

Nebraska

Income Inequality Grew in Nebraska Over the Past Two Decades

Nebraska's Richest Families vs. Poorest Families

- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **5.8** times as large as the *poorest* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **4.9** in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the **36th** largest in the nation.
- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes **9.1** times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

The gap between
Nebraska's
richest and poorest
families is
44th
largest in the nation.

Nebraska'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 **2.0** in the late 1980s.

The gap between
Nebraska's
richest families and
families in the middle is
44th
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 **\$3,155**, from \$16,765 to \$19,919. This is an increase of \$186 per year.
- The average income of the *middle* fifth of families increased by **\$10,823**, from \$40,810 to \$51,633. This is an increase of \$637 per year.
- The average income of the *richest* fifth of families increased by **\$33,196**, from \$82,975 to \$116,171. This is an increase of \$1,953 per year.

