

Illinois' Richest Grew Richer, Poor Grew Poorer, Over Past Decade

Illinois's Richest Families vs. Poorest Families

- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **7.5** times as large as the *poorest* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **6.3** in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the **25th** largest in the nation.
- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes **12.7** times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

The gap between Illinois's richest and poorest families is **13th** largest in the nation.

Illinois's Richest Families vs. Families in the Middle

- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **2.6** times as large as the *middle* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **2.2** in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the **19th** largest in the nation.

The gap between Illinois's richest families and families in the middle is **19th** 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 *decreased* by **\$1,588**, from \$19,928 to \$18,340.
- The average income of the *middle* fifth of families did not change significantly.
- The average income of the *richest* fifth of families increased by **\$12,880**, from \$125,131 to \$138,011.
- The average income of the *richest* 5% of families increased by **\$36,730**, from \$196,934 to \$233,664.

Late 1980s to mid-2000s

- The average income of the *poorest* fifth of families increased by **\$2,128**, from \$16,213 to \$18,340.
- The average income of the *middle* fifth of families increased by **\$5,926**, from \$47,522 to \$53,447.
- The average income of the *richest* fifth of families increased by **\$35,541**, from \$102,470 to \$138,011.
- The average income of the *richest* 5% of families increased by **\$84,730**, from \$148,934 to \$233,664.

