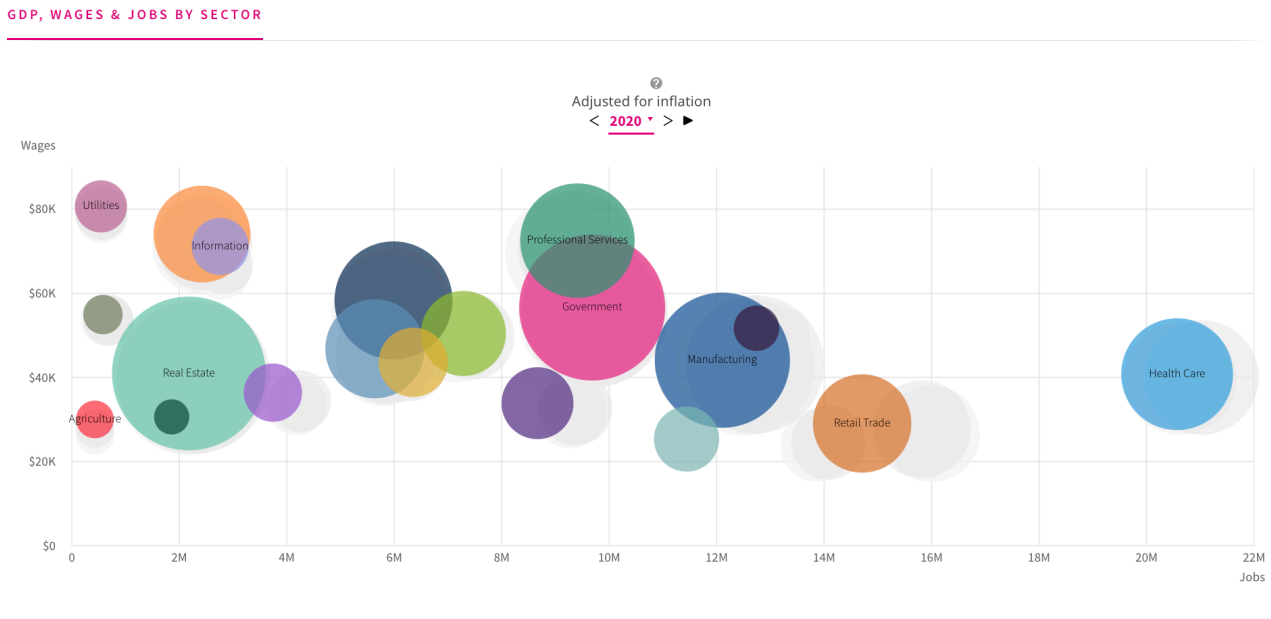
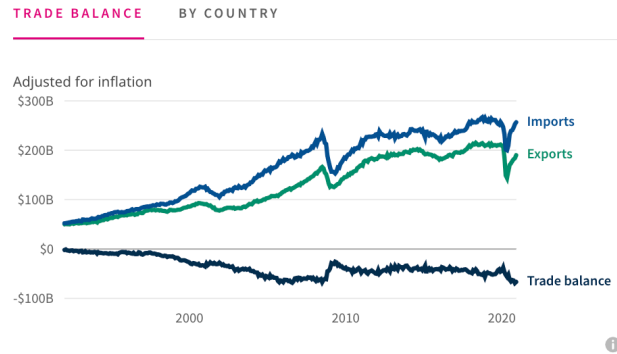
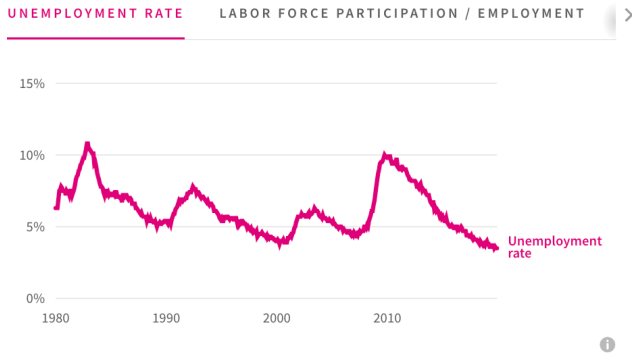
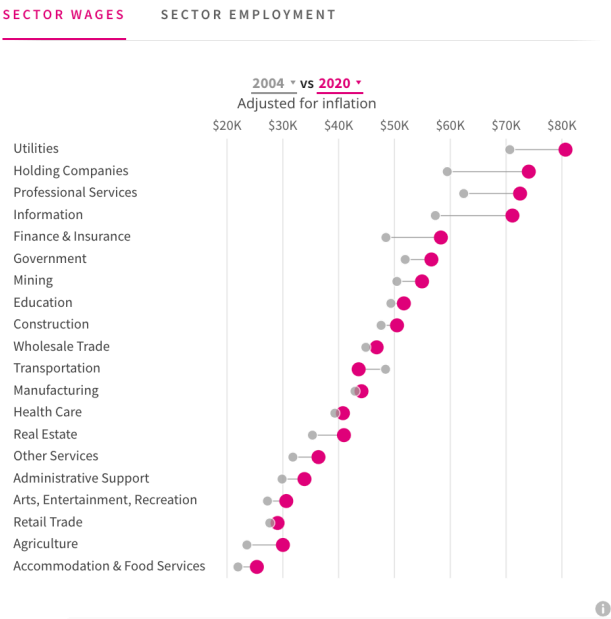
Footnotes: Data is for trade in goods and services and is sea... [see more](#) ✓

Explore the Economy Big Picture

[Share the Big Picture](#) [Full Screen](#)



Source: [Bureau of Economic Analysis](#).



POPULATION

How is the population changing and growing?

- In 2019, 328 million people lived in the United States. →
- Our population grew by 1.6 million from 2018 to 2019, with 38% of growth coming from immigration. →
- Our population is getting older. →
- A greater proportion of people are living alone than at any point since 1980. →
- There were 12% fewer children born in 2018 than in the recent 2007 peak. →
- The absolute number of non-Hispanic white people has been falling since 2017. →

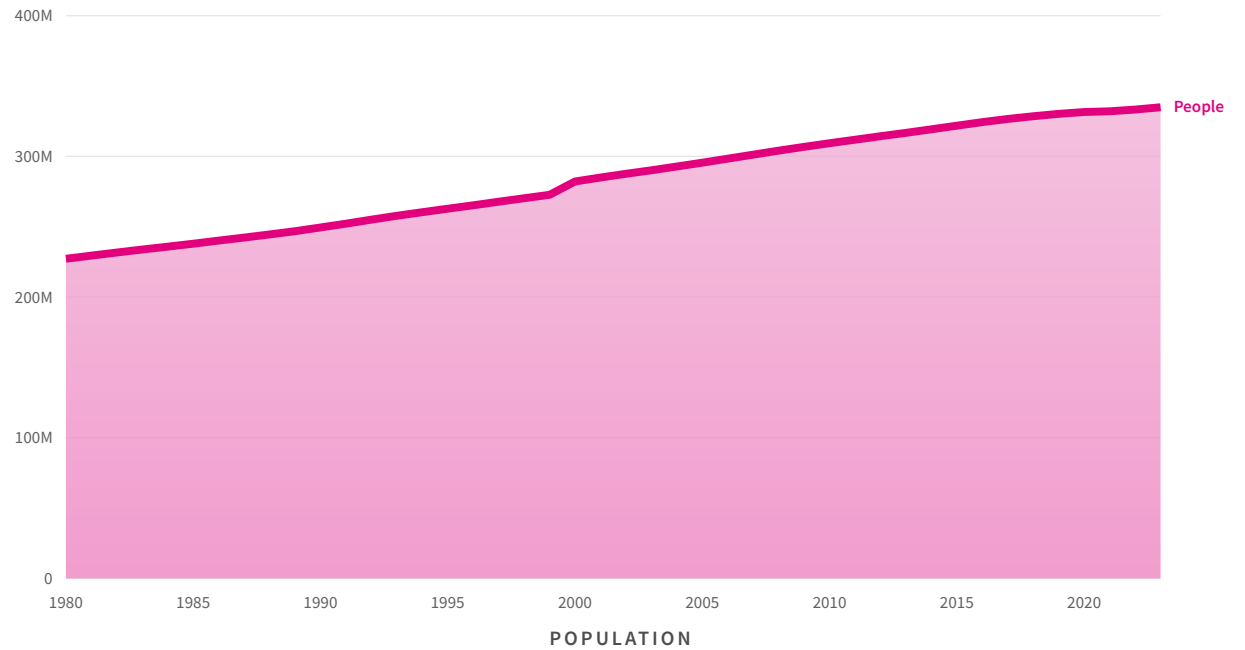


POPULATION

In 2019, 328 million people lived in the United States.

That's a 45% increase since 1980.

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Sources: **Census Bureau.** [see more](#) ▼

Footnotes: Population statistics are from official intercensa... [see more](#) ▼

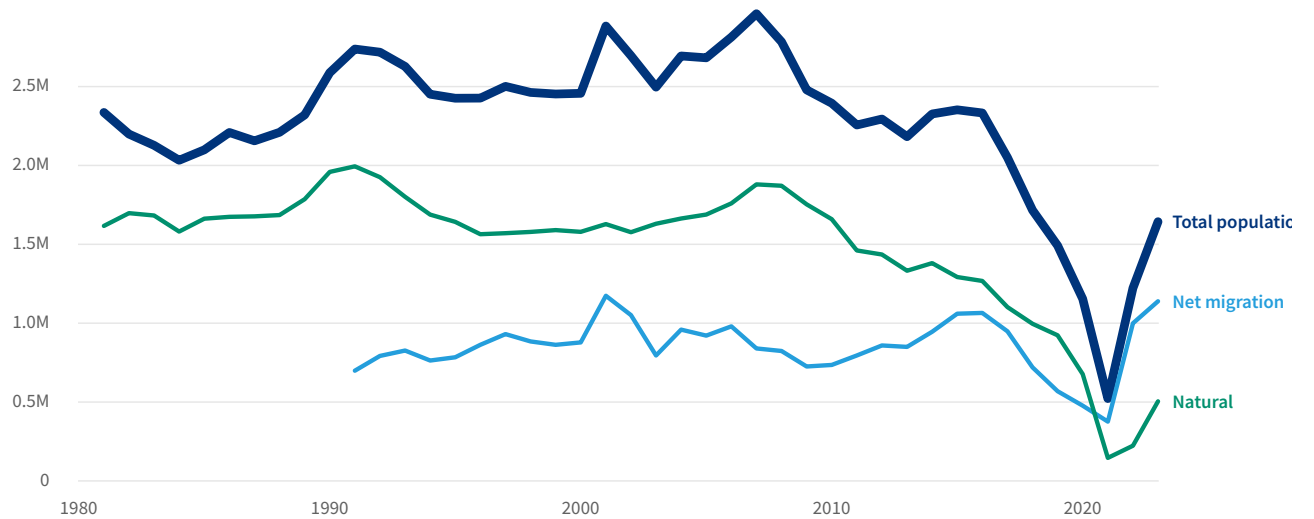
POPULATION

Our population grew by 1.6 million from 2018 to 2019, with 38% of growth coming from immigration.

This 0.5% annual population growth rate is the lowest since 1918.

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POPULATION GROWTH BY COMPONENT



Source: [Census Bureau](#).

Footnotes: 1. Population change shows the estimate of change ... [see more](#) ▼

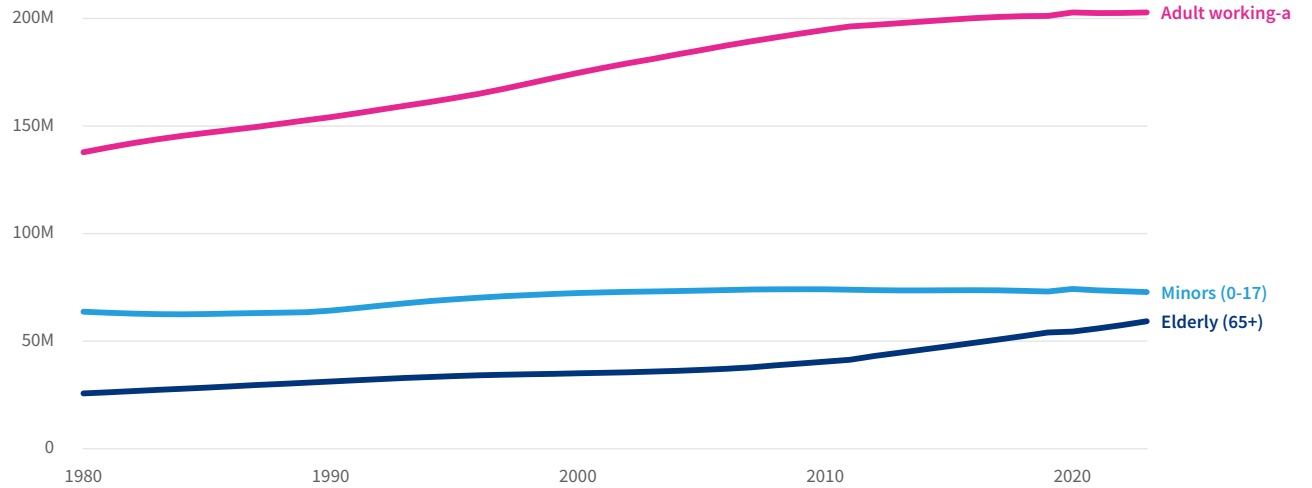
POPULATION

Our population is getting older.

Since 1980, people 65 and older have increased from 11% to 16% of the total.

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POPULATION BY AGE



Sources: **Census Bureau**, [see more](#) ▼

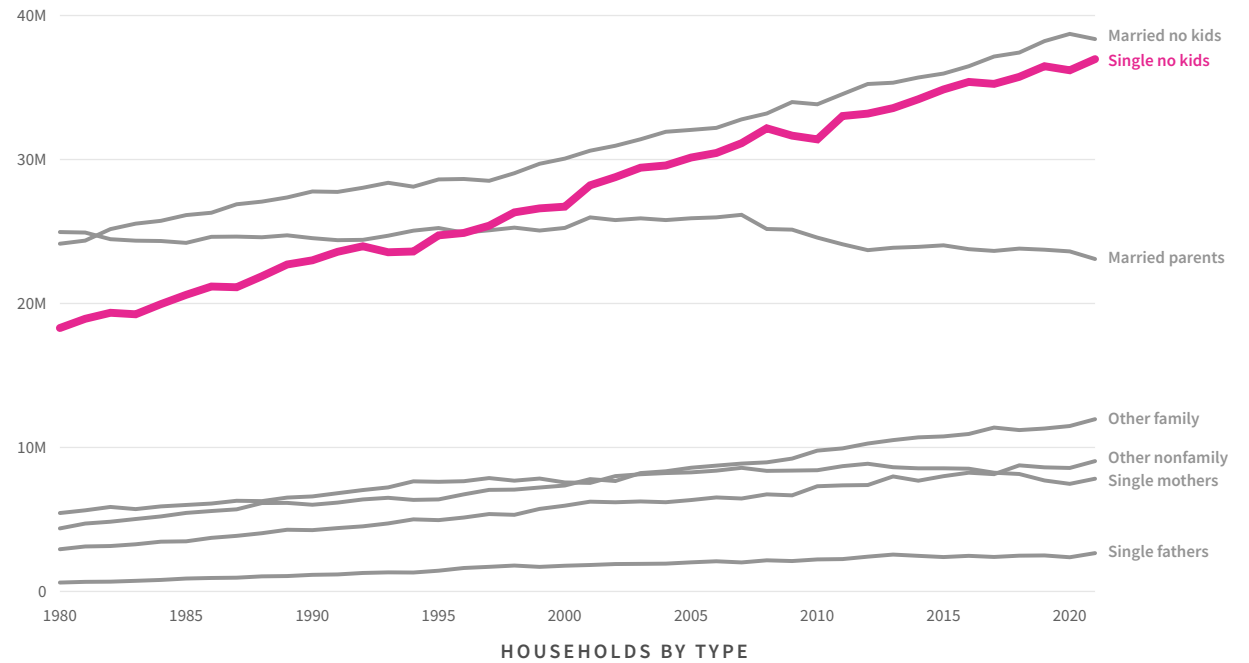
Footnotes: Population statistics are from official intercensa... [see more](#) ▼

POPULATION

A greater proportion of people are living alone than at any point since 1980.

Now, 11% of the total population lives alone, up from 8%.

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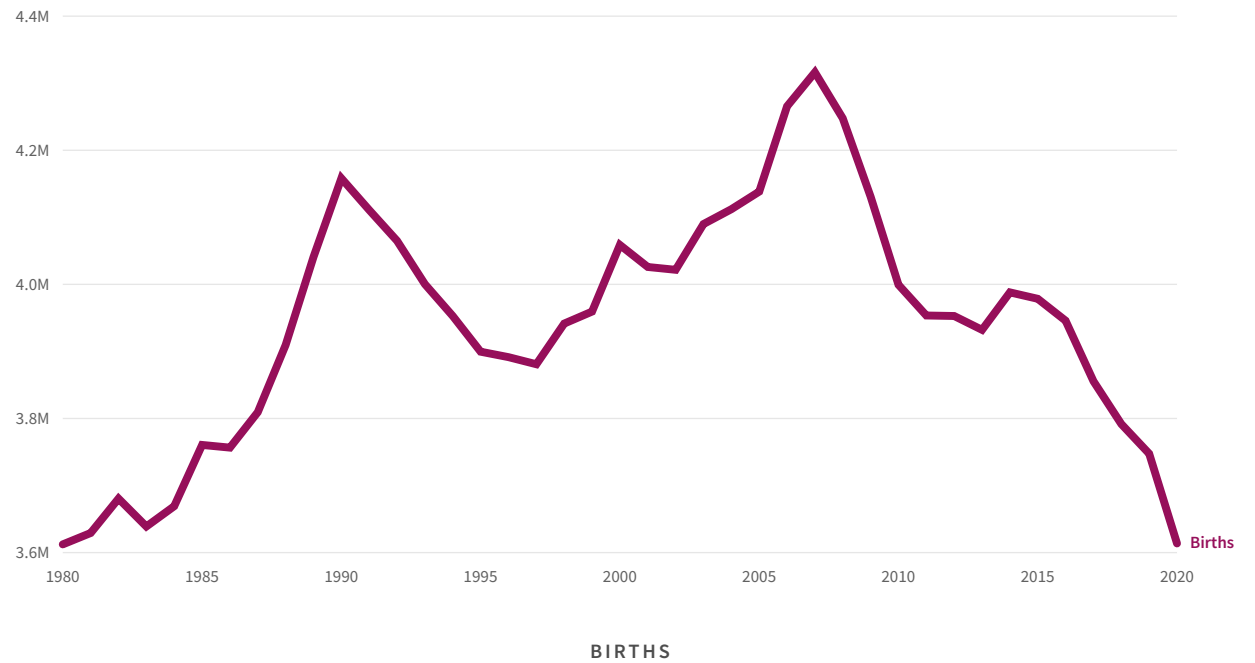
Sources: **Census Bureau**, [see more](#) ▼

POPULATION

There were 12% fewer children born in 2018 than in the recent 2007 peak.

In 2018, there were 59.1 births per 1,000 females aged 15–44, a record low.

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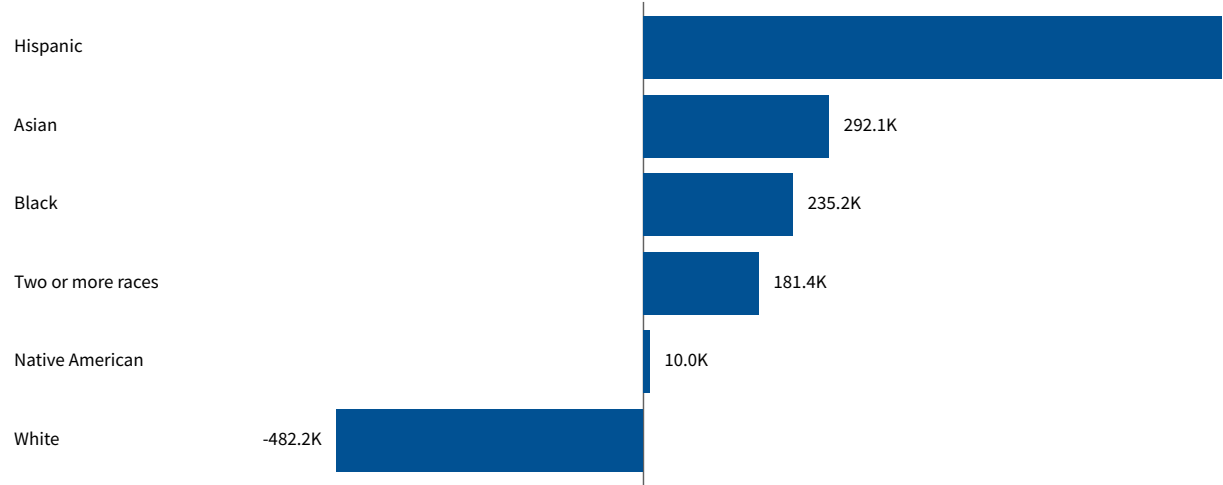


Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [see more](#) ✓

POPULATION

The absolute number of non-Hispanic white people has been falling since 2017.

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ANNUAL POPULATION CHANGE BY RACE 2020

Sources: Census Bureau. [see more](#)

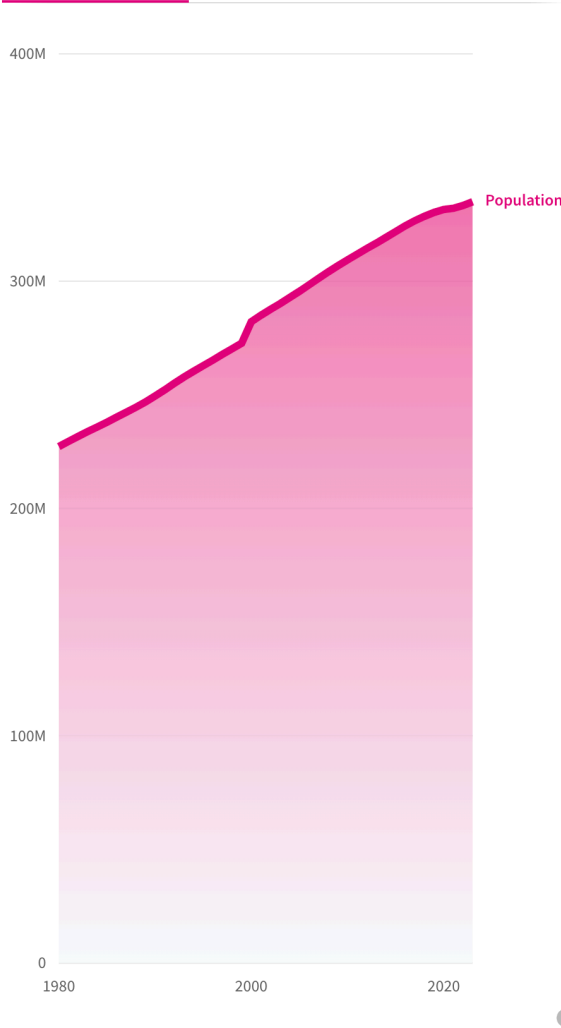
These demographic changes affect household income, employment, and other statistics presented in this report.

Explore The Population Big Picture

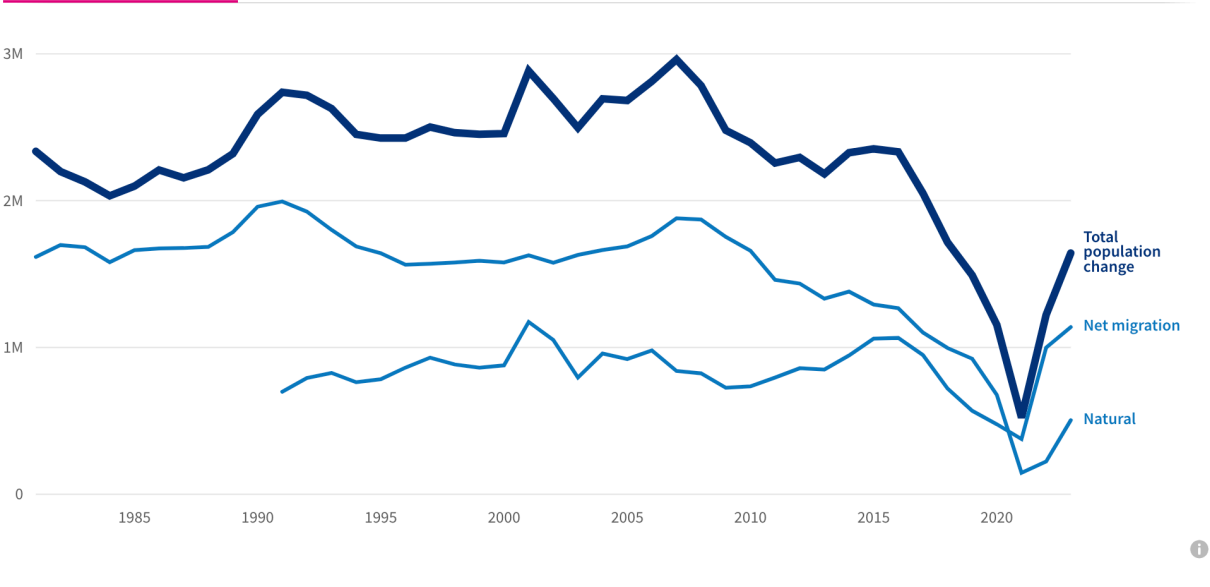
[Share the Big Picture](#)

[Exit Full Screen](#)

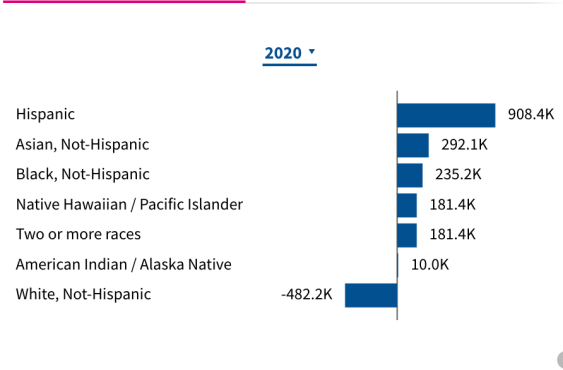
TOTAL POPULATION BY AGE



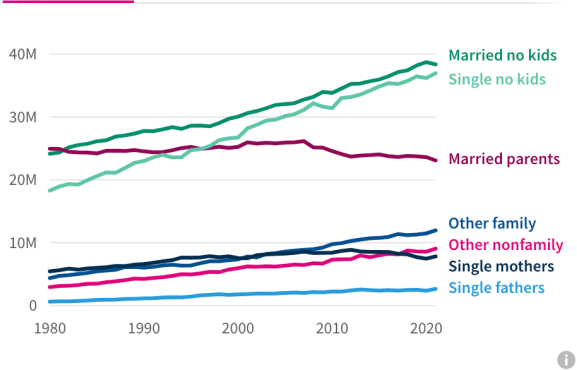
GROWTH BY COMPONENT FERTILITY RATE BIRTHS



ANNUAL CHANGE BY RACE RACE COMPOSITION (%)



FAMILY TYPES



BUDGET

How much does the government spend and where does the money go?

