Oregon

Income Inequality Grew in Oregon Over the Past Two Decades

Oregon's Richest Families vs. Poorest Families

- The richest 20 percent of families have average incomes 6.9 times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was 5.1 in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the 11th largest in the nation.
- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes 11.9 times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

Oregon's Richest Families vs. Families in the Middle

- The richest 20 percent of families have average incomes 2.7 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 2nd 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 did not change significantly.

- The average income of the middle fifth of families increased by $3,673, from $44,012 to $47,685. This is an increase of $216 per year.

- The average income of the richest fifth of families increased by $40,196, from $87,052 to $127,248. This is an increase of $2,364 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