

Just the Facts

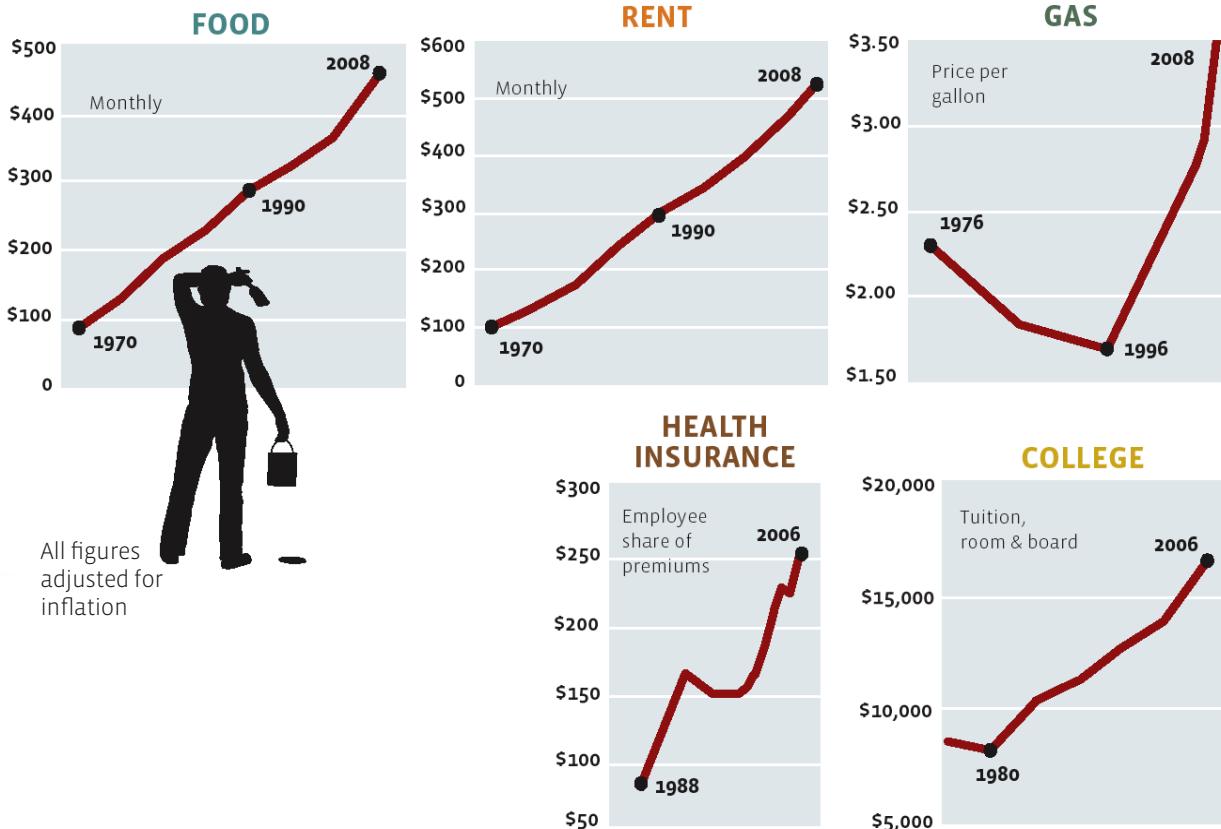
How the Middle Class Got Stuck

Research and graphics by Noah Grant,
Layla Aslani, and Doug Pibel

Don't feel like things are looking up (though the news says that the GDP is headed in the right direction? Here is why:

Surging prices, stagnant wages, spiralling debt. This is what "stuck" feels like.

The price of the things we need keeps going up.

