

An Update on Indiana's Working Women

For every dollar the average Hoosier man earns, the Hoosier woman earns just two quarters, one dime, a nickel and three pennies. The following highlights this wage gap and other statistics concerning Indiana's working women (those working full-time year-round).

These data are from the U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and are based on reference year 2003 unless otherwise noted. The American Community Survey is a household survey of 800,000 households nationwide with a time series beginning in 2000 for states.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics data are based on estimates from the Current Population Survey of 60,000 households each month. Census 2000 data were collected on a one-in-six household sample for earnings and education (the long form).

Working Women

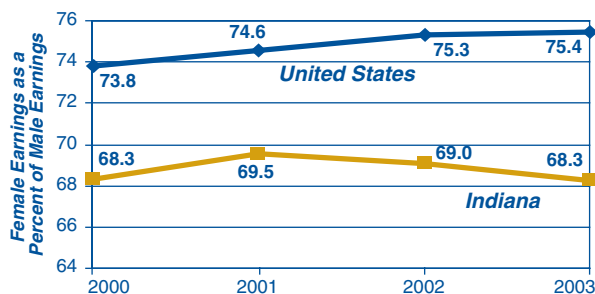
- Of the 2.4 million women age 16 and older in Indiana, 62 percent are in the labor force.
- In 2003, Hoosier women working full-time and year-round had median earnings of \$27,207, compared to a median of \$39,849 for men. That

is a wage gap of \$12,642. To put it in other ways, the ratio of women's full-time earnings to that of men's is .68 to 1, or 68 cents to the dollar (see Figures 1 and 2).

- Indiana's working women are well-educated: 53 percent of them have at least some college or higher levels of education, such as bachelor's degrees and master's degrees (see Figure 3).
- More than 50 percent of full-time working Hoosier women work in lower-paying occupations (Indiana's BLS median wages are shown in parentheses): 24 percent in office or administrative support (\$24,120); 19

Figure 1: Ratio of Women's to Men's Earnings

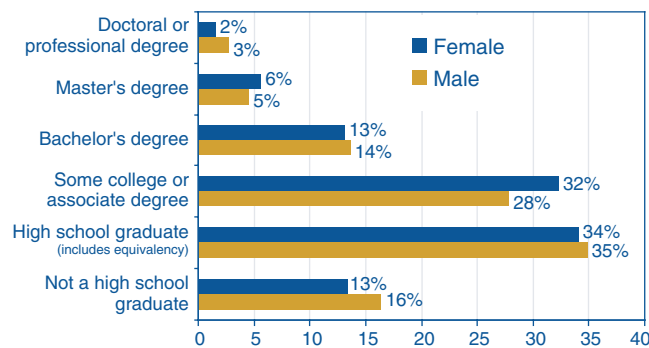
Hoosier women earned 68 cents to the dollar



Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 3: Education of Indiana's Labor Force, 2000

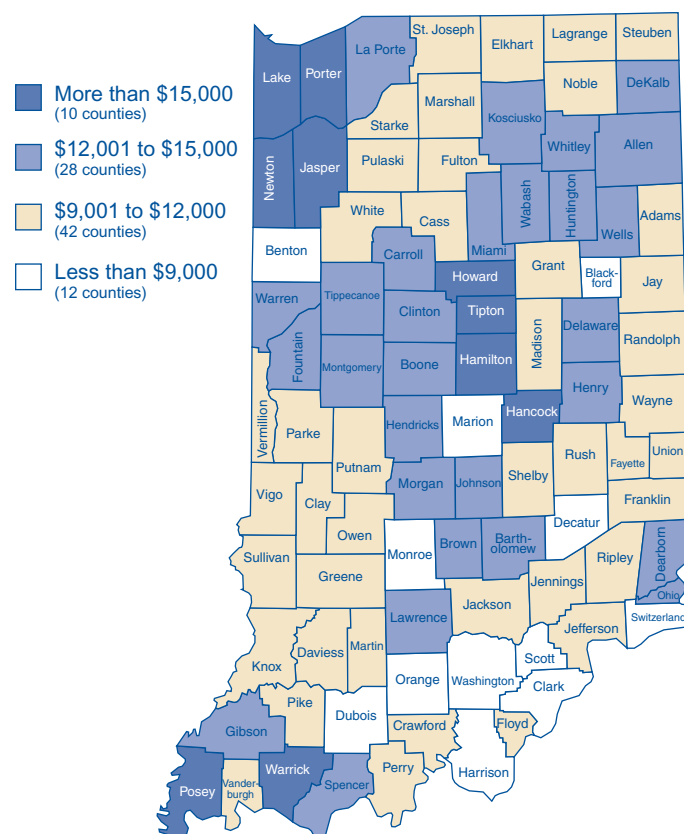
53% of Hoosier women have some college or more



Source: Census 2000

Figure 2: Difference in Male and Female Earnings, 2000

Decatur had smallest while Porter had largest wage gap



Source: Census 2000

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Director: Jerry Conover

Executive Editor: Carol O. Rogers

Managing Editor: Rachel Justis

Circulation: Nikki Livingston

Quality Control: Amber Kostelac
Joan Ketcham

Bloomington Campus
1275 E. Tenth Street, Suite 3110
Bloomington, IN 47405

IUPUI Campus
777 Indiana Avenue, Suite 210
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Web: www.ibrc.indiana.edu
E-mail: context@indiana.edu

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
KELLEY
School of Business

Indiana Department of Commerce

Executive Director: Tim Monger

Research Director: Dennis Paramore

One North Capitol
Suite 700
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Web: www.indianacommerce.com

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IN the Workforce

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percent in service jobs, such as health care support (\$21,110), food preparation or serving (\$15,080) or personal care services (\$17,840); and 12 percent in sales (\$19,530).

- Table 1 illustrates how Indiana's full-time working women compare to those in surrounding states. Earnings in Indiana and Michigan may be affected by the influence of high-wage auto jobs held mostly by men.

Working Mothers in 2000

- Seventy-three percent of Indiana women with children under 18 were in the labor force.
- Children with single mothers: 79 percent of those children's mothers were in the labor force.
- Thirty percent of single mothers with children under 18, and 42 percent of single mothers with children under 5, lived in poverty (see Figure 4).

—Carol O. Rogers, Associate Director, Indiana Business Research Center, Kelley School of Business, Indiana University

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www.incontext.indiana.edu

Indiana Economic Digest

www.indianaeconomicdigest.net

Table 1: Earnings Ratios, 2003

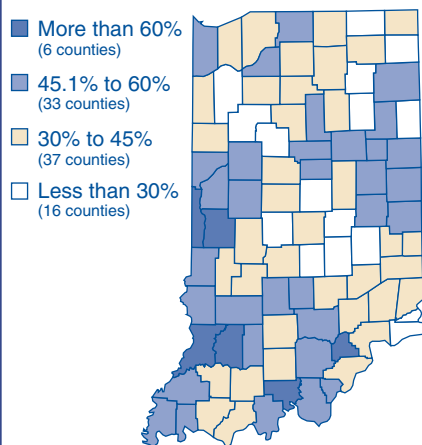
Women's to Men's Earnings Ratios

Indiana	68
Michigan	70
Kentucky	72
Illinois	73
Ohio	73
United States	75

Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 4: Single Moms in Poverty*

42% with children under 5 are poor



*Single mothers with children under 5; Source: Census 2000

STATS Indiana

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Indiana Business Research Center
Kelley School of Business
Indiana University, IUPUI Campus
777 Indiana Avenue, Suite 210
Indianapolis, IN 46202

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