

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.

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

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.

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

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.