

City of Austin spending and Affordability

Spelman
Sep 2013

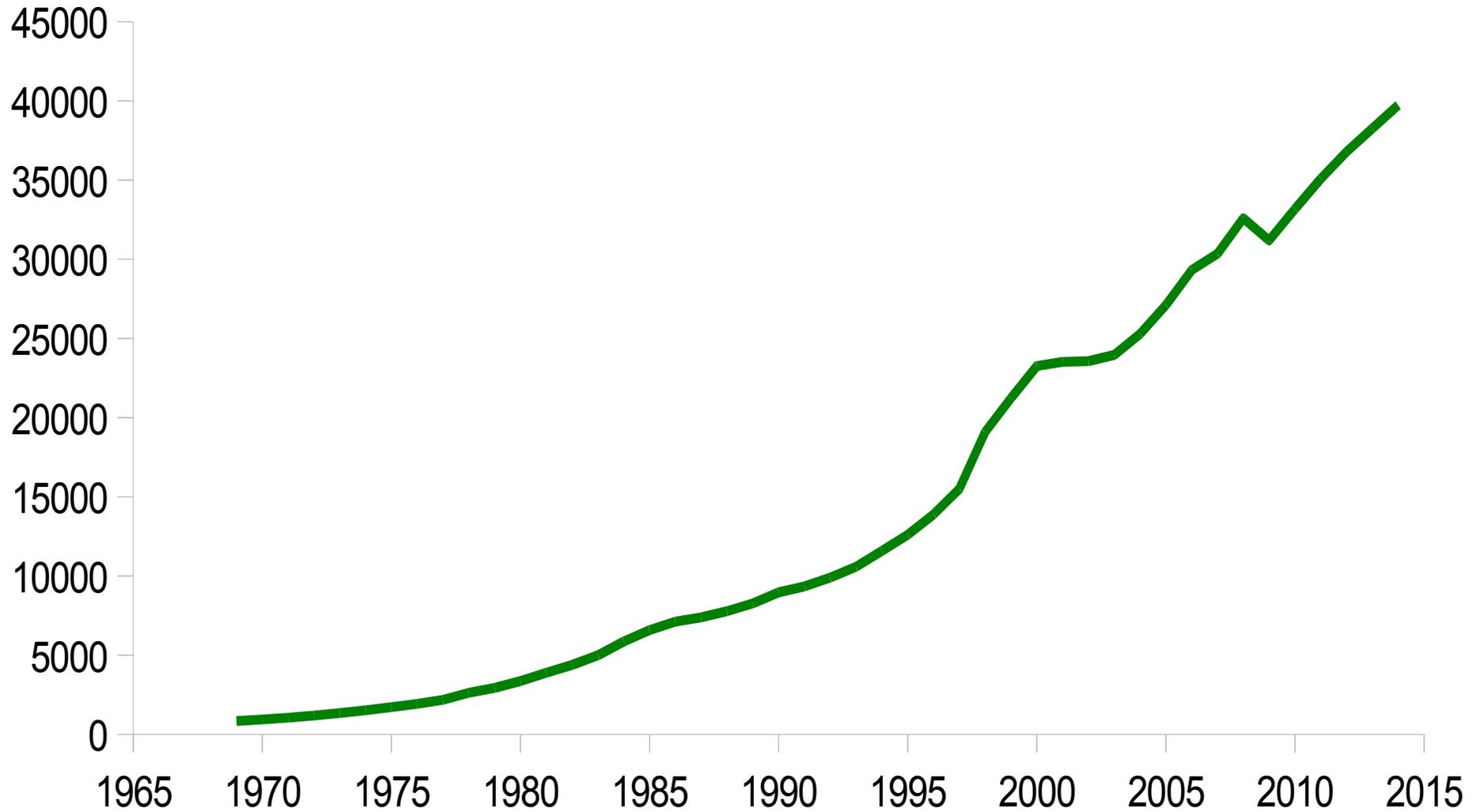
Is city spending sustainable?

- Spending has increased over time
- So has the income of Austin residents.
- Is spending increasing faster than income?

If so, we are making the city less affordable.

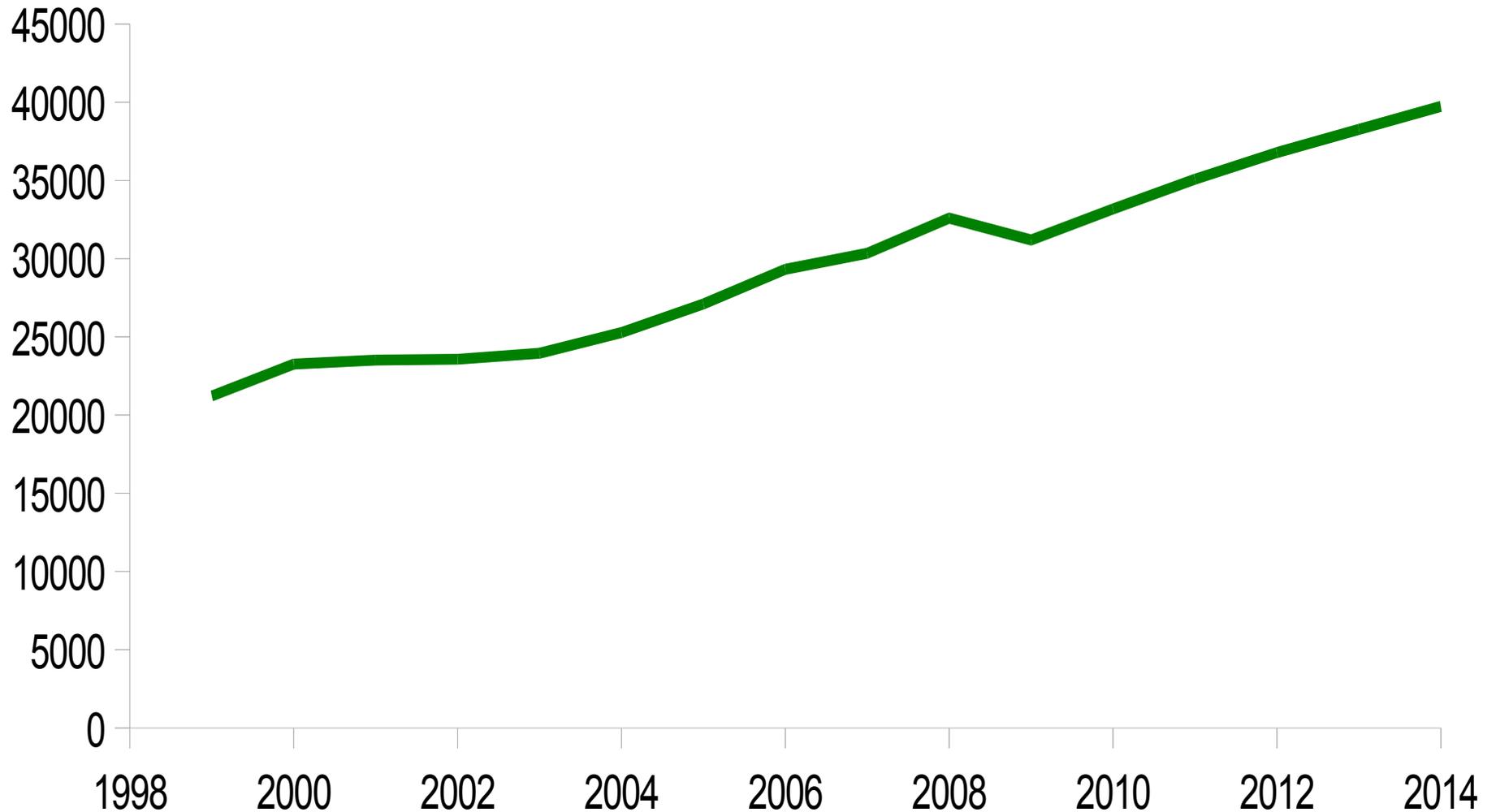
Austin has grown richer

Total resident income (\$M)



