

# RESULTS

the power to end poverty

## April 2019 RESULTS U.S. Poverty National Webinar *Housing, Taxes, and Racial Wealth Inequality*

Login at: <https://results.zoom.us/j/873308801> or dial (929) 436-2866 or (669) 900-6833, Meeting ID: 873 308 801.

*RESULTS is a movement of passionate, committed everyday people. Together we use our voices to influence political decisions that will bring an end to poverty. Poverty cannot end as long as oppression exists. We commit to opposing all forms of oppression, including racism, classism, colonialism, white saviorism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, xenophobia, and religious discrimination.*

*At RESULTS we pledge to create space for all voices, including those of us who are currently experiencing poverty. We will address oppressive behavior in our interactions, families, communities, work, and world. Our strength is rooted in our diversity of experiences, not in our assumptions.*

*With unearned privilege comes the responsibility to act so the burden to educate and change doesn't fall solely on those experiencing oppression. When we miss the mark on our values, we will acknowledge our mistake, seek forgiveness, learn, and work together as a community to pursue equity.*

*There are no saviors — only partners, advocates, and allies. We agree to help make the RESULTS movement a respectful, inclusive space.*



# Opening Share

## RESULTS Columbus volunteer

### Catherine Logsdon



“Kit” asking a question at last year’s RESULTS International Conference

# Welcome from Joanne Carter Executive Director, RESULTS



## RESULTS Housing Focus for Early 2019



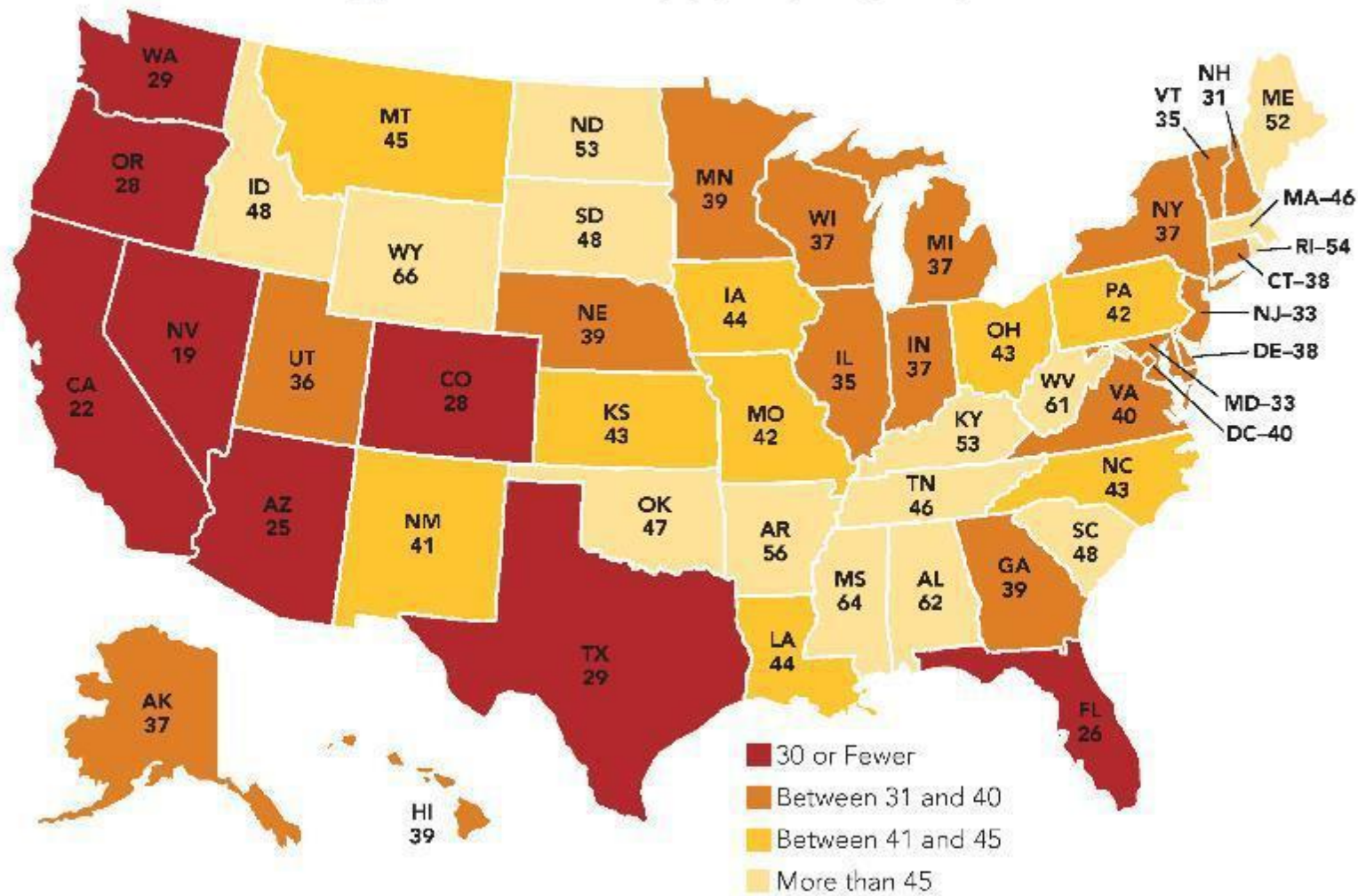
Meredith Dodson  
[mdodson@results.org](mailto:mdodson@results.org)

1. Increase federal housing assistance by \$5 billion over FY 2020-2021 -- will fund 340,000 new “Section 8” vouchers over two years.
2. Support bipartisan efforts to ban discrimination against people who get housing assistance



# THE GAP

## RENTAL HOMES AFFORDABLE AND AVAILABLE PER 100 EXTREMELY LOW INCOME RENTER HOUSEHOLDS BY STATE



Note: Extremely low income (ELI) renter households have incomes at or below the poverty level or 30% of the area median income. Source: NLIHC tabulations of 2017 ACS PUMS Data.

# House and Senate Dear Colleagues – Senate Deadline Extended!

Senator Merkley invites your boss to sign on to the FY20 appropriations support letter for **\$3.0 billion for McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants and \$24 billion for Tenant-Based “Section 8” Rental Assistance**.

Communities around the country have made significant progress toward ending veteran and chronic homelessness—and in decreasing family homelessness—largely due to funding that Congress has made available through McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants and Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers. However, there is still much work to be done. The 2018 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress found that on any given night, over 552,830 people were homeless in America. Over 180,000 of those were in families, including children, and over 36,000 were unaccompanied homeless youth.

This letter is supported by National Alliance to End Homelessness. If you have any questions or would like to sign on, please contact Meredith Booker at [Meredith\\_booker@merkley.senate.gov](mailto:Meredith_booker@merkley.senate.gov) or 4-7657 by **COB Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>**.

Signers from FY19: Senators Merkley, Gillibrand, Schatz, Feinstein, Blumenthal, Kaine, Shaheen, Murphy, Menendez, Baldwin, Van Hollen, Cantwell, Stabenow, King, Booker, Duckworth, Brown, Klobuchar, Markey, Peters, Hassan, Cortez Masto, Nelson, Whitehouse, Cardin, Coons, Sanders, Hirono, Casey, Wyden, Warner, Heinrich, and Durbin

April XX, 2019

The Honorable Susan Collins  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Transportation,  
Housing, and Urban Development  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jack Reed  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Transportation,  
Housing, and Urban Development  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Collins and Ranking Member Reed,

As you develop the Fiscal Year 2020 Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill, we respectfully request that you provide \$3.0 billion for McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants and \$24 billion for Tenant-Based “Section 8” Rental Assistance. Strong support for these two vital programs is critical to maintaining the progress already made by proven solutions, and continuing the bipartisan effort to fight homelessness across the country.

These letters help build support for the larger goal of a \$5 billion increase.

Great work on the House letter! **118 House signers**, which is more than last year.

33 Senate signers as of today – keep pushing since the deadline has been *extended to this Friday, April 5.*

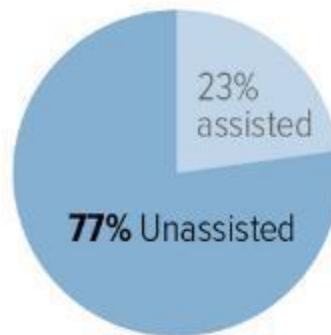
Tracking here:

**<http://tinyurl.com/RESULTS2019Approps>**

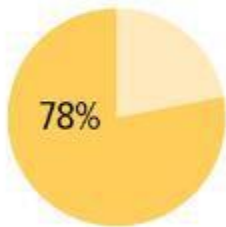
# The Need for Housing Assistance

## Three Out of Four Low-Income At-Risk Renters Do Not Receive Federal Rental Assistance

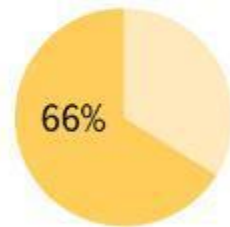
All low-income renters with housing needs



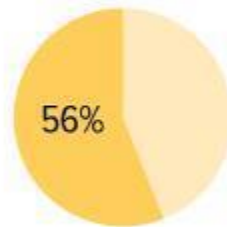
Families with children



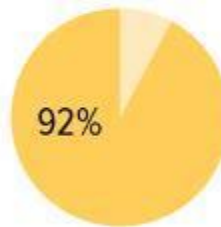
Elderly without children



Disabled without children



Other households



Note: Low-income renters are considered "at-risk" if they pay more than 30 percent of their monthly income for housing and/or live in overcrowded or substandard housing. Households are considered low-income if they earn 80 percent or less of the local median income.

