The District’s Richest Families vs. Poorest Families

- The richest 20 percent of families have average incomes 13.5 times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was 8.8 in the late 1980s.
- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes 26.2 times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

The District’s Richest Families vs. Families in the Middle

- The richest 20 percent of families have average incomes 4.2 times as large as the middle 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was 2.7 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 increase significantly.
- The average income of the middle fifth of families did not increase significantly.
- The average income of the richest fifth of families increased by $67,905, from $120,636 to $188,541. This is an increase of $3,994 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