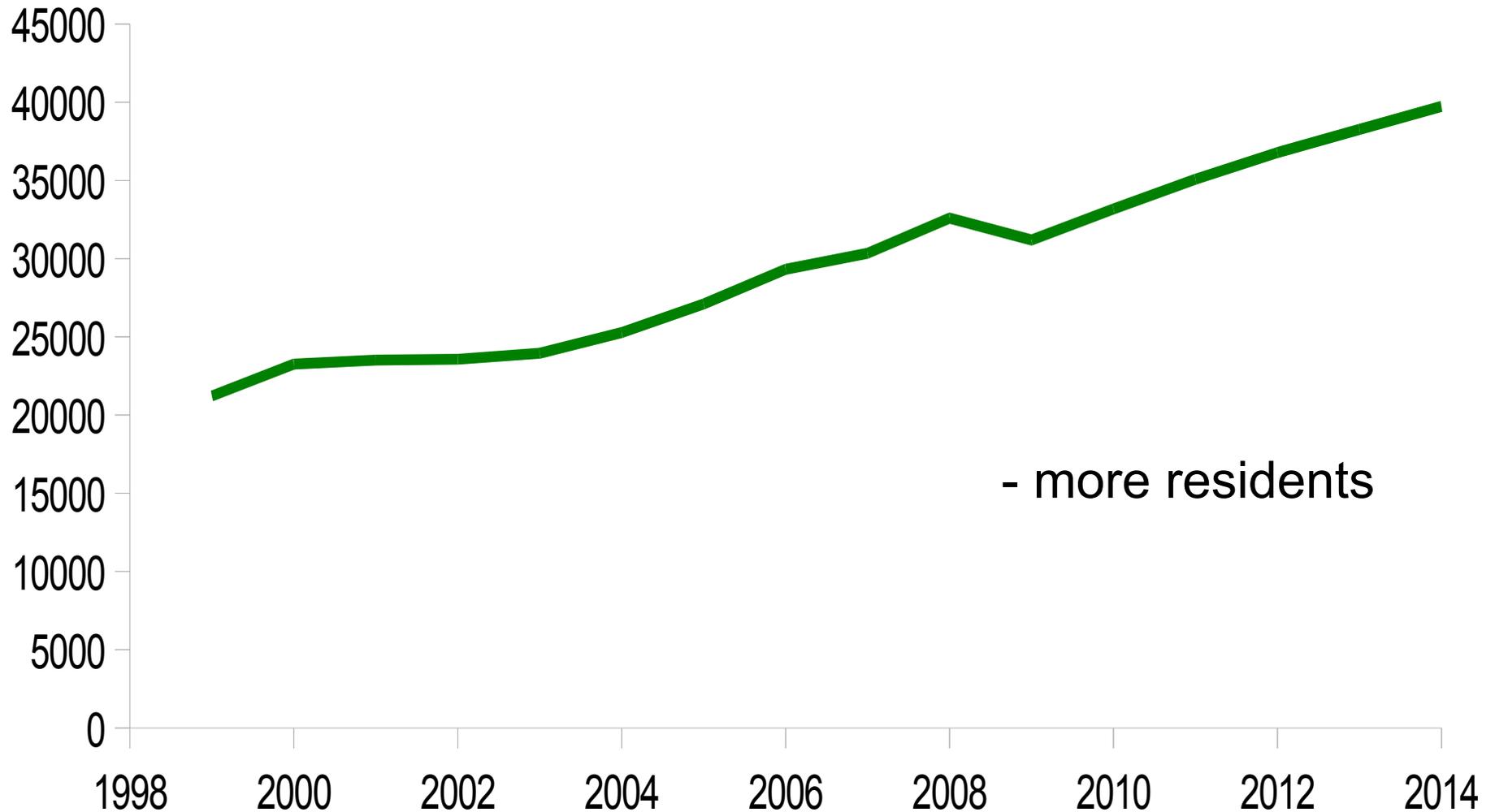
This is true, even since 1999

Total resident income, 1999-2014 (\$M)



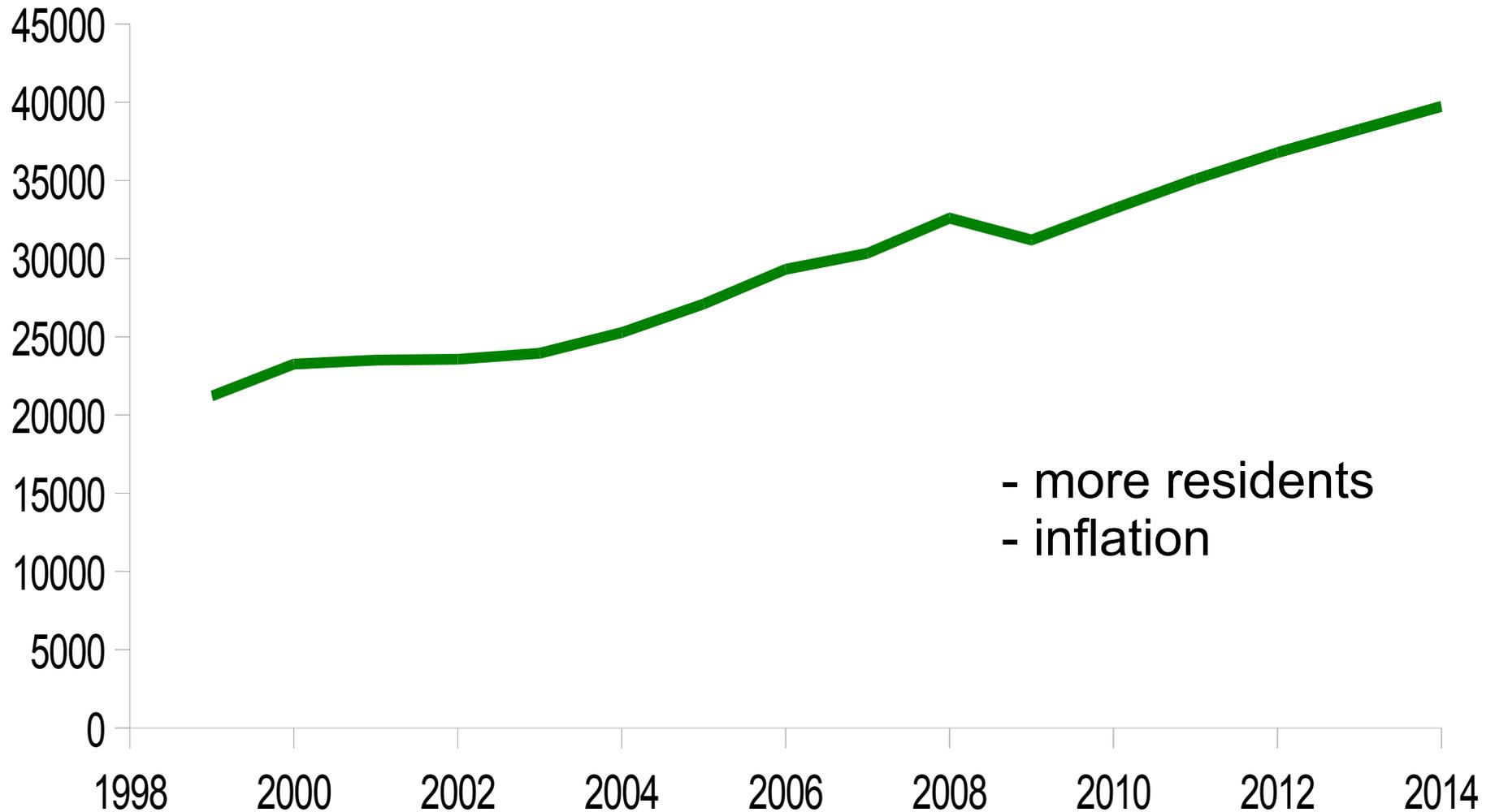
This is true, even since 1999

Total resident income, 1999-2014 (\$M)



