

Economic Policy and YOU!

March 27, 2025

Garrett Martin, President & CEO

Rising costs are squeezing families



↑ 27%



↑ 85%



↑ 69%



↑ 124%

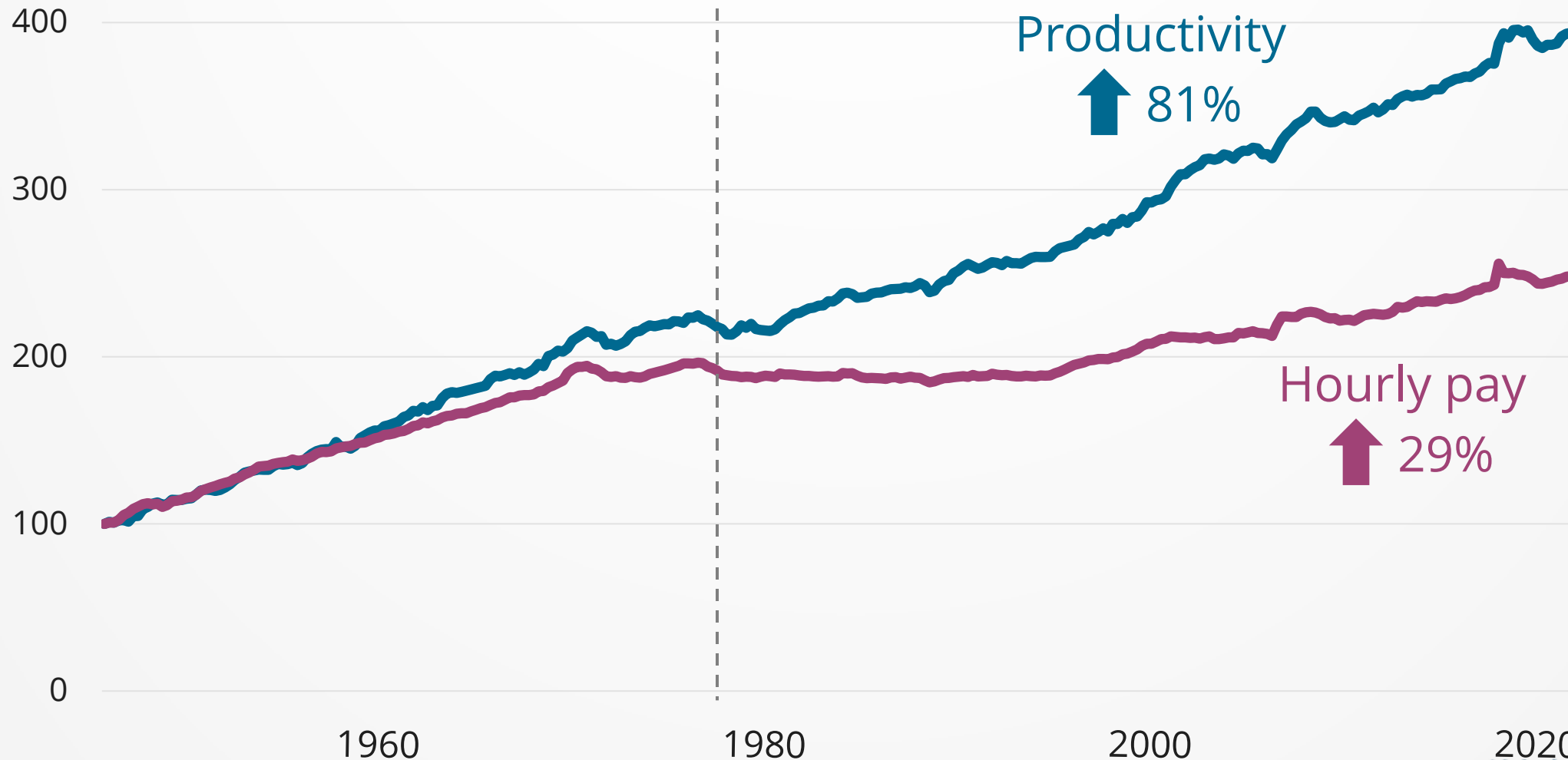
Inflation adjusted change from 2000 to 2024