- The federal government collected \$3.5 trillion in revenue in 2019, or \$10,548 per person. →
- The federal government spent \$4.4 trillion in 2019, or \$13,547 per person. →
- Federal revenue grew 2% (inflation adjusted) in 2019. →
- Federal spending grew 6% (inflation adjusted) in 2019. →
- We spent 28% more than we collected in revenue, creating a \$984 billion deficit. →



BUDGET

The federal government collected \$3.5 trillion in revenue in 2019, or \$10,548 per person.

Ninety-two percent came from individual income, payroll, and corporate income taxes.

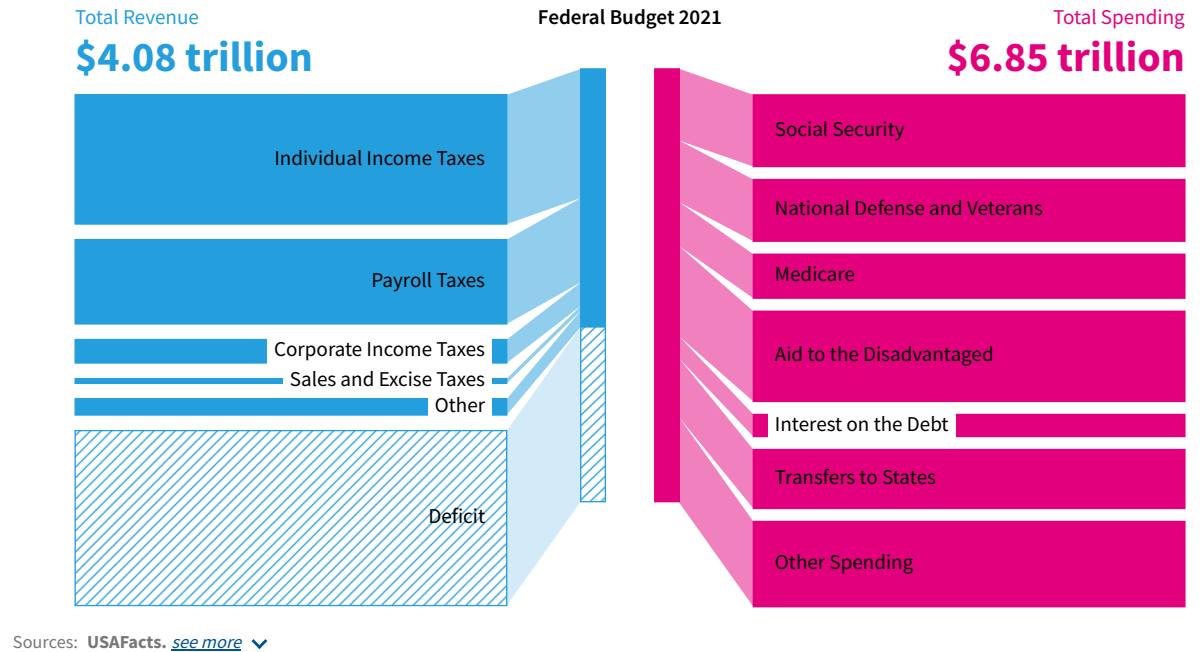
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BUDGET

The federal government spent \$4.4 trillion in 2019, or \$13,547 per person.

Medicare, Social Security, defense and veterans, debt interest, and assistance programs including food stamps and Medicaid accounted for 86% of spending. This includes funding distributed to states.

f t in e p <> d csv



Since 2000, state and local governments have accounted for an average of **46%** of total government spending. A quarter of that spending is with funds transferred from the federal government.

BUDGET

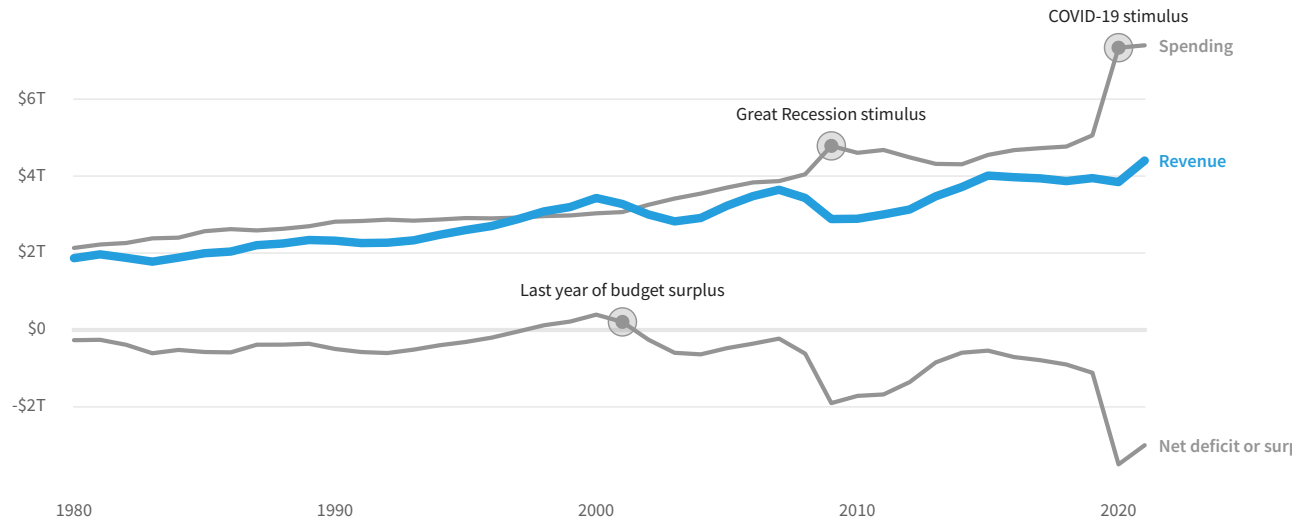
Federal revenue grew 2% (inflation adjusted) in 2019.

This is the first increase since 2015 and is equivalent to 16% of GDP (lower than the 17% annual average since 1980).

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FINANCES

Adjusted for inflation



Source: [USAFacts aggregation of data from Office of Manage...](#)

BUDGET

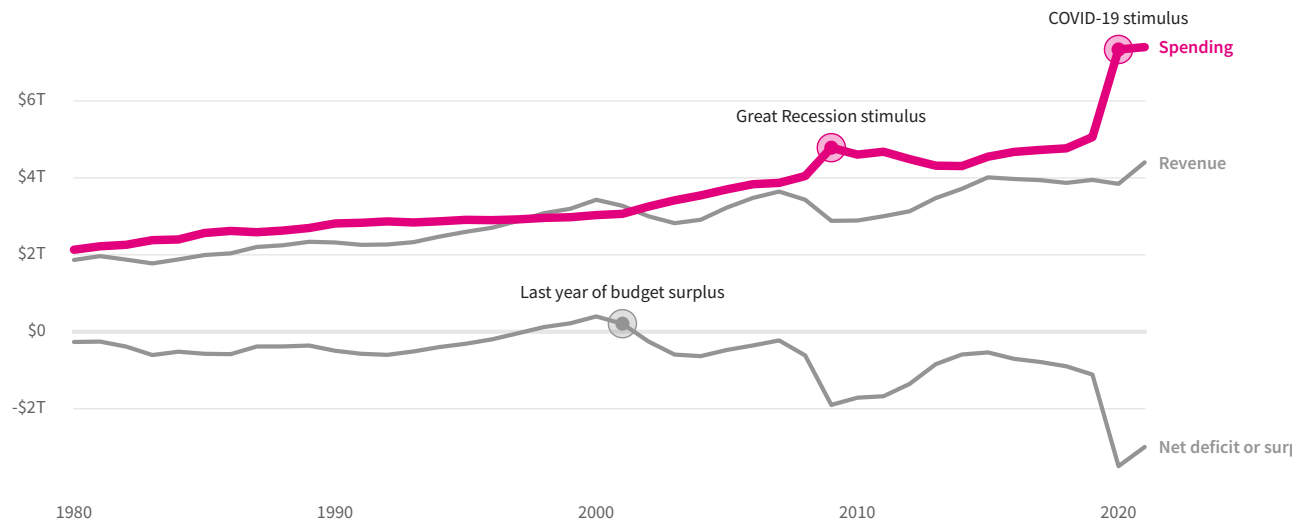
Federal spending grew 6% (inflation adjusted) in 2019.

This is the largest spending increase outside of recession years in the last two decades and is equivalent to 21% of GDP (higher than the 20% annual average since 1980).

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FINANCES

Adjusted for inflation



Source: [USAFacts aggregation of data from Office of Manage...](#)

BUDGET

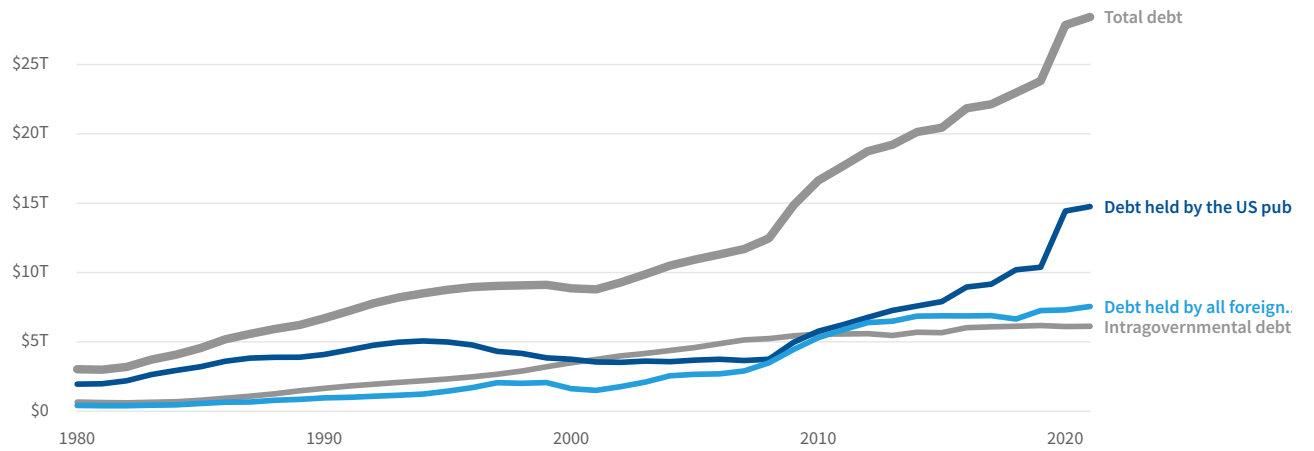
We spent 28% more than we collected in revenue, creating a \$984 billion deficit.

The federal debt grew to \$22.7 trillion, \$16.8 trillion of which is owed to the public.

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UNITED STATES FEDERAL DEBT

Adjusted for inflation



Source: [Department of the Treasury](#). [↗](#)

Footnotes: Debt owed to the public is debt sold in credit mar... [see more](#) [▼](#)

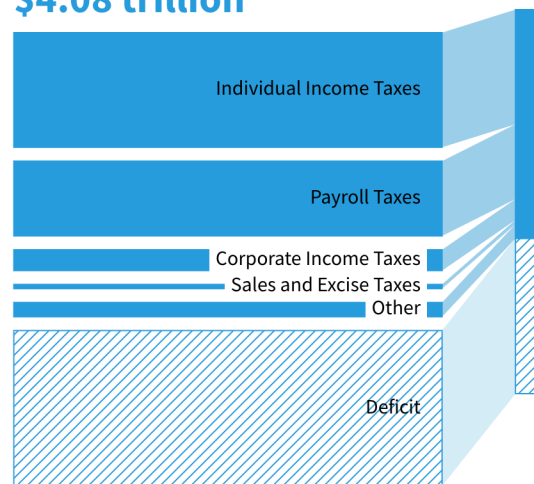
Explore the Budget Big Picture

[Share the Big Picture](#)

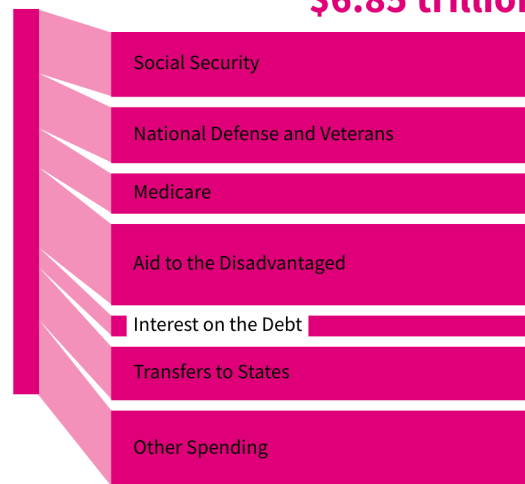
[Exit Full Screen](#)

FEDERAL BUDGET 2020

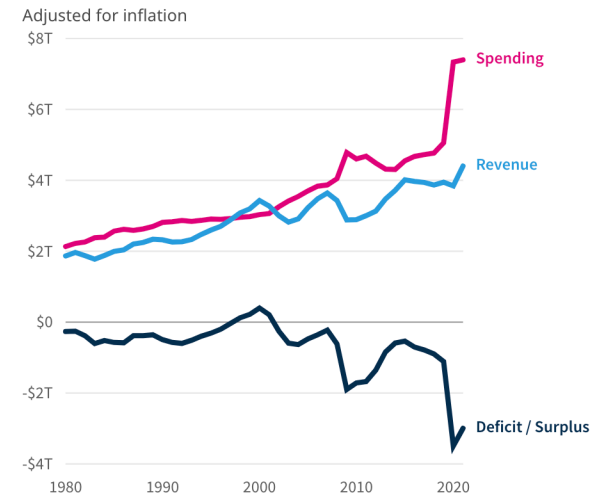
Total Revenue
\$4.08 trillion



Total Spending
\$6.85 trillion

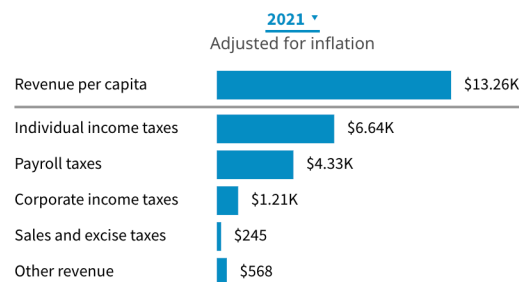


BUDGET DEFICIT/SURPLUS



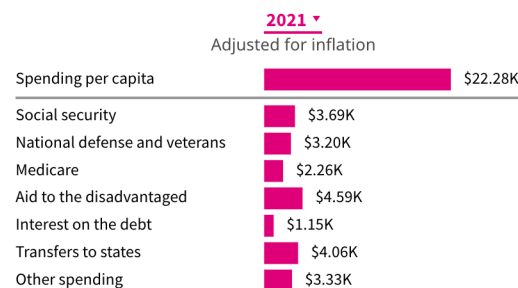
REVENUE PER CAPITA

PER CAPITA GROWTH

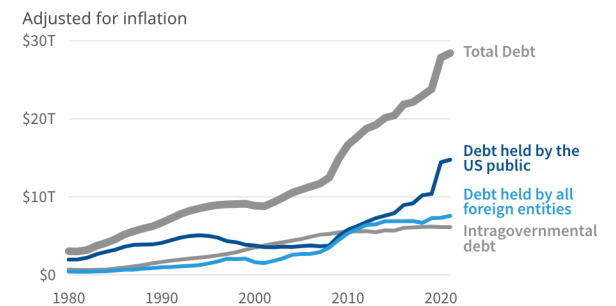


SPENDING PER CAPITA

PER CAPITA GROWTH



DEBT BY FOREIGN ENTITY



STANDARD OF LIVING

How has the standard of living for Americans changed? How does the government help the disadvantaged?

- Middle-class families (the middle 20% of income earners) average \$49,000 in market income from sources including wages, investments, and retirement. →
- Middle-class families receive an average \$19,000 in government assistance from programs like Medicare, Social Security, and food stamps. →
- On average, middle-class families pay \$15,000 in combined federal, state, and local taxes. →
- Middle-class families collectively own 7% of all wealth. →
- The poverty rate decreased from 15% in 2010 to 11.8% in 2018. →



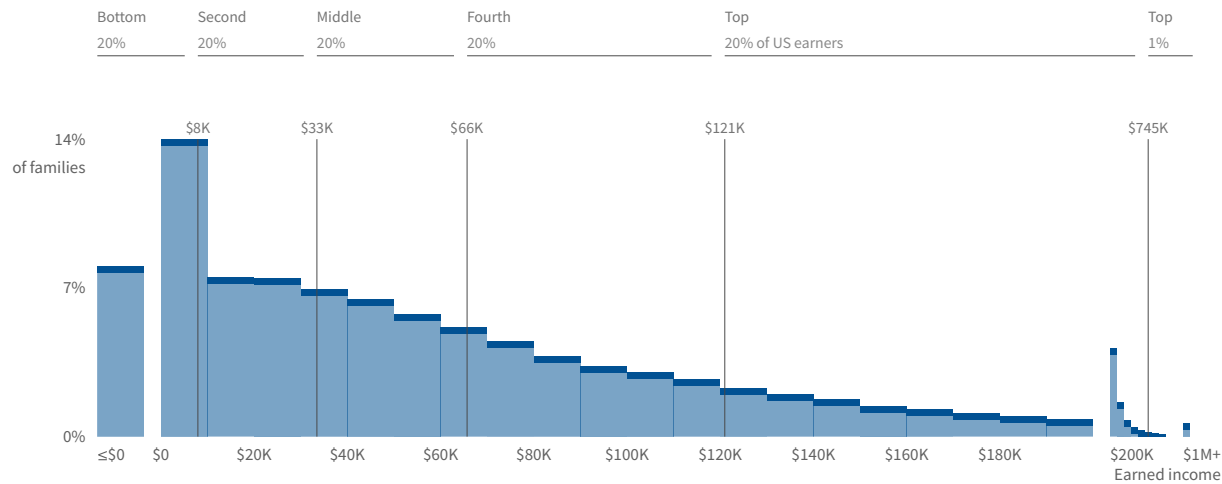
STANDARD OF LIVING

Middle-class families (the middle 20% of income earners) average \$49,000 in market income from sources including wages, investments, and retirement.

That's \$4,000 less than in 2000 (adjusted for inflation) — with a greater proportion coming from retirement savings like pensions and 401(K)s.



US income distribution 2017 ?



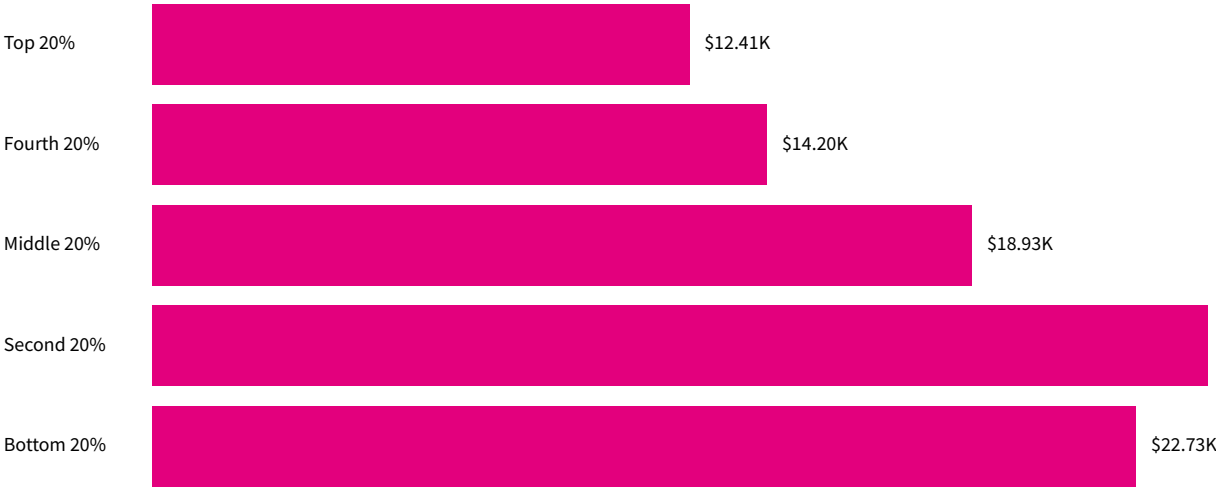
Sources: USAFacts calculations using data from the Internal Revenue Service and the US Census Bureau . [see more](#) ▼

Footnotes: Market income is equivalent to total income minu... [see more](#) ▼

Middle-class families receive an average \$19,000 in government assistance from programs like Medicare, Social Security, and food stamps.

That's \$7,000 more than in 2000 (adjusted for inflation) — with a greater proportion coming in the form of healthcare and tax credits.

f t in e p <> d csv



GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE BY INCOME QUINTILE 2017

Sources: USAFacts calculations using data from the Internal Revenue Service and the US Census Bureau . [see more](#)

Footnotes: We exclude individuals with negative incomes from ... [see more](#)

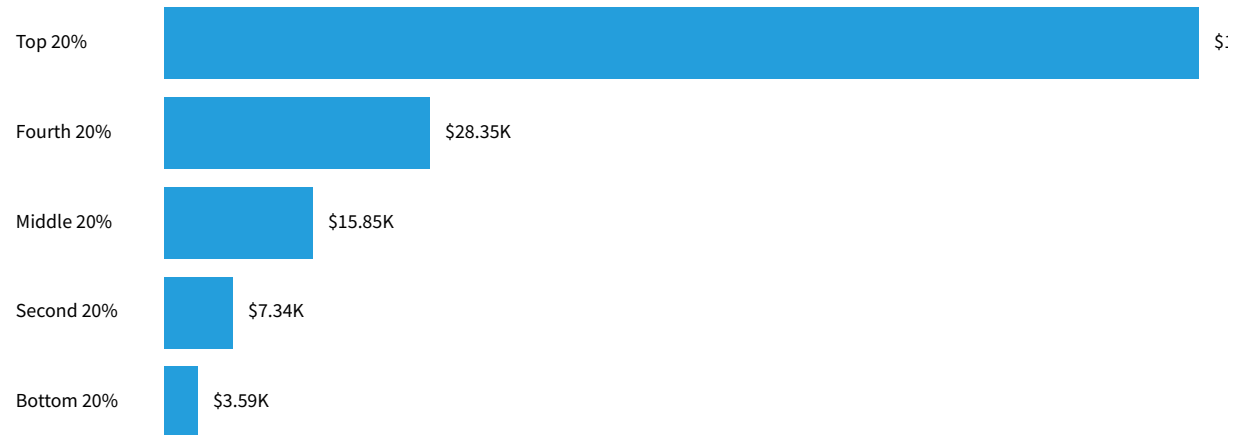
In 2017, families making a minimum of \$33,000 were in the middle class.
This is \$5,000 less than the lowest middle-class income in 2000.

STANDARD OF LIVING

On average, middle-class families pay \$15,000 in combined federal, state, and local taxes.

That's \$2,000 less than in 2000 (adjusted for inflation).

[f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [✉](#) [🖨](#) [↔](#) [↓](#) [CSV](#)



TAXES BY INCOME QUINTILE [2017](#) ▼

Sources: **USAFacts** calculations using data from the Internal Revenue Service and the US Census Bureau . [see more](#) ▼

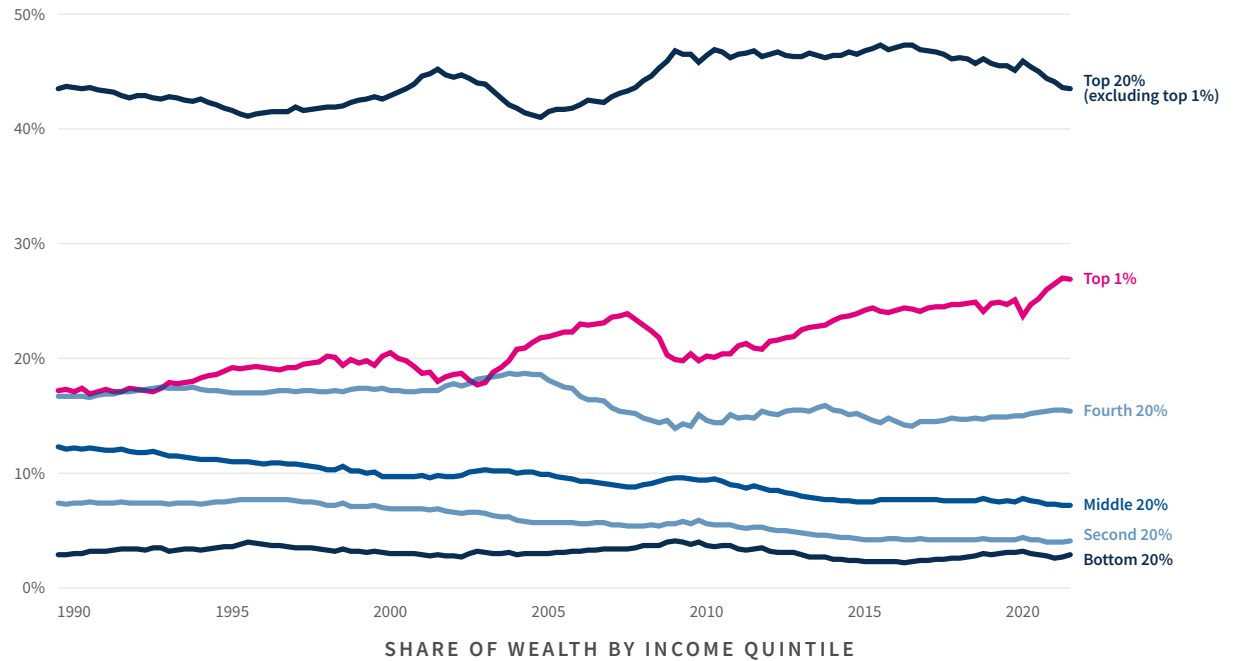
Footnotes: We exclude individuals with negative incomes from ... [see more](#) ▼

STANDARD OF LIVING

Middle-class families collectively own 7% of all wealth.

In 1989, the middle class owned 12%.

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Sources: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. [see more](#) v

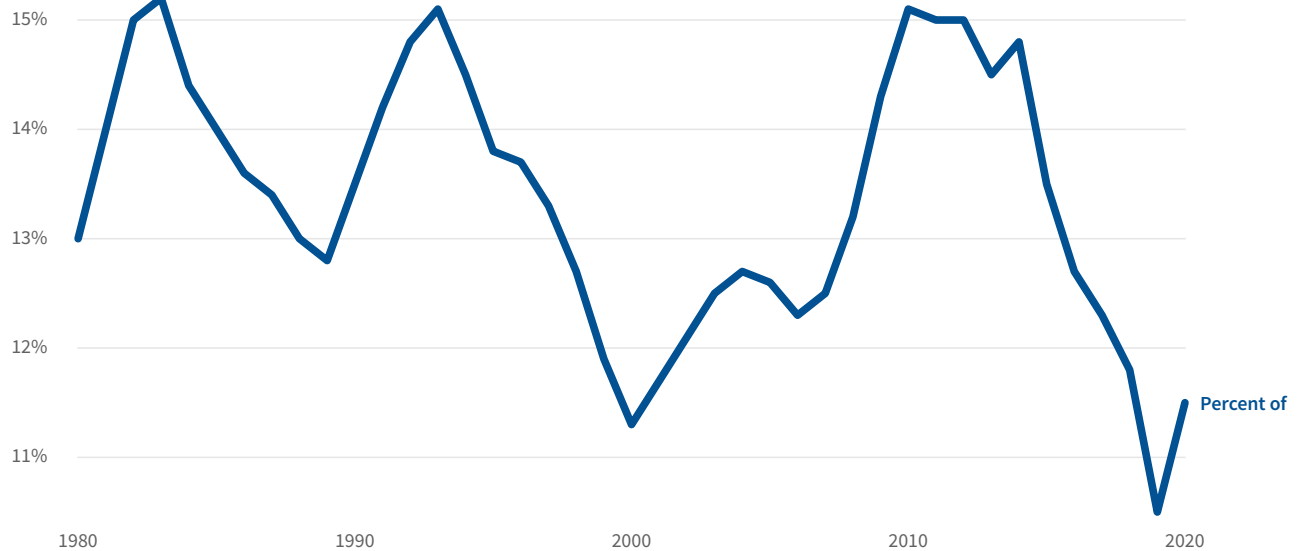
STANDARD OF LIVING

The poverty rate decreased from 15% in 2010 to 11.8% in 2018.

