

COMMISSION ON THE ECONOMIC STATUS OF WOMEN

Room 85, State Office Building, St. Paul, MN 55155
Newsletter #224

(612) 296-8590 or 1-800-657-3949
February/March 1998

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IN THIS ISSUE

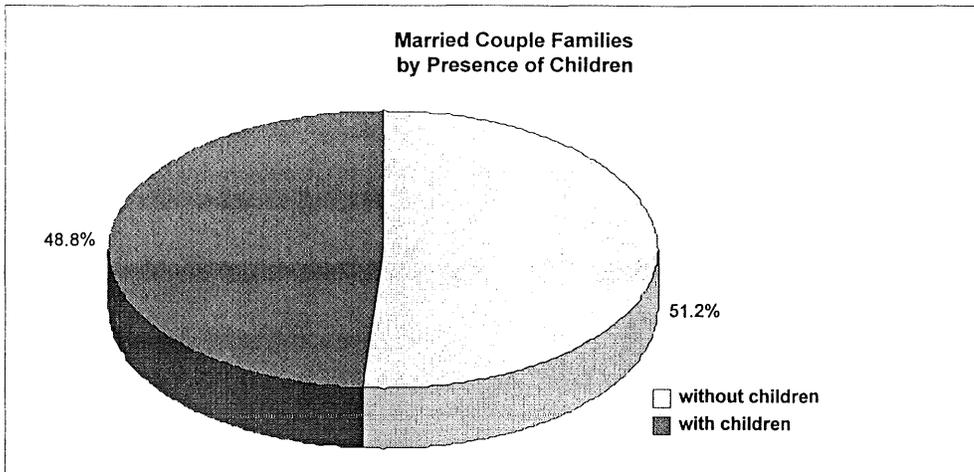
This issue has information on married couple families' incomes by presence of children, age of children, and the employment status of spouses. In the graphs and data that follow, the term "married couple families with children" indicates families who have children residing with them in their homes.

Data for this newsletter were taken from U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, P60-197, *Money Income in the United States: 1996*.

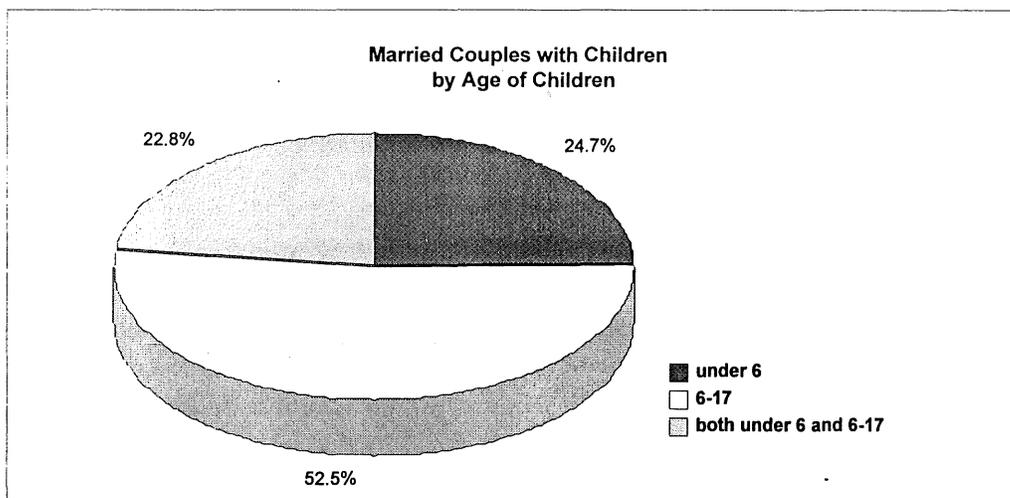
ANNOUNCEMENTS

The *Guide to Child Support and Spousal Maintenance Cost of Living Adjustments* is now available via the Internet. This packet contains all of the necessary forms and instructions for filing a request for a cost of living adjustment. These materials can be accessed through the Commission's homepage at:
www.commissions.leg.state.mn.us/commis/abtlcesw.htm

Married Couple Families: Presence and Age of Children

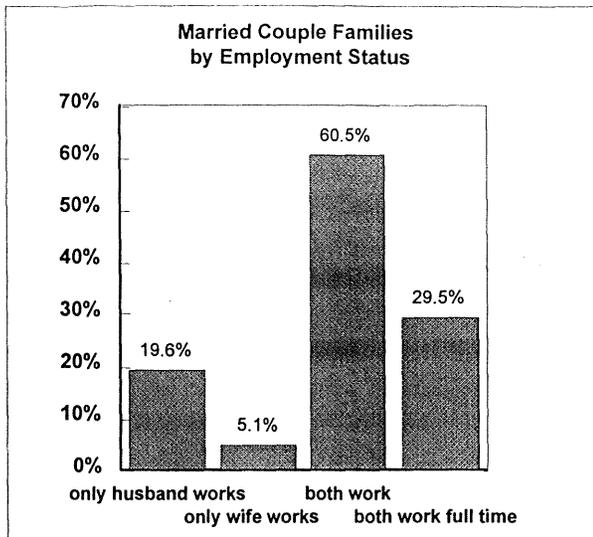


Over half (51.2%) of married couples *do not* have dependent children residing with them in their homes.



Over half (52.5%) of married couple families with children have children who are 6-17 years of age. The remaining married couple families with children are split almost evenly between those who have children under 6 only (24.7%) and those who have children both under 6 and age 6-17 (22.8%).

Married Couples: Employment Status of Spouses

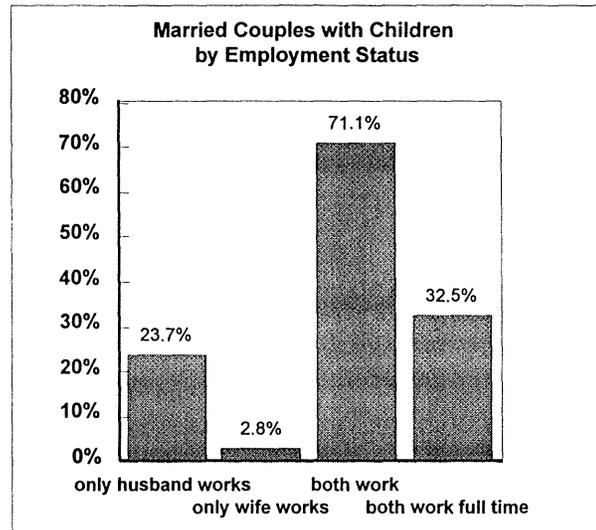


In 60.5% of all married couple families, both spouses work. Both spouses work *full time, year round* in 29.5% of married couple families. The husband is the sole wage earner in 19.6% of all married couple families and the wife is the sole wage earner in 5.1% of these families.

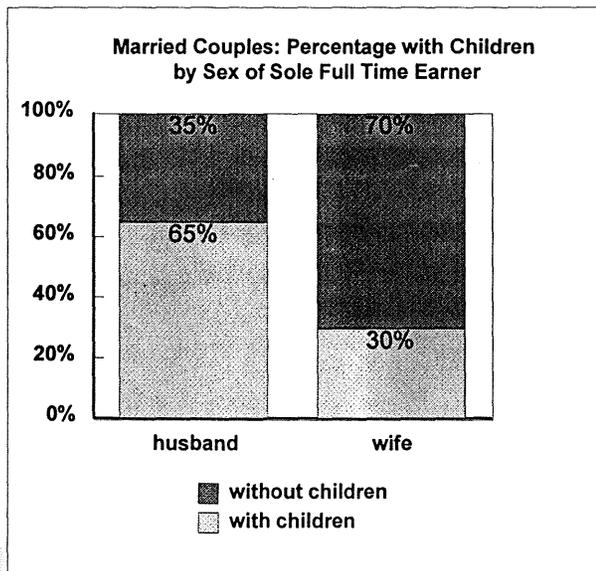
In married couple families with *no children*, the husband is the sole wage earner in 15.6% of the cases and the wife is the sole wage earner in 7.2%.

Almost three quarters (71.1%) of married couples who have children also have both spouses in the workforce. Almost one third (32.5%) of these families have both spouses working full time.

Very few families who have children have only the wife working (2.8%). A much higher percentage (23.7%) have only the husband working.



Married Couples: Presence of Children by Sex of Wage Earner

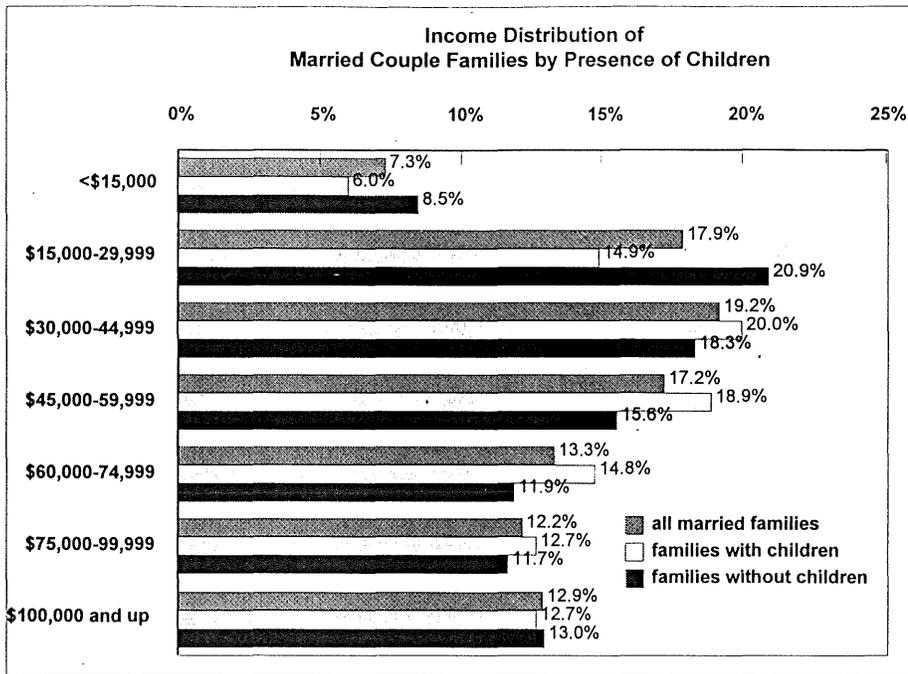


In married couple families where the husband is the only wage earner, and he is employed full time, 65% have children.

In married couple families where the wife is the only wage earner, and she is employed full time, only 30% have children.

In 94.8% of married couple families with children, the husband works. The wife works in 73.9% of these families.

Married Couple Families: Income by Presence of Children



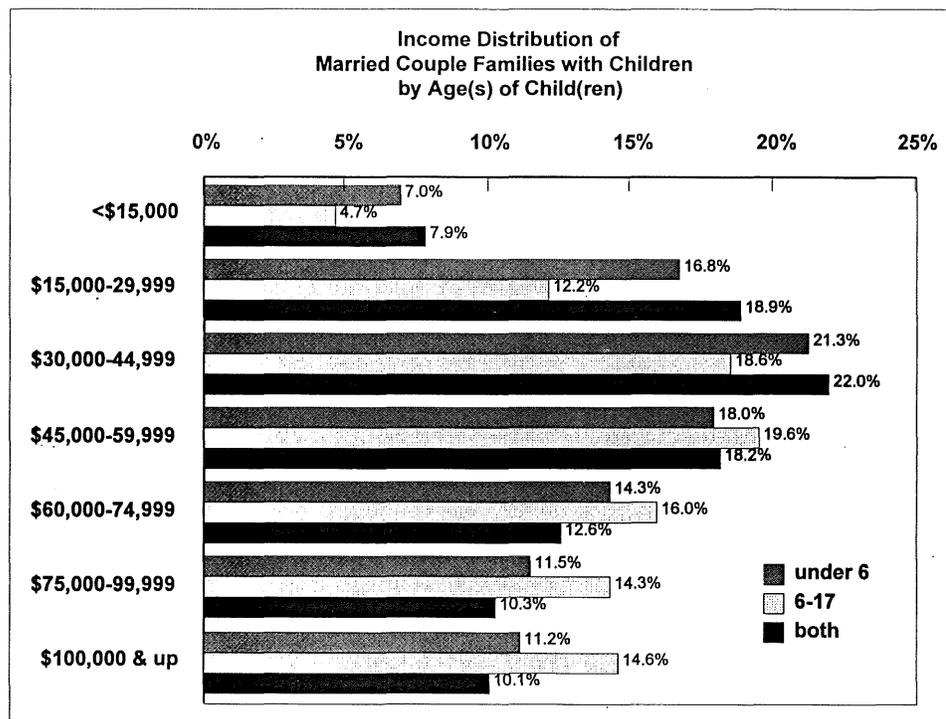
The distribution of income among married couples by presence of children varied most significantly at the lowest ranges of income. Whereas almost one third (29.4%) of families with *no* children had incomes below \$30,000, one fifth (20.9%) of families *with* children earned incomes in this range.

At the other end of the spectrum, the distribution is much more equal. Whereas 25.4% of married couples with children earned annual incomes of \$75,000 or more, 24.7% of families with no children earned incomes in this range.

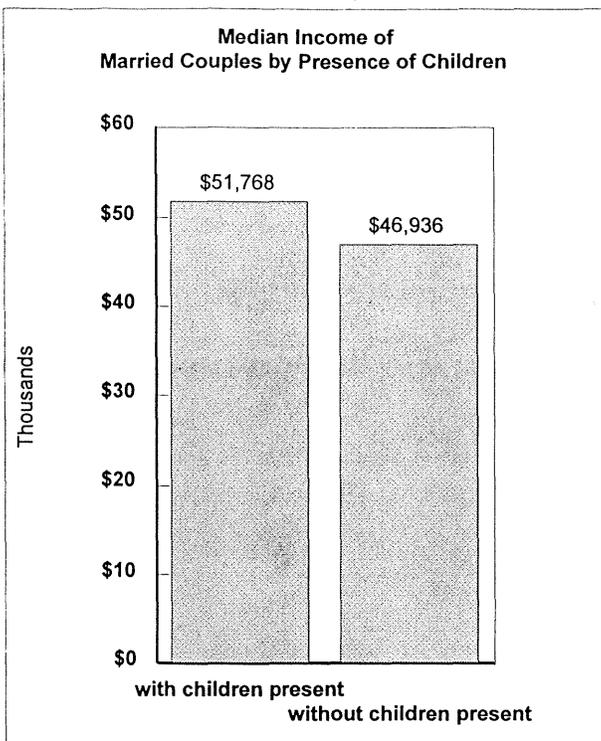
Married Couple Families: Income by Age of Children Present

Almost one third (28.9%) of married couples with children ages 6 to 17 earned annual incomes of over \$75,000. Almost two thirds (64.5%) of these families earned incomes of \$45,000 or more.

Two thirds (63.1%) of married couple families with children under age 6 earned incomes of \$60,000 or less. Similarly, slightly more than two thirds (67%) of families with children in both age groups earned incomes in this range.



Married Couple Families: Median Income by Presence of Children



The median annual income of all married couple families is \$49,707. Married couple families with no dependent children living with them have median annual incomes of \$46,936. The median annual income of married couple families with children is \$51,768.

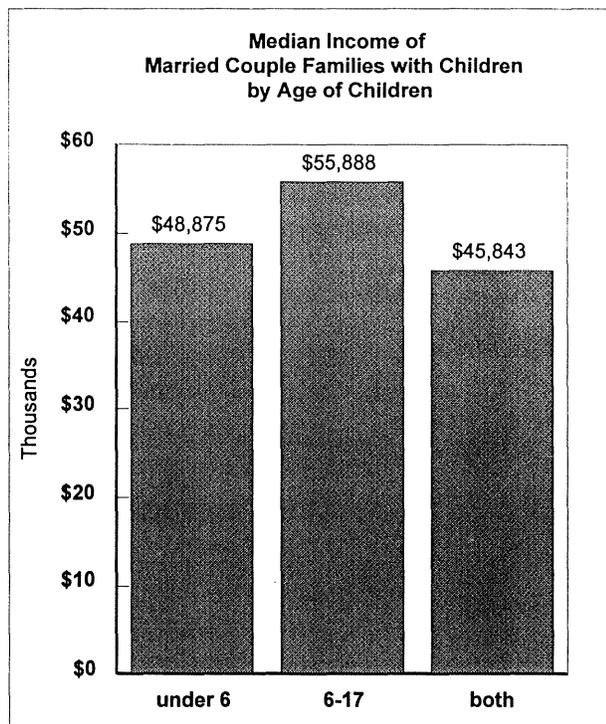
Thirty-eight percent of married couple families with children have only one child. These families have an annual median income of \$53,944. Sixty-two percent of married couple families with children have two or more children, and the median annual income of these families is \$50,752.

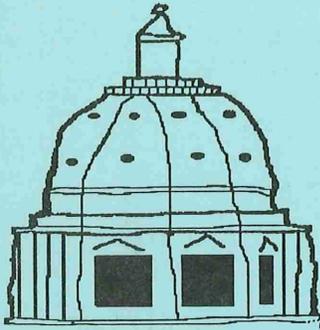
Married Couple Families with Children: Median Income by Age of Children

Married couple families who have one or more children age(s) 6-17 have median incomes \$10,000 higher than families who have children both under age 6 and between 6 and 17, (\$55,888 compared to \$45,843).

The median income of married couple families with children in which both the wife and the husband work is \$57,637.

Two earner married couple households have higher median incomes than the average for all married couple households. When both spouses work, the median income of families with children under 6 is \$54,977. The median income of two earner families with children between 6 and 17 is \$60,596, and the median income of such families with children under six and between 6 and 17 is \$52,323.





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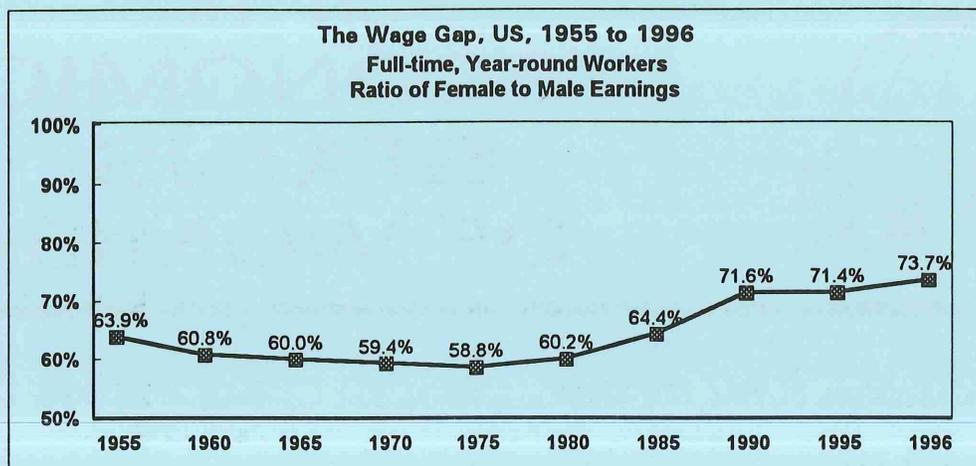
This issue studies the wage gap between male and female workers. The wage gap - which represents the ratio of female to male earnings - is calculated using average annual earnings, rather than weekly or hourly earnings. Annual earnings are a better measure of changes over time because they are less affected by fluctuations in earnings of temporary, part-year, or over-time workers.

Information in this issue is based on the U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, P60-197, *Money and Income in the United States: 1996*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

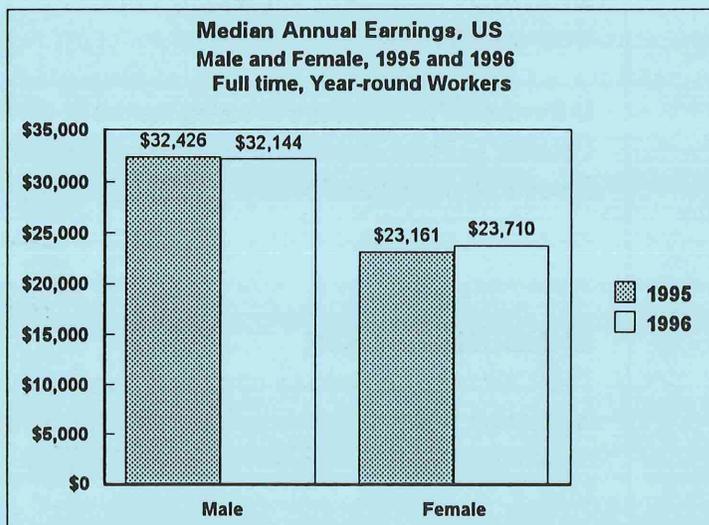
The Commission plans to compile a summary of session legislation which will be available as a special issue of our newsletter. This "Legislative Update" will be coming to you in May.

THE WAGE GAP



The chart above shows the wage gap in five year increments from 1955 to 1995 and includes information on 1996. In 1996, the ratio of female to male earnings was at an historic high of 73.7 percent. As is demonstrated by the chart below, this noteworthy change is due more to a *decrease* in the median earnings of males than to an *increase* in female earnings.

