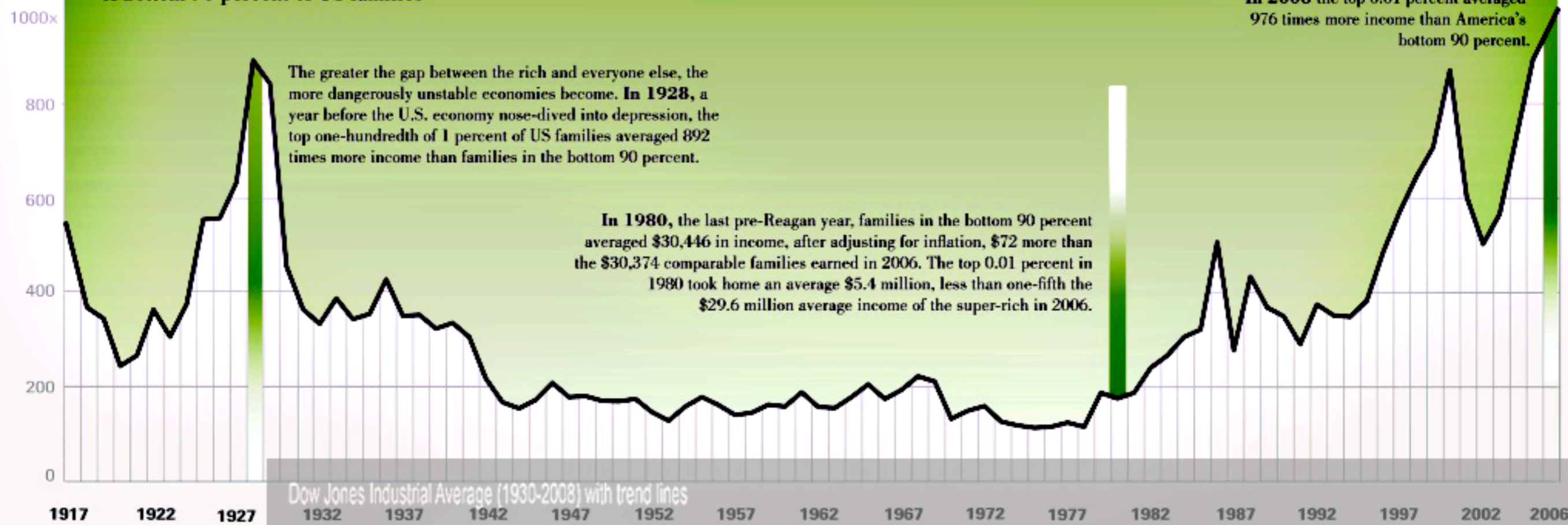


# PLUTOCRACY REBORN

A half-century ago, thoughtful Americans considered the Gilded Age ancient history. By the 1950s, robber baron fortunes no longer dominated – or dazzled – America’s political and economic landscape. But that’s all changed. The awesomely affluent haven’t just returned. Today they cast an even greater shadow.

## Re-creating the Gap that Gave Us the Great Depression

Average income of top 0.01 percent of US families as a multiple of average income of bottom 90 percent of US families



## Our Incredible Shrinking Top Marginal Rate

Federal tax rate on income in highest income bracket

High taxes on the rich, in the mid-20th century, helped keep income from concentrating at America’s economic summit. Throughout most of these years, income in the United States over \$400,000 a year faced a tax rate just over 90 percent. The current top statutory rate sits at 35 percent.