The rate fell from 27.4% to 20.8% for Black people and 26.5% to 17.6% for Hispanic people.

f t in e p <> d csv

POVERTY RATE



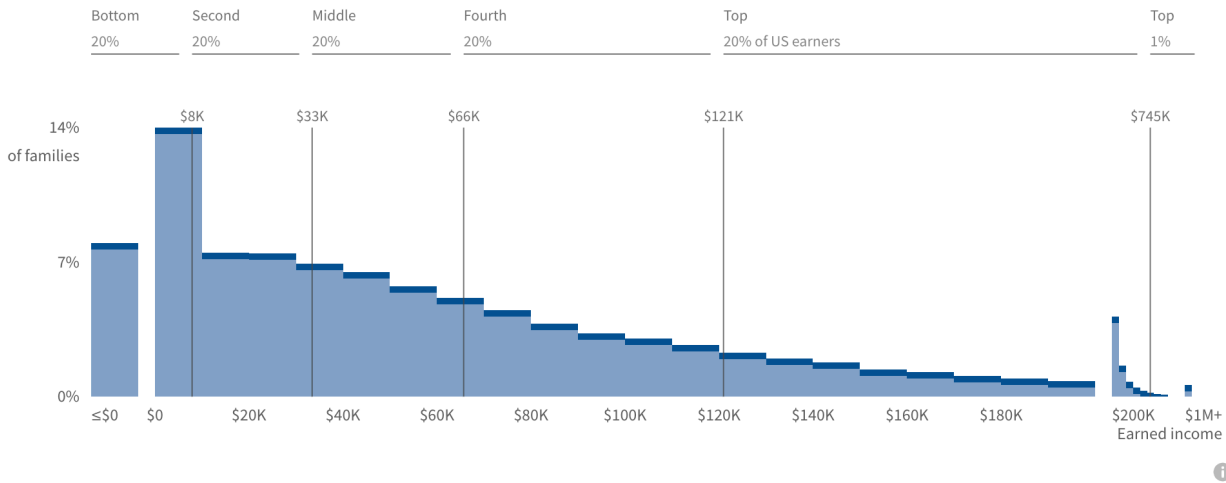
Explore the Standard of Living Big Picture

[Share the Big Picture](#)

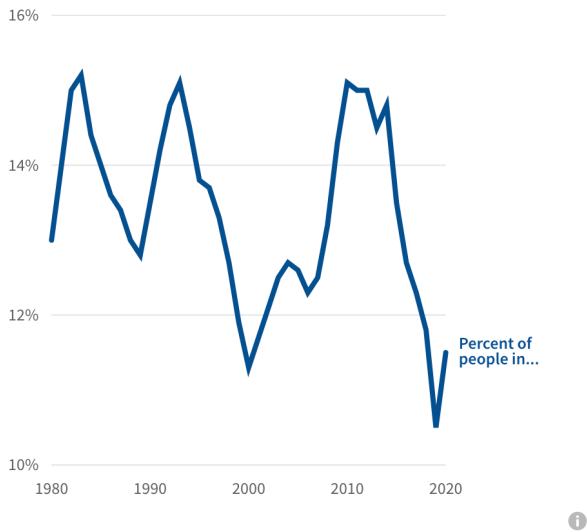
[Exit Full Screen](#)

INCOME DISTRIBUTION WEALTH

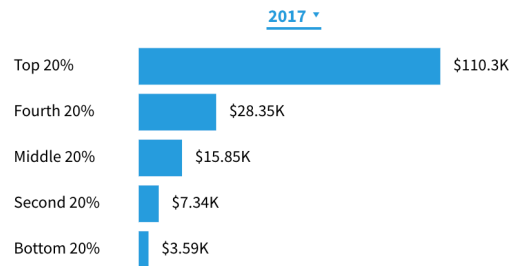
US income distribution 2017 ?



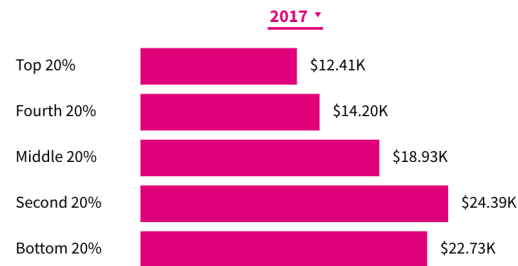
POVERTY RATE POVERTY RATE BY RACE POVERTY RATE



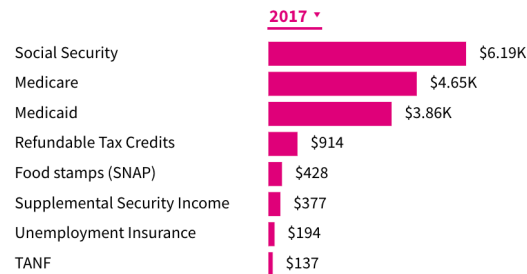
AVERAGE TAXES AS % OF TOTAL INCOME



AVERAGE ASSISTANCE AS % OF TOTAL INCOME



ASSISTANCE BY PROGRAM FAMILIES RECEIVING ASSISTANCE



EDUCATION

How well is the government educating our population, and what is the cost?

[Explore more on education in the US](#)

- Since 2000, spending per public school student increased 22% to \$12,000, adjusting for inflation. →
- Two-thirds of 8th graders are not proficient in math and reading. →
- Two out of three high school graduates attend college. →
- College tuition averaged \$23,835 in 2016, nearly double the cost in 1993, adjusting for inflation. →
- People with a bachelor's degree earn 64% more than those with just a high school diploma. →
- More than a third of the adult population has a bachelor's degree or higher. →



EDUCATION

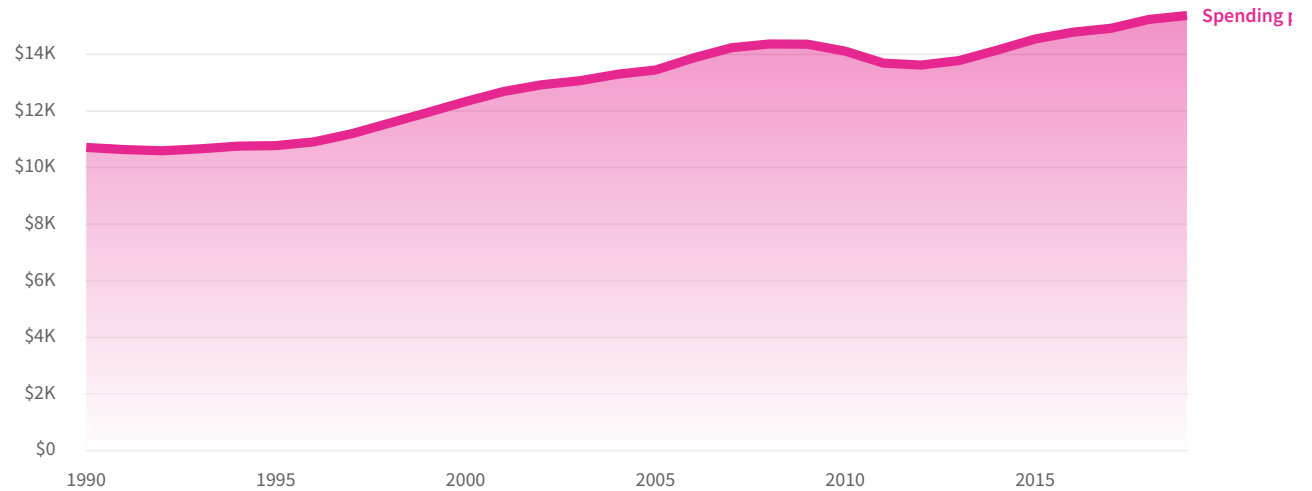
Since 2000, spending per public school student increased 22% to \$12,000, adjusting for inflation.

State and local governments direct 99.7% of K-12 spending.

[f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [✉](#) [🖨](#) [↔](#) [↓](#) [CSV](#)

SPENDING PER K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT

Adjusted for inflation



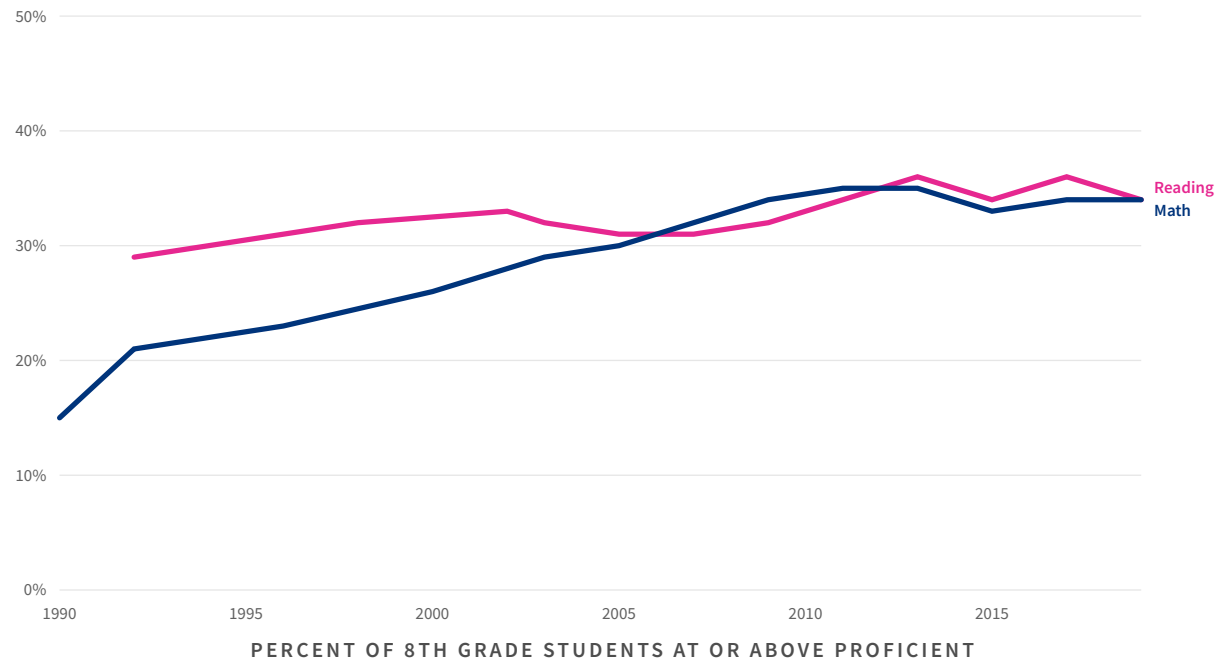
Sources: **National Center for Education Statistics.** [see more](#) ▼

Footnotes: Data are measured in academic years. For example, ... [see more](#) ▼

Two-thirds of 8th graders are not proficient in math and reading.

Nearly four out of five Black and Hispanic 8th graders are not proficient in these areas.

f t in e p <> d csv



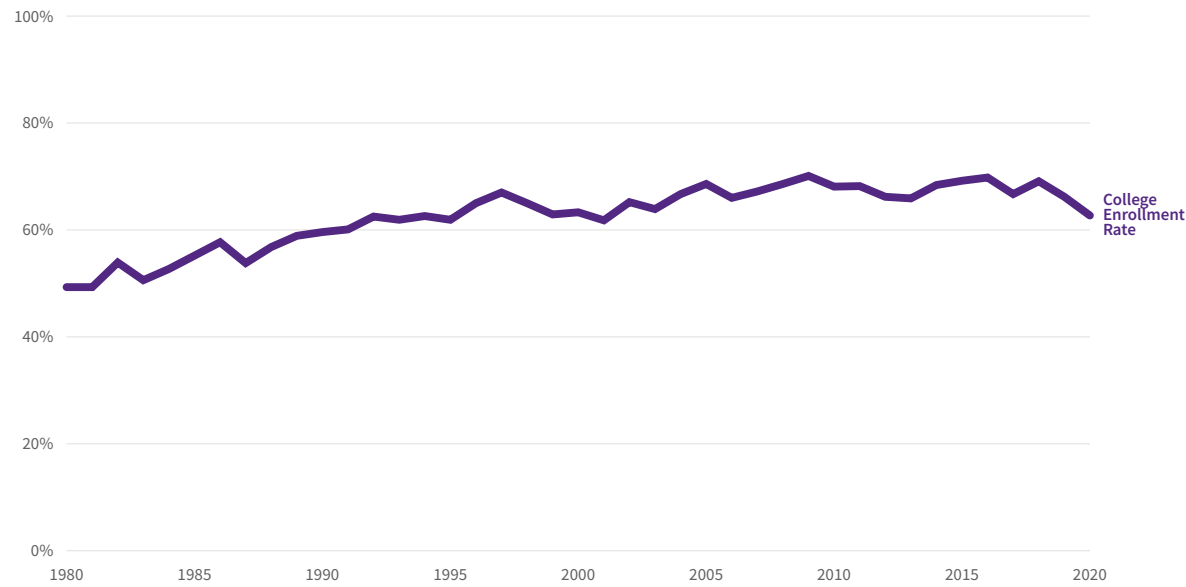
Sources: National Center for Education Statistics. [see more](#) v

Footnotes: Represents students scoring at proficient or above... [see more](#) v

Two out of three high school graduates attend college.

Sixty percent of students at four-year colleges graduate within six years, and 32% of students at two-year colleges graduate within four years.

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COLLEGE ENROLLMENT RATE OF RECENT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Sources: National Center for Education Statistics. [see more](#) ▼

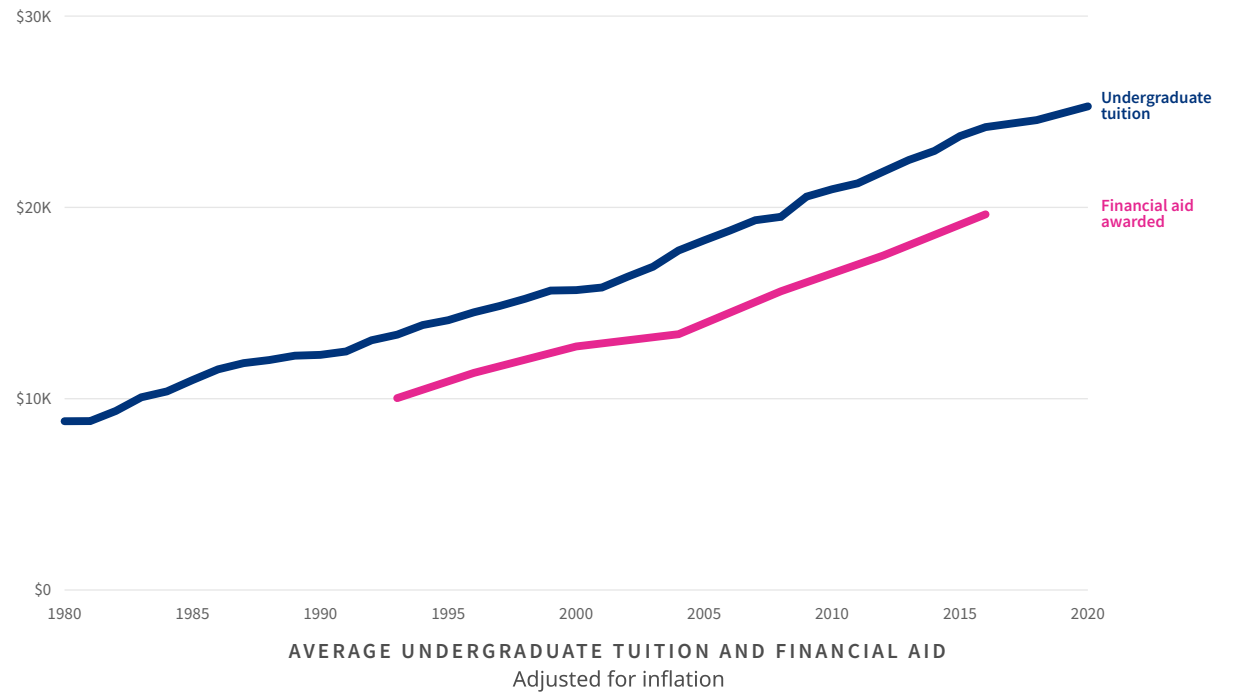
Footnotes: Data represents enrollment in college as of Octobe... [see more](#) ▼

EDUCATION

College tuition averaged \$23,835 in 2016, nearly double the cost in 1993, adjusting for inflation.

Government and institutions awarded students an average of \$11,810 in grant aid in 2016, also almost twice the 1993 average, adjusting for inflation.

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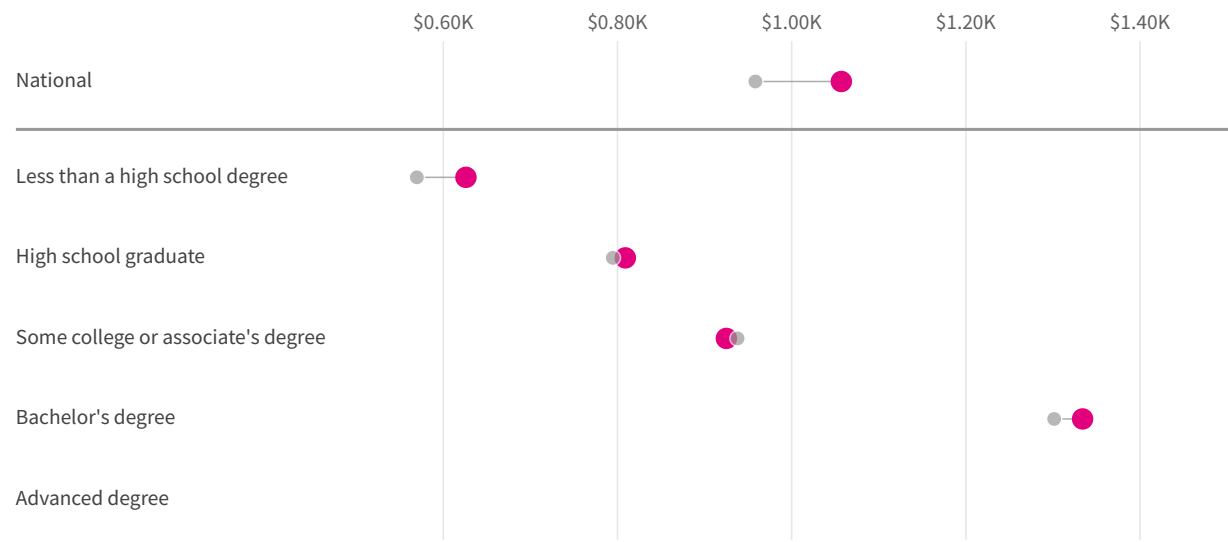


Sources: **National Center for Education Statistics; Department of Education.** [see more](#) ▼

Footnotes: Per the National Center for Education Statistics, ... [see more](#) ▼

People with a bachelor’s degree
earn 64% more than those with just
a high school diploma.

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MEDIAN WEEKLY EARNINGS BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT FOR POPULATION 25 AND OLDER 2000 VS 2021
Adjusted for inflation

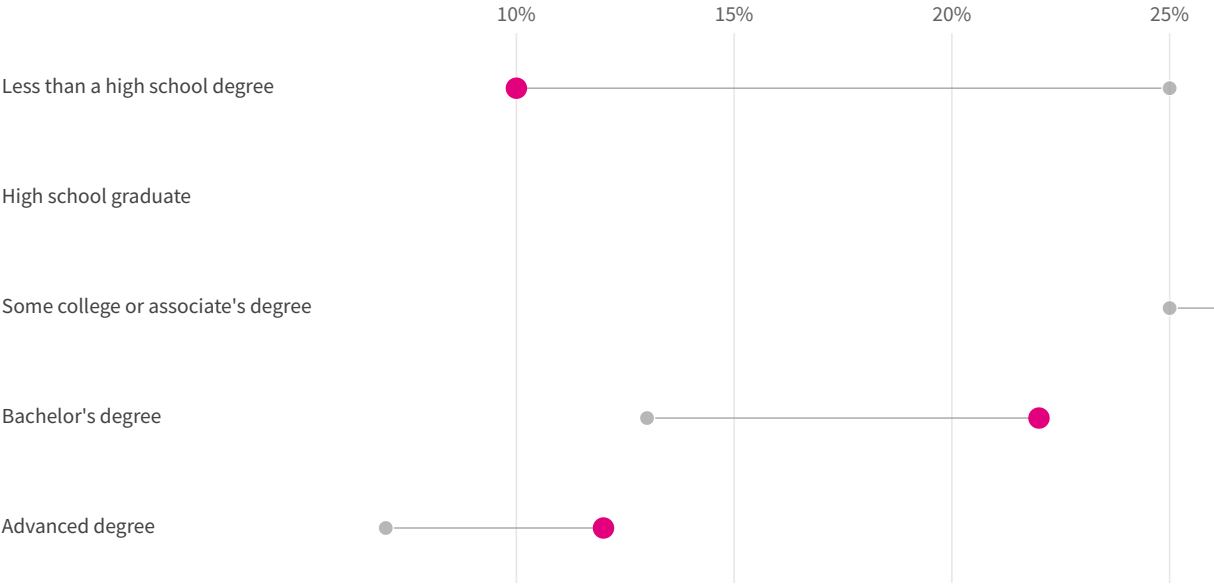
Sources: US Bureau of Labor Statistics. [see more](#) ✓

Footnotes: Median weekly earnings are for full-time wage and ... [see more](#) ✓

More than a third of the adult population has a bachelor’s degree or higher.

That is 72% higher than in 1990.

f t in e p <> d CSV



EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AGE 25+ 1990 VS 2020

Sources: Census Bureau. [see more](#)

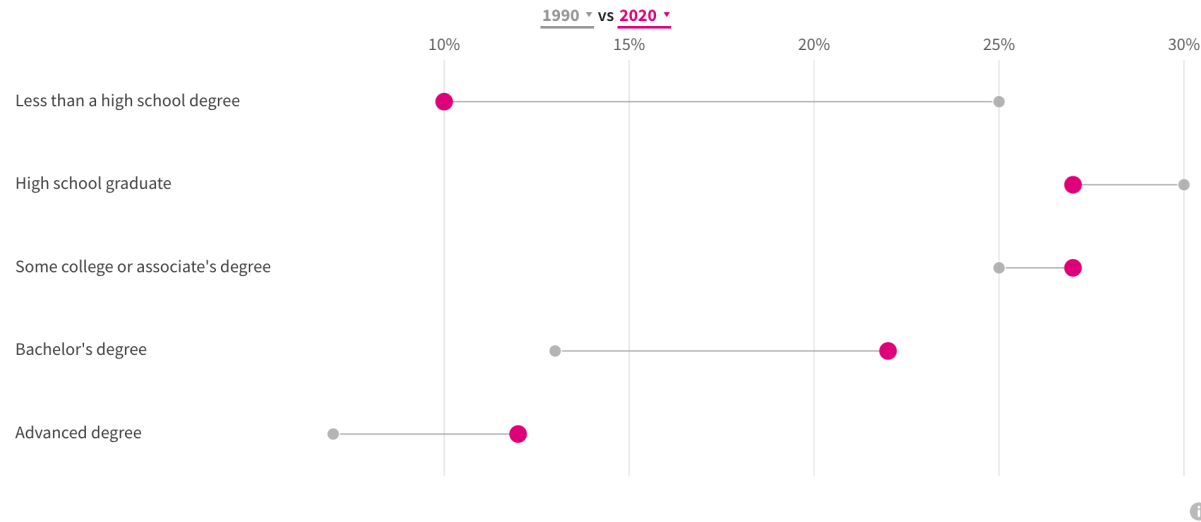
Explore the Education Big Picture

[Share the Big Picture](#)[Exit Full Screen](#)

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AGE 25+

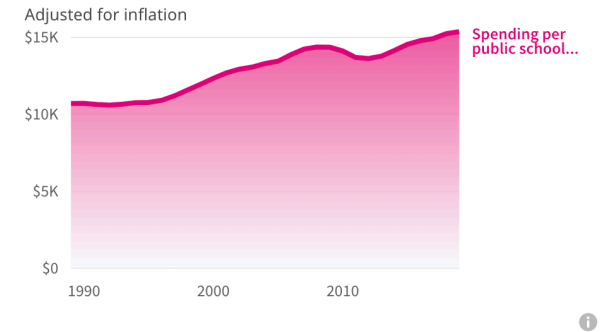
WEEKLY EARNINGS

POPULATION WITH BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR ABOVE BY STATE (%) >



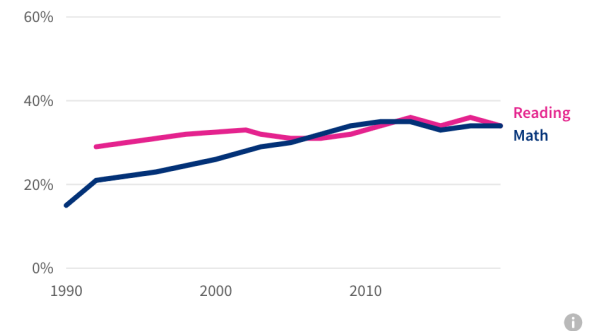
SPENDING PER STUDENT

STUDENT TO TEACHER RATIO

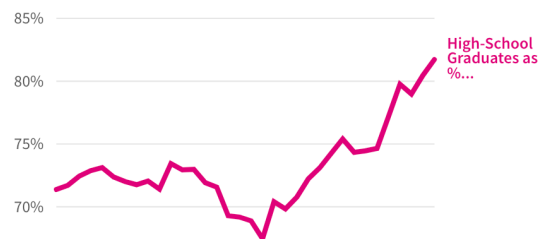


GRADE 8 MATH AND READING PROFICIENCY

GRADE 8 MATH



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES AS % OF 17-YEAR OLD POPULATION >



COLLEGE ENROLLMENT RATE

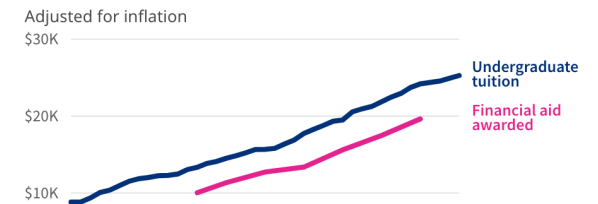
GRADUATION RATE

GRAD >



COLLEGE TUITION AND FINANCIAL AID

FINANCIAL AID BY



CRIME

Is our criminal justice system working, and are we safer?

