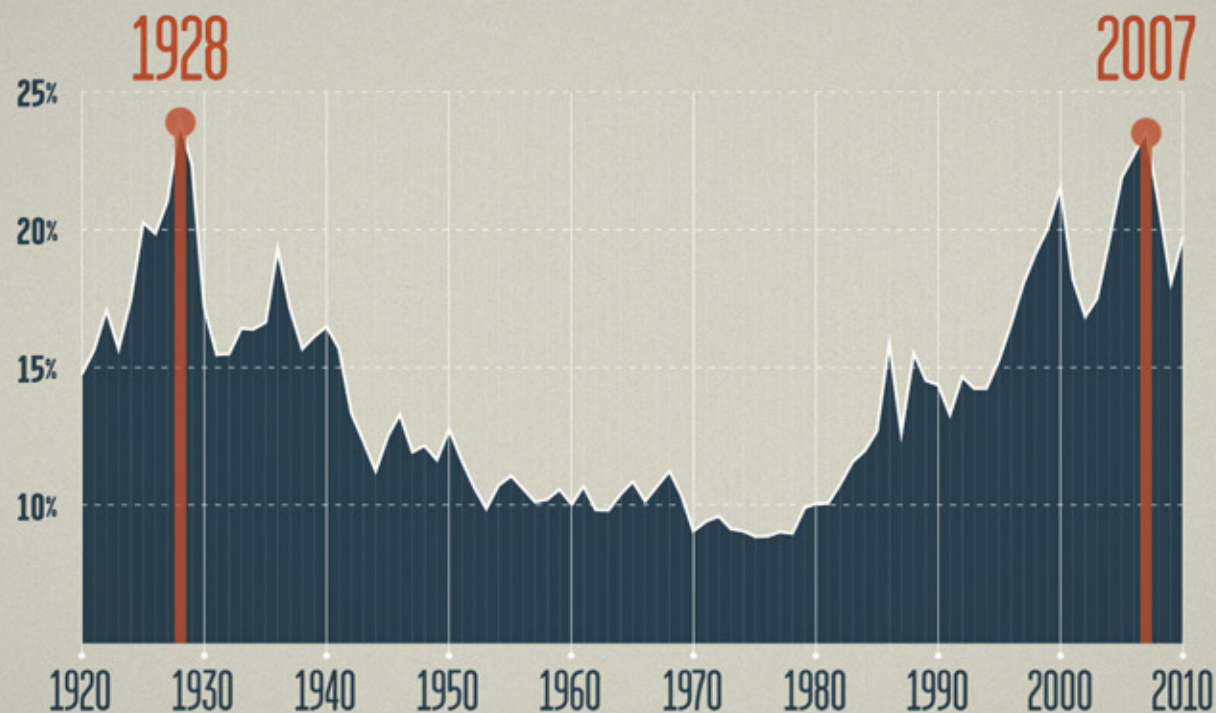


TOP 1% INCOME SHARE



Emmanuel Saez and Thomas Piketty were the first to look at the top 1%. Before that, we only had broad “quintile” data — what the top 20% was doing vs. the bottom 20% — which was as specific as data got through the census.

Saez and Piketty researched a different source of data — income tax. The US income tax was instituted in 1913, so using that data, Saez and Piketty could track income data for the top 1% compared to everyone else for the first time.



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Here's what that income distribution looked like.