

Maryland

Income Inequality Grew in Maryland Over the Past Two Decades

Maryland's Richest Families vs. Poorest Families

- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **7.3** times as large as the *poorest* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **5.4** in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the **7th** largest in the nation.
- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes **12.3** times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

The gap between Maryland's richest and poorest families is **19th** largest in the nation.

Maryland's Richest Families vs. Families in the Middle

- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **2.5** times as large as the *middle* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **1.9** in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the **4th** largest in the nation.

The gap between Maryland's richest families and families in the middle is **23rd** 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 **\$6,913**, from \$55,948 to \$62,860. This is an increase of \$407 per year.
- The average income of the *richest* fifth of families increased by **\$50,673**, from \$108,783 to \$159,456. This is an increase of \$2,981 per year.

