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Houston ISD has nixed partnership plans, risking school closures or state take over .

# Southern DAILY Make Today Different

Southern Daily News is published by Southern News Group Daily

Wednesday, July 25, 2018 | [www.today-america.com](http://www.today-america.com) | Southern News Group

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Inside C2

## Trump Warns Iran's President Rouhani: 'NEVER, EVER THREATEN THE UNITED STATES AGAIN'

Tensions between Iran and the U.S. have grown since Trump withdrew America from a nuclear deal struck during President Obama's administration.

 **Trump's Tweet**  
**Donald J. Trump**  
✓@realDonaldTrump

To Iranian President Rouhani: NEVER, EVER THREATEN THE UNITED STATES AGAIN OR YOU WILL SUFFER CONSEQUENCES THE LIKES OF WHICH FEW THROUGHOUT HISTORY HAVE EVER SUFFERED BEFORE. WE ARE NO LONGER A COUNTRY THAT WILL STAND FOR YOUR DEMONTED WORDS OF VIOLENCE & DEATH. BE CAUTIOUS!

10:24 PM - Jul 22, 2018

Trump's tweet followed Iranian President Hassan Rouhani cautioning the American leader on Sunday about pursuing hostile policies against Tehran, saying: "War with Iran is the mother of all wars." "You are not in a position to incite the Iranian nation against Iran's security and interests," the Iranian leader said, in an apparent reference to reports of efforts by Washington to destabilize Iran's Islamic government. Still, Rouhani did not rule out peace between the two countries.

The heated exchange comes as tension between the two nations has increased since Trump pulled the U.S. out of a nuclear deal with Iran that was struck during the Obama administration.

Monday morning, Trump's hawkish national security advisor, John Bolton, backed the president's threat. "I spoke to the President over the last several days, and President Trump told me that if Iran does anything at all to the negative, they will pay a price like few countries have ever paid before," Bolton said in a statement released by the White House.



Crude moves higher after Trump threatens Iran.

Pompeo, in a California speech to a largely Iranian-American audience, dismissed Rouhani and Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, who negotiated the 2015 nuclear deal with the United States and other countries, as "merely polished front men for the ayatollahs' international con artistry." Trump withdrew the U.S. from the accord, which was intended to stop Iran from developing nuclear weapons, in May. In doing so, he triggered a 180-day countdown clock for Pompeo and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin to restore the punitive sanctions on Iran that the nuclear deal had eased.

In response to the threat of renewed sanctions on its exports, Iran suggested in July that it could leverage its position along the important trade route, the Strait of Hormuz, to stop other Middle Eastern countries from shipping their barrels to the world.

Even before he became president, Trump repeatedly characterized the agreement, which had been brokered under the Obama administration, as one of the "worst deals" the U.S. had ever negotiated. Trump's all-caps warning to Rouhani in the Sunday night tweet has also drawn parallels to his approach when dealing with another hostile foreign leader: North Korea's Kim Jong Un.

In a public display of rhetorical brinkmanship, Trump and Kim trad-



**U.S. President Donald Trump speaks about his summit meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin as he begins a meeting with members of the U.S. Congress at the White House in Washington, July 17, 2018. (Photo/REUTERS)**

ed increasingly heated threats at the beginning of 2018. Trump had boasted that his nuclear button was bigger and more powerful than Kim's, and had threatened the North Korean leader with "fire and fury" if he continued to challenge the United States.

 **Donald J. Trump**  
✓@realDonaldTrump

North Korean Leader Kim Jong Un just stated that the "Nuclear Button is on his desk at all times." Will someone from his depleted and food starved regime please inform him that I too have a Nuclear Button, but it is a much bigger & more powerful one than his, and my Button works!

**Iran Dismisses Trump Threat, Says He 'Won't Dare' Attack**



**Iranian President Hassan Rouhani listens during a joint press conference with Austrian President following talks on July 4, 2018 at the Hofburg Palace in Vienna. ( PHOTO/ AFP)**

A high-ranking Iranian officer on Monday said US President Donald Trump's warning of unprecedented "consequences" for Iran, should it threaten the United States, is nothing but "psychological warfare." Gen. Gholam Hossein Gheibparvar, the chief of the paramilitary Revolutionary Guard's volunteer Basij force, also said that Trump "won't dare" take any military action against Iran. Gheibparvar's comments were reported by the semi-official ISNA news agency.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said Sunday that "American must understand well that peace with Iran is the mother of all peace and war with Iran is the mother of all wars." He also warned Trump to stop "playing with the lion's tail" and threatening Iran, "or else you will regret it."