Incomes aren't keeping pace



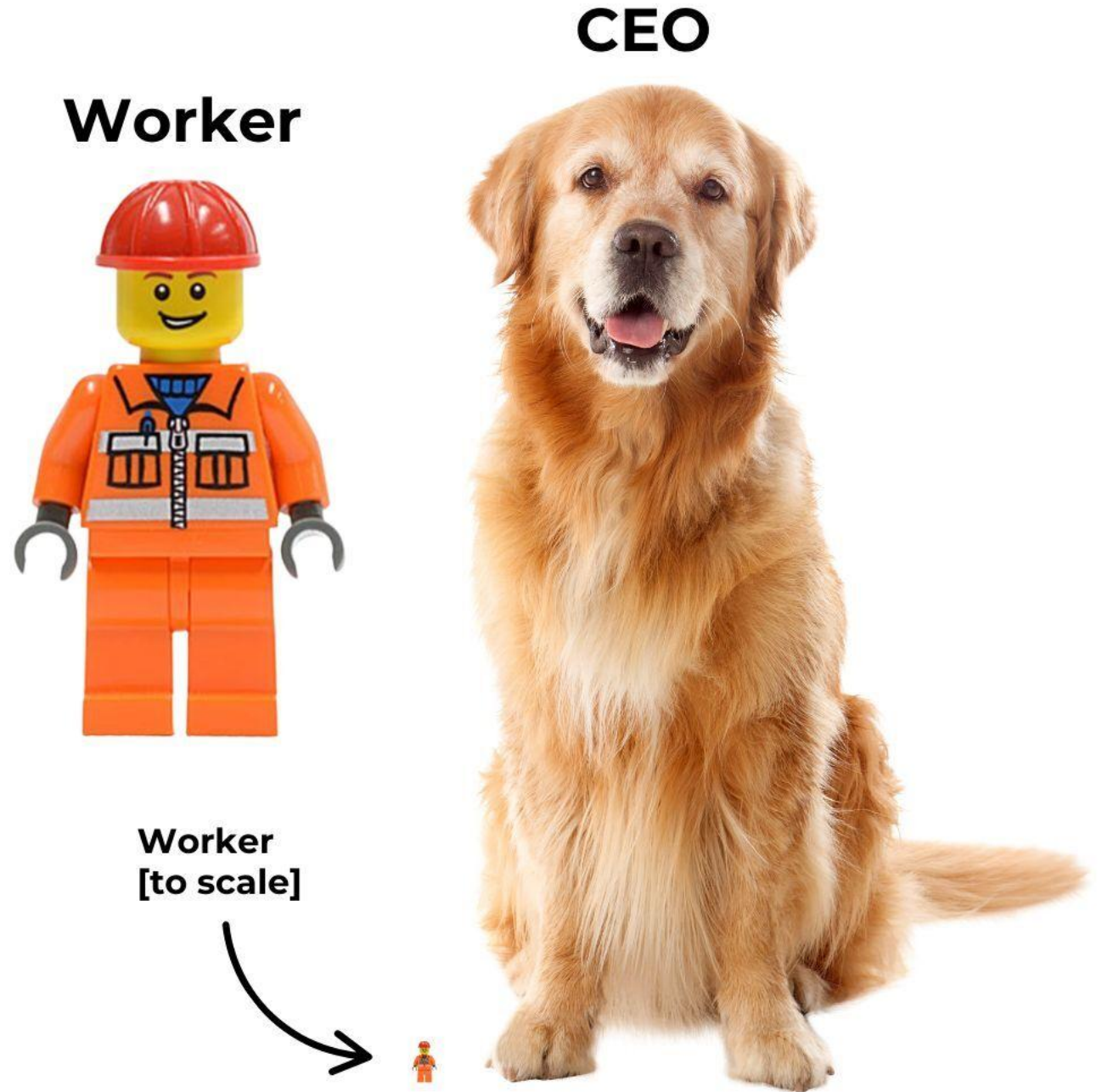
Inflation adjusted change from 2000 to 2024

Workers produce more, but earn less since 1979



In 1975, CEO pay was 25 times higher than the average worker.

Roughly the size of a golden retriever compared to a Lego.



Today, CEO pay is 300 times higher than the average worker.

Roughly the size of a Lego compared to 2 Paul Bunyan statues stacked on top of each other.



