

# STATUS OF WOMEN IN THE STATES



## THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES: INDICATORS OF ECONOMIC & HEALTH WELL-BEING FOR WOMEN



*Women's Health in the Middle Years:  
Your Education. Your Occupation.*

October 29, 2019

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INSTITUTE FOR  
WOMEN'S POLICY RESEARCH

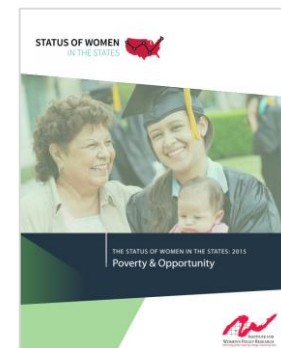
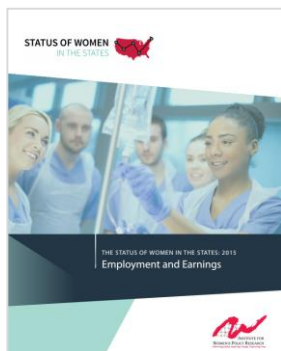
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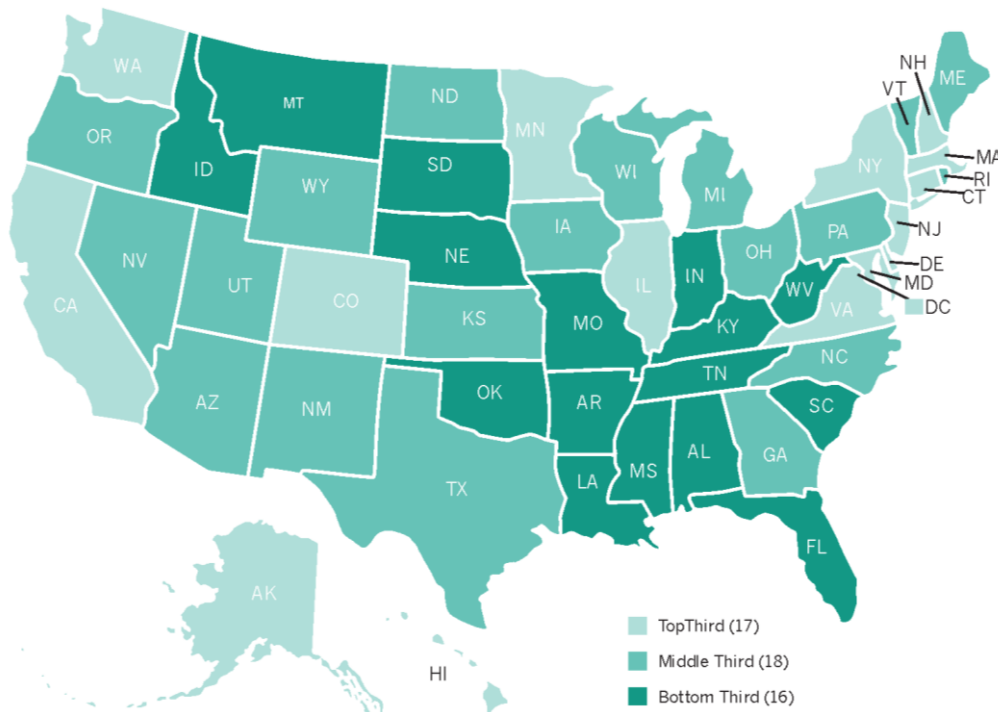
The Institute for Women's Policy Research conducts and communicates research to inspire public dialogue, shape policy, and improve the lives and opportunities of women of diverse backgrounds, circumstances, and experiences.

# STATUS OF WOMEN IN THE STATES TOPICS



# WOMEN'S EARNINGS RANGE FROM \$31-\$65K

Map 2. Median Annual Earnings for Women Employed Full-Time, Year-Round



Note: Median annual earnings for full-time, year-round workers aged 16 and older.  
 Source: IWPR analysis of American Community Survey microdata (Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, Version 5.0).

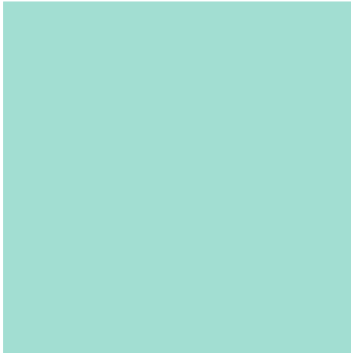
## Best States for Women's Median Annual Earnings

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| District Of Columbia                             | \$65,000 |
| Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey | \$50,000 |

## Worst States for Women's Median Annual Earnings

|                                 |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Mississippi                     | \$31,300 |
| Arkansas                        | \$32,000 |
| Montana                         | \$33,000 |
| West Virginia                   | \$33,300 |
| Idaho, Oklahoma, South Carolina | \$34,000 |

