

# New Jersey

## Income Inequality Grew in New Jersey Over the Past Two Decades

### New Jersey'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 **5.7** in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the **9th** largest in the nation.
- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes **14.1** times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

The gap between New Jersey's richest and poorest families is **14th** largest in the nation.

### New Jersey's Richest Families vs. Families in the Middle

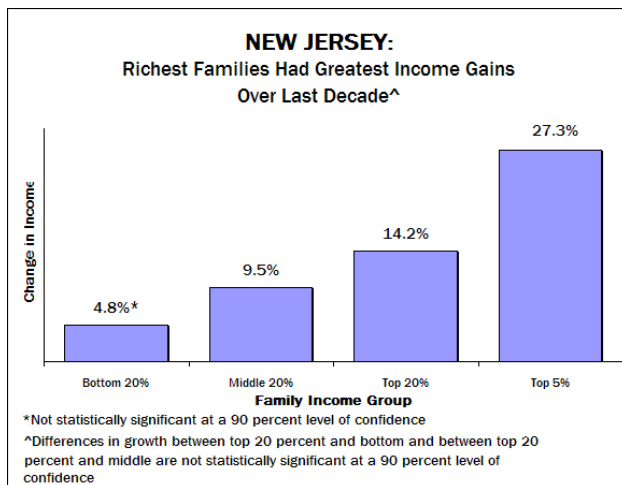
- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **2.6** times as large as the *middle* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **2.0** in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the **7th** largest in the nation.

The gap between New Jersey's richest families and families in the middle is **17th** 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 increased by **\$5,854**, from \$61,454 to \$67,308.
- The average income of the *richest* fifth of families increased by **\$21,827**, from \$153,184 to \$175,011.
- The average income of the *richest* 5% of families increased by **\$70,169**, from \$257,459 to \$327,628.



### Late 1980s to mid-2000s

- The average income of the *poorest* fifth of families increased by **\$2,194**, from \$21,066 to \$23,260.
- The average income of the *middle* fifth of families increased by **\$8,351**, from \$58,957 to \$67,308.
- The average income of the *richest* fifth of families increased by **\$54,156**, from \$120,854 to \$175,011.
- The average income of the *richest* 5% of families increased by **\$155,949**, from \$171,680 to \$327,628.

