

**EXERCISE 5.1**

## *How Much Money Do You Really Have?*

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**5 minutes**

Most of us have a distorted idea of where we fall on the nation's economic scale. Check out your relative financial situation (based on numbers from the 2000 Census) in the following short quiz.

My household pretax income is . . . (check one)

- less than \$25,000 (29.3 percent of the population)
- \$25,000–\$34,999 (13.3 percent of the population)
- \$35,000–\$49,999 (16.4 percent of the population)
- \$50,000–\$74,999 (20.1 percent of the population)
- \$75,000–\$99,999 (11.0 percent of the population)
- \$100,000 or more (8.7 percent of the population)
- \$119,540 or more (4.6 percent of the population)
- income in excess of \$330,000 annually and net worth of \$2.5 to \$3 million (top 1 percent of the population)

No matter what your income, according to the United States Census Bureau, if you earn any money at all, you have more money than one billion people in the world. Worldwide, average annual per capita income is \$800. ("Income Distribution to \$250,000 or More for Households: 2000." Current Population Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, Table HINC-07. November, 2001.)

Knowing the above, do you feel you could be or would like to be more generous?

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