# INTERSECTION OF GENDER & RACE

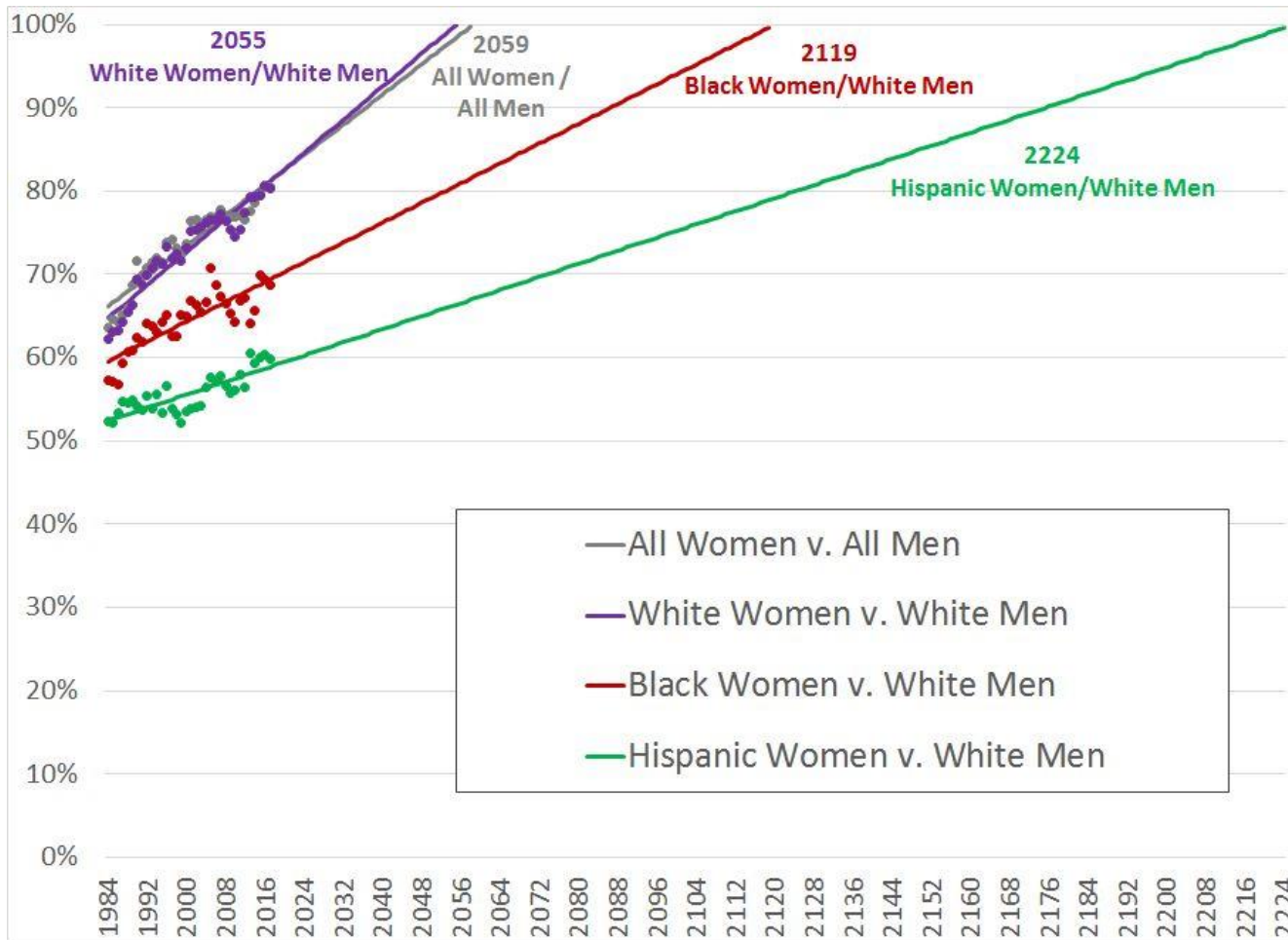


**Hispanic women  
earn \$25,000 less per  
year than white men.**

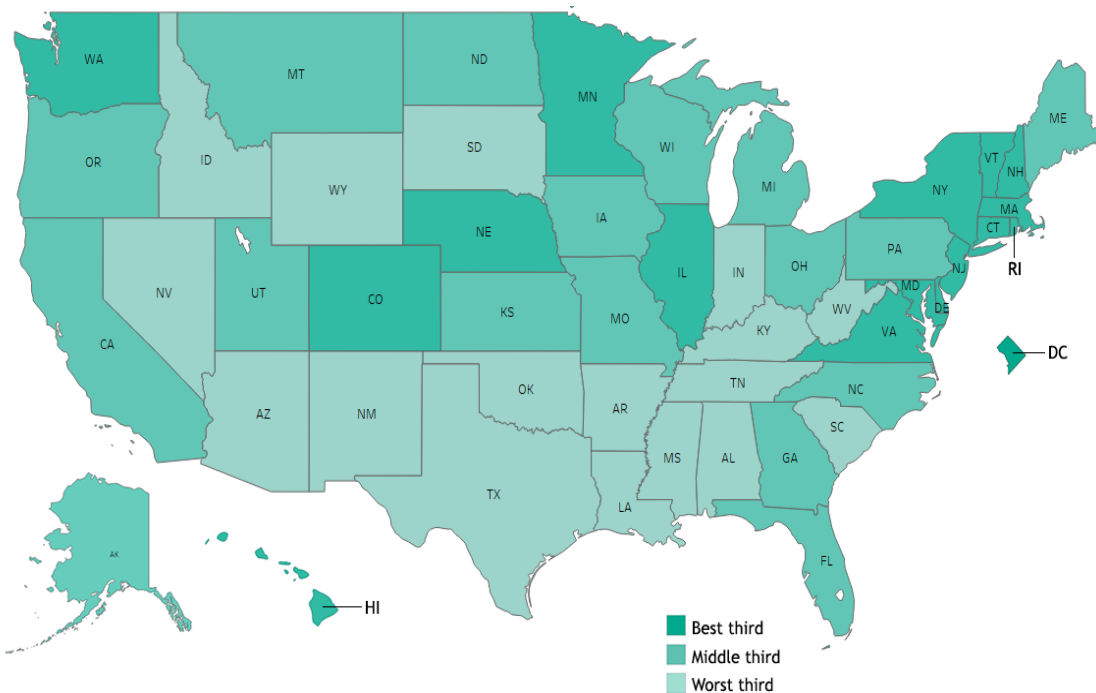


**Black women earn  
\$20,000 less per year  
than white men.**

# HISPANIC WOMEN WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL 2224 & BLACK WOMEN WILL WAIT UNTIL 2119 FOR EQUAL PAY



# POVERTY & OPPORTUNITY COMPOSITE INDEX



## Best and Worst States

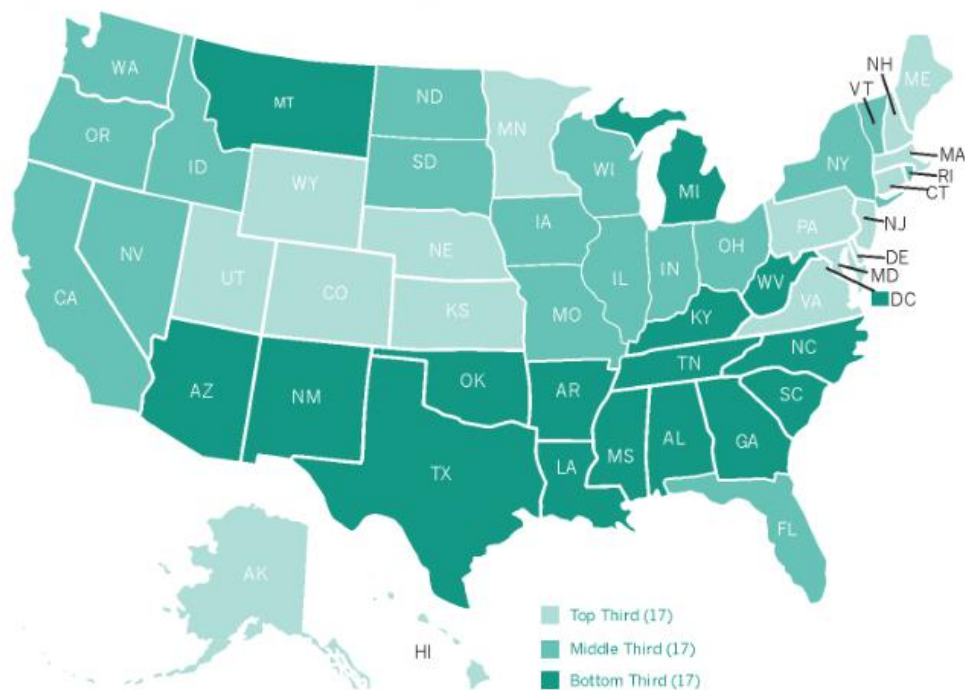
| State         | Rank | Grade |
|---------------|------|-------|
| Maryland      | 1    | B     |
| DC            | 2    | B     |
| Massachusetts | 3    | B     |
| Connecticut   | 4    | B-    |
| Colorado      | 5    | B-    |
| Arkansas      | 47   | D-    |
| West Virginia | 48   | D-    |
| Kentucky      | 49   | D-    |
| Louisiana     | 50   | D-    |
| Mississippi   | 51   | F     |

# WOMEN'S POVERTY RATES ARE HIGHER THAN MEN'S

Native American and Black women:  
≥2x the poverty rate of White women.

About 1 in 4 Native American & Black women live in poverty.

