

In Connecticut, the Rich Pay Less in Taxes than the Rest of Us

It's not over. State public service workers did not agree to \$700 million in concessions only to have our state saddled with budget cuts and unfair taxes now and in the future.

The wealthiest residents and large corporations -- those who benefited the most from the economy that led to the current crisis and who can best afford it -- haven't even been asked to pay their fair share in taxes.

Who?	Average Income	Taxes as % of Income¹ (state and local)
Very Rich (top 1%)	\$3.3 million	4.7%
Rich (Next 4%)	\$412,000	7.3%
Top earners, small business owners (next 15%)	\$155,000	8.9%
Better-paid workers (4 th 20%)	\$88,000	9.6%
Middle income (middle 20%)	\$55,000	10.2%
Low-paid workers (2 nd 20%)	\$33,000	10.4%
Lowest-paid (lowest 20%)	\$15,000	10.9%

- Connecticut's wealthiest families pay **only 4.7%** of their income in state and local taxes – middle income families pay 10% and the poorest pay 11% of their income;
- If the rich paid their fair share of taxes in 2006, state revenue would have increased by **\$3.2 billion**; and
- If the rich pay their fair share of taxes now, Connecticut could raise an extra **\$1.5 to \$2 billion**.

In Connecticut, Tax Loopholes Protect Big Corporations at Our Expense

- Connecticut's total business taxes are the **2nd lowest in the nation**. State and local taxes on business comprise only 3.7% of private-sector gross state product, compared to the national average of 4.9%;
- Total business taxes as a percentage of the total general fund revenue has declined from **24% to 7%**; and
- Revenue lost to corporate tax credits increased from almost zero in 1992, to about \$100 million from 1997-2004, and soared to **\$300 million in 2008**.

We Need a Fair Budget that Protects Public Services We Provide!

