

The following table is a reprint of pages 36-37 from the book *A Broken Covenant: The Rape of the American Middle Class* (ISBN 0-9700890-0-7) by Stephen Rodnesky.

Table 9:

**Mean AGI for All Returns and Selected Income Groups, 1976 and 1997
Measured in Current Dollars and in 1976 Constant Dollars, by Income Concept**

	1976 Number	1976 Amt. (x1000)	1976 Mean	1976 Constant \$ Amount	Actual \$ Increase 1976-1997	Actual % Increase 1976-1997	Percent of Total Returns	% Range w/100% as the Top Income
TOTAL All Returns	84,536,143	\$1,053,592,868	\$12,463	\$12,463			100.0%	
\$1 under \$50,000	82,844,846	\$957,292,428	\$11,555	\$11,555			98.0%	0.6-98.6%
\$100,000 and over	226,328	\$39,947,283	\$176,502	\$176,502			0.3%	99.7-100%
\$50,000 under \$100,000	945253	62193913	\$65,796	\$65,796			1.1%	98.6-99.7%
\$30,000 under \$50,000	3,632,248	\$132,554,397	\$36,494	\$36,494			4.3%	94.3-98.6%
\$15,000 under \$30,000	21,455,365	\$440,409,271	\$20,527	\$20,527			25.4%	68.9-94.3%
\$8,000 under \$15,000	21,573,135	\$243,593,580	\$11,292	\$11,292			25.5%	43.4-68.9%
\$4,000 under \$8,000	17,181,015	\$102,206,009	\$5,949	\$5,949			20.3%	23.1-43.4%
\$1 under \$4,000	19,003,083	\$38,529,171	\$2,028	\$2,028			22.5%	0.6-23.1%
No AGI	519,716	(\$5,840,757)	(\$11,238)				0.6%	0.0-0.6%
\$4,000 under \$30,000	60,209,515	\$786,208,860	\$13,058	\$13,058			71.2%	23.1-94.3%

In 1976, the **Top 0.3% were making 13.51 times what the 71.2%** in the 23.1%-94.3% income range were averaging.

By 1997, the **Top 0.3% were making 40.48 times what the 71.0%** in the 23.1%-94.2% Income range once incomes are converted to 1976 dollars.

Table 9 (continued):

	1997 Number	1997 Amt. (x1000)	1997 Mean	1976 Constant \$ Amount	Actual \$ Increase 1976-1997	Actual % Increase 1976-1997	Percent of Total Returns	% Range w/100% as the Top Income
TOTAL All Returns	122,421,991	\$4,969,949,986	\$40,597	\$14,363	\$1,900	15%	100.0%	
\$1 under \$200,000	119,695,383	\$4,018,966,387	\$33,577	\$11,880	\$324	3%	97.8%	0.8-98.6%
\$500,000 and over	406,167	\$600,176,783	\$1,477,660	\$522,806	\$346,304	196%	0.3%	99.7-100%
\$200,000 under \$500,000	1,401,734	\$404,313,870	\$288,438	\$102,051	\$36,255	55%	1.1%	98.6-99.7%
\$100,000 under \$200,000	5,377,899	\$707,810,825	\$131,615	\$46,566	\$10,072	28%	4.4%	94.2-98.6%
\$40,000 under \$100,000	31,423,018	\$1,916,561,653	\$60,992	\$21,579	\$1,053	5%	25.7%	68.5-94.2%
\$20,000 under \$40,000	30,976,410	\$894,530,066	\$28,878	\$10,217	(\$1,074)	-10%	25.3%	43.2-68.5%
\$10,000 under \$20,000	24,567,930	\$363,126,285	\$14,780	\$5,229	(\$719)	-12%	20.1%	23.1-43.2%
\$1 under \$10,000	27,350,126	\$136,937,558	\$5,007	\$1,771	(\$258)	-13%	22.3%	0.8-23.1%
No AGI	918,707	(\$53,507,056)	(\$58,242)				0.8%	0.0-0.8%
\$10,000 under \$100,000	86,967,358	\$3,174,218,004	\$36,499	\$12,914	(\$144)	-1%	71.0%	23.1-94.2%

NOTE: \$10,000 in 1997 = Approximately: \$3,538 in 1976. \$100,000 in 1997 = Approximately: \$35,381 in 1976
 \$1,000,000 in 2000 = Approximately: \$328,544 in 1976. \$200,000 in 2000 = Approximately: \$65,709 in 1976

1997 Data extracted from IRS report titled, "Individual Income Tax Returns, 1997," by David Campbell and Michael Parisi, Table 1
 1976 Data extracted from report in The World Almanac and Book of Facts, 1979, p. 62.
 Expanded Income Concept from, "High Income Tax Returns for 1996," by Therese Cruciano pp. 7 and 19, plus Figure A and G.