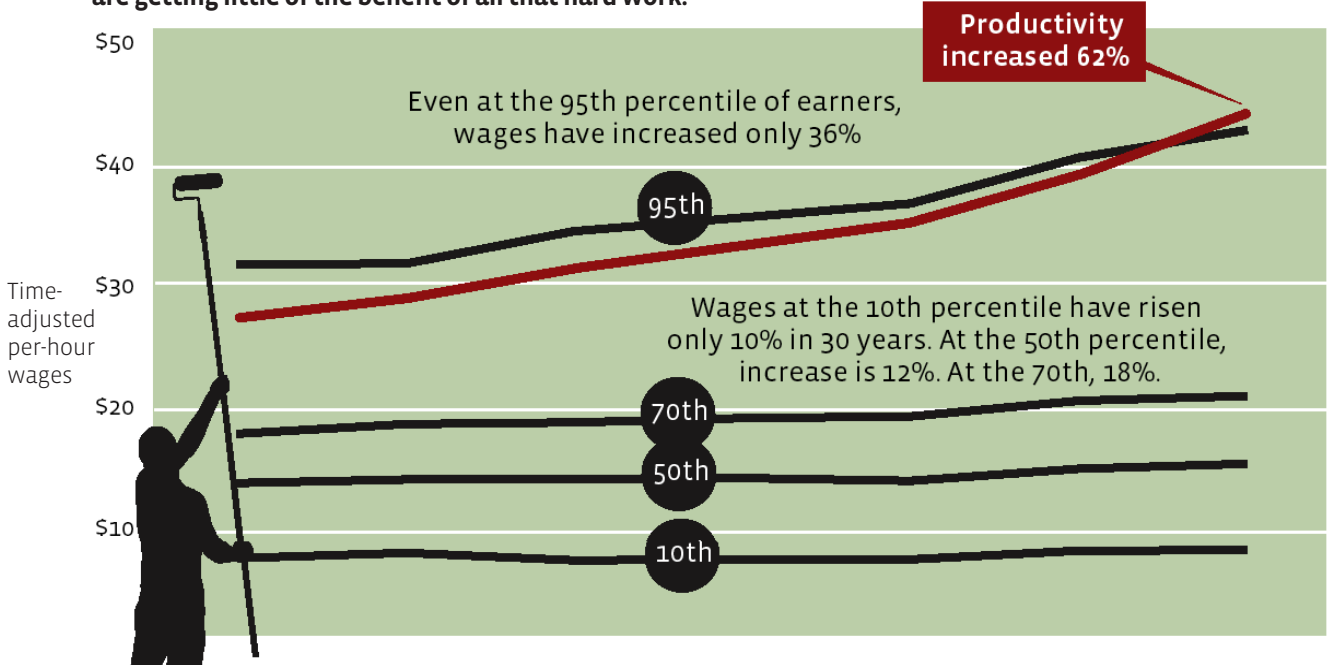


PURPLE AMERICA

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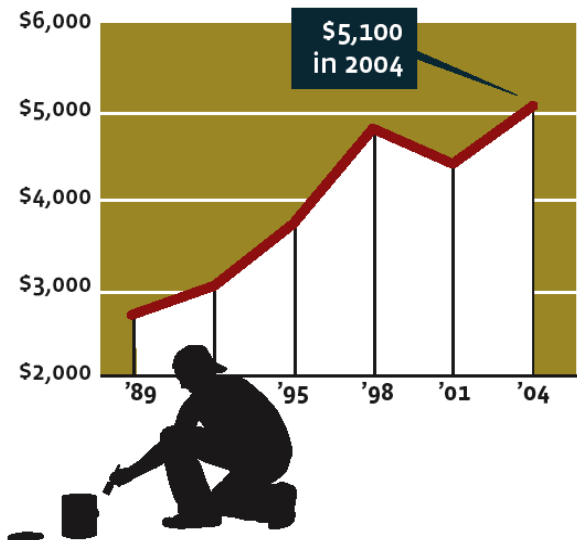
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We're more productive than ever but wage-earners--especially those in the lower half--are getting little of the benefit of all that hard work.



We're going deeper into debt just to stay afloat. Massively so since 2001. The U.S. savings rate is at zero for the first time since the Depression. Home equity is at an all-time low.

CREDIT CARD DEBT



MORTGAGE DEBT