Source: Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) custom tabulations of the 2015 American Housing Survey; 2016 HUD administrative data; FY2016 McKinney-Vento Permanent Supportive Housing bed counts; 2015-2016 Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS grantee performance profiles; and the USDA FY2016 Multi-Family Fair Housing Occupancy Report.

To fundamentally address the housing crisis and reduce racial wealth inequality, we need substantial new resources... and understanding and shaping tax policy is crucial





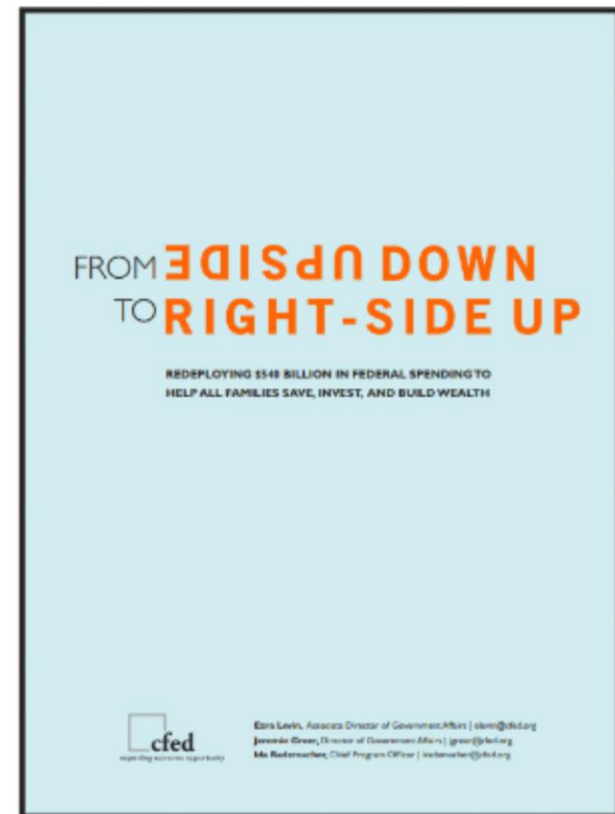
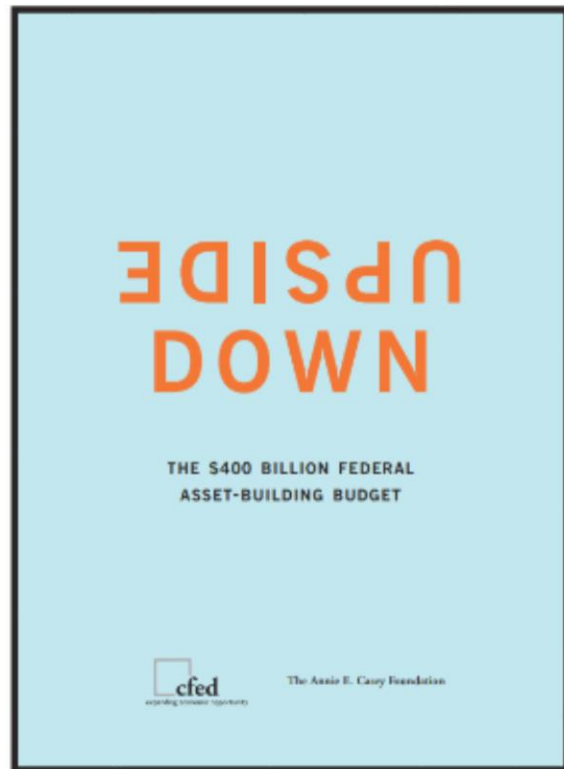
Emanuel Nieves is Senior Policy Manager at [Prosperity Now](#), where he works to inform and mobilize advocates across the country to push for policy change at the federal level that expands economic opportunity. He also leads Prosperity Now's work on predatory lending and coordinates the Assets Building Policy Network. Before joining Prosperity Now, he worked at the Local Initiatives Support Corporation, where he coordinated LISC's local office advocacy efforts in Washington, DC, and provided support on an array of housing and community development federal issues.

# Race, Wealth and Taxes: How the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Supercharges the Racial Wealth Divide

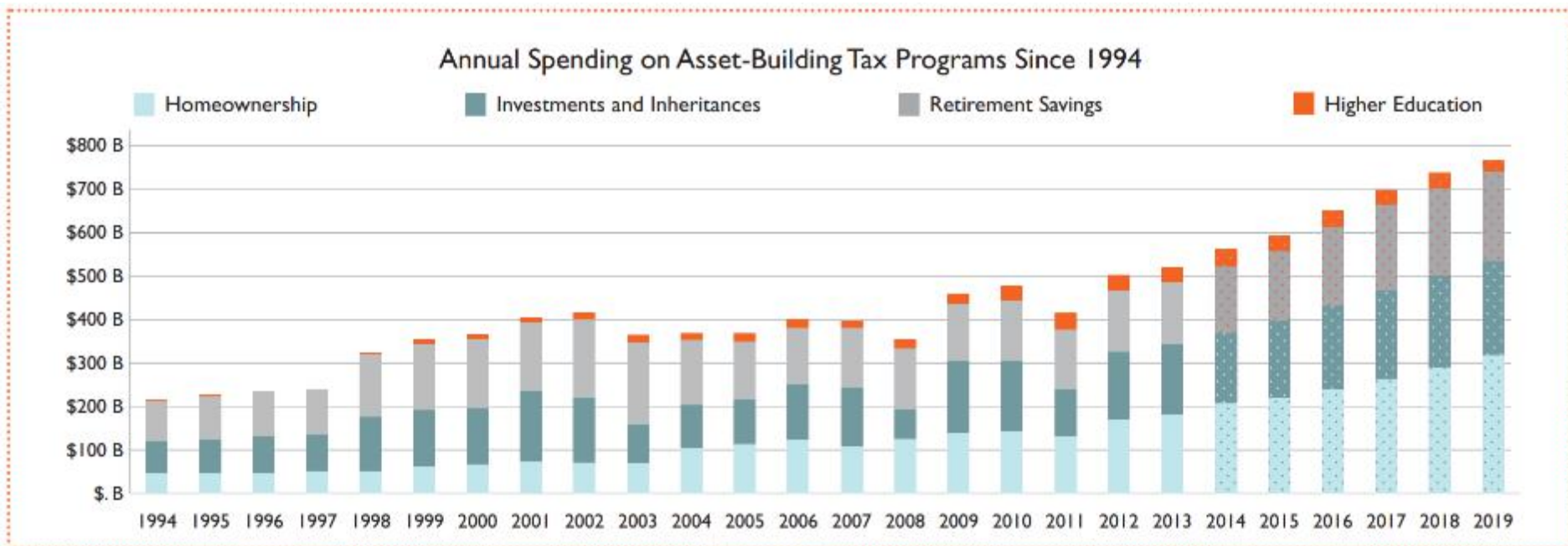
*Emanuel Nieves, Senior Policy Manager, Prosperity Now*