Trump responded early Monday with a exceptionally strong tweet that warned: "NEVER EVER THREATEN THE UNITED STATES AGAIN OR YOU WILL SUFFER CONSEQUENCES THE LIKE OF WHICH FEW THROUGHOUT HISTORY HAVE EVER SUFFERED BEFORE."

Iranian lawmaker Heshmatollah Falahatpisheh told The Associated Press that he doubted it would come to a military confrontation between Iran and the United States, despite the escalating rhetoric. Falahatpisheh said that Trump and his Iranian counterpart Rouhani "express themselves through speeches since diplomatic channels are closed" as the two countries have had no diplomatic relations since 1979.

He said that unlike North Korea, "Iran never moved toward a nuclear bomb" and that therefore, "Iran is angry since Trump responded to Tehran's engagement diplomacy by pulling the US out of the nuclear deal."

Also Monday, Iran's state-owned news agency dismissed Trump's warning tweet to Rouhani, describing it as a "passive reaction." The IRNA news agency, a government mouthpiece, also said that Trump's Twitter missive was only mimicking and copying Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif who had in the past warned the West to "never threaten an Iranian."

Trump earlier this year pulled the United States out of the international deal meant to prevent Tehran from developing a nuclear weapon and ordered increased American sanctions.

Trump has suggested Iranian leaders are "going to call me and say 'let's make a deal'" but Iran has rejected talks.



**US President Donald Trump at the White House in Washington, DC, on July 17, 2018. (PHOTO/AFP)**

Rouhani has previously lashed out against Trump for threatening to re-impose the sanctions, as well as for moving the US embassy to Jerusalem and banning travel to the US from certain Muslim-majority countries.

Trump has a history of firing off heated tweets that seem to quickly escalate long-standing disputes with lead-

ers of nations at odds with the US.

On Sunday in California, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo was strongly critical of Iran.

He called the religious leaders of Iran "hypocritical holy men" who amassed vast sums of wealth while allowing their people to suffer, part of a highly critical broadside issued as the republic approached the 40th anniversary of its Islamic revolution and the US prepared to reimpose the economic sanctions.

Pompeo talked about increasing the media outreach to the Iranian people. He said the US Broadcasting Board of Governors is taking new steps to help Iranians get around internet censorship and is launching a new 24/7 Farsi-language channel across television, radio, digital, and social media formats, "so that ordinary Iranians inside Iran and around the globe can know America stands with them."

In the speech at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum, Pompeo castigated Iran's political, judicial and military leaders, too, accusing several by name of participating in widespread corruption. He also said the government has "heartlessly repressed its own people's human rights, dignity and fundamental freedoms."

(Courtesy <https://www.timesofisrael.com>)

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Wednesday, JULY 25, 2018

**Southern DAILY** Make Today Different

# LOCAL NEWS

## Houston ISD Faces State Takeover If Long-Failing Campuses Don't Improve

Texas education officials are warning that Houston ISD could be placed under the jurisdiction of state-appointed managers as early as next year if 13 district schools don't show improvement.

The warning was issued during a meeting Monday between Texas Education Agency officials and Houston's legislative delegation.

TEA officials told lawmakers that if even one of the district's 13 schools that has struggled for at least the past three years receives failing accountability marks in 2017 and again in 2018, it could trigger state oversight of the entire district. Alternatively, the state agency could take over individual, chronically failing campuses.

Houston ISD is among 46 independent school districts that could face such sweeping changes thanks to a law passed by the Republican-controlled legislature in 2015 that targets schools that have been in "improvement required" status for five or more years, as of the 2018-2019 school year.

While the state has taken over individual schools and smaller districts in the past, the law could overhaul how public education is provided in Texas. The Houston ISD is the seventh-largest district in the country, serving more than 210,000 students at over 280 schools and operating with a \$2 billion annual budget.

"This is a crucial crossroads for the children of Houston as well as for everyone who has a stake in our city," said Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner, a former state legislator, in a written statement.



Houston ISD has mixed partnership plans, risking school closures or state takeover.

