

# District of Columbia

## Income Inequality Grew in D.C. Over the Past Two Decades

### The District's Richest Families vs. Poorest Families

- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **13.5** times as large as the *poorest* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **8.8** in the late 1980s.
- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes **26.2** times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

### The District's Richest Families vs. Families in the Middle

- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **4.2** times as large as the *middle* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **2.7** in the late 1980s.

### 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 increase significantly.
- The average income of the *middle* fifth of families did not increase significantly.
- The average income of the *richest* fifth of families increased by **\$67,905**, from \$120,636 to \$188,541. This is an increase of \$3,994 per year.