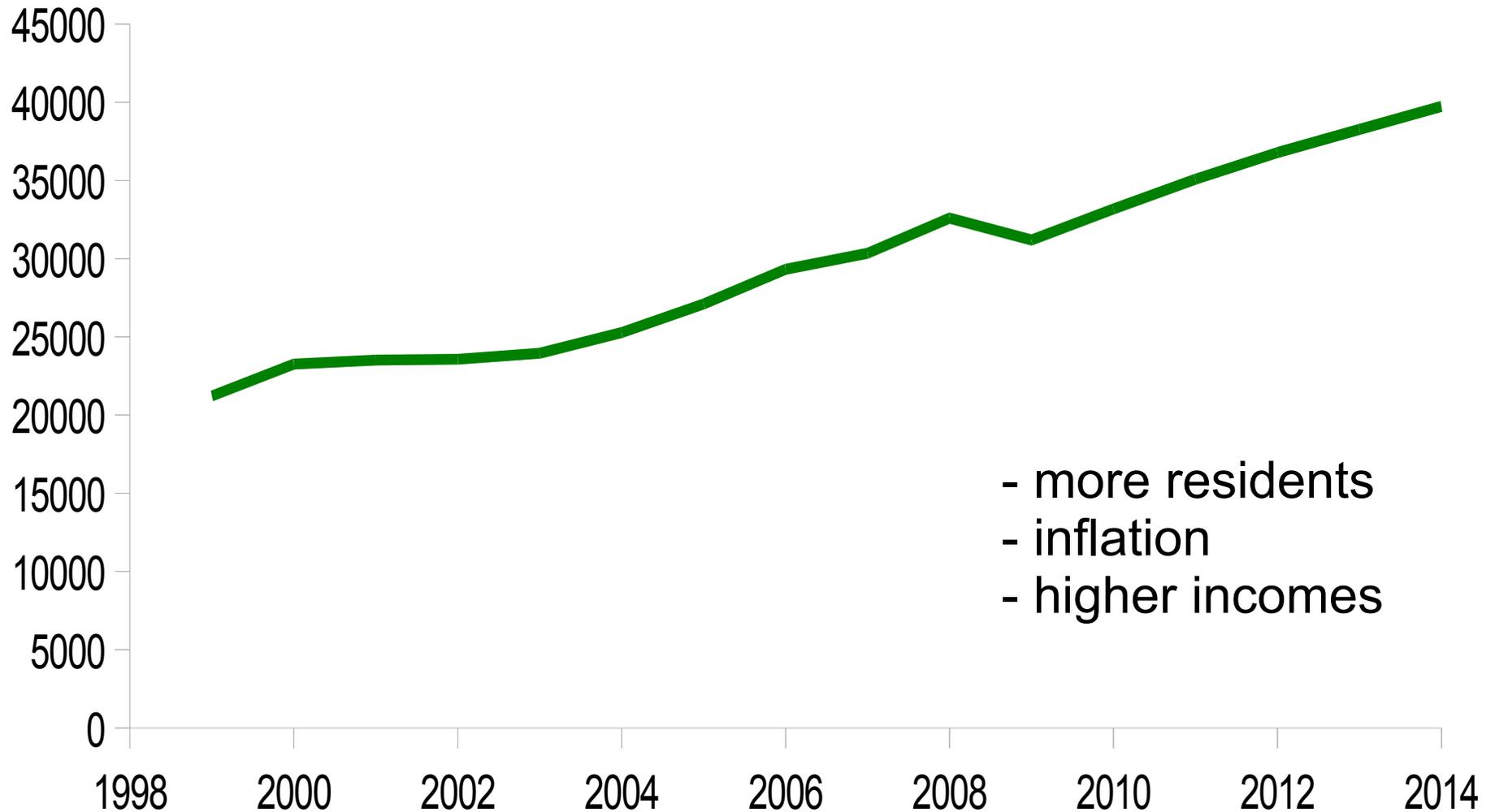
This is true, even since 1999

Total resident income, 1999-2014 (\$M)



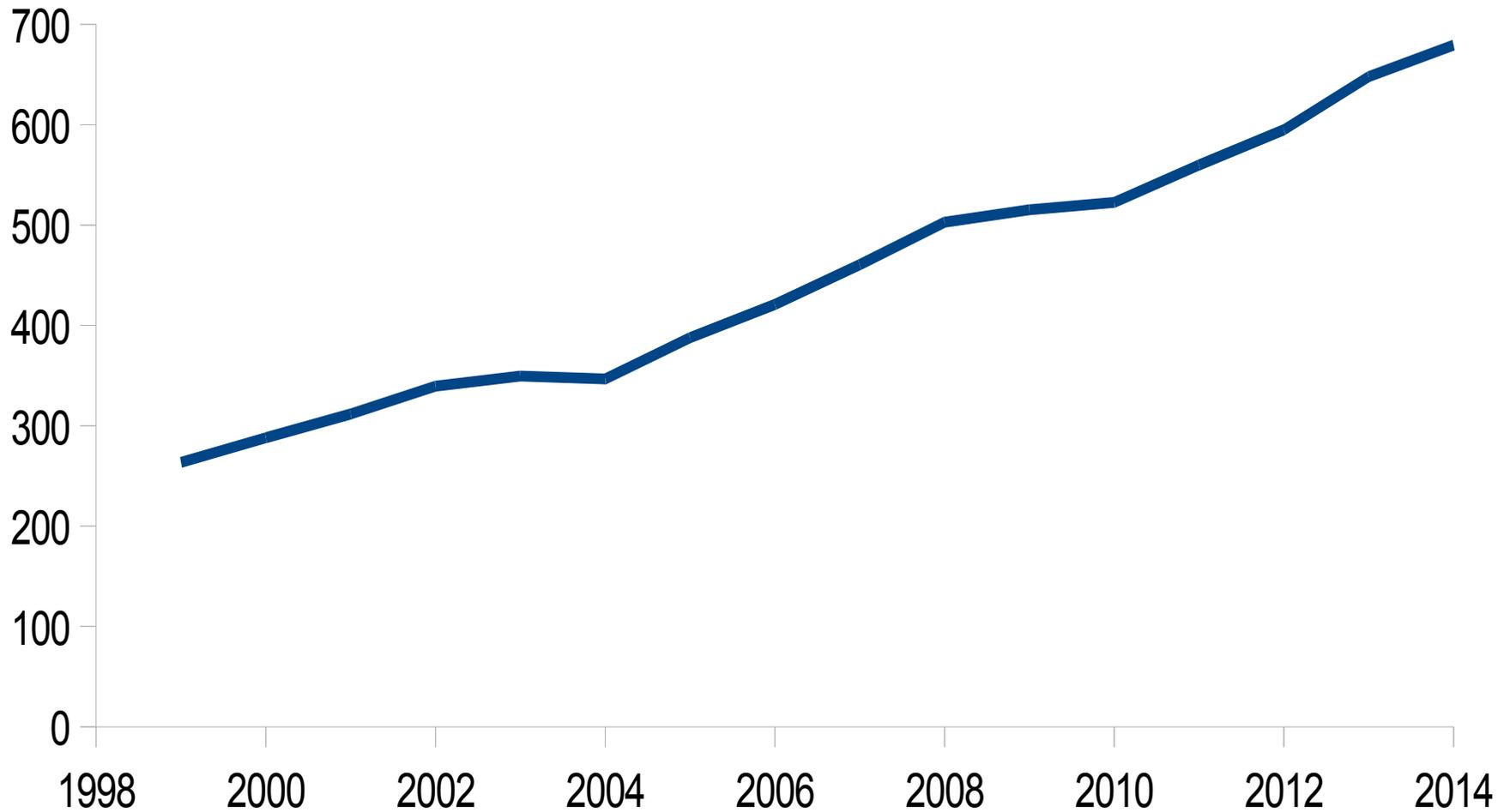
This is true, even since 1999

Total resident income, 1999-2014 (\$M)

