

# South Dakota

## Income Inequality Grew in South Dakota Over the Past Two Decades

### South Dakota's Richest Families vs. Poorest Families

- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **6.3** times as large as the *poorest* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **5.3** in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the **32nd** largest in the nation.
- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes **11.0** times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

The gap between South Dakota's richest and poorest families is **34th** largest in the nation.

### State's Richest Families vs. Families in the Middle

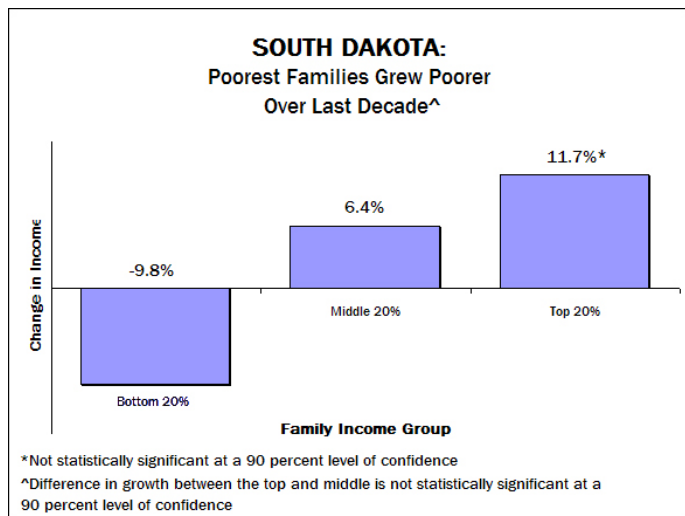
- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **2.3** times as large as the *middle* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **2.0** in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the **31st** largest in the nation.

The gap between South Dakota's richest families and families in the middle is **38th** 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 **\$1,962**, from \$19,987 to \$18,025.
- The average income of the *middle* fifth of families increased by **\$2,907**, from \$45,762 to \$48,669.
- The average income of the *richest* fifth of families did not change significantly.



#### Late 1980s to mid-2000s

- The average income of the *poorest* fifth of families increased by **\$3,276**, from \$14,749 to \$18,025.
- The average income of the *middle* fifth of families increased by **\$10,096**, from \$38,573 to \$48,669.
- The average income of the *richest* fifth of families increased by **\$34,769**, from \$78,854 to \$113,623.