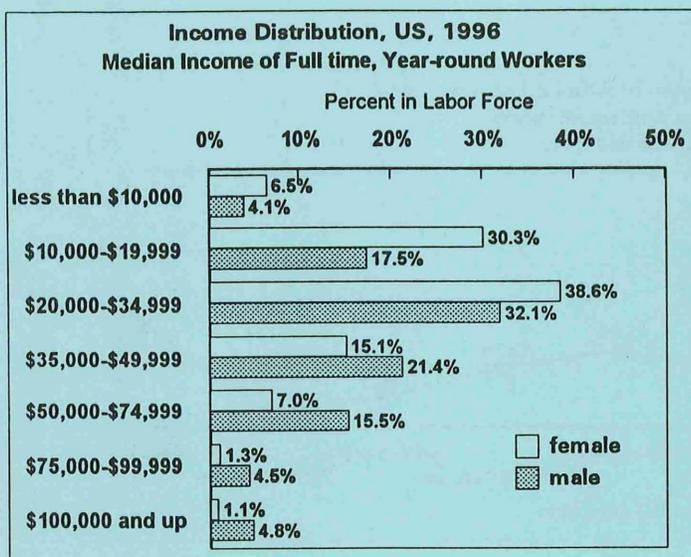
MEDIAN ANNUAL EARNINGS



The median annual earnings of female full-time, year-round workers increased 2.4 percent from 1995 to 1996 (from \$23,161 to \$23,710). In contrast, the median earnings for full-time, year-round male workers fell from \$32,426 to \$32,144, a decrease of 0.9 percent, (1995 figures are adjusted for inflation).

The median income of male full-time, year-round workers has been declining since 1993. From 1993 to 1996 men's earnings have declined by 2.6 percent.

INCOME DISTRIBUTION



Three quarters (75.4 percent) of females who work full-time, year-round earn less than \$35,000 annually. Almost half (46.2 percent) of males who work full-time, year-round earn \$35,000 or more annually.

One quarter (24.8 percent) of men, but less than 10 percent (9.4 percent) of women, earn annual incomes of \$50,000 or more.

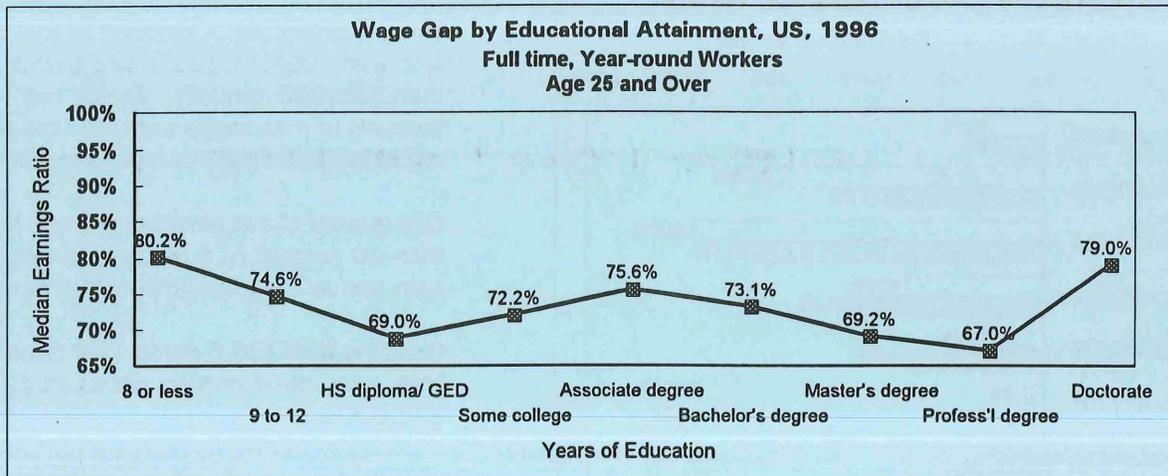
Over one third (36.8 percent) of female full time, year-round workers earn less than \$20,000 annually.

EARNINGS BY OCCUPATIONAL CATEGORY

Occupational Category	Annual Earnings: Male	Annual Earnings: Female	Women's earnings as % of men's	% of occupation that is female	% of female labor force in this occupation
Executive, administrative, managerial	\$46,654	\$31,208	66.9%	45%	17.8%
Professional specialty	\$50,012	\$34,537	69.1%	54%	17.1%
Technical/support	\$36,775	\$27,239	74.1%	54%	4.3%
Sales	\$35,104	\$21,350	60.8%	53%	10.9%
Administrative support	\$30,381	\$21,758	71.6%	78%	25.9%
Production, craft and repair	\$30,421	\$21,165	69.6%	9%	2.3%
Machine operators & inspectors	\$22,096	\$13,243	59.9%	40%	5.9%
Transportation/material moving	\$23,692	\$12,740	53.8%	10%	<1%
Handlers, helpers, laborers	\$20,793	\$16,856	81.1%	19%	1.2%
Service workers	\$21,028	\$14,976	71.2%	60%	13.0%
Farming, forestry, fishing	\$18,127	\$17,251	95.2%	18%	<1%

The table above shows the difference in earnings and the corresponding wage gap for various occupations. The most equitable female to male earnings are found in the farming, forestry and fishing industries, though these industries continue to be dominated by male employees. The occupation with the widest gap in earnings is transportation and material moving (53.8 percent) followed closely by machine operators and inspectors (59.9 percent). Sales, executive/ managerial, professional specialty and production also have a wide disparity between female and male workers with women earning less than seventy cents for every dollar earned by men.

WAGE GAP BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

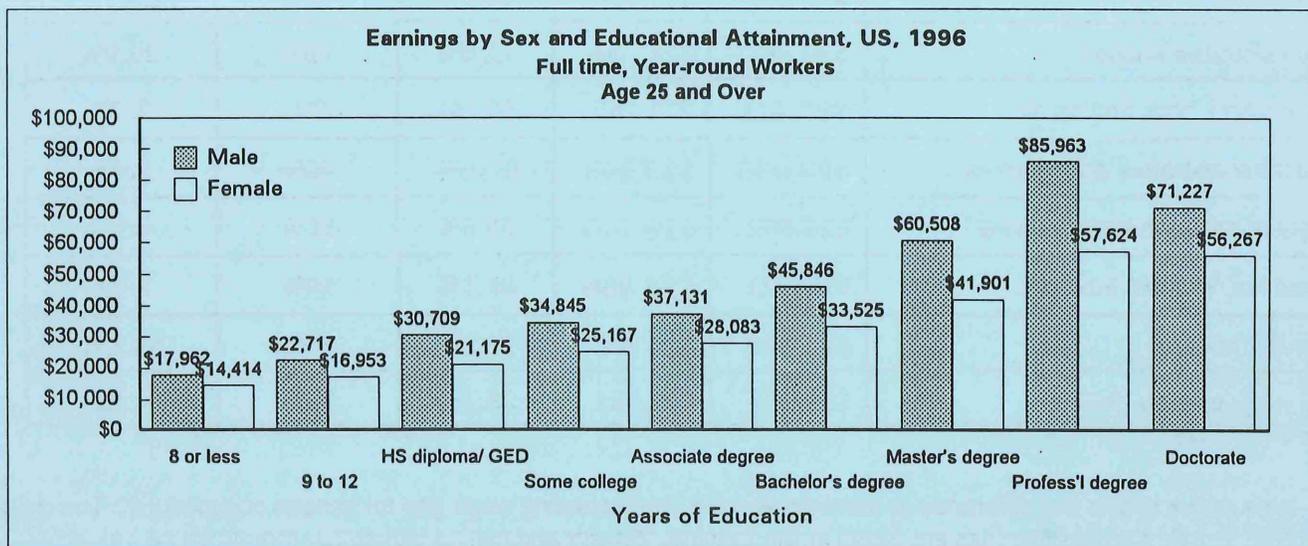


The charts above and below demonstrate the difference in earning power of men and women who have similar educational backgrounds. Interestingly, it is at the lowest and highest ranges of educational attainment that the earnings of males and females are the most equal.

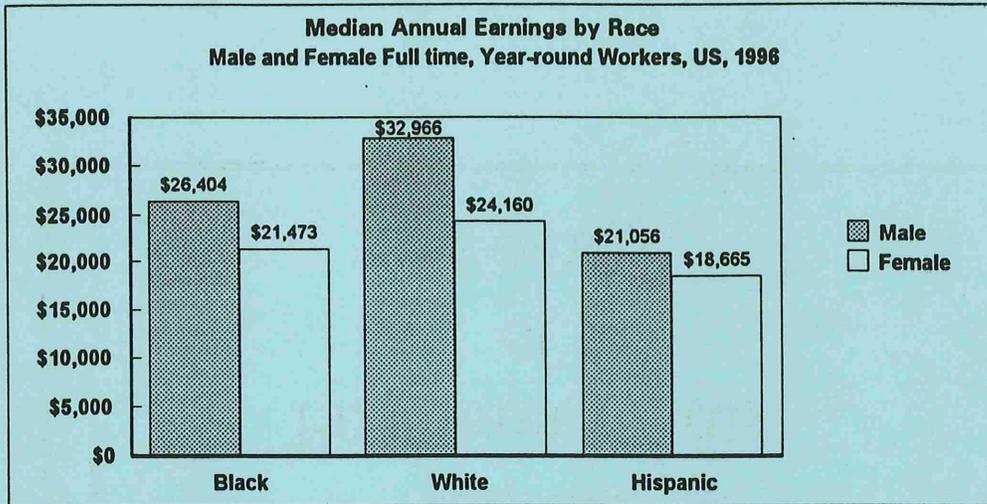
The median annual earnings of males who work full-time, year-round and who have eight years or less of formal schooling is \$17,962. Females at the same educational level earn \$14,414 annually. These figures represent the smallest difference in wages with women earning 80.2 percent of the wages earned by men. At the other end of the educational spectrum, women with their doctorate collect 79.0 percent of the annual earnings of men (\$56,267 and \$71,227, respectively).

The gap is the largest between women and men who hold a professional degree, with women earning only 67.0 percent of the median annual earnings of men. It is also at this level of education that both men and women have the highest earnings, with men averaging \$85,963 and women averaging \$57,624.

EARNINGS BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT



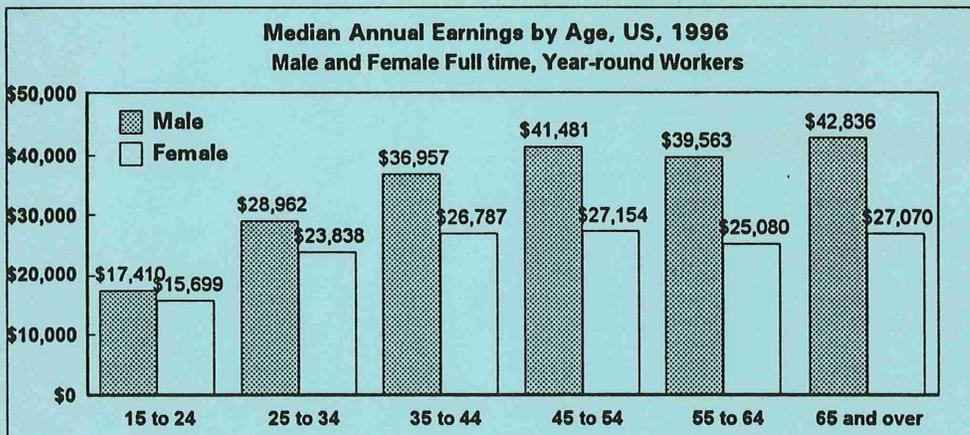
EARNINGS BY RACE



The earnings of females of Hispanic origin most closely approximate that of their male counterparts. Whereas White women who work full-time, year-round earn 73.3 percent of the wages earned by White men, the wage gap ratio for Hispanic women (compared to Hispanic men) is 88.6 percent. Black women who are full-time earners receive 81.3 percent of the median earnings of Black men.

Although the median income for White women is higher than that of both Black and Hispanic women, the lower earnings of Black and Hispanic males (compared to White males) results in a higher ratio of earnings for Black and Hispanic females.

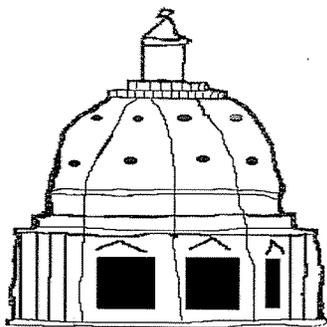
EARNINGS BY AGE



The gap in wages is the lowest at the youngest age level and steadily increases with age.

The ratio of earnings by age group is:

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Earnings Ratio</u>
15 to 24	86.7%
25 to 34	82.2%
35 to 44	72.5%
45 to 54	65.5%
55 to 64	63.4%
65 and over	63.2%



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IN THIS ISSUE

Legislative Update: A summary of legislation passed during the 1998 session. The table of contents provides a list of legislation by subject matter. The last page of the newsletter (page 13) provides a list of legislation by title and bill number.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Commission is currently planning its Summer/Fall hearing schedule. If you are interested in having a hearing in your area, or if there is a particular issue which you believe should be addressed, please do not hesitate to contact us with your ideas.

Updated versions of our informational brochures are now available! We have also produced a poster which provides information on family leave. Please call, write or e-mail the Commission with requests for copies. If you have already contacted us about a specific publication there is no need to make another request.

Our website is under active construction.

Currently available via the web is basic information about the Commission and the "Guide to Child Support and Spousal Maintenance Cost of Living Adjustments." We plan to continue adding information, including data and electronic versions of our brochures, throughout the summer months. We invite you to visit us at:

<http://www.commissions.leg.state.mn.us/commis/abtlcesw.htm>

Table of Contents
Legislation by Subject Matter

Economic Self-Sufficiency.....page 4

Health and Human Services.....page 5

Family Law.....page 6

Children.....page 7

Violence/Crime.....page 9

Education.....page 10

Procurement Reform.....page 10

Capital Bonding.....page 11

Miscellaneous.....page 11

Vetoed Legislation.....page 12

Legislation by Bill Title & Number.....page 13

Welfare Reform

Discontinuing Cash Payments

Allows an MFIP-S recipient to discontinue cash payments and continue to receive medical and child care assistance.

Orientation Requirements

Requires the job counselor to give an overview of employment and training services which

- (a) stresses the need for immediate employment;
- (b) outlines job search resources available;
- (c) outlines education or training opportunities available;
- (d) describes the range of work activities allowable to meet the individual needs of participants;
- (e) explains the requirements to comply with an employment plan, and
- (f) explains the consequences for failure to comply. This overview must be presented during the first meeting.

Secondary Assessments

Requires the job counselor to inform participants that they may request a secondary assessment after they have been working six months, averaging more than 20 hours per week. This assessment must provide information about part-time education and training options, and available child care and transportation resources.

Work Requirements

Allows an MFIP-S participant who is meeting the minimum work requirements to meet any additional work participation requirements through training or education.

Housing Subsidies

Extends the date for counting \$100 of the housing subsidy for MFIP-S participants living in subsidized housing to July 1, 1999.

Housing/ Economic Development

Displaced Homemakers

\$200,000 for displaced homemakers programs for grants to operate a community work empowerment support group demonstration project.

Job Training Partnership

Sets aside \$100,000 of the appropriation to the Job Training Partnership Act to provide employment and training to eligible Hmong and Laotian Women.

Low-Income Housing

\$3,300,000 for the affordable rental investment fund for housing for low-income families and individuals.

Lead Abatement

\$100,000 appropriated for lead clean up and lead hazard reduction services in geographic areas where residents have a high risk of elevated blood levels.

Transitional Housing

\$300,000 appropriated for transitional housing programs. These programs provide independent living opportunities for homeless persons or families. Residents pay 25 percent of their income as rent and stays are limited to two years.

Other

Family Asset Accounts

Establishes the Minnesota Family Assets for Independence pilot project. This program assists families who are trying to save money to pay for:

- 1) the purchase, construction or reconstruction of a home;
- 2) small business capitalization expenses, or
- 3) post-secondary education expenses.

Participants must be at or below 200 percent of the poverty level and must contribute on a regular basis to a savings account established for one of the above-listed purposes. The deposited funds are matched by private and/or public monies when they are withdrawn for a permissible use.

Health and Human Services

Crisis Nursery Programs

\$200,000 for technical assistance grants of up to \$20,000 each to develop a crisis nursery program in non-metropolitan counties that do not have an existing program.

Cancer Screening

- \$1,250,000 for breast and cervical cancer screening and diagnostic services for women.
- \$855,000 to support local boards of health in providing outreach and coordination and \$400,000 for technical assistance consultation and outreach.

Cooperation in Establishing Paternity and Medical Support

Requires parents or children enrolled in MinnesotaCare to cooperate in establishing paternity and in obtaining medical care support and payments for the child and any other person for whom the person can legally assign rights.

Office of Health Care Consumer Assistance, Advocacy and Information

Establishes an office of health care consumer assistance, advocacy and information in the health department. Requires the director of the office to appoint at least nine consumer advocates.

The office will:

- assist patients and enrollees in health care plans in understanding and asserting their contractual and legal rights and may provide advocacy for enrollees in administrative or other dispute resolution processes;
- assist enrollees in obtaining health care referrals;
- assist enrollees in accessing services of government agencies, boards and other state consumer assistance programs, ombudsman or advocacy services,
- refer patients and enrollees to agencies and boards for investigation of health care complaints and for enforcement action;
- educate and train enrollees about their health care plan;
- assist enrollees in receiving resolution of complaints;
- monitor health care complaints; and
- recommend ways health plan companies can identify and remove barriers which delay or impede efforts to resolve consumer complaints.

Nursing Homes

Authorizes a 3 percent cost-of-living adjustment in wages for workers in nursing homes and facilities that serve people with disabilities.

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

Appropriates \$5,000,000 for fetal alcohol syndrome and fetal alcohol effect (FAS/FAE) initiatives.

To the Commissioner of Health:

- \$200,000 to study the extent of fetal alcohol syndrome in the state;
- \$800,000 for public awareness campaign;
- \$400,000 to develop a statewide network of regional FAS diagnostic clinics;
- \$150,000 for professional training about FAS;
- \$350,000 for a coordinating board;
- \$850,000 for a community grant program

To the Commissioner of Human Services:

\$800,000 to expand maternal and child health social service programs. Of this amount:

- \$184,000 to eliminate the asset standards for medical assistance eligibility for pregnant women;
- \$400,000 for intervention and advocacy;
- \$850,000 to expand treatment services and halfway houses for pregnant women and women with children who abuse alcohol during pregnancy.

To the Commissioner of Children, Families and Learning:

\$200,000 for school-based pilot programs to identify and implement educational strategies for individuals with FAS/FAE.

Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare for Pregnant Women

Determines eligibility for medical assistance for pregnant women without regard to asset standards beginning September 30, 1998. Pregnant women enrolled in MinnesotaCare when they become pregnant are eligible for services provided under medical assistance retroactive to the date the pregnancy is medically diagnosed.

Nursing Mothers

Requires employers to provide reasonable unpaid break time each day to an employee who needs to express breast milk. The break time is to run concurrently with other break time already provided, if possible, but the employer is not required to provide break time if it would unduly disrupt the workplace operations. The employer must also make reasonable efforts to provide a location, near to the work area, other than a toilet stall, where the employee can express the milk in privacy.

Employer means any employer of one or more employees and includes the state and its political subdivisions. Also amends the indecent exposure law to make it clear that breast feeding is not indecent exposure.

Child Support

Subsequent Children

Clarifies the treatment of subsequent children in modifying child support. Makes clear that the needs of subsequent children (of the obligor) are not to be factored into a support guideline calculation nor can the fact that there are additional children be grounds to decrease child support. Allows the court to consider subsequent children when responding to a request to increase child support. Sets out factors the court must consider in order to deviate from the guidelines.

Report

Requires the Department of Human Services to evaluate child support programs and enforcement mechanisms to:

- determine Minnesota's performance relative to federal standards, compared to other states' and individual county's performance;
- determine federal, state and local government costs, as well as a sample of private business costs, and
- recommend improvements.

Requires a report on child support arrearages which categorizes arrearages of 90 days, six months, one year and two or more years, and establishes a process for determining when an arrearage is not collectable based on the age of the arrearage and the likelihood of collection.

Other

Spousal Credit History

Requires creditors to designate new credit accounts to reflect the participation of both spouses, and, if one of the spouses makes a request in writing, to reflect that participation on existing credit accounts and furnish information accordingly. Requires a creditor to consider the credit history of an account which both spouses are permitted to use when determining credit worthiness.

Follows current requirements of the Fair Credit Reporting Act and becomes effective January 1, 1999.

Spousal Maintenance

Amends the garnishment statute to include maintenance in the definition of "earnings" thereby limiting the amount of maintenance which can be garnished.

Parental Cooperation Task Force

\$75,000 to the Supreme Court for a parental cooperation task force to evaluate ways to reduce conflict between parents in marriage dissolution proceedings.

The task force will research ways to reduce conflict, including the use of parenting plans that would govern parental obligations, decision making authority and schedules; study programs and experiences in other states using parenting plans; and evaluate fiscal implications of parenting plans.

Child Welfare

In 1996 and 1997, respectively, Congress amended the *Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act* and passed the *Adoption and Safe Families Act*. The omnibus child welfare and health and human services bills contain a number of provisions which bring Minnesota in line with current federal law, as established by these acts, in the areas of adoption and child protection. The bills also contain numerous other provisions providing for the expedited placement of foster children in permanent homes and the safety of children in general.