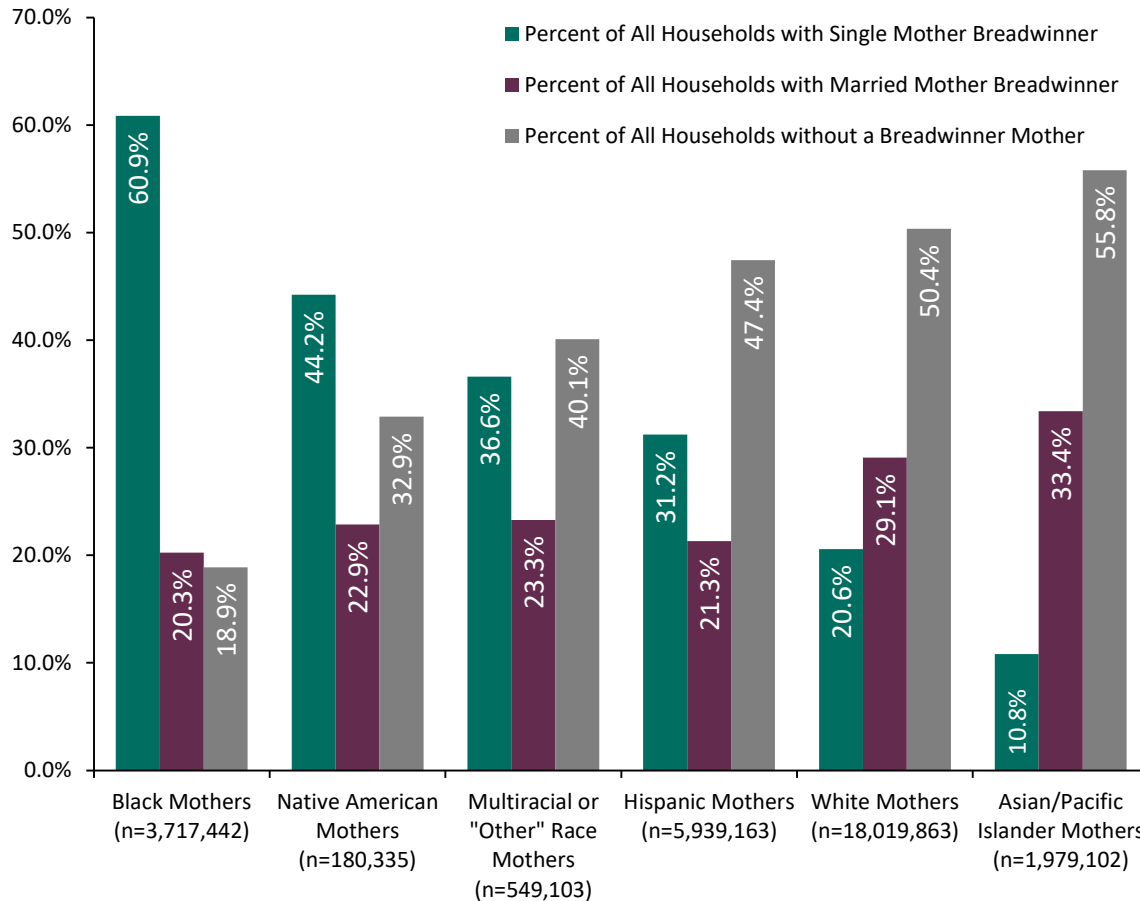
Map 4.6. Percent of Women Above Poverty.



Note: For women aged 18 and older.  
Source: IWPR analysis of American Community Survey microdata (IPUMS, Version 5.0).



