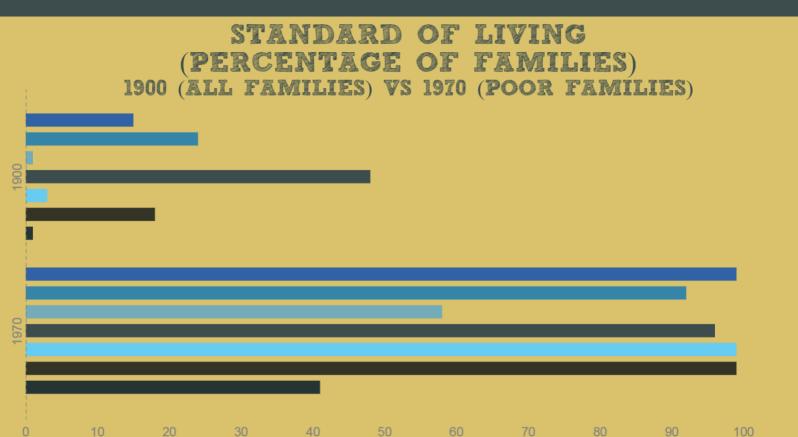
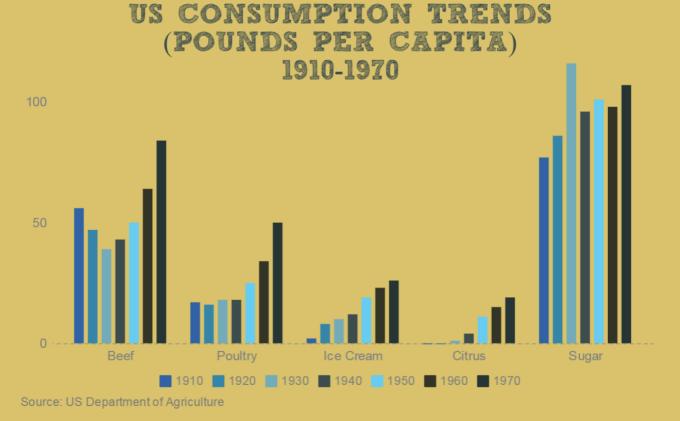
Changing Living Standards



Flush toilet Running water Central heating 1 (or fewer) persons per room Electricity Refrigeration Automobiles

Source: US Commissioner of Labor Statistics



How have living standards changed over time? What factors might have contributed to these changes?

Is a poor family in 1970 materially better off than a typical American family in 1900? If not, why not?

THE GILDER LEHRMAN
INSTITUTE of AMERICAN HISTORY
www.gilderlehrman.org