- Reported property and violent crime rates are falling, and are down more than 50% since their 1991 peaks. →
- Arrests are decreasing. →
- The number of prisoners is falling, and is down 8% from a peak in 2009. →
- Firearm deaths increased 18% from 2014 to 2017, accounting for 1.5% of all deaths. →
- Active shooter events are increasing but make up a small proportion of gun deaths. →



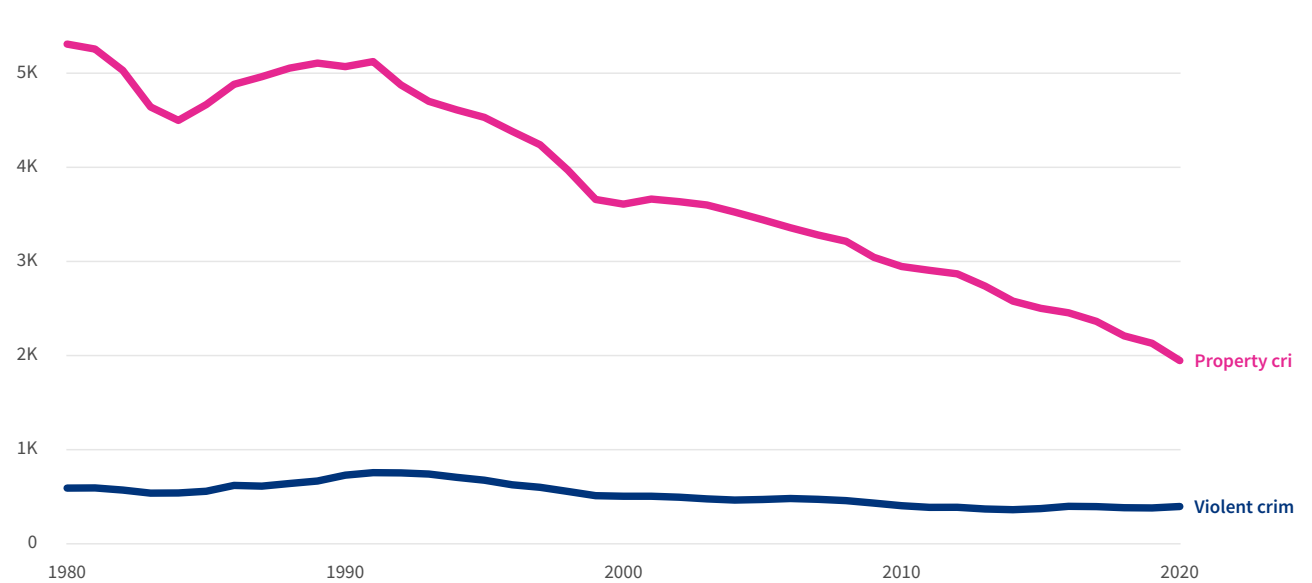
CRIME

Crime rates per 100,000 people

Reported property and violent crime rates are falling, and are down more than 50% since their 1991 peaks.

Violent crime rates reached a 20-year low in 2014 and remain near that low today.

f t in e p <> ↓ csv



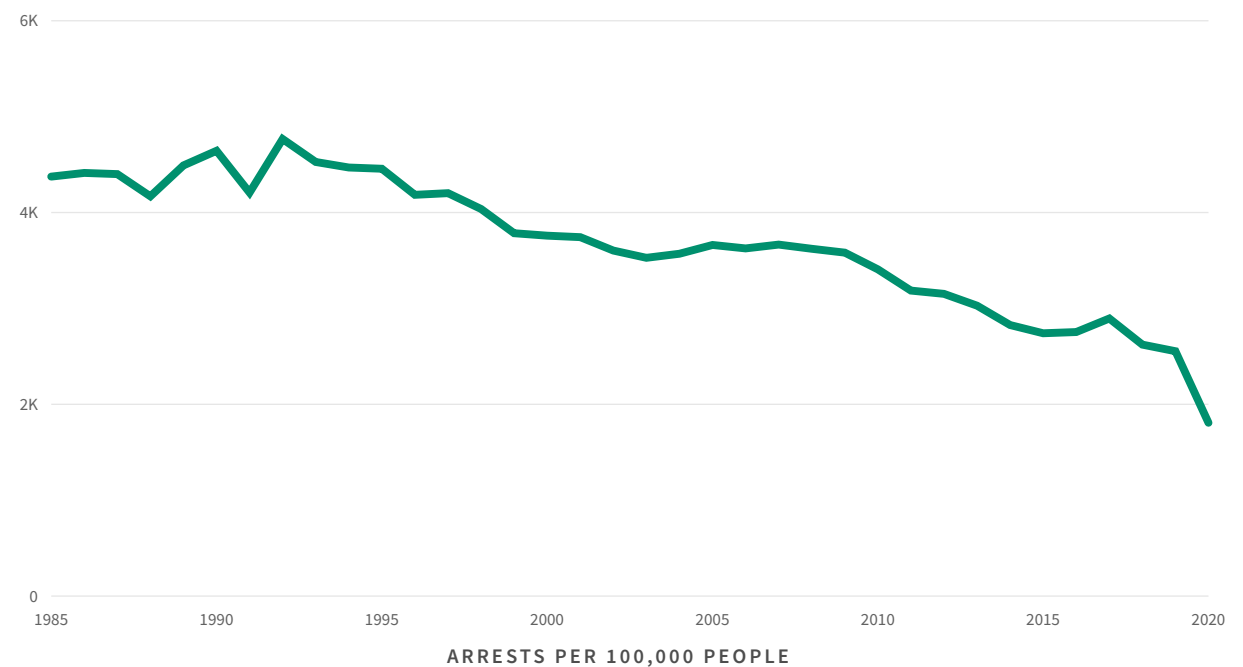
Sources: Federal Bureau of Investigation; . [see more](#) ✓

CRIME

Arrests are decreasing.

Drug abuse arrests are rising and now outnumber property crime arrests.

f t in e p <> ↓ csv



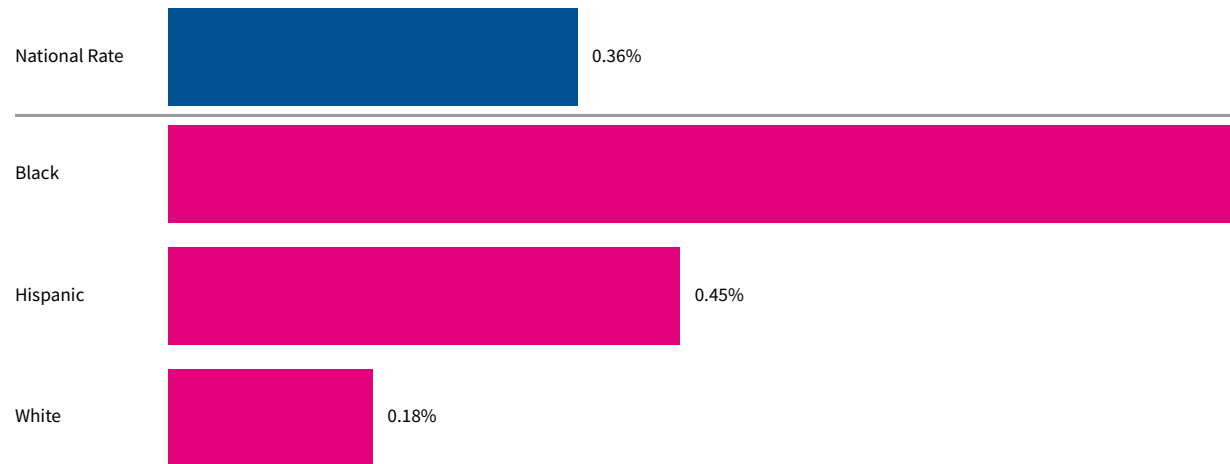
Sources: Federal Bureau of Investigation. [see more](#) ✓

CRIME

The number of prisoners is falling, and is down 8% from a peak in 2009.

Black and Hispanic people make up 55% of the prison population but 30% of the overall population. However, a smaller percentage of Black and Hispanic people are incarcerated than in 2000.

f t in e p <> ↓ csv



INCARCERATION RATE 2020 ▼

Sources: Bureau of Justice Statistics. [see more](#) ▼

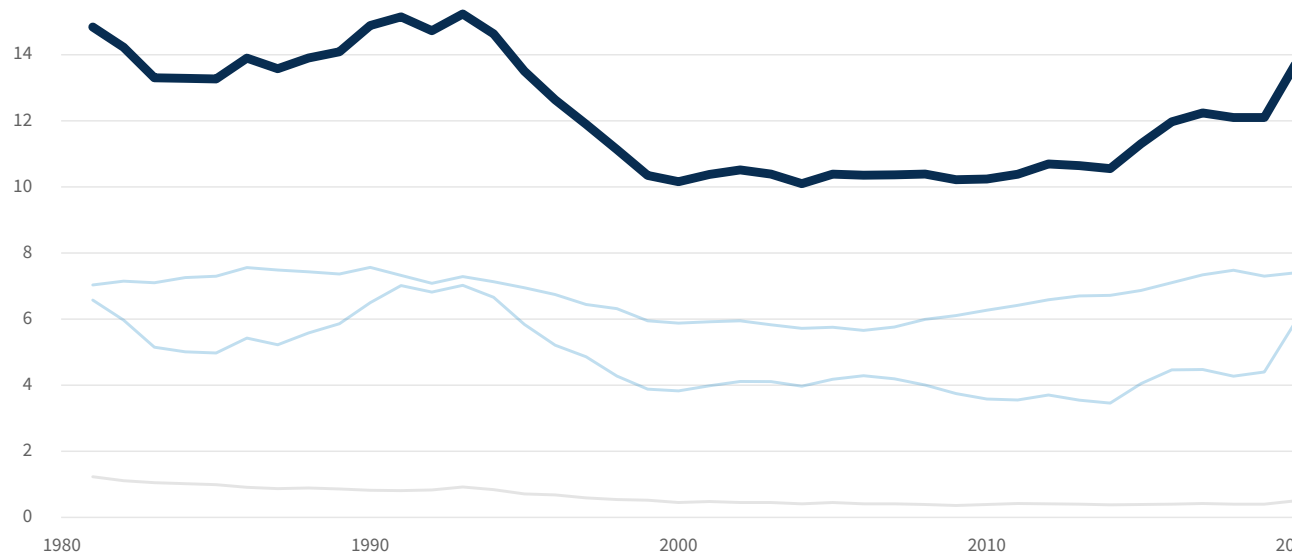
CRIME

Firearm deaths increased 18% from 2014 to 2017, accounting for 1.5% of all deaths.

There were nearly 40,000 firearm deaths in 2017, more of which were suicides than homicides.

f t in e p <> ↓ csv

FIREARM DEATHS PER 100,000 PEOPLE



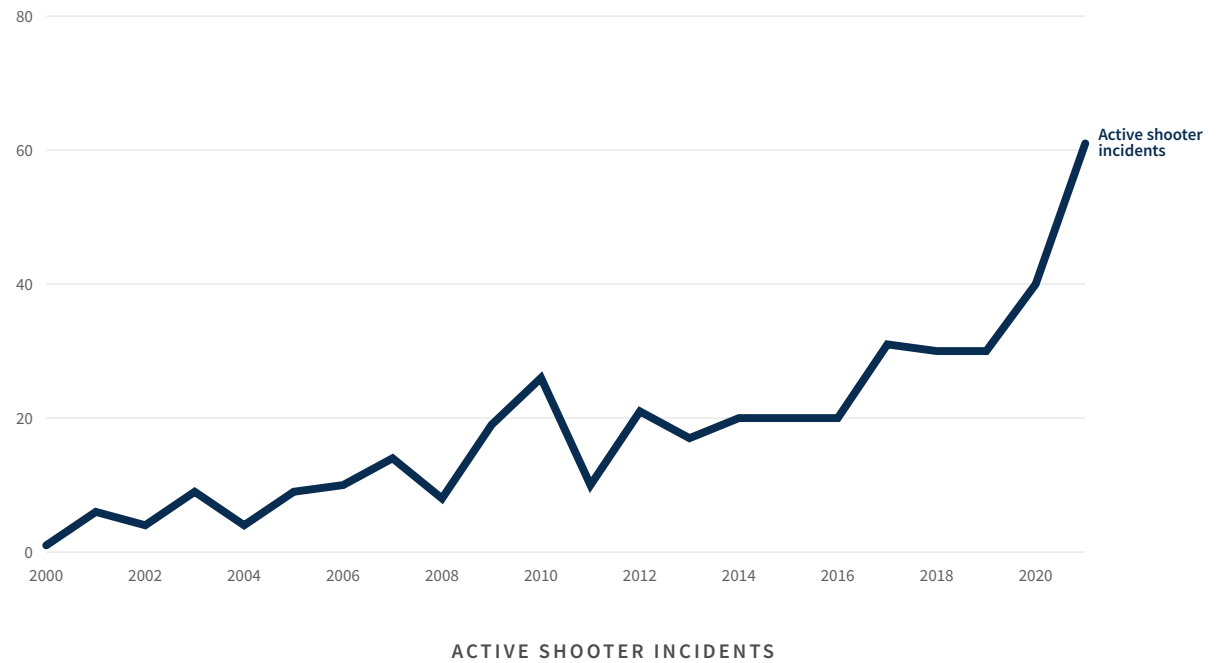
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [↗](#)

CRIME

Active shooter events are increasing but make up a small proportion of gun deaths.

According to the FBI, there were 27 active shooter events in 2018, killing 85 people — 1% of all firearm homicides.

[f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [✉](#) [🖨](#) [↔](#) [↓](#) csv



Sources: **Federal Bureau of Investigation.** [see more](#) ▼

Footnotes: The FBI defines an active shooter as one or more i... [see more](#) ▼

Explore Crime Big Picture

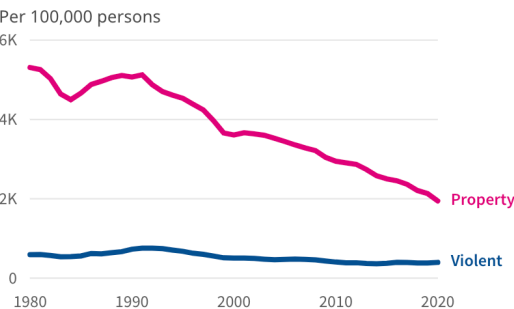
[Share the Big Picture](#)

[Full Screen](#)

CRIME RATES

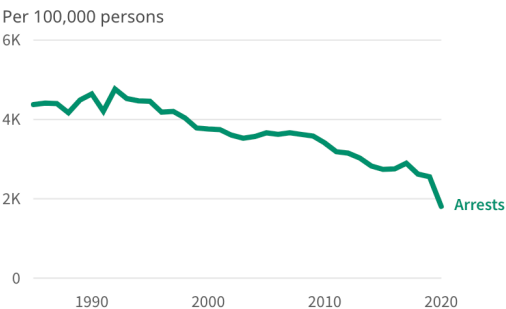
PROPERTY CRIME RATES

VIOLENT CRIM



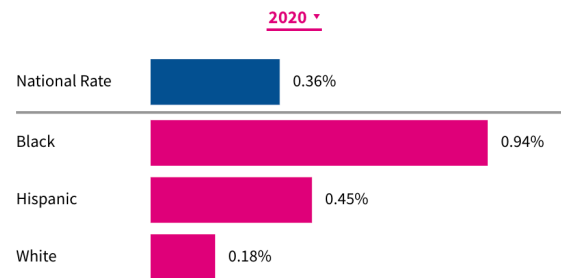
ARRESTS PER 100,000 PERSONS

ARRESTS: TOP 6 PER 10



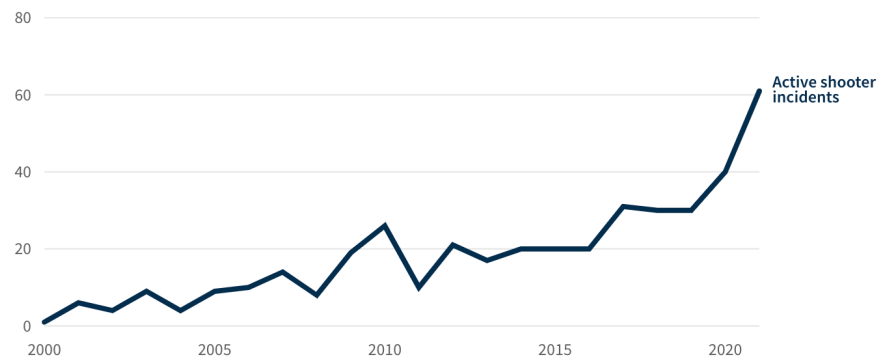
INCARCERATION RATES

INCARCERATED POPULATION



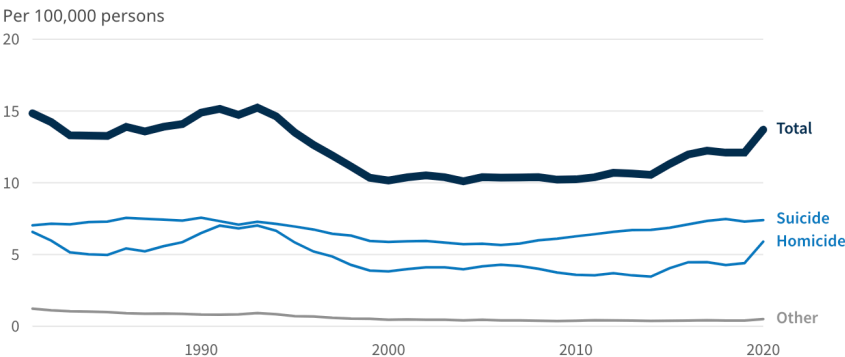
ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS

ACTIVE SHOOTER VICTIMS



FIREARM DEATHS

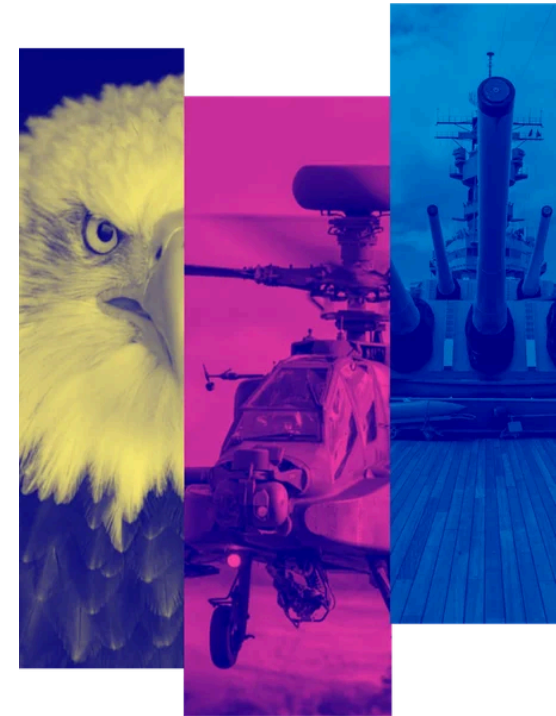
BACKGROUND CHECKS



DEFENSE

What is the state of our military, and how are veterans faring?

- Defense spending increased in 2019 but is 14% lower than its 2010 peak. →
- The military is larger today than in 2016 but smaller than in 1980. →
- We have fewer troops abroad, particularly in the Middle East and Afghanistan. →
- Adjusting for inflation, foreign aid has declined slightly since 2008, and makes up less than 1% of the federal budget →
- Veterans have higher levels of employment, lower rates of poverty, and higher rates of disability than the overall population. →

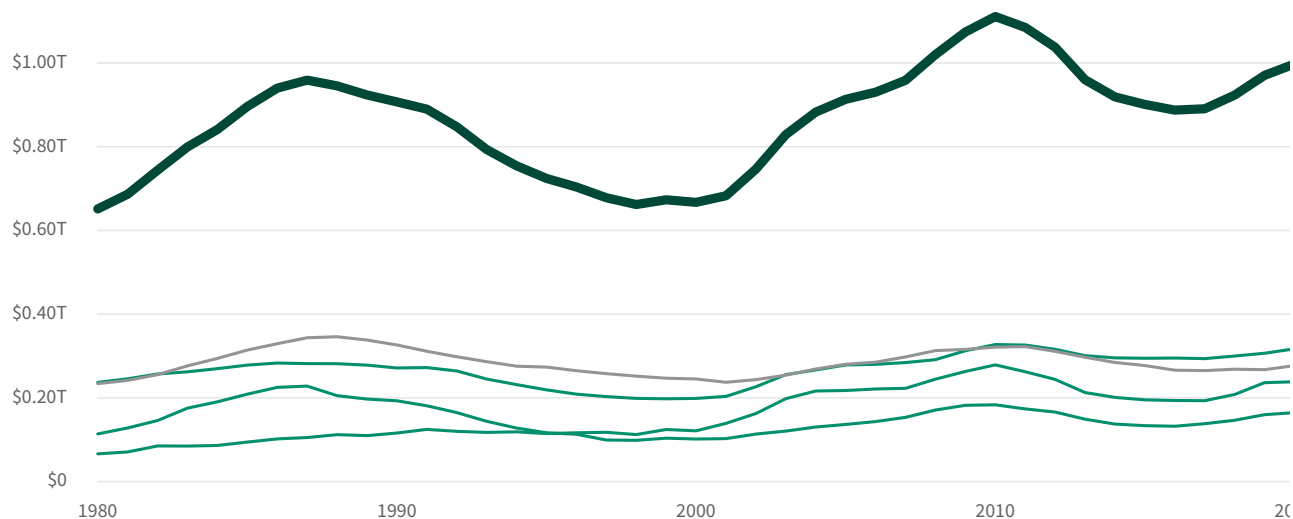


Defense spending increased in 2019 but is 14% lower than its 2010 peak.

The largest portion (about 40%) compensates military and civilian personnel.

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Adjusted for inflation



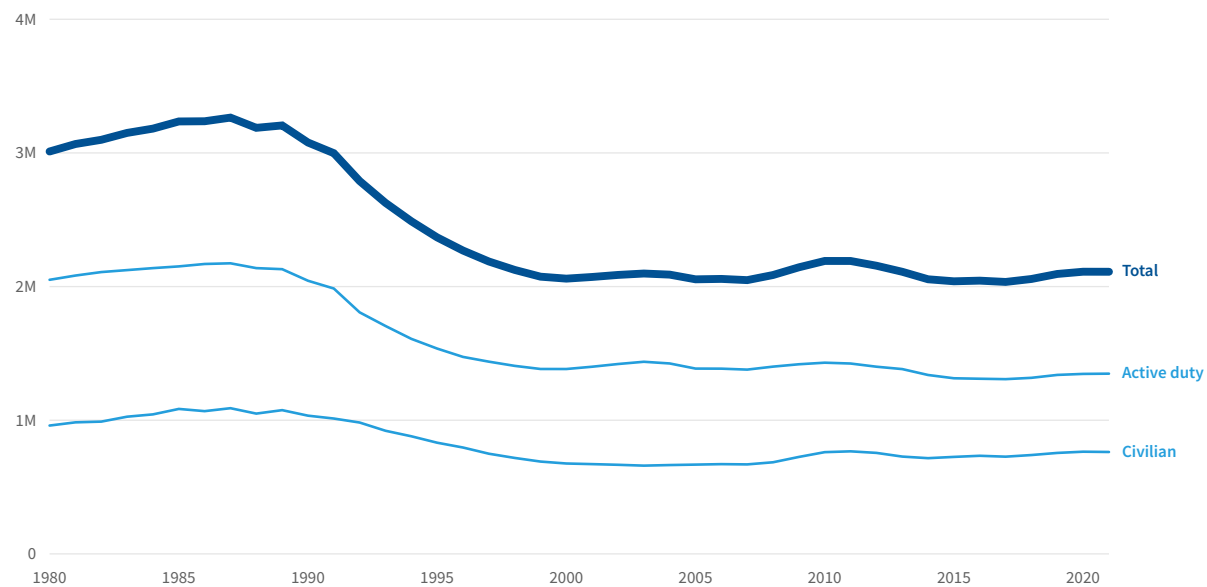
Source: [Bureau of Economic Analysis](#).

DEFENSE

The military is larger today than in 2016 but smaller than in 1980.

In 2019, there were 1.3 million active duty and 760,000 civilian members of the armed forces, a decrease of 38% and 31%, respectively, since 1987.

f t in e p <> d csv



ARMED FORCES

Sources: **Defense Manpower Data Center.** [see more](#) ▼

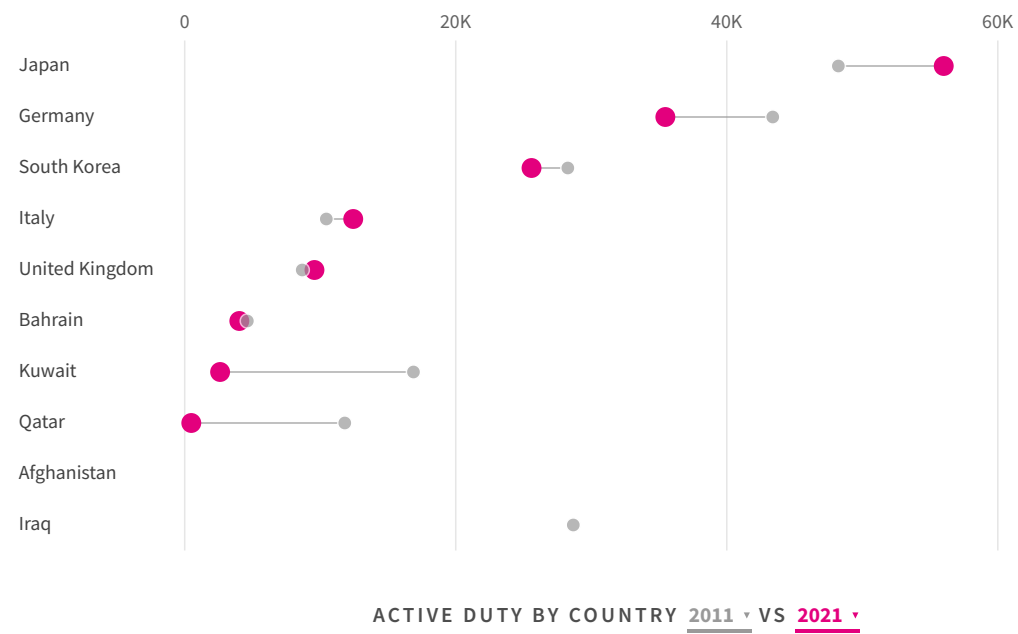
Footnotes: This total represents the sum of active duty membe... [see more](#) ▼

DEFENSE

We have fewer troops abroad, particularly in the Middle East and Afghanistan.

There were 195,077 active duty and reserve troops abroad in 2019, an 18% decrease from 2016 and 56% from 2008.

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Sources: **Department of Defense.** [see more](#) ▼

Footnotes: Data includes active duty and Coast Guard but excl... [see more](#) ▼

DEFENSE

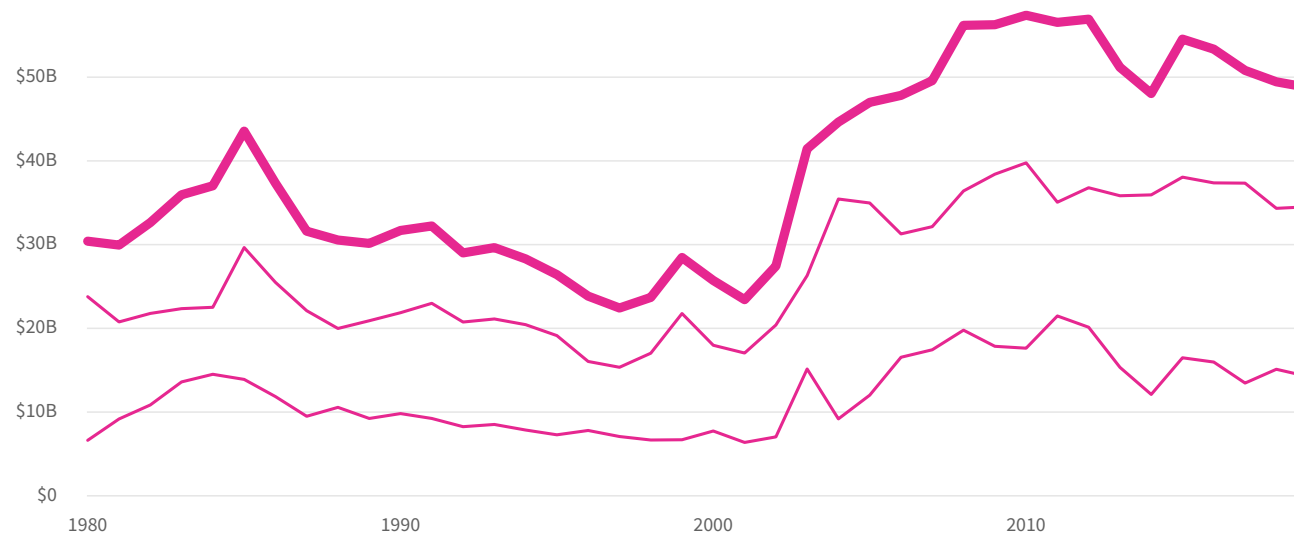
Adjusting for inflation, foreign aid has declined slightly since 2008, and makes up less than 1% of the federal budget

More than a quarter of aid is military assistance.