# BREADWINNER MOTHERS

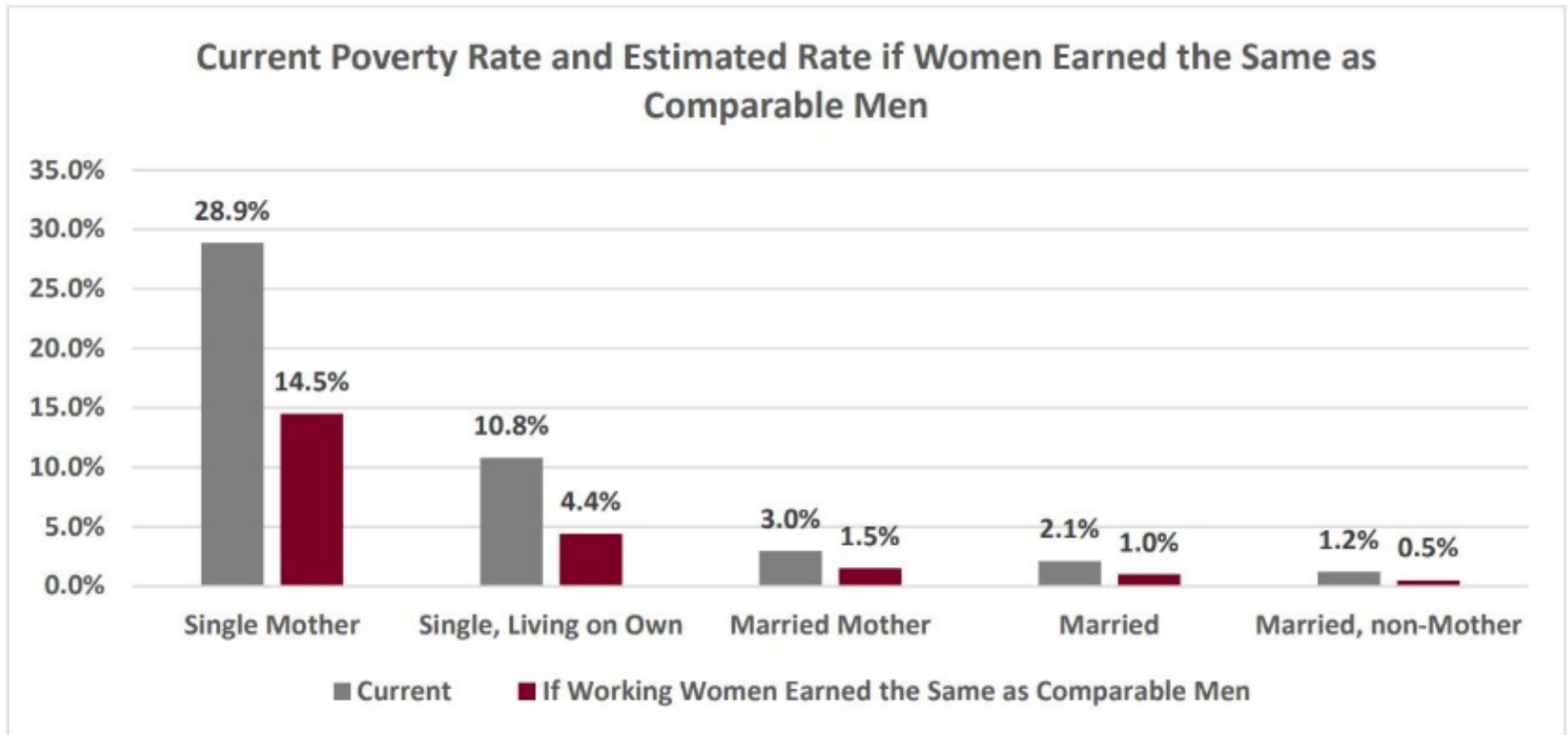


About 1/2 of White and Hispanic mother are breadwinners

2 out of 3 Native American mothers are breadwinners

More than 4 out of 5 Black mothers are breadwinners

# EQUAL PAY WOULD CUT POVERTY BY HALF FOR FAMILIES WITH A WORKING WOMAN



Source: Institute for Women's Policy Research calculations based on the Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic supplements, 2014-2016, for calendar years 2013-2015; all in 2016 dollars.

# WOMEN'S EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

## Best States

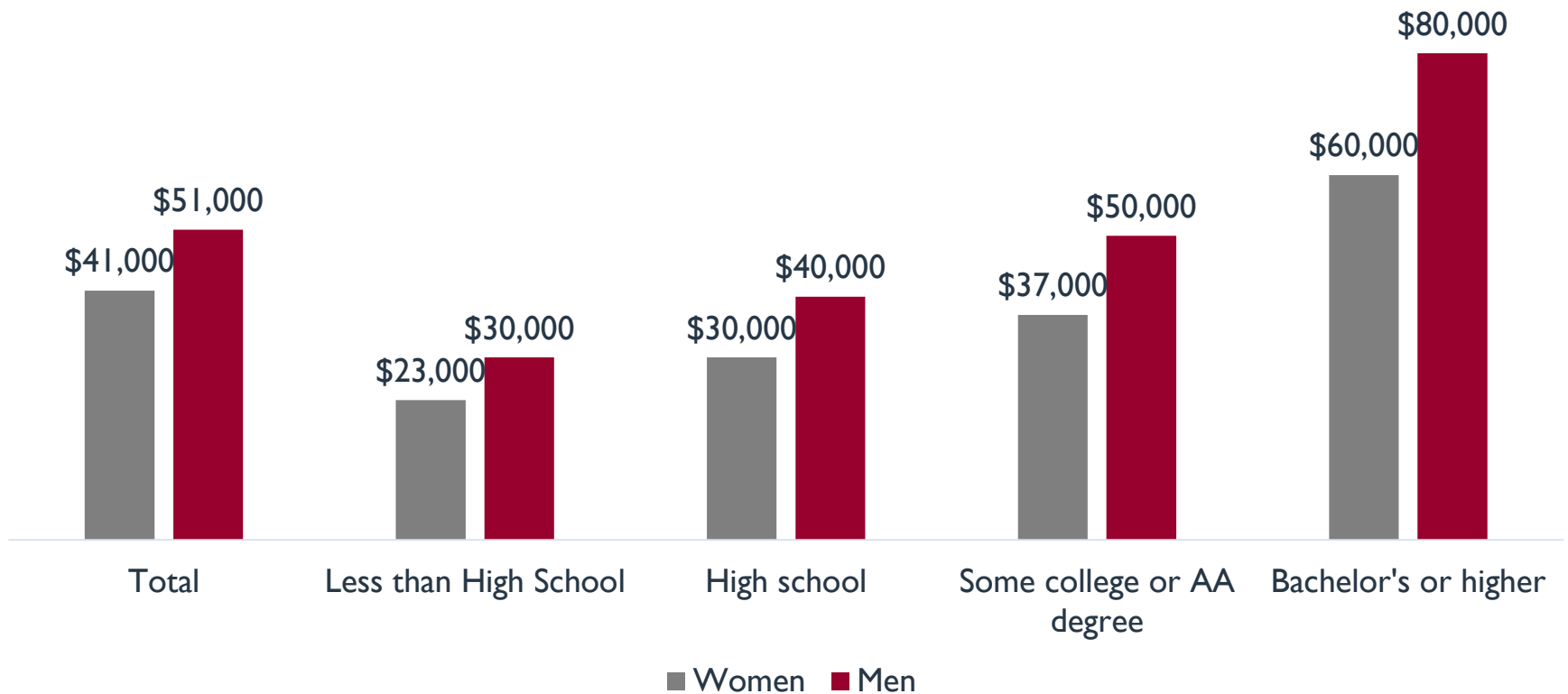
| State         | Rank | Share w/ BA+ |
|---------------|------|--------------|
| DC            | 1    | 56.3%        |
| Massachusetts | 2    | 43.3%        |
| Colorado      | 3    | 40.4%        |
| Maryland      | 4    | 39.4%        |
| Connecticut   | 5    | 39.1%        |
| New Jersey    | 6    | 38.8%        |
| Virginia      | 7    | 38.5%        |
| Vermont       | 8    | 37.9%        |
| New Hampshire | 9    | 37.8%        |
| New York      | 10   | 36.6%        |