"Houston has a deep reserve of smart people and resources, all of which can be leveraged to provide HISD with the support it needs to solve its own problems."

Superintendent Richard Carranza, board President Wanda Adams and other district leaders planned to travel to Austin this week to meet with TEA and key state officials.

"Houston ISD is aware of major concerns the Texas Education Agency has expressed regarding several of our schools considered 'chronically underperforming,'" the district said in a written statement Tuesday. "HISD shares the agency's concerns and is working closely with TEA on the transformative work we must do at the local level to ensure every HISD student receives an excellent education."

District officials said Wednesday that state officials visited them only eight of their campuses, along with two charter schools it took over in 2016-17, must



HISD Superintendent Richard Carranza gives the keynote address at the start of the HISD's third-annual Dream Summit to assist students with the college application and financial aid processes at the Hattie Mae White Educational Support Center Saturday, Dec. 9, 2017, in Houston. (Photo/Houston Chronicle)

improve to avoid triggering the new law.

### Schools Needing Improvement

About 20 Houston-area schools must "meet standards" for academic performance, as defined by the Texas Education Agency, in 2017 and 2018 to avoid triggering a law that allows the state to close the school or remove the district's school board. The number in parentheses represents consecutive years the school received an "improvement required" or "academically unacceptable" rating.

Aldine ISD

Caraway Intermediate School (3)

Alief ISD

Best Elementary School (4)

Brazosport ISD

Jane Long Elementary School (4)

O'Hara Lanier Middle School (4)

Houston ISD

Blackshear Elementary School (5)

Cook Elementary School (3)

Dogan Elementary School (4)

Henry Middle School (3)

Highland Heights Elementary School (4)

Kashmere Gardens Elementary School (4)

Kashmere High School (7)

Lewis Elementary School (3)

Mading Elementary School (3)

Wesley Elementary School (3)

Wheatley High School (5)

Woodson PK-8 School (4)

Worthing High School (5)

Spring Branch ISD

Hollibrook Elementary School (3)

Note: The Texas Education Agency did not issue grades in 2012. Source: Houston Chronicle analysis

of TEA data

The discrepancy is due to conflicting interpretations of the law. Houston ISD believes its only at-risk campuses are those with six straight "improvement required" ratings as of 2018. The Texas Education Agency confirmed Wednesday that schools with five straight "improvement required" ratings as of 2018 put the district at risk.

HISD Board President Wanda Adams and Trustee Rhonda Skillern-Jones said that they will not close schools despite the risk of a state takeover.

Houston ISD officials also said Wednesday that they expect some schools to break their "improvement required" streak in 2017. They declined to specify how many. School districts have received preliminary school ratings for 2017, but they will not be publicly released until next week. Several other large school districts — including the Dallas, Fort Worth, San Antonio, Corpus Christi and Waco ISDs — also have multiple struggling campuses that could fall into "improvement required" status again this year and in 2018, potentially prompting a state takeover.

Locally, the Aldine, Alief, Brazosport, Galveston, Spring Branch and Victoria ISDs all have at least one campus that could potentially trigger such major changes by 2018.

Bob Sanborn, president and CEO of the advocacy group Children at Risk, said Houston ISD and other districts facing potential state takeover are not in nearly as dire straits academically or financially as other districts that the TEA has taken control of or

forced to close. He said data supported the TEA's closing of North Forest ISD in 2013 and of La Marque ISD in 2016.

"HISD on the other hand, and Dallas ISD — they clearly have many success stories, many good schools," Sanborn said. "Dallas and Houston ISDs have a lot of high-performing, high-poverty schools, and if you look at Houston ISD's record in the last five years they have seen a turnaround."

"It's hard to believe the state could do more to enhance that turnaround than what's already being completed." The TEA declined to say whether it is planning to take over any part of HISD, but said it would release a list of low-performing schools on Aug. 15.

"Until then, there's not really anymore we can say," said DeEtta Culbertson, the agency's spokeswoman.

### Rep. Gene Wu

The new law is part of Texas' changing school accountability system, which aims to measure and hold schools and districts accountable for how well students perform on standardized tests, among other factors. The state is in the middle of rolling out letter-grade accountability marks that will grade schools and districts on an A-through-F system. Preliminary letter grades were released in January, and more tentative letter grades will be released during the coming school year, but the actual grades that will carry consequences will not be given until fall 2018.

