

The New Hampshire
WOMEN'S POLICY
Institute

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Fact Sheet on Income Disparity for Leadership NH

March 26, 2008

Data source: 2006 American Community Survey unless noted, estimates based on a sample of 10,900 NH households.

NH residents have high incomes compared to the rest of the country.

| Income characteristics 2005--estimated | NH | US | NH Rank |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------------|
| Median household income | \$59,968 | \$48,451 | 6 th |
| Percent above poverty | 92% | 87% | 2 nd |
| Percent above poverty aged 65+ | 92% | 90% | 6 th |

There is wide disparity between low and high earners

| | NH | | US | | |
|---|-----------|----------|-----------------|----------|-----------------|
| | | Estimate | Margin of Error | Estimate | Margin of Error |
| Estimated percent of aggregate income and median income in each quintile (rounded) 2005 | | | | | |
| Lowest Quintile | \$14,935 | 4% | +/-0.16 | 3% | +/-0.01 |
| Second Quintile | \$36,973 | 10% | +/-0.28 | 9% | +/-0.01 |
| Third Quintile | \$59,556 | 16% | +/-0.29 | 15% | +/-0.01 |
| Fourth Quintile | \$86,464 | 24% | +/-0.37 | 23% | +/-0.01 |
| Highest Quintile | \$166,871 | 46% | +/-0.81 | 50% | +/-0.19 |
| Top 5 Percent | \$275,441 | 19% | +/-0.94 | 22% | +/-0.06 |

Disparity in New England is increasing, faster than in than other regions.

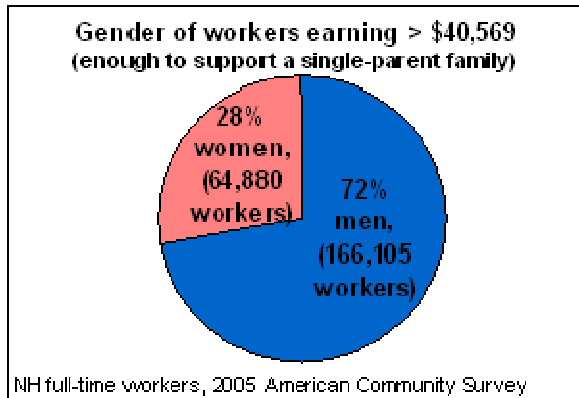
Real income among top earners in New England grew 27 percent between 1989 and 2005; compared to 20 percent nationally. In the bottom quintiles, income dropped 2 to 5 percent, compared to modest growth nationally.¹

Disparity varies by region, gender, and race and ethnicity

| Median income, range of estimate by county | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Region | Estimated median income (range) |
| NH | 58,445 - 60,921 |
| Cheshire | 44,952 - 52,432 |
| Rockingham | 68,250 - 73,312 |
| Strafford | 49,821 - 55,403 |

¹ Gittell, Ross and Rudokas, New England Has the Highest Increase in Income Disparity in the Nation, Carsey Institute Issue Brief No. 4, Spring 2007.

- Women in New Hampshire earn 72% of what men earn on average, compared to 77% nationally; 86 percent of those earning above \$100,000 in New Hampshire are men. This disparity particularly impacts single-parent earners: only 28 percent of those who earn enough to support a single-parent family are women, although three-quarters of the state's single parents are women.²



- An estimated 16 percent of Hispanic residents in NH are below poverty level, compared to 8 percent of whites (rough estimates based on a small sample size).

Housing costs are rising faster than incomes

| Estimated housing costs as percent of income 2002 - 2005 | NH 2002 - 2005 | | US 2005 | NH Rank 2005 |
|--|----------------|-----|---------|--------------|
| Percent renters spend 30% or more* | 42% | 46% | 46% | 12th |
| Percent homeowners spend 30% or more | 28% | 37% | 39% | 12th |

*Confidence intervals are roughly two percent on either side.

The NH Women's Policy Institute provides data and information on issues affecting women in New Hampshire to policy makers, business and community leaders, and the public. Our organization was founded in 2002, based on a belief that credible, unbiased data and information would inform meaningful policy change, enable the public and private sectors to work together more effectively, and advance the well-being of women in this state. You can visit us on the web at www.nhwpi.org.

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² August 2007 Data Brief: Women & the Livable Wage, NH Women's Policy Institute, www.nhwpi.org.