Connecticut

Inequality Grew More in Connecticut Than in Any Other State

Connecticut’s Richest Families vs. Poorest Families
- The richest 20 percent of families have average incomes 8.0 times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was 4.6 in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is largest in the nation.
- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes 14.8 times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

Connecticut’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 1.9 in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is largest in the nation.

A Closer Look: Short- and Long-term Trends

Late 1990s to mid-2000s
- The average income of the poorest fifth of families did not change significantly.
- The average income of the middle fifth of families did not change significantly.
- The average income of the richest fifth of families increased by $20,653, from $148,725 to $169,378.

Late 1980s to mid-2000s
- The average income of the poorest fifth of families decreased by $4,437, from $25,570 to $21,133.
- The average income of the middle fifth of families did not change significantly.
- The average income of the richest fifth of families increased by $52,439, from $116,939 to $169,378.

Based on the latest available data (2004-2006)
Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and Economic Policy Institute
Available at: http://www.cbpp.org/4-9-08sfp.htm