Child Abuse/Child Protection

The new law:

- 1) requires public disclosure of child protection findings and information in fatality or near-fatality cases;
- 2) requires the removal of unsubstantiated or false child protection reports from public availability;
- 3) establishes volunteer citizen review panels to examine child protection policies and procedures; and,
- 4) expands the definition of serious maltreatment.

Coordination of Child Welfare and Domestic Abuse Services

Allows for the "presence of domestic abuse" to be a factor in risk assessments of children for whom a maltreatment investigation has been ordered. It also directs the commissioner of human services to explore ways in which child welfare and domestic abuse services can be coordinated.

Adoption/Concurrent Permanency Plans

These provisions incorporate changes mandated by federal law and other child protection initiatives. Specifically, the legislation:

- 1) expands the list of crimes that disqualify applicants from a human services license to include felony domestic assault, felony spousal abuse, felony child abuse or neglect, and a felony offense of a crime against children;
- 2) reduces the time period during which an adoption petition must be filed when a child has been placed in a prospective adoptive home from 24 to 12 months;
- 3) amends the policy statement in the juvenile code involving children in need of protection or services to refer to the health and safety, as well as the best interests of the child;
- 4) amends the laws dealing with reasonable efforts (at reunification) to provide that the child's health and safety be of paramount concern and also includes reference to the circumstances under which reasonable efforts are not required;

- 5) amends the definition of "child in need of protective services" to include a child who has engaged in prostitution;
- 6) requires that a permanency hearing must be held within six months of an out-of-home placement for children under the age of eight;
- 7) requires the commissioner of human services to establish concurrent permanency planning programs by which reasonable efforts are made at reunification with the parents (if required) while at the same time an alternative permanency plan is pursued;
- 8) expands the time period for which an emergency foster care license is effective from 90 to 120 days;
- 9) clarifies language regarding relative identification and notification of a child in need of placement;
- 10) requires that a pre-adoptive custody order include arrangements for the health care of the child;
- 11) allows ANY birth relative with whom the child resided to enter into a contact agreement with the adoptive parents;
- 12) defines conditions under which reasonable efforts at reunification do NOT have to be made;
- 13) expands the definition of abandonment to include cases where a child is under two years of age and has been deserted by the parent under circumstances which indicate an intent not to return;
- 14) requires that a county file a termination of parental rights petition if the child has been subject to egregious harm unless such filing would NOT be in the best interest of the child;
- 15) delineates a list of records which must be open to public inspection unless the court determines that access should be limited based on the personal nature of the information.

\$10 million appropriated to fund these provisions.

Continued on next page

Child Care

Basic Sliding Fee

Appropriates \$3.25 million for the Basic Sliding Fee (BSF) child care assistance program. BSF is a program to help lower-income families pay for child care. The \$3.25 million appropriated this year is earmarked for families who are moving off of transition year child care assistance. Transition year child care assistance is available for one year to families moving from welfare to work.

Child Care Funds

Requires that child care funds appropriated but not expended are deposited into the child care reserve account.

TANF Funds Transfer

Transfers \$791,000 from federal TANF block grant funds to the commissioner of children, families and learning for the state child care development fund for MFIP-S child care.

Head Start

\$250,000 appropriated to allow Head Start and Early Childhood and Family Education programs to expand collaborative programming. The money will be awarded based on a competitive grant process.

Child Care Licensure

1. Makes it clear that a child care program that is not required to be licensed because of exceptions in the law is not prohibited from applying for a license.
2. Makes it clear that the interim expanded unlicensed child care program does not apply to a child care provider who was denied a license, who has been disqualified, or who has a household member who has been disqualified.
3. Allows nonresidential child care programs provided by employers for 14 or fewer children of their own employees to be licensed under the rules governing residential child care programs, as long as the child care program is in a dwelling on a residential lot.

Family Day Care Age Groupings

Expands the sunset date to June 30, 1999 for definitions of "toddler," "preschooler" and "school-age" as they apply to family day care licensure.

Other

Children's Trust Fund Of the dollars allocated in 1997, up to \$22,000 (FY98 and FY99) may be used to administer the Children's Trust Fund.

Abused Children Programs Of the dollars allocated in 1997, up to \$134,000 (FY98 and FY99) may be used for costs to administer abused children programs.

Domestic Violence

Data Privacy

Amends the Data Practices Act to require that written police reports of domestic abuse incidents or violations of orders for protection must be released upon request at no cost to organizations which have been designated by the Minnesota center for crime victims services as providing services to victims of domestic abuse.

Requires police reports after an investigation of allegations of domestic abuse to contain information about the victim, if the victim provides the information; the name of the arrested person, if an arrest occurs; and a summary of the incident. If the victim has asked not to be identified publicly and the information is private data, then it will be private data in the report. The report must be provided upon request, at no cost, to organizations that provide services to victims of domestic abuse and are so designated by the Minnesota center for crime victims services.

Orders for Protection

Allows peace officers, probation officers, court services officers, parole officers and jail employees to serve orders for protection. Requires a pre-sentence investigation when a defendant is convicted of a violation of an order for protection.

Makes clear that orders for protection issued in other states, the District of Columbia, tribal lands or U.S. territories are recognized. Expands the kind of evidence of prior conduct that is admissible in an action for violation of an order for protection.

Other

Victims Services

\$229,000 for consolidation of crime victim services which were merged under a Governor's reorganization order in December. Requires the executive director of the center for victim services to maintain the duties, responsibilities and diversity of the battered women's advisory council, and other advisory councils formerly in the department of corrections; retain crime-specific funding initiatives and conduct focus groups to ascertain victim and provider priorities.

Requires the center to develop a process for determining priorities for future funding requests.

Allocates \$75,000 for grants to organizations providing intensive case management to prostituted individuals.

Requires an investigation and a report to the legislature by the Hennepin and Ramsey county attorneys on the investigation and prosecution of prostitution crimes in their jurisdictions during 1997.

Breaking the Cycle of Violence Pilot Project

\$222,000 to Ramsey County for a breaking the cycle of violence pilot project. The project includes up to 90 days of intensive residential services as an alternative to incarceration of adult women and out-of-home placement of their children.

Violence Prevention

Of the Early Childhood and Family Education dollars allocated in 1997, up to \$305,000 (FY98 and FY99) may be used to administer drug policy and violence prevention programs.

Education

Higher Education

Work Study

Appropriates an additional \$1.5 million for work study.

Business-Industry Partnerships

Appropriates \$10 million for business and industry partnerships. Includes a requirement that campuses increase the number of students enrolled in internships including the provision of incentives for businesses to train, place and retain hard-to-place individuals.

Half-Time Students

Reduces the definition of half-time student status to six (currently eight) credits per quarter or semester.

Tuition

Reduces the student responsibility to 47percent (currently 50 percent) for the cost of attendance.

K-12 Education

First Grade Preparedness

Allocates an additional \$1.5 million for first grade preparedness (full day kindergarten) for FY99.

Homeless Children

Allocates an additional \$700,000 for matching grants for education programs for homeless children for FY 98.

Procurement Reform

Small Business Procurement

Makes changes in the state procurement process including programs for small and targeted businesses. Requires the commissioner to insure that small businesses receive at least 25 percent of the value of anticipated total state procurement of goods and services, including printing and construction.

Requires the commissioner to facilitate bids from small businesses and to encourage geographical distribution around the state. Requires the commissioner to adopt rules to define small business and to include only businesses with their principal place of business in Minnesota, to establish different size standards for various types of businesses, and to consider the differences among industries caused by the size of the market for goods or services.

Targeted Group Purchasing

Requires the commissioner to designate businesses that are majority owned and operated by women, persons with disabilities or specific minorities as targeted group businesses within purchasing categories. A group may be targeted if the commissioner determines that there is a statistical disparity between the percentage of purchasing from businesses owned by group members and their representation among all businesses in the state in the purchasing category. The purpose is to remedy the effects of past

discrimination against the targeted groups.

Reports

Requires the commissioner of administration to report annually to the governor and the legislature with a copy to the commissioner of trade and economic development on the progress being made toward the goals in the small business and targeted group purchasing.

Requires the commissioner of trade and economic development to report annually to the governor and the legislature with a copy to the commissioner of administration on:

- 1) efforts undertaken to publicize the provisions of the small business and small targeted group business procurement program;
- 2) efforts undertaken to identify small businesses and small targeted group businesses, and
- 3) efforts undertaken to encourage participation in the targeted group purchasing, and
- 4) recommendations for strengthening the small business and small targeted group business procurement program and delivery of services to small businesses.

Requires the MNSCU system to include provisions for procurement, including construction, from small targeted group businesses in their policies and procedures.

Capital Bonding*

*Where amounts are not noted the project is part of a larger funding package.

University of Minnesota

Design and construct women's athletic office space.

Minnesota State Colleges and University System

Ridgewater Community and Technical College child care center.

Department of Children, Families and Learning

\$5,000,000 to design, furnish, equip, renovate, replace or construct parks and recreation facilities and school facilities for youth enrichment grants for non-school-hour activities.

\$5,000,000 to construct or rehabilitate facilities for early childhood learning facilities.

Capitol Area Architecture and Planning Board

\$150,000 to complete the Women's Suffrage Garden.

Housing Finance Agency

\$4,000,000 for loans or grants for temporary or transitional housing including loans or grants for housing homeless youth, homeless families, battered women and individuals leaving prostitution.

Early Childhood Learning and Child Protection Facilities

Changes priorities for grants to construct or rehabilitate facilities for Head Start, early childhood and family education grants and other early childhood intervention programs or demonstration family service centers to emphasize projects that collaborate with child care providers, including all day and school age child care programs, special needs care, sick child care and nontraditional hour care. Priority to grants for programs that increase child care workers' wages as a result of the grant.

Miscellaneous Legislation

Disaster Relief

\$250,000 to the commissioner of Children, Families and Learning for grants to counties for after-school and expanded day care services.

Taxes

Requires the Metropolitan Council to consider incorporating a child care facility in its new transfer garage to assist in the recruitment and retention of metropolitan transit drivers.

Increases the Earned Income Tax Credit for low-income working families.

Advance Health Care Directives

Combines the provisions of the living will and durable power of attorney for health care laws. Defines health care directive as a written instrument that includes either health care instructions, a health care power of attorney, both, or a durable power of attorney for health care and complies with the provisions defining what makes it legally sufficient.

Corrections

\$4,645,000 for a 62-bed living unit at Shakopee.

Vetoed Legislation

U of M Law Clinics

Appropriated \$250,000 for the law school to provide legal services to more citizens with limited incomes.

At Home Infant Care Program

Technical language which clarified that the program does not create an employer-employee relationship between the state and the program participants.

Minimum Wage Waiver

Allowed self-employed individuals with an approved business plan to qualify for child care assistance without meeting the minimum wage requirement (for up to six months).

Provider Payments

Directed counties to pay child care providers directly unless parent payment is accompanied by documentation that the money is being used for approved child care expenses.

School-Age Care

Added "school age care" to statutes regarding community collaboration around child care, basic program services and assessment of needs; encourages local school districts to be involved with the coordination of school-age care programs.

Special Needs

Added the identification of programs for children with disabilities and the coordination of these programs with child care services to the duties of the Interagency early intervention committees.

Energy Assistance

Established a cash flow account for the purposes of buying fuel through a pre-season purchase program. This fuel is then available to households that qualify for the federal energy assistance program.

Funding

Community Information and Referral Program	\$100,000
Gang Prevention Grants	\$200,000
Minnesota Family Assets for Independence	\$775,000
Dependent Care Tax Credits	\$4.9 million
Child Care Development Initiatives	\$5 million (TANF dollars)
Basic Sliding Fee	\$5 million*

*The governor signed a bill allocating \$3.25 million to this program

Telephone Assistance Plan

Provided a subsidy for basic phone service for low-income families and individuals and brought Minnesota into compliance with federal law.

Legislation by Bill Title & Number

Health and Human Services

SF 3346 (Chapter 407)

Welfare Reform/MFIP-S

- Discontinuing Cash Payments
- Orientation Requirements
- Secondary Assessments
- Work Requirements
- Housing Subsidies

Other Health and Human Services

- Crisis Nurseries
- TANF Transfer
- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
- Cancer Screening
- Health Care Consumer Assistance
- Nursing Homes
- Pregnancy Medical Care
- Paternity/Medical Support
- Child Care Licensure
- Child Welfare Funding

Housing/Economic Development

SS2 (SS Chapter 1)

- Displaced Homemakers
- Job Training
- Low-Income Housing
- Lead Abatement
- Transitional Housing

Early Childhood and Family Ed.

SS2 (SS Chapter 1)

- Basic Sliding Fee
- Head Start
- Child Care Funds
- Age Groupings
- Family Asset Accounts
- Emergency Services Grants

Child Welfare

HF 2985 (Chapter 406)

Some provisions in SF 3346 (Chapter 407)

- Child Abuse/Child Protection
- Coordination of Services
- Adoption/Concurrency Plans

K - 12 Education

HF 2874 (Chapter 398)

- First Grade Preparedness
- Homeless Children

Higher Education

SF 3297 (Chapter 384)

- Work Study
- Business/Industry Partnerships
- Half-time student
- Tuition

Criminal Justice, Corrections, Judiciary

SF 3345 (Chapter 367)

- Parental Cooperation Task Force
- Breaking the Cycle of Violence
- Victims Services
- Orders for Protection

Procurement Reform

SF 726 (Chapter 386)

- Small Business Procurement
- Targeted Group Purchasing
- Report

Capital Bonding

HF 3843 (Chapter 404)

- University of Minnesota
- MN State Colleges & Universities
- Children, Families & Learning
- Capitol Area Architecture
- Housing Finance Agency
- Childhood Learning Facilities
- Corrections

Other Legislation

Data Privacy (SF 1378/Chapter 371)

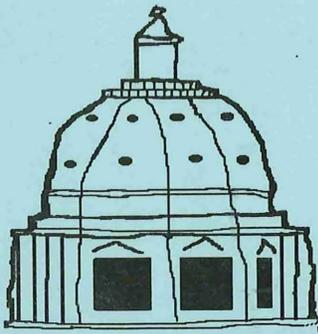
Taxes (HF 3840/Chapter 389)

Spousal Credit History (HF2309/Chapter 327)

Advance Health Care Directives (SF 2050/Ch. 399)

Nursing Mothers (SF 275/Chapter 369)

Disaster Relief (HF 3862/Chapter 383)



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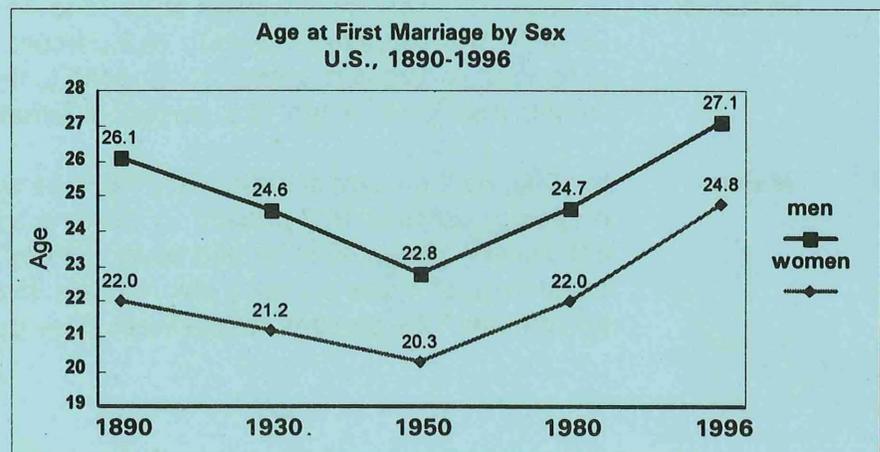
IN THIS ISSUE:

Marital status and living arrangements, with information compiled from U.S. Census data. Topics covered include age at first marriage, marital status and living arrangements of adults, and living arrangements and poverty status of children.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

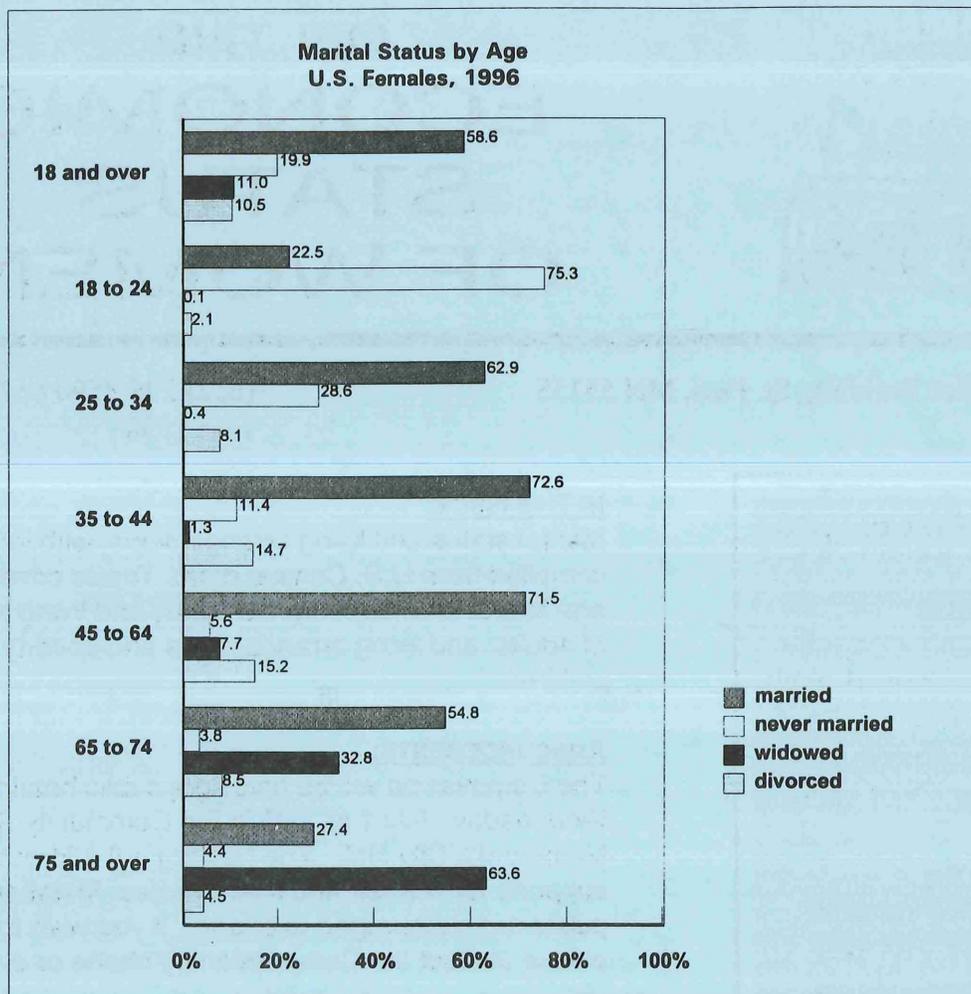
The Commission will be holding a public hearing on Wednesday, July 1 at 1:30 in the Community Room at Minnetonka City Hall. The hearing will address community supports for women and their families. Members of the public are encouraged to attend. If you wish to testify, please contact the Commission by phone or e-mail.

Median Age at First Marriage



The median age of first marriage for both men and women has been increasing steadily since 1950. The 1996 level represents the highest age recorded by the Census Bureau.

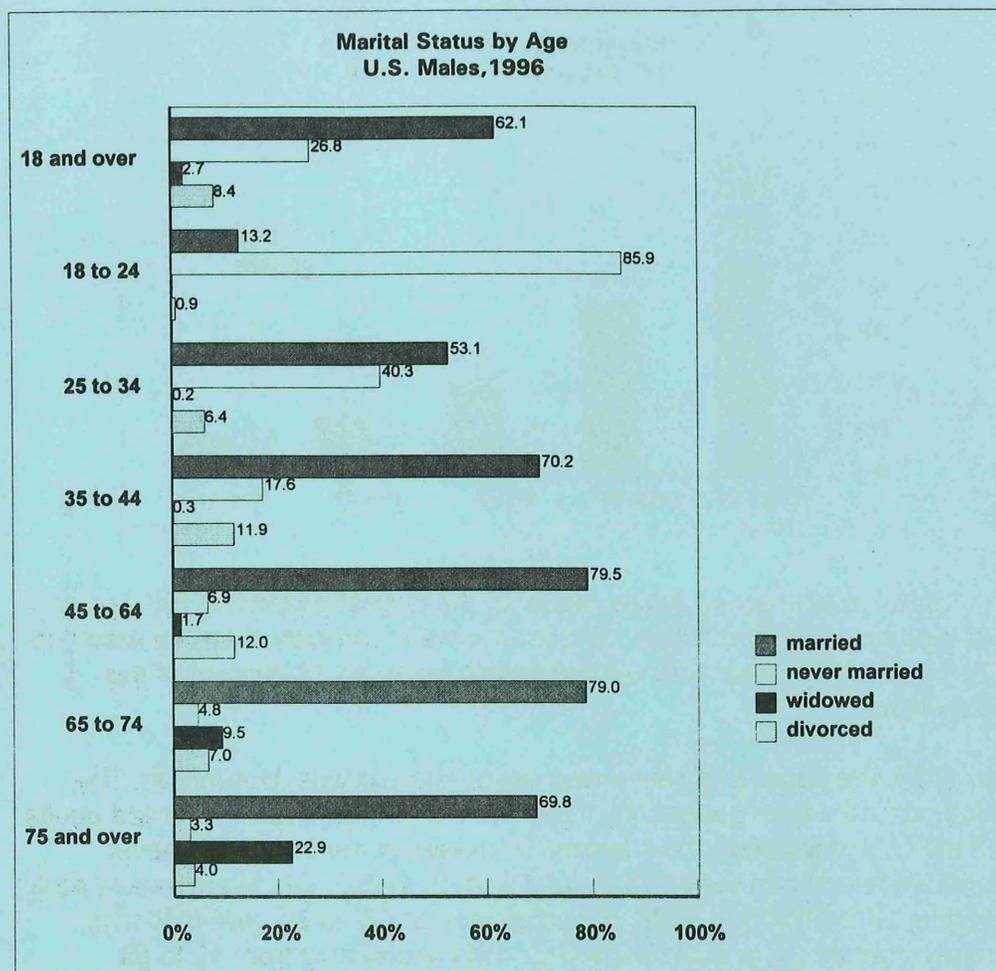
Marital Status of Adults



Females: In 1996, 75.3 percent of women ages 18 to 24 were never married. For women 25 to 34, this figure decreases to 28.6 percent. The age groups with the highest proportion of divorced women correspond to those of men. 14.7 percent of women age 35 to 44 and 15.2 percent of females age 45 to 64 were divorced.

