

State of Women:  
A County by County Report on Women and Girls in Massachusetts  
**Essex County**

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**Basic Demographics**

Female Population

Total: 376,998

Under 21.....	26.89%
21 to 34.....	16.92%
35 to 64.....	40.05%
65 and over.....	16.14%

Households, Year 2000

Total: 275,419

Female householder, no husband present...	12.35%
With children under 6.....	10.80%
With children under 18.....	58.59%

**Earnings and Employment**

Median Earnings for Full-Time Employees in 1999

Male.....	\$46,109
Female.....	\$33,761

The Living Wage in 2003

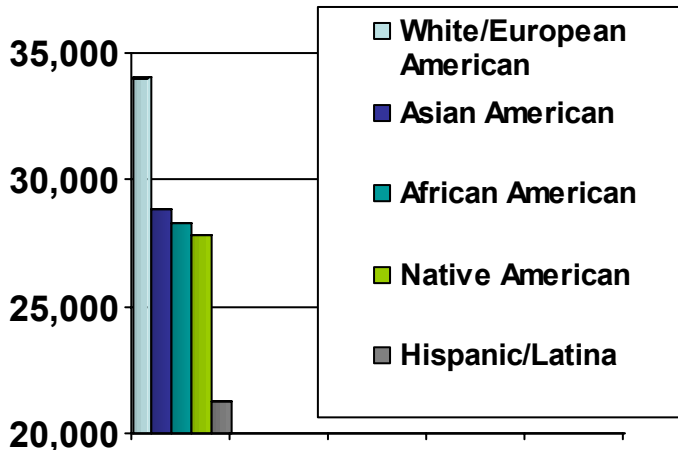
For one Adult and 2 children, one in pre-school and one in elementary school.....\$45,464-53,334

For 2 Adults and 2 children, one in pre-school and one in elementary school.....\$51,684-59,635

Percentage of Women Living in Poverty in 1999

All women.....	9.83%
Girls under 5.....	12.62%
Women over 65.....	10.11%
Families.....	6.60%

Median Earnings for Full-Time, Female Workers by Race in 1999



Employment Status of Women, Year 2000

Employed: 168,297

Unemployed in Labor Force: 8,273

Not in Labor Force: 121,497

**Education**

Female Educational Attainment in 2000

No High School Diploma.....	15.36%
High School Graduate.....	46.63%
Associate or Professional Degree.....	10.76%
Bachelor's Degree.....	18.46%
Master's Degree.....	8.19%
Doctorate Degree.....	0.60%

2003 Female Public High School

Drop-Out Rate

Massachusetts State Average.....2.79%

Essex County Average.....2.87%

**Health and Wellness**

Reproductive Health

- In 2004, 603 new mothers (6.50%) in Essex County were adolescents of age 20 or younger.
- That same year 1,625 pregnant women (17.60%) did not receive any prenatal care in their first trimester.
- 33.80% of new mothers in Essex County utilized publicly funded prenatal care in 2004—a total of 3,089 women.

Weapon-Related Injuries

- Essex County has the highest percentage of women who have sustained weapon-related injuries at 16.90%.

HIV and AIDS

- In April of 2000, 471 women were living with HIV or AIDS and 233 women were living with AIDS in Essex County.

Smoking

- 19.20% of women in Essex County are regular smokers and 25.80% of women reported to be former smokers.
- Between 2001 and 2003, 691 women died from either bronchus or lung cancer.

**Political Participation in 2006**

Females elected to State House: 5 (27.78%)