Some area lawmakers briefed by the TEA on Monday said HISD has improved district performance over the last few years and should be allowed to continue that work.

"These are historically black and Hispanic communities that were low-income that have a very high service need for the kids," said Rep. Gene Wu, a Houston Democrat. "It's not easy to overhaul widespread systemic problems in the system and it's unfair to lay the blame on HISD, or solely on the board or solely on the brand new superintendent."

State Rep. Harold Dutton Jr., a Houston Democrat, said he could support a state takeover because he doesn't have enough confidence in HISD to turn around schools that have been continuously identified as failing. "We have almost 15,000 kids in failing schools in Texas. I'm tired of that. Most of them are in my district. Most of them are black and brown schools," Dutton said. "But the problem is if (Morath) follows through with a takeover, I don't think anyone is sure that would be a better thing for our students." (Courtesy chron.com)

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**主播高白**

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1986年至2009年任浙江衛視首席新聞主播，2010年至2015年任浙江衛視駐美國首席記者兼新華社駐休斯頓記者（2016年卸任）。

**主播高航**

休士頓Anya Tish Gallery 和舊金山The Secondbedroom Gallery 代理畫家，休士頓大學（美國）繪畫系碩士，首都師範大學（中國）油畫、影視技術雙學士。曾任教休士頓大學繪畫基礎部，Art League Houston美術中心。作品曾多次展覽於美國休士頓、達拉斯、洛杉磯等城市，中國北京、江蘇、上海、廣州等城市以及韓國。

美南國際電視15.3日前「電視廣播合為一體」全球直播上線，手機掃瞄二維碼就可24小時觀看該頻道，獲得廣大迴響；為服務早晨上班通勤觀眾，讓新聞播報更即時，美南國際電視STV15.3即將在6月18日。全球直播晨間新聞「早安，休士頓」，新聞播報時間為上午7點至9點讓觀眾行車間也可以方便收聽，掌握國際和社區重大新聞資訊。美南國際電視15.3創下華人媒體創舉，將電視與廣播融為一體，帶給觀眾不同體驗。全球晨間新聞「早安，休士頓」將採用全新主播陣容，用專業新聞態度為社區觀眾帶來最即時多元的新聞報導。「早安，休士頓」囊括國際時事、社區動態、生活藝文資訊三大版塊，播報新聞同時也會穿插氣象和路況報導，觀眾可利用網站搜尋、微信連結或下載Apps方式，行車間連接到車載音響設備(數據機/藍芽設備)，可收看及收聽該頻道。



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# Editor's Choice



President Trump Holds Made in America Event. President Donald Trump speaks during a "Made in America Product Showcase" at the White House, Monday, July 23, 2018, in Washington. (Photo/AP)



Mexico Looks To Revive NAFTA Talks. U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer speaks at the 9th China Business Conference at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Washington, Tuesday, May 1, 2018. (AP Photo/Cliff Owen)



White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders on Monday called special counsel Robert Mueller's ongoing investigation into possible ties between President Trump's campaign and Russia "a hoax and a waste of time."



Trump Administration to Explore Importing Prescription Drugs. The Trump administration is exploring ways to safely import certain drugs from foreign countries, part of an effort to lower the price of prescription medicine. Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, has traditionally opposed the idea. Azar spent 10 years as an executive at pharmaceutical company Eli Lilly.



Gloria Estefan is awarded Spain's gold medal for the arts. Cuban-American singer Gloria Estefan waits to be awarded with Spain's Gold Medal of Merit for the Arts from Spain's Culture Minister Jose Guirao Cabrera in Madrid, Spain, July 23, 2018. (Photo/REUTERS)



Report says images indicate North Korea dismantling test site facilities . Satellite images indicate North Korea has begun dismantling key facilities at a site used to develop engines for ballistic missiles, a first step toward fulfilling a pledge made to U.S. President Donald Trump, a Washington-based think tank said on Monday.



The U.S. Coast Guard Seized \$729M Of Cocaine From Suspected Drug Smugglers. A military spokesman announced the haul Monday, saying the agency intercepted over \$700 million worth of cocaine (26 tons) over the past two-months. A total of 57 alleged traffickers were also taken into custody. The drugs were seized from boats attempting to smuggle the narcotics from Central and South America into the U.S.

