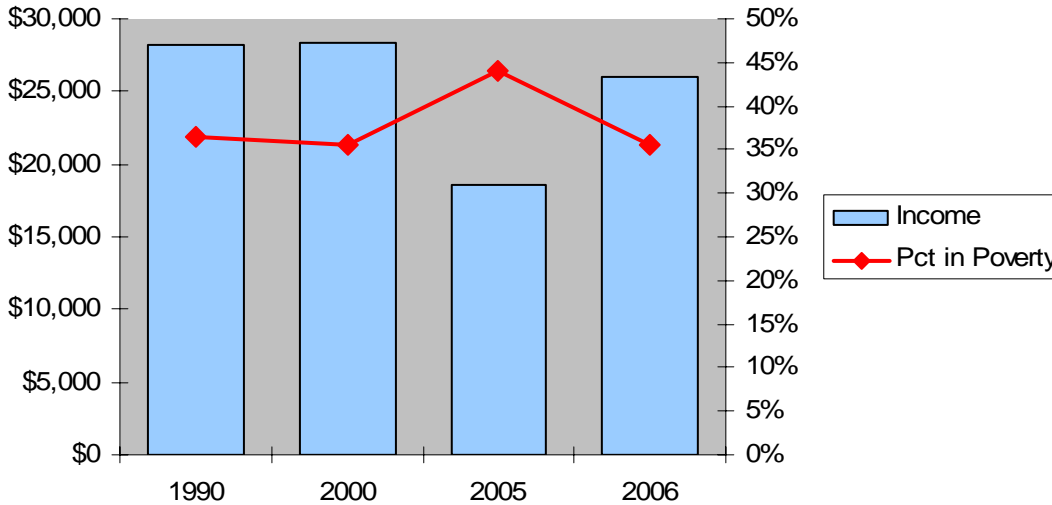


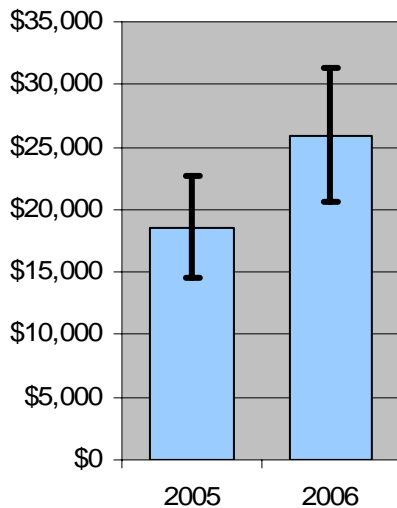
In August 2007, the Census Bureau released data from the American Community Survey (ACS) that showed an apparent increase in median income and an apparent decrease in the percentage of people living in poverty. The ACS is a household survey given to 3 million households nationally, and 2005 and 2006 data were available for cities with over 65,000 people. Because of the small sample size, the range of possible values for each city is rather large\*.



**Key Points / Notes:**

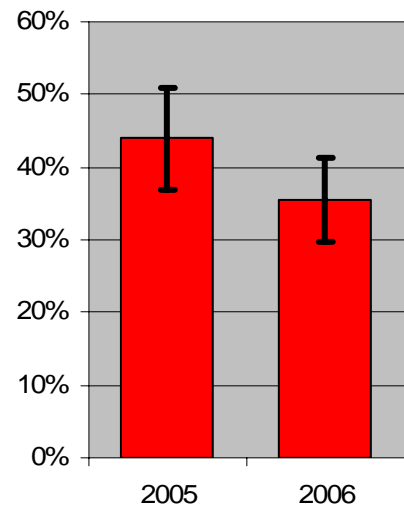
1. The ACS relies on a very small sample, and has a large margin of error (see graphs below)
2. Income data is adjusted for inflation.
3. The 2005 spike in percentage of people living in poverty and decrease in median income appears to be an anomaly, and not part of a consistent trend
4. Due to different data collection methods between the ACS and Census, income and poverty data should not be used for more than rough comparisons.

**Median Household Income**



These charts illustrate the differences in income and poverty estimates between the 2005 and 2006 American Community Survey. The black bars represent the margin of error for each year's sample. As shown by the charts, even though the actual numbers are quite different, the large margins of error have some degree of overlap.

**Pct in Poverty**



Source: American Community Survey (ACS) 2005 and 2006, U.S. Census Bureau

\* The American Community Survey is a sample of a larger population. Even assuming the sample is representative and that there is no sampling error, it is important to note that the point estimate for a given sample is just the most likely of a range of possible values. For the Camden data, the Census calculates that there is a 90% chance that the percentage of people living in poverty is between 29% and 41%, with 36% being the most likely outcome. For Camden, the Census estimate is that 3% of households were surveyed.

