America in Facts 2022
An Annual Report for the Nation

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Our nation, in numbers.

All Americans are stakeholders in this democracy. To find solutions to issues affecting the United States, everyone, from regular citizens to top policymakers, needs data to understand how the government serves the people. USAFacts believes that democracy is only successful when it’s grounded in facts. The reliable, comprehensible government data in this report and at USAFacts.org can help provide that grounding.

USAFacts exclusively uses publicly available government data, presenting an array of reports on US spending, revenue, population and demographics, and policy outcomes. The result is the largest single source for standardized US government data. USAFacts presents this data in plain language with helpful visualizations so you can understand the history of programs and policies.

This annual report is a key to understanding where the nation stands on dozens of issues. It’s metrics and measurements from federal, state, and county records, but it’s also the context behind that data. It’s a trove of information that has traditionally been hard to come by during the policy- and decision-making process. That’s one reason why lawmakers found the last annual report so valuable — and precisely why all Americans deserve the same access.

As for what to do with that data, that’s up to you. Whether government money is spent wisely or not, whether the quality of life is improving or getting worse — that’s for you to decide.

USAFacts also produces a 10-K modeled on the document that public companies must submit annually to the Securities and Exchange Commission for transparency and accountability to their investors.

Get the facts and engage with the data at USAFacts.org.

FOLLOW USAFACTS
Our mission

USAfacts provides a data-driven portrait of the American population, US governments’ finances, and governments’ impact on society. We are a nonpartisan, not-for-profit civic initiative without a political agenda. We provide vital spending, revenue, demographic, and performance information as a free public service.

**COMPREHENSIVE**
We offer a complete view of government impact and finances, from the federal level to the county where you live. We’re always collecting and adding metrics from the nation’s more than 90,000 government entities.

**UNDERSTANDABLE**
We gather metrics from government sources and standardize them so they’re easy to grasp. That means detailed reports and clear, vibrant visualizations illustrating the data.

**FACTUAL AND UNBIASED**
We rely only on figures from government agencies and present them without bias. You can use the data to judge the country’s direction for yourself. We don’t answer to a board or political group. We have no agenda other than improving debates — and, by extension, American democracy — with government facts that every American deserves to see.

**CONTEXTUAL**
USAfacts uses government data from many different sources, allowing you to see the big picture all in one place. Each metric is presented with historical context so you can make your own comparisons. Our visualizations are simple to navigate so that you can measure changes over time.

**PEOPLE-CENTRIC**
We include details on different races and ethnicities and for various incomes and family structures whenever possible.

Please visit USAfacts.org for more details on sources and methodology.

About our data

We have compiled federal, state, and local data from over 70 government sources and 120 databases.

**SOME OF OUR SOURCES:**
- Agency for International Development
- Bureau of Economic Analysis
- Bureau of the Fiscal Service
- Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Defense
- Department of Education
- Department of Energy
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Homeland Security
- Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Department of the Interior
- Department of Labor
- Department of Justice
- Department of State
- Department of Transportation
- Department of the Treasury
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Energy Information Administration
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
- Federal Election Commission
- Federal Reserve
- Federal Trade Commission
- Government Accountability Office
- Internal Revenue Service
- National Labor Relations Board
- National Science Foundation
- Office of Management and Budget
- Social Security Administration
- United States Census Bureau

The US Census Bureau provides data about the American people and economy. Its operations were significantly impacted in 2020 by the COVID-19 pandemic. While it released results of the 2020 census, the Census Bureau did not release its usual data for the 2020 American Community Survey because of data quality concerns. As a result, we do not use the 2020 one-year American Community Survey estimates in this report.

Each year, the Census Bureau releases provisional population estimates based on the previous decennial census and other data on births, deaths, and migration/emigration. Each decade, following the census, it reconciles its estimates and releases final data. The 2020 decennial census is complete and intercensal reconciliation is expected to be complete later this year. Concurrently, the bureau is working on its estimates for 2020 forward based on the 2020 census. It releases both sets of data in waves as different components are complete. When available, we used the final, reconciled data (intercensal estimates). When unavailable, we used the latest “vintage” postcensal estimates.
Government System & Finances
The US is composed of 50 states, the District of Columbia, associated jurisdictions (including Puerto Rico, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, US Virgin Islands, and American Samoa), 574 federally recognized American Indian tribes, and over 90,000 local governments.

**There are three levels of government: federal, state, and local.**

The federal government is regulated by a system of checks and balances defined by the US Constitution, the country’s supreme legal document. The Constitution divides the federal government into three branches. The legislative branch makes laws, the executive branch carries out the laws, and the judicial branch evaluates laws.

### The Federal Government

#### Legislative Branch

- **The Congress**
  - Senate | House
    - 100 SENATORS
    - 435 REPRESENTATIVES

- • ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL
- • UNITED STATES BOTANIC GARDEN
- • GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE
- • GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
- • LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
- • CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
- • US CAPITOL POLICE

#### Executive Branch

- **The President, The Vice President, Executive Office of the President**

- • WHITE HOUSE OFFICE
- • OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
- • COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS
- • COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
- • NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
- • OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION
- • OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
- • OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY
- • OFFICE OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT
- • OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
- • OFFICE OF THE US TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

#### Judicial Branch

- **The Supreme Court of the United States**
  - 9 JUSTICES

- • UNITED STATES COURTS OF APPEALS
- • UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURTS
- • TERRITORIAL COURTS
- • UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE
- • UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS
- • ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES COURTS
- • FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER
- • UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION

### Executive Departments

- • DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
- • DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
- • DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
- • DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
- • DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
- • DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
- • DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
- • DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
- • DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
- • DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
- • DEPARTMENT OF STATE
- • DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
- • DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
- • DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Other Agencies and Bureaus

- • ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
- • GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
- • NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
- • NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
- • OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT
- • SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
- • SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION
- • US AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- • US NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
- • DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY
- • EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES
- • FARM CREDIT SYSTEM INSURANCE CORPORATION
- • FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
- • FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION
- • GENERAL FUND OF THE US GOVERNMENT
- • MILLENIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION
- • NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION
- • OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION
- • PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION
- • RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD
- • SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
- • SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
- • TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY
- • US POSTAL SERVICE

### In Conservatorship

- • FANNIE MAE
- • FREDDIE MAC

### Significant Related Entities

- • THE FEDERAL RESERVE
- • THE FARM CREDIT SYSTEM
- • FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANKS

For a discussion of each of the federal government departments and offices, please see The United States Government Manual at https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/GOVMAN.
Under the Tenth Amendment to the US Constitution, all powers not granted to the federal government are reserved for the states and people. Although not required by the Constitution, all state governments are modeled after the federal government and have three branches.

**STATE GOVERNMENTS (50)**

**EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

**Governor**

**MOST STATES ALSO ELECT:**
- Lieutenant Governor
- Attorney General
- Secretary of State
- Auditors and Commissioners

**LEGISLATIVE BRANCH**

Elected Representatives to Upper and Lower Houses:
- Senate
- House (except Nebraska)

**JUDICIAL BRANCH**

State Supreme Court

- Appellate Courts
- Trial Courts

The US Census Bureau recognizes five types of local governments: county, municipal, township, special district, and school district. Counties, municipalities, and townships are general purpose governments providing a broad number of services. School district and other special district governments perform only a limited number of functions.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (90,075)**

**GENERAL PURPOSE GOVERNMENTS (38,779)**

County (3,031)
Municipality (19,495)
Township (16,253)

**SPECIAL DISTRICT GOVERNMENTS (51,296)**

Independent School Districts (12,754)
Other Special Districts (38,542)

INCLUDING:
- Air Transportation
- Cemeteries
- Corrections
- Electric Power
- Fire Protection
- Gas Supply
- Health
- Highways
- Hospitals
- Housing and Community Development
- Industrial Development
- Libraries
- Mortgage Credit
- Natural Resources
- Parking Facilities
- Parks and Recreation
- Sea and Inland Port Facilities
- Sewerage
- Solid Waste Management
- Transit
- Water Supply

To carry out its duties under the Constitution, government raises money, spends money, regulates and legislates, issues executive orders and court orders, and runs businesses (e.g., post offices, transit systems, and hospitals). Local governments must be granted the authority to raise and spend money by their state government.
Federal, state, and local governments employ 23.8 million people.

**GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT: 23.8 MILLION**
**FEDERAL (2014)³, STATE AND LOCAL (2020)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Federal Employment</th>
<th>State and Local Employment</th>
<th>Percent Change Since 1980</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education: elementary and secondary</td>
<td>7,796,830</td>
<td>1,335,576</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education: higher education</td>
<td>3,327,933</td>
<td>1,348,479</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitals</td>
<td>1,355,576</td>
<td>1,212,975</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active-duty military¹</td>
<td>1,384,479</td>
<td>752,510</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police protection</td>
<td>1,384,479</td>
<td>752,510</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corrections</td>
<td>1,384,479</td>
<td>752,510</td>
<td>202%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National defense and international relations⁴</td>
<td>743,813</td>
<td>711,644</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other and unallocable</td>
<td>743,813</td>
<td>711,644</td>
<td>161%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>663,192</td>
<td>663,192</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postal service</td>
<td>578,493</td>
<td>578,493</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial administration</td>
<td>577,014</td>
<td>577,014</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public welfare</td>
<td>552,200</td>
<td>552,200</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highways</td>
<td>508,502</td>
<td>508,502</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judicial and legal⁵</td>
<td>503,579</td>
<td>503,579</td>
<td>111%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks and recreation</td>
<td>451,255</td>
<td>451,255</td>
<td>106%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire protection</td>
<td>448,194</td>
<td>448,194</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other government administration</td>
<td>442,081</td>
<td>442,081</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural resources</td>
<td>361,355</td>
<td>361,355</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transit</td>
<td>268,311</td>
<td>268,311</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water supply</td>
<td>192,927</td>
<td>192,927</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libraries</td>
<td>187,893</td>
<td>187,893</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewerage</td>
<td>133,501</td>
<td>133,501</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing and community development</td>
<td>126,581</td>
<td>126,581</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solid waste management</td>
<td>114,337</td>
<td>114,337</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air transportation</td>
<td>99,930</td>
<td>99,930</td>
<td>356%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education: other</td>
<td>92,787</td>
<td>92,787</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric power</td>
<td>78,560</td>
<td>78,560</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social insurance administration (State &amp; local)</td>
<td>63,385</td>
<td>63,385</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social insurance administration (Federal)³</td>
<td>62,708</td>
<td>62,708</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water transport and terminals</td>
<td>18,879</td>
<td>18,879</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space research and technology</td>
<td>17,736</td>
<td>17,736</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State liquor stores</td>
<td>12,868</td>
<td>12,868</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas supply</td>
<td>11,604</td>
<td>11,604</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: USAFacts calculations using data from the US Census Bureau and Defense Manpower Data Center
Notes: 1) Federal employment data is from 2014 due to a change in data collection, whereas state and local government employment data goes to 2020. In 2014, federal employees made up about 17% of total government employment; 2) Employment as of March of specified year; 3) Active-duty military as of September of specified year; 4) Civilian military employees are included in “National defense and international relations”; 5) Percent change calculated from 1982 due to lack of data availability in 1980.
We the people.

Aside from dictating the structure and responsibilities of the federal government and its relationship to the states, the Constitution describes what the people of the United States aim to achieve through government.

USAFacts organizes its view of government into four missions, based on the framework set out in the Constitution’s preamble.

