Post-COVID Income Distributions and Dynamics in America*

Illenin Kondo
Minneapolis Fed†

John Voorheis
U.S. Census Bureau‡

Abigail Wozniak
Minneapolis Fed§

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Abstract

A collaborative research project between the U.S. Census Bureau and the Minneapolis Fed, the Income Distributions and Dynamics in America (IDDA) dataset provides unique estimates of income distributions, income growth, and income mobility at subnational geographic scale for a large number of demographic groups in the United States. These rich statistics are made possible by combining Census demographic information with the universe of 1040 tax filers and W-2 recipients. A new extension of the IDDA dataset covers the years 2020 to 2023, which allows for additional insight into the evolution of granular income and earnings distributions during and following the COVID pandemic recession. Further analysis explores how earnings kept up with the post-COVID inflation, especially among job switchers and the role of remote work. Finally, we contribute to the understanding of Native economies by measuring granular income distributions in the combined geography of Native areas partitioned by federal recognition status.

KEYWORDS: income inequality, race and ethnicity, gender wage gap, granular income statistics

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†Kondo: Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Opportunity & Inclusive Growth Institute. kondo@illenin.com

‡Voorheis: U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies. john.l.voorheis@census.gov

§Wozniak: Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Opportunity & Inclusive Growth Institute. abigail.wozniak@mpls.frb.org