As the tips slowly trickled in, Houston police on Monday released video and new surveillance images of the man suspected in the brazen slaying of beloved cardiologist Dr. Mark Hausknecht. The 65-year-old Houston Methodist physician, who once treated former President George H.W. Bush, was shot to death Friday in broad daylight while riding his bike to work in the Texas Medical Center. Since then, authorities have offered a \$5,000 reward and put out surveillance images and a suspect sketch - though it's only turned up a handful of workable tips, according to Crime Stoppers. "As far as we know none of them have cleared the case," said Nichole Christoph, the nonprofit's deputy director. "We're still looking for the one tip that does it."



But new images released late Monday revealed more about the possible killer. Previously, he'd been described as a 30-year-old man with a slender build wearing a gray warm-up suit, but new images show the suspect had on a blue, short-sleeved polo shirt, khaki ball cap and khaki shorts. He was carrying a large, fully-loaded, olive green backpack, police said. A day earlier, authorities released several images from surveillance cameras in the area that showed Hausknecht and the suspect crossing paths on bikes around 8:47 a.m. Friday. The new video footage came from a Metro Lift bus traveling southbound on Main moments before the attack, but exactly where the other images come from is unclear. The city of Houston operates a "public safety video network" of 900 video cameras located around the city, including in the Texas Medical Center, said George Buenik, director of Public

Safety and Homeland Security at the city of Houston. Buenik declined to confirm whether those cameras would have caught the shooting, citing public safety concerns. Most of the cameras look at public areas, such as streets, and many are planted on building rooftops or on street lights, Buenik said. "If we did capture the suspect, that would be great news," Buenik said. "But I don't want to say that every inch of the medical center is covered by the public safety video network." Spokespeople with the Texas Medical Center have not yet responded to requests for comment on security at the sprawling complex.

## Police Release New Photo, Video Of Suspect In Slaying Of Beloved Houston Doctor

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



**Surveillance photos released by the Houston Police show a suspect wanted in the killing of Dr. Mark Hausknecht on Friday, July 20, 2018. The suspect is described as wearing a blue, short-sleeved polo shirt, a tan ball cap and carrying a large, fully-loaded, olive green backpack, police said.**

said, Hausknecht's death is a "devastating loss." It's still not clear whether the killing was random or targeted. "I've been with Crime Stoppers since 2012 and I don't recall another case with similar method," Christoph said. "I've never seen anything like that. It's completely bizarre." Less than a dozen tips had come in as of Monday afternoon, and they don't all point to the same person, Christoph said.



**The gunman (left circle) rides closely behind Hausknecht about a block away from where the doctor was shot and killed. (Houston Police)**

Even as the police investigation unfolded, Hausknecht's grieving widow spoke out over the weekend, touting gun control legislation and condemning "senseless" violence. "So many have asked what can be done to help," Dr. Georgia R. Hsieh told the Chronicle in a statement Saturday. "While law enforcement has given you their focus on finding the criminal, I am asking you to use your vote and your voice to stem the tide of this growing public health epidemic. Write, email or tweet your congressman urging sensible gun laws. We owe it to future generations to leave a safer environment." Hausknecht earned his degree from Baylor College of Medicine in 1980 and started practicing in Houston seven years later. He biked to work every day, and took exceptional care of himself, according to those who knew him. www.Authorities are offering a \$5,000 reward, and anyone with information can call an anonymous tip to 713-222-TIPS. (Courtesy chron.com)



What is publicly known is that the doctor was near the intersection of Main and Holcombe when the gunman passed him from behind, police said. Two blocks later, the shooter turned around on his light-colored mountain bike and fired at least twice. The doctor, biking in his scrubs, went down immediately, and the shooter rode off

northbound. Once surrounded by crime tape, the area where Hausknecht was slain housed a sign Monday morning reading "Gun Violence Reform Gun Laws Vote now! Road For Change." Passerby had also built a small memorial, with a Bible, candle, flower bouquets and another gun safety sign. And at Houston Methodist, several employees were quiet regarding the death of their colleague. Several people who did speak to the Houston Chronicle, with the request that they not be named, said that they are shocked and "can't even fathom" what occurred. Because Houston Methodist is like a big family, one nurse



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In 2015, the top 1 percent of families in the United States made more than 25 times what families in the bottom 99 percent did, according to a paper from the Economic Policy Institute. This trend, which has picked up post Great Recession, is a reversal of what was seen during and after the Great Depression, where the gap between rich and poor narrowed. "Rising inequality affects virtually every part of the country, not just large urban areas or financial centers," said co-author Estelle Sommeiller. The rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer, at least in the United States. The top 1 percent of families took home an average of 26.3 times as much income as the bottom 99 percent in 2015, according to a new paper released by the Economic Policy Institute, a non-profit, nonpartisan think tank in Washington, D.C. This has increased since 2013, showing that income inequality has risen in nearly every state.