PREAMBLE TO THE US CONSTITUTION

We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union,

Establish justice, insure domestic tranquility,

- Crime and disasters: physical safety of Americans
- Consumer and employee safeguards: protection from financial crime, wrongdoing, or malfeasance by businesses
- Child safety and miscellaneous social services: protection of children from dangerous family situations

Promote the general welfare,

- Economy and infrastructure: economic stimulus, including policies and investments in infrastructure and research & development
- Standard of living and aid to the disadvantaged: income, taxes, transfers to citizens, and what people can purchase
- Health: public health and the healthcare industry, which is affected by government regulation and payments
- Government-run businesses: operation of the post office, hospitals, and airports, among others

Provide for the common defense,

- National defense and support for veterans: military forces and services to support our veterans
- Foreign affairs and foreign aid: economic, military, and other support to countries around the world
- Immigration and border security: immigration policy and protection of our nation’s borders

Secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity,

- Education: investment in children, our workforce, and human capital
- Wealth and savings: financial security, savings policy, mandating investment in Social Security and Medicare, and debt
- Sustainability and self-sufficiency: regulation, policies, and taxes on industry to help protect the planet and ensure energy and food supply
- The American Dream: promoting equality and a chance to move up economically, and participation in democracy

do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.
In 2019, combined government spending exceeded combined revenue by $948 billion.

This is close to total spending on national defense, support for veterans, and foreign aid in the same year.

FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCES (2019)
ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION (FY2019 DOLLARS)

2019 SPENDING
$6.7 trillion

2019 REVENUE
$5.8 trillion

Source: USAFacts aggregation of data from Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)
Adjusted for inflation (FY2019 dollars).
Note: Charts are shown to scale for comparison. Visual does not include $67B in programs where offsetting collections exceeded spending in 2019 for general commerce, banking and finance, housing support and US Post Office. State and local government data are not as current as federal data due to varying collection times, so combined totals are only available through 2019, the most recent year of data.

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Adjusted for inflation (FY2019 dollars).
Note: Charts are shown to scale for comparison. Visual does not include $67B in programs where offsetting collections exceeded spending in 2019 for general commerce, banking and finance, housing support and US Post Office. State and local government data are not as current as federal data due to varying collection times, so combined totals are only available through 2019, the most recent year of data.
Between 1980 and 2019, combined government revenue increased from $2.4 trillion to $5.8 trillion.

FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE (1980 VS. 2019)
ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION (FY2019 DOLLARS)

1980 REVENUE
$2.4 trillion

- Individual income taxes: $910B
- Payroll taxes: $495B
- Sales & excise taxes: $331B
- Corporate income taxes: $248B
- Property taxes: $577B
- Non-tax revenue: $136B

2019 REVENUE
$5.8 trillion

- Individual income taxes: $2.2T
- Payroll taxes: $1.3T
- Sales & excise taxes: $740B
- Corporate income taxes: $296B
- Property taxes: $577B
- Non-tax revenue: $136B

Source: USAFacts aggregation of data from Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) Adjusted for inflation (FY2019 dollars).
Note: Charts are shown to scale for comparison. State and local government data are not as current as federal data due to varying collection times, so combined totals are only available through 2019, the most recent year of data.
The amount collected per person by federal, state, and local governments combined increased from $10,700 to $17,500 between 1980 and 2019.

Federal revenue increased by 15% in 2021, driven by increased personal and corporate income tax receipts. While complete data is not yet available beyond 2019, preliminary data shows that state and local tax revenue in 2021 was 14% higher than in 2020.

96% of all government revenue in 2019 came from six areas:

- **38%** Individual income taxes
- **22%** Payroll taxes
- **13%** Sales and excise taxes
- **10%** Property taxes
- **8%** Non-tax revenue
- **5%** Corporate income taxes

Source: USAFacts aggregation of data from Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Census Bureau, and Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)

Adjusted for inflation (FY2019 dollars).
Between 1980 and 2019, combined government spending increased from $2.6 trillion to $6.7 trillion.

FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT SPENDING (1980 VS. 2019)
ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION (FY2019 DOLLARS)

Source: USAFacts aggregation of data from Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)
Adjusted for inflation (FY2019 dollars).
Note: Charts are shown to scale for comparison. Visual does not include $67B in programs where offsetting collections exceeded spending in 2019 for general commerce, banking and finance, housing support and US Post Office, and $800M in 1980 for banking and finance. State and local government data are not as current as federal data due to varying collection times, so combined totals are only available through 2019, the most recent year of data.
Combined government spending per person increased from $11,700 to $20,400 between 1980 and 2019.

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State and local governments account for an average of 33% of government spending, excluding funds transferred from the federal government.

Combined government spending per person increased from $11,700 to $20,400 between 1980 and 2019.

**COMBINED GOVERNMENT SPENDING (FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL)**

87% of all government spending in 2019 went to eight areas.

Most federal spending happens in two ways: direct spending on federal programs (such as for the military) and indirect spending through transfers to state and local governments in the form of grants (such as for infrastructure) that those governments then spend. State and local governments raise money both through federal grants and revenue raised through state and local revenue sources.

Source: USAFacts aggregation of data from Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Census Bureau, and Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)

Adjusted for inflation (FY2019 dollars).

Note: Numbers may not add up due to rounding and the discrepancy between grants from the federal government to state and local governments as reported by the federal government versus as reported by state and local governments.
Federal spending remained relatively flat in fiscal year 2021, increasing less than 1% after rising 45% in 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

More than 50% of increased federal spending between 2019 and 2021 was for assistance to individuals, which more than tripled to $1.1 trillion in 2020 and increased by another $300 billion in 2021.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SPENDING

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS (2019 TO 2021)
INCLUDING DIRECT SPENDING AND TRANSFERS

Source: USAFacts aggregation of data from Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Census Bureau, and Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)
Adjusted for inflation (FY2021 dollars).

The federal government spent 68% more than it collected in fiscal year 2021, resulting in a $2.8 trillion deficit. The deficit decreased from fiscal year 2020 when the federal government spent 91% more than it collected.

The national debt grew to $28.4 trillion last year.

More than half of this debt is owed to the US public and more than one quarter is owed to foreign entities.
Population
Population

As of July 1, 2021, there are 331.9 million people in the US that the government is tasked with serving.

Each decade, the federal government is constitutionally obligated to conduct a census and count every person in the US. The data is used to apportion congressional seats, adjust electoral districts, and determine federal funding. The 2020 census faced unique challenges because of the COVID-19 pandemic. In-person household interviews were delayed and the survey collection period was extended beyond its original end date. Still, the Census Bureau began releasing results of the 2020 census in April 2021.

Data from the Census Bureau and other agencies shows that the US population is growing more slowly than in the past. The population grew 0.1% in 2021, the slowest rate since the nation’s founding, as the death rate increased and immigration slowed.

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Over the last decade, Hispanic Americans accounted for 51% of population growth. The population is also getting older and more people are living alone.

As of July 1, 2021, 331.9 million people were living in the US. That’s a 46% increase since 1980.

Six states gained at least one congressional seat after the 2020 census. Seven states lost a seat.

CHANGE IN CONGRESSIONAL SEATS
BASED ON 2020 CENSUS

Source: Census Bureau
The population grew by 392,665 from 2020 to 2021. This 0.1% growth rate is the lowest since the nation’s founding.

Immigration made up 62% of annual growth.

At 1,041 people per 100,000, 2021’s death rate exceeded any year since 1943, the second year of the country’s engagement in World War II.

The fertility rate increased in 2021 for the first time since 2014, but remained lower than any year other than 2020.

Source: Census Bureau

Source: Census Bureau and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Note: 2021 death rate is based on provisional CDC data, current as of May 11, 2022.
The population is getting older and more people are living alone.

Since 1980, people 65 and older have increased from 11% to 17% of the total population. Thirty-seven million people in the US live alone — that’s 28% of all households, up from 23% in 1980.

The country is growing more racially and ethnically diverse.

The number of non-Hispanic white people decreased 619,300 between the 2010 and 2020 censuses. Hispanic Americans accounted for 51% of population growth between 2010 and 2020.
Economy & Infrastructure
Governments spend money on economic programs and infrastructure to stimulate the economy, promote business and investment, and allow for the movement of people and goods. Federal, state, and local governments spent a combined $302 billion on the economy and infrastructure in 2019. Highway transportation spending comprised the largest portion of this funding — $180 billion.

The US economy continues to experience the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. In some ways, it’s back on track — GDP grew 5.7% in 2021 after falling 3.4% in 2020 and unemployment in April 2022 was 3.6%, only 0.1 percentage point higher than February 2020. But there is also some friction. There are fewer people in the labor market, even as employers have posted more jobs monthly since February 2021 than at any point prior to the pandemic. Inflation, too, is complicating the picture, reducing the purchasing power of raises workers have received.

The pandemic has also impacted US infrastructure and transportation. The number of air travel and public rail passengers declined in March and April 2020, and the federal government increased its infrastructure and transportation spending 50% to provide aid to air carriers, airports, and transit agencies. Air travel and public rail ridership have not recovered to pre-pandemic levels. Federal infrastructure and transportation spending levels remained elevated in 2021.

The federal government also passed the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act in 2021, allocating $550 billion in new federal infrastructure spending spread out over five years.

The federal government also passed the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act in 2021, allocating $550 billion in new federal infrastructure spending spread out over five years. This bill includes funding to repair or rebuild bridges, roads, rail, and airports.
# Key Government Actors

## Economy and Infrastructure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal Government</th>
<th>State &amp; Local Government</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td><strong>Tax Policy</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Treasury Department</td>
<td>• State departments of revenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• IRS</td>
<td>• State legislatures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Congress</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monetary Policy</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Treasury Department</td>
<td>• Sell Treasury securities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Federal Reserve</td>
<td>• Manage inflation, promote maximum employment, and stabilize interest rates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Trade Policy</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Congress</td>
<td>• Negotiate trade agreements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Office of US Trade Representative</td>
<td>• Establish and enforce customs duties and tariffs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• State Department</td>
<td>• Facilitate foreign investment and export of US goods and services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Commerce Department</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Export-Import Bank</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Business Support and Community Development</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Various federal agencies depending on industry (e.g., USDA for farm subsidies)</td>
<td>• Support businesses through direct subsidies and/or loans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Small Business Administration</td>
<td>• Provide funding and guidance for community planning and development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Department of Housing and Urban Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Research and Development</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• National Science Foundation</td>
<td>• Fund and directly conduct basic science research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• NASA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operation of Commercial Businesses</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Postal Service</td>
<td>• Operate public mail system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Corporations (e.g., Amtrak)</td>
<td>• Provide services in regulated areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Infrastructure Investment</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Transportation Department</td>
<td>• Fund and manage federal public infrastructure projects (largely airports, highways, and railroads)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• FCC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• FAA</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
US GDP grew 5.7% in 2021, the highest growth rate in 37 years, reaching almost $23 trillion.

This followed a 3.4% decline in real GDP in 2020 — the largest decline since record keeping began in the 1940s.

The S&P 500 climbed 27% in the second year of the pandemic.

It then fell in three out of the first four months of 2022, ending April 13% below where it was at the start of the year.
Both the unemployment and labor force participation rates moved towards pre-pandemic levels during 2021 and early 2022.

Compared to February 2020, there were 224,000 more unemployed people and 537,000 fewer Americans in the labor force in April 2022.

As of April 2022, labor force participation remains lowest for people 55 and older when compared to pre-pandemic levels.

Considering education level, labor force participation is closest to pre-pandemic levels among those with at least a bachelor’s degree.

The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the working-age population that is either employed or searching for work.
The economy added 6.7 million jobs in 2021, rebounding from 9.3 million lost jobs in 2020.

In May 2021, the number of job openings began to exceed the number of unemployed people.

In March 2022, there were 0.52 unemployed people for every opening, the fewest since data collection began in 2001. In February 2022, the job openings rate was highest in the leisure and hospitality sector.

