

Table 1
Average Income of Iowa Families, 1978-1980, 1988-90, and 1998-2000
 (Adjusted for inflation)

| Income group | Average Income | | | Percent Change | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|---------|-----------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | 1978-80 | 1988-90 | 1998-2000 | 1978-80 to 1988-90 | 1988-90 to 1998-2000 | 1978-80 to 1998-2000 |
| Richest fifth | 91,903 | 96,250 | 131,668 | 4.7 % | 36.8 % | 43.3 % |
| Next-to-highest fifth | 59,015 | 58,199 | 69,013 | - 1.4 % | 18.6 % | 16.9 % |
| Middle fifth | 44,875 | 43,633 | 49,940 | - 2.8 % | 14.5 % | 11.3 % |
| Next-to-bottom fifth | 32,338 | 30,715 | 34,094 | - 5.0 % | 11.0 % | 5.4 % |
| Poorest fifth | 16,037 | 14,736 | 16,586 | - 8.1 % | 12.6 % | 3.4 % |
| Ratio: Top to Bottom | 5.7 | 6.5 | 7.9 | | | |
| Ratio: Top to Middle | 2.0 | 2.2 | 2.6 | | | |

Source: Analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and the Economic Policy Institute in their report, *Pulling Apart: A State-by-State Analysis of Income Trends*, April 2002.

The Iowa Policy Project