*Tuesday, April 2, 2019*

# PROSPERITY NOW'S TAX POLICY RESEARCH

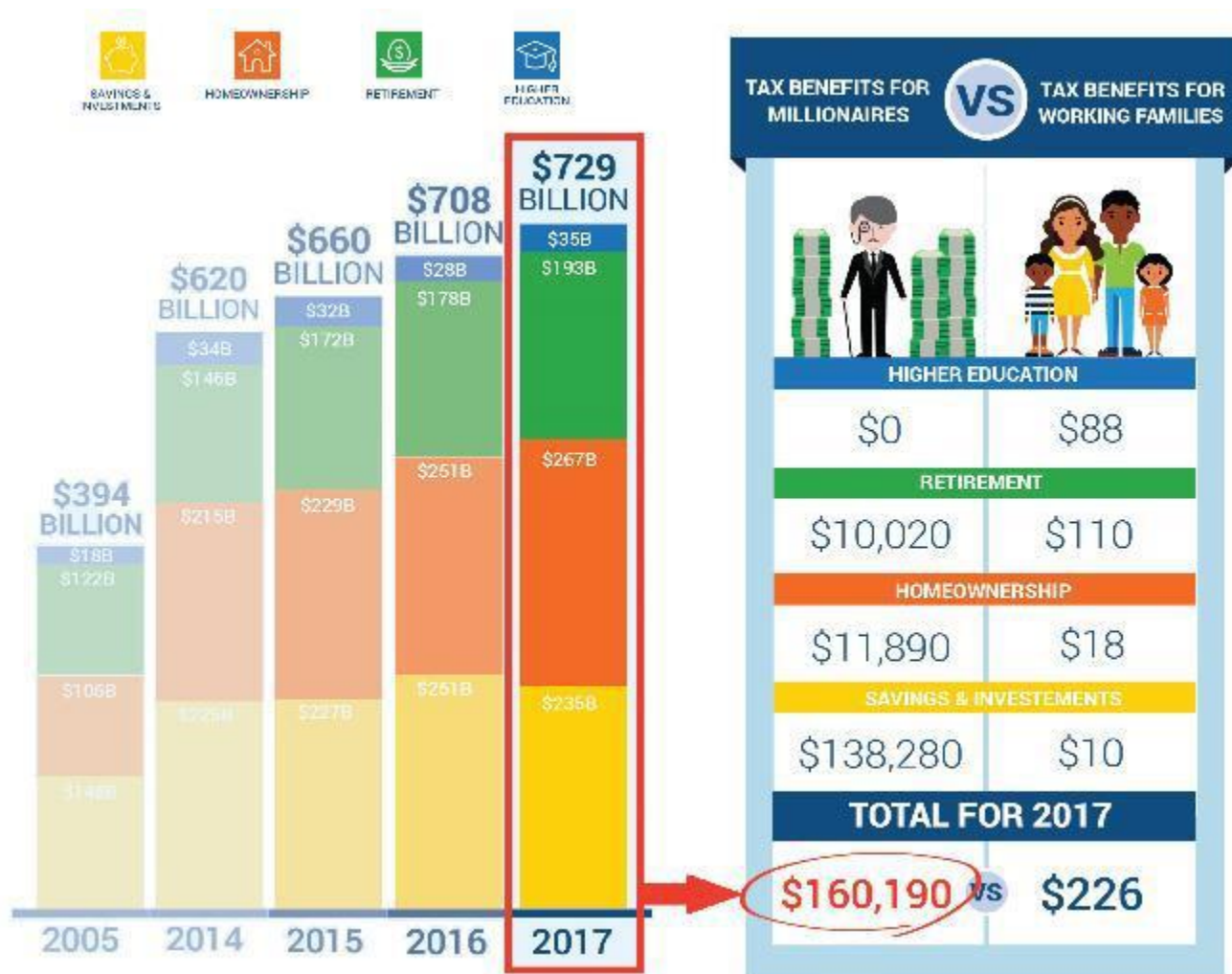


# FEDERAL SPENDING ON ASSET / WEALTH-BUILDING TAX PROGRAMS



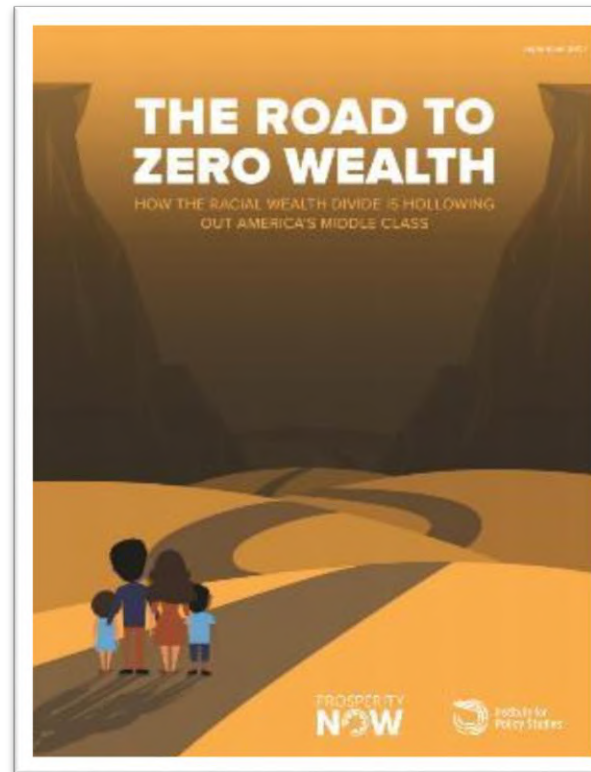
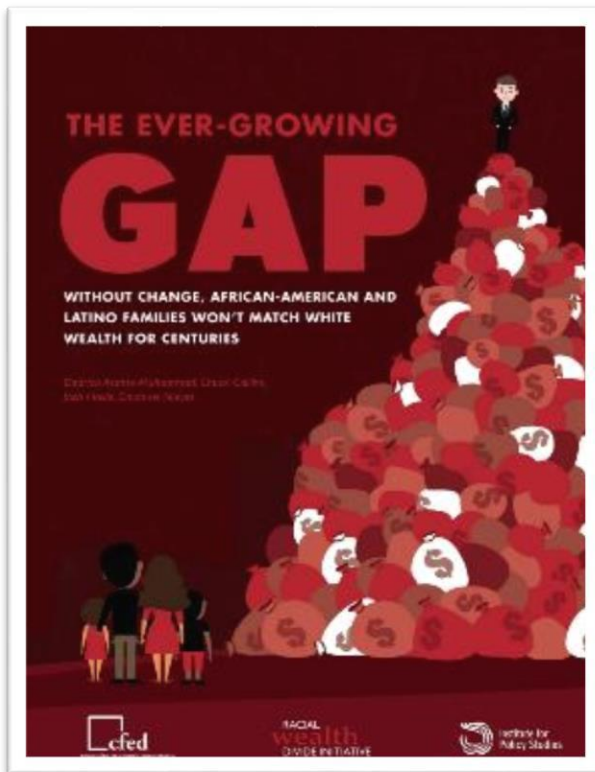
**SOURCE I** *From Upside Down to Right-Side Up: Redeploying \$540 Billion in Federal Spending to Help All Families Save, Invest and Build Wealth, Prosperity Now*

# RISING COST OF UPSIDE ASSET / WEALTH-BUILDING PROGRAMS

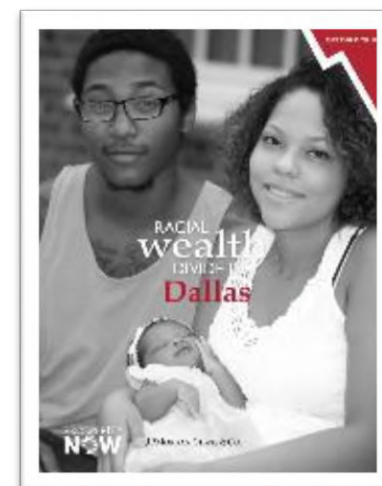
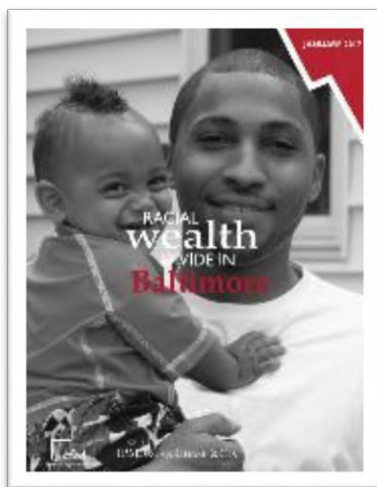