PERCENT CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT (FEB. 2022 VS. FEB. 2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Feb. 2020</th>
<th>Feb. 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>-1.3%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining and logging</td>
<td>-12.5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leisure and hospitality</td>
<td>-9.5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other services</td>
<td>-5.1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>-3.1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and health services</td>
<td>-2.1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale trade</td>
<td>-1.8%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>-1.5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>-1.2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>-0.2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial activities</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail trade</td>
<td>+1.5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional and business services</td>
<td>+2.8%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation and warehousing</td>
<td>+10.6%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
Note: Seasonally adjusted.

In March 2022, there were 0.52 unemployed people for every opening, the fewest since data collection began in 2001. In February 2022, the job openings rate was highest in the leisure and hospitality sector.
Between February 2020 and February 2022, average hourly earnings increased by 10.6%. However, inflation is muting the purchasing power of these gains. After accounting for inflation, hourly earnings rose 0.9%.

When accounting for inflation, average earnings for workers in most sectors have decreased or stayed the same since February 2020.

Inflation reached its highest level in nearly 40 years in November 2021. Elevated inflation persisted through April 2022, the most recent month of data as of publication. After adjusting for inflation, fuel prices in March 2022 were the highest they have been since July 2014.
Last year, the US imported $861.4 billion more in goods and services than it exported, leading to a 22% increase in the trade deficit from 2020.

The annual goods trade deficit reached $1.1 trillion in 2021, near the all-time high.
Federal transportation and infrastructure spending remained elevated in 2021 after COVID-19 pandemic aid led to a 50% increase in fiscal year 2020.

**FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE SPENDING**

![Graph showing federal transportation and infrastructure spending from 1980 to 2020.](image)

Source: USAFacts aggregation of data from Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) Adjusted for inflation (FY2021 dollars).

Most transportation and infrastructure spending comes directly from state and local governments, which spent $191.1 billion (FY2021 dollars) on projects in 2019, excluding federal transfers.

**TOTAL TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE SPENDING**

![Graph showing total transportation and infrastructure spending from 1980 to 2020.](image)

Source: USAFacts aggregation of data from Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) Adjusted for inflation (FY2021 dollars).

About 32% of federal transportation and infrastructure spending was for highways; 39% was for air travel.

The federal government spent $67.7 billion directly on infrastructure in 2021 and transferred an additional $86.6 billion to states.
Public rail transit ridership in February 2022 was 88% higher than in February 2021 but remained 49% below February 2020 levels.

After falling 96% between February and April 2020, the number of air travel passengers climbed to 68.1 million in December 2021, 86% of pre-pandemic levels.

Car travel nearly recovered to pre-pandemic levels in 2021 after declining 11% in 2020 compared to 2019.

Americans traveled 1% fewer total vehicle miles in 2021 than in 2019. However, they drove 17.6 billion more miles in the second half of 2021 than the same period in 2019.
Rural roads are in better condition than urban roads.

The share of roads in unsatisfactory condition was higher in 2020 than at any point between 2000 and 2009, but their condition has improved each year since 2017.

There are 619,622 bridges in the US and their conditions are improving.

Data on the condition of US train infrastructure has not been updated since 2014. The 2014 data showed a greater share of underground tunnels, stations, train control systems, and elevated structures were in substandard condition than in 2009.
TOTAL SPENDING 2019
$173B (2.6% OF COMBINED SPENDING)

Health
Health

Federal, state, and local government health spending, excluding Medicare and Medicaid, totaled $173 billion in 2019. State and local government spending data during the pandemic is not yet available, but the federal government more than doubled its public health spending to $179.7 billion in 2020, and although it fell to $141.4 billion in 2021, this was still more than twice 2019 spending.

Like government health spending, personal healthcare spending — defined as total nationwide spending on the treatment and prevention of disease for a specific person by public and private health insurance, individuals, and third-party payers — is also increasing. This spending increased 3.2% between 2018 and 2019, and another 4.5% between 2019 and 2020. The increase between 2019 and 2020 was driven by higher spending on hospital expenditures and physician services which both rose faster than the average annual change from 2009 to 2019.

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted Americans and their health since it first started in March 2020. In 2021, vaccines became widely available and more than 60% of the population was vaccinated by the end of the year. Even with vaccines, the US endured waves of cases, hospitalizations, and deaths. Daily hospitalizations reached a record in January 2022 and as of May 15, nearly one million Americans have died from COVID-19.

According to the CDC, increased mortality from COVID-19, unintentional injuries, heart disease, homicide, and diabetes led to a 1.8-year decrease in life expectancy in 2020.

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Source: USAFacts aggregation of data from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) Adjusted for inflation (FY2019 dollars).
### Key Government Actors: Health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FEDERAL GOVERNMENT</th>
<th>STATE &amp; LOCAL GOVERNMENT</th>
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</thead>
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<td><strong>PUBLIC HEALTH</strong></td>
<td><strong>HOSPITALS AND EMERGENCY CARE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgeon General</td>
<td>Department of Veterans Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</td>
<td>Military hospitals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Health and Human Services</td>
<td>Food and Drug Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food and Drug Administration</td>
<td>Agriculture Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture Department</td>
<td>Promote good health and educate the public</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Promote good health and educate the public</td>
<td>• State and county public health agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Research and investigate disease</td>
<td>• Promote good health and educate the public</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Oversee food and drug safety and other health-related services</td>
<td>• Provide and/or coordinate some health services such as disease testing and immunization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provide grants to states</td>
<td>• Provide health services and hospital care to veterans and service members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT</strong></td>
<td><strong>PUBLIC HEALTH</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institutes of Health</td>
<td>• Public universities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fund and directly conduct scientific research</td>
<td>• Conduct health research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HOSPITALS AND EMERGENCY CARE</strong></td>
<td><strong>RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Veterans Affairs</td>
<td>National Institutes of Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military hospitals</td>
<td>• Public hospitals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provide health services and hospital care to veterans and service members</td>
<td>• First responders (911, public ambulance services, and fire departments)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Poison control</td>
<td>• Provide general and emergency medical services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HEALTH INSURANCE</strong></td>
<td><strong>HOSPITALS AND EMERGENCY CARE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Health and Human Services</td>
<td>Department of Veterans Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congress</td>
<td>Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Operate federal health insurance exchanges</td>
<td>• State health exchanges (in some states)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Regulate the health insurance market</td>
<td>• State departments of revenue (in some states)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provide insurance (Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, TriCare, Indian Health Service)</td>
<td>• Operate state health insurance exchanges (in some states)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Impose tax penalties on those who don’t have health coverage (in some states)</td>
<td>• Impose tax penalties on those who don’t have health insurance coverage (in some states)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Omicron coronavirus variant was first detected in the US in December 2021. By mid-January 2022, daily hospitalizations exceeded the previous high set in January 2021 by 12%.

As of May 15, nearly one million Americans have died from COVID-19. That’s 0.3% of the population.

Source: USAFacts aggregation of state and local public health data
COVID-19 deaths decreased in the second year of the pandemic in 28 states and Washington, DC.

YEAR-OVER-YEAR COMPARISON OF CUMULATIVE COVID-19 DEATHS, BY STATE PER 100,000 PEOPLE

STATES WHERE DEATHS DECREASED BETWEEN YEARS 1 & 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Year 1: March 2020-February 2021</th>
<th>Year 2: March 2021-February 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
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<td>Arkansas</td>
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<td>Oklahoma</td>
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<td>Arizona</td>
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<td>South Carolina</td>
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<td>Nebraska</td>
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<td>Indiana</td>
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<td>New Mexico</td>
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<td>Louisiana</td>
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<td>Pennsylvania</td>
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<td>Texas</td>
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<td>Delaware</td>
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<td>Iowa</td>
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<td>Illinois</td>
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<td>Kansas</td>
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<td>New Jersey</td>
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<td>Massachusetts</td>
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<td>Wisconsin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Dakota</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
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<td>Minnesota</td>
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<td>North Dakota</td>
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<td>Rhode Island</td>
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<td>Connecticut</td>
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<tr>
<td>California</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington, DC</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Deaths decreased by more than half in South Dakota, California, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Washington, DC.

After accounting for population size, deaths increased most in Alaska and Hawaii, where they more than doubled.

Source: USAFacts aggregation of state and local public health data
As of May 11, 2022, nearly 220 million Americans have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and 101 million have received a booster shot or extra dose.

Vaccination rates are lowest in parts of the South and Mountain West and highest in the Northeast.

Visit our dashboard for the most up-to-date COVID-19 case, hospitalization, vaccination, and deaths data: https://usafacts.org/issues/coronavirus/
Life expectancy dropped 1.8 years from 2019 to 2020. Preliminary data indicates life expectancy fell by 2.9 years for Black people and 3.0 years for Hispanic people.

Cancer, heart disease, and COVID-19 were the three top causes of death in both 2020 and 2021.

Americans are smoking less, but an increasing proportion has obesity.

As of 2020, 19% of Americans have been told by a doctor that they have depression.
Personal healthcare spending was $3.4 trillion in 2020, a 4.5% increase from 2019.

Hospital expenditures and physician services drove the increase, with spending in both categories rising faster in 2020 than the average annual change from 2009 to 2019.

Before the pandemic, state and local governments were primarily responsible for public health. State and local public health spending data is not yet available for 2020 or 2021, but they spent $108 billion in 2019.

The federal government spent $141.4 billion on public health in 2021 — a 21% decrease from 2020, but more than double its 2019 public health spending.
Twenty-eight million Americans did not have health insurance in 2020. The share of people without health insurance increased to 8.6% in 2020 from 8.0% in 2019, led by a decline in employment-based coverage. Insurance coverage varies by race and ethnicity: 18.3% of Hispanic Americans and 10.4% of Black Americans were uninsured in 2020.

Average insurance spending varies 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 relatively flat over the last decade, however, while private insurance spending has increased.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>USA FACTS</th>
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<tr>
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<td>POPULATION</td>
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<td>ECONOMY &amp; INFRASTRUCTURE</td>
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<td>HEALTH</td>
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<td>STANDARD OF LIVING</td>
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<td>EDUCATION</td>
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<td>WEALTH &amp; SAVINGS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ENERGY &amp; ENVIRONMENT</td>
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<td></td>
<td>CRIME &amp; DISASTERS</td>
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<td>IMMIGRATION &amp; BORDER SECURITY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DEFENSE, VETERANS &amp; FOREIGN AID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL SPENDING 2019**

$1.1T (15.8% OF COMBINED SPENDING)

**Standard of Living**
Standard of Living

In 2019, government spent a combined $1.1 trillion to support a minimum standard of living for Americans. Half of this spending was transfers from the federal government to state and local governments to support programs like Medicaid and unemployment insurance.

Many lost jobs and income at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The poverty rate increased for the first time since 2014 in 2020, although it remained below the 2010 high following the Great Recession. Many people also experienced food and housing insecurity, although incidences of both decreased in 2021.

The poverty rate increased for the first time since 2014 in 2020.

While state and local spending data is not yet available for 2020 and 2021, the federal government increased its standard of living spending to provide support to Americans during the pandemic. Federal government spending on standard of living programs, excluding transfers to state and local governments, increased by more than 200% between 2019 and 2020 and 27% between 2020 and 2021. Major legislation, such as the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, provided additional food assistance, rental assistance, and direct payments of up to $1,400 for many Americans.

The average market income of middle-class families was $52,195 before the COVID-19 pandemic. Compared to 2000, these households paid fewer taxes and received more government transfers. This data provides an important pre-pandemic baseline to which comparisons can be made as data for 2020 becomes available later this year.