Males: In 1996, 85.9 percent of males from 18 to 24 were never married. This proportion drops to 40.3 percent for the next age category (25 to 34), and only 6.9 percent of men 45 to 64 had never married. The age groups with the highest percentage of males currently divorced are 35 to 44 and 45 to 64 with 11.9 percent and 12.0 percent, respectively. (See graph next page).

Marital Status of Adults, continued



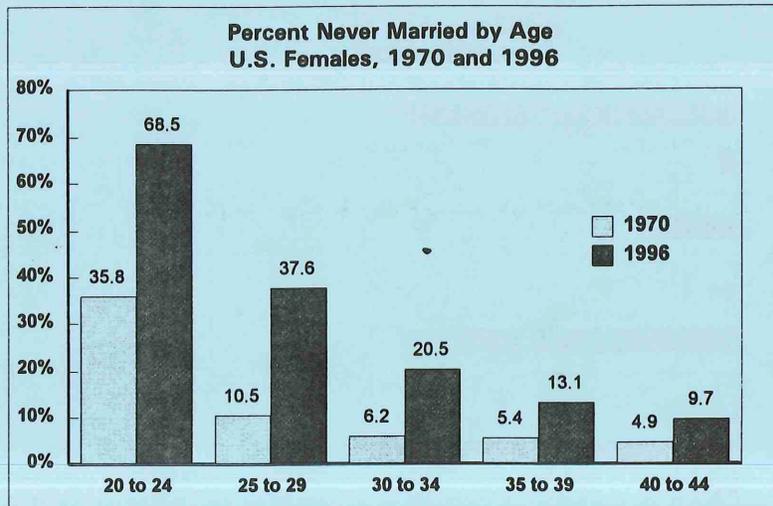
Changes in Marital Status:

The fastest growing marital status category is the "currently divorced" population. In 1970, divorced adults comprised three percent of the adult population, by 1996 this figure grew to 10 percent. These percentages represent a quadrupling in the number of currently divorced adults (from 4.3 million in 1970 to 18.3 million in 1996).

Between 1970 and 1996, the number of currently married people increased by 23 percent. The number of unmarried people increased by over 100 percent during that same time period. As a result of these increases, there has been a decline in the proportion of adults who are married from 72 percent in 1970 to 60 percent in 1996.

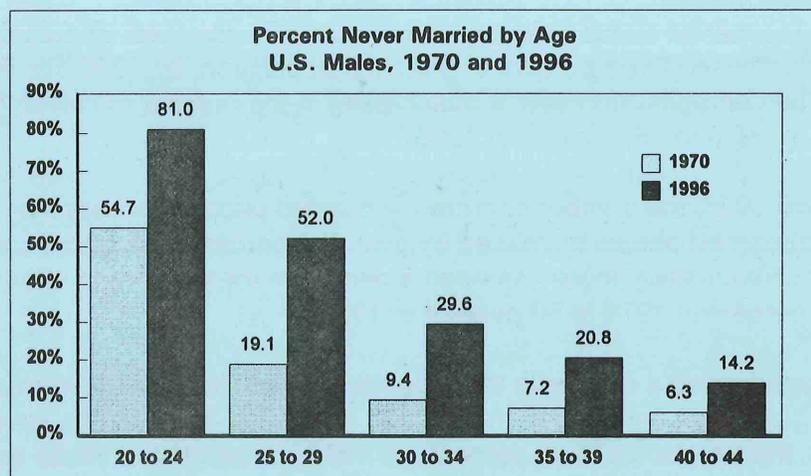
All races have experienced a decline in the proportion of adults currently married. The changes have been most significant for Blacks. In 1970, 64 percent of Black adults were currently married; in 1996, this was down to 42 percent. In 1970, 73 percent of White adults and 72 percent of Hispanic adults were currently married. By 1996, the proportions decreased to 63 percent and 58 percent, respectively.

Percentage of Adults Never Married

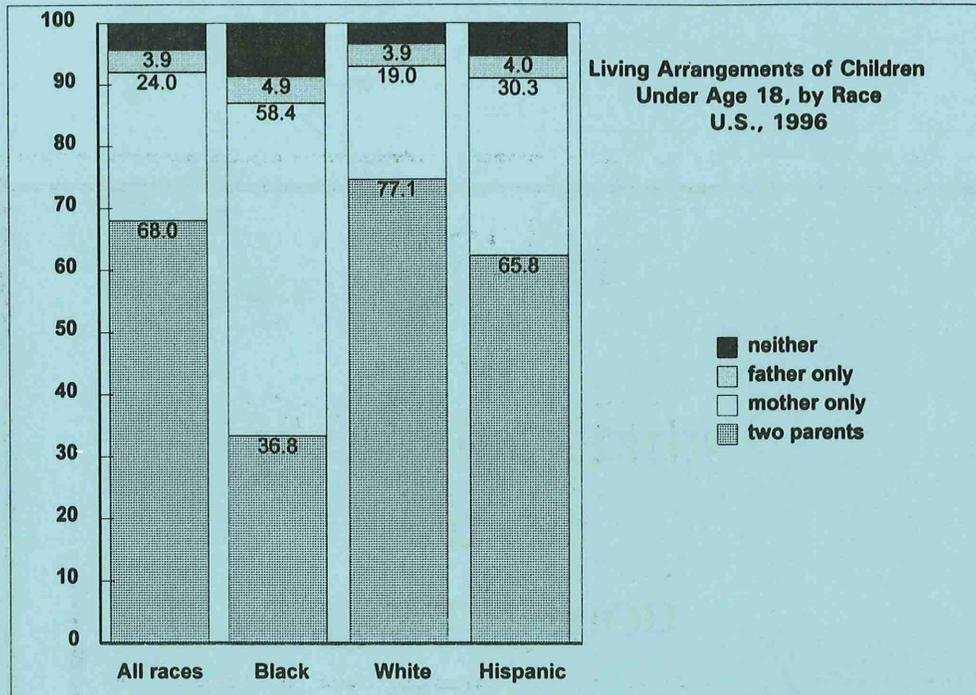


In 1996, never-married adults made up the largest proportion (59 percent) of the unmarried population. Those who were currently divorced made up 24 percent and those who were widowed made up 18 percent of this population.

In 1970, the number of adults who never married was 21.4 million. This number more than doubled by 1996, with 44.9 million never-married adults in the U.S. population. The largest increases in the proportion never married have been seen in men and women in their late twenties and early thirties. From 1970 to 1996, the proportion of 25- to 29-year-olds who never married more than doubled for men (increasing from 19 to 52 percent) and more than tripled for females (increasing from 11 to 38 percent).

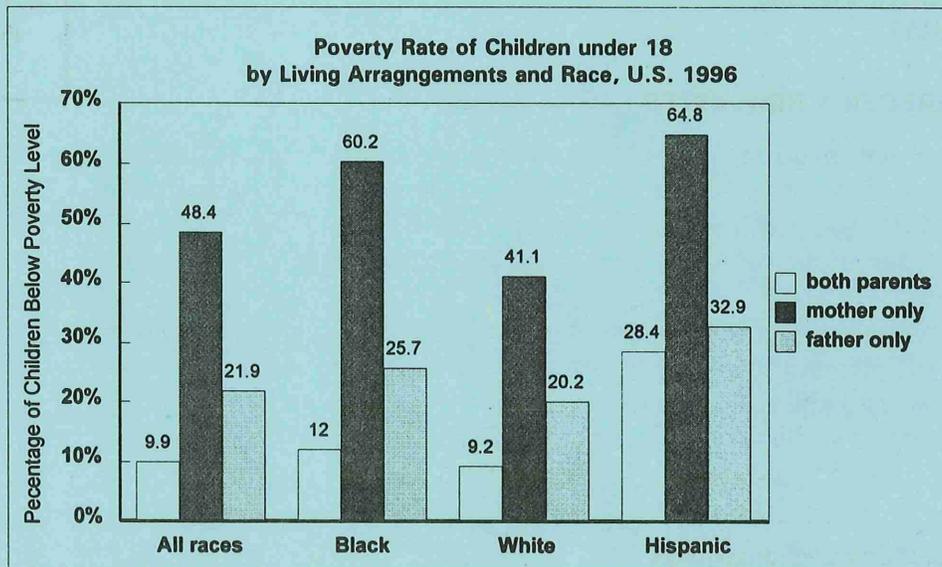


Living Arrangements of Children

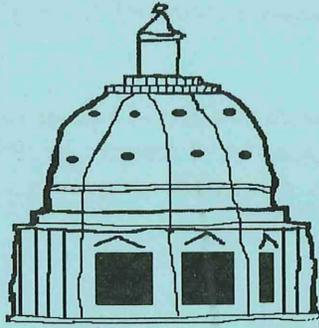


The percentage of children under 18 years living with two parents has declined from 85 percent to 68 percent between 1970 and 1996. The majority of (86 percent) of single-parent children live with their mother, but an increasing proportion live with their father. The percentage of children who live with two parents varies considerably by race. Whereas 77.1 percent of White children live with both parents, only 36.8 percent of Black children do. The financial impact of these living arrangements is demonstrated by the poverty rate chart below.

Poverty Rates of Children



The 1996 federal poverty level for a family of four was \$16,036. The proportion of children who live in poverty varies significantly by living arrangements and race. As a general rule, children who live in two-parent families are the least likely to live in poverty. But, even in two-parent families, the percentage of children living in poverty is about 10 percent, except in Hispanic families, where the percentage is significantly higher (28.4 percent).



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IN THIS ISSUE

This issue provides an overview of the status of women in the state and national work forces from 1960 to 1997. Statistics were compiled from published and unpublished data from the U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics and from the U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of the Census. More detailed information about the data is provided on Page 5.

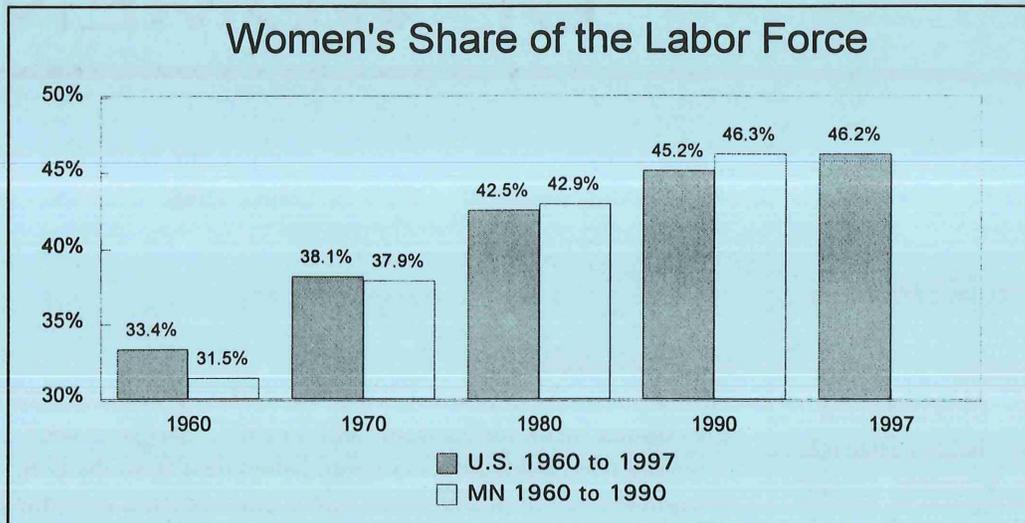
CONTENTS

Women's Share of the Labor Force	2
Women's Labor Force Participation Rate	2
Participation Rates by Age	3
Aging Baby Boomers	4
Participation Rates of Mothers	4
Participation Rates of Women with Young Children	5
Notes on Data	5

Women's Share of the Labor Force

Women's share of the labor force grew consistently from 1960 to 1997. In 1997, women accounted for 46.2 percent of the U.S. labor force. This is a significant increase from 1960, when women accounted for only 33.4 percent of the U.S. labor force.

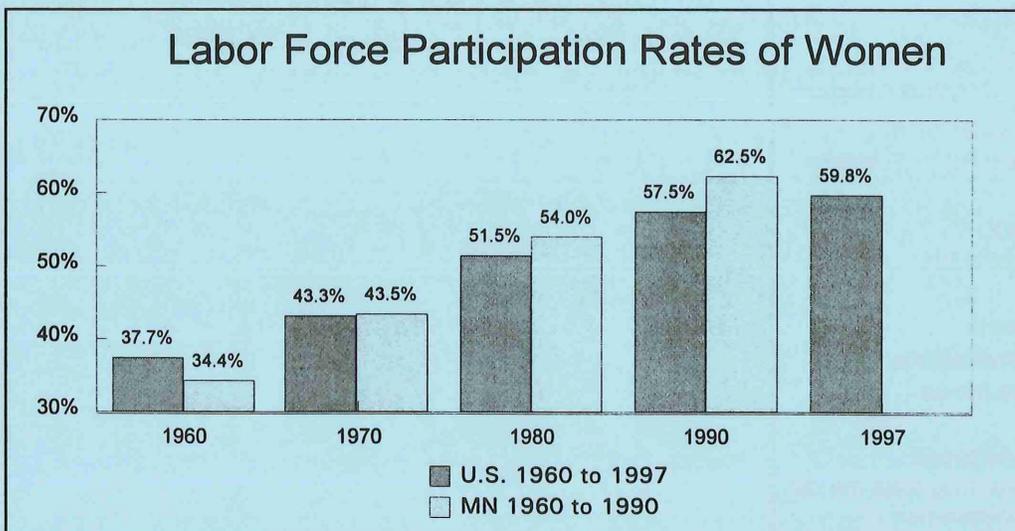
Women's share of the Minnesota labor force also continues to climb. Women accounted for 46.3 percent of the Minnesota labor force in 1990, which was slightly higher than the national average of 45.2 percent. In 1960, women accounted for only 31.5 percent of the Minnesota labor force, which was slightly less than the national average of 33.4 percent.



Women's Labor Force Participation Rate

Women's growing share of the labor force is partly attributable to their increasing labor force participation rates. The national labor force participation rate of women (age 16 to 64, see also endnote #2) has steadily increased over the past few decades, from 37.7 percent in 1960 to 59.8 percent in 1997. Between 1960 and 1990, there was an average increase of 6.6 percentage points every 10 years.

Since 1970, labor force participation rates for Minnesota women have been higher than the national average. In 1990, 62.5 percent of Minnesota women were in the labor force in 1990, compared to 57.5 percent of women in the United States.



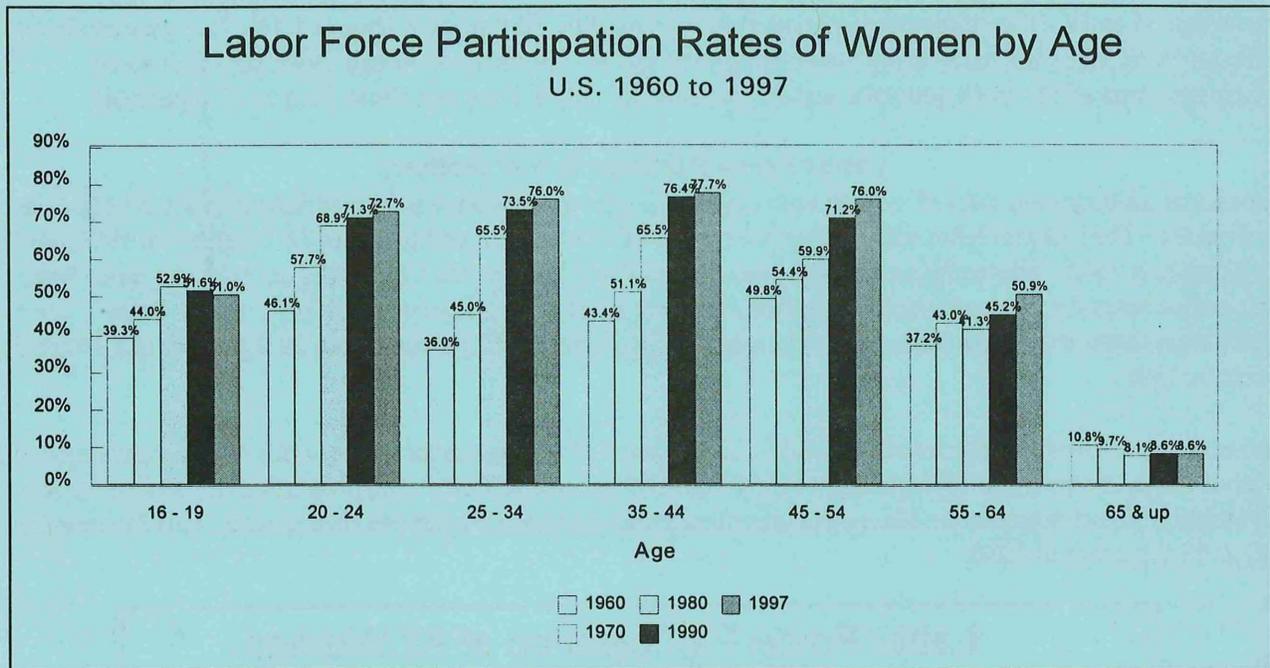
Women's Labor Force Participation by Age

United States

Labor force participation rates are higher for younger than for older women. Of several age categories in the following chart, 35- to 44-year-old women had the highest national labor force participation rate (77.7 percent) in 1997. In contrast, women age 65 and older had the lowest rate (8.6 percent) in 1997.

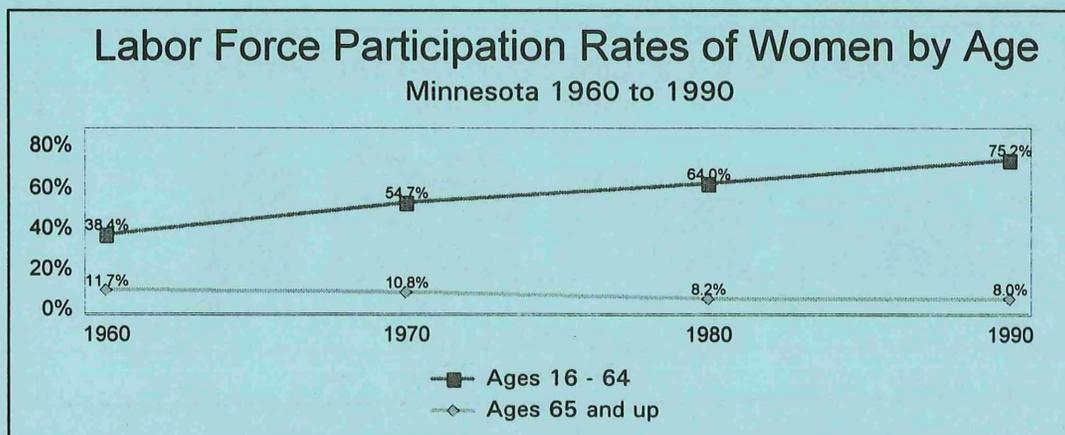
Women's national labor force participation rate has steadily increased over the past few decades in all except the oldest age group. Among women age 65 and up, participation rates decreased from 10.8 percent in 1960 to 8.6 percent in 1997. While a smaller percentage of women age 65 and older are participating in the labor force than have in the past, they represent a greater *share* of the labor force due to their growing population size.

The bar graphs in the following chart are in chronological order (from 1960 to 1997) for each age category.



Minnesota

Minnesota has seen similar trends in labor force participation rates according to age, with participation higher for younger than for older women. In 1990, the labor force participation rate of Minnesota women ages 16 to 64 was 75.2 percent, in contrast to 8.0 percent for those age 65 and older. Women's labor force participation rate in Minnesota has steadily increased over the past few decades in all but the 65 and older age category. Compared to the national average, Minnesota women maintained a higher labor force participation rate in 1990 in all but the 65 and older age group.