The paper looked at the income of families across the nation and assessed inequality at the state, metropolitan area and county level using data from the IRS. The incomes are averages of the IRS summaries of taxpayers in each income range.

#### Mind the gap

To be in the top 1 percent of earners in the United States in 2015, a family would have to have brought in \$421,926 in pre-tax dollars. What qualifies as the top 1 percent varies by each state, and the states with the highest thresholds are California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Massachusetts, New Jersey and New York. Nationwide, the average income of the bottom 99 percent is \$50,107 per family. This also varies depending on geography. By looking at income data on the state and county level, it's possible to get a more local picture of the trend of inequality. When inequality came up, "often the conversation would turn to, well, that's New York City, it's not my state," said Mark Price, a labor economist at the Keystone Research Center and co-author of the EPI paper.



"Rising inequality affects virtually every part of the country, not just large urban areas or financial centers," said Estelle Som-

meiller, a socio-economist at the Institute for Research in Economics and Social Sciences in France and co-author of the paper. "It's a persistent problem throughout the country — in big cities and small towns, in all 50 states." Between the years 2009 to 2015, the incomes of those in the top 1 percent grew faster than the incomes of the bottom 99 percent in 43 states and the District of Columbia. In nine states, the income growth of the top 1 percent was half or more of all income growth in that time period.

#### A recent trend

This trend is a reversal of what happened in the United States in the years during and after the Great Depression. From 1928 until 1973, the share of income held by the top 1 percent declined in nearly every state.

The report from the EPI attributes that growth to a different atmosphere for workers, where the minimum wage generally was steadily rising and they were able to join unions and bargain for rights.

Today, while unemployment remains low and the economy is doing exceptionally

well, wage growth has remained stagnant.

"When you look at economic expansions, it's in that recovery that you see income growth — businesses recover, reorganize, workers find jobs," Price said.

In those expansions since 1973, there has been less income growth for the bottom 99 percent, said Price. (Courtesy cnbc.com)

as follows:

I. The years from the end of World War II into the 1970s were ones of substantial economic growth and broadly shared prosperity.

II. Incomes grew rapidly and at roughly the same rate up and down the income ladder, roughly doubling in inflation-adjusted terms between the late 1940s and early 1970s.

III. The income gap between those high up the income ladder and those on the middle and lower rungs — while substantial — did not change much during this period.

IV. Beginning in the 1970s, economic growth slowed and the income gap widened.

V. Income growth for households in the middle and lower parts of the distribution slowed sharply, while incomes at the top continued to grow strongly.

The concentration of income at the very top of the distribution rose to levels last seen more than 80 years ago (during the "Roaring Twenties").

Wealth — the value of a household's property and financial assets, minus the value of its debts — is much more highly concentrated than income. The best survey data show that the share of wealth held by the top 1 percent rose from just under 30 percent in 1989 to nearly 49 percent in 2016, while the share held by the bottom 90 percent fell from just over 33 percent to less than 23 percent over the same period. Put another way, the top 1 percent now have more than twice as large a share of the nation's wealth as the bottom 90 percent.

Data from a variety of sources contribute to this broad picture of strong growth and shared prosperity for the early postwar period, followed by slower growth and growing inequality since the 1970s. Within these broad trends, however, different data tell slightly different parts of the story (and no single source of data is better for all purposes than the others). This guide consists of four sections. The first describes the commonly used sources and statistics on income and discusses their relative strengths and limitations in understanding trends in income and inequality. The second provides an overview of the trends revealed in those key data sources. The third and fourth sections supply additional information on wealth, which complements the income data as a measure of how the most well-off Americans are doing, and poverty, which measures how the least well-off Americans are doing.

