Original survey information, *United States 1995*

Generic information	
Name of survey	Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF).
Responsible institution	Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, https://www.federalreserve.gov
Main objective	To provide detailed information on U.S. families balance sheets and their use of financial services as well as on their pensions, labor force participation, income, and demographic characteristics.
Structure of data source	Cross-sectional survey data.
Frequency	Every three years.
Survey year / Wave	1995 survey.
Coverage	All private households in the U.S. People in communal establishments such as retirement homes, prisons, and hotels, as well as homeless people, were not included in the sample.

Sampling	
Sampling procedure	Dual-frame sample design: - standard multi-stage area-probability sample (2,780 cases) intended to provide good coverage of characteristics, such as home ownership, that are broadly distributed in the population; - list sample from statistical records (Individual Research Tax File) derived from tax data by the Statistics of Income Division of the Internal Revenue Service (1,519 cases), designed to disproportionately select families that were likely to be relatively wealthy; these records were made available under strict rules governing confidentiality, the rights of potential respondents to refuse participation in the survey, and the types of information that can be made available.
Sample size	4,299 families were interviewed.

Collection	
Collection period	June 1995 - December 1995.
Collection mode	Computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI). Some interviews were completed by telephone.
Description of instruments	The questionnaire includes the following sections: - a Household Listing, including information about the household composition and the main demographics of all individuals; - a number of wealth and wealth-related sections asked to the respondent only (Economic Expectations and Financial Institutions, Credit Attitudes and Credit Cards, Principal Residence and Lines of Credit, Real Estate and Loans to Others, Businesses, Vehicles, Education Loans, Other Loans, Attitudes About Saving and Investing, Finanical Assets, Inheritances and Charity); - a few sections asked of the respondent and his/her spouse/partner about Work and Pensions, Income, Taxes, Income Expectations, and Support, and Demographics, Health, and Independent HH Members.

Definitions	
Household	The "primary economic unit" (PEU) consists of an economically dominant single individual or couple (married or living as partners) in a household and all other individuals in the household who are financially interdependent with that individual or couple. This is a subset of the household unit. *Note:* in the LWS files, the survey unit is the PEU.
Household head	The head is taken to be the single core individual in a PEU without a core couple; in a PEU with a central couple, the head is taken to be either the male in a mixed-sex couple or the older individual in the case of a same-sex couple. No judgment about the internal organization of the households is implied by this organization of the data.

Data quality aspects	
Non-response error	About 70% of households selected for the area-probability sample actually completed interviews. The overall response rate in the list sample was about 34%.
Item non-response / imputation	Most of the variables that originally contained a missing value code have been imputed. A multiple imputation procedure yielding 5 values for each missing value is used to approximate the distribution of the missing data. The individual imputation are made by drawing repeatedly from an estimate of the conditional distribution of the data. The imputations are stored as five successive replicates ("implicates") of each data record. Thus, the number of observations in the full data set (21,495) is five times the actual number of respondents (4,299).
Weighting	Final non-response-adjusted sampling weights are intended to compensate for unequal probabilities of selection in the original design and for unit nonresponse (failure to obtain an interview). The weight (LIS variable hpopwgt) is a partially design-based weight constructed at the Federal Reserve using original selection probabilities and frame information along with aggregate control totals estimated from the Current Population Survey. Users should be aware that the population defined by the weights for *each implicate* (see above) is 99 million households: the sum of each of the weights over all sample cases and imputation replicates is equal to five times the number of households in the sample universe that is 495 million households. There are also 999 household replicate weights that were computed with exactly the same procedures used for the main weights.

Labour market information	
Eligibility	Respondent and spouse/partner aged 18 or more.
Employment	Self-declared present job status. Detailed job characteristics are avaialble for the main current job and the last one if no longer working.

Income	
Reference period	Income is measured for the calendar year prior to the survey.
Unit of time	Respondent and spouse/partner could choose the unit of time (weekly, every 2 weeks, monthly, every 6 months, yearly, etc.) for reporting their incomes. The total annual amounts are collected from US tax return form 1040 for the PEU.
Unit of collection	The information from US tax return form 1040 is used to collect all sources of income for the PEU. Additionally, some incomes from labour, capital, and transfers are collected for the respondent and spouse/partner.
Taxes and contributions	All incomes, except occupational pensions for respondent and spouse/partner, are collected before taxes and contributions. The federal and state income tax liability as well as FICA tax liability (sum of employer and employee shares that includes both social security and Medicare tax) were calculated using NBER TAXSIM calculator, see http://users.nber.org/~taxsim/to-taxsim/scf.
Restrictions	-

Wealth	
Reference period	At the time of interview.
Unit of collection	Pension assets are collected for the respondent and spouse/partner. All other assets and all liabilities are collected for the primary economic unit (PEU).
Restrictions	Social Security pension assets are not avaialble.

Additional remarks	
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Sources: [1] Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (1999), *Codebook of 1995 Survey of Consumer Finances*, retrieved from https://www.federalreserve.gov/econresdata/scf/files/codebk95.txt. [2] Arthur B. Kennickell, Martha Starr-McCluer, and Annika E. Sunden (1997), *Family Finances in the U.S.: Recent Evidence from the Survey of Consumer Finances*, Federal Reserve Bulletin, Volume 83 (January 1997), retrieved from https://www.federalreserve.gov/econresdata/scf/files/1995_bull0197.pdf