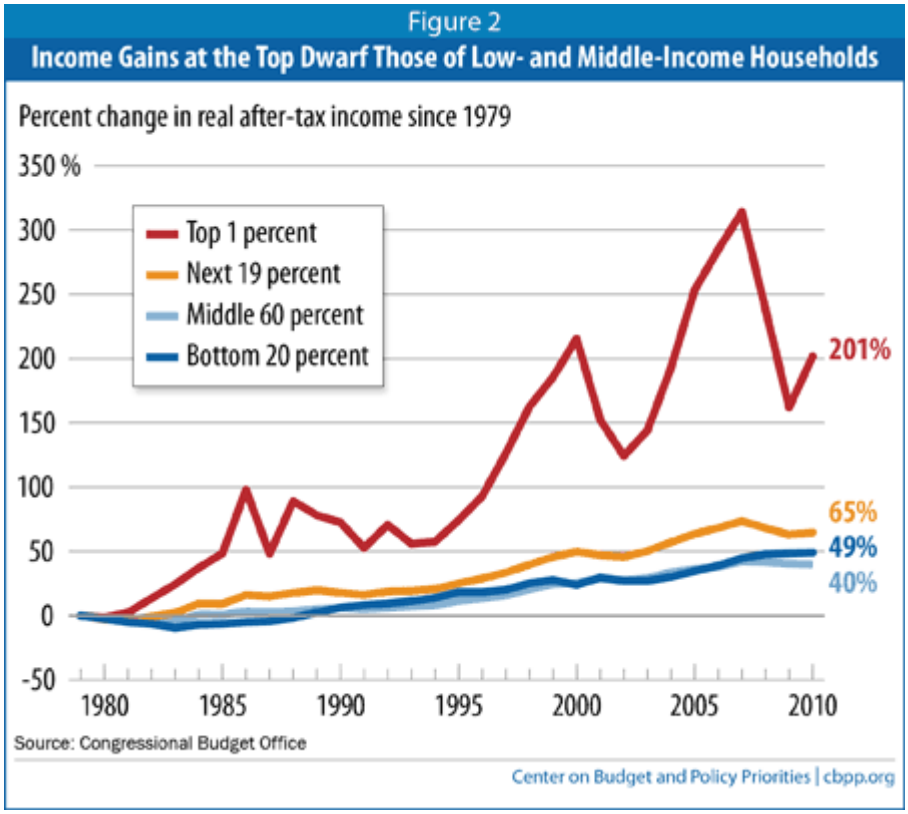

In other words, this chart shows how the top 1% is truly in a class by itself. Those in the 90th to 99th percentiles have much more in common with median earners than with the top 1%.

The chart below[29] (which uses before-tax rather than after-tax income) shows the share of income of both the top 1% and the even more elite group of the top .5% since 1929. These trend lines show that the post-1980 period mirrors a gradual return to the income share enjoyed by the top 1% just before the 1929 market crash and ensuing Great Depression.

[29] *Id.*