

Colorado

Income Inequality Grew in Colorado Over the Past Two Decades

Colorado's Richest Families vs. Poorest Families

- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **7.0** times as large as the *poorest* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **5.9** in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the **27th** largest in the nation.
- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes **11.6** times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

The gap between Colorado's richest and poorest families is **24th** largest in the nation.

Colorado'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 **2.1** in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the **21st** largest in the nation.

The gap between Colorado's richest families and families in the middle is **21st** 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 increased by **\$4,532**, from \$15,809 to \$20,341. This is an increase of \$267 per year.
- The average income of the *middle* fifth of families increased by **\$12,485**, from \$43,449 to \$55,933. This is an increase of \$734 per year.
- The average income of the *richest* fifth of families increased by **\$49,227**, from \$92,954 to \$142,181. This is an increase of \$2,896 per year.