## Worst States

| State         | Rank | Share w/ BA+ |
|---------------|------|--------------|
| Tennessee     | 42   | 26.8%        |
| Oklahoma      | 43   | 26.2%        |
| Indiana       | 44   | 26.1%        |
| Alabama       | 45   | 24.9%        |
| Louisiana     | 46   | 24.6%        |
| Kentucky      | 47   | 24.4%        |
| Mississippi   | 48   | 23.9%        |
| Nevada        | 49   | 23.8%        |
| Arkansas      | 50   | 22.9%        |
| West Virginia | 51   | 21.7%        |

# WOMEN WITH DEGREES EARN LESS THAN COMPARABLE MEN

Earnings by Education Level



# HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

## Best States

| State         | Rank | Share w/ Ins. |
|---------------|------|---------------|
| Massachusetts | 1    | 97.5%         |
| Vermont       | 2    | 96.5%         |
| DC            | 3    | 96.4%         |
| Hawaii        | 4    | 95.8%         |
| Rhode Island  | 5    | 95.7%         |
| Iowa          | 6    | 95.5%         |
| Minnesota     | 7    | 95.2%         |
| West Virginia | 8    | 94.4%         |
| Kentucky      | 9    | 94.3%         |
| Connecticut   | 10   | 94.2%         |

## Worst States

| State          | Rank | Share w/ Ins. |
|----------------|------|---------------|
| Louisiana      | 42   | 86.8%         |
| North Carolina | 43   | 86.5%         |
| Nevada         | 44   | 86.3%         |
| Idaho          | 45   | 85.2%         |
| Mississippi    | 46   | 84.0%         |
| Florida        | 47   | 83.5%         |
| Georgia        | 48   | 83.3%         |
| Alaska         | 49   | 82.4%         |
| Oklahoma       | 50   | 81.5%         |
| Texas          | 51   | 78.1%         |

# HEALTH & WELL-BEING COMPOSITE INDEX

Comprised of nine indicators:

## Chronic Disease

- Heart disease mortality
- Lung cancer mortality
- Breast cancer mortality
- Rate of AIDS diagnoses
- Incidence of diabetes

## Sexual Health

- Reported cases of chlamydia

## Physical Health

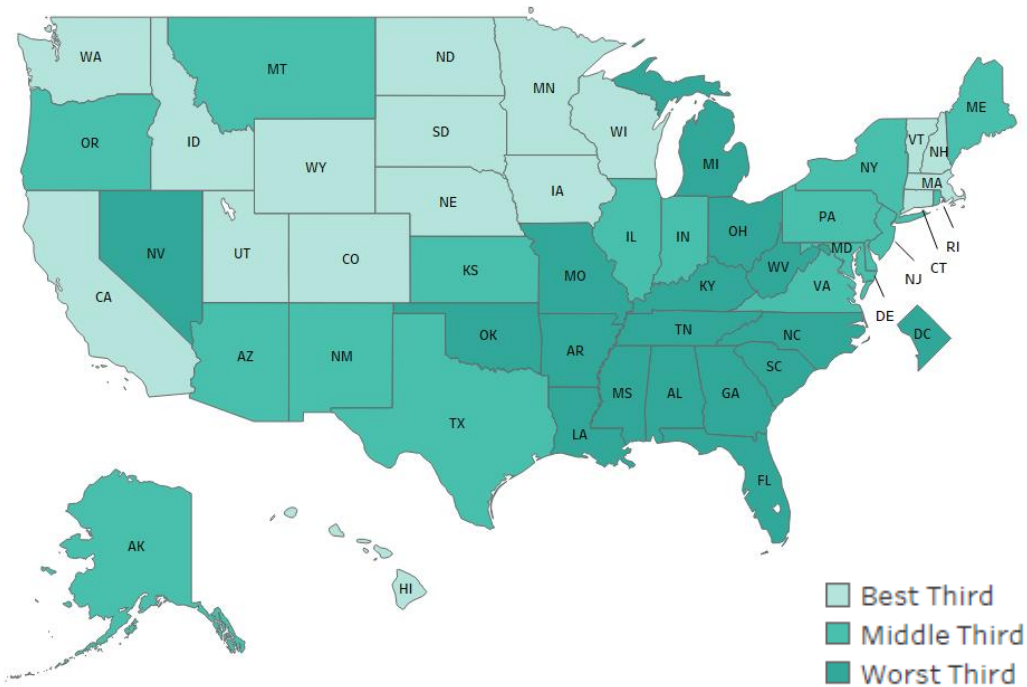
- Days per month of limited activity due to physical or mental health

