

*Minnesota Compared to Other States and the United States:
Summary of the Status of Women Profile Reports*

August 2005

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Data and definitions compiled from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census data

Additional data and specific data sources can be found in the Status of Women Profiles and Reports available on the OESW website at: www.commissions.leg.state.mn.us/lcesw/profiles/main.htm.

POPULATION AND AGE

TOTAL POPULATION THAT IS FEMALE

Just over half of the total population in Minnesota (50.5%) and in the United States (51.0%) was female in 2000.

- ♦ The state with the highest percentage of the total population that is female was Rhode Island (52.0%) and the state with the lowest percentage was Alaska (48.3%).

POPULATION 65 YEARS AND OVER

Approximately one in eight people were 65 years and over in Minnesota (12.1%) and in the United States (12.4%) in 2000.

- ♦ The state with the highest percentage of its population that was 65 years and over was Florida (17.6%) and the state with the lowest percentage was Alaska (5.6%).

POPULATIONS 65 YEARS AND OVER AND 85 YEARS AND OVER COMPRISED OF WOMEN

Women comprised nearly six in ten of the population 65 years and over in Minnesota (58.5%) and in the United States (58.9%) in 2000.

- ♦ The state with the highest percentage of its population 65 years and over that is female was Georgia (60.5%) and the state with the lowest percentage was Alaska (53.2%).

Women comprised just over seven in ten of the population 85 years and over in Minnesota (71.9%) and in the United States (71.1%) in 2000.

- ♦ The state with the highest percentage of its population 85 years and over that is female was Georgia (74.6%) and the state with the lowest percentage was Hawaii (56.8%).

MEDIAN AGE

The median age in Minnesota and the United States was 35.4 years in 2000.

- ♦ The state with the highest median age was West Virginia (38.9 years) and the state with the lowest was Utah (27.2 years).

The median age of females was slightly lower in Minnesota (36.3 years) than in the United States (36.6 years) in 2000.

- ♦ The state with the highest median age of females was West Virginia (40.2 years) and the state with the lowest was Utah (27.8 years).

The median age of males was slightly higher in Minnesota (34.4 years) than in the United States (34.1 years) in 2000.

- ♦ The state with the highest median age of males was Maine (37.7 years) and the state with the lowest was Utah (26.7 years).

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

MARRIED-COUPLE FAMILIES

Minnesota had the fourth highest percentage of married-couple families with children of all states in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ Married-couple families comprised more than three-quarters (77.4%) of families with children under 18 years in Minnesota compared to less than three-quarters (72.9%) nationally.
- ♦ The state with the highest percentage of families with children that were married-couple families was Utah (82.9%) and the state with the lowest percentage was Mississippi (65.5%).

FEMALE-HEADED FAMILIES

Minnesota had the sixth lowest percentage of female-headed families with children of all states in 2000.

- ♦ Female-headed families comprised approximately one in six (16.9%) families with children under 18 years in Minnesota compared to nearly one in five (20.9%) families with children nationally.
- ♦ The state with the highest percentage of families with children that were female-headed was Mississippi (28.5%) and the state with the lowest percentage was Utah (12.6%).

MALE-HEADED FAMILIES

Male-headed families comprised nearly one in eighteen (5.7%) families with children in Minnesota and nearly one in sixteen (6.2%) families with children in the United States in 2000.

- ♦ The state with the highest percentage of male-headed families with children was Nevada (9.2%) and the state with the lowest percentage was Utah (4.5%).

MARITAL STATUS

The percentage of women 15 years and over who were never married was similar in Minnesota (25.0%) and the United States (24.1%) in 2000.

- ♦ The state with the highest percentage of never married women 15 years and over was New York (29.0%) and the state with the lowest percentage was Arkansas (18.4%).

A slightly higher percentage of women 15 years and over were married in Minnesota (56.2%) than in the United States (54.6%) in 2000.

- ♦ The state with the highest percentage of married women 15 years and over was Idaho (60.4%) and the states tied with the lowest percentage were Rhode Island and New York (50.8%).

A slightly lower percentage of women 15 years and over were widowed in Minnesota (9.4%) than in the United States (10.5%) in 2000.

- ♦ The state with the highest percentage of widowed women 15 years and over was West Virginia (13.9%) and the state with the lowest percentage was Alaska (5.6%).

Minnesota was tied for the seventh lowest percentage of divorced women 15 years and over of all states in 2000.

- ♦ Less than one in ten (9.5%) women 15 years and over were divorced in Minnesota compared to just over one in ten (10.8%) in the United States.
- ♦ The state with the highest percentage of divorced women 15 years and over was Nevada (14.7%) and the state with the lowest percentage was North Dakota (8.2%).