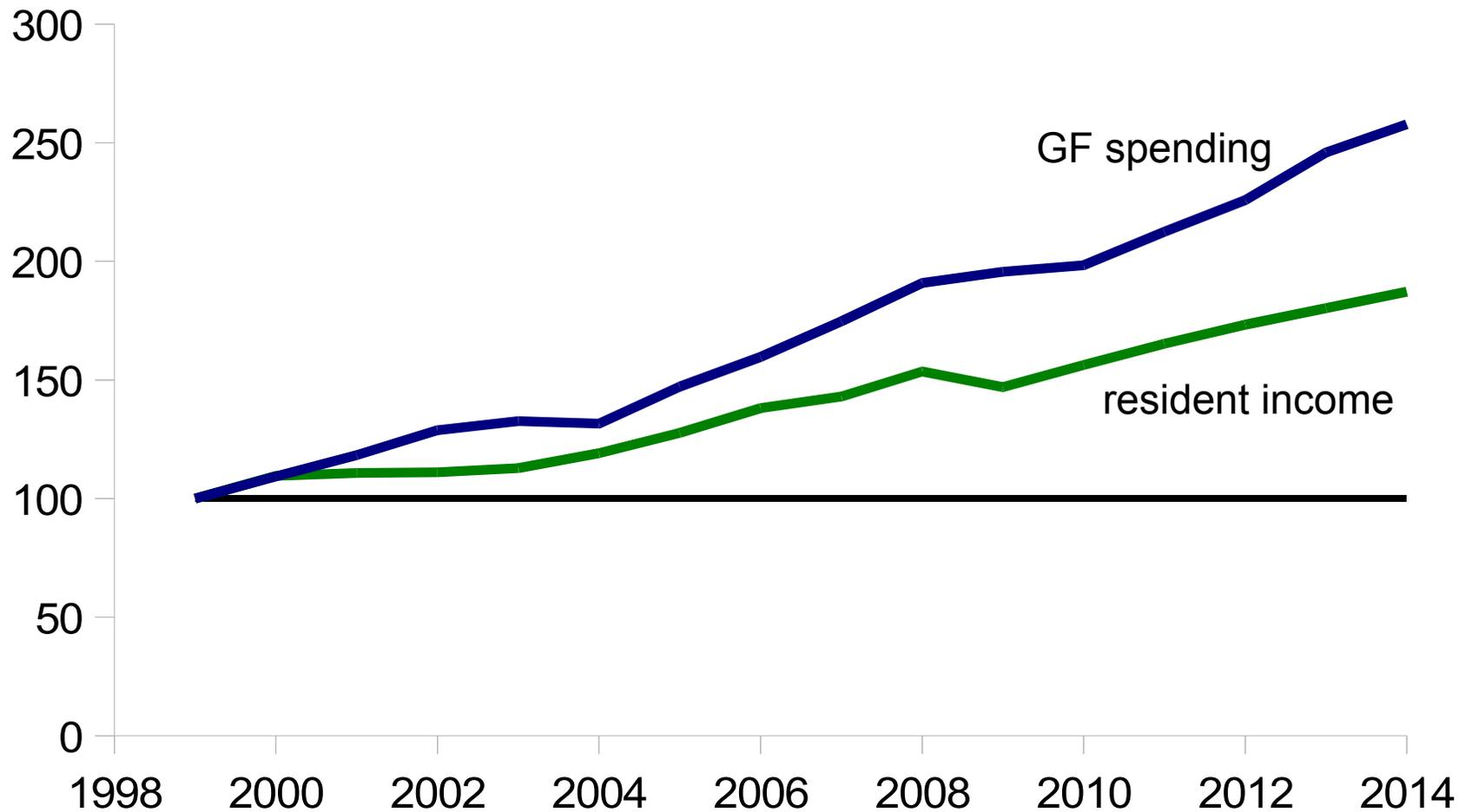


The General Fund has increased, too

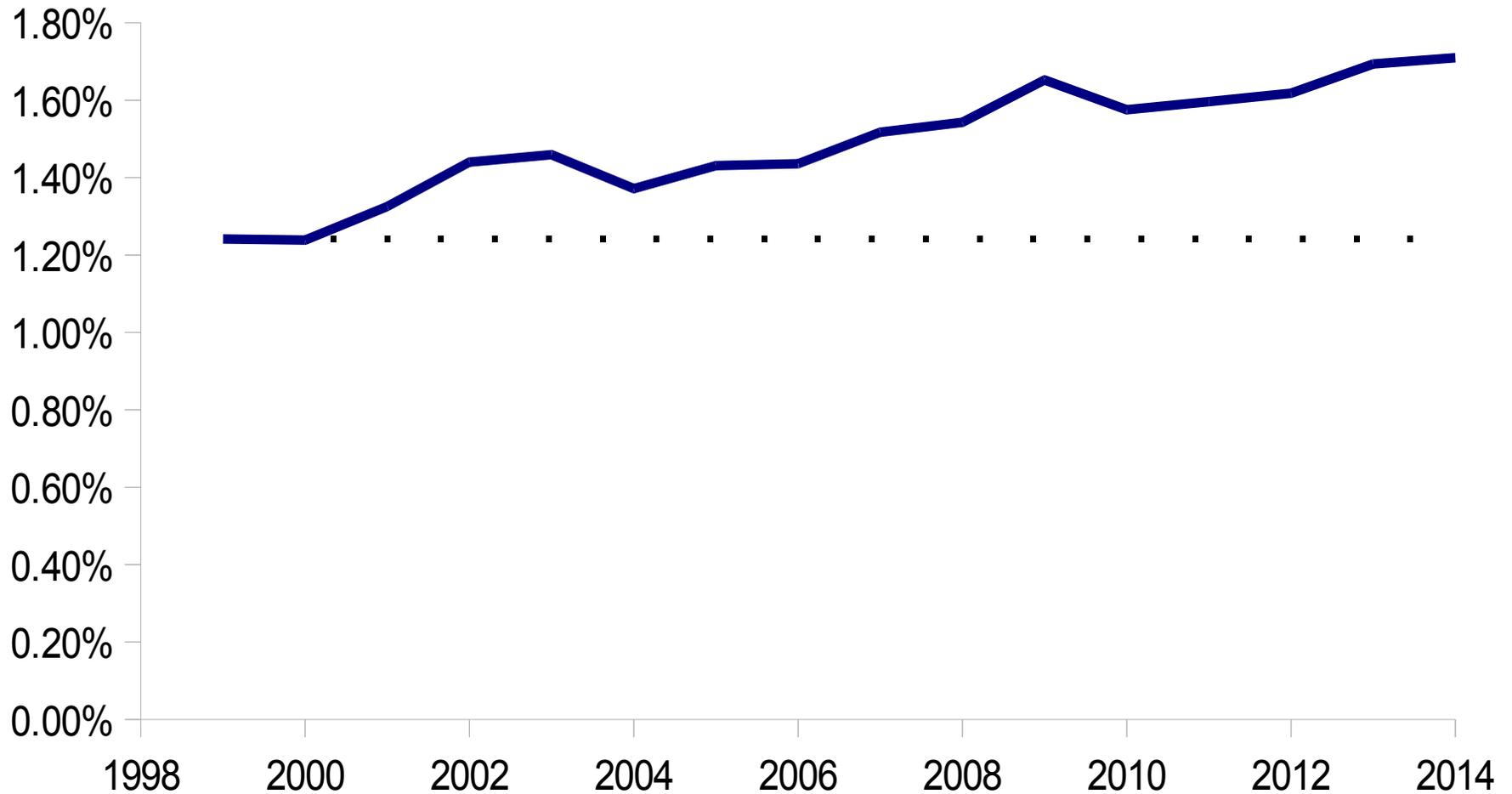
Total GF spending, FY 1999-2014 (\$M)