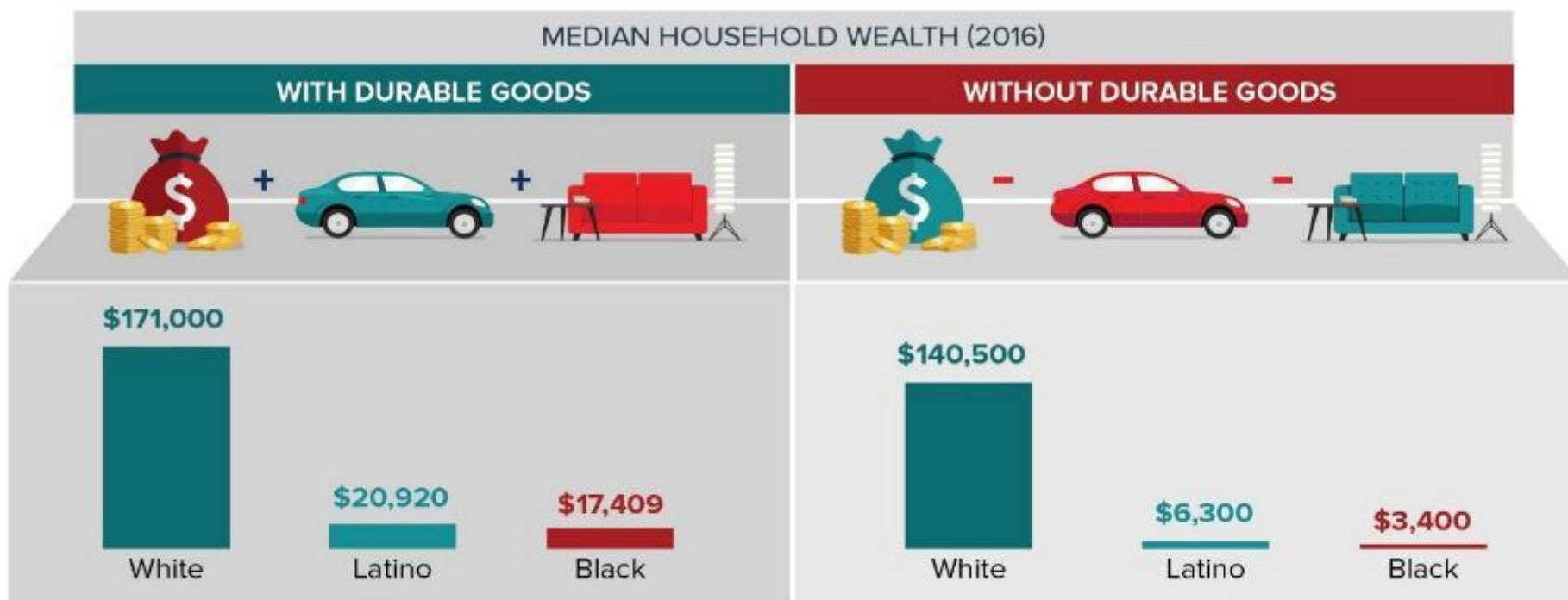
# PROSPERITY NOW'S RACIAL WEALTH DIVIDE RESEARCH



# PROSPERITY NOW'S RACIAL WEALTH DIVIDE RESEARCH



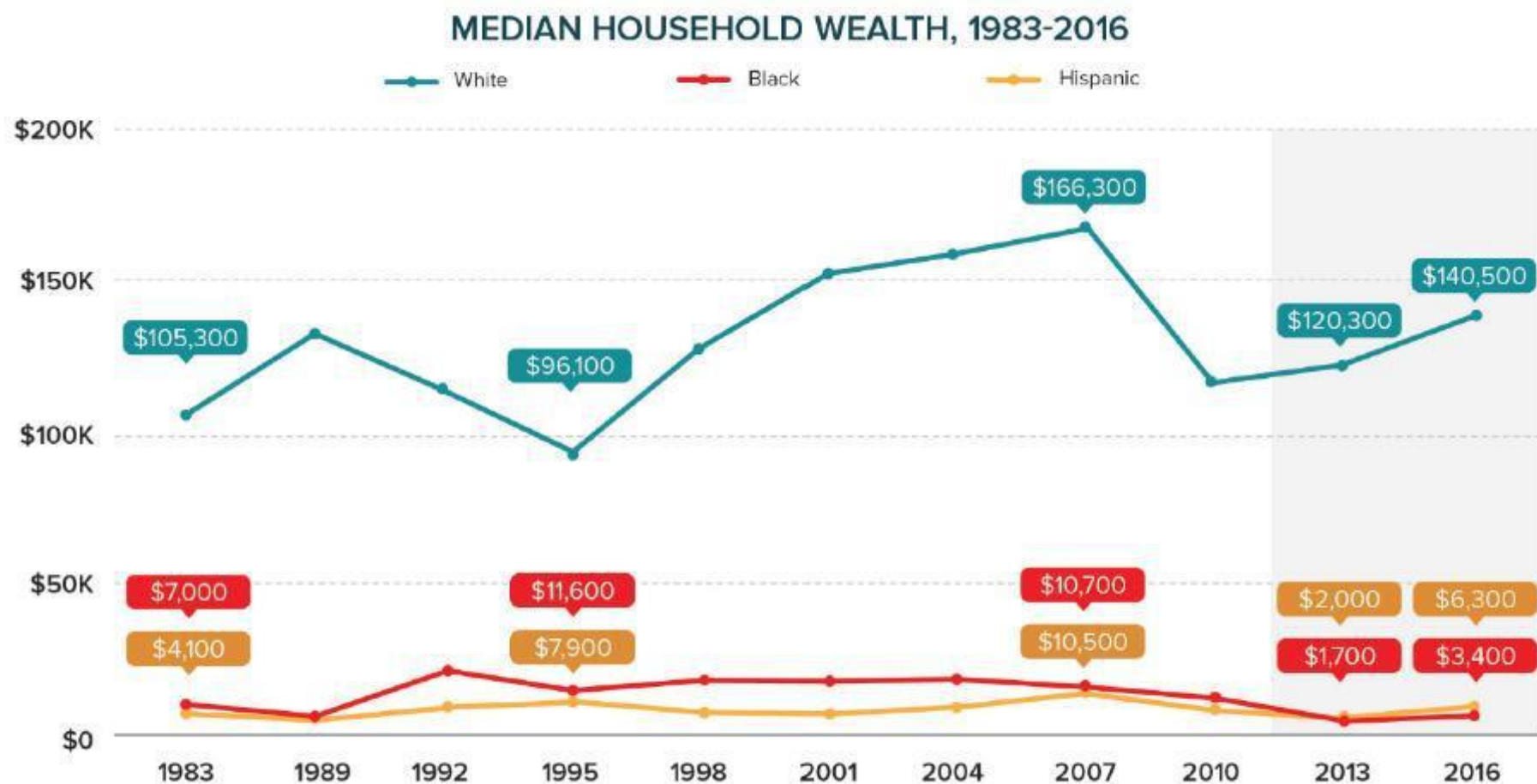
# THE GROWING RACIAL WEALTH DIVIDE



**SOURCE** | 2016 Survey of Consumer Finances, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (wealth with durable goods);

*Running in Place: Why the Racial Wealth Divide Keeps Black and Latino Families From Achieving Economic Security* (wealth without durable goods), Prosperity Now

# THE GROWING RACIAL WEALTH DIVIDE



**SOURCE I** *Running in Place: Why the Racial Wealth Divide Keeps Black and Latino Families From Achieving Economic Security*, Prosperity Now



# THE FUTURE OF THE RACIAL WEALTH DIVIDE



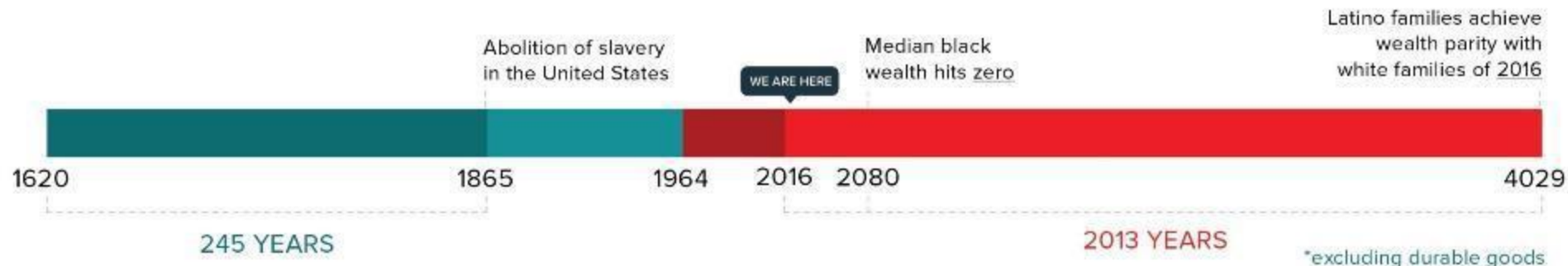
**SOURCE I** *Running in Place: Why the Racial Wealth Divide Keeps Black and Latino Families From Achieving Economic Security*, Prosperity Now



# THE FUTURE OF THE RACIAL WEALTH DIVIDE

## Without Change to the Racial Wealth Divide, “Catching up” to White Wealth Will Be Nearly Impossible for Households of Color

*If median Black and Latino wealth\* grew at the same pace it has over the past thirty-three years.*