### Key Government Actors

#### Standard of Living

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<th>State &amp; Local Government</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income and Taxes</strong></td>
<td><strong>Key Actors</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Labor Department</td>
<td>• State labor departments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Congress</td>
<td>• State departments of taxation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• IRS</td>
<td>• City governments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Cash Assistance</strong></th>
<th><strong>Key Actors</strong></th>
<th><strong>Responsibilities</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Department of Health and Human Services</td>
<td>• Set and enforce federal minimum wage</td>
<td>• Department of Health and Human Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Social Security Administration</td>
<td>• Set and collect income taxes</td>
<td>• Social Security Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Labor Department</td>
<td>• Set and administer tax credits such as EITC and child tax credit</td>
<td>• Office of Refugee Resettlement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Non-Cash Assistance and Services (Including Medical Benefits)</strong></th>
<th><strong>Key Actors</strong></th>
<th><strong>Responsibilities</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Department of Health and Human Services</td>
<td>• Fund childcare assistance</td>
<td>• Department of Health and Human Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services</td>
<td>• Provide health insurance (Medicaid and CHIP)</td>
<td>• Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Agriculture Department</td>
<td>• Provide nutrition programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); school lunch; women, infants, and children support</td>
<td>• Education Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Department of Housing and Urban Development</td>
<td>• Provide Pell Grants</td>
<td>• Department of Housing and Urban Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fund and administer some housing assistance</td>
<td>• State departments of families/social services</td>
<td>• Social Security Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• State departments of health services</td>
<td>• Local public housing agencies</td>
<td>• State labor departments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• State departments of health services</td>
<td>• State labor departments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Before the pandemic, middle-class families earned an average of $52,195 in market income. After adjusting for inflation, this is $2,451 less than in 2000. However, middle-class earners received $7,450 more in government transfers and paid $539 less in taxes in 2019 than in 2000.

### Average Total Market Income (2000 and 2019) by Income Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Group</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All families</td>
<td>$95,086</td>
<td>$102,984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top 1%</td>
<td>$2,051,321</td>
<td>$2,640,421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top 2-20%</td>
<td>$93,066</td>
<td>$97,534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth 20%</td>
<td>$54,645</td>
<td>$52,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle 20%</td>
<td>$26,643</td>
<td>$22,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second 20%</td>
<td>$4,567</td>
<td>$2,599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottom 20%</td>
<td>$102,984</td>
<td>$75,402</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Average Taxes Paid (2000 and 2019) by Income Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Group</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All families</td>
<td>$35,143</td>
<td>$35,658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top 1%</td>
<td>$831,948</td>
<td>$910,506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top 2-20%</td>
<td>$31,942</td>
<td>$31,351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth 20%</td>
<td>$17,623</td>
<td>$17,084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle 20%</td>
<td>$8,713</td>
<td>$8,729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second 20%</td>
<td>$4,064</td>
<td>$4,057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottom 20%</td>
<td>$12,704</td>
<td>$20,490</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Average Transfers Received (2000 and 2019) by Income Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Group</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All families</td>
<td>$12,704</td>
<td>$20,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top 1%</td>
<td>$10,854</td>
<td>$16,318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top 2-20%</td>
<td>$8,403</td>
<td>$11,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth 20%</td>
<td>$8,960</td>
<td>$15,196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle 20%</td>
<td>$12,398</td>
<td>$19,848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second 20%</td>
<td>$14,316</td>
<td>$27,584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottom 20%</td>
<td>$18,664</td>
<td>$26,988</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Market income sources include wages, investments, and retirement. Transfers include cash transfers like unemployment insurance and noncash transfers like Medicaid. Taxes include both direct taxes, such as income and sales taxes, and indirect taxes like FICA and unemployment insurance payroll taxes.
From December 2020 to December 2021, the number of households nationwide reporting difficulty paying for expenses decreased seven percentage points to 30.5%.

The proportion of households experiencing housing insecurity dropped from 7.8% in the first quarter of 2021 to 6.5% in the first quarter of 2022.

The share of adults reporting food scarcity ticked up above 10% during the first four months of 2022, but remained below the high of 13.7% reported in December 2020.

These households are behind on rent or mortgage payments and have little confidence they will be able to make their next payment. In both quarters, Utah had the lowest share of households experiencing housing insecurity, while Mississippi and Louisiana had the highest.
The poverty rate decreased from 15.1% in 2010 to 11.4% in 2020, despite an increase of 0.9 percentage points between 2019 and 2020.

The 2020 poverty rate increase was broadly experienced by Black, Hispanic, white, and Asian Americans and also people younger than 65. However, poverty rates among each of these groups remain below 2010 levels.

To determine whether a person or family is considered in poverty, the Census Bureau compares total family income before taxes, capital gains, and noncash benefits (e.g., Medicaid and food stamps) to poverty thresholds that vary based on family size and family member ages. If income is below the appropriate threshold, all members of the family are considered in poverty. For a two adult, two child household, the poverty threshold in 2020 was $26,246.\textsuperscript{iv}
Education

TOTAL SPENDING 2019
$997B (14.9% OF COMBINED SPENDING)
Education

Funding for the nation’s education system comes primarily from state and local governments. Federal, state, and local governments spent a combined $997 billion on education in 2019, the most recent year for which data is complete. Spending per student has increased 21% since the 2000–2001 academic year, after adjusting for inflation.

Student loan repayment was suspended through all of 2021 and into 2022 since the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act was passed by Congress and signed into law by former President Donald Trump in March 2020. As of publication, President Biden extended the repayment pause through August 2022. Student loan debt was $1.7 trillion at the end of 2021.

Available data does not yet show the full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on students — education data is released on a delayed schedule — but data that is available indicates preschool and kindergarten enrollment declined in the 2020–2021 academic year. The most recent data (predating COVID-19) on graduation rates, educational attainment, and test scores shows improving trends overall, but persistent gaps between different racial and ethnic groups.

Shortly after taking office in February 2021, President Joe Biden signed an executive order supporting the reopening and continued operation of in-person schooling. At the end of the 2020–2021 school year, 62% of schools offered full-time, in-person instruction. By the beginning of the 2021–2022 academic year, this was true of 98% of schools.

Source: USAFacts aggregation of data from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) Adjusted for inflation (FY2019 dollars).
### Key Government Actors

#### Early Childhood Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal Government</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
<th>State &amp; Local Government</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education Department</td>
<td>Partially fund preschools</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fund, build, operate, and staff public preschool programs, though offerings vary from state to state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Department of Health and Human Services</td>
<td>Fund Head Start programs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### K-12 Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal Government</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
<th>State &amp; Local Government</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education Department</td>
<td>Partially fund K-12 schools</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fund, build, operate, and staff public schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Higher Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal Government</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
<th>State &amp; Local Government</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education Department</td>
<td>Partially fund institutes of higher education</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fund, build, operate, and staff public universities and community colleges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Aid for Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal Government</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
<th>State &amp; Local Government</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education Department</td>
<td>Establish policies and distribute aid (to states and individuals) including:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Title I funding for low-income K-12 schools</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Pell Grants, federal work-study, and student loans</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Education tax benefits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Veterans education benefits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Researches and Regulates Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal Government</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
<th>State &amp; Local Government</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education Department</td>
<td>Enforce Title IX and other anti-discrimination policies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Set rules for data collection and analysis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Create education policy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Mandates and Incentivizes Behavior

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal Government</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
<th>State &amp; Local Government</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mandate school attendance (rules vary by state)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
At the end of the 2020–2021 school year, 62% of K-12 public schools offered students in-person instruction. By the beginning of the 2021–2022 school year, 98% of schools offered full-time, in-person instruction.

Preliminary data shows preschool and kindergarten enrollment per 100,000 children declined between the 2019–2020 and 2020–2021 school years.

Pre-K enrollment fell 17% and kindergarten enrollment fell 10%. Prior to 2020–2021, kindergarten enrollment per 100,000 5-6-year-olds had remained flat and preschool enrollment per 100,000 3-4-year-olds had increased 23% between the 2009–2010 and 2019–2020 academic years.
Nearly four out of five Black or Hispanic eighth-graders are not proficient in these areas. COVID-19 delayed the national 2021 assessment and new data is not yet available.

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

**SPENDING PER K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT**

By Academic Year

- $5,000
- $10,000
- $15,000
- $13,118


Source: National Center for Education Statistics

Adjusted for inflation (2019-2020 academic year dollars).

Although the Education Department has not released its 2019 per-pupil spending estimates, the census estimates that per-pupil spending increased 5% between fiscal years 2018 and 2019.

**STUDENT-TO-TEACHER RATIO**

Private and Public Schools

- 15.9
- 11.9

1990 2000 2010 2020

Source: National Center for Education Statistics

Note: Data reported is for the fall of a given year.
Eighty-six percent of students graduate from high school, with 65% enrolling in college within a year. College enrollment is lowest among Black high school graduates — 48% enrolled in two- or four-year colleges within a year of graduating.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (2019)
BY RACE/ETHNICITY

Graduated high school?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enrolled in college?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduated college?  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: National Center for Education Statistics and Census Bureau  
Note: White, Black, and Asian are non-Hispanic.

High school graduation rates have been increasing, particularly for Black and Hispanic students. However, they continue to graduate at lower rates than white and Asian students. College graduation rates have been improving for Asian, white, Hispanic, and Black Americans, but gaps between these groups persist.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE
BY RACE/ETHNICITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Graduation Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: National Center for Education Statistics  
Note: All groups are non-Hispanic except for Hispanic group.

COLLEGE GRADUATION RATE
BY RACE/ETHNICITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Graduation Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: National Center for Education Statistics  
Note: All groups are non-Hispanic except for Hispanic group.  
Data represents the graduation rate from the first institution attended for first-time, full-time bachelor's degree-seeking students.
Forty-eight percent of the population over age 25 has a college degree. Educational attainment is highest among Asian Americans — as of 2019, more than half have at least a bachelor's degree.

MAXIMUM EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (2019)
BY RACE/ETHNICITY (ALL INDIVIDUALS 25+)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Less than HS diploma</th>
<th>HS diploma</th>
<th>Some college</th>
<th>Associate degree</th>
<th>Bachelor's degree</th>
<th>Advanced degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
<td>33.4%</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>25.7%</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>33.7%</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: National Center for Education Statistics
Note: All groups are inclusive of Hispanic. Categories may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

People with a bachelor’s degree earn roughly 65% more than workers with no more than a high school diploma.

MEDIAN WEEKLY EARNINGS BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (2000 VS. 2021)
POPULATION AGE 25 AND OLDER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National</th>
<th>Less than a high school diploma</th>
<th>High school diploma</th>
<th>Some college or associate degree</th>
<th>Bachelor's degree</th>
<th>Advanced degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$600</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$800</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1K</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1.2K</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1.4K</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1.6K</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
Adjusted for inflation (2021 dollars).
The average college tuition was $25,281 in 2020, more than double the cost in 1990.

Student loan debt was $1.7 trillion at the end of 2021.

The government suspended student loan payments in March 2020. As of publication, the loan payment suspension will expire at the end of August 2022.
TOTAL SPENDING 2019
$2.5T (36.7% OF COMBINED SPENDING)

Wealth & Savings
Wealth & Savings

In 2019, federal, state, and local governments spent a combined $2.5 trillion on wealth and savings related programs and investments. Federal spending on Social Security and Medicare — both programs that primarily serve those ages 65 and older — comprised 69% of this total spending.

Enrollment in both programs has increased as the population ages 65 and older has grown — between 1970 and 2021 the share of the total population in this age group rose from 11.1% to 16.9%. Medicare is a government-run health insurance program and its per-enrollee costs are nearly six times higher than they were in 1970, after accounting for inflation. Social Security provides cash benefits to retirees and those unable to work because of a disability. The program’s average monthly benefit has more than doubled since 1970 and is adjusted yearly to keep pace with inflation.

