Delaware

Income Inequality Grew in Delaware Over the Past Two Decades

Delaware’s Richest Families vs. Poorest Families

- The richest 20 percent of families have average incomes 5.7 times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was 4.8 in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the 33rd largest in the nation.
- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes 8.5 times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

Delaware’s Richest Families vs. Families in the Middle

- The richest 20 percent of families have average incomes 2.2 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 the 35th largest in the nation.

Richest Families Had Greatest Income Gains

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 $5,411, from $47,008 to $52,419. This is an increase of $318 per year.

- The average income of the richest fifth of families increased by $25,066, from $91,044 to $116,110. This is an increase of $1,474 per year.

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