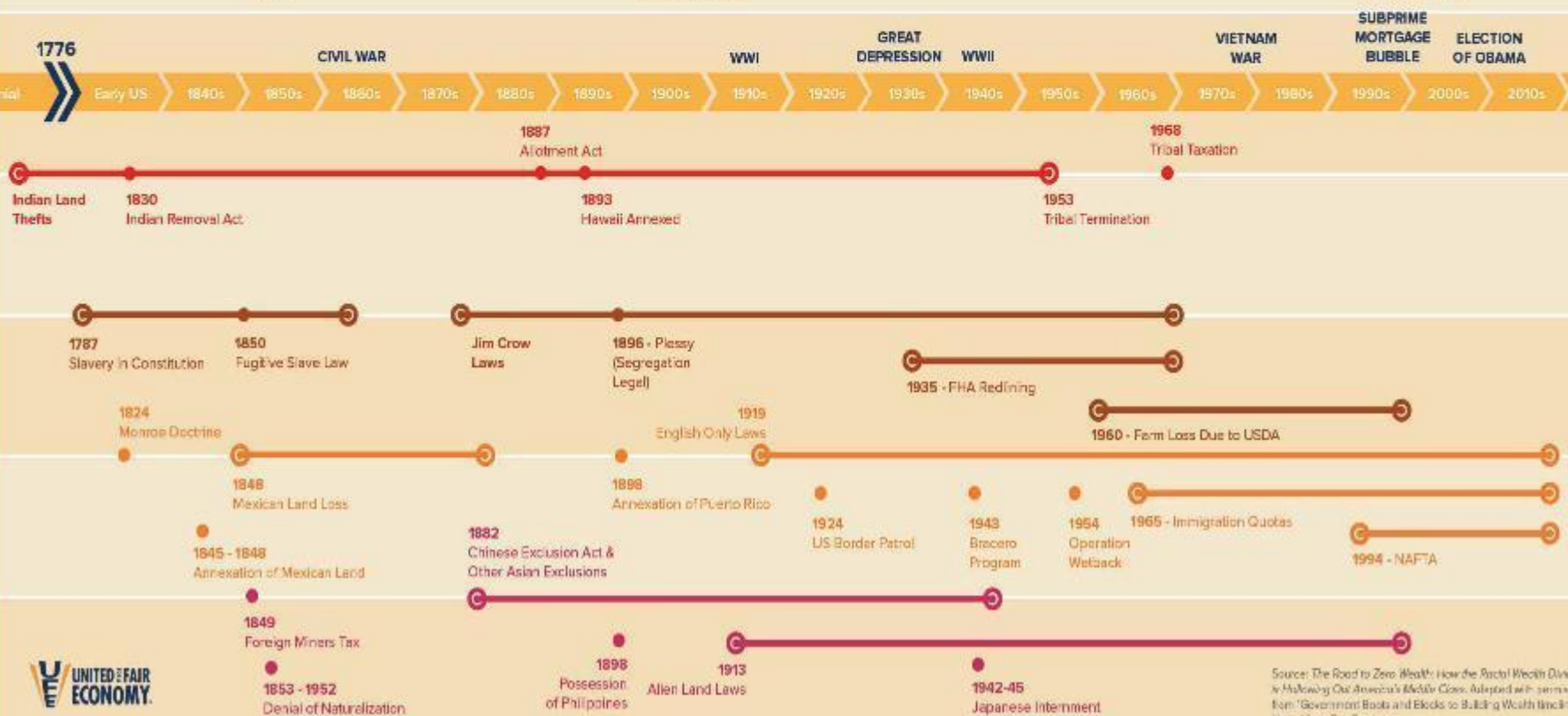
**SOURCE** | Running in Place: Why the Racial Wealth Divide Keeps Black and Latino Families From Achieving Economic Security, Prosperity Now

# GOVERNMENT BOOSTS AND BLOCKS TO BUILDING WEALTH

## BOOSTS



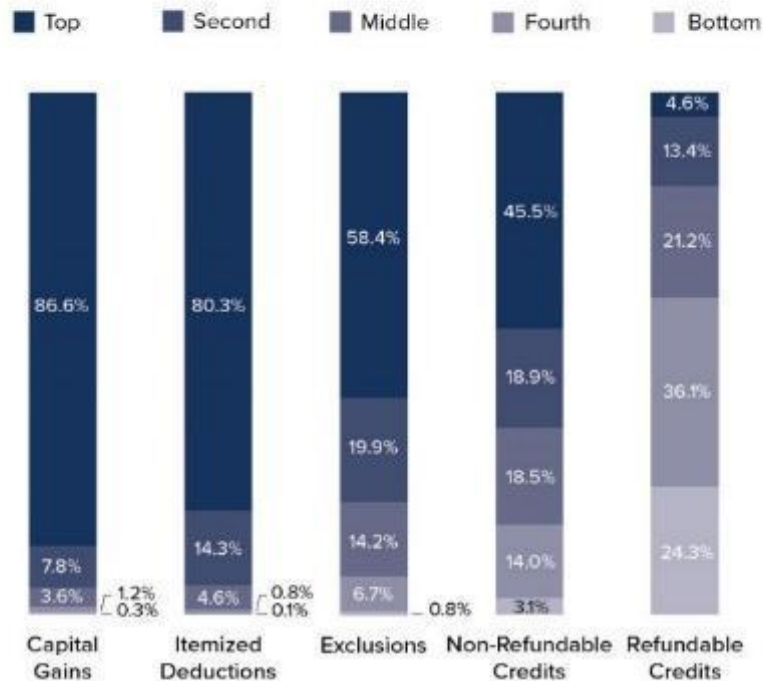
## BLOCKS



# WHO BENEFITS FROM THE TAX CODE

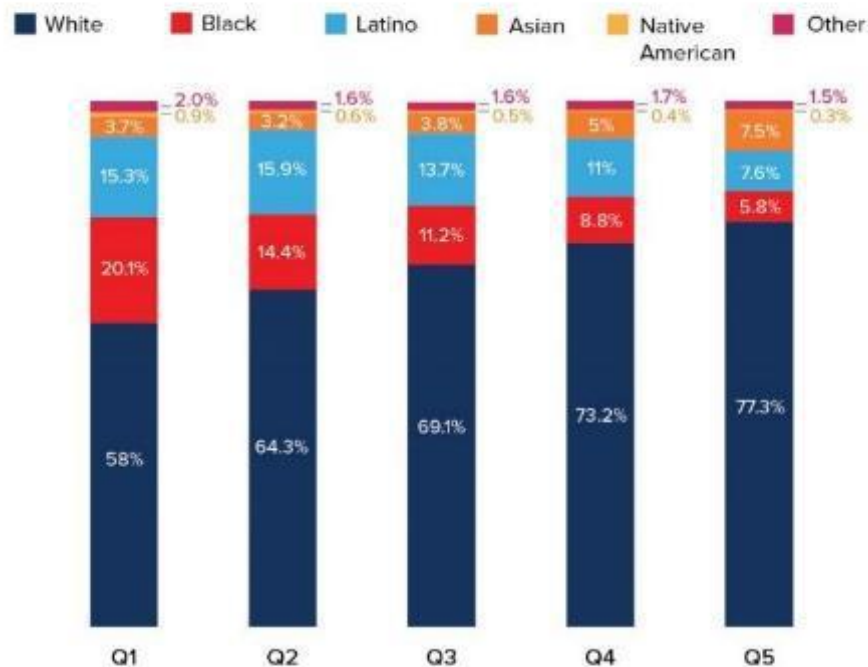
## PRIOR TO THE PASSAGE OF THE TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

SHARE OF TAX SUBSIDIES, BY INCOME QUINTILE (2015)



Source: Eric Toder, Daniel Berger, Yifan Zhang: "Distributional Effects of Individual Income Tax Expenditures: An Update," Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center, September 2016.

DEMOGRAPHIC COMPOSITIONS OF INCOME QUINTILE, BY RACE AND ETHNICITY (2015)

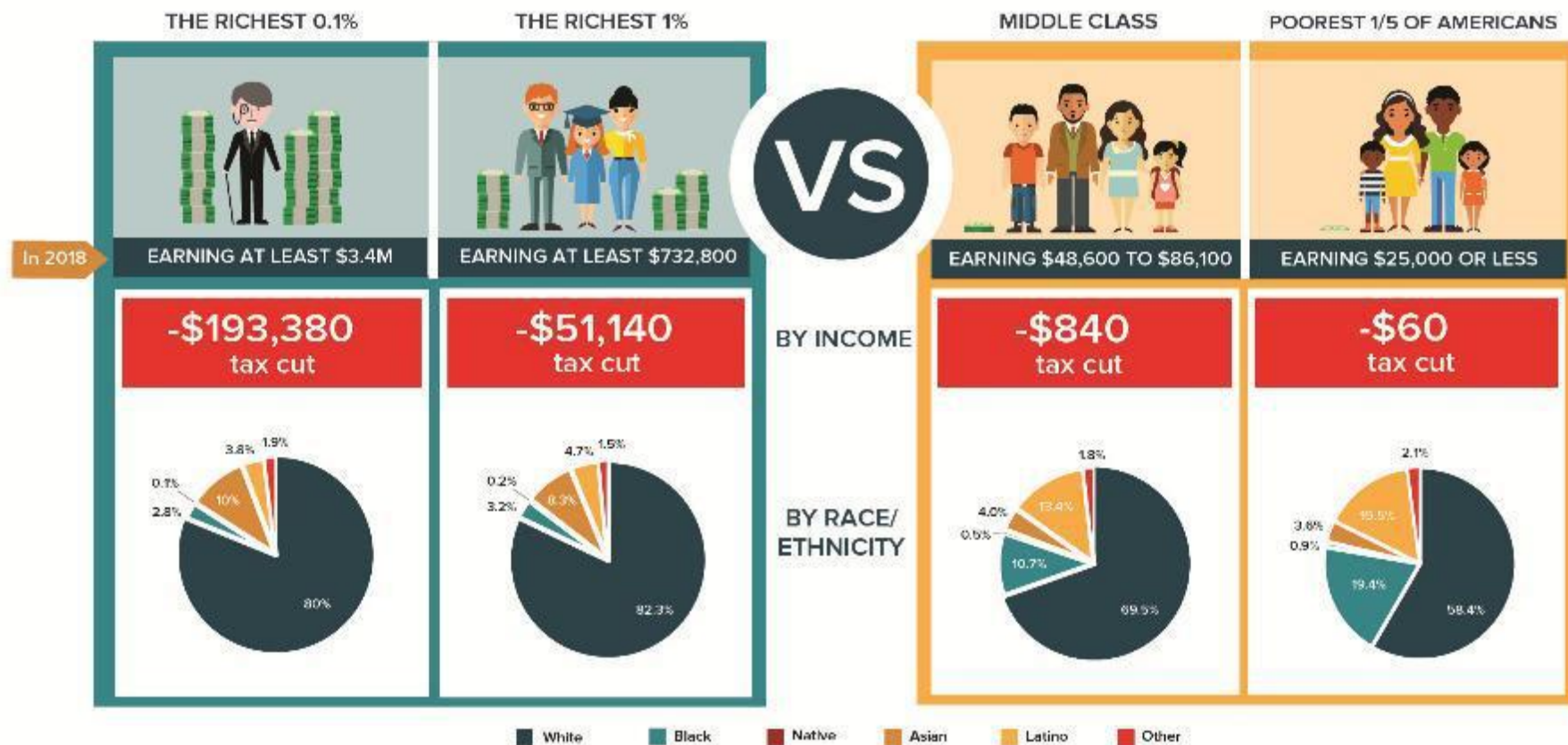


Source: Prosperity Now analysis of 2015 American Community Survey data, using income breaks (in 2015 dollars) developed by the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center.