The wealth of US families has increased $97.6 trillion since 1990 — or $294,000 per capita. Total wealth among the middle 20% of families, or the middle class, increased from $5.4 trillion in 1990 to $10.2 trillion in 2021, adjusted for inflation. Despite this increase, their share of wealth fell from 12% to 7% during this period.

The wealth of US families has increased $97.6 trillion since 1990 — or $294,000 per capita.

Looking at shorter-term change, wealth for every income quintile exceeds pre-pandemic levels. Americans have also been saving more during the pandemic. The personal savings rate spiked to 33.8% in April 2020 and did not fall below the previous decade’s average of 7.2% until January 2022.

GOVERNMENT SPENDING 1980-2021
WEALTH AND SAVINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Federal</th>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th>State and local (excl. transfers)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2019 TOTAL SPENDING
$2.5 trillion

PERCENT OF TOTAL SPENDING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>27.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>36.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: USAFacts aggregation of data from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)
## Key Government Actors

### Wealth and Savings

#### Federal Government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Actors</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Security Administration</td>
<td>• Enforce retirement savings in the form of Social Security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRS</td>
<td>• Provide health insurance in the form of Medicare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Health and Human Services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### State & Local Government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Actors</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Incentivizes Homeownership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Actors</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IRS</td>
<td>• Provide tax breaks to homeowners (e.g., mortgage interest deduction, real estate tax deduction)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government-sponsored enterprises (Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and Ginnie Mae)</td>
<td>• Back mortgages</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Incentivize Savings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Actors</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IRS</td>
<td>• Provide tax-free defined contribution plans such as IRA and 401(k) plans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congress</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Insures and Regulates Pensions and Retirement Benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Actors</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</td>
<td>• Encourage continuation and maintenance of defined benefit pension plans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Department</td>
<td>• Ensure benefits meet legal standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congress</td>
<td>• Pay retirement benefits to government employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Employees Retirement System</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Service Debt

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Actors</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department of Treasury</td>
<td>• Pay interest on government securities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The wealth of the middle 20% of income earners has grown 89% since 1990. However, middle-class families went from owning 12% of wealth in 1990 to 7% in 2021.

Since the pandemic’s onset, middle-class wealth increased 15%, the wealth of the top 80-99% of income earners increased 14%, and the wealth of the top 1% increased 30%.

Access to pensions with a defined benefit declined from 31% in 2008 to 25% in 2021. Over this same period, access to defined contribution plans like 401(k)s rose from 52% to 61%.

Not including Social Security, 72% of workers had access to retirement benefits in 2021.
Nearly 56 million people received Social Security retirement benefits in 2021.

Between 1970 and 2021, the share of Americans receiving Social Security benefits increased from 11.1% to 16.8% and the percentage receiving disability insurance benefits increased from 1.3% to 2.8%.

The average Social Security retirement benefit in 2021 was $1,487 per month.

This is more than double what it was in 1970, accounting for inflation.

Source: Social Security Administration
Note: Recipients shown here are for September of each year (the end of the federal government fiscal year).
Medicare provides health insurance to people 65 and older, as well as to some people younger than 65 who receive disability benefits. Nearly 63 million people were enrolled in Medicare in 2020.

Average Medicare costs per beneficiary are more than four times higher than they were in 1970, accounting for inflation. In 2021, the average Medicare cost per beneficiary was $15,671. Nearly half of the cost per beneficiary was for Part B, which supports medical and preventative care services.

Source: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Note: Total enrollment includes the number of beneficiaries with hospital insurance (Part A) and/or supplementary medical coverage (Parts B or D).
Part C is the Medicare policy that allows for Medicare benefits to be provided by private health insurance companies and is not included in the total enrollment.

Source: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Adjusted for inflation (2021 dollars).
The personal savings rate spiked to over 33.8% in April 2020 and stayed above the previous decade's average of 7.2% every month until January 2022.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis defines the personal savings rate as the percentage of disposable income left over after spending and paying taxes.

Five percent of US adults are unbanked, meaning they do not have a bank account. Another 13% have a bank account but also use alternative financial services like pawn shop loans or payday loans — also known as being “underbanked.”

The FDIC states that access to mainstream banking services provides opportunities to execute secure financial transactions and accumulate savings.

BANKING STATUS (2020)
BY RACE/ETHNICITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fully banked</th>
<th>Underbanked</th>
<th>Unbanked</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Federal Reserve Board
Note: White and Black groups are non-Hispanic.
TOTAL SPENDING 2019
$133B (2% OF COMBINED SPENDING)

Energy & Environment
**Energy & Environment**

Federal, state, and local governments spent about $133 billion on energy and the environment in 2019. This is in line with the inflation-adjusted average of $134 billion per year since 2000. Most (61%) of this spending comes from the federal government, with 39% from state and local governments in 2019.

Americans continue to experience extreme climate, including warmer temperatures and precipitation levels that are unusual compared to 20th-century trends. Overall, about 96% of Americans in 2021 lived in a county that had at least one month with extreme temperatures or precipitation.

Following steady decreases over the previous decade, there were pandemic-related dips in carbon dioxide emissions and per-capita energy consumption in 2020. Both then increased in 2021. Still, emissions and per-capita energy consumption remained lower in 2021 than in 2019. Energy consumption per capita in 2021 reached its second-lowest level since 1966.

The US increased its net energy exports by about 9.8% in 2021. This marks the third year in a row of net energy exports, after a period of net energy import in every year since 1952. Renewable energy is growing the fastest of all the country’s energy production sources, up 102% between 2000 and 2021. It was about 13% of all energy production in 2021. Renewable energy was the only energy production category to grow in both 2020 and 2021.

Renewable energy was the only energy production category to grow in both 2020 and 2021.
# Key Government Actors

## Energy and Environment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal Government</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
<th>State &amp; Local Government</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Environmental Protection and Research** | • Environmental Protection Agency  
• National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
• NASA | • Develop and enforce regulations around pollution, emissions and resources  
• Collect data on and research environmental issues | • State departments of environment | • Develop and enforce environmental regulations |
| **Land and Resource Regulation** | • Interior Department  
• Bureau of Land Management  
• National Park Service  
• National Forest Service  
• Fish and Wildlife Service | • Lease, own, and repurpose land  
• Operate and regulate national parks and forests  
• Regulate fishing and hunting  
• Monitor endangered species | • State natural resources departments  
• State and local parks and recreation departments | • Steward lands, e.g., by improving animal habitats, ensuring forest health  
• Regulate fishing and hunting |
| **Agriculture Industry Oversight** | • Agriculture Department | • Provide subsidies and insurance to farmers | • State agriculture departments | • Provide additional agriculture oversight |
| **Energy and Mineral Production and Regulation** | • Energy Department  
• Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
• Bureau of Mines  
• Bureau of Land Management | • Fund and conduct research  
• Ensure nuclear safety  
• Lease land for energy production (e.g., oil and gas, renewable) | • State energy departments | • Conduct energy assessments  
• Provide additional subsidies for resource production and extractive industries |
Although 2016 was the hottest year on record, 2021 was warmer than any prior year to 2015. The average global temperature in 2021 was 0.84 °C (1.51 °F) warmer than the 20th-century average.

Most Americans are experiencing climate that’s unusual by 20th-century standards. In 2021, 90% of Americans lived in counties that had at least one month with extremely high temperatures compared to the 20th-century average. Forty-seven percent lived in counties with at least one month of extremely wet weather.

PERCENT OF POPULATION THAT EXPERIENCED AT LEAST ONE MONTH OF EXTREME CLIMATE

Source: National Centers for Environmental Information
US greenhouse gas emissions per capita dropped 9.9% in 2020 after declining an average of 1.4% per year between 2000 and 2019.

The larger drop in 2020 was due to pandemic-related declines in travel, manufacturing, and other emissions-producing activity.

In 2019, the country produced 14.5% of the world’s carbon dioxide emissions. That’s more than India and Russia, the two highest-emitting countries after the US, combined. Only China emitted more than the US.

Carbon dioxide emissions from energy consumption rose in 2021 after dropping in 2020.
The US produced more energy in 2021 than any prior year except 2019. It continues to be a net energy exporter.

Renewable energy production grew 102% between 2000 and 2021, faster than fossil fuel (up 35%) and nuclear energy (up 3%). Natural gas and petroleum products make up most of US energy net exports.

Energy consumption from most sources rebounded after drops in 2020.

Consumption of renewable energy was the only category that increased in 2020, and it saw a continued increase in 2021.

Energy is sometimes measured in British thermal units, or Btu. It is a measure of the heat or energy content of fuel that allows for comparison between different types of fuel sources. According to the Energy Information Administration, the electricity consumption of the average US residential utility customer is equivalent to about 37 million Btu per year.
In 2021, fossil fuels accounted for 94% of energy used by the transportation sector and 80% of energy used by the industrial sector. Together, these sectors accounted for 61% of all US energy consumption and 67% of fossil fuel consumption.

**ENERGY CONSUMPTION (2021)**
**BY ENERGY SOURCE AND END-USE SECTOR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Energy Source</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Petroleum</td>
<td>36% of total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural gas</td>
<td>32% of total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewable &amp; nuclear</td>
<td>21% of total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coal</td>
<td>11% of total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>0.1% of total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Per-person energy consumption in 2021 was 4.6% higher than in 2020, but was the second-lowest since 1966.**

Energy consumption per person has fallen an average of 0.8% annually since 2000.

**ENERGY CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA**
**MILLION BTU**

Source: Energy Information Administration

Note: Categories may not add to 100% due to rounding.
Crime & Disasters

TOTAL SPENDING 2019
$360B (5.4% OF COMBINED SPENDING)
Crime & Disasters

Government spending on crime and disasters is intended to ensure the physical safety of Americans. Federal, state, and local government crime and disaster spending totaled $360 billion in 2019. State and local governments spent 86% of this, primarily on law enforcement and corrections. The federal government spent $8.1 billion on disaster relief in 2019 and transferred an additional $9.0 billion to states for this purpose.

The number of people in prison, jail, or on probation declined over the last decade. The pandemic accelerated this trend. Between 2019 and 2020, the size of the correctional population per 100,000 people declined by 13.3%.

Overall crime rates have declined since the 1990s, but while property crime decreased in 2020, violent crime increased by 5.6%. In addition, the number of active shooter incidents has trended upward, reaching 61 incidents in 2021, higher than the previous record of 40 in 2020.

The average number of yearly billion-dollar disasters has increased over the last decade. 2021 had 20 separate billion-dollar weather- and climate-related disasters, costing $145 billion. 2020 had a greater number of disasters — 22 total — costing $102 billion.

2021 had 20 separate billion-dollar weather- and climate-related disasters, costing $145 billion.

Source: USAFacts aggregation of data from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)
Adjusted for inflation (FY2019 dollars).
## Key Government Actors

### Crime and Disasters

#### Federal Government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Actors</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRIME PREVENTION</td>
<td>• FBI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Drug Enforcement Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Secret Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Capitol Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Investigate crimes and enforce federal laws</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Protect federal officials</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| JUSTICE SYSTEM                                 | Investigate and prosecute criminals for federal crimes                 |
|                                                | Manage federal prison system                                           |
|                                                | Evaluate constitutionality of laws                                    |
|                                                | Define crimes and penalties                                           |
|                                                | Run court systems                                                     |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE &amp; LOCAL GOVERNMENT</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• State police (e.g., highway patrol)</td>
<td>• Investigate crimes and enforce laws</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Local police</td>
<td>• State justice departments and attorneys general</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Special district police (e.g., transit police)</td>
<td>• State, county, and municipal courts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• County sheriffs</td>
<td>• State legislatures</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| DISASTER PROTECTION AND MITIGATION             | Manage and coordinate disaster prevention and response                |
| • Federal Emergency Management Agency          | • Local fire departments                                              |
| • Small Business Administration                | • Respond to and prevent local disasters                              |

| • Small Business Administration                | • Provide aid to those affected by disasters                          |
More than 5.6 million Americans were in prison, jail, or on probation or parole when counted in 2020, a 13.3% decrease from 2019.