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Minnesota was tied for the second highest percentage of women 25 years and over that were high school graduates (includes equivalency) or more in the nation in 2000.

- ◆ Nearly nine in ten (88.4%) women had a high school diploma (includes equivalency) or more in Minnesota compared to just over eight in ten (80.7%) women nationally.
- ◆ The state with the highest percentage of women with high school diplomas (includes equivalency) or more was Wyoming (88.5%) and the state with the lowest percentage was Mississippi (73.7%).

Minnesota had the ninth highest percentage of women 25 years and over with Bachelor's degrees or more in the nation in 2000.

- ◆ More than one-quarter (26.2%) of women had Bachelor's degrees or more in Minnesota compared to less than one-quarter (22.8%) of women nationally.
- ◆ The state with the highest percentage of women with bachelor's degrees or more was Massachusetts (31.4%) and the state with the lowest percentage was West Virginia (14.0%).

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

PERCENTAGE OF THE LABOR FORCE COMPRISED OF WOMEN

Nearly one-half of the labor force in Minnesota (47.4%) and the United States (46.5%) is comprised of women.

- ◆ The state with the highest percentage of the labor force comprised of women was Maryland (48.8%) and the state with the lowest percentage was Alaska (44.5%).

LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN

Minnesota women had the highest labor force participation rate in the nation in 2000.

- ◆ In Minnesota, nearly two-thirds (66.0%) of women 16 years and over were in the labor force compared to less than three-fifths (57.5%) of U.S. women.
- ◆ The state with the lowest labor force participation rate was West Virginia (47.6%).

LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN WITH CHILDREN BY AGE OF CHILDREN

Minnesota women with children under 18 years had the fourth highest labor force participation rate in the nation in 2000.

- ◆ Nearly eight in ten (79.3%) women with children under 18 years were in the labor force in Minnesota compared to just under seven in ten (69.1%) women with children nationally.
- ◆ The state with the highest labor force participation rate of women with children under 18 years was South Dakota (81.7%) and the state with the lowest percentage was California (62.5%).

Minnesota women with children under six years only, were tied for the fifth highest state labor force participation rate in the nation in 2000.

- ◆ Nearly three-fourths (73.8%) of women with children under six years only, were in the labor force in Minnesota compared to less than two-thirds (63.5%) of their U.S. counterparts.
- ◆ The state with the highest labor force participation rate of women with children under six years only, was South Dakota (77.5%) and the state with the lowest percentage was California (57.4%).

EMPLOYMENT STATUS (CONTINUED)

LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN WITH CHILDREN BY AGE OF CHILDREN (CONTINUED)

Minnesota women with children under six years and six to 17 years, had the fifth highest labor force participation rate in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ Just over seven in ten (70.7%) women with children under six years and six to 17 years, were in the labor force in Minnesota compared to six in ten (60.0%) of their U.S. counterparts.
- ♦ The state with the highest labor force participation rate of women with children under six years and six to 17 years, was South Dakota (75.4%) and the state with the lowest percentage was California (53.0%).

Minnesota women with children six to 17 years only, had the fourth highest labor force participation rate in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ More than eight in ten (84.7%) women with children six to 17 years only, were in the labor force in Minnesota compared to three-quarters (75.0%) of their U.S. counterparts.
- ♦ The state with the highest labor force participation rate of women with children six to 17 years only, was South Dakota (85.8%) and the state with the lowest percentage was West Virginia (67.1%).

FULL-TIME, YEAR-ROUND WORKERS

Nearly one-half of women in the labor force were working full-time, year-round in Minnesota (49.0%) and the United States (50.2%) in 2000.

- ♦ The state with the highest percentage of women in the labor force working full-time, year-round was Maryland (56.4%) and the state with the lowest percentage was Utah (40.2%)

Just under two-thirds of men in the labor force were working full-time, year-round in Minnesota (66.1%) and the United States (65.4%) in 2000.

- ♦ The state with the highest percentage of men in the labor force working full-time, year-round was New Hampshire (70.3%) and the state with the lowest percentage was Alaska (52.4%)

CHILDREN WITH BOTH PARENTS OR THEIR SINGLE PARENT IN THE LABOR FORCE

Minnesota children under 18 years had the sixth highest percentage of both parents or their single parent in the labor force in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ Three-fourths (75.0%) of Minnesota children under 18 years had both parents or their single parent in the labor force compared to less than two-thirds (64.6%) of children in the United States.
- ♦ The state with the highest percentage of children under 18 years with both parents or their single parent in the labor force was South Dakota (77.3%) and the state with the lowest percentage was California (57.1%).

