

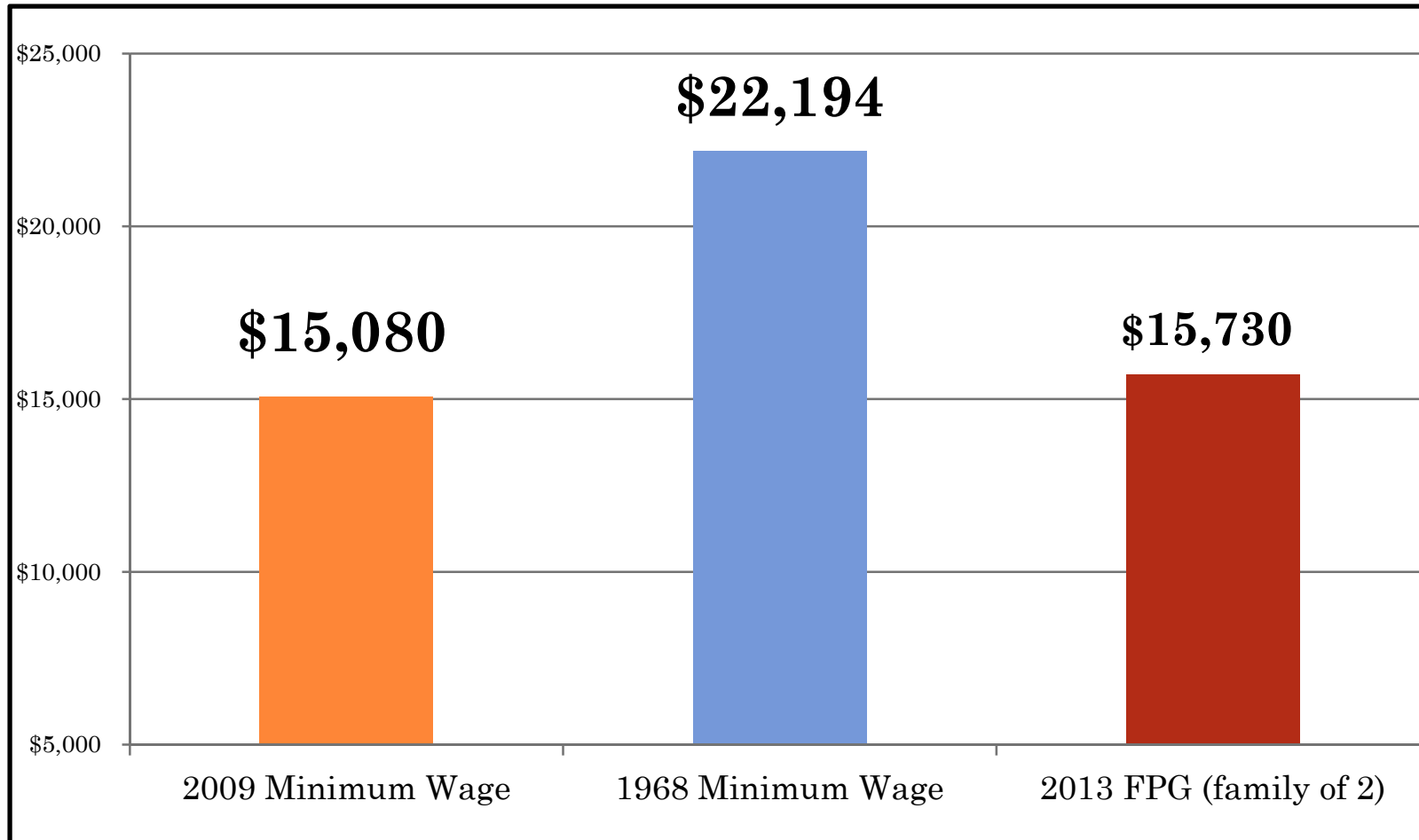
# RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE

By Jessica D. Fraser, Program Manager



# WAGE EROSION

**Annualized Value: 2009 and 1968 Minimum Wage (2012 Dollars)**

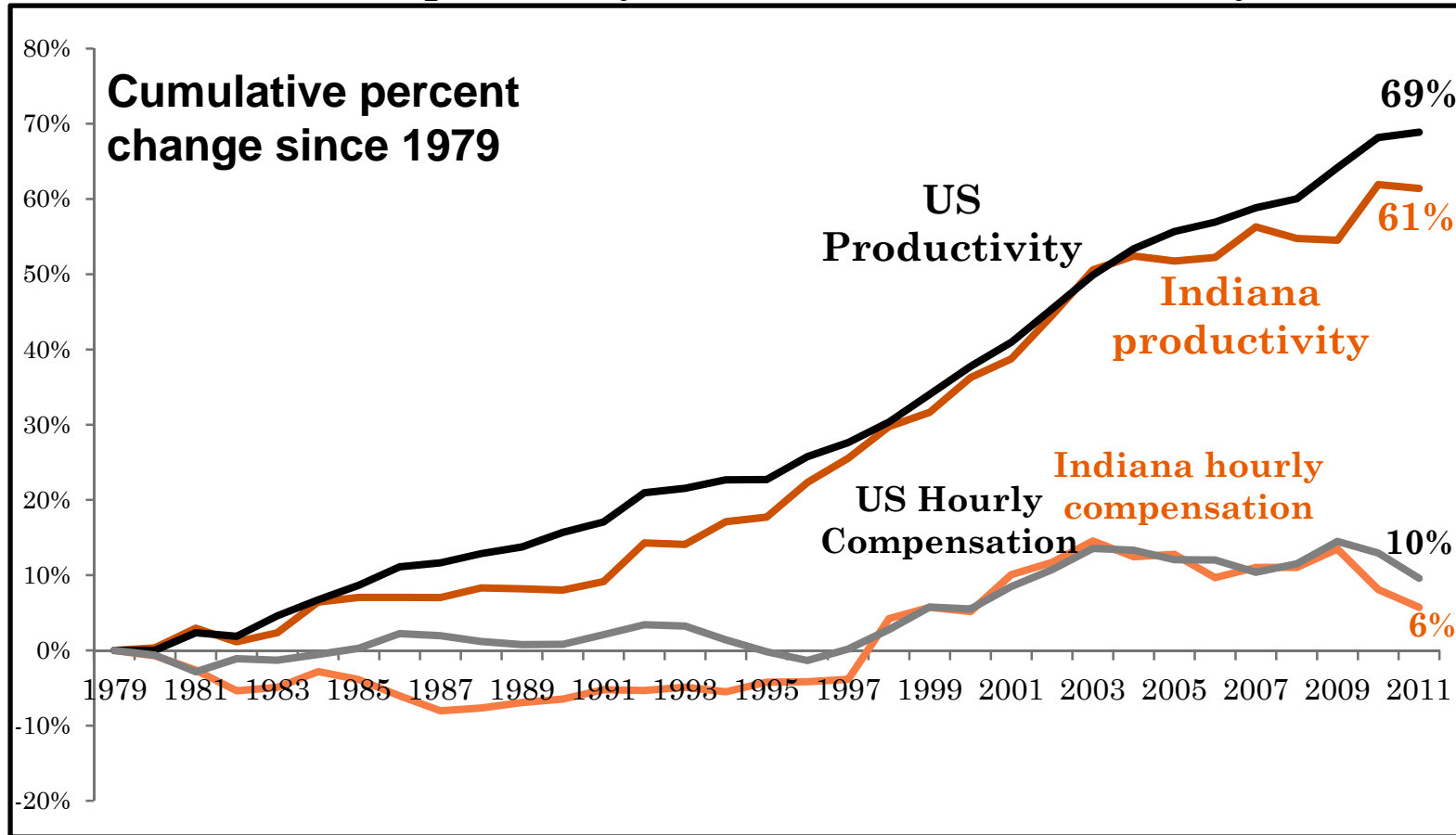


**Source:** Author Calculations of Minimum Wage by 2080 Hours and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2013 Federal Poverty Guidelines, Compared to 2013 Federal Poverty Guidelines



# WORKING HARDER FOR LESS

## Growth of Real Hourly Median Compensation for Production/Nonsupervisory Workers and Productivity, 1979-2011



**Source:** EPI analysis of unpublished total economy data from Bureau of Labor Statistics, Labor Productivity and costs program; employment data from Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics; and Bureau of Economic Analysis, State/National Income and Product Accounts public data series.

# RACE TO THE BOTTOM

- **28%** of jobs in occupations that pay poverty wages
  - More than all neighbor states – including Kentucky
- **71%** of jobs in occupations that pay < self sufficient wages
  - More than all neighbor states – including Kentucky
- **5.2%** earn minimum wage
  - More than all neighbors – tied with Kentucky
- Median hourly wage: **\$15.24**
  - Less than all neighbor states – excluding Kentucky
- **4<sup>th</sup>** largest decline in Median Household Income in U.S.
  - From 2000 – 2011
- **Greatest** decline in average income in U.S. for bottom 5<sup>th</sup>
  - From mid 1990's – mid 2000's



# #RAISETHEWAGE FOR WOMEN

- Nationally, nearly **2/3rds of tipped workers are women**, and Indiana is **1 of 5** states – along with Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi – in which more than **7 in 10 minimum wage workers are women**. According to GovBeat, **20%** of female workers in Indiana would be directly affected.
- “The typical worker likely to be affected by a raise in the minimum wage today is a **woman in her 30's working full-time, with a family to support.**” (Brookings Institution)
- Indiana is **among 8 states** where over a quarter (**25.5%**) of children have a parent who would benefit from the minimum-wage increase.
- With women earning just \$0.73 cents to their male counterpart (the **6th largest gender gap in the U.S.**), increasing the tipped minimum wage is a good step towards equal pay.



# #RAISETHEWAGE FOR FAMILIES

- **637,000 Hoosiers** (23.4% of our workforce) would get a raise
- **\$1,000,000,000**: raising the minimum wage would equal a cumulative raise of **one-billion dollars** for working Hoosier families.
- **Self-Sufficiency**: In order to afford the Fair Market Rent for a two-bedroom apartment, a minimum wage earner must currently work **76 hours per week, 52 weeks per year.**
- **Public Support**: American voters support raising the minimum wage by a **71 - 27** percent margin



# TAKE ACTION!

- Locally: support the Bloomington Living Wage Ordinance: [bloomington.in.gov/livingwage](http://bloomington.in.gov/livingwage)
- Statewide: know what it takes to be self-sufficient in communities across the state: <http://www.indianaselfsufficiencystandard.org/>
- Nationally: Contact your Congressional representative and tell them to #RaiseTheWage!
- Everywhere you go, ask employers if they pay a self-sufficient wage and tell them that's how you choose who to patronize



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