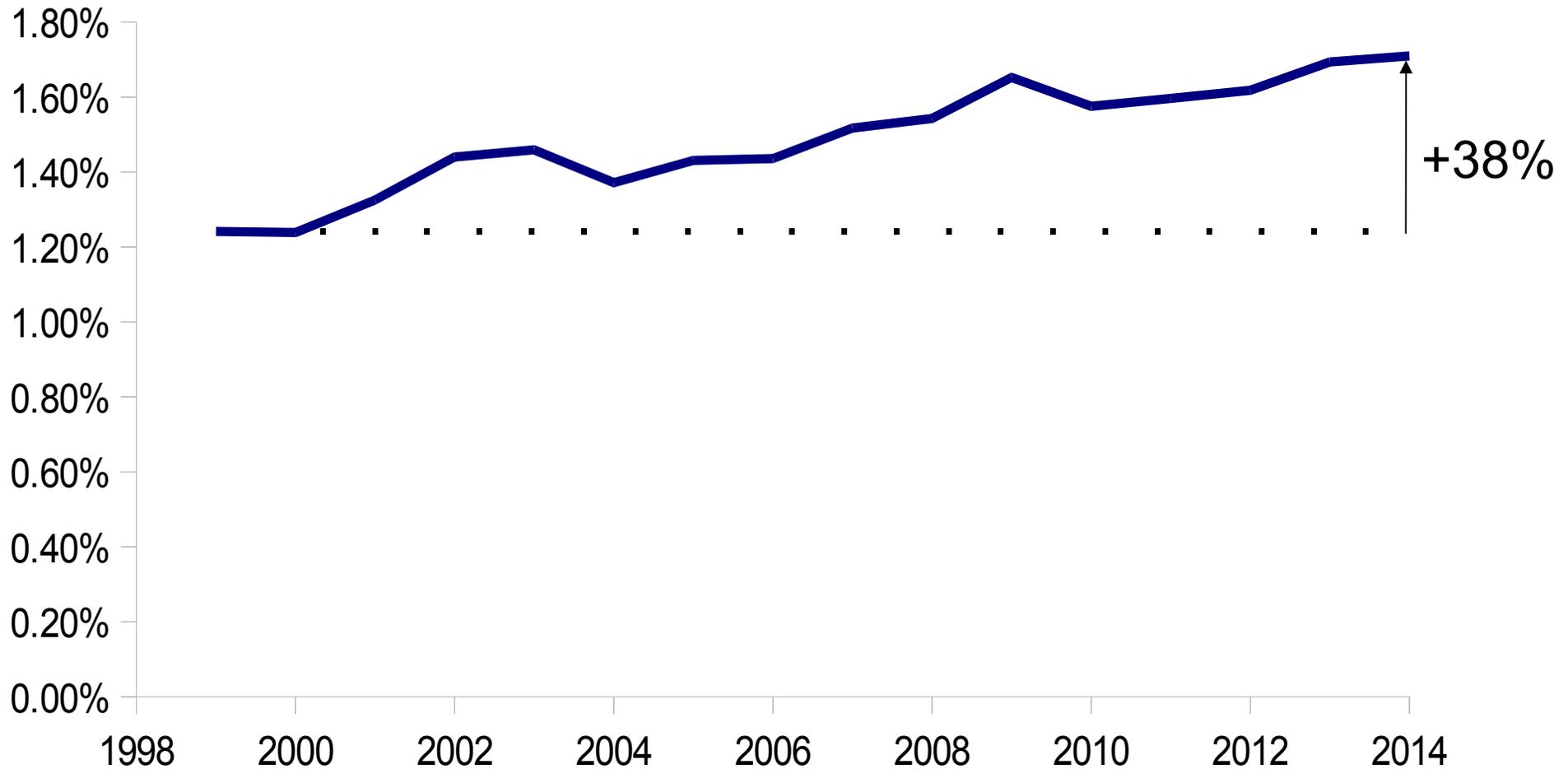
Spending has increased faster than income



What percentage of total income is spent on the General Fund?

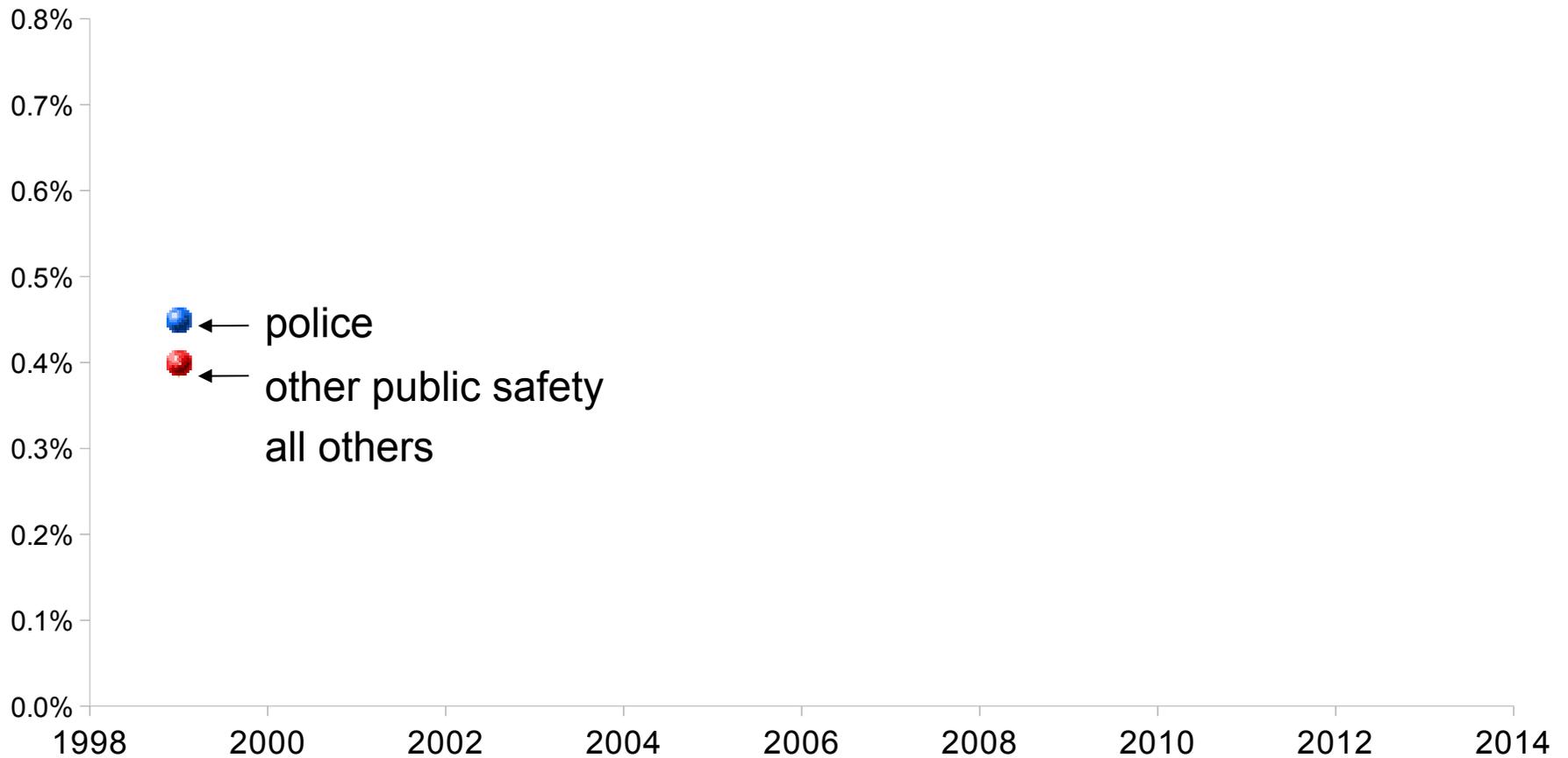


What percentage of total income is spent on the General Fund?