Minnesota children under six years had the fifth highest percentage of both parents or their single parent in the labor force in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ Nearly seven in ten (68.8%) Minnesota children under six years had both parents or their single parent in the labor force compared to less than six in ten (58.6%) children in the United States.
- ♦ The state with the highest percentage of children under six years with both parents or their single parent in the labor force was South Dakota (73.0%) and the state with the lowest percentage was California (51.8%).

Minnesota children six to 17 years had the fifth highest percentage of both parents or their single parent in the labor force in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ Just under four out of five (77.8%) Minnesota children six to 17 years had both parents or their single parent in the labor force compared to just over two-thirds (67.4%) of children in the United States.
- ♦ The state with the highest percentage of children six to 17 years with both parents or their single parent in the labor force was Iowa (79.4%) and the state with the lowest percentage was California (59.7%).

INCOME AND EARNINGS

MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME

Minnesota had the eighth highest median family income in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ Median family income was \$56,874 in Minnesota compared to \$50,046 in the United States.
- ♦ Median family income was highest in Connecticut (\$65,521) and lowest in West Virginia (\$36,484).

MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME OF FAMILIES BY FAMILY TYPE AND PRESENCE OF CHILDREN

MARRIED-COUPLE FAMILIES

Married-couple families in Minnesota had the eleventh highest median family income in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ The median family income of married-couple families in Minnesota was \$62,428 compared to median income of \$57,345 for comparable U.S. married-couple families.
- ♦ The median family income of married-couple families was highest in New Jersey (\$75,111) and lowest in West Virginia (\$41,113).

Married-couple families with children under 18 years in Minnesota had the seventh highest median family income in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ The median family income of married-couple families with children under 18 years in Minnesota was \$66,428 compared to median income of \$59,461 for comparable U.S. married-couple families.
- ♦ The median family income of married-couple families with children under 18 years was highest in Connecticut (\$78,589) and lowest in West Virginia (\$42,228).

FEMALE-HEADED FAMILIES

Female-headed families in Minnesota had the tenth highest median family income in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ The median family income of female-headed families in Minnesota was \$29,103 compared to median income of \$25,458 for comparable U.S. female-headed families.
- ♦ The median family income of female-headed families with children under 18 years was highest in New Jersey (\$33,921) and lowest in Mississippi (\$17,255).

Female-headed families with children under 18 years in Minnesota had the seventh highest median family income in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ The median family income of female-headed families with children under 18 years in Minnesota was \$24,335 compared to median income of \$20,284 for comparable U.S. female-headed families.
- ♦ The median family income of female-headed families with children under 18 years was highest in Maryland (\$27,166) and lowest in West Virginia (\$12,861).

MALE-HEADED FAMILIES

Male-headed families in Minnesota had the tenth highest median family income in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ The median family income of male-headed families in Minnesota was \$38,940 compared to median income of \$35,141 for comparable U.S. male-headed families.
- ♦ The median family income of male-headed families was highest in Connecticut (\$45,324) and lowest in West Virginia (\$24,979).

Male-headed families with children under 18 years in Minnesota had the eighth highest median family income in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ The median family income of male-headed families with children under 18 years in Minnesota was \$32,454 compared to median income of \$29,907 for comparable U.S. male-headed families.
- ♦ The median family income of male-headed families with children under 18 years was highest in Maryland (\$36,405) and lowest in West Virginia (\$21,310).

INCOME AND EARNINGS (CONTINUED)

MEDIAN EARNINGS AND THE EARNINGS GAP OF FULL-TIME, YEAR-ROUND WORKERS

Minnesota women earned more than the national average and had the 12th highest median earnings of female full-time, year-round workers in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ Median annual earnings of Minnesota female full-time, year-round workers 16 years and over were \$28,708 compared to median earnings of \$27,194 for comparable U.S. female workers.
- ♦ The state with the highest median earnings of female full-time, year-round workers 16 years and over was Connecticut (\$33,318) and the state with the lowest female median earnings was North Dakota (\$20,893).

Minnesota men earned more than the national average and had the 12th highest median earnings of male full-time, year-round workers in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ Median annual earnings of Minnesota male full-time, year-round workers 16 years and over were \$39,364 compared to median earnings of \$37,057 for comparable U.S. male workers.
- ♦ The state with the highest median earnings of male full-time, year-round workers 16 years and over was New Jersey (\$46,368) and the state with the lowest male median earnings was South Dakota (\$29,677).

The earnings gap (ratio of female-to-male median earnings of full-time, year-round workers) was slightly greater in Minnesota than at the national level in 2000.