**SOURCE I** *The Road to Zero Wealth: How the Racial Wealth Divide is Hollowing Out America's Middle Class*, Prosperity Now, Institute for Policy Studies

# WHO BENEFITS FROM THE TAX CODE

## *DURING DEBATE OF THE TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT*



Source: Distributional analysis of the conference agreement for the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act: Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center Microsimulation Model (version 0217-1), December 18, 2017.

Race/ethnicity distributional analysis: Prosperity Now analysis of American Community Survey data, using breaks developed by the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center.



# WHO BENEFITS FROM THE TAX CODE

## UNDER CURRENT LAW, THE TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT



### Race, Wealth and Taxes:

#### How the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Supercharges the Racial Wealth Divide

MEG WIEHE, EMANUEL NIEVES, JEREMIE GREER and DAVID NEWVILLE

At its core, the U.S. tax code is more than a tool the government uses to collect revenue, distribute refunds and fund essential public operations and programs—it is a statement of our collective priorities as a society and a key means for encouraging the individual and collective behaviors that we value as a people. But because the tax code is designed by imperfect people, it encapsulates both the best and the worst aspects of our society.

At its best, our tax code is one of the most effective vehicles by which our government helps families build wealth and create financial security. It provides incentives for families to save for higher education, retirement or buy a home, and it helps parents meet the cost of raising children and supplements income for low-wage workers.

At its worst, our tax code is a tool that drives income and wealth inequality by targeting benefits to extremely wealthy taxpayers and multi-billion-dollar corporations, while simultaneously allowing these groups to engage in complicated schemes to avoid paying their fair share of taxes. Even more appalling, it is a powerful tool that purposefully or thoughtlessly continues to grow the economic gap between not only the rich and everyone else, but also between White households and households of color, thus further perpetuating a long history of systemic racism that undergirds government policies and American society at large. This unfortunate dynamic has served to boost the wealth and wealth-building potential of White households, while diminishing that of households of color.

Last year, in passing the \$1.9 trillion Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, Congress chose to double down on the worst aspects of our tax code by turbocharging the benefits to the wealthy while leaving very little for families struggling the most in our economy, particularly households of color. While it is widely understood that the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act was constructed to make the rich even more rich, the legislation's effect on the ever-growing racial wealth divide has been largely underreported, if noticed at all.

Because America's wealthiest families are overwhelmingly White, it is inevitable that a tax cut geared to the very top would shower outsized benefits on White households relative to the overall population and households of color. For instance, while 12% of White families earn enough to place them among the top 1% percent of earners, just 0.4% of Latino and Black families are members of this group. Put another way, White families are three times more likely than Latino and Black families to be among the nation's top earners. As a result, households of color have been largely excluded from accessing the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act's benefits, leaving them with little support from one of our nation's largest systems for improving the economic outcomes of American households.

Over the course of this paper, we will show how the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is not all about providing an economic boost to hardworking Americans, as so many in Congress positioned the law as, but rather about creating a tax system that rewards those at the top and that further widens the ever-growing racial wealth divide.

[itep.org](http://itep.org)

[prosperitynow.org](http://prosperitynow.org)



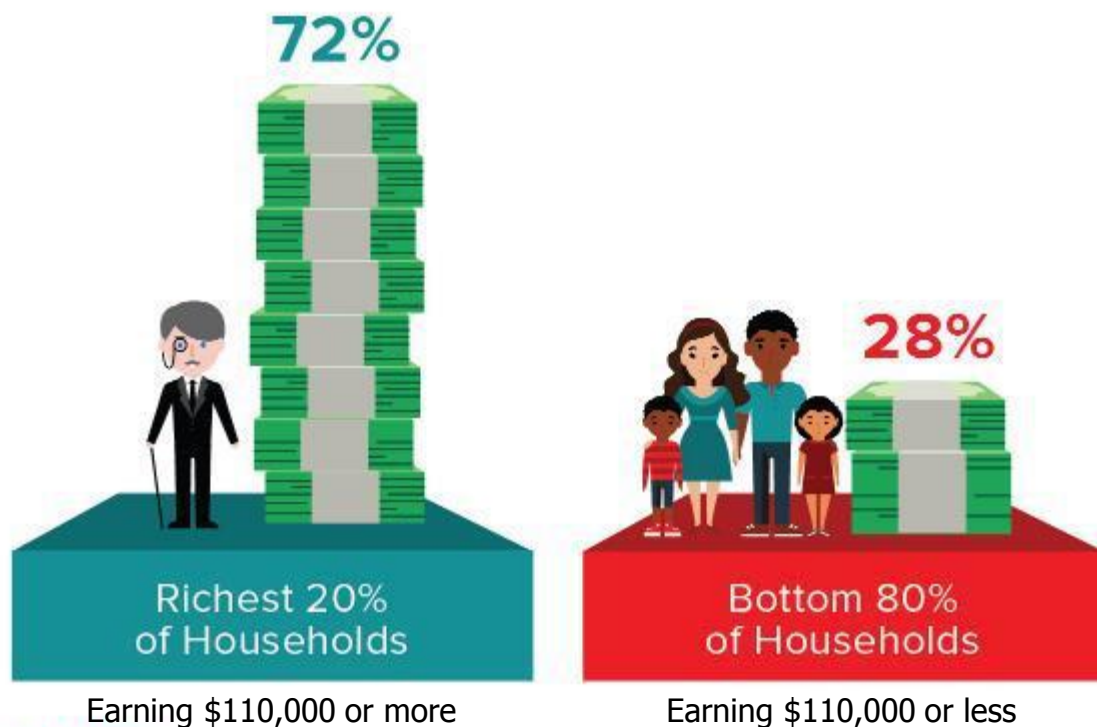
@ProsperityNow  
[prosperitynow.org](http://prosperitynow.org)



# WHO BENEFITS FROM THE TAX CODE

## UNDER CURRENT LAW, THE TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

Share of Tax Cuts from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act









- Of the nearly \$275 billion within the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in 2018, 72%—or \$200 billion—goes to the top 20% of households

**SOURCE I** *Race, Wealth and Taxes: How the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Supercharges the Racial Wealth Divide*, Prosperity Now, ITEP

# WHO BENEFITS FROM THE TAX CODE

## UNDER CURRENT LAW, THE TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

Average Tax Benefit from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act	Households, By Income Group	Daily Benefit from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act
\$90	 <b>LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS</b> <i>Earning less than \$23,000</i>	 <b>\$0.25</b>
\$1,000	 <b>MIDDLE-CLASS HOUSEHOLDS</b> <i>Earnings between \$40,000–\$110,000</i>	 <b>\$2.75</b>
\$47,650	 <b>RICHEST 1% OF HOUSEHOLDS</b> <i>Earning more than \$590,000</i>	 <b>\$130.55</b>

