

Income Inequality Remains a Problem in Arizona

Arizona's Richest Families vs. Poorest Families

- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **7.2** times as large as the *poorest* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **6.3** in the late 1980s.
- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes **11.9** times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

The gap between
Arizona's
richest and poorest
families is
20th
largest in the nation.

Arizona's Richest Families vs. Families in the Middle

- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **2.7** times as large as the *middle* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **2.4** in the late 1980s.

The gap between
Arizona's
richest families and
families in the middle is
8th
largest in the nation.

Gains For Rich Families Outpaced Gains for Poor Families

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

- The average income of the *poorest* fifth of families did not change significantly.
- The average income of the *middle* fifth of families increased by **\$2,790**, from \$41,529 to \$44,319. This is an increase of \$164 per year.
- The average income of the *richest* fifth of families increased by **\$20,454**, from \$100,662 to \$121,116. This is an increase of \$1,203 per year.