

SSP203

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MTH 090

**Course Learning Outcomes: (as listed on Department syllabus)**

Solve ratio and proportion word problems.

**Assignment Learning Outcomes:**

Students will apply understanding of proportions and percents to a social justice topic.

Students will connect ideas of proportion and percentage.

Students will think critically about equality and wealth distribution.

**Method of Assessment:**

The assignment will be completed at home and turn it in in class. I will review them quickly to put students in groups the following class to discuss their work and make any changes they wish to their assignment to be turned in next time. Students that did not complete the assignment or only partially completed it will be put in groups together.

**The Lesson: Equality and the Distribution of Wealth**

I will use this lesson in the Spring 2016 semester since I am currently not signed up to teach a traditional section of MTH 090 in the Fall semester. At the point of the lesson we would have introduced proportions in class and how to work with them to check for equivalence or to find an equivalent ratio.

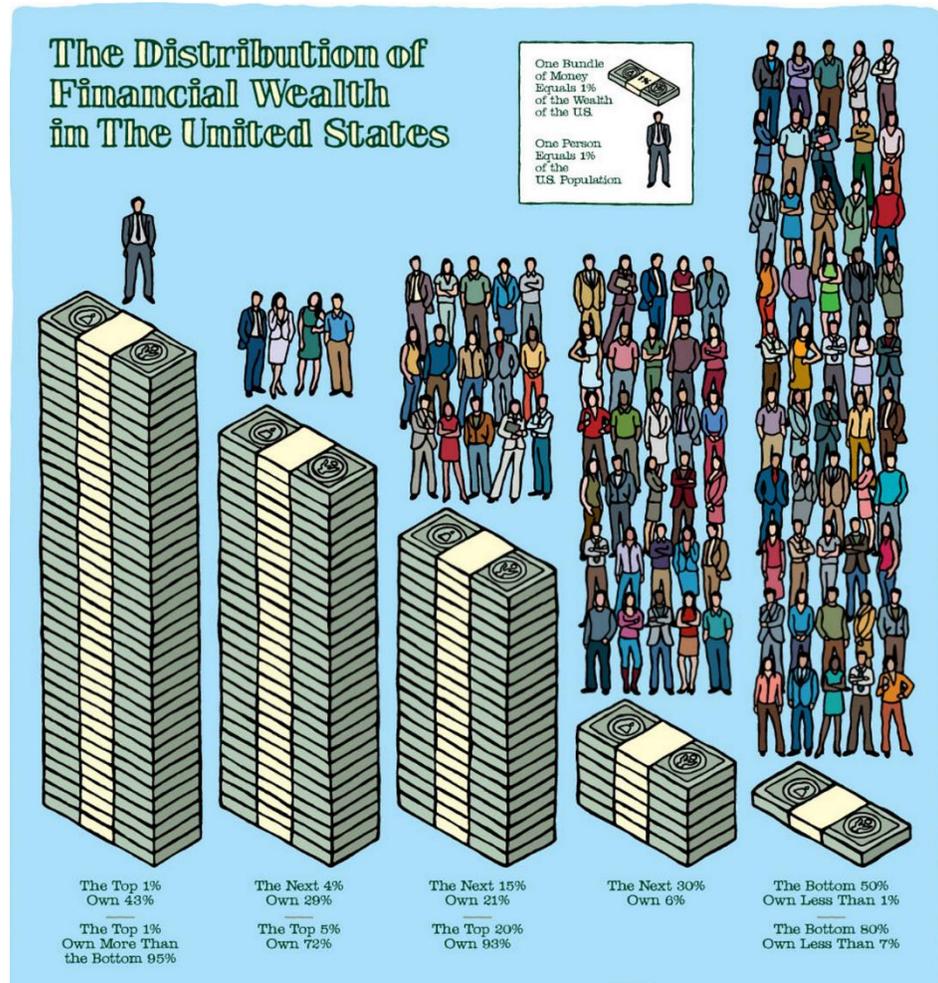
- 1) (    / 2 points) We have been working with ratios and have learned that we can express them in a variety of ways such as:  $a$  to  $b$ ,  $a : b$ ,  $a$  per  $b$ , and  $a/b$ . Consider the format  $a$  per  $b$  and apply it to "7 percent" or "7 per cent."
  - a. Here are some words that have the prefix "cent" in them. Look up their definitions in a dictionary. What do they have in common?
    - i. Century
    - ii. Centipede
    - iii. Centennial
    - iv. One Cent
    - v. Centimeter
  - b. How would you write 7 percent as a ratio?
  
- 2) (    / 3 points) Imagine a community where all is equal.
  - a. If a community of 100 people had to share \$100 how much would each person get?
  - b. If the same community now had to share \$500 how much would each person get?
  - c. If a community of 300 people had to share \$1200 how much would each person get?
  
- 3) (    / 2 points) Define the word wealth. Site where you pulled your definition from.
  
- 4) (    / 3 points) How would you describe the community you live in; is wealth distributed equally among the people in your community? Give an example of why it is or isn't. How about our country; is wealth shared equally among the people in our country? Give an example of why it is or isn't.

- 5) (   / 2 points) In your opinion should wealth be distributed equally among people in our country? Explain why or why not.
- 6) (   / 3 points) It is estimated that the total U.S. wealth in 2014 was \$83,708,000,000,000.
- If the U.S. population is 327,958,000 (this includes every child), how much wealth should each person have if the wealth in the U.S. was divided equally? (<https://publications.credit-suisse.com/tasks/render/file/index.cfm?fileid=25EC6CF2-0407-67D9-AAEAAE8BDFE378>)
  - Does the number seem close to your actual wealth? Note that the number is for you alone and not your whole family. Each person and child would have that wealth.
  - What is your reaction to this number?
- 7) (   / 5 points) Study the table below. Looking at the year 2010 on the table to the left, if you add all of the percentages you should get 100% which would represent 100% of the U.S. wealth.

**Distribution of net worth in the United States**

	Total Net Worth		
	Top 1 percent	Next 19 percent	Bottom 80 percent
1983	33.8%	47.5%	18.7%
1989	37.4%	46.2%	16.5%
1992	37.2%	46.6%	16.2%
1995	38.5%	45.4%	16.1%
1998	38.1%	45.3%	16.6%
2001	33.4%	51.0%	15.6%
2004	34.3%	50.3%	15.3%
2007	34.6%	50.5%	15.0%
2010	35.4%	53.5%	11.1%

<http://www2.ucsc.edu/whorulesamerica/power/wealth.html>



<http://www.upworthy.com/a-fugly-truth-made-pretty-a-cartoonists-depiction-of-wealth-inequality-ma3-5f>

- The illustration to the right is also for the year 2010 but since it is from a different source the percentages are slightly different. Summarize in your own words what the table to the left and the illustration to the right tell us.
- What are your thoughts on this information? How does this information tie in with the above questions? Why do you think wealth is so unequal in the U.S.? (Response should be a minimum of 150 words.)