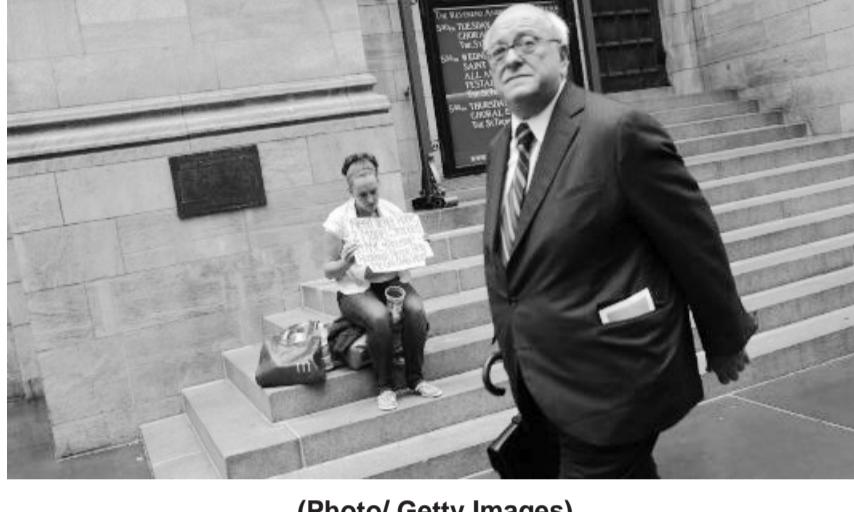
#### The Census Survey and IRS Income Data

The most widely used sources of data and statistics on household income and its distribution are the annual survey of households conducted as part of the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey (CPS) and the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) Statistics of Income (SOI) data compiled from a large sample of individual income tax returns. The Census Bureau publishes annual reports on income, poverty, and health insurance coverage in the United States based on the CPS data,[2] and the IRS publishes an annual report on individual income tax returns based on the SOI. [3] While the Federal Reserve also collects income data in its triennial Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF),[4] the SCF is more valuable as the best source of survey data on wealth. Each agency produces its own tables and statistics and makes a public-use file of the underlying data available to other researchers. In addition, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has developed a model that combines CPS and SOI data to estimate household income both before and after taxes, as well as average taxes paid by income group back to 1979.[5] Economists Thomas Piketty and Emmanuel Saez have used SOI data to construct estimates of the concentration of income at the top of the distribution back to 1913.[6] More recently, they have expanded that work to examine trends in wealth concentration and to incorporate the portion of national income not captured in the tax or survey data into the analysis of income inequality.[7] CBO and Piketty-Saez regularly release reports incorporating the latest available data. (Courtesy https://www.cbo.gov/research)

## The Rich Are Getting Richer And The Poor Are Getting Poorer In The United States

# U.S. Income Inequality Continues To Grow

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



(Photo/ Getty Images)

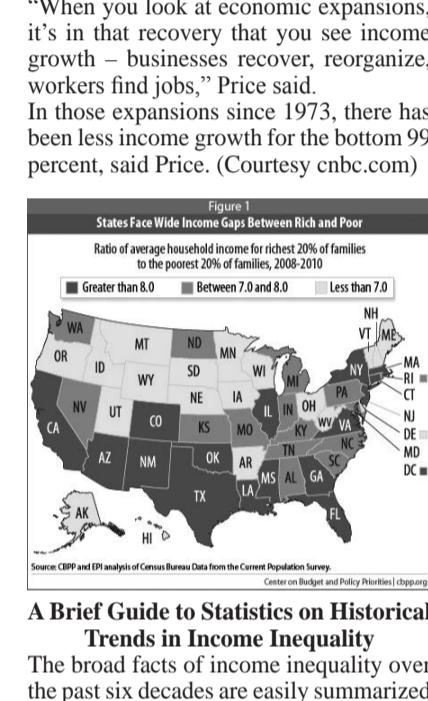


Figure 1  
States Face Wide Income Gaps Between Rich and Poor  
Ratio of average household income for richest 20% of families to poorest 20% of families, 2008-2010

Source: CBPP and EPI analysis of Census Bureau Data from the Current Population Survey.

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A Brief Guide to Statistics on Historical Trends in Income Inequality

The broad facts of income inequality over the past six decades are easily summarized

Income Gains Widely Shared in Early Postwar Decades — But Not Since Then

Real family income between 1947 and 2016, as a percentage of 1973 level

Note: The chart compares the real income of the 95th percentile of the population with the real income of the 20th percentile.

Source: CBPP calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau Data.

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