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FOREIGN AID OBLIGATIONS

Adjusted for inflation



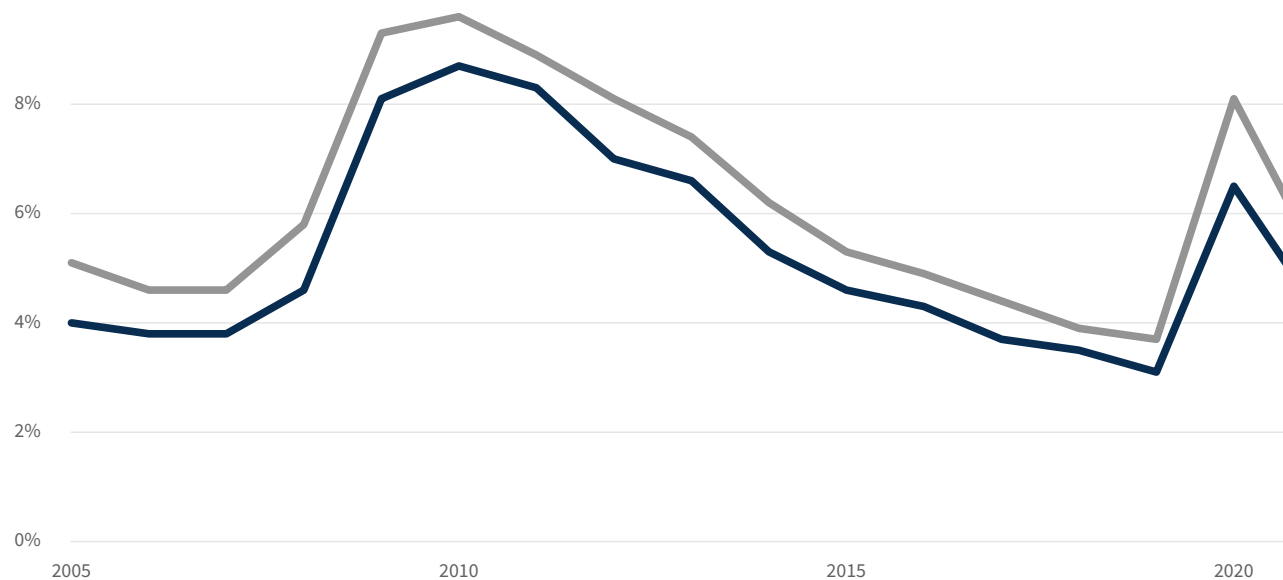
Source: [US Agency for International Development](#). 

DEFENSE

Veterans have higher levels of employment, lower rates of poverty, and higher rates of disability than the overall population.

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VETERAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



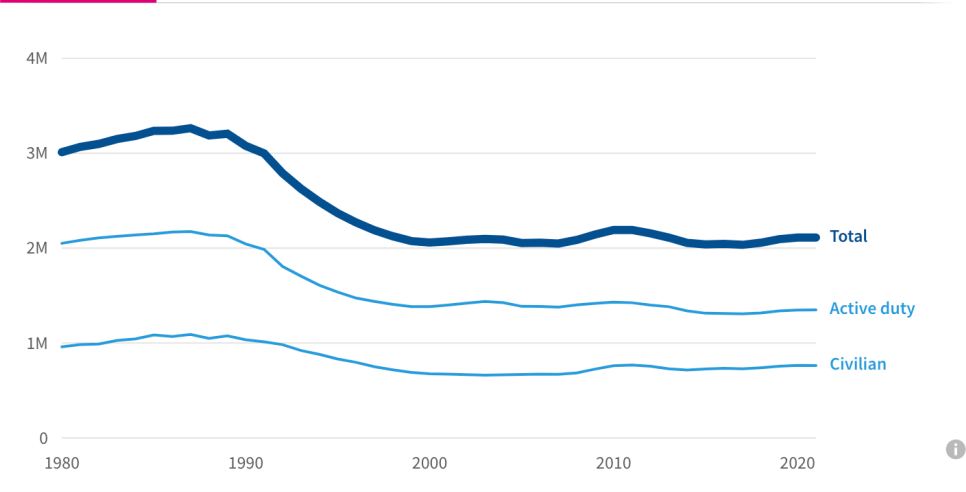
Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics. [see more](#) ✓

Explore the Defense Big Picture

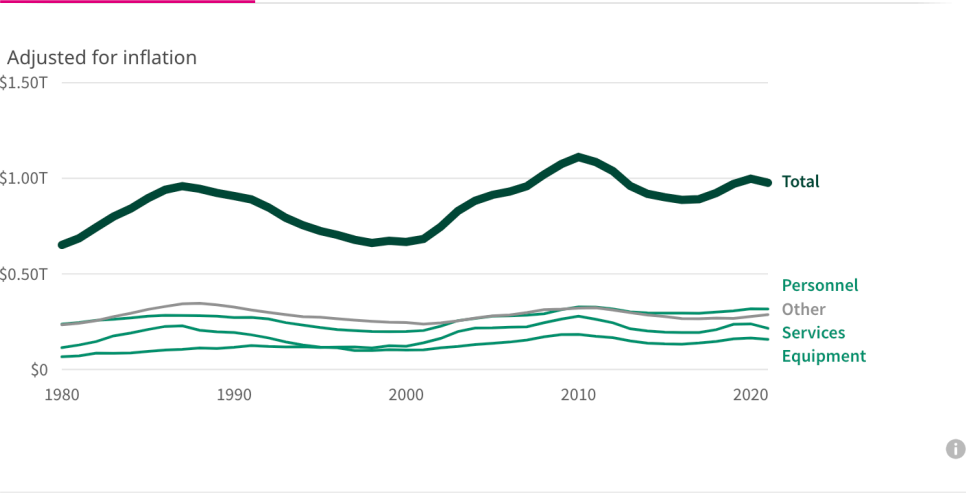
[Share the Big Picture](#)

[Exit Full Screen](#)

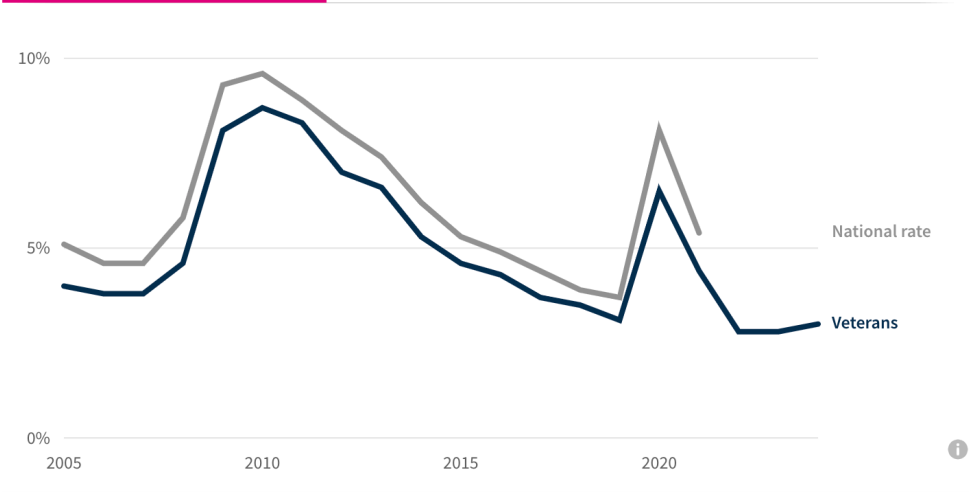
ARMED FORCES ACTIVE DUTY BY COUNTRY



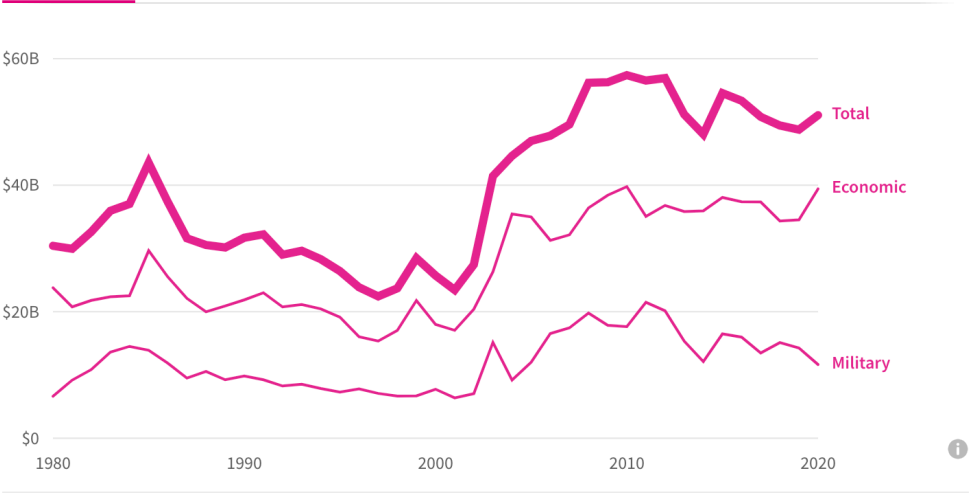
DEFENSE EXPENDITURES



VETERAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE VETERAN POVERTY RATE VETERAN DISABILITY RATE



FOREIGN AID BY COUNTRY



IMMIGRATION

How many people are coming to the US and who are they?

- We are again increasingly a nation of immigrants. →
- Excluding tourism, most people who come to the US on visas or green cards are temporary workers, students, or coming to be with their families. →
- The number of non-tourist visas and green cards granted as well as the number of refugees and asylees admitted fell from 2017 to 2018 →
- In 2015, the federal government estimated there were 12 million unauthorized immigrants in the country. →
- Border apprehensions more than doubled from 2018 to 2019. →
- In 2018, immigration officials removed 337,000 people from the US. →



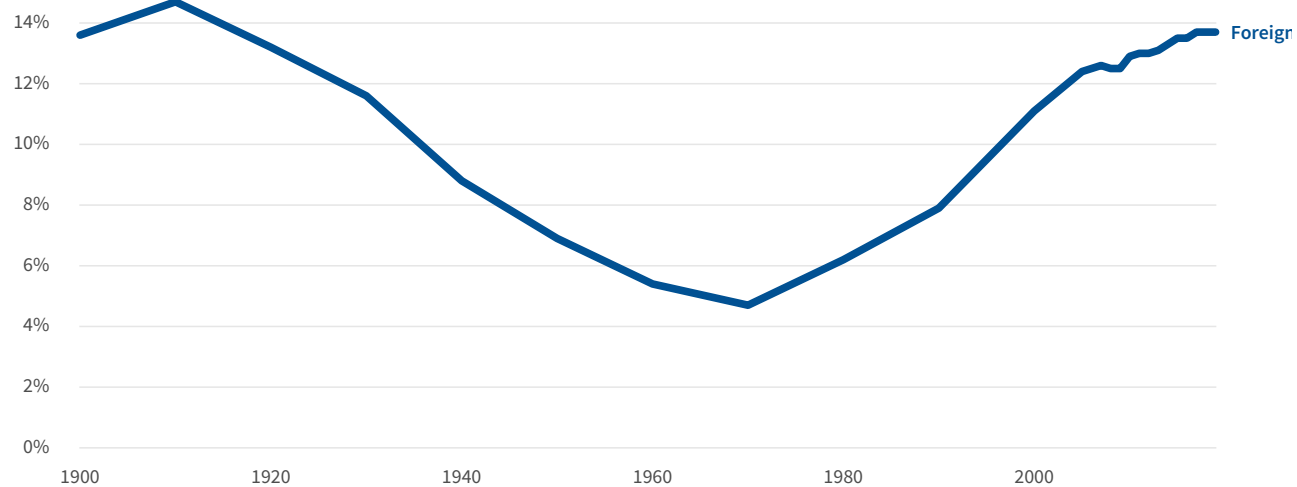
IMMIGRATION

We are again increasingly a nation of immigrants.

Fourteen percent of people in the US are foreign born, up from a low of 5% in 1970 and near the high of 15% in the early 1900s.

[f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [✉](#) [🖨](#) [↔](#) [↓](#) [csv](#)

FOREIGN-BORN RESIDENTS AS A PERCENT OF THE POPULATION



Source: [Census Bureau](#). [↗](#)

Footnotes: This excludes 2020 data that relies on the America... [see more](#) [▼](#)

Excluding tourism, most people who come to the US on visas or green cards are temporary workers, students, or coming to be with their families.

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NEW ARRIVALS BY REASON 2018

Sources: US Department of State. [see more](#)

Footnotes: Data includes non-tourist visas, new arrival green... [see more](#)

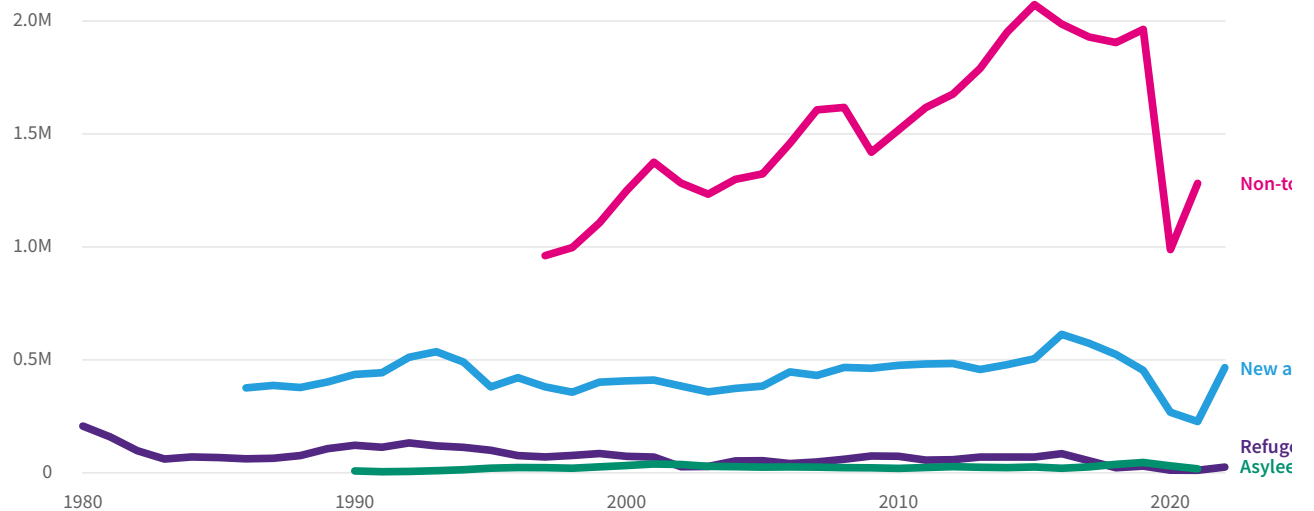
IMMIGRATION

The number of non-tourist visas and green cards granted as well as the number of refugees and asylees admitted fell from 2017 to 2018

The number of refugees and asylees admitted fell 24%, while the number of green cards and non-tourist visas granted fell 3% and 1%, respectively.

f t in e p <> d csv

ARRIVALS BY TYPE



Sources: Department of Homeland Security; Department of State... [see more](#) ▼

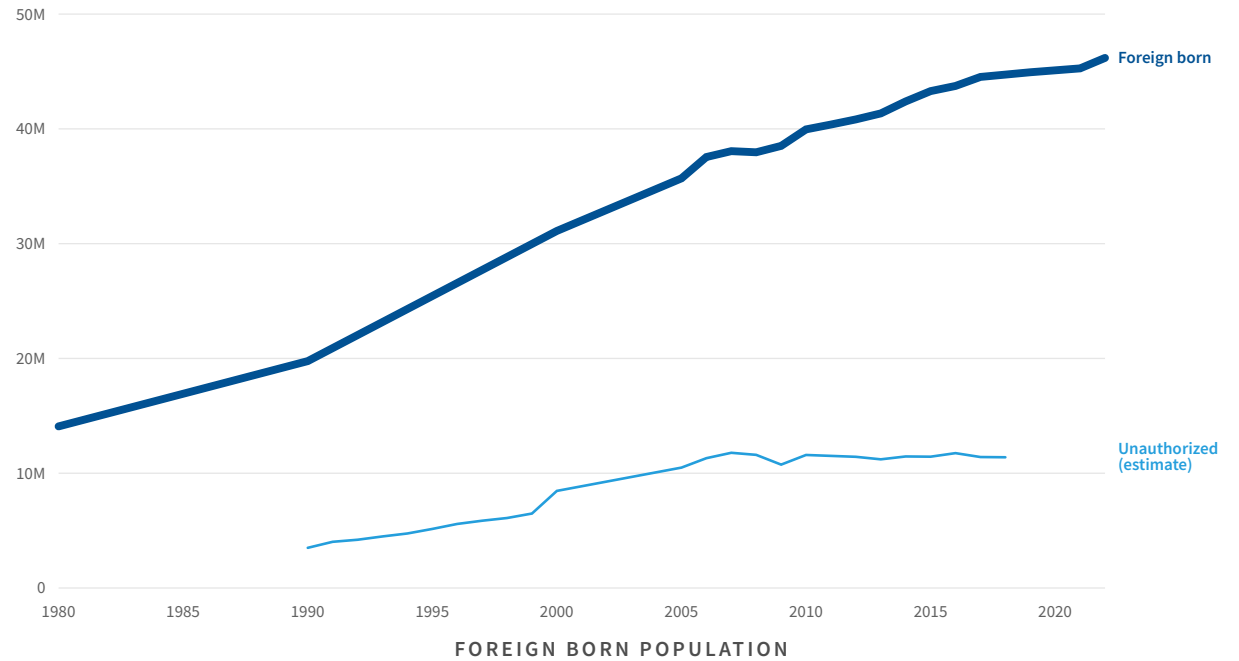
Footnotes: 1976 includes the 15 months from July 1, 1975 to S... [see more](#) ▼

IMMIGRATION

In 2015, the federal government estimated there were 12 million unauthorized immigrants in the country.

The total foreign-born population was 43 million.

f  in     CSV



Sources: **Department of Homeland Security; Census Bureau.** [see more](#) 

Footnotes: This excludes 2020 data that relies on the America... [see more](#) 

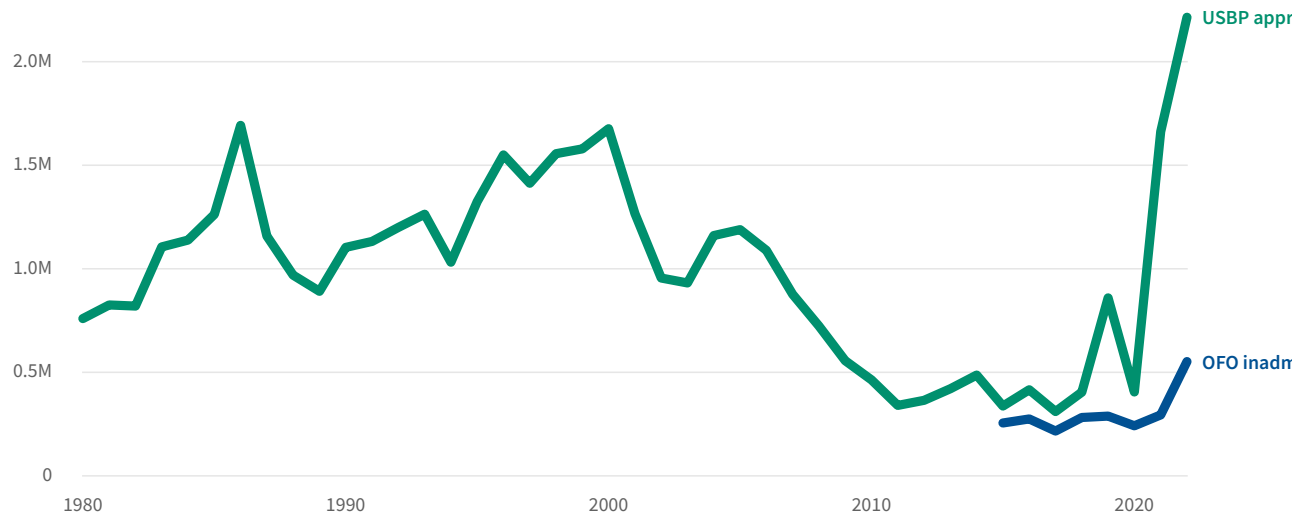
IMMIGRATION

Border apprehensions more than doubled from 2018 to 2019.

In fiscal year 2019, 860,000 people were apprehended at the border — nearly 460,000 more than in 2018, but 800,000 fewer than the recent peak in 2000.

[f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [e](#) [p](#) [c](#) [d](#) [c](#) [s](#) [v](#)

ANNUAL BORDER ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS



Source: [US Customs and Border Protection](#).

Footnotes: Encounters by the Office of Field Operations (OFO)... [see more](#)

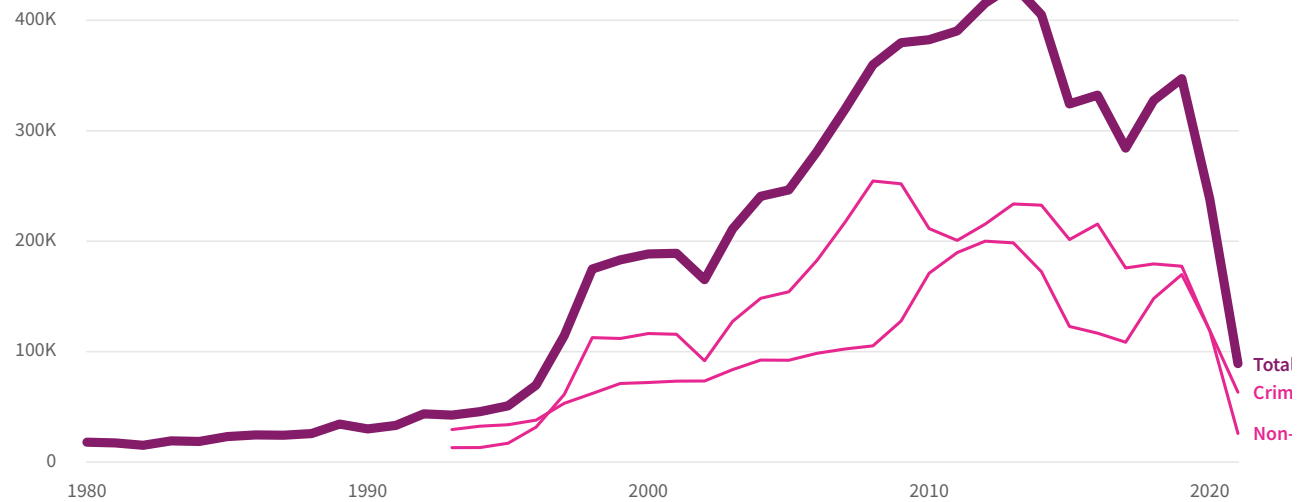
IMMIGRATION

In 2018, immigration officials removed 337,000 people from the US.

This is less than the 2013 peak of 433,000 but higher than any year before 2007.

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REMOVALS



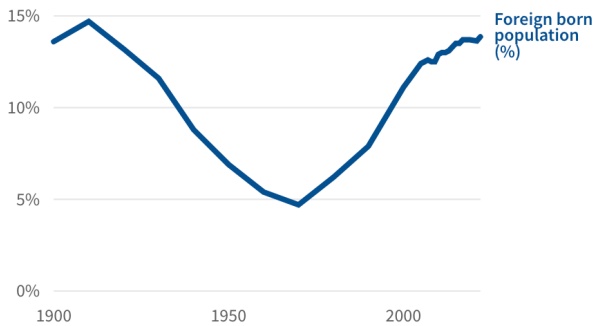
Source: [Department of Homeland Security](#). [↗](#)

Footnotes: Removals are based on an order of removal, and hav... [see more](#) [↕](#)

Explore the Immigration Big Picture

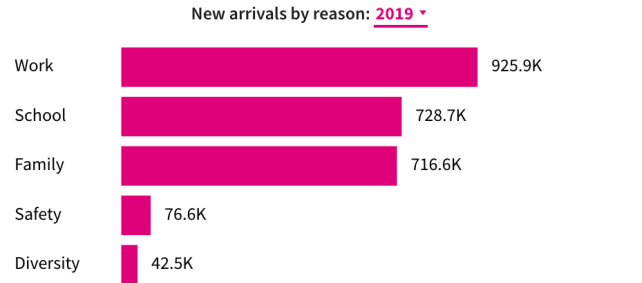
[Share the Big Picture](#) [Full Screen](#)

FOREIGN BORN POPULATION (%)



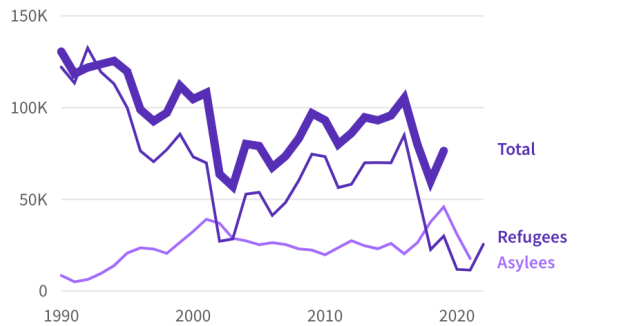
IMMIGRATION BY REASON

ARRIVALS BY TYPE GREEN >



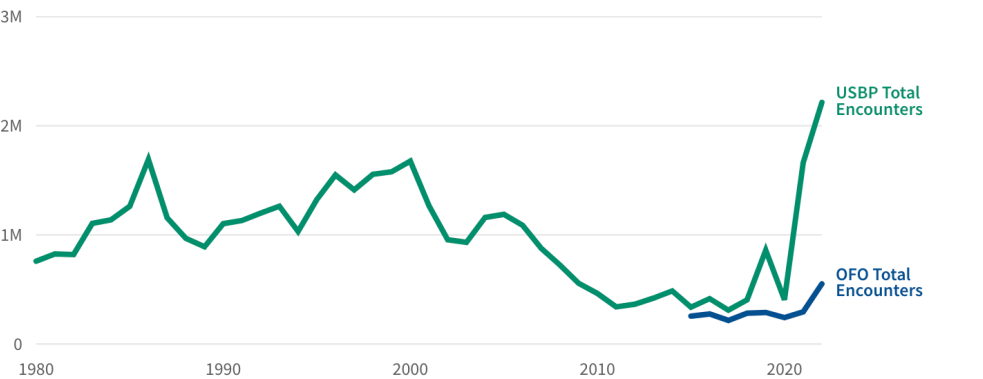
REFUGEE AND ASYLUM CLAIMS

ASYLUM CLAIMS BY REGION

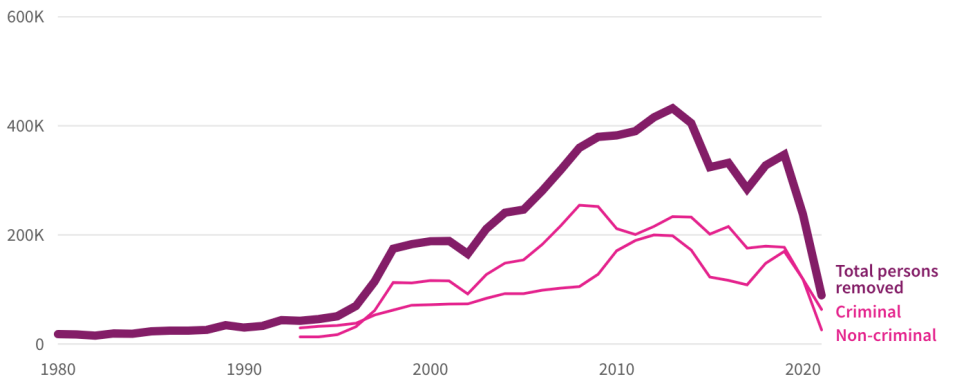


BORDER APPREHENSIONS

BORDER APPREHENSIONS: MONTHLY BORDER APPREHENSIONS: MONTHLY >



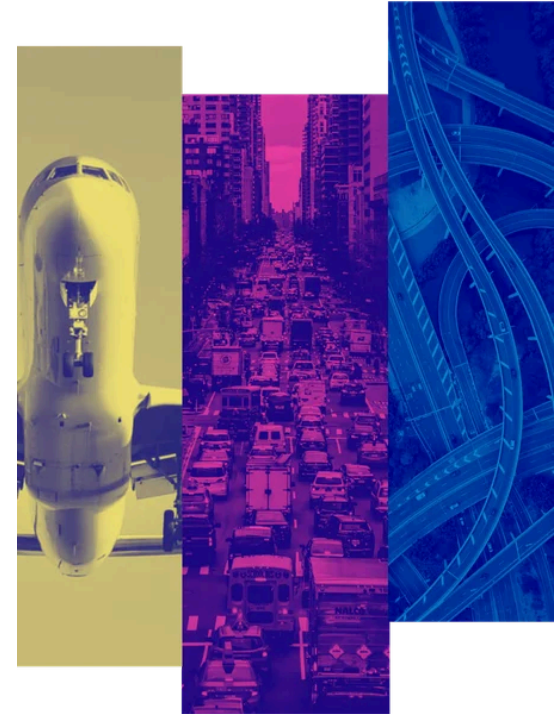
REMOVALS



TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

What does America spend on infrastructure? Is the state of our infrastructure improving?