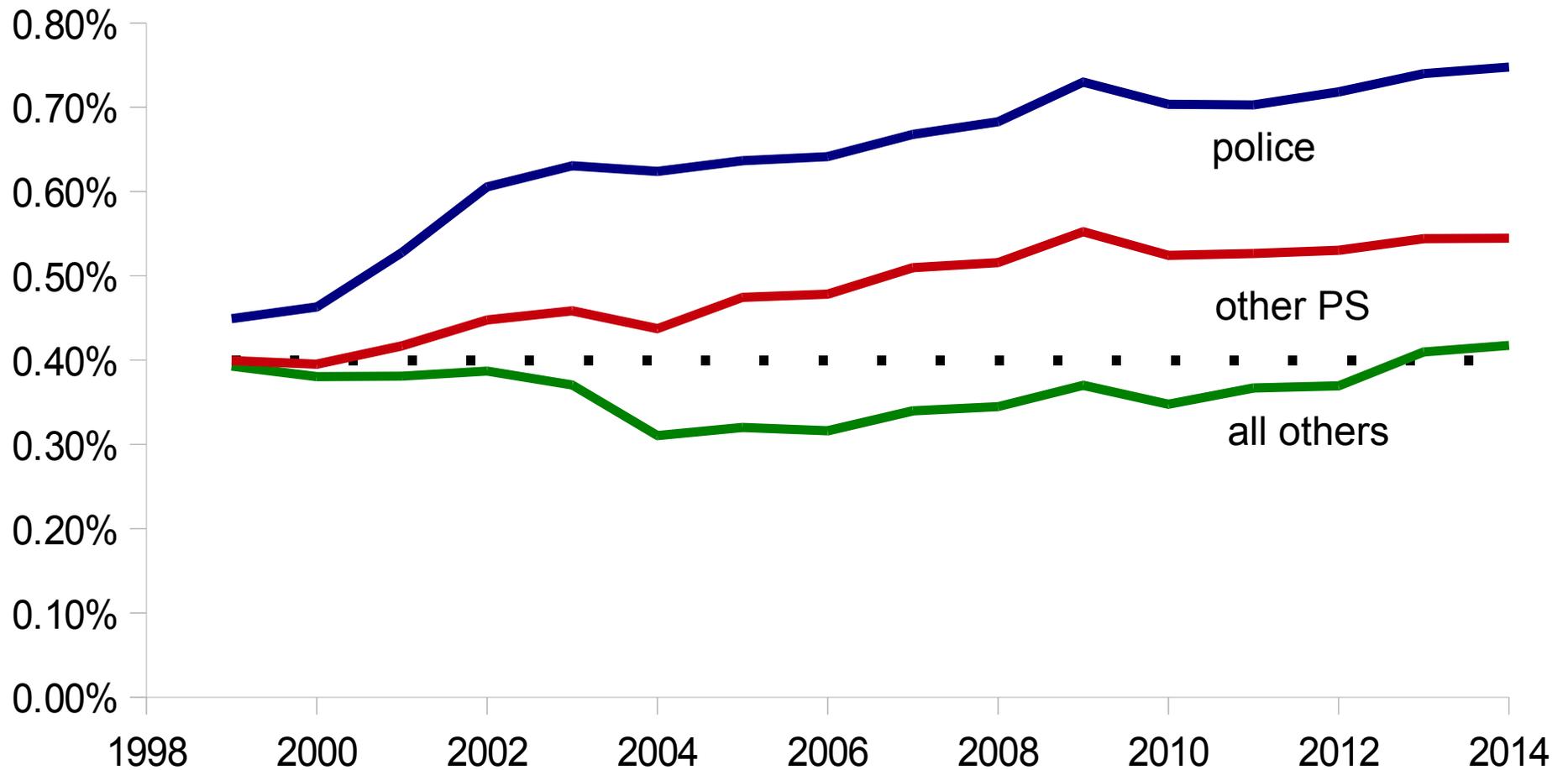
1999: Police, other public safety, other GF services cost about same

Percent of total income by category



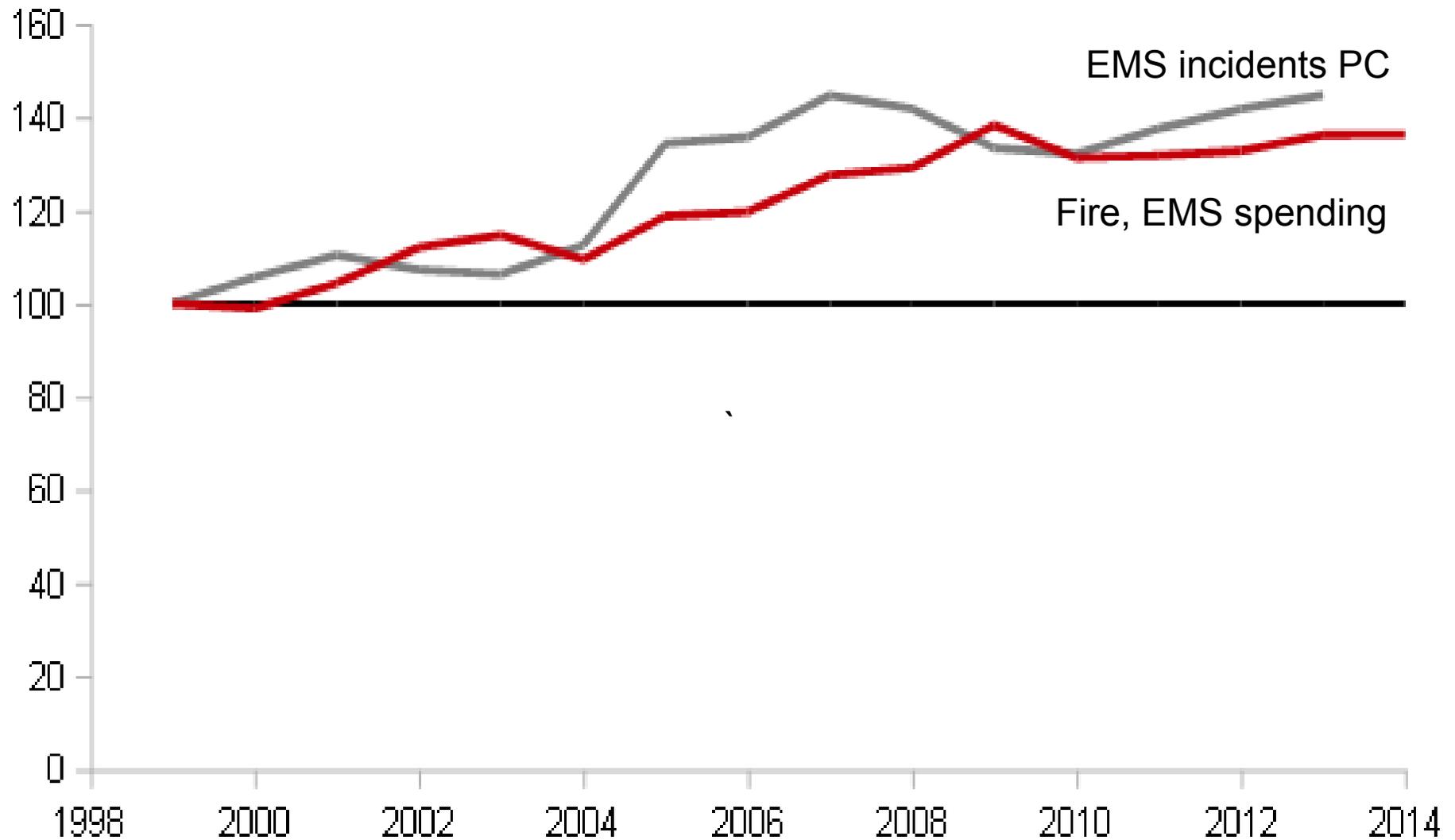
Public safety accounts for 95% of the increase