Aging Baby Boomers

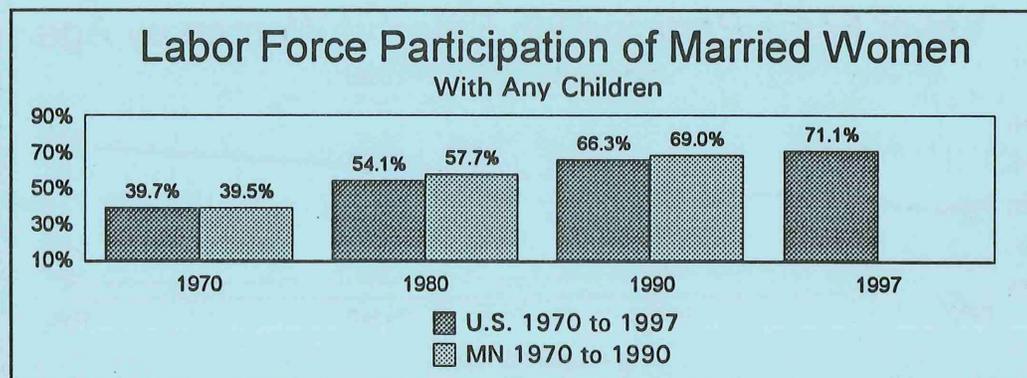
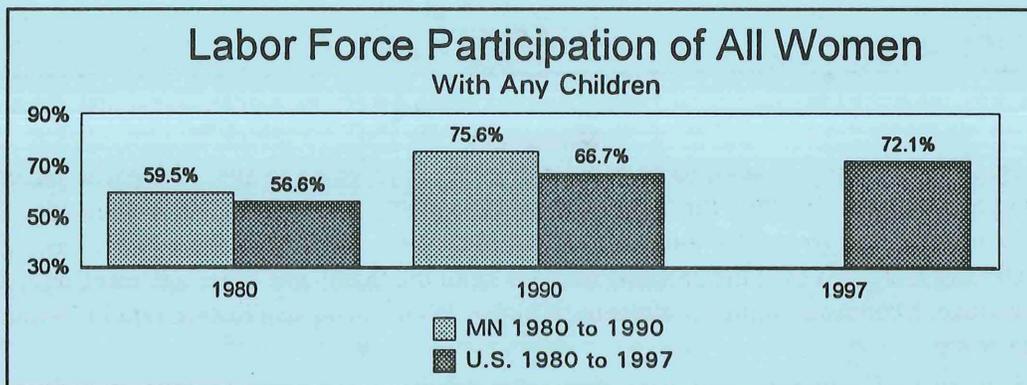
The aging of the baby boom generation is reflected in labor force participation rates. As shown in the first chart on Page 3, labor force participation rates have increased for all working-age women over the past few decades, but this increase has been even greater for the baby boom generation. From 1960 to 1970, when the oldest baby boomers reached age 24, the national labor force participation rate of 20- to 24-year-old women increased by 11.6 percent, from 46.1 to 57.7 percent. The labor force participation rate of 20- to 24-year-old women grew by a similar amount (11.2 percent) between 1970 and 1980, when baby boomers born in the next decade reached age 24. Since 1980, the growth in labor force participation rates of 20- to 24-year-old women has slowed to 2.4 percent between 1980 and 1990 and 1.4 percent between 1990 and 1997.

Labor force participation rates of 25- to 34-year-old women increased by 20.5 percent (from 45.0 to 65.5 percent) between 1970 and 1980, when the oldest baby boomers reached age 34. In comparison, labor force participation of 25- to 34-year-old women increased by only 8 percent (from 65.5 to 73.5 percent) the following decade. For women age 35 to 44, labor force participation rates increased by 10.9 percent (from 65.5 to 76.4 percent) between 1980 and 1990, when the oldest baby boomers reached age 44. Between 1990 and 1997, the labor force participation rate of 35- to 44-year-old women increased by only 1.3 percent (from 76.4 to 77.7 percent).

Labor Force Participation of Mothers

Labor force participation rates of women with children (under age 18) have increased substantially over the past few decades. The national labor force participation rate of women with children was 72.1 percent in 1997, up from 47.4 percent in 1975. (Rates for earlier years are not available because the Census did not tabulate labor force participation rates for never-married women with children as its own category until 1975.) Labor force participation rates of married women with children have also increased, growing from 39.7 percent in 1970 to 71.1 percent in 1997.

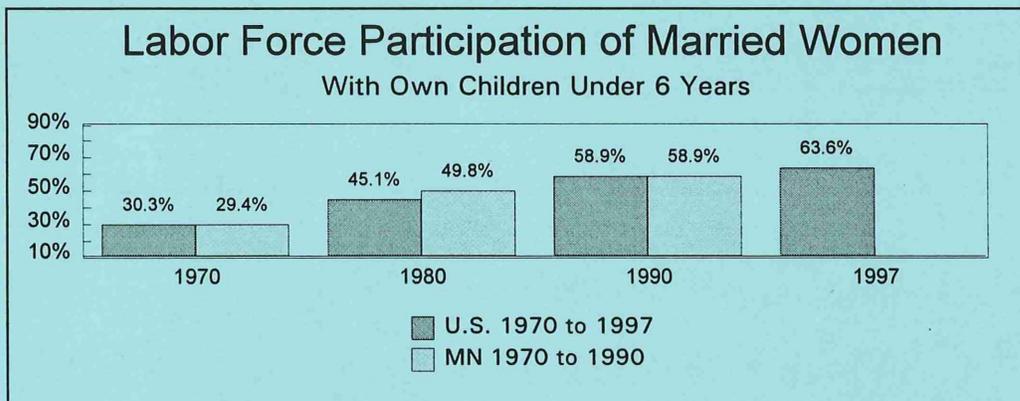
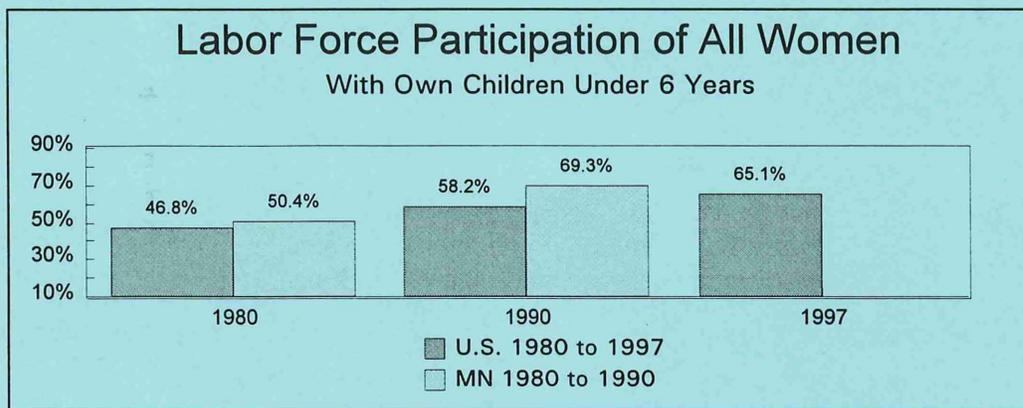
Minnesota experienced similar trends. In 1990, 75.6 percent of all Minnesota women with children participated in the labor force, compared to 59.5 percent in 1980 and 41.2 percent in 1970. The proportion of married women with children participating in the Minnesota labor force also increased during this time period, from 39.5 percent in 1970 to 69.0 percent in 1990.



Labor Force Participation of Women with Young Children

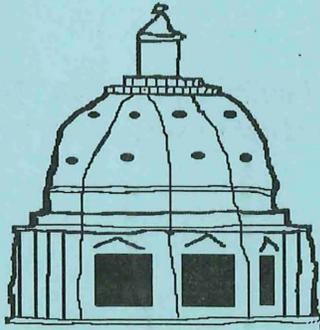
Labor force participation rates for women with children under age 6 have increased but they have been consistently lower than rates for women with any children under age 18. (Rates for earlier years are not available because the Census did not track labor force participation rates of never-married women with children.) In 1997, the national labor force participation rate of women with one or more children under age 6 was 65.1 percent, compared to 72.1 percent of women with any children. Married women with one or more children under age 6 have comparable labor force participation rates, reaching 63.6 percent in 1997.

In Minnesota, the proportion of women with children under age 6 participating in the labor force grew from 18.1 to 69.3 percent from 1960 to 1990, representing a 282 percent increase over 30 years. The proportion of married women in Minnesota with children under age 6 participating in the labor force grew less dramatically during that time period, increasing from 17.2 to 58.9 percent.



Notes on Data:

1. Where charts list only state or national data for a given year, comparable data for the omitted region was not available.
2. The 1960 Census included people age 14 and older in labor force calculations. Later Census Bureau studies counted only those age 16 and older as eligible for participation in the labor force.
3. "Married women" includes only those women whose husbands are present. Married women who are separated are not included in this category.
4. National statistics on women with children for the years 1960, 1970, 1980, and 1990 were calculated from monthly data gathered for March of those years, which was more detailed than the year-end summaries.
5. Beginning in 1997, data are not strictly comparable with data for earlier years because of revisions in the Current Population Survey.



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IN THIS ISSUE

This issue provides an overview of U.S. household and family characteristics based on data from the U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey, March 1997.

Contents

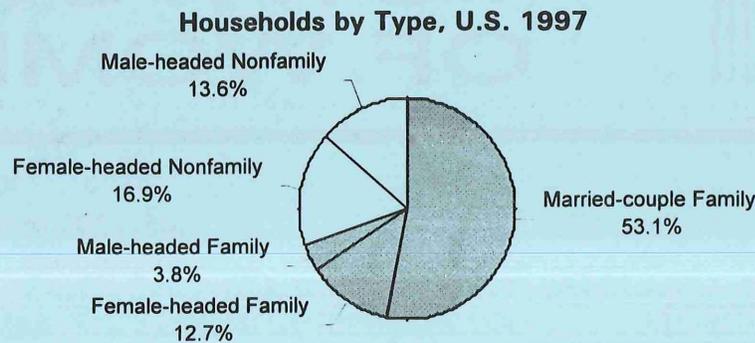
Definitions.....	2
Households by Type and Size.....	2
Family Households.....	3
Households with Children.....	4
Single Parent Households.....	5

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members of the Commission on Women will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, September 1, 1998, on non traditional work and the economic status of women. The hearing is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. in Room 107 of the St. Paul Technical College, 235 Marshall, St. Paul. Members of the public are encouraged to attend the hearing.

HOUSEHOLDS BY TYPE AND SIZE

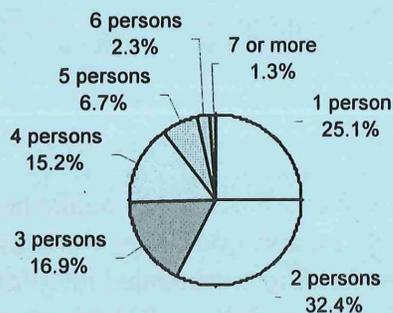
In 1997, there were 101 million households in the nation, an increase of 7.7 million since 1990. The rate of growth has slowed dramatically since the 1970s when households increased by an average of 1.7 million per year. In the 1990s, growth has slowed to 1.1 million per year.



The distribution of U.S. households by type is shown in the chart above. In 1997, 70.2 million of the 101 million households in the U.S. were family households, representing 70 percent of all households. This percentage has remained about the same throughout the 1990s, but has declined since 1980 when families were 74 percent of households and 1970 when they constituted 81 percent of households. In 1997, there were 30.8 million nonfamily households.

Female-headed households represent nearly 30 percent of U.S. households, or 29.9 million households. Male-headed households represent over 17 percent of households, or about 17.6 million households.

Households by Size, U.S. 1997



In 1997, over 57 percent of households were composed of two or fewer people. The average household size was 2.64 persons, down from 2.75 persons in 1980. Since 1990, the distribution of households by size has remained unchanged. Of persons living alone, 59 percent are women. Of all households headed by someone over age 65, 77 percent are headed by a female.

DEFINITIONS

Household: A person or group of people who occupy a housing unit. The "householder" is usually the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented. Households are either family or nonfamily.

Family Household: Two or more people living together who are related by blood, marriage, or adoption, one of whom is the householder. Family households may or may not include children.

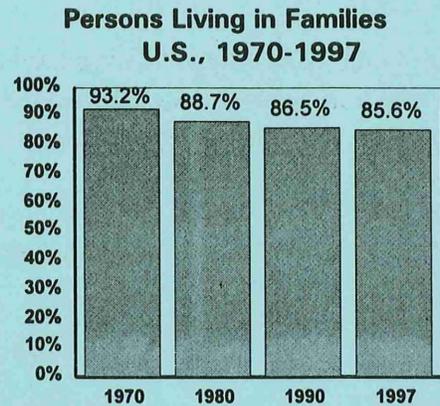
Nonfamily Household: Unrelated persons living together and persons living alone.

Own Children: Never-married sons and daughters of the householder, including step- and adopted children, under the age of 18.

FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS

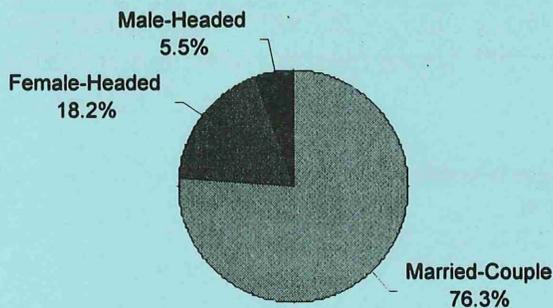
Family households, by the Census Bureau definition, may be one of three types, married-couple, male-headed or female-headed, and may or may not include children.

The share of persons living within families has declined over the past 27 years. In 1997, 86 percent of persons lived in a family household, compared with 89 percent in 1980 and 93 percent in 1970.

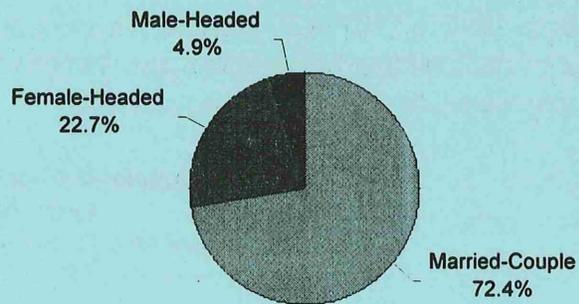


Married-couple families are by far the most common type of family household, constituting 76 percent of all family households and 72 percent of family households with own children. These percentages are down from 1980, when married-couple households accounted for 82 percent of family households and 80 percent of family households with own children.

**Family Households by Type
U.S., 1997**



**Family Households with Own Children by Type
U.S., 1997**



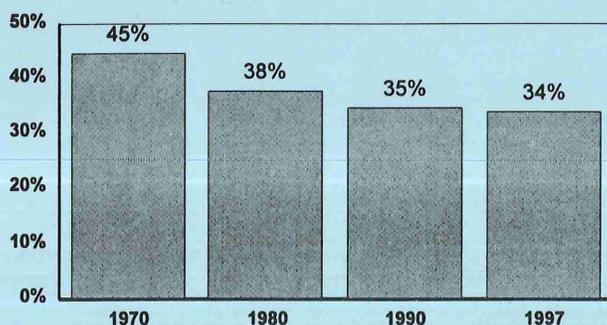
Between 1970 and 1997, the percent of family households maintained by a female increased from 11 percent to 18 percent. The percent of family households maintained by a male increased from 2 percent to over 5 percent during the same time period.

For family households with own children, 10 percent were maintained by a female in 1970 and 23 percent in 1997. Over this same period, the percent of family households with own children maintained by a male increased as well, from 1 percent to 5 percent.

HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN

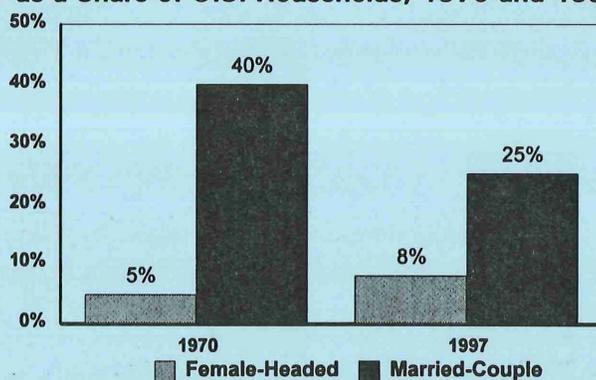
Fewer households include children and those that do have children have fewer than in the past. Since 1990, the percent of households with children has declined more slowly. In 1997, households with own children constituted 34 percent of all households, in contrast to 45 percent in 1970.

**Households with Own Children
as a Share of U.S. Households, 1970-1997**



The average number of children per household with own children has remained constant during the 1990s at about 1.84 children. Households with own children having three or more children has also remained constant from 1990 to 1997 at 20 percent. This is a decrease from 23 percent in 1980. Many households have other related children living with them. In both 1990 and 1997, households with own and/or related children constituted 37 percent of all households.

**Married-Couple and Female-Headed Families
with Own Children
as a Share of U.S. Households, 1970 and 1997**

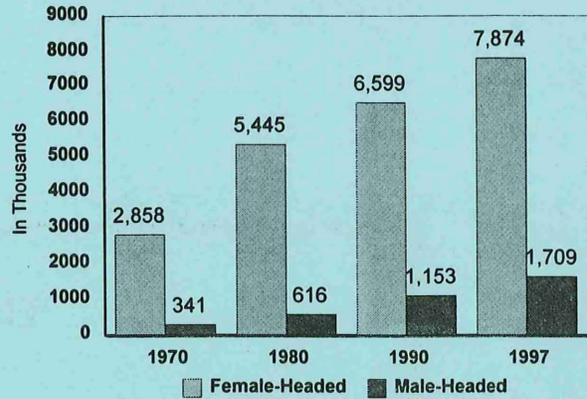


Married-couple households with own children as a share of all households have decreased since 1970. As shown in the chart above, 25 percent of households were composed of a married-couple family with their own children in 1997, down from 40 percent in 1970. In contrast, female-headed families with children as a share of all households have increased from 5 percent in 1970 to 8 percent in 1997.

SINGLE-PARENT HOUSEHOLDS

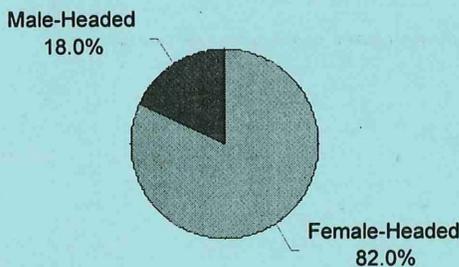
Single-parent households are created by divorce, a spouse's absence (such as separation), the death of one parent, or the birth or adoption of a child by a single person. The number of single-parent households with own children has tripled since 1970 when there were 3.2 million single-parent households. In 1997 there were 9.6 million single-parent households, 7.9 million of which were female-headed.

Number of Single-Parent Families
U.S., 1970-1997



Single-parent households are an increasing share of all family households. In 1970, single-parent households were 6 percent of all family households and in 1980 they accounted for 10 percent of all family households. By 1997, single-parent households were 14 percent of all family households.

Single-Parent Households by Type
U.S., 1997

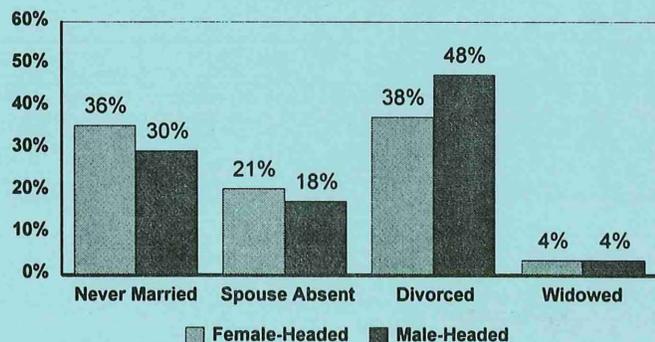


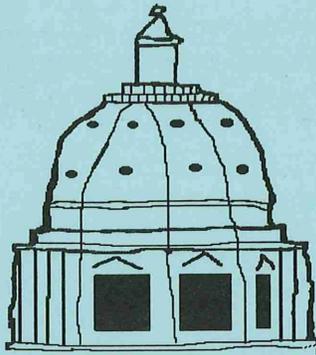
Single-parent families are most commonly headed by females. In 1997, 82 percent were female-headed and 18 percent were male-headed. However, men's share of single-parent families has increased over the past 17 years. In both 1970 and 1980, women headed about 90 percent of single-parent families and men headed 10 percent.

Of all single-parent households, divorced and never-married individuals account for the largest proportions. In 1997, 38 percent of female heads of household and 48 percent of male heads of household were divorced. Never-married individuals accounted for 36 percent of female householders and 30 percent of male householders.

The distribution of single-parent householders by marital status is very different now than it was in 1970. In 1970, 7 percent of female and 5 percent of male householders were never married, 40 percent of female and 63 percent of male householders were married with the spouse absent, and 20 percent of female and 31 percent of male householders were widowed.

