

Mississippi

Income Inequality Grew in Mississippi Over the Past Two Decades

Mississippi's Richest Families vs. Poorest Families

- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **8.3** times as large as the *poorest* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **6.8** in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the **17th** largest in the nation.
- The very richest families — top 5% — have average incomes **14.5** times as large as the poorest 20 percent of families.

The gap between Mississippi's richest and poorest families is **3rd** largest in the nation.

Mississippi's Richest Families vs. Families in the Middle

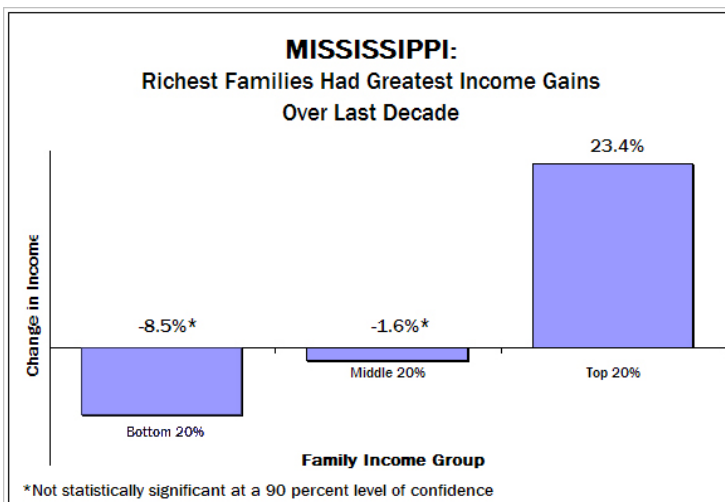
- The *richest* 20 percent of families have average incomes **2.9** times as large as the *middle* 20 percent of families.
- This ratio was **2.4** in the late 1980s.
- This growth in income inequality is the **10th** largest in the nation.

The gap between Mississippi's richest families and families in the middle is **2nd** 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 **\$22,245**, from \$95,209 to 117,454.



Late 1980s to mid-2000s

- The average income of the *poorest* fifth of families increased by **\$2,665**, from \$11,540 to \$14,205.
- The average income of the *middle* fifth of families increased by **\$7,471**, from \$32,453 to \$39,924.
- The average income of the *richest* fifth of families increased by **\$38,859**, from \$78,595 to \$117,454.