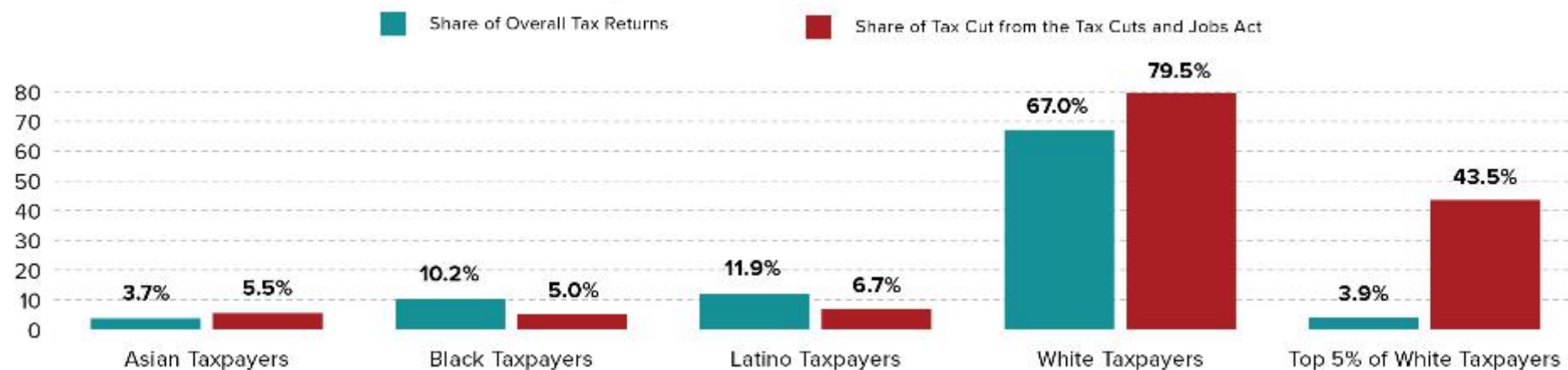
**SOURCE I** *Race, Wealth and Taxes: How the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Supercharges the Racial Wealth Divide*, Prosperity Now, ITEP

# WHO BENEFITS FROM THE TAX CODE

## UNDER CURRENT LAW, THE TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

- Of the nearly \$275 billion within the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in 2018, \$218 billion (79.5%) goes to White households.
- More than 40% of all tax cuts from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act go to the White households in the top 5% of earners, despite only representing 3.9% of all tax returns.

Share of Overall Tax Returns Compared to Share of Total Tax Cuts from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

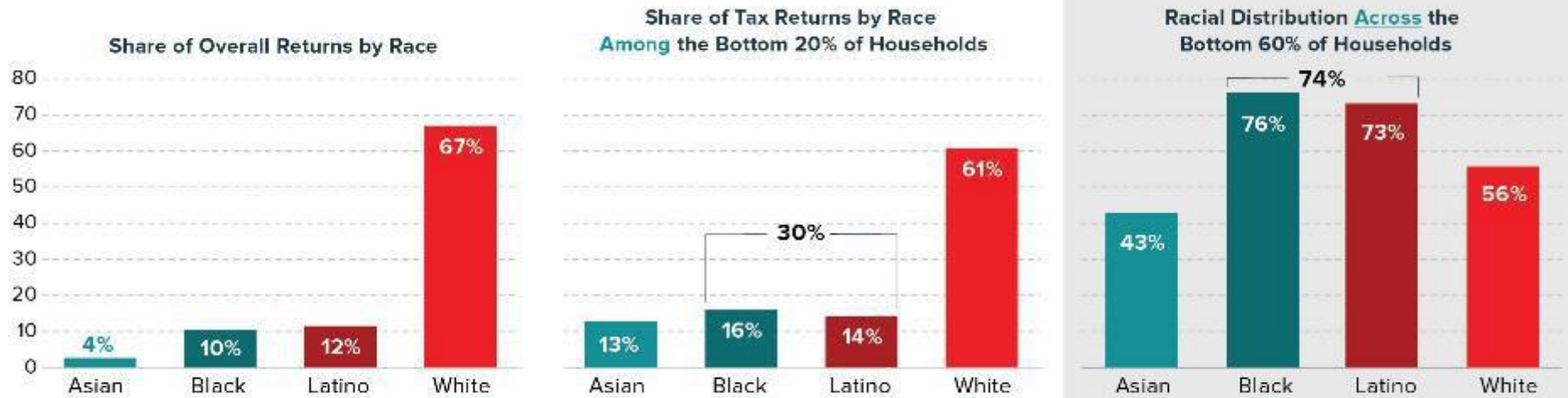


**SOURCE I** *Race, Wealth and Taxes: How the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Supercharges the Racial Wealth Divide*, Prosperity Now, ITEP

# WHO BENEFITS FROM THE TAX CODE

## UNDER CURRENT LAW, THE TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

- Communities of color are overrepresented among the bottom 60% and 20% of families and underrepresented among our richest households.



**SOURCE I** *Race, Wealth and Taxes: How the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Supercharges the Racial Wealth Divide*, Prosperity Now, ITEP


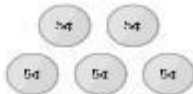

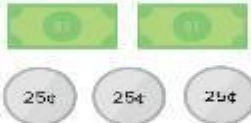

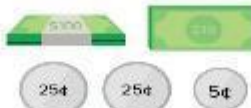
# WHO BENEFITS FROM THE TAX CODE

## UNDER CURRENT LAW, THE TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

Average Tax Benefit from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act	Households, By Income Group, Race/Ethnicity	Daily Benefit from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act
<b>\$1,710</b>	<b>ALL HOUSEHOLDS</b>	<b>\$4.68</b>
\$2,560	Asian	\$7.01
\$840	Black	\$2.30
\$970	Latino	\$2.66
\$2,020	White	\$5.53

**SOURCE I** *Race, Wealth and Taxes: How the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Supercharges the Racial Wealth Divide*, Prosperity Now, ITEP



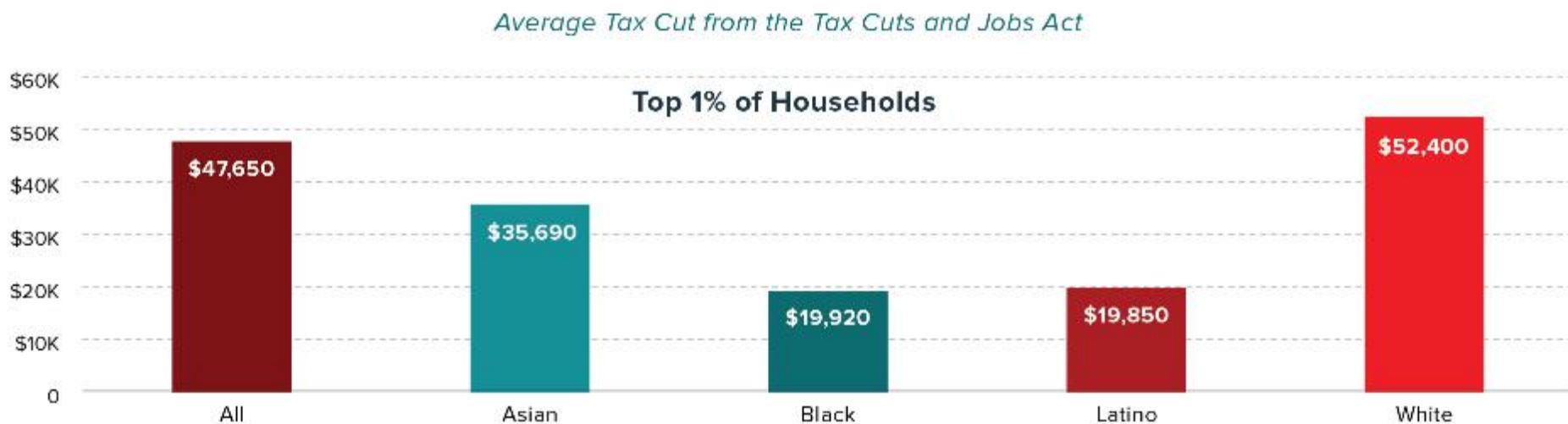
Average Tax Benefit from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act	Households, By Income Group, Race/Ethnicity	Daily Benefit from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act
\$90	 <b>LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS</b> <i>Earning less than \$23,000</i>	 <b>\$0.25</b>
\$70	Asian	\$0.19
\$90	Black	\$0.25
\$110	Latino	\$0.30
\$90	White	\$0.25
\$1,000	 <b>MIDDLE-CLASS HOUSEHOLDS</b> <i>Earnings between \$40,000–\$110,000</i>	 <b>\$2.75</b>
\$1040	Asian	\$2.85
\$920	Black	\$2.52
\$960	Latino	\$2.63
\$1,020	White	\$2.80
\$47,650	 <b>RICHEST 1% OF HOUSEHOLDS</b> <i>Earning more than \$590,000</i>	 <b>\$130.55</b>
\$35,690	Asian	\$97.78
\$19,290	Black	\$52.85
\$19,850	Latino	\$54.38
\$52,400	White	\$143.56

**SOURCE I** *Race, Wealth and Taxes: How the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Supercharges the Racial Wealth Divide*, Prosperity Now, ITEP

# WHO BENEFITS FROM THE TAX CODE

## UNDER CURRENT LAW, THE TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

- Even among the super wealthy, the disparity within last year's tax law is alarming.