The COVID-19 pandemic led to fewer local jail admissions, fewer state and federal prison admissions, and declines in the 2020 probation population.

Prisoner populations fell 11% between 2010 and 2019, but this decline accelerated in 2020 due to pandemic-driven trial and sentencing delays.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics
Forty-one percent of the **prison population** decline between 2010 and 2019 was due to fewer prisoners whose most serious offense was a drug crime.

**SENTENCED STATE PRISON POPULATION (2019)**
BY RACE/ETHNICITY AND CRIME

Circle size represents portion of total prisoners (1,221,700 in 2019). Percentages are the share of prisoners of each race/ethnicity in prison for the stated crime.

- **Black**
  - 33% of all prisoners
  - 255,000 (64% of all Black prisoners)
  - Violent crime:
    - Murder 16%
    - Assault 15%
    - Robbery 19%
    - Rape 9%
    - Other 5%
  - Property crime (including burglary):
    - 49,300 (12%)
  - Drug crime:
    - 48,600 (12%)
  - Public order:
    - 44,400 (11%)

- **White**
  - 32% of all prisoners
  - 192,600 (50% of all White prisoners)
  - Violent crime:
    - Murder 10%
    - Assault 11%
    - Robbery 7%
    - Other 5%
  - Property crime (including burglary):
    - 79,200 (20%)
  - Drug crime:
    - 64,300 (17%)
  - Public order:
    - 47,600 (12%)

- **Hispanic**
  - 22% of all prisoners
  - 176,000 (66% of all Hispanic prisoners)
  - Violent crime:
    - Murder 13%
    - Assault 20%
    - Robbery 12%
    - Other 5%
  - Property crime (including burglary):
    - 27,000 (10%)
  - Drug crime:
    - 31,100 (12%)
  - Public order:
    - 31,300 (12%)

- **All other races**
  - 14% of all prisoners
  - 87,200 (52% of prisoners of all other races)
  - Violent crime:
    - Murder 15%
    - Rape 14%
    - Robbery 10%
    - Other 7%
    - Assault 6%
  - Property crime (including burglary):
    - 31,200 (18%)
  - Drug crime:
    - 27,300 (16%)
  - Public order:
    - 21,700 (13%)

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics
Note: All groups are non-Hispanic except for Hispanic group. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding.
A smaller percentage of Black and Hispanic people are incarcerated than in 2010.

**INCARCERATION RATE**
**BY RACE/ETHNICITY**

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics
Note: White and Black groups are non-Hispanic.

Arrests per 100,000 people in 2020 had their largest yearly decline in at least 35 years.

Arrests for each of the three most-common offenses dropped, but drug abuse arrests declined the most, seeing a 31% drop in 2020.
Violent crime rose 5.6% between 2019 and 2020, while property crime decreased 7.8%.

According to preliminary data from 85% of police departments, murders increased 29% between 2019 and 2020. Burglaries decreased by 7%. However, compared to the 1991 peaks, reported violent crime and property crime were down 49% and 62% in 2020, respectively.

The number of police officers per capita fell 5.9% between its 2009 peak and 2020.

There were 934,700 police officers in the United States in 2020, accounting for 6% of all state and local government full-time employees.

CRIME RATES
PER 100,000 PEOPLE

PROPERTY CRIME RATES
PER 100,000 PEOPLE

VIOLENT CRIME RATES
PER 100,000 PEOPLE

STATE AND LOCAL POLICE
PER 100,000 PEOPLE

Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation

Source: Census Bureau

USAFacts receives many questions about the availability of police use-of-force data. That data is limited and delayed, with 41% of departments reporting use-of-force data to the FBI in 2021. This represented 54% of officers nationwide.
Firearm deaths increased 43% from 2010 to 2020, accounting for 1.3% of all deaths in 2020.

The number of firearm background checks declined in 2021.

Fifty-four percent of all firearm deaths were suicides — 43% were homicides.

There were 61 active shooter incidents in 2021.
The US experienced 20 separate billion-dollar weather and climate disaster events in 2021.

That's two fewer than 2020 but more than any other previous year. These disasters cost a total of $145 billion, the third-highest amount of any year for which data is available.

In 2021, 7.1 million total acres of land burned in 58,985 wildfires.

Over the last decade, an average of 7.4 million acres of land burned in wildfires annually.
TOTAL SPENDING 2019
$16B (0.2% OF COMBINED SPENDING)

Immigration & Border Security
Immigration & Border Security

The federal government is the exclusive funder for the nation’s immigration and border security. In 2019, the government spent $16 billion on immigration and border security, about the same as the average inflation-adjusted amount spent annually during the 2010s, but about 66% higher than average yearly spending from 2000–2009. Immigration spending hit a record high in 2020 and remained elevated in 2021.

The latest data on new immigrant entries shows a drop in immigration in 2020, likely connected to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Trump administration’s suspension of green cards and certain visas. The annual number of new immigrants fell about 48% from 2019 to 2020.

Border enforcement data shows that the number of border encounters reached a 20-year high in 2021. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) apprehended or turned away over 1.9 million people last year, more than triple the number of border enforcement actions in 2020. About 61% of these actions were under the authority of a public health order allowing CBP to expel certain people at the border without an opportunity to seek asylum. This order was first issued in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Biden administration intended to stop enforcing the rule on May 23, 2022, but was blocked by a federal judge and as of publication is under court order to continue enforcement.

Despite short-term fluctuations, the overall trend is that immigrants are an increasing share of the total US population. In 2019, 13.7% of people in the US were foreign-born (44.9 million), the highest proportion since at least 1920. The most common reasons that immigrants come to the country are for work, school, or to be with family.

The annual number of new immigrants fell about 48% from 2019 to 2020.

Source: USAFacts aggregation of data from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)
Adjusted for inflation (FY2019 dollars).
### Key Government Actors
#### Immigration and Border Security

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal Government</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Protection of Borders and Ports of Entry | • Customs and Border Control  
• Transportation Security Administration  
• Coast Guard | • Ensure security of ports and borders, including detection of unauthorized individuals and items |
| Immigration Regulation | • State Department  
• Department of Homeland Security  
• Citizenship and Immigration Services  
• Congress | • Oversee immigration document issuance, including visas, green cards, asylum, and citizenship  
• Set immigration policy |
| Immigration Enforcement | • Immigration and Customs Enforcement | • Enforce immigration and customs laws, including by removing unauthorized immigrants |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State &amp; Local Government</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• State and local law enforcement agencies</td>
<td>• Participate in voluntary actions to collaborate with federal immigration enforcement officers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Excluding tourism and unauthorized arrivals, most people arriving to the US are temporary workers, students, or coming to be with their families. In 2019, people from Mexico were the largest share of immigrants coming for work (33%), while people coming from India were the largest share coming to be with family (22%). China comprised the highest share of people coming for school (20%).

### NEW ARRIVALS (2019)
**BY REASON AND COUNTRY OF ORIGIN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>% of New Arrivals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>Other Asia</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work</td>
<td>Other Asia</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>Other Asia</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>Other Asia</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>Other N.C.Am.</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity</td>
<td>Other Asia</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity</td>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Department of Homeland Security and Department of State
Note: Data for safety and diversity may sometimes be an underestimate as some countries' data is suppressed. Data includes non-tourist visas, new arrival green cards, refugees, and asylees.
2020 had the largest drop in immigrant admissions since at least 1990. About 1.3 million immigrants came to the US in 2020, a 48% drop from 2019. Most of this decline was driven by a drop in non-tourist visa admissions. Refugee admissions in 2020 were at their lowest since at least 1975.

In recent years, refugee admissions have fallen while admitted asylees have increased, particularly from Asia and North America.

Refugee admissions are subject to a ceiling set by the president each year and typically follow this limit closely. Asylum admissions do not have a limit.
The US is increasingly a nation of immigrants. In 2019, 13.7% of people in the US were foreign-born (44.9 million), near the early 1900s high of 14.7%. Of these people, the latest unauthorized immigrants estimate is about 11.4 million, or 25% of foreign-born residents.

The number of people apprehended or turned away by CBP more than tripled from 2020 to 2021. CBP apprehended or turned away over 1.9 million people last year — the most since 2000.
Immigration officials removed 239,000 people from the US in 2020. This is the lowest number of removals since 2003.

About 49% of removals in 2020 were for criminal offenses. Immigration, drug, and traffic offenses were the top three criminal offenses resulting in removal.

Source: Department of Homeland Security

CRIMINAL REMOVALS BY CRIME TYPE

Source: Department of Homeland Security
Defense, Veterans & Foreign Aid
Defense, Veterans & Foreign Aid

The federal government is responsible for defense, veteran, and foreign aid spending. Spending totaled $939 billion in 2019, $995.6 billion in 2020, and $986.6 billion in 2021.

The geopolitical landscape shifted in 2021 and early 2022. Notably, the US withdrew all its troops from Afghanistan by the end of August 2021 after nearly two decades of war. And in February 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine. In response, the US deployed thousands of troops to NATO-allied countries in Europe and passed legislation providing a total of more than $50 billion in additional foreign aid to Ukraine as of publication of this report. The most up-to-date defense and foreign aid data does not capture these recent events. However, it provides a sense of trends and the status quo.

Defense spending in 2021 was 11% lower than its peak in 2010. Even though defense spending has trended downward, military size has been relatively stable over the last 20 years, never growing or shrinking by more than 3%. The number of veterans has also declined every year of this century. As of 2019, there are 17.4 million veterans in the US — 5.3% of the US population.

Even though defense spending has trended downward, military size has been relatively stable over the last 20 years.

The US spent $51.1 billion on foreign aid in 2020, 1% of the federal budget and a 4.7% increase following four consecutive years of decline. More than three-quarters of foreign aid was economic assistance. Although aid to Afghanistan decreased almost 70% since 2010, the US provided the nation with more foreign aid than any other country in 2020.

### GOVERNMENT SPENDING 1980-2021

**NATIONAL DEFENSE, VETERANS SUPPORT, AND FOREIGN AID**

![Graph showing government spending from 1980 to 2021](image)

2019 TOTAL SPENDING

$939 billion

PERCENT OF TOTAL SPENDING

- 1980: 20.1%
- 2019: 14.0%

Source: USAFacts aggregation of data from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Census Bureau, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) Adjusted for inflation (FY2019 dollars).
# Key Government Actors

## National Defense, Veterans Support, and Foreign Aid

### Federal Government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Actors</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>National Defense</strong></td>
<td>• Maintain and equip the US military at home and abroad</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Defense Department</td>
<td>• Maintain and equip reserve forces</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Department of Homeland Security</td>
<td>• Enforce selective service and issue declarations of war</td>
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<td>• Central Intelligence Agency</td>
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<td>• Congress</td>
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<td>• President</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Veterans</strong></td>
<td>• Manage programs and aid for veterans including hospitals, education grants,</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Department of Veterans Affairs</td>
<td>employment assistance, and veterans cemeteries</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Foreign Affairs and Aid</strong></td>
<td>• Manage diplomatic relations including embassies, ambassadors, and passports</td>
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<tr>
<td>• State Department</td>
<td>• Disburse aid to foreign countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Agency for International</td>
<td>• Coordinate assistance for private sector investments in international development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development</td>
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<td>• Treasury Department</td>
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<td>• Agriculture Department</td>
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<td>• International Development</td>
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### State & Local Government

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<th>Key Actors</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Governors</td>
<td>• Call state national guard troops into service in crises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• State veteran services departments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provide additional assistance to veterans including benefit information and legal representation</td>
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</table>
Defense spending decreased in 2021 and was 12% lower than its 2010 peak.

