

## Income Inequality Grew in Texas Over the Past Two Decades

### Texas's Richest Families vs. Poorest Families

- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **7.9** times as large as the *poorest* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **7.0** in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the **35th** largest in the nation.
- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes **13.1** times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

The gap between Texas's richest and poorest families is **9th** largest in the nation.

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

- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **2.8** times as large as the *middle* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **2.3** in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the **15th** largest in the nation.

The gap between Texas's richest families and families in the middle is **5th** 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 did not change significantly.
- The average income of the *middle* fifth of families did not change significantly.
- The average income of the *richest* fifth of families increased by **\$10,505**, from \$116,153 to \$126,658.
- The average income of the *richest* 5% of families increased by **\$21,676**, from \$189,362 to \$211,038.

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

- The average income of the *poorest* fifth of families increased by **\$2,657**, from \$13,430 to \$16,088.
- The average income of the *middle* fifth of families increased by **\$4,528**, from \$40,046 to \$44,574.
- The average income of the *richest* fifth of families increased by **\$32,813**, from \$93,846 to \$126,658.
- The average income of the *richest* 5% of families increased by **\$78,900**, from \$132,137 to \$211,038.

