

Missouri

Income Inequality Grew in Missouri Over the Past Two Decades

Missouri's Richest Families vs. Poorest Families

- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **7.1** times as large as the *poorest* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **5.9** in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the **22nd** largest in the nation.
- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes **12.9** times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

The gap between Missouri's richest and poorest families is **22nd** largest in the nation.

Missouri's Richest Families vs. Families in the Middle

- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **2.6** times as large as the *middle* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **2.2** in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the **22nd** largest in the nation.

The gap between Missouri's richest families and families in the middle is **14th** 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 increased by **\$1,745**, from \$15,978 to \$17,722. This is an increase of \$103 per year.
- The average income of the *middle* fifth of families increased by **\$6,021**, from \$42,245 to \$48,266. This is an increase of \$354 per year.
- The average income of the *richest* fifth of families increased by **\$32,790**, from \$93,830 to \$126,619. This is an increase of \$1,929 per year.