- ♦ The earnings gap was 72.9 percent in Minnesota compared to 73.4 percent in the United States.
- ♦ The state with the smallest earnings gap was Hawaii (80.3%) and the state with the largest earnings gap was Wyoming (63.1%).

POVERTY STATUS

PERSONS WITH INCOME BELOW POVERTY LEVEL BY AGE

ALL PERSONS

Minnesota was tied for the second lowest percentage of people in poverty in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ Just over one in thirteen (7.9%) people were in poverty in Minnesota compared to nearly one in eight (12.4%) nationally.
- ♦ The state with the lowest percentage of people in poverty was New Hampshire (6.5%) and the state with the highest percentage was Mississippi (19.9%).

CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS

Minnesota had the second lowest percentage of children under 18 years in poverty in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ Just under one in ten (9.6%) children were in poverty in Minnesota compared to nearly one in six (16.6%) nationally.
- ♦ The state with the lowest percentage of children in poverty was New Hampshire (7.8%) and the state with the highest percentage was Mississippi (27.0%).

PERSONS 18 TO 64 YEARS

Minnesota was tied for the second lowest percentage of women 18 to 64 years in poverty in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ Just under one in twelve (8.1%) women 18 to 64 years were in poverty in Minnesota compared to nearly one in eight (12.6%) nationally.
- ♦ The state with the lowest percentage of women 18 to 64 years in poverty was New Hampshire (7.0%) and the state with the highest percentage was Louisiana (20.0%).

POVERTY STATUS (CONTINUED)

PERSONS 18 TO 64 YEARS (CONTINUED)

Minnesota had the third lowest percentage of men 18 to 64 years in poverty in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ One in sixteen (6.3%) men 18 to 64 years were in poverty in Minnesota compared to just under one in ten (9.6%) nationally.
- ♦ The state with the lowest percentage of men 18 to 64 years in poverty was New Hampshire (4.8%) and the state with the highest percentage was West Virginia (15.2%).

PERSONS 65 YEARS AND OVER

Minnesota had a slightly lower percentage of women 65 years and over in poverty than the national average in 2000.

- ♦ Just over one in ten (10.2%) women 65 years and over were in poverty in Minnesota compared to less than one in eight (11.9%) nationally.
- ♦ The state with the lowest percentage of women 65 years and over in poverty was Utah (7.3%) and the state with the highest percentage was Mississippi (22.4%).

Minnesota had a lower percentage of men 65 years and over in poverty than the national average in 2000.

- ♦ Nearly one in eighteen (5.5%) men 65 years and over were in poverty in Minnesota compared to almost one in fourteen (7.0%) nationally.
- ♦ The state with the lowest percentage of men 65 years and over in poverty was Utah (3.9%) and the state with the highest percentage was Mississippi (13.5%).

FAMILIES IN POVERTY BY FAMILY TYPE AND PRESENCE AND AGE OF CHILDREN

ALL FAMILIES

Minnesota had the second lowest percentage of all families in poverty in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ Just over one in twenty families (5.1%) were in poverty in Minnesota compared to nearly one in eleven (9.2%) nationally.
- ♦ The state with the lowest percentage of families in poverty was New Hampshire (4.3%) and the state with the highest percentage was Mississippi (16.0%).

Minnesota had the second lowest percentage of all families with children under 18 years in poverty in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ Nearly one in thirteen (7.6%) families with children were in poverty in Minnesota compared to just less than one in seven (13.6%) nationally.
- ♦ The state with the lowest percentage of families with children in poverty was New Hampshire (6.5%) and the state with the highest percentage was Mississippi (22.2%).

Minnesota had the second lowest percentage of all families with children under five years in poverty in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ One in ten (10.0%) families with children under five years were in poverty in Minnesota compared to just over one in six (17.0%) nationally.
- ♦ The state with the lowest percentage of families with children under five years in poverty was New Hampshire (8.9%) and the state with the highest percentage was Louisiana (26.7%).

POVERTY STATUS (CONTINUED)

FAMILIES IN POVERTY BY FAMILY TYPE AND PRESENCE AND AGE OF CHILDREN (CONTINUED)

MARRIED-COUPLE FAMILIES

Minnesota was tied for the third lowest percentage of married-couple families in poverty in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ Just over one in forty (2.6%) married-couple families were in poverty in Minnesota compared to almost one in twenty (4.9%) nationally.
- ♦ The state with the lowest percentage of married-couple families in poverty was New Hampshire (2.0%) and the state with the highest percentage was West Virginia (9.1%).

