

# HARPER'S INDEX

- Median income of U.S. men who are single, childless, in their twenties, and live in a city : \$26,000  
Of women : \$28,000
- Chance that an unmarried American under thirty says marriage is "becoming obsolete" : 1 in 2  
Chances that he or she wants to get married : 19 in 20
- Percentage of married men and women, respectively, who believe they control the television : 24, 26  
Percentage change in the average value of an American home since 2006 : -25  
Change between 1929 and 1933 : -25.9
- Percentage increase since 2004 in the estimated median household net worth of members of Congress : 22  
Percentage of U.S. GDP last year that went to federal job-training and job-search programs : 0.05  
Percentage that went to unemployment insurance : 1
- Portion of voters in the midterm elections who ranked "spending to create jobs" as their highest priority for Congress : 2/5  
Percentage who said they had an unfavorable view of Democrats : 52  
Of Republicans : 53
- Estimated number of pigs that could be bought with the money diverted last year to congressional earmarks : 108,200,000  
Percentage of the fuel used to power Amtrak's *Heartland Flyer* that comes from rendered beef fat : 20  
Portion of all calories consumed by U.S. children that are nutritionally empty : 2/5
- Maximum number of calories permitted under San Francisco law for restaurant meals that come with a free toy : 600  
Portion of the U.S. population that will have diabetes by 2050, if current trends continue : 1/3  
Percentage change since 2008 in the number of confirmed gonorrhea cases in Alaska : +71  
Chance that a mammal species declared extinct since 1500 was later rediscovered : 1 in 3  
Odds in New York City in 1900 of dying in a horse accident : 1 in 19,000  
Odds today of dying there in an automobile accident : 1 in 26,000
- Factor by which Joe DiMaggio's 1950 salary exceeded the mean U.S. family income : 26  
Factor by which Derek Jeter's 2010 salary did : 288
- Median income in NY-14, the country's wealthiest congressional district : \$60,099  
In NY-16, the country's poorest : \$17,995  
Distance between the two, in miles : 0.75
- Percentage of the pedestrians stopped in 2009 for random searches in Philadelphia who were black : 71  
Percentage of the city's population that is black : 44  
Portion of the stops that didn't lead to an arrest : 11/12
- Miles from land and maritime borders that the U.S. Border Patrol can legally perform warrantless searches : 100  
Portion of all Americans who live within that area : 2/3
- Percentage of all Internet networks rerouted to a Chinese telecommunications company last spring : 15  
Minutes that U.S. government and military traffic passed through Chinese servers : 18
- Fine in California for possession of less than an ounce of marijuana and for jaywalking, respectively : \$100, \$108
- Amount spent last year by the U.S. government to simulate an attack by pot growers on the nation's second-largest dam : \$500,000  
Number of licensed peyote dealers in Texas : 3  
Estimated value of the bulletproof-car market in Mexico : \$90,000,000  
Average number of times a Canadian apologizes each week : 4  
Number of times George W. Bush's memoir refers to his loss of the 2000 popular vote : 0

*Figures cited are the latest available as of December 2010. Sources are listed on page 68.  
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