**DEFENSE SPENDING**

The largest portion (about 32%) compensates military and civilian personnel.

In 2021, there were 1.3 million people in the military, 38% fewer than in 1987 — its recent peak. There were 174,711 permanently assigned active-duty troops in foreign nations.

Thirty-two percent of troops abroad were in Japan and 20% were in Germany. The Defense Department started surpressing data on US troops in Afghanistan and Iraq in 2018.

**ARMED FORCES**

Source: Defense Manpower Data Center
Note: This total represents the sum of active-duty members, excluding the Coast Guard, and civilian members on September 30 of the stated year. It does not count reserve members. Active duty includes cadets and midshipmen.

**ACTIVE DUTY BY COUNTRY (2011 VS. 2021)**

Source: Defense Manpower Data Center
Veterans have lower unemployment levels than the population overall. They also have lower rates of poverty and higher rates of disability.

As of 2019, there are 17.4 million veterans in the US, making up 5.3% of the population.

**Veteran Unemployment Rate**

![Graph](image)

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Veteran Poverty Rate**

![Graph](image)

Source: Census Bureau

**Veteran Disability Rate**

![Graph](image)

Source: Census Bureau

**Veteran Population (2019)**

![Circle Chart](image)

Source: Census Bureau

Note: All races include Hispanic.

USAFacts relies upon the Census Bureau’s American Community Survey for data on the number of veterans, their race and ethnicity, and their poverty and disability rate. Due to data collection issues during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Census Bureau did not release its standard data for 2020. Some of the data on this page stops at 2019 as a result.
The US spent $51.1 billion on foreign aid in 2020, a 4.7% increase after four consecutive years of decline.

Foreign aid makes up 1% of the federal budget and more than three-quarters of aid is economic assistance.

US foreign aid to Afghanistan decreased by almost 70% between 2010 and 2020.

Of the eight countries receiving the most US aid since 2000, six are in the Middle East.

On February 26, 2022, a press release from Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken stated the US committed more than $1 billion of security assistance aid to Ukraine over the previous year with promises of additional funding in response to Russia’s invasion on February 24. As of publication, the US has passed legislation that will provide a total of more than $50 billion in aid to Ukraine in 2022.
Federal Government Actions
Federal Government Actions

In 2021:
• Congress passed 81 bills into law.
• Former President Donald Trump signed 12 executive orders and presidential memoranda and President Joe Biden signed 101.
• Agencies implemented 291 significant rule changes.

The federal government’s executive, legislative, and judicial branches act together to shape policy and its implementation. For a glimpse into what the federal government does, this section summarizes a subset of work the executive and legislative branches completed in 2021. Specifically, it shows bills that became public law, executive orders and presidential memoranda, and rulemaking by executive agencies classified as significant by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs.
These included 27 actions on pollution, like a law nullifying a 2020 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rule that removed some emissions regulations for the oil and natural gas sector. Twenty-two were about land, resources, and species management, including 15 that established regulations on how humans interact with animals.

These included 28 actions regarding veteran benefits and 22 about foreign affairs, including economic sanctions in response to human rights abuses abroad. Also of note were an executive order enabling transgender people to serve in the military, plus two Commerce Department rules restricting certain international trade transactions of technology or cybersecurity items that might pose a threat to US security in the hands of adversaries.

These included the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which provided $1.9 trillion to address the impact of COVID-19 on the economy, public health, state and local governments, people, and businesses and included direct payments of up to $1,400 to many Americans. Thirty-eight of these actions were for benefits for elderly, disabled, and low-income people, such as Medicare, Medicaid, or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

These included an executive order and accompanying Labor Department rule increasing the minimum wage for federal contractors to $15/hour, legislative extensions of the Paycheck Protection Program, and debt forgiveness provisions in response to COVID-19.
These included 19 actions to address the COVID-19 pandemic, like a vaccine mandate for federal employers and several pieces of legislation addressing the opioid epidemic by modifying drug regulations and establishing education programs for health care providers.

These included 29 actions that dealt with general governance, like an executive order requiring all executive agency appointees to sign an ethics commitments pledge and another that adjusted the pay rates for various government officials. Also included were several executive orders that Biden signed rescinding actions taken by the Trump administration.

These included 25 actions governing arrivals and removals, such as several executive orders that directed federal agencies to ease the process of seeking asylum or refugee status and revoked guidance instructing law enforcement to use all available means to enforce immigration laws.

These included two continuing resolutions, bills that extend federal agency funding over a specific period based on the previous year’s funding to avoid a government shutdown when a normal appropriations bill has not passed. There were also two bills that collectively raised the public debt ceiling by $3 trillion.

These included an executive order directing the Attorney General to not renew contracts with private prisons and legislation allocating $1.9 billion to respond to the January 6 attack on the US Capitol Building.
These included the $1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and two other bills with provisions related to federal aid for highway, transit, highway safety, rail, and other Transportation Department surface transportation programs.

These included an executive order and a presidential memorandum directing the Education Department to help create conditions for a safe return to in-person school as quickly as possible. Other actions addressed higher education, and four out of the five higher education rules revised financing programs.

These included an executive order revoking a previous order by President Trump requiring the Census Bureau to track citizenship status in the decennial census. The Bureau suspended its work on the immigration status of the US population after this executive order. The data that states used for redistricting did not include citizenship or immigration status information.

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Endnotes


Chart Sources & Notes

1. Chart sources and notes are structured as follows:

   Chart title: Source(s)
   Note(s):

2. For all population-adjusted data where adjustments are not provided by the source data, we use intercensal/postcensal estimates from the US Census Bureau, unless otherwise noted. Source details can be found in the citations for the “Population” chart, below.

3. USAFacts compiles data for government revenue, spending, and debt, as well as on family and individual income and taxes from various government sources, which primarily include the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Census Bureau, the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), and the Federal Reserve. The full citations for this data are not included below; to see detailed descriptions and notes about our methodology for compiling this data, please visit: https://usafacts.org/methodology/.
GOVERNMENT SYSTEM & FINANCES


Federal government employment: full- and part-time employees as of March of each year. (2) Military reserves not included in active duty military. (3) Beginning in 2017, the Census Bureau stopped reporting employment in "Water transport and terminals" for state and local governments and began reporting instead employment for a new "Sea and Inland Port Facilities" category. The employment number reported as "Water and transport terminals" sums federal employment in this category and state and local employment in the new "Sea and Inland Port Facilities" category.


Combined government revenue: Ibid.


Combined government spending: Ibid.

Federal government spending: Ibid.

Federal government assistance to individuals: Ibid.

Note(s): “Other” category includes spending for refugee assistance, child care assistance, TANF, Pell grants, SSI, and other miscellaneous programs.

Combined government finances: Ibid.


Note(s): Debt owed to the public is debt sold in credit markets in forms including bills, notes, and treasury bonds. Private US citizens, citizens of other nations, and foreign governments can all hold this debt.

POPULATION


Note(s): (1) Population statistics are from intercensal estimates and postcensal estimates produced on July 1 of each year. These may differ from the official decennial counts which are measured as of Apr. 1 in years ending in 0. (2) Population figures exclude territories, such as Puerto Rico.


Note(s): Population change shows the estimate of change in population as measured on July 1 of each year. Estimates are for the second half of stated calendar year and first half of the following calendar year.


Note(s): Debt owed to the public is debt sold in credit markets in forms including bills, notes, and treasury bonds. Private US citizens, citizens of other nations, and foreign governments can all hold this debt.

Note(s): (1) This population figure excludes territories, such as Puerto Rico.


Note(s): (1) The Census first allowed respondents to select more than one race in the 2000 Census. Comparisons between pre-2000 and post-2000 data should be made with caution. (2) Asian includes Asian and Pacific Islander. (3) Chart data after 2000 do not add to 100 because of multiracial category added by the Census Bureau beginning that year.


ECONOMY & INFRASTRUCTURE

Government spending 1980–2021, economy and infrastructure: USAfacts aggregation of data from OMB, Census Bureau, and BEA.


Note(s): Adjusted for inflation to 2021 dollars using GDP deflator.


Note(s): Data are seasonally adjusted.


Percent change in labor force participation, by education level: BLS (2022). FRED (Labor Force Participation Rate (Less Than a High School Diploma, 25 Yrs. & Over (LNS11327659), High School Graduates, No College, 25 Yrs. & over (LNS11327660), Some College or Associate Degree, 25 Yrs. & over (LNS11327689), Bachelor's Degree and Higher, 25 Yrs. & over (LNS11327662)). Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. https://fred.stlouisfed.org/.

Note(s): (1) "High school diploma" includes people with a high school diploma or equivalent, such as a GED. (2) "Bachelor's degree or more" includes people with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees. (3) Data up-to-date as of May 6, 2022.


Note(s): Data reflect Dec. over Dec. employment change for the stated year.


Note(s): Data are seasonally adjusted.


Average hourly earnings, by sector: BLS (2022). Employment, Hours, and Earnings from the Current Employment Statistics Survey (National) (Average Hourly Earnings of All Employees, Multiple Industries, Seasonally Adjusted (CES1000000003; CES2000000003; CES3000000003; CES4200000003; CES4300000003; CES4420000003; CES5000000003; CES5500000003; CES6000000003; CES4142000003)). https://data.bls.gov/PDQWeb/cc.

Consumer price index: BLS (2022). CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) (All Items in US City Average, All Urban Consumers, Seasonally Adjusted (CUSR0000SA0)). https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CUSR0000SA0.


Note(s): Fuel prices represent a weighted average of fuel prices in conventional and reformulated gasoline areas in all 50 states and Washington, DC.


Federal transportation and infrastructure spending: USAFacts aggregation of data from OMB, Census Bureau, and BEA.

Total transportation and infrastructure spending: Ibid.


Note(s): The BTS releases seasonally adjusted air traffic data based on monthly reports from commercial US air carriers, which is often retroactively updated. The data presented in this chart is current as of May, 13, 2022.


**HEALTH**

Government spending 1980-2021, health: USAFacts aggregation of data from OMB, Census Bureau, and BEA.


Percent of population fully vaccinated for COVID-19: Ibid.

Percent of population with COVID-19 vaccine booster or additional dose: Ibid.


Public health spending: USAFacts aggregation of data from OMB, Census Bureau, and BEA.


Note(s): (1) Starting in 2017, people covered under TRICARE are counted as receiving private insurance rather than government insurance. According to the Census Bureau, “The CPS ASEC time series goes back to 1987. Making comparisons over time requires caution, since annual estimates reflect survey improvements, including (a) the addition of a verification question in 1999, (b) redesign of the questionnaires in 2014, and (c) improvements to the CPS ASEC processing system in 2018.”


**STANDARD OF LIVING**

**Government spending 1980-2021, standard of living and aid to the disadvantaged:** USAFacts aggregation of data from OMB, Census Bureau, and BEA.

**Average total market income, by income group:** USAFacts calculations using data from the Internal Revenue Service and the US Census Bureau.

**Average taxes paid, by income group:** Ibid.

**Average transfers received, by income group:** Ibid.


Note(s): “Other” includes people who are not Hispanic and belong to two or more races or to a race other than white, Black, or Asian.


**Percent of adults experiencing housing insecurity:** Household Pulse Survey (2020-2022). Housing Insecurity (Missed Payments and Low Confidence), Weeks 13 and after. US Census Bureau. [https://www.census.gov/data-tools/demo/hhp/#/].

Note(s): (1) Values shown are the average of data points for data releases between Jan. to March 2021 and Jan. to March 2022. (2) Data collection for the first week (week 41) included in this chart began on Dec. 29, 2021. (3) Fewer data points are available between Jan. and March 2022 compared to the same period in 2021 because of changes in the Household Pulse Survey collection schedule.


