Please tell me the year of peak economic equality in the United States based on the annual GINI coefficient.

Based on the available data, the year of peak economic equality in the U.S. depends on which dataset you use.

Using the **World Bank's Gini index** (which tracks data from 1963 onward), the minimum value of 34.7 index points was reached in **1968**, while the maximum of 41.9 was recorded in 2019. However, another source using the same World Bank series reports the minimum was reached in **1980**.

Looking at a longer historical view, from about 1937 to 1947 — a period dubbed the "Great Compression" — income inequality fell dramatically, with the Gini dropping into the high 30s. This was driven by progressive New Deal taxation, stronger unions, wartime wage controls, and robust post-war economic growth.

For the **U.S. Census Bureau's household income Gini** (available from 1967), the lowest recorded value was approximately **0.386 in 1968**, after which inequality has generally trended upward. By either CBO or Census estimates, income inequality in the U.S. increased by about 20% from 1980 to 2016.

So in short: **1968** is the most commonly cited year of peak measured equality using the Census Bureau's annual Gini series, though the broader "Great Compression" era of the 1940s–1960s represented the most equal period overall.

Please tell me the year of the peak inequality in the United States based on the GINI Coefficient. Please utilize the definition of the GINI Coefficient utilized for the longest period within the whole review period.

The longest consistently defined Gini series for the United States is the **U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey (CPS) household income Gini**, which has been published annually from **1967 to the present** — a span of nearly 58 years using the same core methodology.

Under that series, **peak inequality occurred in 2021**, with a Gini coefficient of **0.494**.

Census records put America's Gini coefficient at 0.397 in 1967, then 0.403 in 1980, 0.462 in 2000, 0.481 in 2016, and 0.494 in 2021. After that peak, the Gini fell to 0.489 in 2022 and 0.485 in 2023 — still high historically, but the lowest figure since 2017. The Gini index then decreased again nationally between 2023 and 2024, **with the 2024 value coming in at 0.49**.

So across the full 1967–2024 CPS series, inequality roughly doubled from the late 1960s low of ~0.39 to the 2021 peak of 0.494, with a modest decline in the years since.