

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

Basic Demographics

Female Population

Total: 384,042

| | |
|------------------|--------|
| Under 21..... | 28.14% |
| 21 to 34..... | 17.89% |
| 35 to 64..... | 38.60% |
| 65 and over..... | 15.37% |

Households, Year 2000

Total: 283,927

| | |
|---|--------|
| Female householder, no husband present... | 11.39% |
| With children under 6..... | 21.93% |
| With children under 18.... | 60.91% |

Earnings and Employment

Median Earnings in 2000

| | |
|-------------|----------|
| Male..... | \$35,761 |
| Female..... | \$21,491 |

The Living Wage in 2003

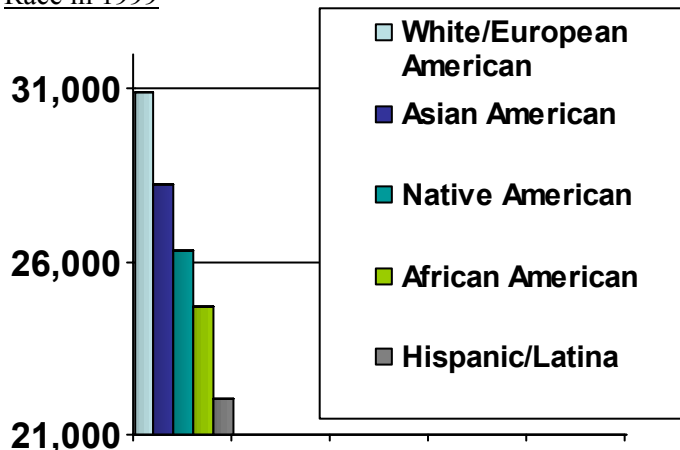
For one Adult and 2 children, one in pre-school and one in elementary school.....\$38,839-57,670

For 2 Adults and 2 children, one in pre-school and one in elementary school.....\$44,852-63,303

Percentage of Women Living in Poverty in 1999

| | |
|--------------------|--------|
| All women..... | 10.02% |
| Girls under 5..... | 11.90% |
| Women over 65.... | 10.54% |
| Families..... | 6.80% |

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



Employment Status of Women, Year 2000

Employed: 172,979

Unemployed in Labor Force: 7,309

Not in Labor Force: 103,714

Education

Female Educational Attainment in 2000

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| No High School Diploma..... | 16.35% |
| High School Graduate..... | 49.58% |
| Associate or Professional Degree..... | 9.88% |
| Bachelor's Degree..... | 16.28% |
| Master's Degree..... | 7.26% |
| Doctorate Degree..... | 0.65% |

2003 Female Public High School

Drop-Out Rate

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Massachusetts State Average..... | 2.79% |
| Worcester County Average..... | 2.66% |

Health and Wellness

Reproductive Health

- In 2004, 703 new mothers (7.10%) in Worcester County were adolescents of age 20 or younger.
- That same year 614 pregnant women (6.20%) did not receive any prenatal care in their first trimester.
- 15.60% of new mothers in Worcester County utilized publicly funded prenatal care in 2004—a total of 1,534 women. This is the smallest percentage of women receiving publicly funded prenatal care of any county in the state.

HIV and AIDS

- In April of 2000, 253 women were living with HIV and 280 women were living with AIDS in Worcester County.

Smoking

- 21.40% of women in Worcester County are regular smokers and 26.00% of women reported to be former smokers.
- Between 2001 and 2003, 573 women died from either bronchus or lung cancer.

Political Participation

Females elected to State House: 4 (22.22%)

❖ Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women ❖

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