## Mental Health

- Suicide mortality
- Days poor mental health per month

WOMEN IN HAWAII AND MINNESOTA HAVE THE BEST HEALTH;  
WOMEN IN LOUISIANA AND MISSISSIPPI HAVE THE WORST

## Health & Well-Being Composite Index



## Best and Worst States

| State        | Rank | Grade |
|--------------|------|-------|
| Hawaii       | 1    | A-    |
| Minnesota    | 2    | A-    |
| North Dakota | 3    | B+    |
| Colorado     | 4    | B+    |
| Utah         | 5    | B     |
| Alabama      | 47   | F     |
| Oklahoma     | 47   | F     |
| Arkansas     | 49   | F     |
| Louisiana    | 50   | F     |
| Mississippi  | 50   | F     |

# TRENDS IN HEALTH & WELL-BEING: 2004-2015



## Where women's health improved:

- Heart disease deaths
- Lung cancer deaths
- Breast cancer deaths
- AIDS incidence for women



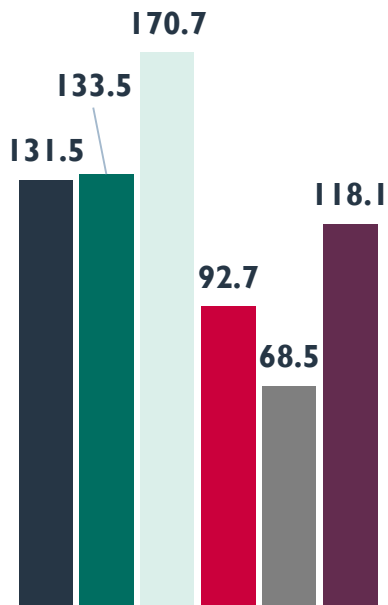
## Where women's health worsened:

- Mental health
- Suicide
- Activity limitations due to health problems
- Diabetes
- Chlamydia

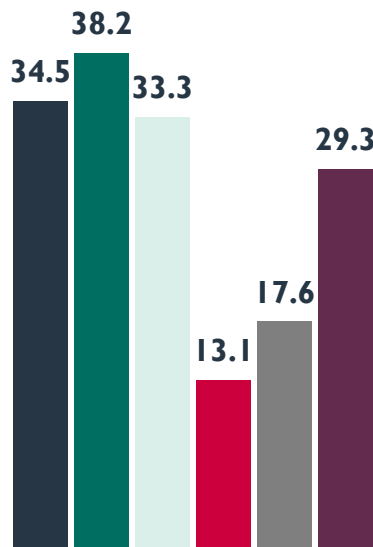


# BLACK WOMEN HAVE THE HIGHEST HEART DISEASE AND BREAST CANCER MORTALITY RATES; WHITE WOMEN HAVE THE HIGHEST LUNG CANCER MORTALITY RATE

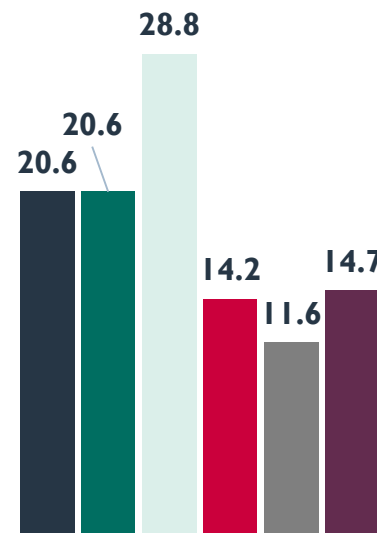
### Heart Disease Mortality (per 100,000), 2016



### Lung Cancer Mortality (per 100,000), 2016



### Breast Cancer Mortality (per 100,000), 2016



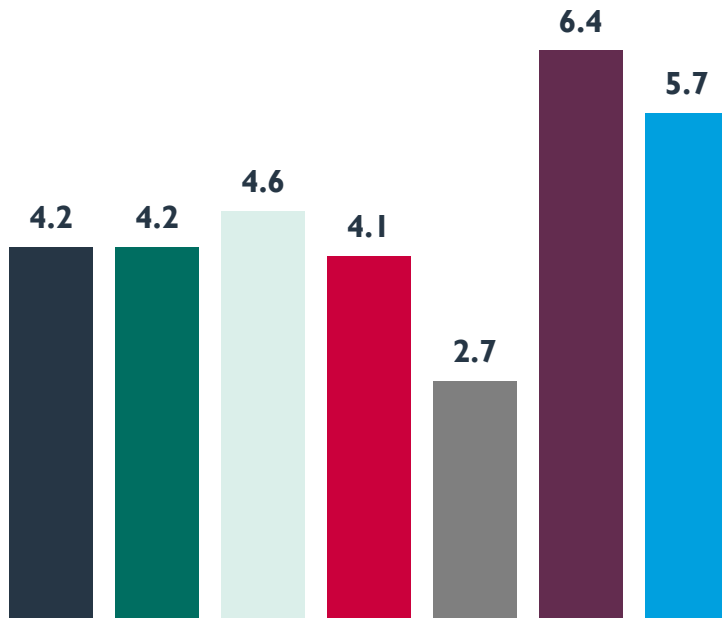
All Women
  White
  Black
  Hispanic
  Asian/Pacific Islander
  Native American

Notes: Mortality rates include women of all ages, and are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population. Racial groups are non-Hispanic. Data are not available for those who identify as another race or as two or more races. Data are three-year (2013-2015) averages. Source: IWPR compilation of data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