- In 2019, the federal government spent \$29 billion on infrastructure and transferred an additional \$67 billion in infrastructure spending to states. →
- Half of federal transportation spending goes to highways, with air and rail the next biggest categories. →
- Our bridges are improving. →
- The condition of urban interstates and minor roads is improving. →
- Train infrastructure is degrading. →
- In 2017, traffic congestion delayed vehicle commuters by an average of 54 hours a year. →



INFRASTRUCTURE

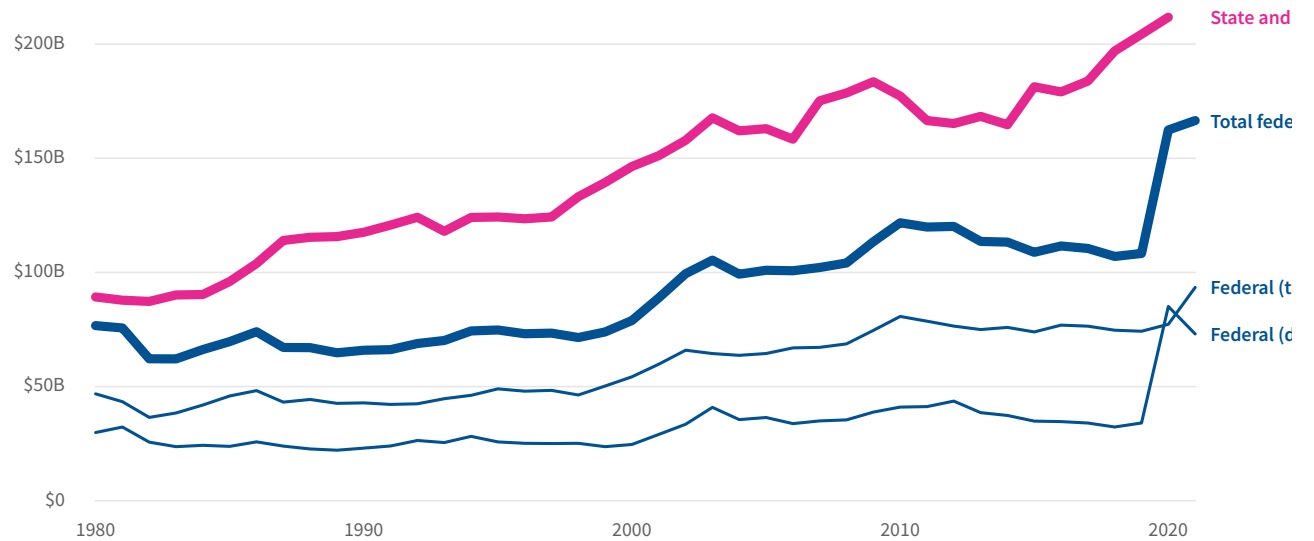
In 2019, the federal government spent \$29 billion on infrastructure and transferred an additional \$67 billion in infrastructure spending to states.

Most infrastructure spending comes directly from state and local governments, which recently spent \$162 billion on projects in 2017, excluding federal transfers.

[f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [en](#) [pr](#) [code](#) [csv](#)

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE SPENDING

Adjusted for inflation



Source: USAFacts aggregation of data from Office of Management and Budget

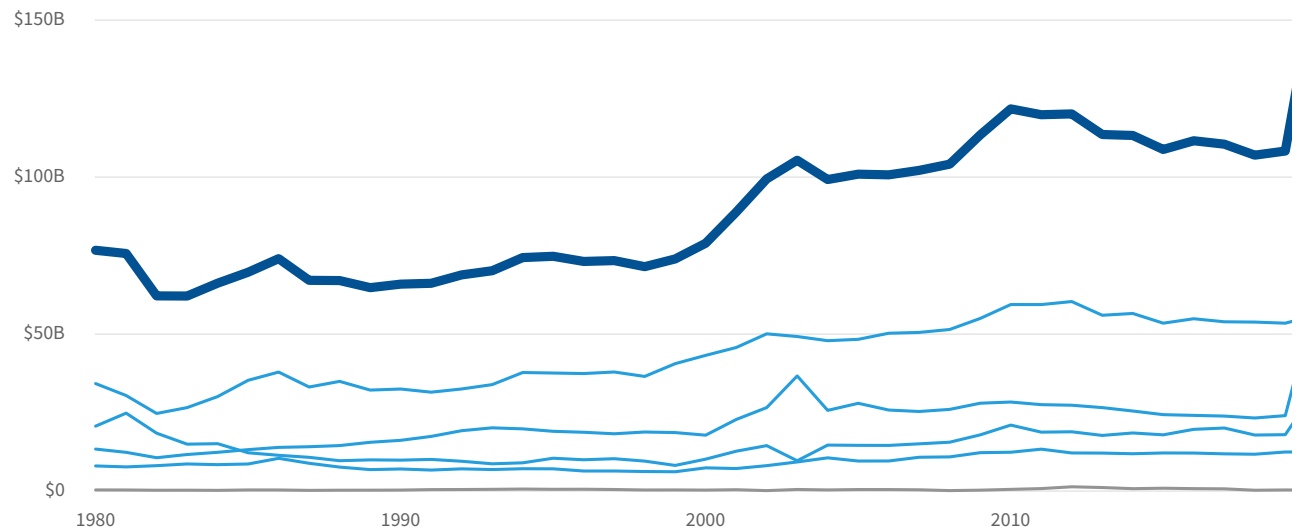
INFRASTRUCTURE

Half of federal transportation spending goes to highways, with air and rail the next biggest categories.

f  in     CSV

FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE SPENDING

Adjusted for inflation



Source: USAFacts aggregation of data from Office of Manage... [↗](#)

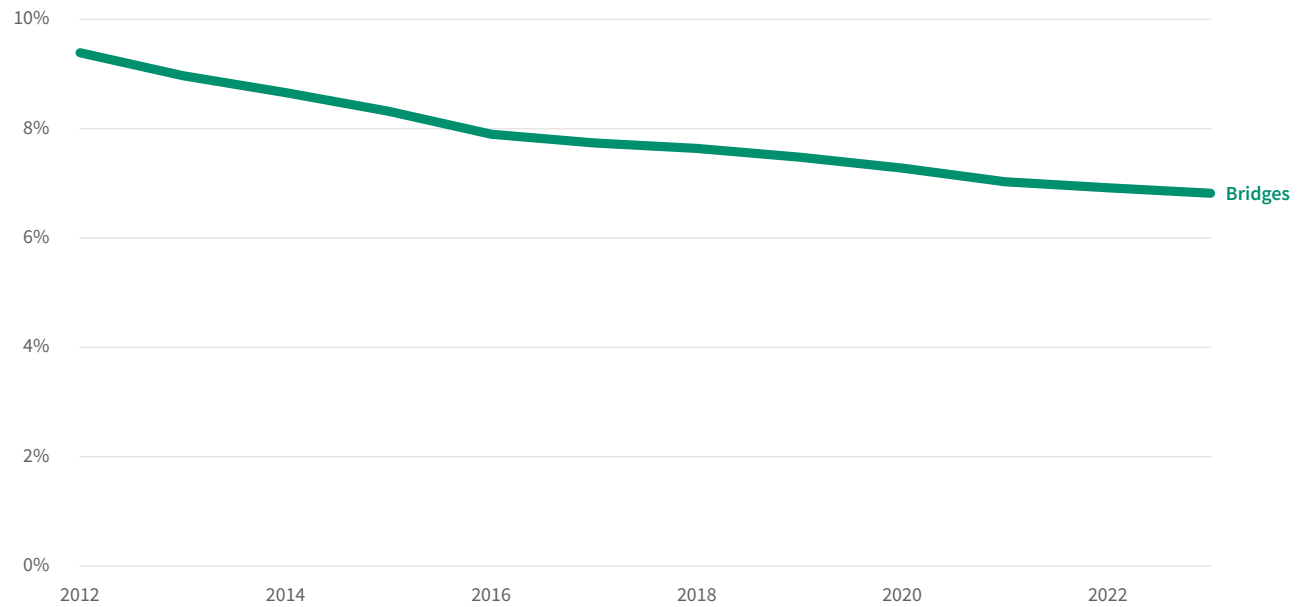
INFRASTRUCTURE

Our bridges are improving.

The proportion of bridges rated as poor decreased from 9.4% in 2012 to 7.6% in 2018.

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PERCENT OF BRIDGES IN POOR CONDITION



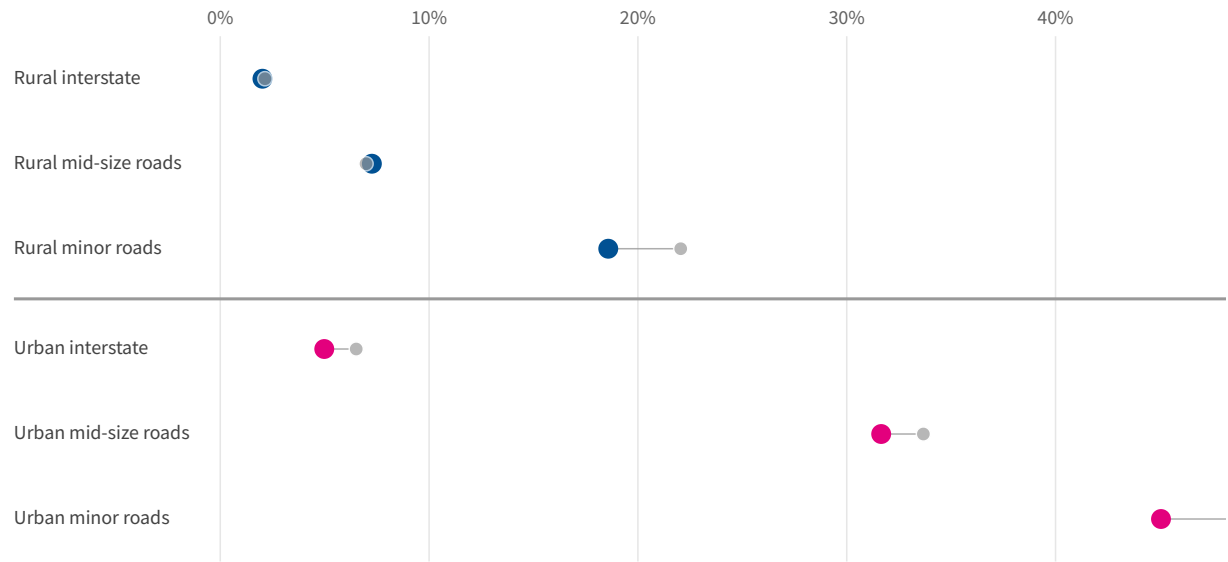
Source: [Bureau of Transportation Statistics](#). [↗](#)

INFRASTRUCTURE

The condition of urban interstates and minor roads is improving.

Rural interstates and minor roads are improving as well, though to a lesser extent.

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PERCENT OF ROADS IN UNSATISFACTORY CONDITION 2000 ▾ VS 2019 ▾

Sources: **Bureau of Transportation Statistics.** [see more](#) ▾

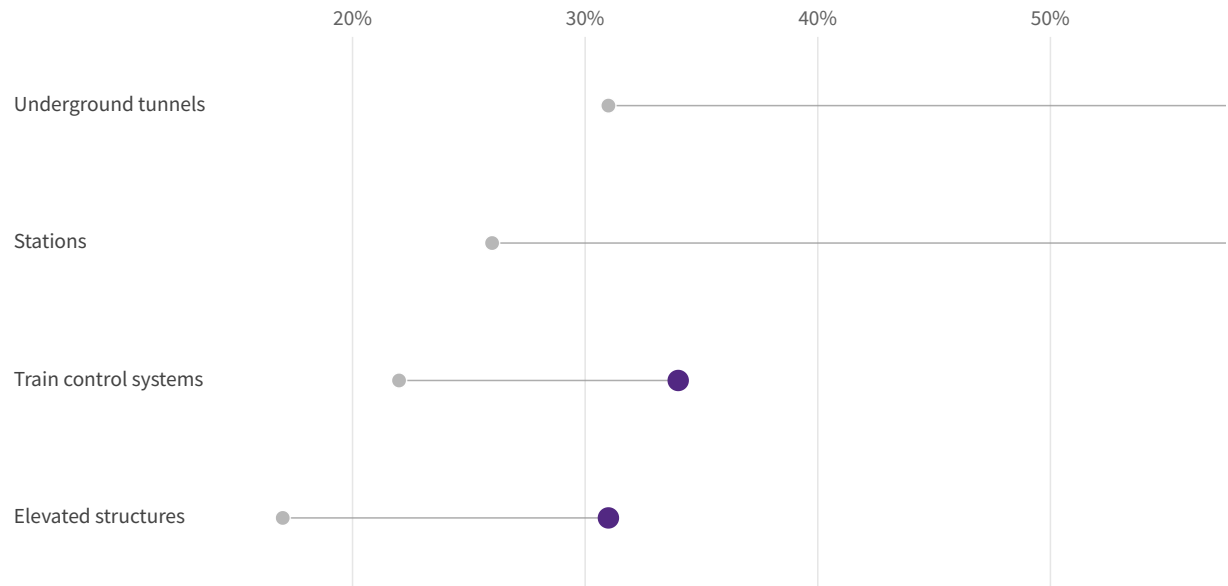
Footnotes: Mid-size roads refers to minor arterials, and mino... [see more](#) ▾

INFRASTRUCTURE

Train infrastructure is degrading.

Two-thirds of train tunnels and nearly one-third of train control systems and elevated structures were rated as poor or substandard as of last count.

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TRAIN INFRASTRUCTURE AND EQUIPMENT IN POOR OR SUBSTANDARD CONDITION 2009 ▾ VS 2014 ▾

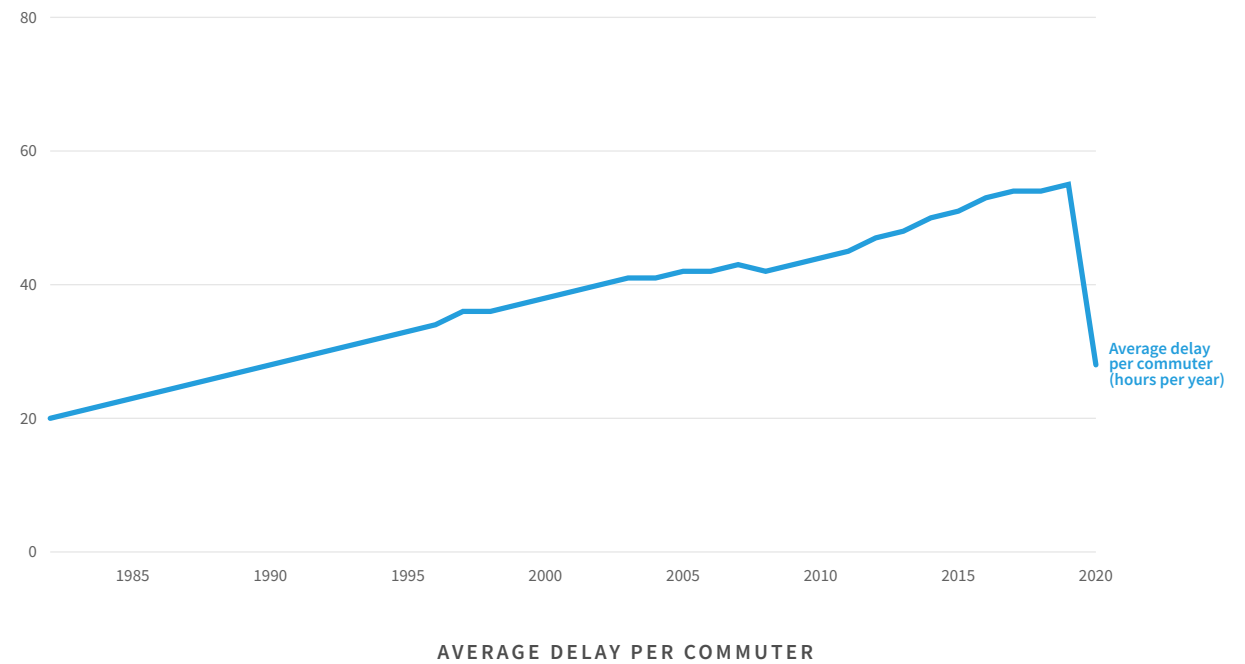
Sources: Bureau of Transportation Statistics. [see more](#) ✓

INFRASTRUCTURE

In 2017, traffic congestion delayed vehicle commuters by an average of 54 hours a year.

In 1982, annual delays averaged 18 hours.

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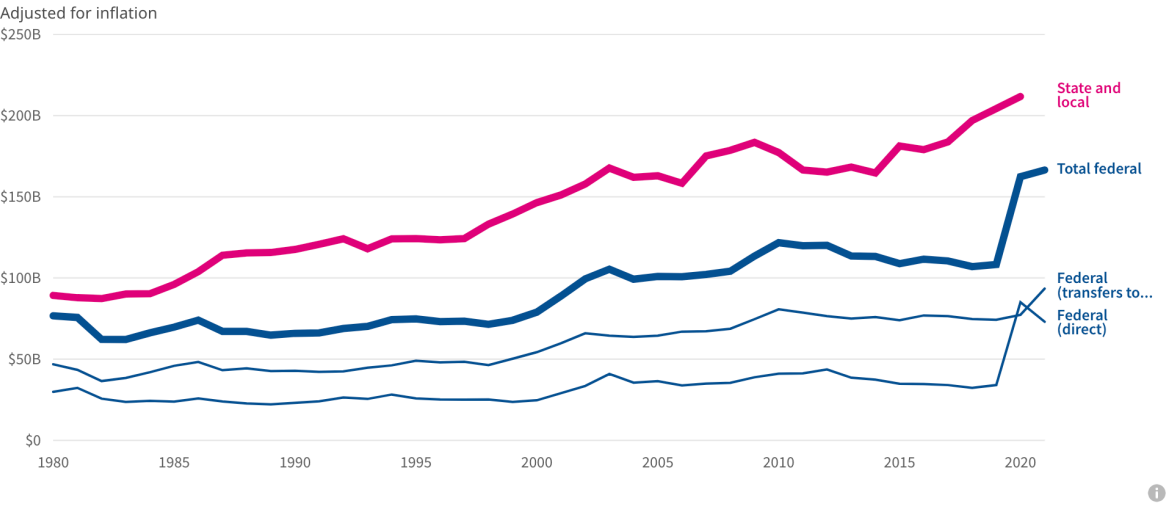
Sources: Bureau of Transportation Statistics. [see more](#) ✓

Explore the Transportation & Infrastructure Big Picture

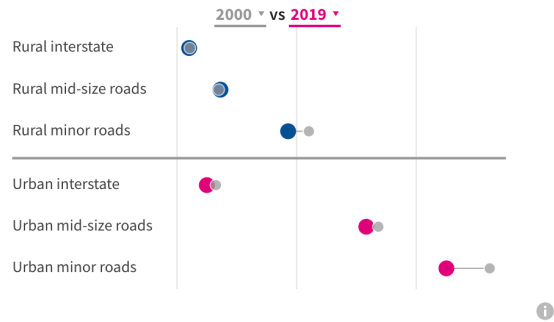
Share the Big Picture

Exit Full Screen

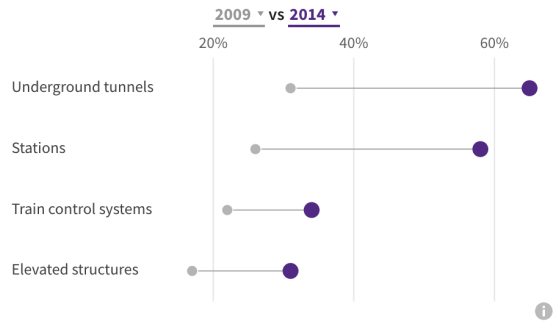
SPENDING FEDERAL SPENDING BY TYPE



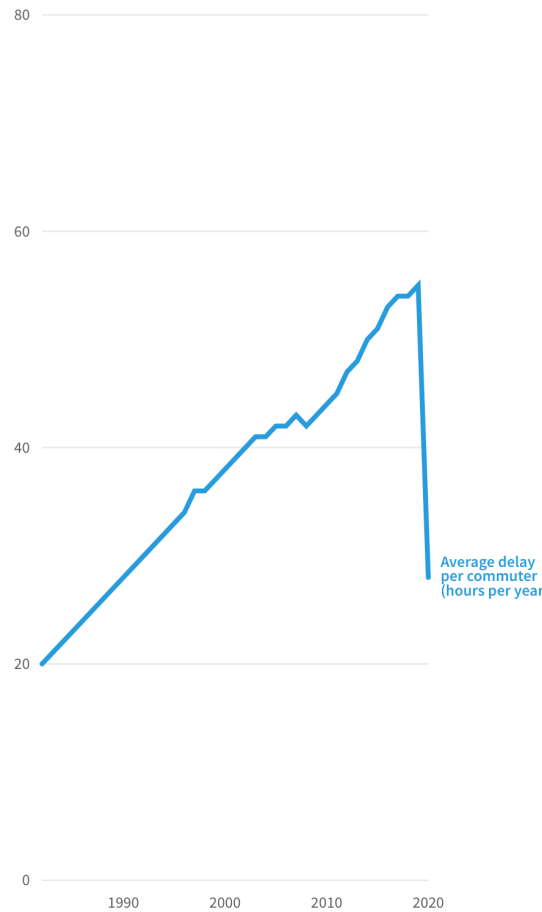
ROAD CONDITIONS BRIDGES: POOR CONDITION BRIDGE



RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE CONDITIONS



AVERAGE DELAY PER COMMUTER AIR & AMTRAK DELAYS



Sources: Bureau of Transportation Statistics. [see more](#)

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

What are our major sources of energy? What environmental challenges do we face?

- We are producing more energy than ever. →
- Energy consumption per person in 2018 was 11% lower than in 2000. →
- The share of our energy consumption from nuclear and renewable sources has nearly doubled since 1980. →
- We are emitting less greenhouse gases per person than in 1990. →
- We import 17% more energy than we export. →
- Last decade averaged twelve \$1 billion natural disasters per year. →
- Wildfires burned an average of 7 million acres of land per year last decade. →



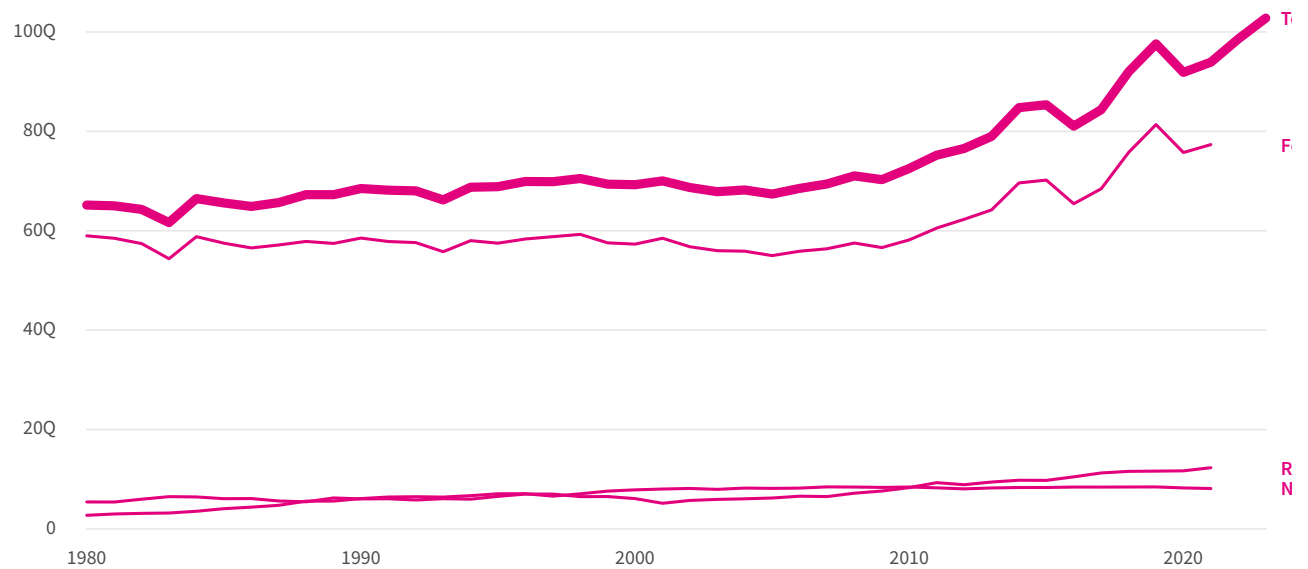
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

We are producing more energy than ever.

