Alaska

Income Inequality in Alaska

Alaska’s Richest Families vs. Poorest Families

- The richest 20 percent of families have average incomes 6.2 times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was 6.2 in the late 1980s.
- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes 9.3 times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

Alaska’s Richest Families vs. Families in the Middle

- The richest 20 percent of families have average incomes 2.2 times as large as the middle 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was 2.1 in the late 1980s.

Income Grew for All Families in Alaska

Between the late 1980s and the mid-2000s:

- The average income of the poorest fifth of families increased by $3,208, from $17,878 to $21,086. This is an increase of $189 per year.
- The average income of the middle fifth of families increased by $4,977, from $53,525 to $58,503. This is an increase of $293 per year.
- The average income of the richest fifth of families increased by $19,514, from $111,226 to $130,740. This is an increase of $1,148 per year.

Based on the latest available data (2004-2006)
Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and Economic Policy Institute
Pulling Apart: A State By State Analysis of Income Trends
Available at: http://www.cbpp.org/4-9-08sfp.htm