CEO



Worker
[to scale... ish]

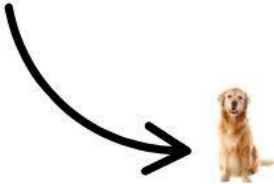


CEO in 2024

[Worker
to scale... ish]



[CEO in 1975
to scale]



Maine is making a difference



**172,000 eligible for
free school meals**



**\$100 million
investment**



100,000 covered



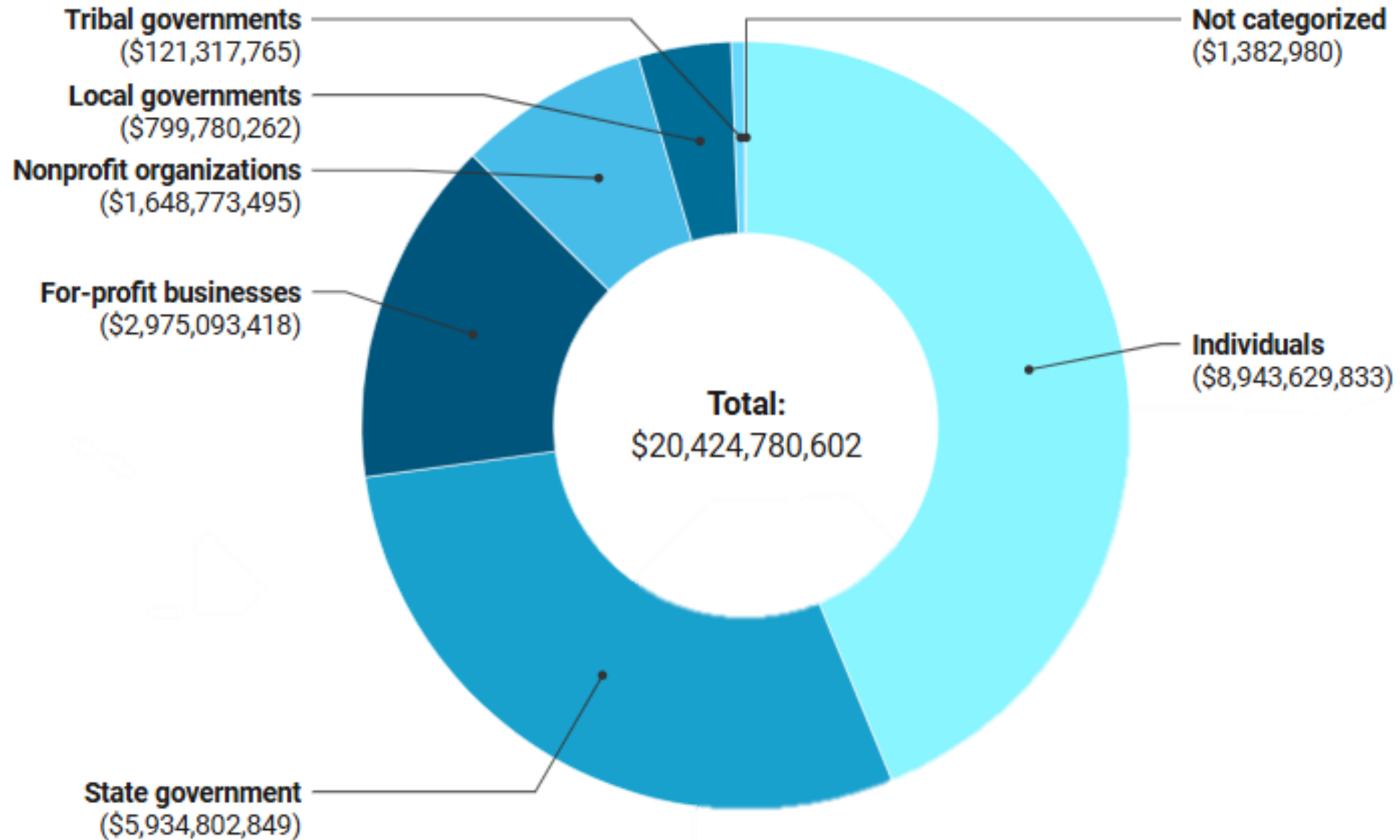
**17,000 get debt
free education**

Working to restore fairness and dignity



Inflation adjusted change from 2000 to 2024

Federal funds are critical



Beware the 3Cs: Chaos, corruption & cuts



172,000 eligible for
free school meals

85%



17,000 get debt