Minnesota had the fourth lowest percentage of married-couple families with children under 18 years in poverty in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ Just less than one in thirty (3.2%) married-couple families with children under 18 years were in poverty in Minnesota compared to almost one in fifteen (6.6%) nationally.
- ♦ The state with the lowest percentage of married-couple families with children under 18 years in poverty was New Hampshire (2.4%) and the state with the highest percentage was West Virginia (13.1%).

Minnesota had the fifth lowest state percentage of married-couple families with children under five years in poverty in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ One in twenty-four (4.2%) married-couple families with children under five years were in poverty in Minnesota compared to just over one in twelve (8.5%) nationally.
- ♦ The state with the lowest percentage of married-couple children families with children under five years in poverty was New Hampshire (3.1%) and the state with the highest percentage was New Mexico (16.1%).

FEMALE-HEADED FAMILIES

Minnesota had the third lowest state percentage of female-headed families in poverty in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ Just less than one in five (19.3%) female-headed families were in poverty in Minnesota compared to more than one in four (26.5%) nationally.
- ♦ The state with the lowest percentage of female-headed families in poverty was New Hampshire (17.6%) and the state with the highest percentage was Louisiana (40.6%).

Minnesota had the fourth lowest state percentage of female-headed families with children under 18 years in poverty in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ One in four (25.0%) female-headed families with children under 18 years were in poverty in Minnesota compared to just over one in three (34.3%) nationally.
- ♦ The state with the lowest percentage of female-headed families with children under 18 years in poverty was Maryland (23.4%) and the state with the highest percentage was Louisiana (49.4%).

Minnesota had the eighth lowest state percentage of female-headed families with children under five years in poverty in the nation in 2000.

- ♦ Just less than two in five (37.9%) female-headed families with children under five years were in poverty in Minnesota compared to less than half (46.4%) nationally.
- ♦ The state with the lowest percentage of female-headed families with children under five years in poverty was Maryland (32.6%) and the state with the highest percentage was West Virginia (62.8%).

DEFINITIONS

Family. A group of two or more people who reside together and who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption.

Female-Headed Family (Female householder, no husband present). A female maintaining a household with no husband of the householder present.

Full-Time, Year-Round Workers. All people 16 years old and over who usually worked 35 hours or more per week for 50 to 52 weeks in the past twelve months.

Labor Force. All people classified in the civilian labor force (i.e., "employed" and "unemployed" – those not employed but actively looking for work and available to start a job), plus members of the U.S. Armed Forces (people on active duty with the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard).

Male-Headed Family (Male householder, no wife present). A male maintaining a household with no wife of the householder present.

Median Age. This measure divides the age distribution in a stated area into two equal parts: one-half of the population falling below the median value and one-half above the median value.

Median Earnings. Earnings is defined as the algebraic sum of wage or salary income and net income from self-employment. Earnings represent the amount of income received regularly before deductions for personal income taxes, Social Security, bond purchases, union dues, Medicare deductions, etc.

Median Family Income. "Total income" is the sum of the amounts reported separately for wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, or tips; self-employment income from own nonfarm or farm businesses, including proprietorships and partnerships; interest, dividends, net rental income, royalty income, or income from estates and trusts; Social Security or Railroad Retirement income; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); any public assistance or welfare payments from the state or local welfare office; retirement, survivor, or disability pensions; and any other sources of income received regularly such as Veterans' (VA) payments, unemployment compensation, child support, or alimony. The median income divides the income distribution into two equal groups, one having incomes above the median, and other having incomes below the median.

Poverty. The Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to detect who is poor. If the total income for a family or unrelated individual falls below the relevant poverty threshold, then the family or unrelated individual is classified as being "below the poverty level."

Poverty Thresholds in 1999 by Size of Family and Number of Related Children Under 18 Years Old									
Size of Family Unit	Related children under 18 years								
	None	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight or more
One person (unrelated individual)									
Under 65 years old	\$8,667								
65 years old and over	\$7,990								
Two People									
Householder under 65 years old	\$11,156	\$11,483							
Householder 65 years old and over	\$10,070	\$11,440							
Three people	\$13,032	\$13,410	\$13,423						
Four people	\$17,184	\$17,465	\$16,895	\$16,954					
Five people	\$20,723	\$21,024	\$20,380	\$19,882	\$19,578				
Six people	\$23,835	\$23,930	\$23,436	\$22,964	\$22,261	\$21,845			
Seven people	\$27,425	\$27,596	\$27,006	\$26,595	\$25,828	\$24,934	\$23,953		
Eight people	\$30,673	\$30,944	\$30,387	\$29,899	\$29,206	\$28,327	\$27,412	\$27,180	
Nine people or more	\$36,897	\$37,076	\$36,583	\$36,169	\$35,489	\$34,554	\$33,708	\$33,499	\$32,208