Percent of total income by category

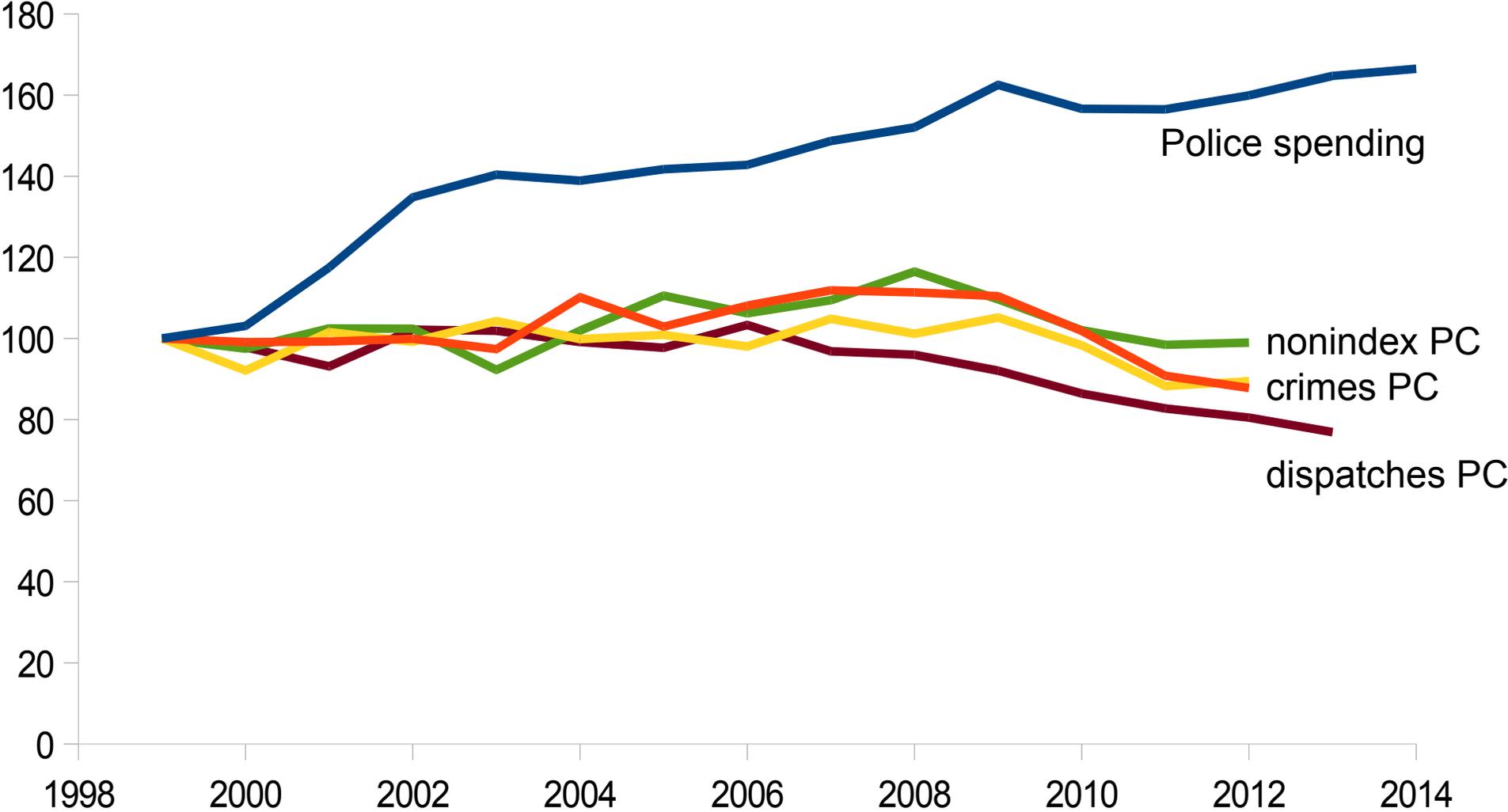


Fire, EMS spending roughly track workload

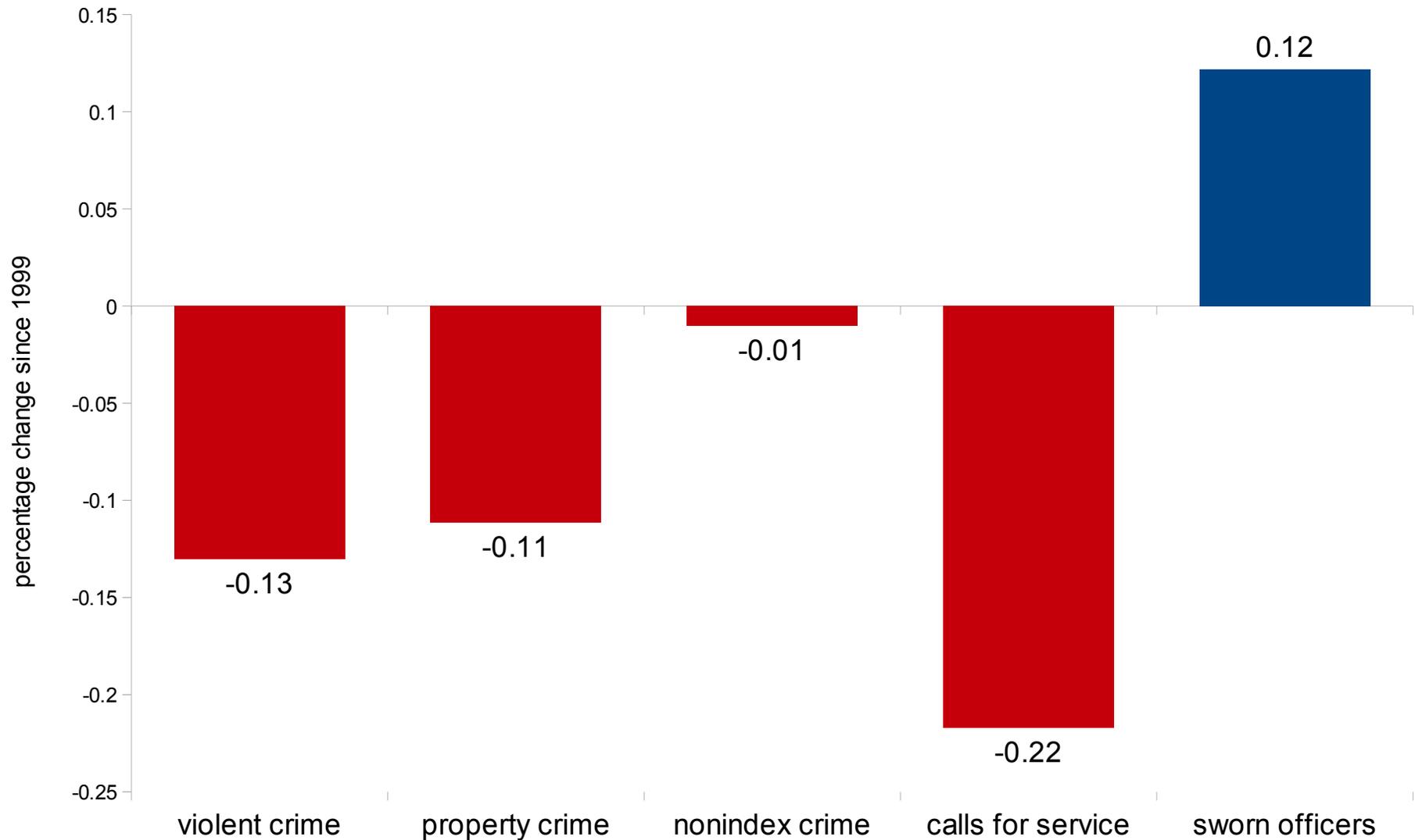
Index (1999 = 100)