Single-Parent Householders by Marital Status
U.S., 1997





COMMISSION ON THE ECONOMIC STATUS OF WOMEN

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Newsletter #230

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September 1998

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IN THIS ISSUE

This issue highlights women's educational attainment, based on data from the *U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey*, March 1997.

Contents

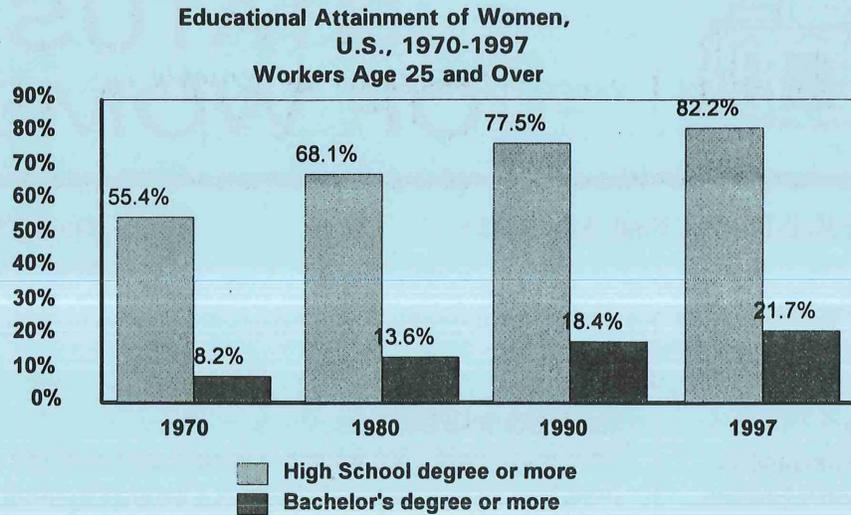
Women's Educational Attainment, 1970-1997.....	2
Educational Attainment by Sex.....	2
Women's Educational Attainment	
by Age.....	3
by Race.....	3
by Marital Status.....	4
Women and Men's Educational Attainment	
by Labor Force Status.....	4
Median Earnings by Educational Attainment and Sex.....	5
Educational Attainment in Minnesota by Sex.....	5

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We have recently completed posting all of the Commission brochures on the Internet. You may now access information on child support, finances, marriage dissolution, cost-of-living adjustments, and parental leave - as well as other topics - via our website. The link to these brochure topics is *Legal Fact Sheets*, which can be accessed from our homepage. Please let us know if you have comments or questions on this or any other part of our site.

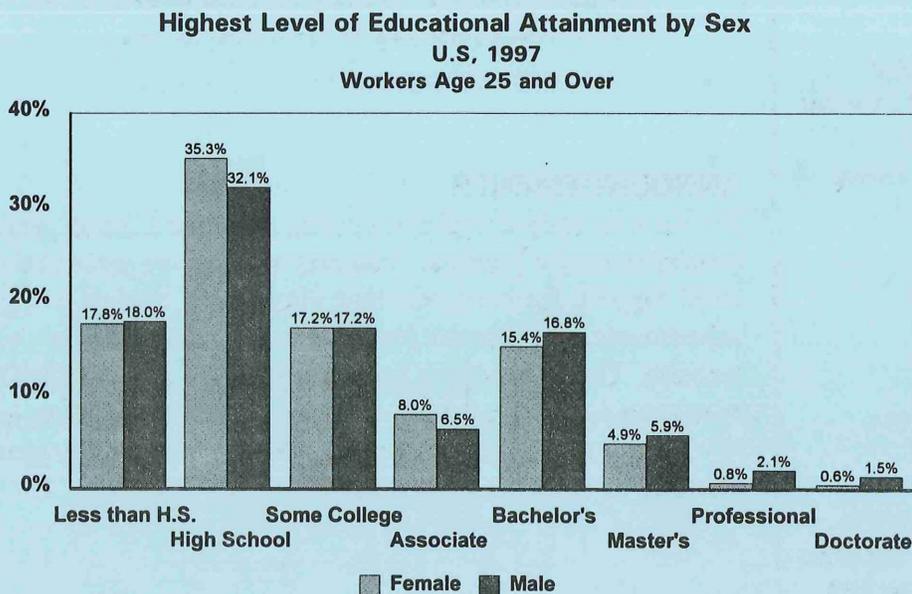
Women's Educational Attainment, 1970-1997

The educational attainment of women has increased steadily over the past few decades, as shown in the chart below. In 1997, 82 percent of women had achieved a high school degree or more, compared with 55 percent in 1970. The percent of women gaining a Bachelor's degree or more increased from 8 percent in 1970 to 22 percent in 1997.



Educational Attainment by Sex

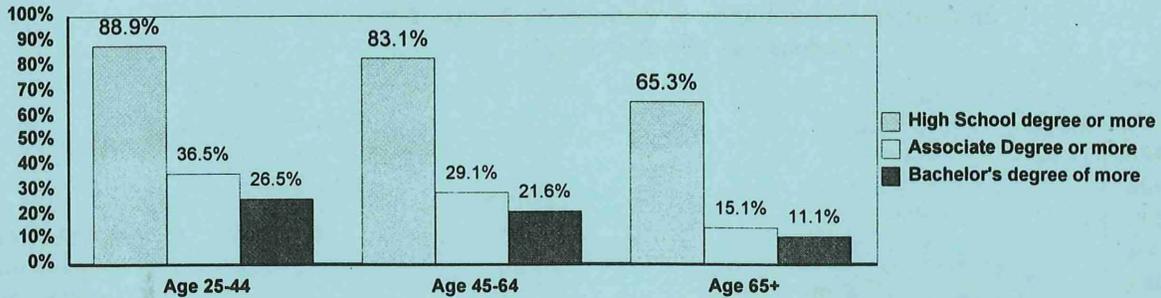
The highest level of education attained by women and men in 1997 is shown in the chart below. A high school degree is the most common degree held by both women and men. A higher percentage of women than men have high school diplomas and Associate degrees as their highest degree earned, however, men surpass women in the percentage of Bachelor's, Master's, professional and doctorate degrees earned.



Women's Educational Attainment by Age

Younger women are achieving higher levels of education than those in older age groups. Eighty-nine percent of women age 25-44 had achieved a high school degree or more in 1997, compared with 83 percent of women age 45-64 and 65 percent of women age 65 and older. The percentage of women age 25-44 earning a Bachelor's degree or more is more than double those in the 65 and older age group.

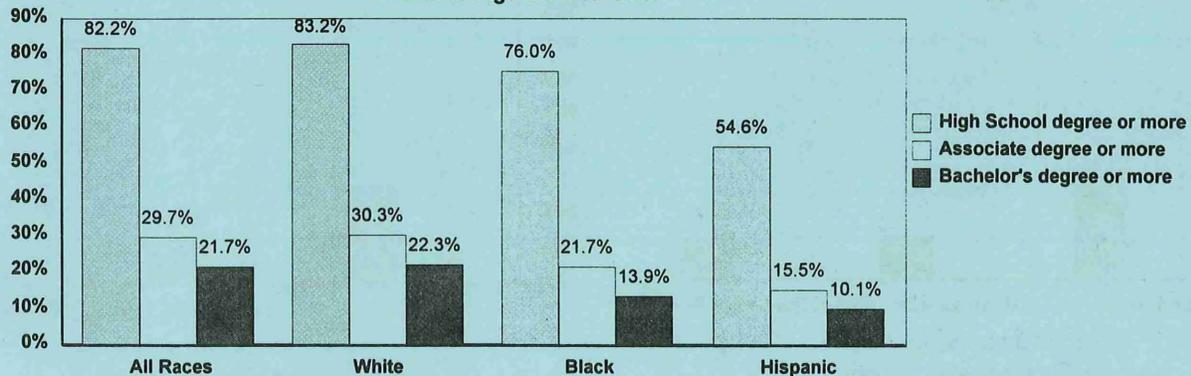
**Educational Attainment of Women by Age
U.S., 1997**



Women's Educational Attainment by Race and Hispanic Origin

The percentage of White, Black and Hispanic women who have earned a high school degree or more increased from 1987 to 1997. For White women, the increase was from 76.7 percent to 83.2 percent; for Black women the increase was from 63.7 percent to 76.0 percent; and, for Hispanic women the increase was from 50.0 percent to 54.6 percent. The percentage of White, Black and Hispanic who have earned a Bachelor's degree or more also increased over the past ten years. For White women, the increase was from 16.9 percent to 22.3 percent; for Black women the increase was from 10.4 percent to 13.9 percent; and, for Hispanic women, the increase was from 7.5 to 10.1 percent. Data for other races are not available.

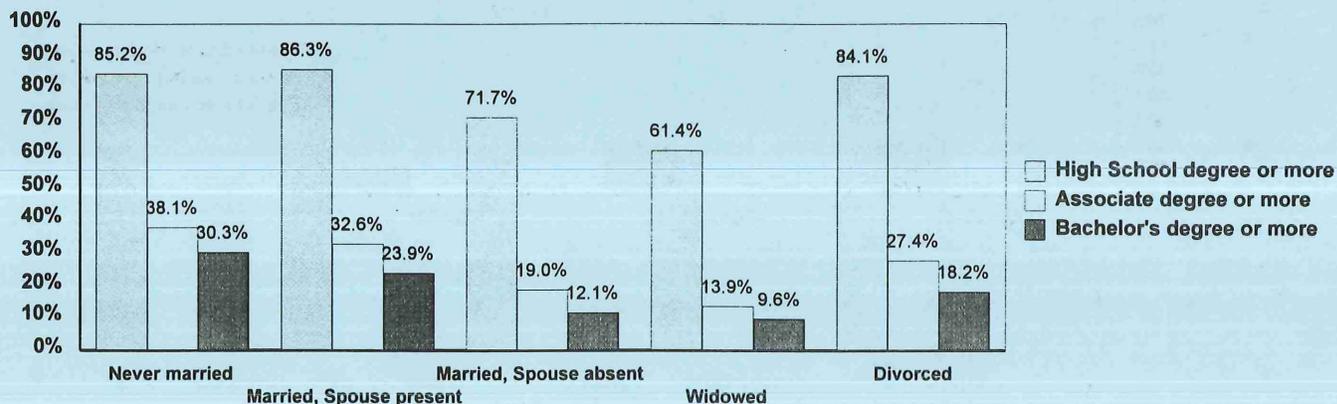
**Educational Attainment of Women by Race and Hispanic Origin
U.S., 1997
Workers Age 25 and Over**



Women's Educational Attainment by Marital Status

In 1997, women who were married with their spouse present had the highest rate of earning a high school degree or more (86.3%). A high percentage of never-married and divorced women were also at this educational level, with 85 percent of never-married women and 84 percent of divorced women attaining a high school degree or more. Never-married women had the highest rate of attaining both Associate (38%) and Bachelor's degrees (30%).

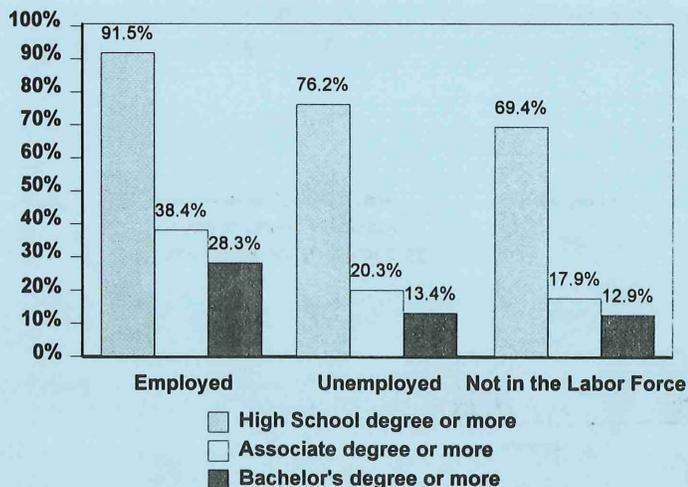
Educational Attainment of Women by Marital Status
Workers Age 25 and Over, U.S., 1997



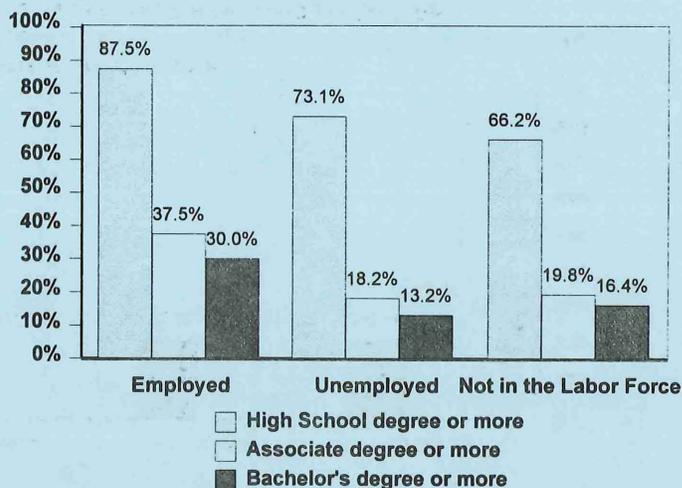
Women and Men's Educational Attainment by Labor Force Status

Regardless of labor force status, a higher percentage of women than men had attained a high school degree or more in 1997. Of employed women, 92 percent had attained a high school degree or more, 38 percent had attained an Associate degree or more, and 28 percent had attained a Bachelor's degree or more. A higher percentage of employed men than women had attained a Bachelor's degree or more.

Educational Attainment of Women by Labor Force Status
Workers Age 25 and Over, U.S., 1997

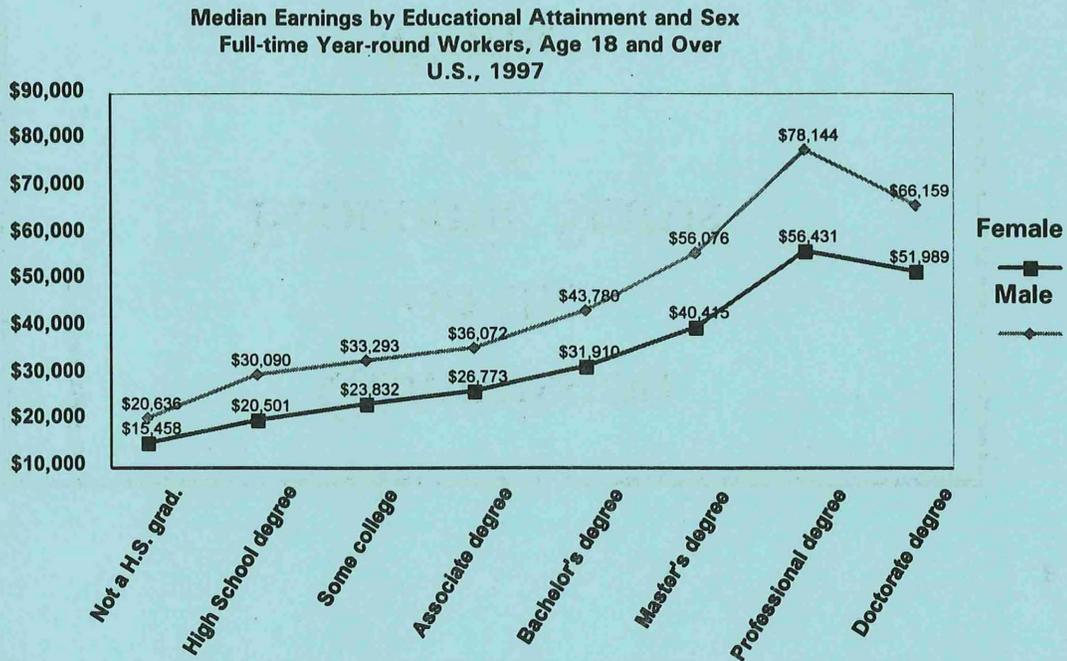


Educational Attainment of Men by Labor Force Status
Workers age 25 and Over, U.S., 1997



Median Earnings by Educational Attainment and Sex

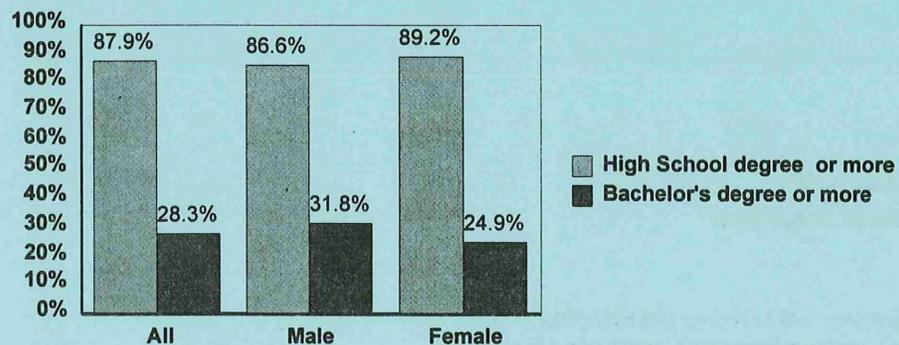
Women continue to earn less than men who have achieved the same level of education. The greatest percentage disparity is for workers with a high school degree. In 1997, the median earnings for a full-time year-round male worker with a high school degree was \$30,090. The median earnings for a full-time year-round female worker with a high school degree was 68 percent of that of her male counterpart, or \$20,501. At other levels of education the disparity is not as great, with female workers earning between 72 and 79 percent of male workers.

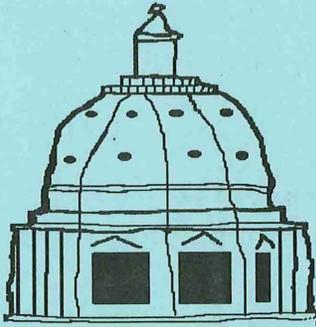


Educational Attainment in Minnesota by Sex

Minnesotans had achieved higher levels of education than the nation as a whole in 1997, with 88 percent holding a high school degree or more and 28 percent with a Bachelor's degree or more. Nationally, 82 percent had attained a high school degree or more and 24 percent a Bachelor's degree or more. In Minnesota, a higher percentage of women than men had earned a high school degree or more, but the percentage of men earning Bachelor's degrees or more is 7 percentage points higher than the percent of women.

Educational Attainment of Minnesotans, 1997





COMMISSION ON THE ECONOMIC STATUS OF WOMEN

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October 1998

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IN THIS ISSUE

Age in Minnesota and the U.S., 1990 and 1997. Data are estimates from the U.S. Bureau of the Census, and *Current Population Reports Special Study: 65+ in the United States, 1996*.

Contents:

Median Age in Minnesota and the U.S.	2
Median Age of Minnesota Women, longitudinal	2
Distribution of Males and Females by Age, U.S.	3
Distribution of Males and Females by Age, MN	3
Population Over Age 65	
Distribution by Age and Sex	4
Percent by Age and Sex	4
Minnesota Population Estimates by Age and Sex	5

ADDITIONAL DATA

The Commission also has available *county* population estimates by age and sex. These data are available in the format used in the chart on page five of this newsletter. Call, email or write the commission to request this information.

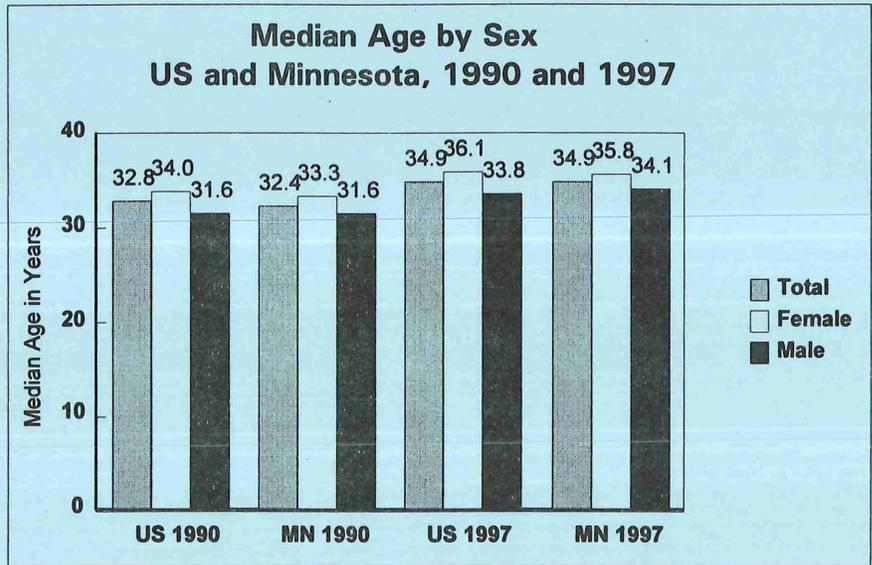
ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Commission will not publish a newsletter in November. Our December issue will contain information on women in public office, including election results.

Median Age in Minnesota and the U.S.

