

Mapping New England

Income Distribution by County

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The Gini score has been used to measure income dispersion for a century. A Gini score of one signifies that one household received 100 percent of the income in a region; zero signifies perfect equality of income distribution. The most recent U.S. score was 46.8. This is more uneven income distribution than Europe, where most countries score between 25 and 35, and similar to Argentina or El Salvador, which score 46 and 47 respectively.

In New England, 62 of the 67 counties score below the United States average (signaling more-equal income dispersion). The region's population-weighted average is 45.2. The county scores range from a low of 38.2 (more equal incomes) to a high of 54.7 (most widely disparate incomes). In Franklin County, Vermont (Gini score of 38.2), the top 5 percent of households receive 16.6 percent of the aggregate income. In Nantucket County, Massachusetts (Gini score of 54.7), the top 5 percent receive 34 percent of the aggregate income.

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