Vermont

Income Inequality in Vermont

Vermont’s Richest Families vs. Poorest Families

- The richest 20 percent of families have average incomes 6.0 times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was 5.2 in the late 1980s.
- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes 9.8 times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

Vermont’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.

Income Grew for All Families in Vermont

Between the late 1980s and the mid-2000s:

- The average income of the poorest fifth of families increased by $3,244, from $17,924 to $21,168. This is an increase of $191 per year.
- The average income of the middle fifth of families increased by $8,931, from $46,123 to $55,054. This is an increase of $525 per year.
- The average income of the richest fifth of families increased by $33,958, from $92,546 to $126,504. This is an increase of $1,998 per year.

The gap between Vermont’s richest and poorest families is 42nd largest in the nation.

The gap between Vermont’s richest families and families in the middle is 41st largest in the nation.

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

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