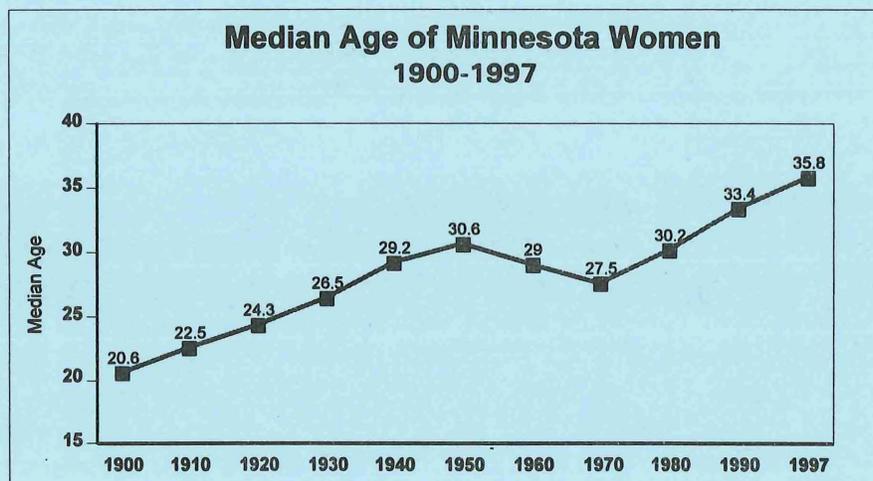
In both Minnesota and the U.S., the median age of women was higher than that of men in 1990 and 1997. In Minnesota during these years, the median age of females increased from 33.3 to 35.8 years. In the U.S., the increase for the same time frame was from 34.0 to 36.1 years. The median age for males follows a similar pattern. From 1990 to 1997, the median age of males increased from 31.6 to 34.1 years in Minnesota and from 31.6 to 33.8 years in the U.S.

Interestingly, in both 1990 and 1997 the median age of women in Minnesota was slightly *lower* than the national median age. In 1990 the median age of men in Minnesota was equal to the national median age for men, but the 1997 median age of Minnesota men was slightly *higher* than the 1997 national median age. From 1990 to 1997, the median age of both women and men in Minnesota increased by 2.5 years; in the U.S. the increase was 2.1 years for women and 2.2 years for men.



Median Age of Minnesota Women

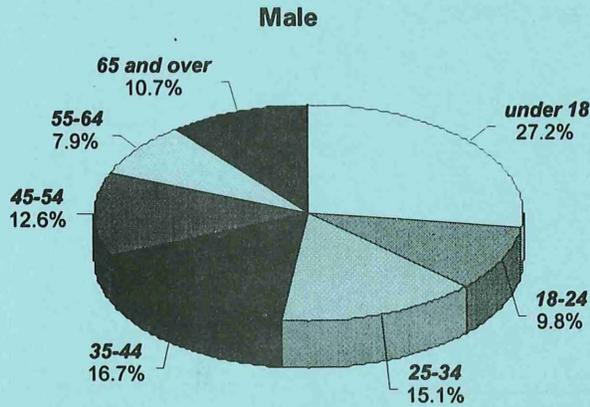
The median age of Minnesota women has risen over 15 years since the beginning of this century. The increase has been steady except for the decades of the 1960's and 1970's at which time the median age decreased due to the large number of births during the post-World War II era.



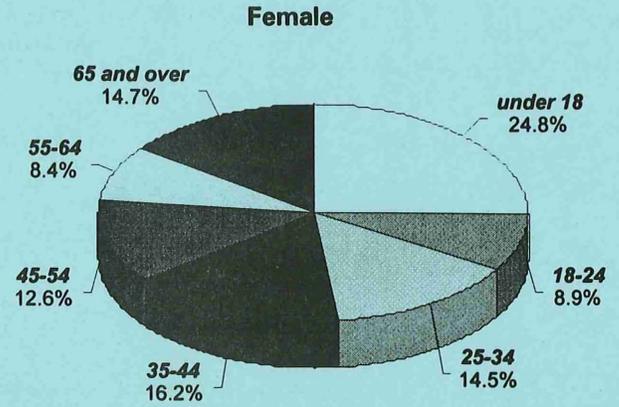
Distribution of Males and Females by Age, 1997

In the U.S., the distribution of males and females by age is fairly equal. The biggest difference exists in the *65 and older* category to which 14.7 percent of women and 10.7 percent of men belong.

Distribution of Males and Females by Age
U.S., 1997



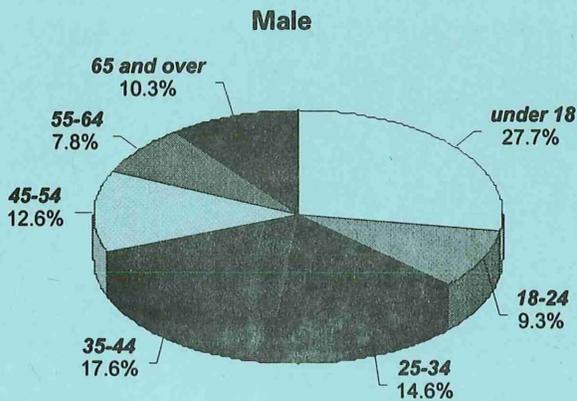
Total: 131,017,669



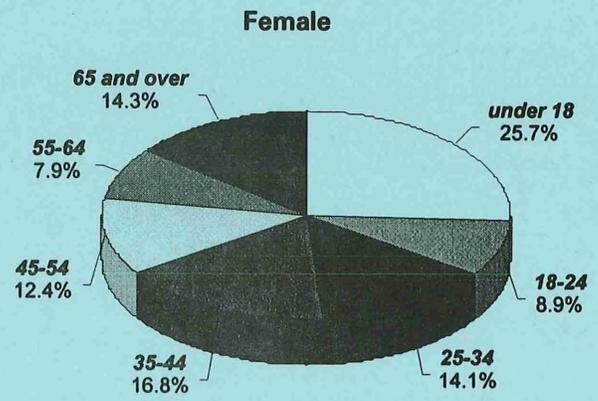
Total: 136,618,392

The distribution of Minnesotans by age and sex closely resembles the distribution in the U.S. Again, there is a higher percentage of women than men in the *65 and older* age group. And, as in the U.S. distribution, there is a higher percentage of males than females in all age categories under age 55.

Distribution of Males and Females by Age
Minnesota, 1997



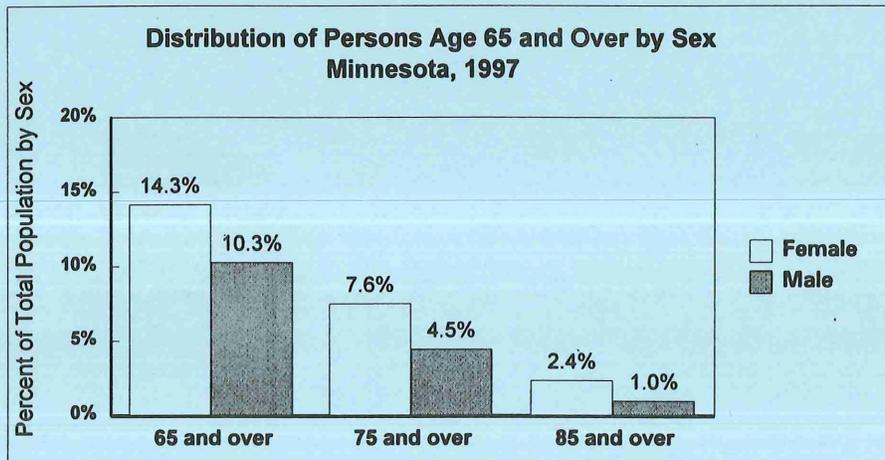
Total: 2,312,594



Total: 2,372,955

Population Over Age 65

There were 339,154 females and 238,590 males over age 65 in Minnesota in 1997; this represents 12.3% of the total population. Of those females over age 65, 46.8 percent were from age 65 to 74, 36.3 percent were from age 75 to 84, and 16.8 percent were over age 85. For males over age 65, 56.6 percent were from age 65 to 74, 34.1 percent were from age 75 to 84, and 9.3 percent were over age 85. The chart below shows *advancing age categories* of males and females over age 65 as a percentage of the *total* population of males and females.



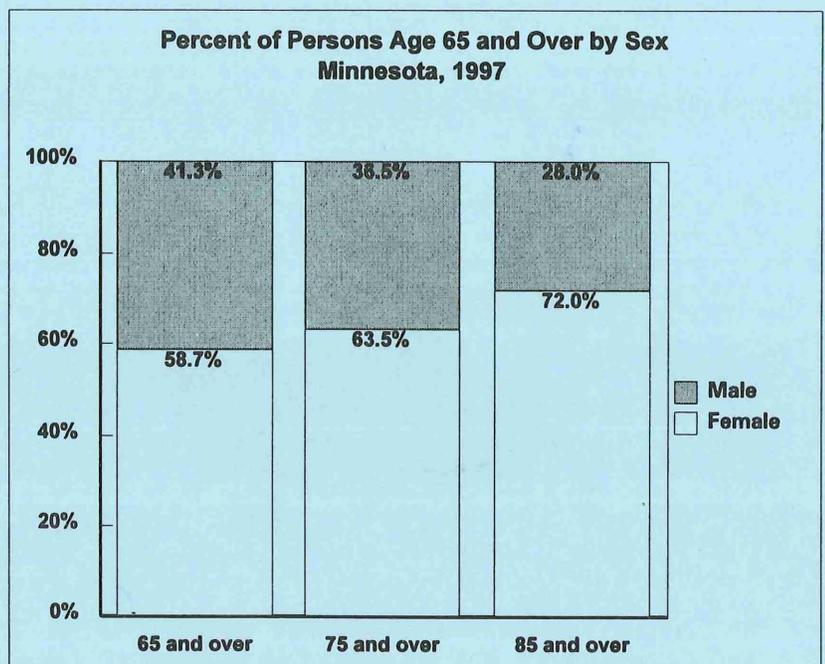
In 1997, 14.3 percent of women and 10.3 percent of men were age 65 or older. By decade, 6.7 percent of females were age 65 to 74, 5.2 percent were age 75 to 84, and 2.4 percent were age 85 and over. For men, 5.8 percent were age 65 to 74, 3.5 percent were age 75 to 84 and 1.0 percent were age 85 and over.

Percent of Population Over Age 65 by Sex

Females constitute the majority of the population over age 65 and make up a larger share of the population in each successive age category over age 65.

The chart to the right shows the percentage of Minnesota's population over age 65 by sex. The numbers are similar for the U.S. as a whole. In the U.S. in 1997, females made up 58.9 percent of the population age 65 and over, 63.1 percent of the population age 75 and over and 71.3 percent of the population age 85 and over.

The number of centenarians (persons age 100 or older) in the U.S. has more than doubled since 1980. Four in five centenarians are women.

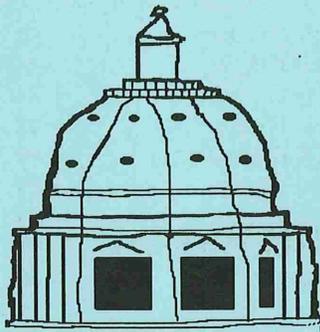


Minnesota Population Estimates by Age and Sex, 1990 and 1997

Minnesota	1990					1997				
	Male	M Dist.	Female	F Dist.	%Female	Male	M Dist.	Female	F Dist.	%Female
Total	2,151,840	100.0%	2,235,340	100.0%	51.0%	2,312,594	100.0%	2,372,955	100.0%	50.6%
Under 5	174,626	8.1%	167,251	7.5%	48.9%	161,297	7.0%	154,447	6.5%	48.9%
5 to 17	427,972	19.9%	406,320	18.2%	48.7%	480,039	20.8%	454,902	19.2%	48.7%
18 to 24	220,721	10.3%	221,388	9.9%	50.1%	215,904	9.3%	210,722	8.9%	49.4%
25 to 34	388,793	18.1%	388,561	17.4%	50.0%	336,961	14.6%	334,404	14.1%	49.8%
35 to 44	337,567	15.7%	333,638	14.9%	49.7%	407,810	17.6%	397,576	16.8%	49.4%
45 to 54	213,137	9.9%	215,792	9.7%	50.3%	292,158	12.6%	294,620	12.4%	50.2%
55 to 64	166,929	7.8%	176,690	7.9%	51.4%	179,835	7.8%	187,130	7.9%	51.0%
65 to 74	132,513	6.2%	162,295	7.3%	55.1%	135,039	5.8%	158,963	6.7%	54.1%
75 to 84	70,165	3.3%	114,118	5.1%	61.9%	81,375	3.5%	123,225	5.2%	60.2%
85 and over	19,417	0.9%	49,287	2.2%	71.7%	22,176	1.0%	56,966	2.4%	72.0%
Under 18	602,598	28.0%	573,571	25.7%	48.8%	641,336	27.7%	609,349	25.7%	48.7%
18 and over	1,549,242	72.0%	1,661,769	74.3%	51.8%	1,671,258	72.3%	1,763,606	74.3%	51.3%
15 to 44	1,035,778	48.1%	1,026,989	45.9%	49.8%	1,075,919	46.5%	1,050,544	44.3%	49.4%
16 and over	1,607,906	74.7%	1,716,689	76.8%	51.6%	1,747,598	75.6%	1,834,578	77.3%	51.2%
16 to 64	1,385,811	64.4%	1,390,989	62.2%	50.1%	1,509,008	65.3%	1,495,424	63.0%	49.8%
18 to 64	1,327,147	61.7%	1,336,069	59.8%	50.2%	1,432,668	62.0%	1,424,452	60.0%	49.9%
65 and over	222,095	10.3%	325,700	14.6%	59.5%	238,590	10.3%	339,154	14.3%	58.7%
75 and over	89,582	4.2%	163,405	7.3%	64.6%	103,551	4.5%	180,191	7.6%	63.5%

Compiled by the Commission on the Economic Status of Women from estimates from the U.S. Bureau of the Census, Population Division, release PPL-91

The chart above gives population estimates by age and sex for Minnesota for the years 1990 and 1997. For each year, the first column gives the total number of males, the second column gives the distribution of males (percentage of males in each age category), the third column gives the total number of females, the fourth gives the distribution of females (percentage of females in each age category) and the fifth column gives the percent of the age category that is female.



COMMISSION ON THE ECONOMIC STATUS OF WOMEN

Room 85, State Office Building, St. Paul, MN 55155
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IN THIS ISSUE

This issue highlights the number of women who will be serving in elected office in 1999, reflecting the elections held on November 3, 1998. Minnesota data are based on information received from offices of the Secretary of State and the State Court Administrator, the Association of Minnesota Counties, League of Minnesota Cities, and the Minnesota School Board Association. National data are from the Center for the American Woman and Politics. The Legislative Geographic Information Systems office provided the maps of women in the Minnesota Legislature by district and party.

Contents

Women in the Minnesota Legislature	2
Maps of Women in the Minnesota House by Party	3
Maps of Women in the Minnesota Senate by Party	5
Women in Local Government	7
Women in Minnesota Judicial Offices	7
Women in Minnesota Executive Offices	7
Women in Elected Office - United States	7

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Now available on the Commission's web page:

- ✓ Women in Public Office: Number of Women in the Minnesota Legislature, 1922-1998.
- ✓ Women in Public Office: Maps of Women in the Legislature by district and party.
- ✓ Electronic version of this newsletter.

Summary of Women In Minnesota Elected Office, 1999

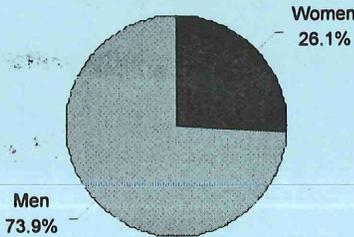
	<u>Total Seats</u>	<u># Women</u>	<u>% Women</u>
Legislature	201	57	28.4%
House	134	35	26.1%
Senate	67	22	32.8%
Executive Office	6	4	66.6%
Judicial Office	279	62	22.2%

Women in the Minnesota Legislature

When the Minnesota Legislature convenes in January 1999, women will comprise 28.4 percent of its membership, filling 57 of the 201 seats in the House and Senate. Women will hold 35 (26.1%) of the 134 seats in the House and 22 (32.8%) of the 67 seats in the Senate.

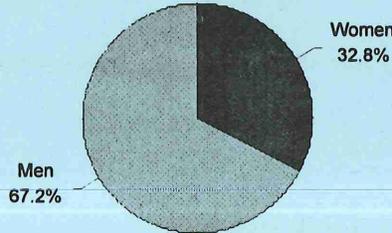
Minnesota House, 1999

Total Seats = 134



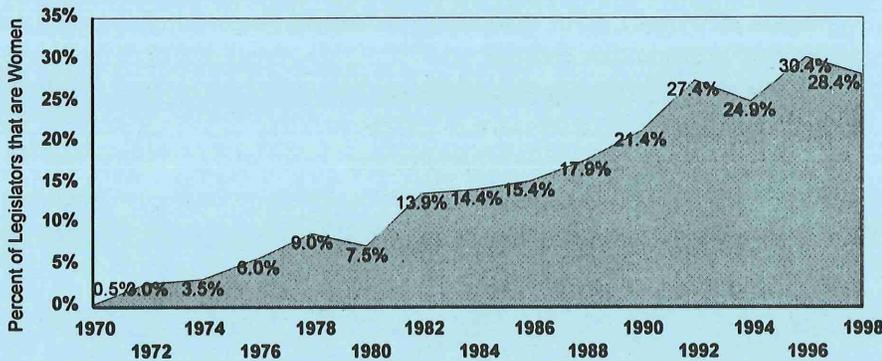
Minnesota Senate, 1999

Total Seats = 67



Following the 1996 election, women held 61* seats in the Legislature, a record 30.4 percent. All seats in the House of Representatives were up for reelection this year. As a result of the elections, four fewer women will be serving as legislators in 1999, reducing the number of women serving in the House from 39 to 35. The following five women will be serving their first term in the House: Barb Haake, Mary Liz Holberg, Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Ann Lenczewski, and Julie Storm.

**Women Elected to the Minnesota Legislature
1970-1998**



Seventy-three women were candidates for seats in the House of Representatives this Fall. Of these, 35 were incumbents, 30 (86%) of whom won. Of the 84 male incumbent candidates, 83 (99%) won. Male and female non-incumbents both won at a rate of 13 percent: five of the 38 female non-incumbents and 16 of the 117 male non-incumbents won. In six races, two women opposed each other in the general election.

*Due to special elections, 62 women served in the 1998 legislative session, including 40 women in the House of Representatives.