But not police: Workload down, officers up



Police workload down, officers up

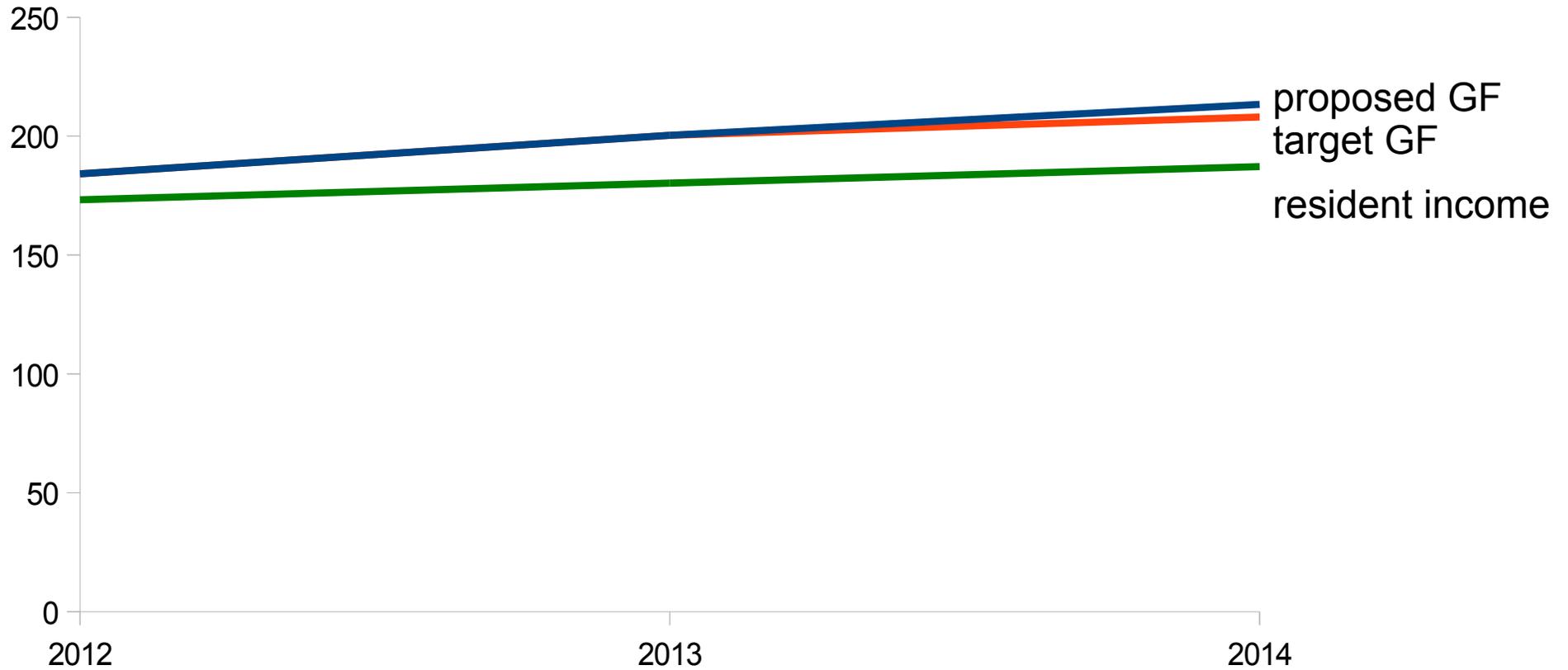


Nobody planned this.

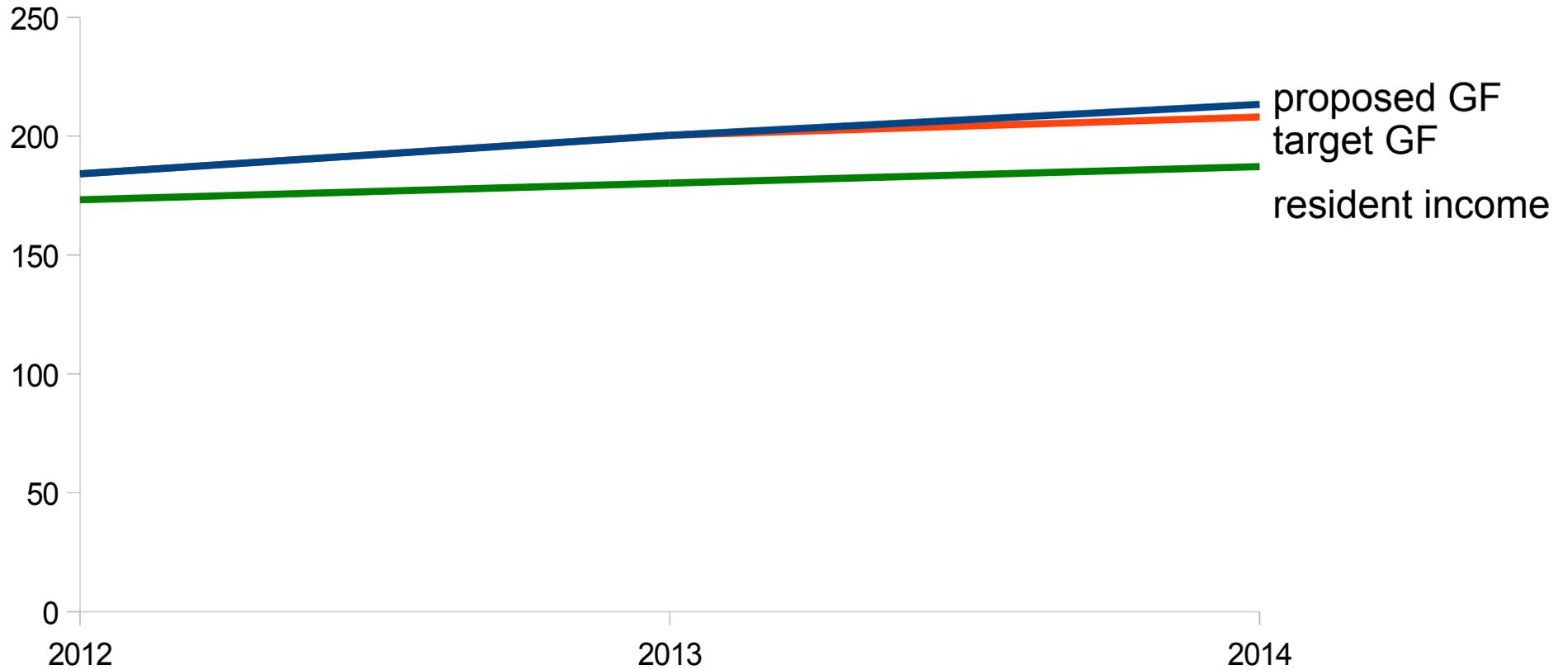
Result of 15 years of little steps –
all in the same direction.

It's time we stepped in another direction.

Affordability target: Limit spending increase to percent change in resident income



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Even this very small step would require spending cuts of \$20 million.