free education

Maine must continue to be lead

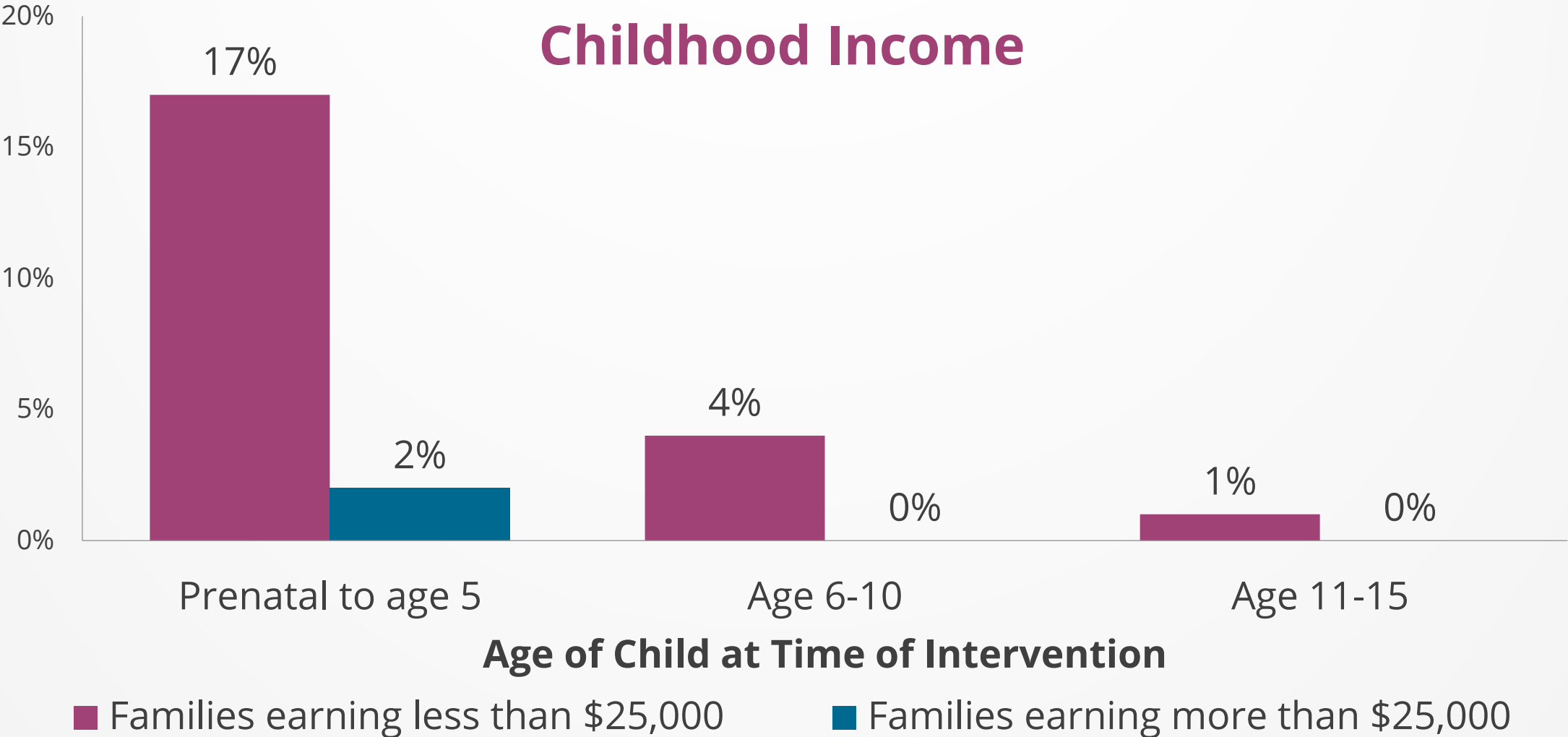
- Stand up for ALL workers
- Protect vital investments in Maine people and communities
 - health care
 - child care
 - higher education
- Center tax fairness



Action Items

- Help your neighbors connect the dots
- Push for tax fairness
- Run for local office
- Stay engaged
- Beware efforts to undercut democracy and important policy advances

Percentage Increase in Adult Earnings Associated with a \$3,000 Annual Increase in Childhood Income



Discussion?

www.mecep.org