Women in the Senate, 1999

Ellen Anderson	66	DFL
Linda Berglin	61	DFL
Michele Fischbach	14	R
Carol Flynn	62	DFL
Paula E. Hanson	50	DFL
Linda Higgins	58	DFL
Janet Johnson	18	DFL
Ember Reichgott Junge	46	DFL
Sheila Kiscaden	30	R
Jane Krentz	51	DFL
Arlene J. Lesewski	21	R
Becky Lourey	8	DFL
Gen Olson	34	R
Sandy Pappas	65	DFL
Pat Pariseau	37	R
Pat Piper	27	DFL
Jane Ranum	63	DFL
Martha Robertson	45	R
Claire Robling	35	R
Linda Runbeck	53	R
Linda Scheid	47	DFL
Deanna Wiener	38	DFL

Women in the House, 1999

Lynda Boudreau	25B	R
Sherry Broecker	53B	R
Karen Clark	61A	DFL
Roxann Daggett	11A	R
Sondra Erickson	17A	R
Betty Folliard	44A	DFL
Mindy Greiling	54B	DFL
Barb Haake	52B	R
Elaine Harder	22B	R
Kris Hasskamp	12A	DFL
Alice Hausman	66B	DFL
Mary Liz Holberg	37B	R
Alice Johnson	48B	DFL
Phyllis Kahn	59B	DFL
Margaret Anderson Kelliher	60A	DFL
Luanne Koskinen	49B	DFL
Peg Larsen	56B	R
Ann Lenczewski	40B	DFL
Peggy Leppik	45B	R
Darlene Luther	47A	DFL
Sharon Marko	57B	DFL
Betty McCollum	55B	DFL
Mary Jo McGuire	54A	DFL
Carol Molnau	35A	R
Mary Murphy	8A	DFL
Mary Ellen Otremba	11B	DFL
Ann Rest	46A	DFL
Michelle Rifenberg	32B	R
Leslie Schumacher	17B	DFL
Alice Seagren	41A	R
Julie Storm	24B	R
Barb Sykora	43B	R
Kathy Tingelstad	50B	R
Jean Wagenius	63A	DFL
Linda Wejcman	61B	DFL

Women in the Legislature

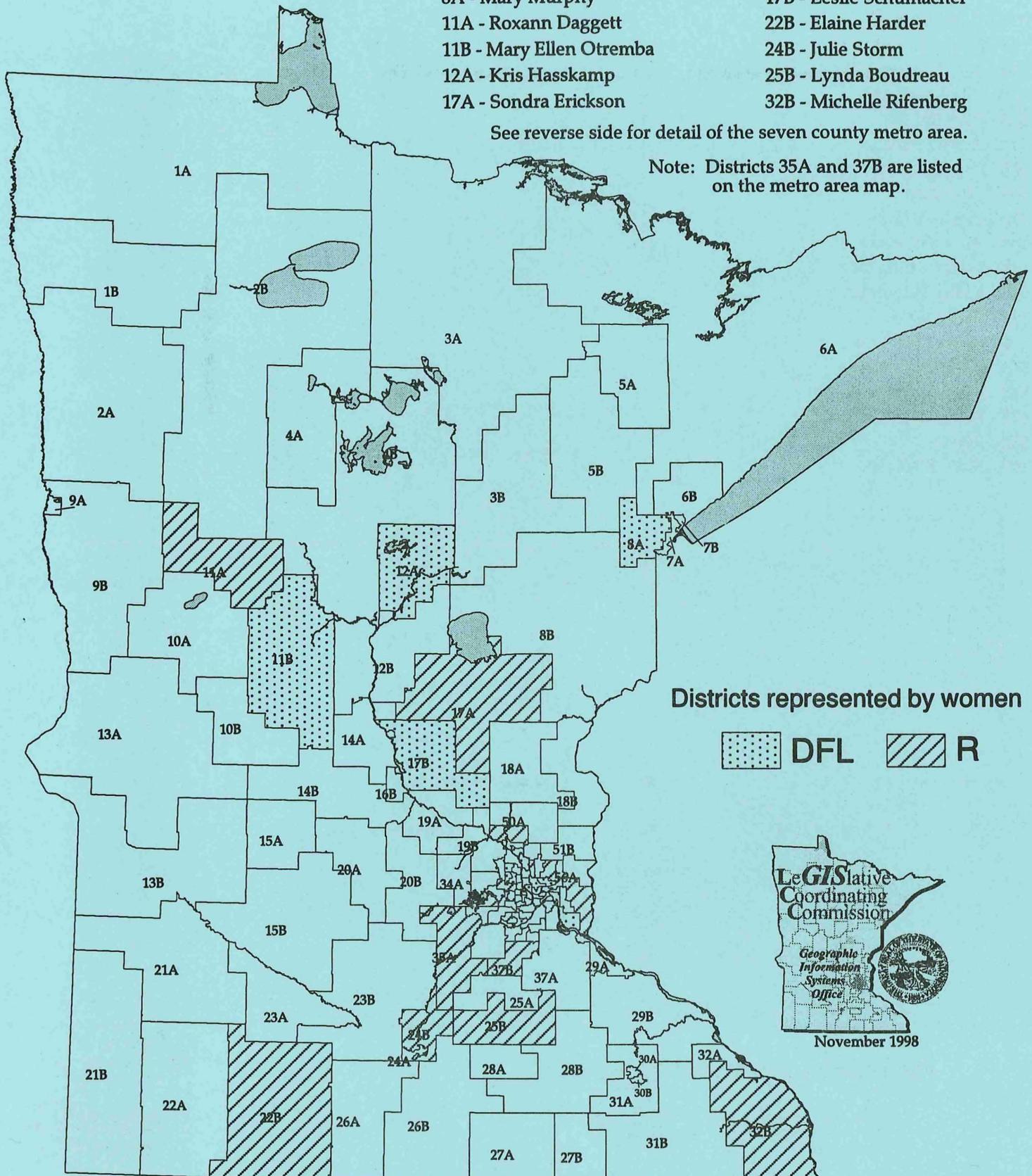
1999 Minnesota House Membership

8A - Mary Murphy
11A - Roxann Daggett
11B - Mary Ellen Otremba
12A - Kris Hasskamp
17A - Sondra Erickson

17B - Leslie Schumacher
22B - Elaine Harder
24B - Julie Storm
25B - Lynda Boudreau
32B - Michelle Rifenberg

See reverse side for detail of the seven county metro area.

Note: Districts 35A and 37B are listed on the metro area map.

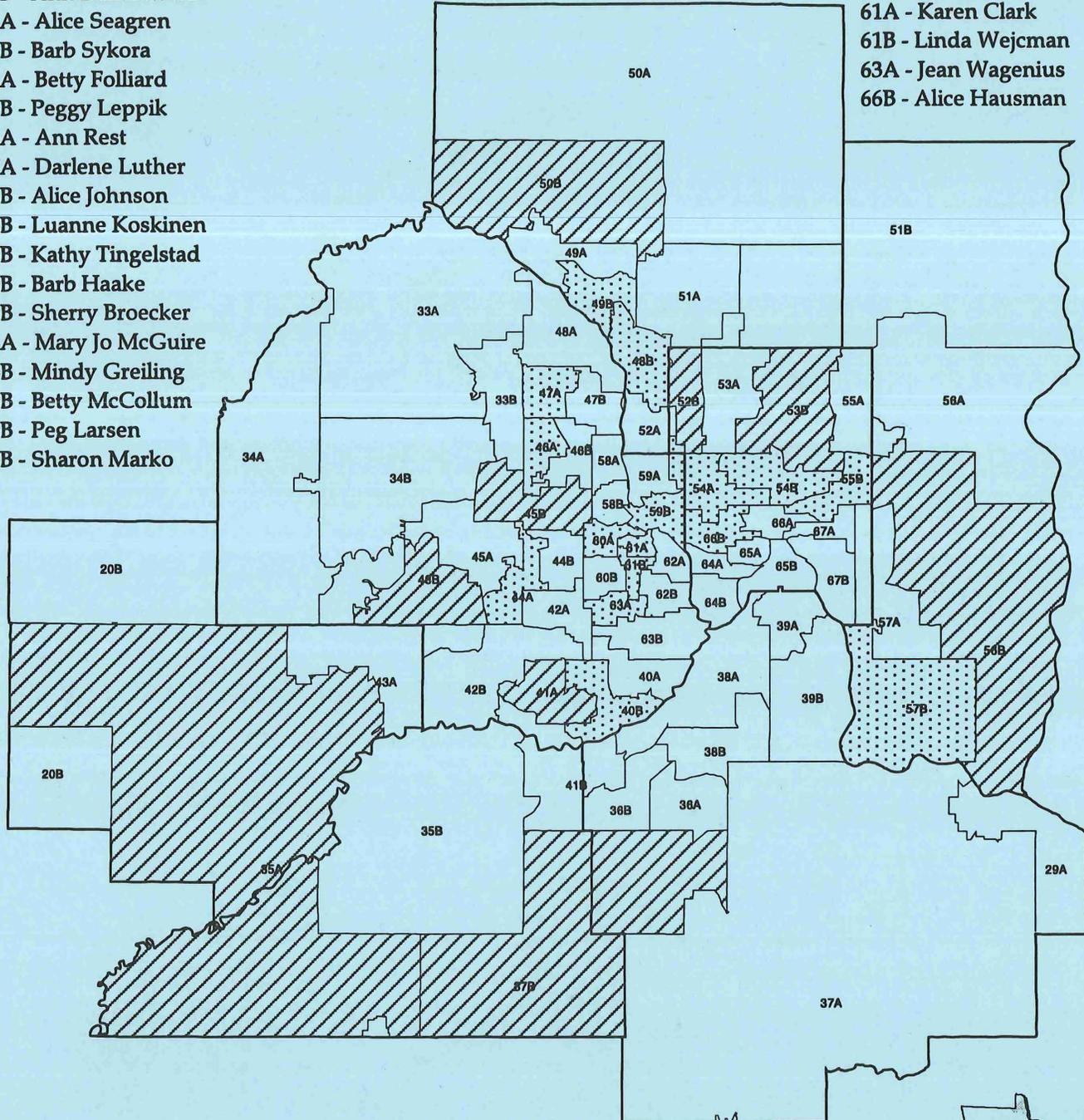


Women in the Legislature

1999 Minnesota House Membership

- 35A - Carol Molnau
- 37B - Mary Liz Holberg
- 40B - Ann Lenczewski
- 41A - Alice Seagren
- 43B - Barb Sykora
- 44A - Betty Folliard
- 45B - Peggy Leppik
- 46A - Ann Rest
- 47A - Darlene Luther
- 48B - Alice Johnson
- 49B - Luanne Koskinen
- 50B - Kathy Tingelstad
- 52B - Barb Haake
- 53B - Sherry Broecker
- 54A - Mary Jo McGuire
- 54B - Mindy Greiling
- 55B - Betty McCollum
- 56B - Peg Larsen
- 57B - Sharon Marko

- 59B - Phyllis Kahn
- 60A - Margaret Anderson Kelliher
- 61A - Karen Clark
- 61B - Linda Wejcman
- 63A - Jean Wagenius
- 66B - Alice Hausman



Districts represented by women



Women in the Legislature

1999 Minnesota Senate Membership

8 - Becky Lourey

14 - Michelle Fischbach

18 - Janet Johnson

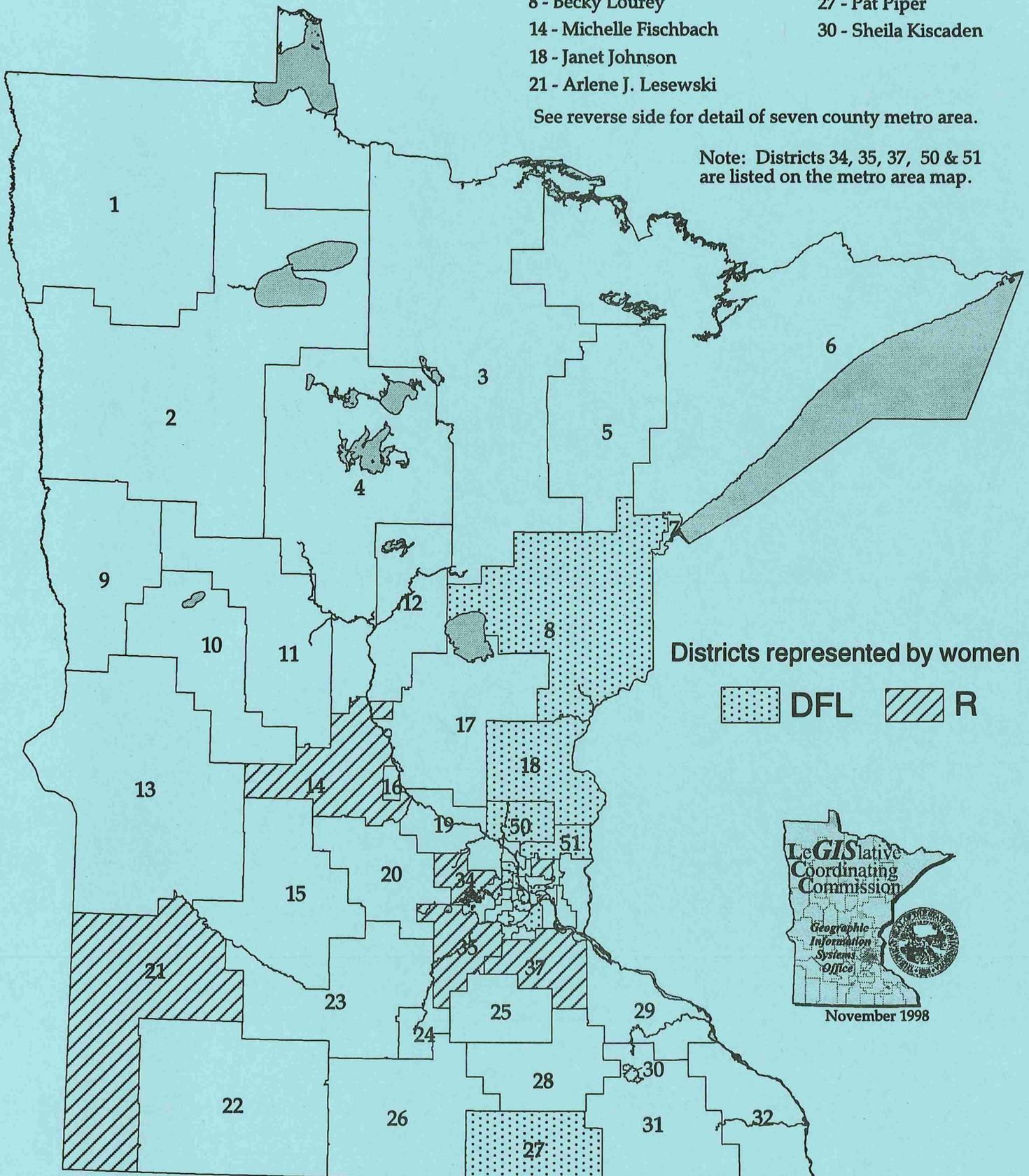
21 - Arlene J. Lesewski

27 - Pat Piper

30 - Sheila Kiscaden

See reverse side for detail of seven county metro area.

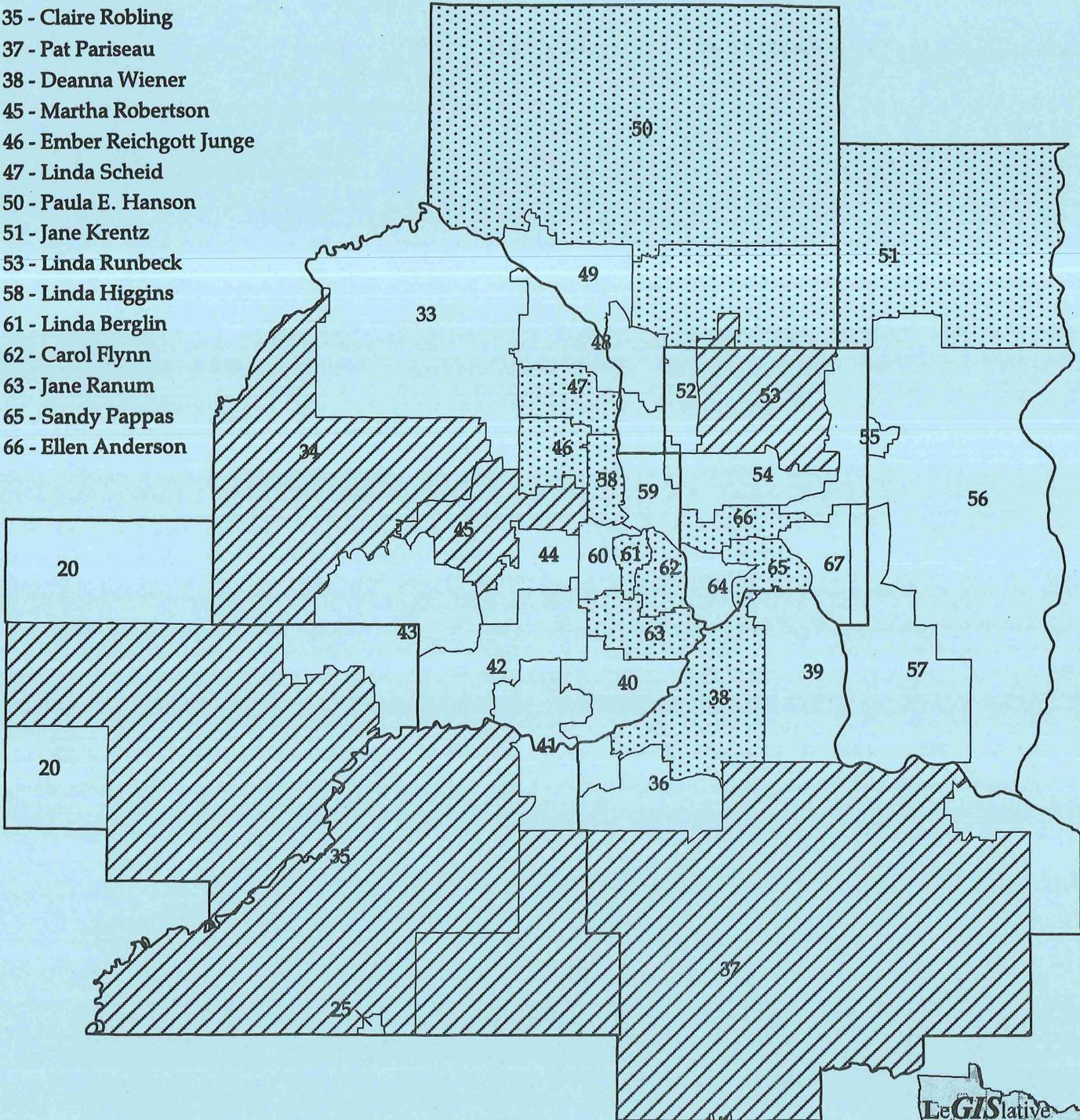
Note: Districts 34, 35, 37, 50 & 51 are listed on the metro area map.



Women in the Legislature

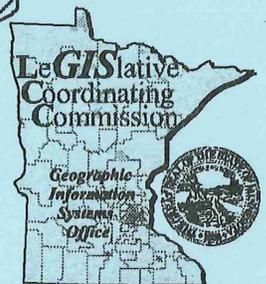
1999 Minnesota Senate Membership

- 34 - Gen Olson
- 35 - Claire Robling
- 37 - Pat Pariseau
- 38 - Deanna Wiener
- 45 - Martha Robertson
- 46 - Ember Reichgott Junge
- 47 - Linda Scheid
- 50 - Paula E. Hanson
- 51 - Jane Krentz
- 53 - Linda Runbeck
- 58 - Linda Higgins
- 61 - Linda Berglin
- 62 - Carol Flynn
- 63 - Jane Ranum
- 65 - Sandy Pappas
- 66 - Ellen Anderson



Districts represented by women

 DFL  R



November 1998

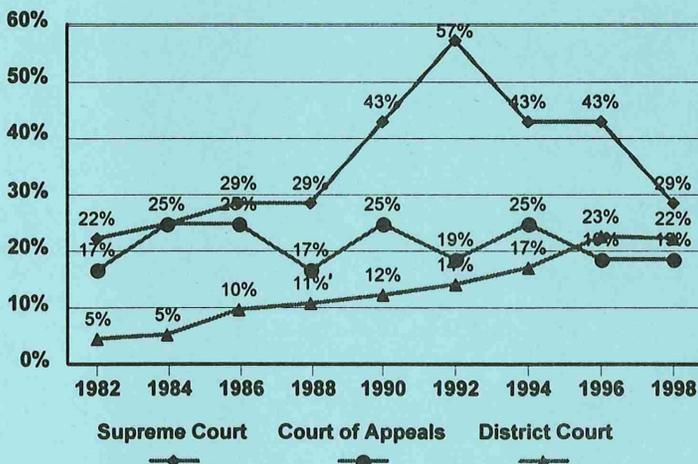
Women in Local Government

- Minnesota County Commissioners**
 Prior to the 1998 election, 77 women served as county commissioners, or 17 percent of the 448 seats. Updated data will not be available until January 1999.
- Minnesota County Attorneys**
 Seven women were elected as County Attorney for the term beginning in January 1999, including the counties of Clay, Hennepin, Norman, Ramsey, Redwood, Mille Lacs, and Roseau. This is an increase of 3 women since the last election.
- Minnesota School Boards**
 Prior to the 1998 elections, 796 women served as school board members, or 33 percent of the 2,398 seats. Updated data are not yet available.
- Minnesota Mayors and City Council Members**
 In 1997, 13.5 percent of mayors and 24.4 percent of city council members were women. Updated data will not be available until the spring of 1999.

Women in the Minnesota Judiciary

Women will hold 22.2 percent of all judicial seats in 1999, filling 62 of the 279 seats. Two of the seven justices on the Minnesota Supreme Court will be women: Chief Justice Kathleen A. Blatz and Justice Joan Erickson Lancaster (appointed earlier this year by Governor Carlson to replace retiring Justice Sandra Gardebring). Women hold 3 of the 16 seats on the Court of Appeals, or 18.8 percent. In District Courts, women will hold 57 of the 256 seats, or 22.3 percent. When vacancies on these courts occur between elections, open seats are filled by appointment by the governor.

Women Judges in the Courts
Minnesota, 1982-1998



Women in Minnesota Executive Offices

Of the six statewide elected offices in Minnesota (governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state auditor, treasurer, attorney general) 4 or 66.6 percent are held by women. Mae Schunk will be the state's fourth female lieutenant governor. Mary Kiffmeyer has been elected to the Secretary of State's office, replacing retiring Joan Grove who had served in that capacity since 1975. Judy Dutcher, first elected as state auditor in 1994 and reelected in 1998, is the first woman to serve in that position. Carol Johnson will be the first woman to serve as state treasurer in Minnesota. No woman has ever been governor or attorney general in Minnesota.

Women in Elected Office - United States

- U.S. House of Representatives**
 Fifty-six women (50 incumbents, 6 newcomers; 39D, 17R) will serve in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1999. This is a record high, surpassing last year's record of 54 female Representatives. A record 121 women received major party nominations for House seats in the 1998 election. Coya Knutson, elected in 1954, is the only woman from Minnesota to have served in the U.S. House.
- U.S. Senate**
 Nine women (8 incumbents, 1 newcomer; 6D, 3R) will serve in the U.S. Senate in 1999, the same number as served in 1998. Of the 10 women who received major party nominations, 4 won. Muriel Humphrey is the only woman from Minnesota to have served in the U.S. Senate, appointed to fill her husband's seat after his death in 1978. She did not run for election at the end of the appointed term.
- Governorships**
 Three women will serve as governor in 1999. Ten women had major party nominations for governor in 1998. Two of these women - Jane Dee Hull(R-AZ) and Jeanne Shaheen(D-NH) - were reelected to that post, joining Governor Christine Todd Whitman(R-NJ).
- Executive Offices**
 Ninety-one women have been elected to statewide executive offices for 1999, including governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney general, state treasurer, controller, and various other positions. Women will hold 28 percent of these positions.
- State Legislatures**
 Women will hold 22.3 percent of the seats in state legislatures nationwide, or 1,652 seats. Minnesota ranks 10th in the proportion of women serving (28.4%).