Arizona

Income Inequality Remains a Problem in Arizona

Arizona’s Richest Families vs. Poorest Families

- The richest 20 percent of families have average incomes 7.2 times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

- This ratio was 6.3 in the late 1980s.

- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes 11.9 times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

Arizona’s Richest Families vs. Families in the Middle

- The richest 20 percent of families have average incomes 2.7 times as large as the middle 20 percent of families.

- This ratio was 2.4 in the late 1980s.

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 $2,790, from $41,529 to $44,319. This is an increase of $164 per year.

- The average income of the richest fifth of families increased by $20,454, from $100,662 to $121,116. This is an increase of $1,203 per year.

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