Fossil fuel production has grown, largely due to a 69% increase in natural gas production since 1980 despite an 18% decrease in coal production. Nuclear and renewable energy production has increased 147% since 1980 and now makes up 21% of energy production.

[f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [✉](#) [🖨](#) [↔](#) [↓ csv](#)

ENERGY PRODUCTION (BTU)



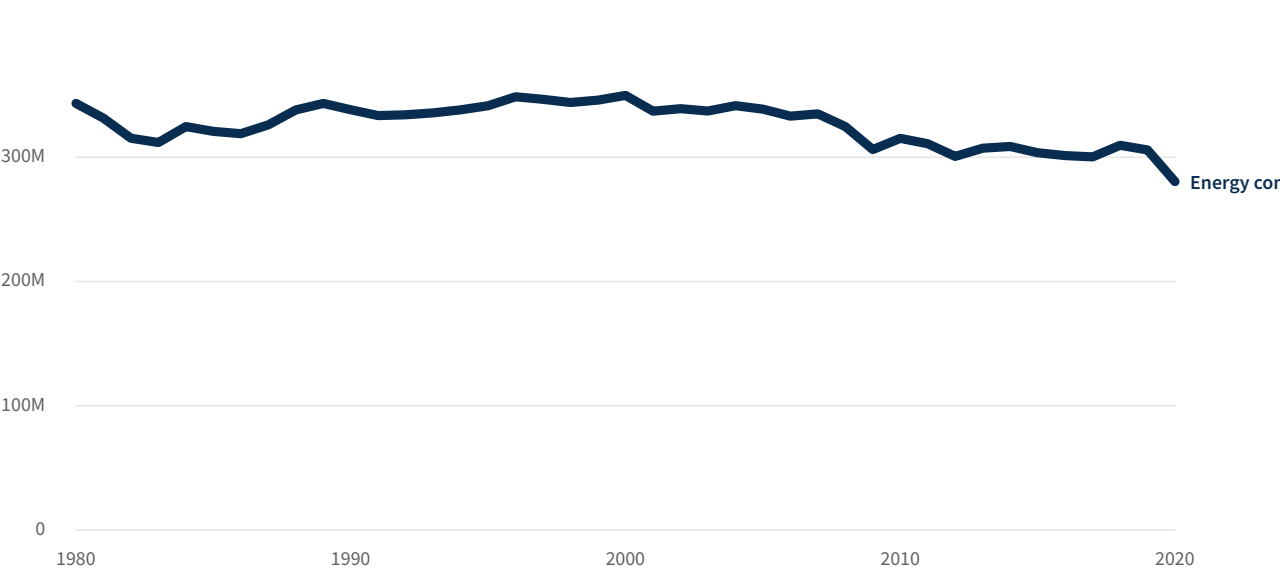
Source: [Energy Information Administration](#). [↗](#)

Energy consumption per person in 2018 was 11% lower than in 2000.

However, it has increased from 2017.

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ENERGY CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA (BTU)



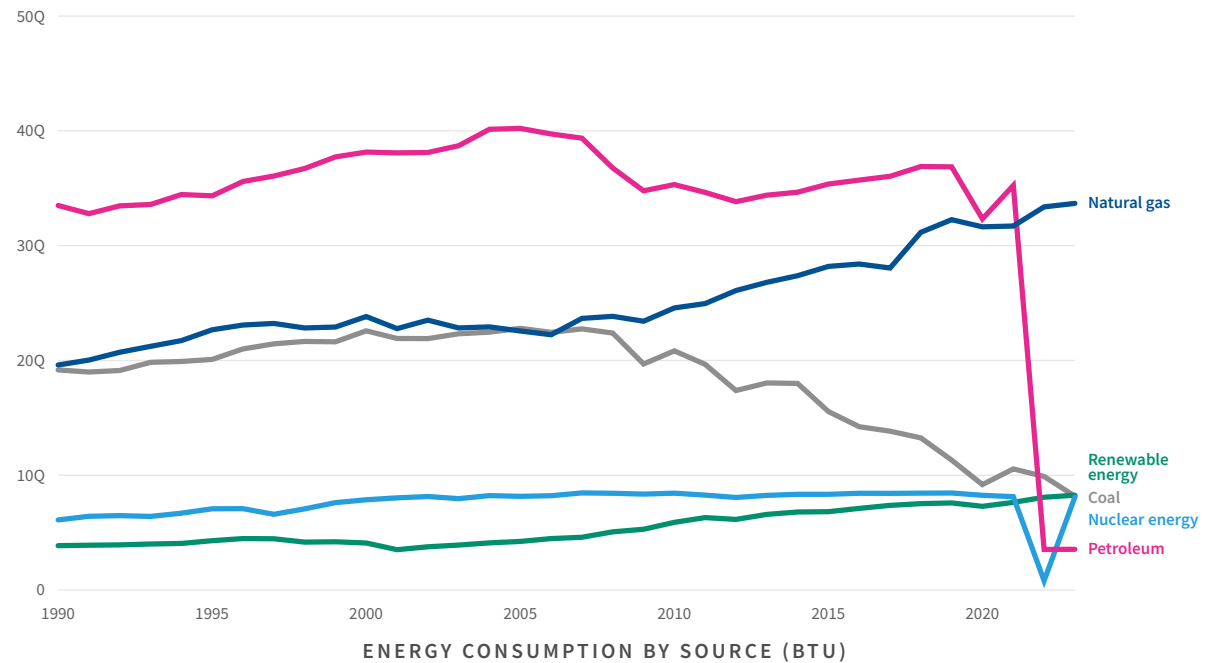
Source: [Energy Information Administration](#).

Footnotes: As of February 2022, the full data set for 2021 ha... [see more](#)

The share of our energy consumption from nuclear and renewable sources has nearly doubled since 1980.

Fossil fuels (petroleum, natural gas, and coal) continue to account for 80% of our energy consumption.

f       csv



Sources: [Energy Information Administration](#). [see more](#) ▼

We are emitting less greenhouse gases per person than in 1990.

In 2017, the US made up 14% of the world's carbon dioxide emissions and emitted more metric tons of carbon dioxide (5.1 billion metric tons) than any country in the world other than China (10.4 billion metric tons).

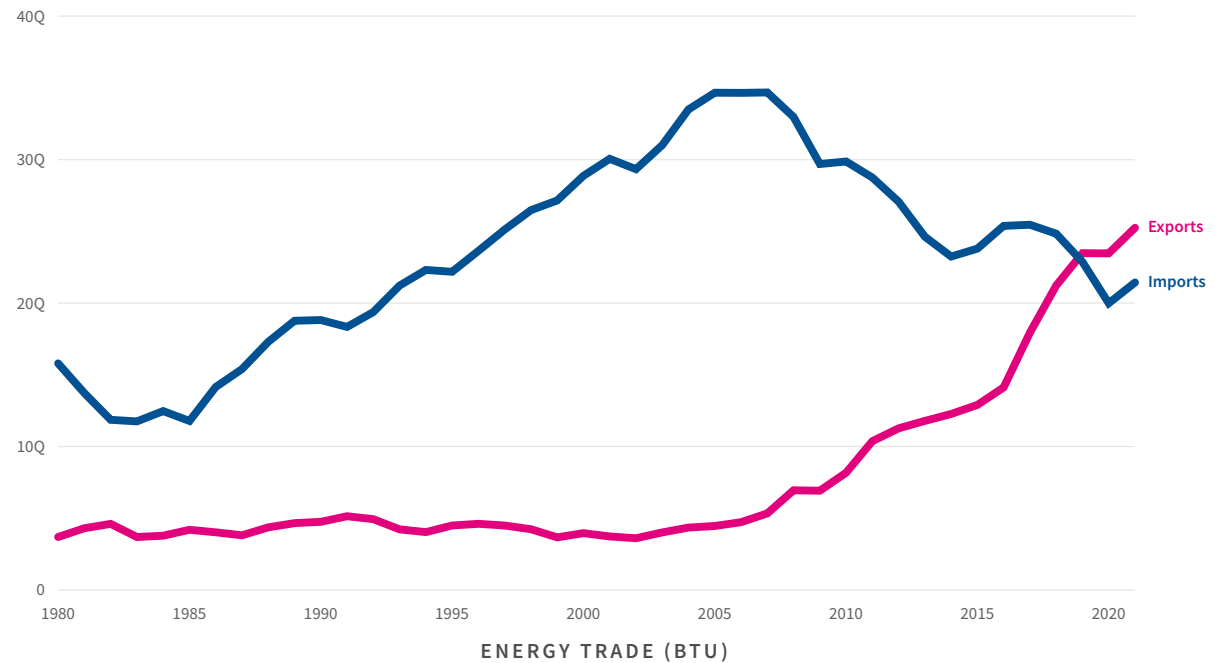
f       csv

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

We import 17% more energy than we export.

We import 25% of the energy we consume; in 1980 we imported 20%.

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Sources: [Energy Information Administration](#). [see more](#) v

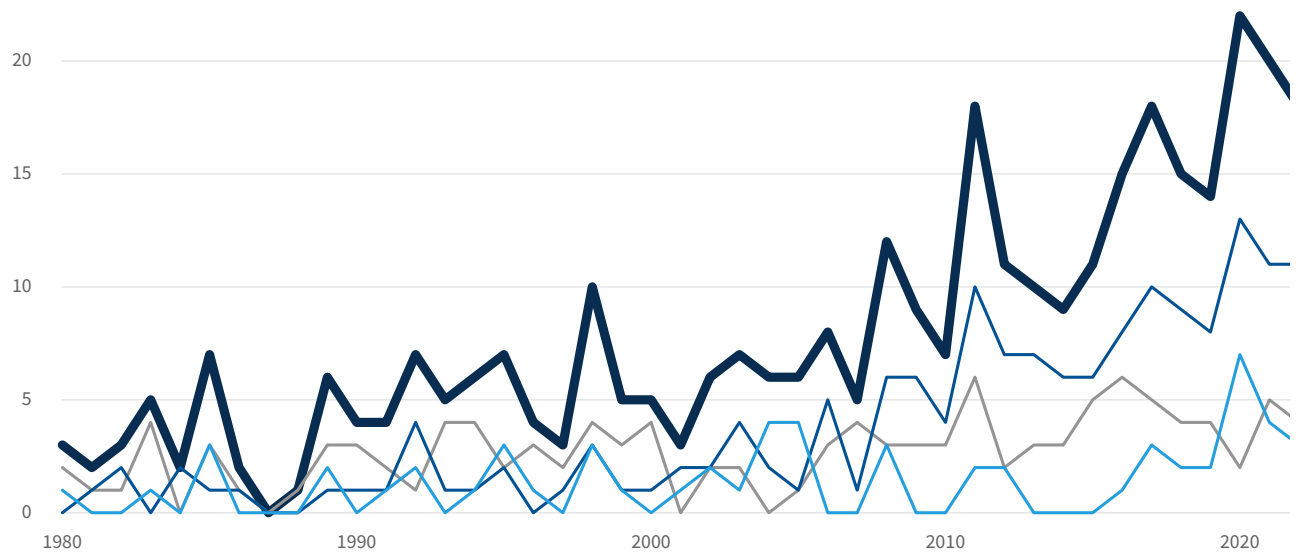
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

Last decade averaged twelve \$1 billion natural disasters per year.

The 2000s averaged six per year.

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BILLION DOLLAR DISASTERS



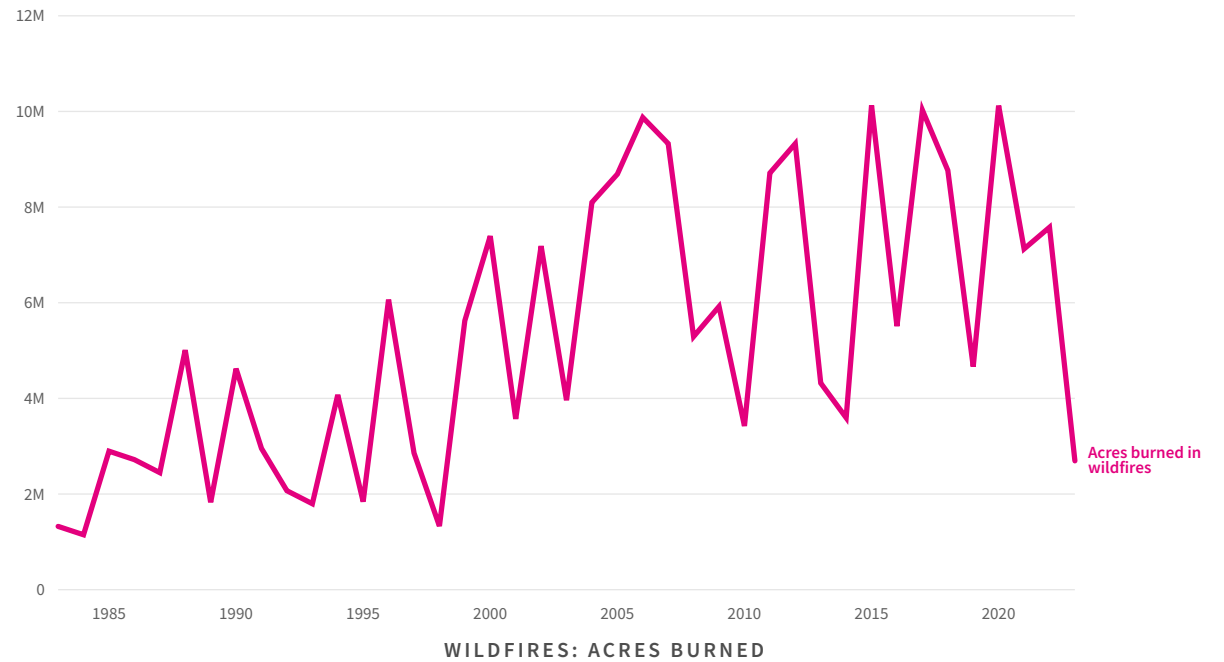
Source: [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#). [see more](#)

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

Wildfires burned an average of 7 million acres of land per year last decade.

That's 2% higher than the annual average in the 2000s, and more than twice the annual average in the 1990s.

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Sources: **National Interagency Fire Center.** [see more](#) ▼

Footnotes: Prior to 1983, sources of these figures are not kn... [see more](#) ▼

Explore the Energy & Environment Big Picture

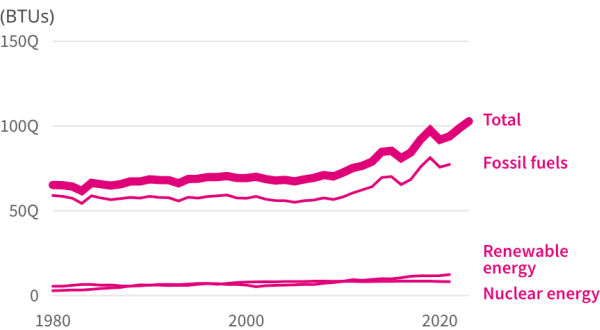
[Share the Big Picture](#)

[Full Screen](#)

PRODUCTION

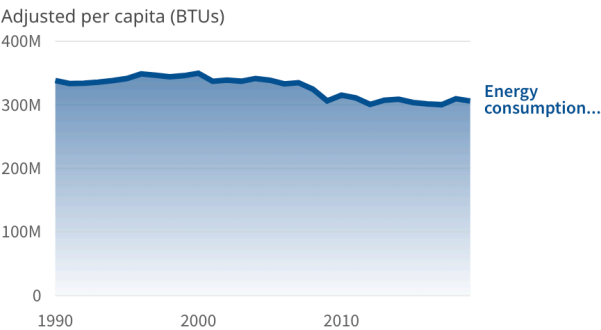
FOSSIL FUELS

NUCLEAR AND RENEWAB >



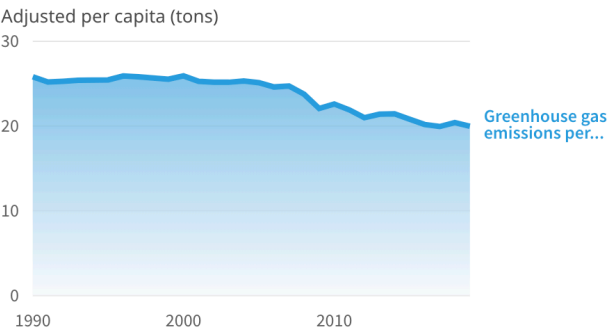
CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA

BY SOURCE

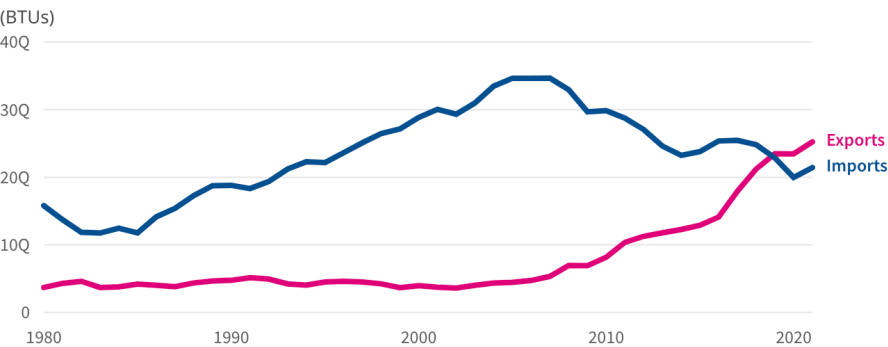


GHG EMISSIONS PER CAPITA

BY SECTOR



ENERGY TRADE

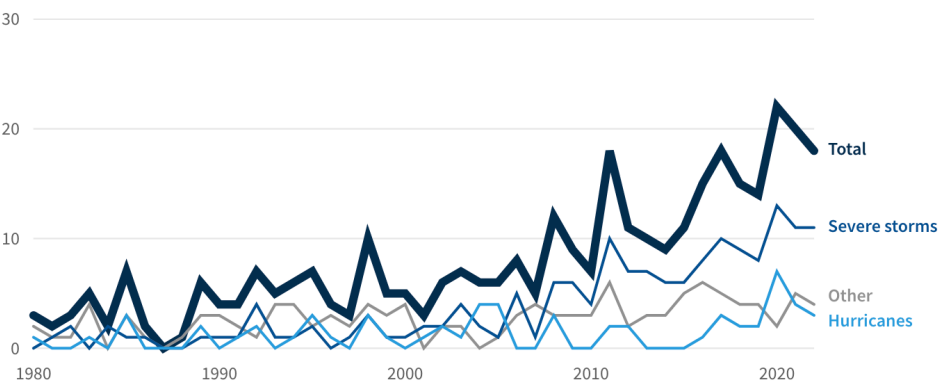


Sources: [Energy Information Administration](#). [see more](#)

BILLION DOLLAR DISASTERS

BILLION DOLLAR DISASTERS: COSTS

WILDFIRES: ACRES



Each year, the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the federal government take actions that shape policy and how it is implemented. Federal government actions include Congressional legislation, dozens of notices and rule changes made daily by executive agencies, Presidential executive orders, and judicial decisions at all levels of courts. For a glimpse of some of the actions taken in 2019, this final section organizes three types of government actions into the eleven topics covered by the State of the Union in Numbers. We include bills that became public law, executive orders, and rules made by executive agencies that impact the economy by \$100 million or make a material change to legal, budgetary, or policy precedent (for more information on significant regulatory actions, see the [Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs](#)). We chose to focus on creation and enforcement of law rather than judicial review, which is accomplished by a multitude of federal courts.

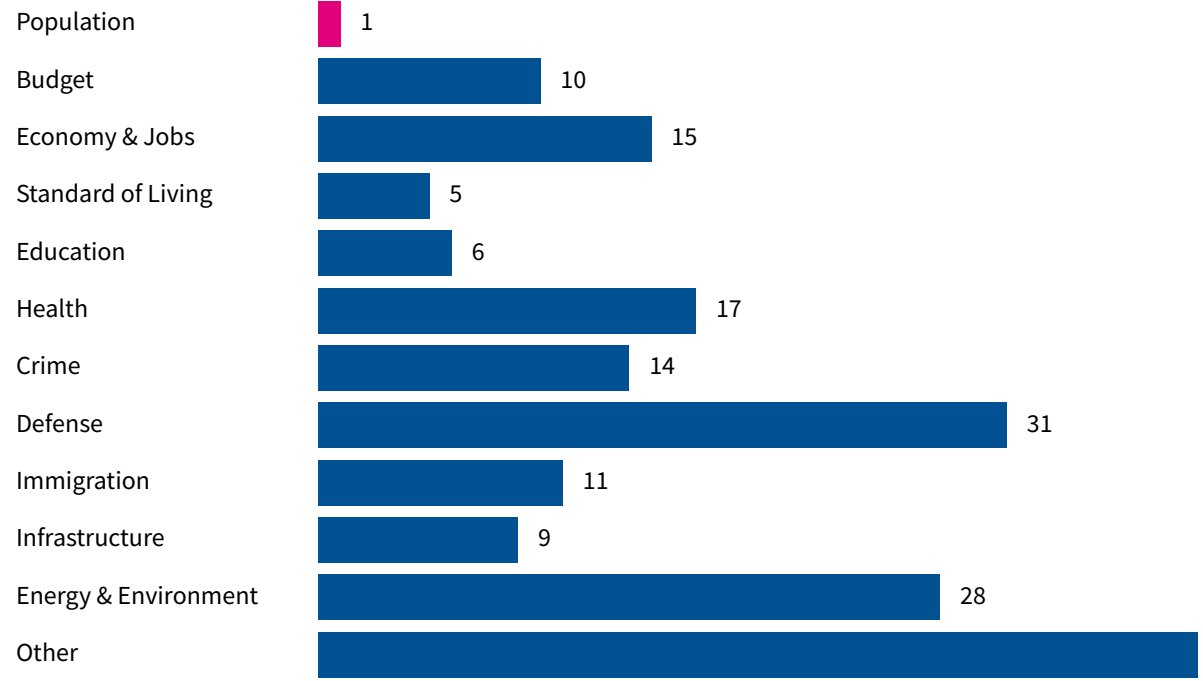
There were **216** federal actions that fit this definition in 2019. These are some highlights.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

There was one population action:

an executive order asking the 2020 Census to collect information on citizenship status. The Supreme Court later blocked this action.

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS IN 2019

Sources: USAFacts calculations using data from the Federal Register and the Library of Congress..

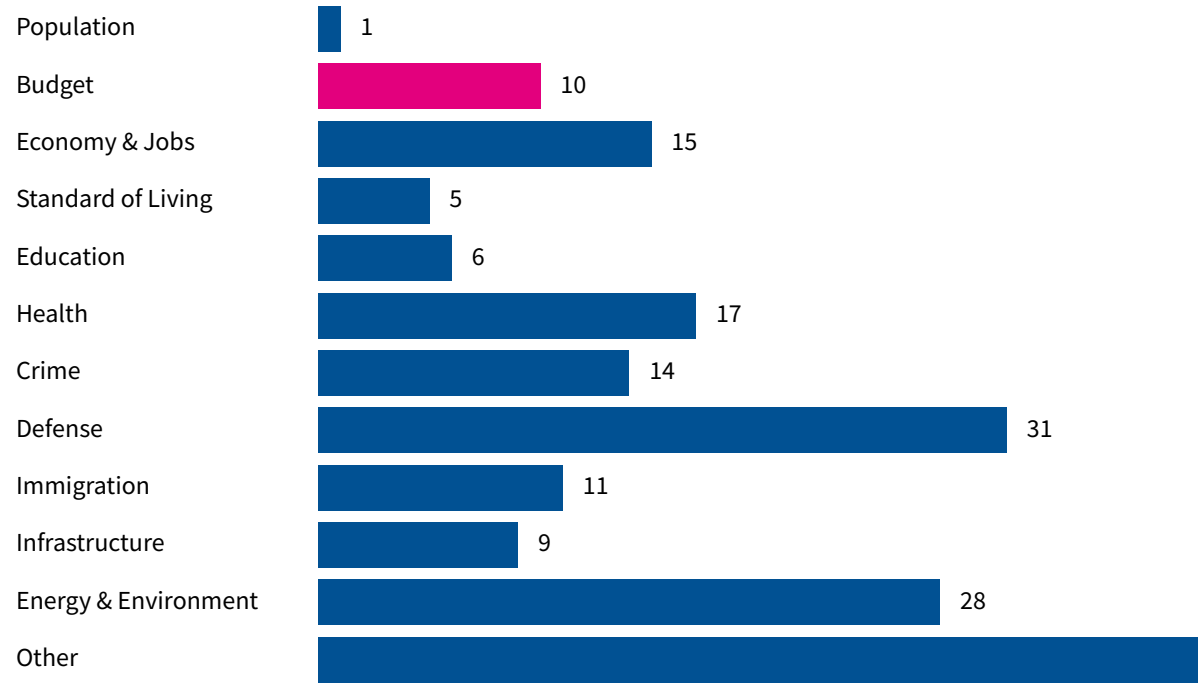
[see more](#) ✓

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

There were 10 budget actions,

including passing the Consolidated Appropriations Act into law, setting the budget for fiscal year 2019.

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS IN 2019

Sources: USAFacts calculations using data from the Federal Register and the Library of Congress..

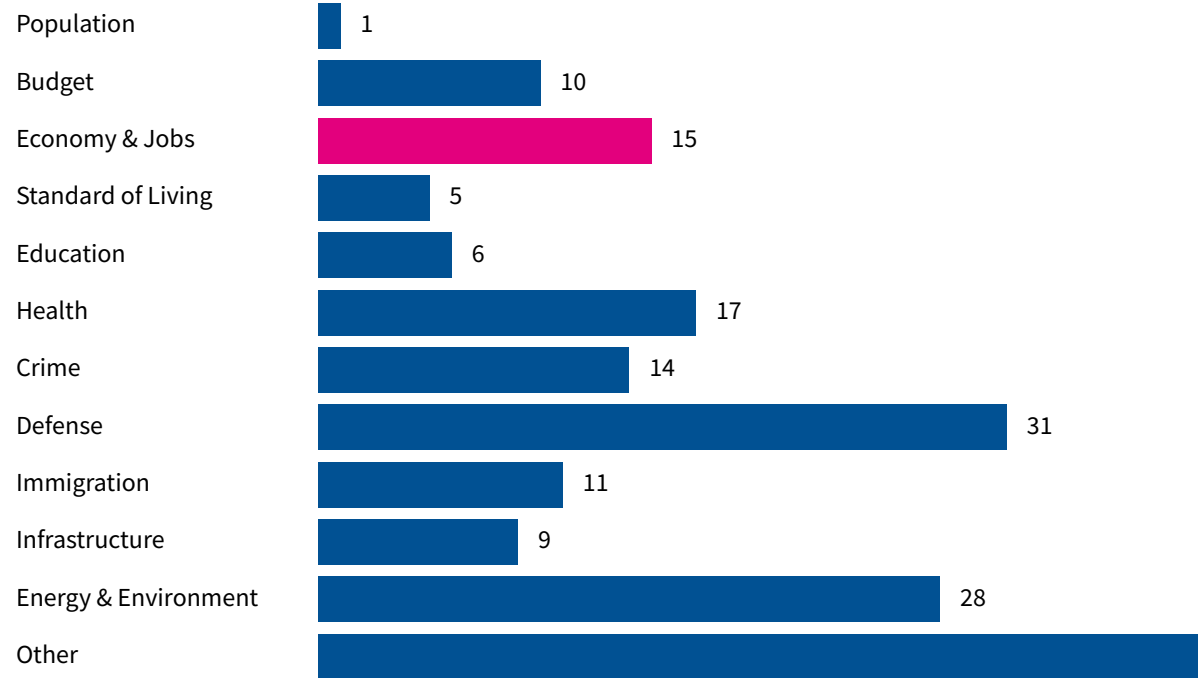
[see more](#) [v](#)

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

There were 15 economy actions,

including a law passed by Congress to protect some small businesses in certain bankruptcy proceedings; an executive order strengthening preferences for American-made goods in federal procurement; and a rule reducing the regulatory burden in setting safety and health standards for workers.