**Poverty rate, by race/ethnicity:** Ibid.

**EDUCATION**

**Government spending 1980-2021, education:** USAFacts aggregation of data from OMB, Census Bureau, and BEA.

**Type of instruction offered, as a percent of K-12 public schools:** Institute of Education Sciences (2021). School Pulse Panel: Summer 2021 Dashboard. US Department of Education. [https://ies.ed.gov/schoolsurvey/sppsummer/].

**Internet always available for educational purposes, by race/ethnicity:** US Census Bureau (2022). Household Pulse Survey Data Tables: Phase 3.1 Household Pulse Survey Data Tables (Weeks 29-33, Education Table 3. Computer and Internet Availability in Households with Children in Public or Private School, by Select Characteristics: United States). [https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/household-pulse-survey/data.html].

Note(s): Data reported are the proportion of Household Pulse Survey respondents 18 years and older living in households with children enrolled in public or private school who reported “Always” having access to the internet.


Note(s): To calculate enrollment rates per 100k, enrollment counts for a given school year are divided by age group population counts for the year in which
that school year began (e.g., the 2020-2021 school year enrollment counts for Pre-K are divided by the 2020 resident population count for 3-4 year-olds, then multiplied by 100k).


Note(s): (1) Asian includes Pacific Islander. (2) Represents students scoring at proficient or above. Proficiency represents solid academic performance on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) exam. (3) Data included from public and private schools. (4) Prior to 2011, students in the "two or more races" category were categorized as "unclassified". (5) Reporting standards were not met for data for American Indian/Alaska Native students in the comparison period.


Note(s): See notes for Grade 8 math proficiency.


**College graduation rate, by race/ethnicity:** NCES (2020). *Digest of Education Statistics* (Table 326.10. Graduation Rate from First Institution Attended for First-time, Full-time Bachelor's Degree-Seeking Students at 4-Year Postsecondary Institutions, by Race/Ethnicity, Time to Completion, Sex, Control of Institution, and Percentage of Applications Accepted: Selected Cohort Entry Years, 1996 through 2013). [https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d20/tables/dt20_326.10.asp](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d20/tables/dt20_326.10.asp).

Note(s): "Asian" includes Asian and Pacific Islander.


**Median weekly earnings by educational attainment, population age 25 and older:** BLS (2022). *Data Retrieval: Labor Force Statistics (CPS)* (Table 5. Quartiles and Selected Deciles of Usual Weekly Earnings of Wage and Salary Workers by Selected Characteristics, Not Seasonally Adjusted (LEU0252916700; LEU0252917300; LEU0254929400; LEU0252919100; LEU0252919700)). [https://www.bls.gov/webapps/legacy/cpswktab5.htm](https://www.bls.gov/webapps/legacy/cpswktab5.htm). Note(s): Median weekly earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.


Note(s): (1) "Grants" includes grants, scholarships, or tuition waivers received from federal, state, institutional, or private sources. (2) Aid averages are for those students who received the specified type of aid during the specified school year. (3) "Total" includes students who reported that they were awarded aid but did not specify the source or type of aid. (4) Financial aid data comes from the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS), which is collected every 4 years and has data available up until the 2015-2016 study. The 2019-2020 study has completed data collection, but data is not yet publicly available as

of May 2022.

**Student loan debt:** Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (2022). *Consumer Credit - G.19* (Consumer Credit Outstanding (Levels), Memo). [https://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/g19/HIST/cc_hist_memo_levels.html](https://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/g19/HIST/cc_hist_memo_levels.html).

**WEALTH & SAVINGS**

**Government spending 1980-2021, wealth and savings:** USAFacts aggregation of data from OMB, Census Bureau, and BEA.


**Social Security retirement and disability insurance recipients:** (1) Social Security Administration (Sept. 1967-2021). *Benefits Paid by Type of Beneficiary: Retired Worker, Spouse of Retired Worker, Child of Retired Worker, Child of Deceased Worker, Aged Widow(er), Young Widow(er) with Child in Care, Parent of Deceased Worker, Disabled Widow(er)*. [https://www.ssa.gov/oact/ProgData/ico.html](https://www.ssa.gov/oact/ProgData/ico.html); (2) Social Security Administration (Sept. 1967-2021). *Benefits Paid by Type of Beneficiary: Disabled worker, spouse of disabled worker, child of disabled worker*. [https://www.ssa.gov/oact/ProgData/ico.html](https://www.ssa.gov/oact/ProgData/ico.html).

**Average monthly benefit, Social Security and disability insurance:** Ibid.


Note(s): The saving rate reflects personal savings as a percentage of disposable personal income, which is personal income minus taxes and consumer spending.


Note(s): The Federal Reserve Board defines people as ‘fully banked’ if “they had a bank account and, in the past 12 months, did not use any of the alternative financial services asked about in the survey.” It defines people as ‘underbanked’ if they “had bank accounts but made use of alternative financial services.” Those who did not have bank accounts were classified as ‘unbanked’. Alternative financial services include “money orders, check cashing services, payday loans or payday advances, pawn shop loans, auto title loans, or tax refund advances.”

**ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT**

**Government spending 1980-2021, energy and environment:** USAFacts aggregation of data from OMB, Census Bureau, and BEA.


Note(s): The global temperature anomaly measures the difference in global land and ocean surface temperature compared to the 20th-century average.

**Percent of population that experienced at least one month of extreme climate:** USAFacts aggregation of national climate data. Read more about our methodology here: [https://usafacts.org/issues/climate](https://usafacts.org/issues/climate).

Note(s): (1) Most recent population data used for 2021. (2) We defined all monthly temperature and precipitation values to be average in comparison to the 20th-century average if they fell within two standard deviations of the 20th-century average. All values that fell below or above two standard deviations are defined as climatic anomalies. This bucket categorization eliminates data noise as a result of natural fluctuations in temperature and precipitation from year to year. The use of a two standard deviation cut-off point, which places approximately 95% of observations into the “average” categorization means that months categorized as “warmer,” “cooler,” “wetter,” and “drier” represent rarer than once-in-20-year events.


Note(s): Carbon dioxide equivalent is used to standardize emissions from different greenhouse gases, based on their ability to trap heat in the atmosphere over time.
Note(s): Carbon dioxide equivalent is used to standardize emissions from different greenhouse gases, based on their ability to trap heat in the atmosphere over time.


Note(s): Global and country population counts are projected to July 1, 2022.


Note(s): While data on original energy sources for electricity consumption is not available for each sector, we used the aggregate share of each energy source in the electric power sector to proportionally attribute sector-specific electricity usage to original energy sources. In 2021, the proportion of each sector's energy consumption that came from the electric power sector was: 29.7% for industrial, 0.23% for transportation, 68.5% for residential, and 73.7% for commercial. The aggregate share of each energy source in the electric power sector in 2020 was: 0.5% for petroleum, 31.6% for natural gas, 25.8% for coal, 22.1% for nuclear, 19.5% for renewable energy, and 0.5% for unknown. Energy consumption of an unknown primary energy source represents consumption of net electricity imports from the electric power sector, for which data is not available about the original energy source.


**CRIME & DISASTERS**

Government spending 1980-2021, crime and disasters: USAFacts aggregation of data from OMB, Census Bureau, and BEA.

Note(s): All probation, parole, and prison counts are for Dec. 31, while jail counts are for the last weekday in June.

Note(s): The prison population count includes all prisoners under the jurisdiction of federal or state officers.

Note(s): (1) Black, white, and other racial categories exclude Hispanic people. “Other” includes all races not broken out. (2) The prison population count includes all prisoners under the jurisdiction of federal or state officers.

Note(s): Prisoners counted are those under the jurisdiction of state or federal correctional authorities on Dec. 31 of each year and are based on prisoners with a sentence of more than 1 year.

Note(s): Inconsistencies in the FBI's data mean that there are different total numbers of arrests depending on how they are broken out (e.g., by offense, by race). The total shown here is for arrests by offense.

(2) FBI (2015-2018). Table 1. Crime in the United States by Volume and Rate per 100,000 Inhabitants. Uniform Crime Reporting Program. [https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr/](https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr/).


Firearm background checks, per 100,000 people: FBI (2022). NICS Firearm Checks: Month/Year. https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/nics_firearm_checks_-_month_year.pdf/view. Note(s): These statistics represent the number of firearm background checks initiated through the NICS. They do not represent the number of firearms sold. Based on varying state laws and purchase scenarios, a one-to-one correlation cannot be made between a firearm background check and a firearm sale.


Costs of billion-dollar disasters: Ibid.

Costs of billion-dollar disasters: Ibid.

Acres burned in wildfires: National Interagency Fire Center (2022). Total Wildland Fires and Acres (1983-2021). https://www.nifc.gov/fire-information/statistics/wildfires. Note(s): (1) 2004 acres do not include state lands for North Carolina. (2) Prior to 1983, sources of these figures are not known or cannot be confirmed, and were not derived from the current situation reporting process. As a result, the figures prior to 1983 should not be compared to later data.

Wildfires, total fires: Ibid.

Note(s): (1) 2004 fires do not include state lands for North Carolina (2) Prior to 1983, sources of these figures are not known or cannot be confirmed, and were not derived from the current situation reporting process. As a result, the figures prior to 1983 should not be compared to later data.

**IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY**

Government spending 1980-2021, immigration and border security: USAFacts aggregation of data from OMB, Census Bureau, and BEA.


Note(s): (1) Data reported on a federal fiscal year basis which runs from Oct. 1 of the previous calendar year to Sept. 30 of the current calendar year. (2) New arrival green card data only includes green cards granted to new immigrants to the US. It excludes green cards granted through an adjustment of status to immigrants who are already in the US on a visa. (3) Non-tourist visa data excludes temporary visitors for business or pleasure (including with Border Crossing Cards), transit aliens, and transit crew (airline, cruiseship, etc.).


Foreign-born population: (1) DHS (Multiple Years). Estimates of the Unauthorized Immigrant Population Residing in the United States (Estimates of the Unauthorized Immigrant Population Residing in the United States). [https://www.dhs.gov/immigration-statistics/population-estimates/unauthorized-resident] (2) Foreign-born population uses ACS estimates, see Foreign-born residents chart citations for details. Note(s): (1) This excludes 2020 data that relies on the American Community Survey because of the pandemic’s impact on data collection and quality. (2) Due to periodic changes in methodology, comparisons of the unauthorized population across years should be made with caution.

Border enforcement actions: US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) (2021). CBP Enforcement Statistics Fiscal Year 2021 (Total CBP Enforcement Actions). [https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/cbp-enforcement-statistics-fy2021]. Note(s): (1) Encounters by the Office of Field Operations (OFO) include ineligible people turned away at ports of entry. USBP encounters include people apprehended while illegally entering the US. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, starting in 2020, both OFO and USBP began expelling certain people at the border without opportunity to seek asylum. (2) Data reported on a federal fiscal year basis. The federal fiscal year runs from Oct. 1 of the previous calendar year to Sept. 30 of the current calendar year.


DEFENSE, VETERANS, & FOREIGN AID

Government spending 1980-2021, national defense, veterans support, and foreign aid: USAFacts aggregation of data from OMB, Census Bureau, and BEA.


Note(s): (1) Data reflective of the source values as of Sept. 30 of the associated year. (2) Active duty military excludes the Coast Guard and reserve members. (3) Data on US troops in Afghanistan and Iraq was suppressed by the Department of Defense beginning in 2018 due to ongoing operations in the region.


Note(s): Obligations are binding agreements that will result in payment either in the same year or in the future. Negative values reflect revisions of previous agreements.

Foreign aid by country: Ibid.

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**FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACTIONS**


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