**SOURCE I** *Race, Wealth and Taxes: How the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Supercharges the Racial Wealth Divide*, Prosperity Now, ITEP

# Thank You!

# April Action – Talk to Lawmakers about Housing during the April Recess (April 15-26)

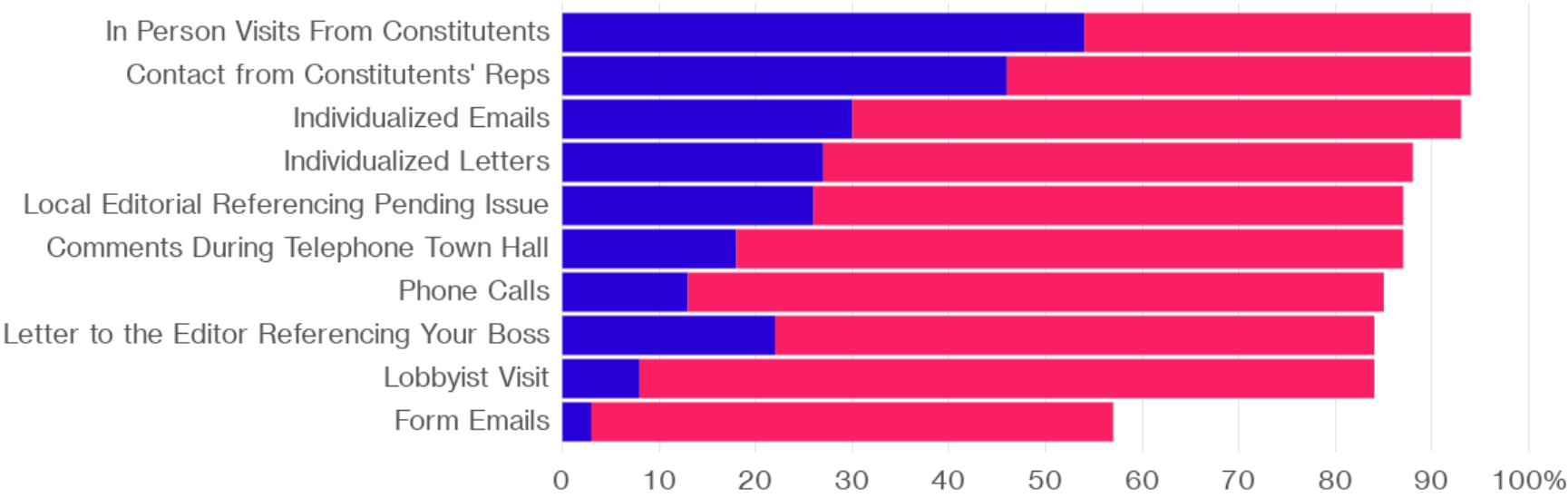


Jos Linn  
[jlinn@results.org](mailto:jlinn@results.org)

## Want To Be Heard? Show Up!

Influence on Washington D.C.-based congressional staffers by communication type.

■ A Lot of Positive Influence    ■ Some Positive Influence



Source: Congressional Management Foundation  
\*Bars do not add up to 100 because not all surveyed categories are displayed



## April Action Training – Follow-up on Mtg Requests

- Persistence is the key to getting meetings
- Remember, they are fielding hundreds of requests per week
- Quick responses after one request are the exception, not the rule

### **If you get no response to a meeting request...**

- Check your Junk Mail
- Within a few days of your initial request, hit Reply All or Forward your request e-mail with a quick one or two sentences checking on the status
- If no response, call still the scheduler (leave a message if he/she is out); may have to do this several times
- If still no response, try a different office (if you started in DC, contact local office or vice versa)
- If still no response, contact RESULTS staff to strategize next steps



## April Action Training – Follow-up on Mtg Requests

**If you get a response, but they won't give you a face-to-face**

- Ask for the next possible time when MoC would be available to meet (even if months out)
- Have a regular date and time when you will call the scheduler to again make a request
  - Be polite but persistent
- Be flexible with time and locations – go to them
  - Do they have any public events coming up where you could go and do the meeting right before or right after?
- If still no luck, contact RESULTS staff to strategize next steps

## Grassroots Shares

*What strategies have you used to get face-to-face meetings with members of Congress when their offices are slow to respond?*



**Felicia Taiwo**  
RESULTS Delaware

# April Action: Meet with Members of Congress

## RESOURCES

- **Sample Meeting Requests:** [Online](#) or [Word doc](#)
- **March and April Actions** have resources to help you with lobby meetings: <https://results.org/volunteers/monthly-actions/>
- **Full Laser Talks:** <https://results.org/volunteers/laser-talks/>
- **Lobbying Resources:** <https://results.org/volunteers/lobbying/>
- **Set the Agenda:** <https://results.org/issues/set-the-agenda/>

# Monthly Giving March

## Full Match Unlocked!



Thank you to everyone who donated and spread the word!

- Full **\$10,000 match** was unlocked
- **25 new donors** joined the *Investors in Change*
- **\$500/month** (\$6,000/year) raised to fight poverty
  - Average gift \$21.40 – small investments add up to a huge impact

## Save the Date: Spring Peer-to-Peer Campaign

- May 2019
- Online fundraising campaign
- Participate individually or with a team
- More information coming soon!

Spring 2019  
**RESULTS**  
Peer-to-Peer  
Fundraiser



Contact Mea Geizhals with questions or if you plan to join at [mgeizhals@results.org](mailto:mgeizhals@results.org) or 202-783-4800 x131



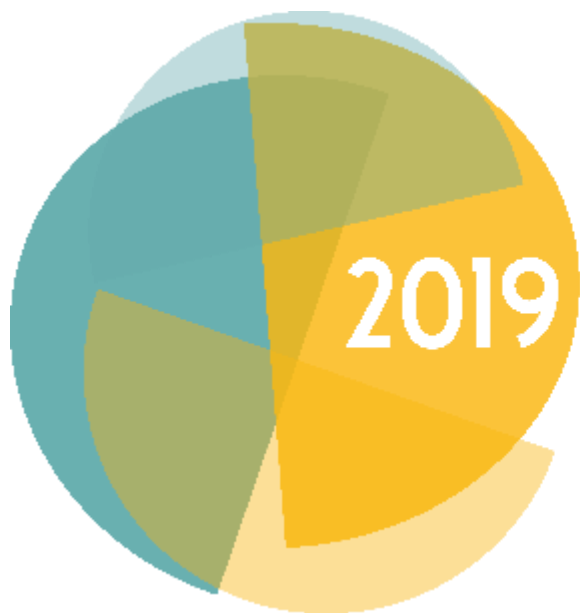
## Meet Mackenzie Aime

### 2019 Emerson Hunger Fellow

- Originally from Boise, ID
- Graduated from Emory University in Atlanta last year
- She studied issues of food justice and how the food system creates disparities along race, class, and gender lines
- She also worked with non-profit organizations on various local hunger and food initiatives
- In her field placement for the fellowship, she lived in McDowell County, WV, focusing on community organizing to create a foodshed improvement plan for the county



**We want to see YOU at the...**



## RESULTS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

**Register at [www.resultsconference.org](http://www.resultsconference.org)!**

Need financial assistance getting there, contact [Jos](#)  
[Linn](#) for more information.

# Announcements

- **Let us know what you're doing – use our tracking forms!**
  - Use our short, easy activity forms to let us know about all the great things you're doing
  - Your activity helps us strategize, coordinate, and inform
  - **Lobby meetings:** [www.tinyurl.com/LobbyMtgs](http://www.tinyurl.com/LobbyMtgs)
  - **Media:** [www.tinyurl.com/RESULTSMedia](http://www.tinyurl.com/RESULTSMedia)
  - **Outreach:** New form coming soon, for now report to Jos Linn ([jlinn@results.org](mailto:jlinn@results.org))
- **Apply for REAL Change Fellowship.** If you or someone you know is 18-30 years old and looking for a leadership opportunity, apply for the [REAL Change Fellowship Program](#) today.

# Announcements

**RESULTS Action Network Community of Practice webinar, Wednesday, April 3 at 8:00pm ET.** To join, log in: <https://results.zoom.us/j/427674133> or dial in: 669-900-6833, Meeting ID: 427 674 133.

**RESULTS New Advocate Orientation April 4 (8:30pm ET), April 9 (12:00pm ET), April 17(8:30pm ET).** Get started at: <https://results.salsalabs.org/volunteer/index.html>.

**U.S. Poverty Free Agents Calls, Tuesday, April 16 at 1:00 pm and 8:00 pm ET.** Join at: <https://results.zoom.us/j/324294681> or dial by phone at (929) 436-2866 or (669) 900-6833, Meeting ID: 324 294 681.

**Thursday, April 18 : *Quiet Leadership* Book Club, 9:00 pm ET.** To join, go to <https://results.zoom.us/j/482992263>. You can also join by phone at (929) 436-2866 or (669) 900-6833, meeting ID 482 992 263.

Find these and other events on our [\*\*Event Calendar\*\*](#).

# Hahrie Han to speak on our June webinar!

We are excited to announce that political science professor and organizing expert Hahrie Han will join us on our June 4 webinar.

Watch this video to preview her work on transformational organizing, which she'll discuss on the June webinar.

Stay tuned for more details.





Thank you for being on tonight's  
webinar!

The next **U.S. Poverty National Webinar** is  
**Tuesday, May 7 at 8:00pm ET.**

# **FINAL ACTION**

## **Follow-up on meeting requests**

Increase your chances of getting a face-to-face meeting during the April recess.

**Reply to or forward your last meeting request you sent to the scheduler NOW, asking about the status of your request.**

Have it waiting in their Inbox when they come in tomorrow morning!