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS IN 2019

Sources: USAFacts calculations using data from the Federal Register and the Library of Congress..

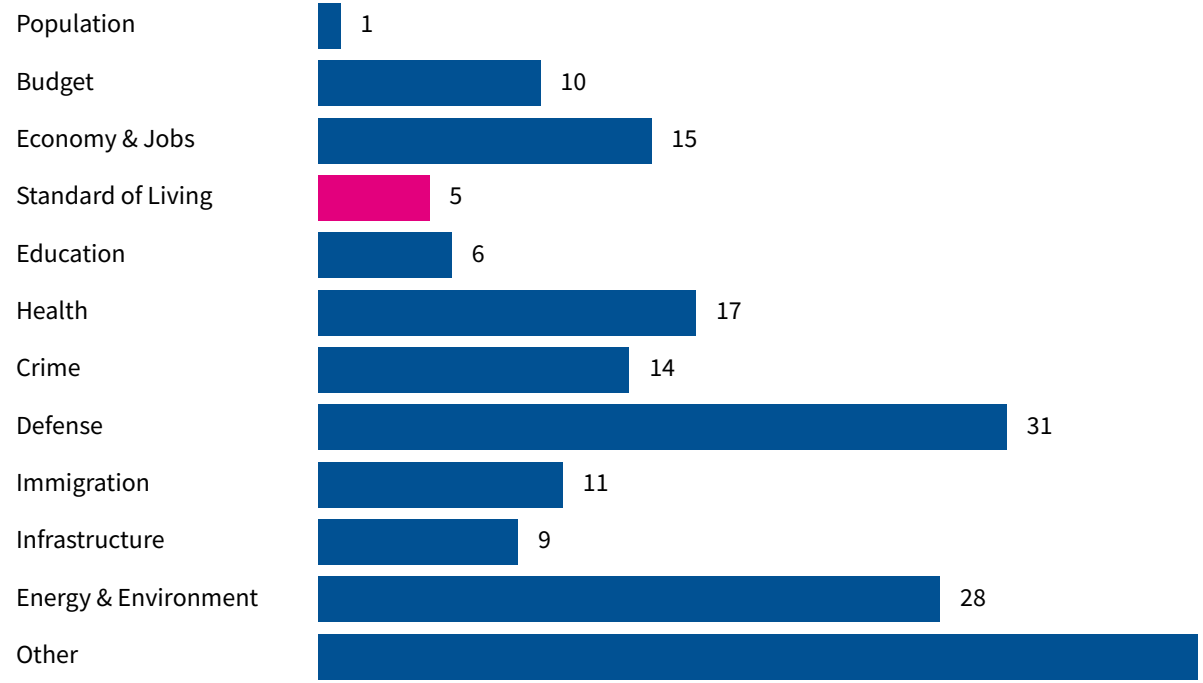
[see more](#) ▼

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

There were five actions related to the standard of living,

including a law passed by Congress extending certain Medicaid grants and eligibility requirements; an executive order establishing a White House council on eliminating regulatory barriers to affordable housing; and a rule establishing a new condominium approval process to promote affordable homeownership.

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS IN 2019

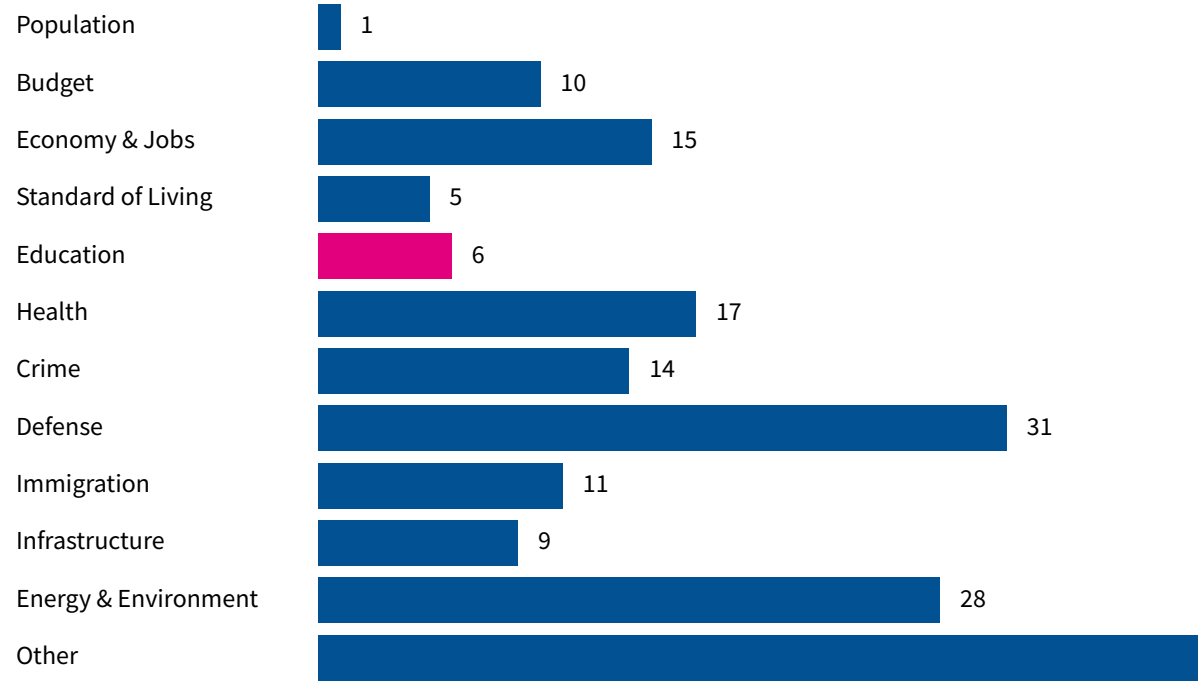
Sources: USAFacts calculations using data from the Federal Register and the Library of Congress..
[see more](#) ✓

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

There were six education actions,

including an executive order on free speech and accountability on college campuses; and a law passed by Congress to recognize the achievements of school employees.

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS IN 2019

Sources: USAFacts calculations using data from the Federal Register and the Library of Congress..

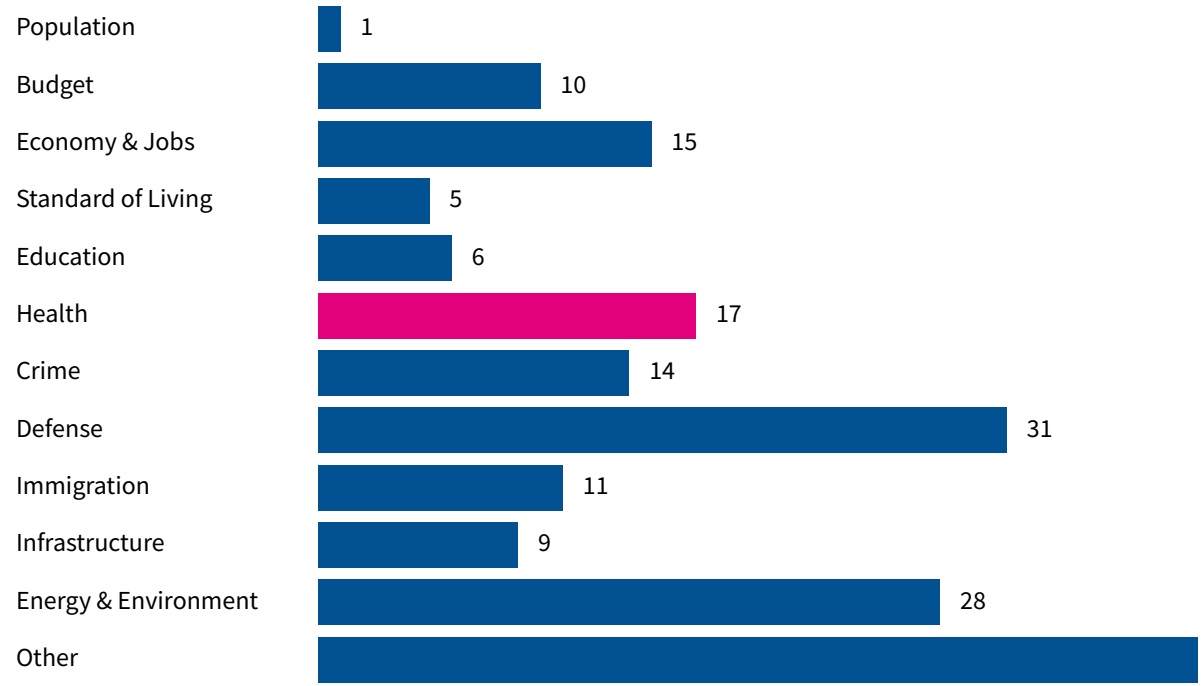
[see more](#) ▼

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

There were 17 health actions,

including a law passed by Congress advancing Autism research and services; an executive order announcing new healthcare price transparency requirements to enable consumers to make more informed decisions in selecting providers; and a rule changing the hospital discharge process for some people in Medicare and Medicaid programs.

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS IN 2019

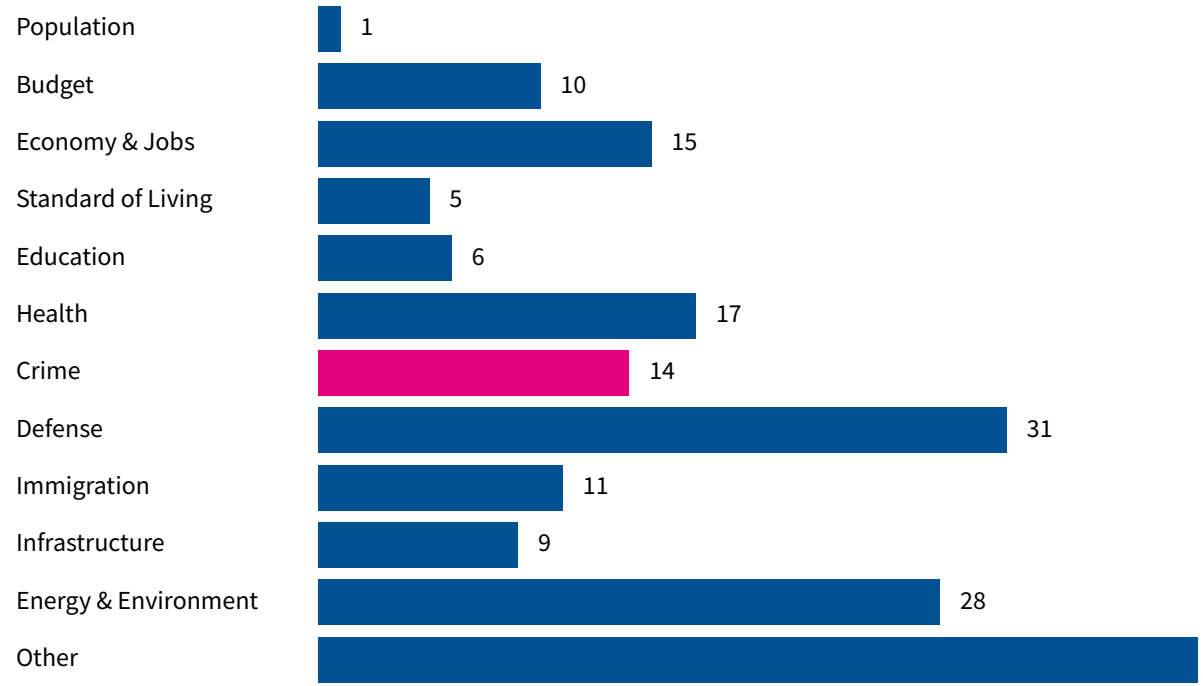
Sources: **USAFacts** calculations using data from the Federal Register and the Library of Congress..
[see more](#) [v](#)

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

There were 14 crime actions,

including a law passed by Congress expanding support for police officer family and mental health services; an executive order addressing transnational criminal organizations; and a rule changing the approval process for explosives licenses.

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS IN 2019

Sources: USAFacts calculations using data from the Federal Register and the Library of Congress..

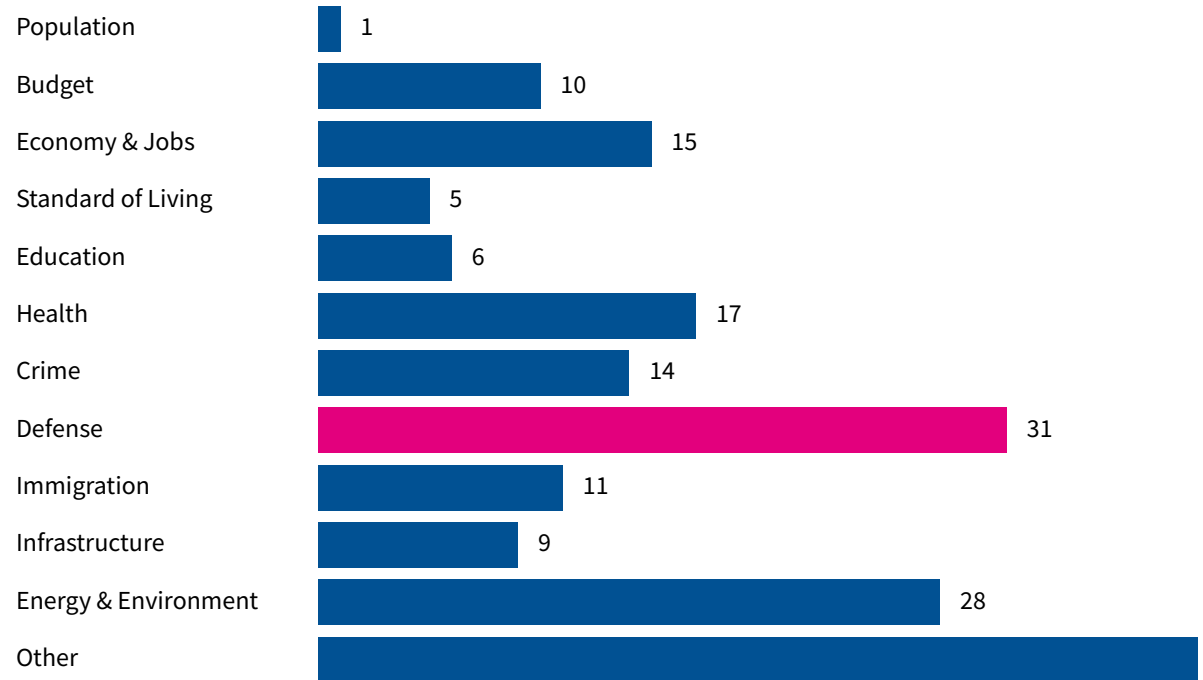
[see more](#) [v](#)

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

There were 31 defense actions,

including a law passed by Congress expanding protections for veterans in bankruptcy; an executive order imposing sanctions on Iran; and a rule requiring some defense contractors to report counterfeit or potentially counterfeit parts purchased.

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS IN 2019

Sources: USAFacts calculations using data from the Federal Register and the Library of Congress..

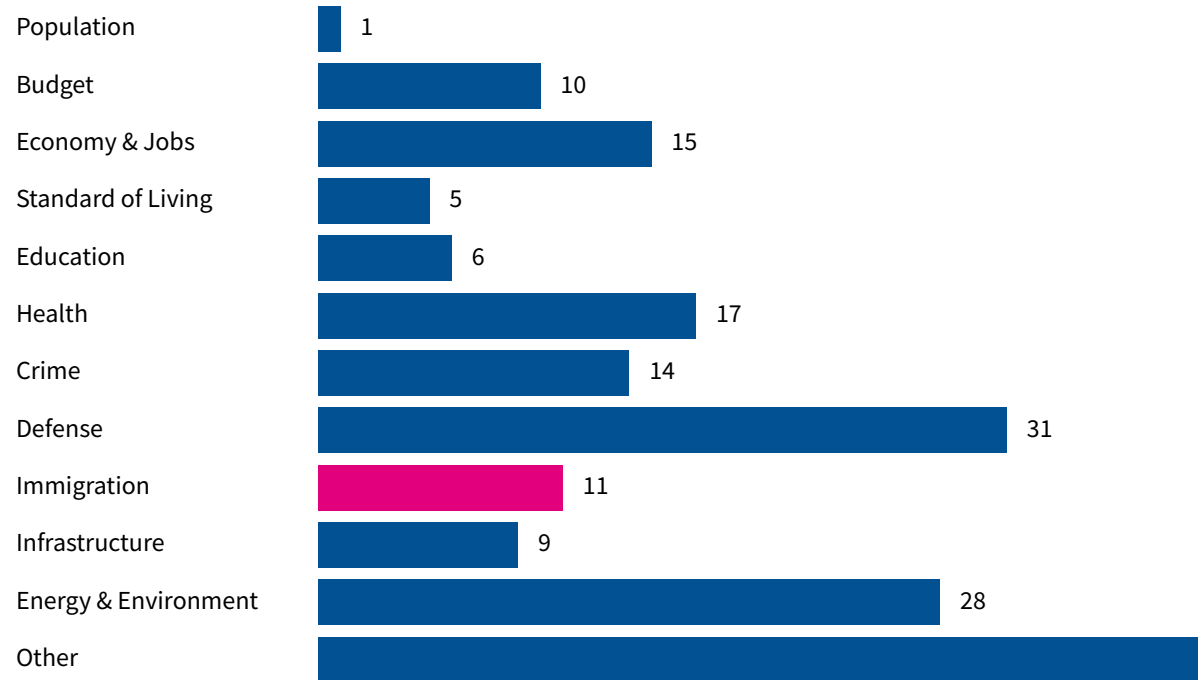
[see more](#) ✓

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

There were 11 immigration actions,

including a law passed by Congress providing humanitarian assistance and security at the Southern border; an executive order enhancing state and local government involvement in refugee resettlement; and a rule changing the treatment of juveniles and families of immigrants in government custody.

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS IN 2019

Sources: USAFacts calculations using data from the Federal Register and the Library of Congress..

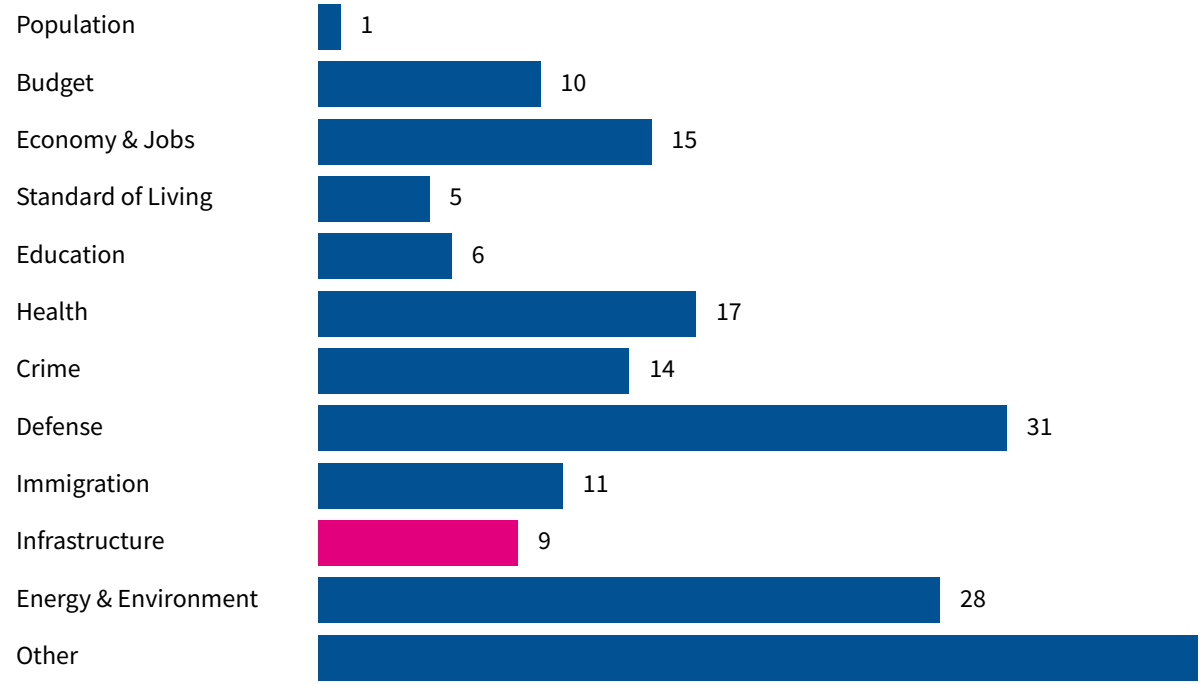
[see more](#) ▼

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

There were nine infrastructure actions,

including a law passed by Congress to restore Harmony Way Bridge between Indiana and Illinois; an executive order strengthening preferences for American-made building materials in infrastructure projects; and a rule prohibiting the transport of lithium ion cells and batteries as cargo on passenger aircraft.

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS IN 2019

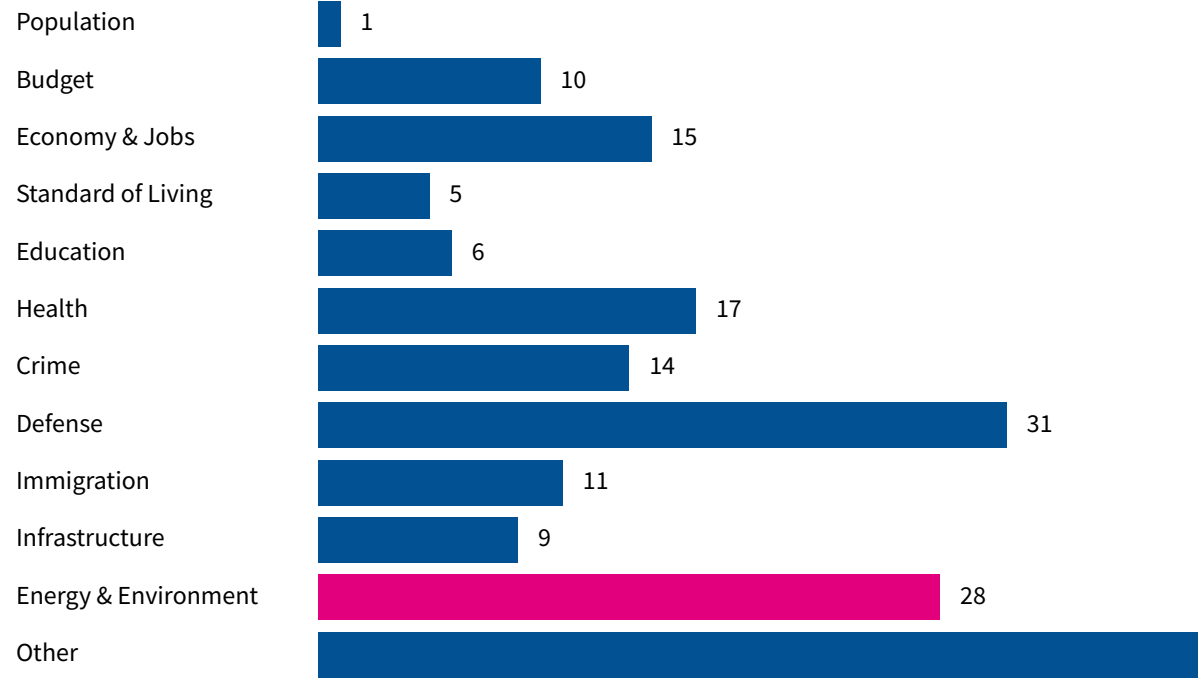
Sources: USAFacts calculations using data from the Federal Register and the Library of Congress..
[see more](#) ✓

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

There were 28 actions for energy and the environment,

including a law passed by Congress to preserve certain public lands and animal habitats from development; an executive order promoting energy infrastructure and economic growth; and a rule rolling back certain fuel economy standards for cars and rescinding California's authority to set its own emission standards for certain vehicles.

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS IN 2019

Sources: USAFacts calculations using data from the Federal Register and the Library of Congress..
[see more](#) ✓

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

What are some of the actions the federal government took in 2019 in these issue areas?

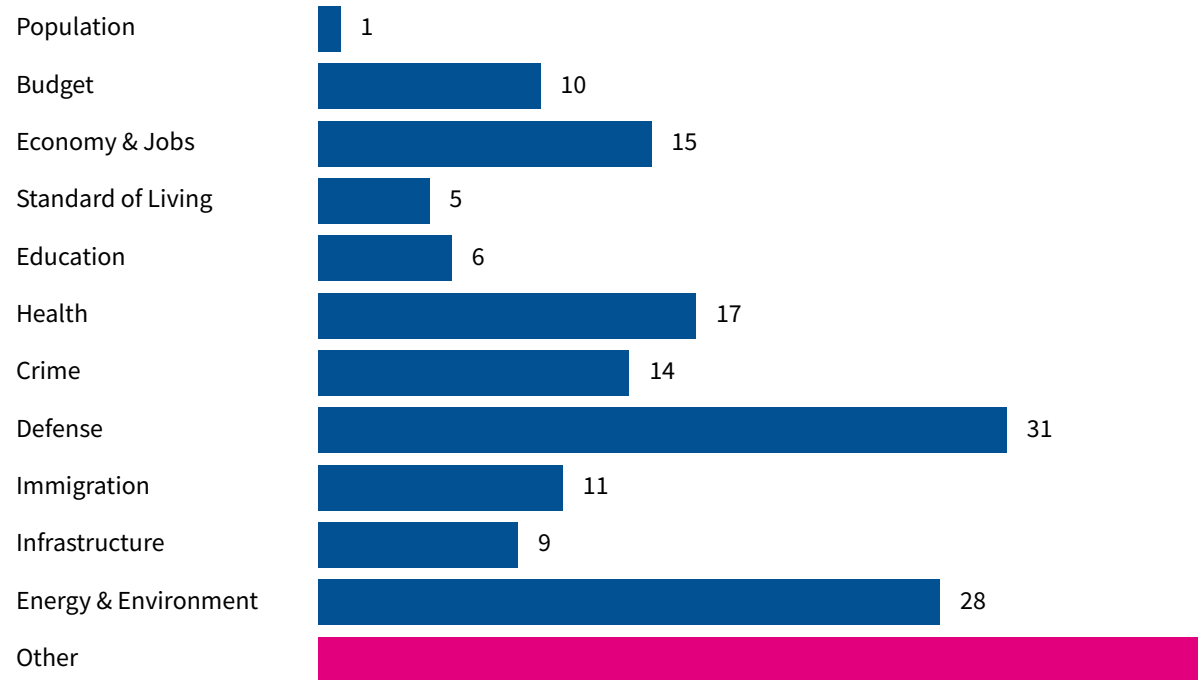


FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

There were 65 other actions that did not fit in these categories.

Some of these actions were related to agriculture, such as a law passed to provide economic relief to farmers; some were ceremonial declarations like the naming of 19 post offices; some related to non-military foreign affairs, such as a law imposing sanctions on officials responsible for human rights abuses in Hong Kong. There were also actions related to general governmental operations, such as executive orders evaluating the utility of federal advisory committees.

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS IN 2019

Sources: USAFacts calculations using data from the Federal Register and the Library of Congress..
[see more](#) ✓