Arkansas

Income Inequality in Arkansas

Arkansas’s Richest Families vs. Poorest Families

- The richest 20 percent of families have average incomes 6.4 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 10.0 times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

Arkansas’s Richest Families vs. Families in the Middle

- The richest 20 percent of families have average incomes 2.5 times as large as the middle 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was 2.3 in the late 1980s.

Income Grew for All Families in Arkansas

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

- The average income of the poorest fifth of families increased by $3,624, from $12,005 to $15,628. This is an increase of $213 per year.
- The average income of the middle fifth of families increased by $8,607, from $31,925 to $40,533. This is an increase of $506 per year.
- The average income of the richest fifth of families increased by $25,935, from $74,346 to $100,280. This is an increase of $1,526 per year.

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

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