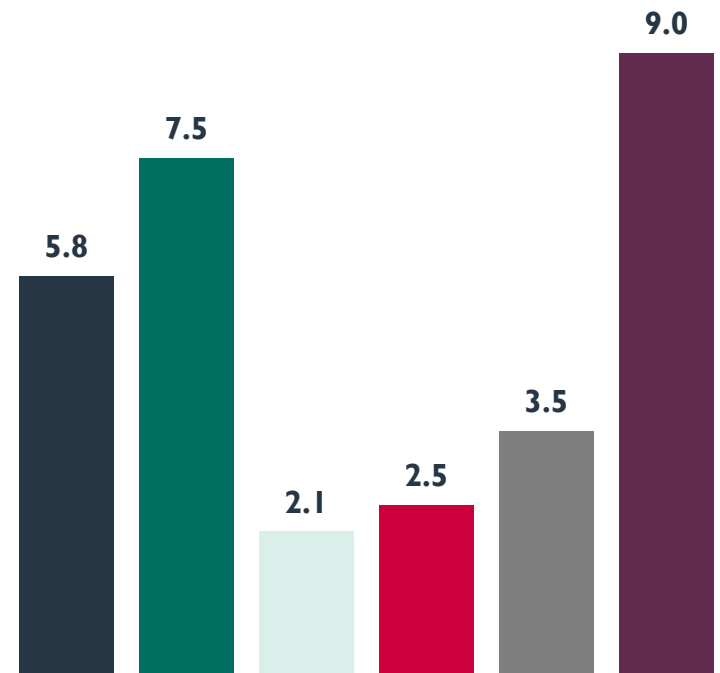


# NATIVE AMERICAN WOMEN REPORT THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF POOR MENTAL HEALTH DAYS AND HAVE THE HIGHEST SUICIDE MORTALITY RATE

**Average Number of Days per Month of Poor Mental Health, 2015**



**Suicide Mortality (per 100,000), 2015**



All Women
  White
  Black
  Hispanic
  Asian
  Native American
  Other Race or Multiracial

Notes: Mean number of days in the past 30 days on which women aged 18 and older self-reported that their mental health was not good. Mortality rates include women of all ages, and are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population. Racial groups are non-Hispanic. Data are three-year (2013-2015) averages. Source: IWPR compilation of data from BRFSS and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



# OLDER WOMEN FACE SPECIFIC HEALTH CHALLENGES

## Women aged 65 and older:

- Report more days of poor mental health per month than older men, but fewer than women overall.
- Have longer life expectancy and are less likely to have a spouse who can help provide the care they need
- Have higher average expenditures for home health care services and long-term care than men.
- Comprise over half (56 percent) of all older Medicare recipients (65 and older), and two-thirds of Medicare recipients aged 85 and older.

Sources: IWPR analysis of data from the BRFSS; Kristen Robinson, “Trends in Health Status

and Health Care Use Among Older Women; Kaiser Family Foundation, “Medicare’s Role for Older Women.”



# HEALTH STATUS OF LGBT WOMEN

- Lesbian and bisexual women are less likely than other women to report very good/excellent health.
- More than half of LGBT individuals report facing discrimination in a health care setting.
- LGBT women are more likely to lack money for health care needs.
- Lesbian and bisexual women are more likely to report experiencing serious psychological distress.
- LGBT youth are more likely to have mood or anxiety disorders, depression, and suicidal ideation and attempts.

# WHAT CAN BE DONE – POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Pass paid leave legislation.

2. Increase access to affordable & quality child care for women.

3. Defend the social safety net.

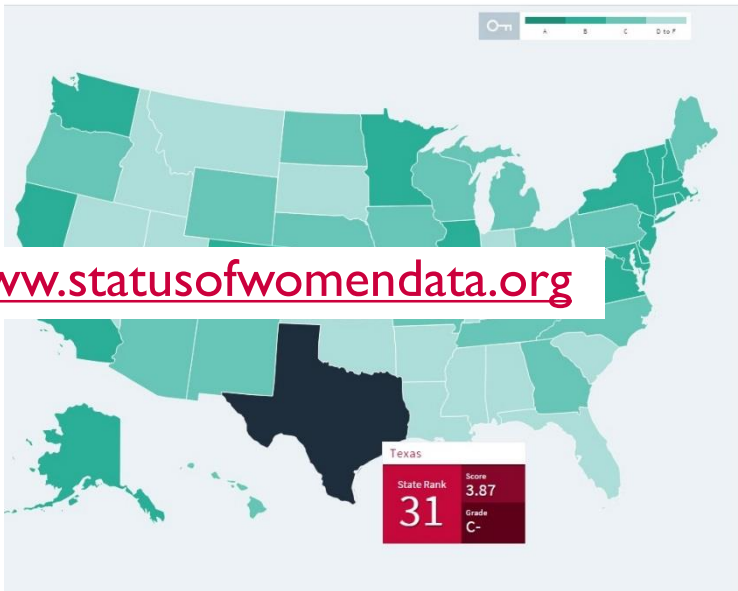
4. Continue to support policies that increased health insurance coverage rates among women and prohibited discrimination based on sexuality or gender identity.

5. Expand access to health services to address disparities.

# EXPLORING THE DATA

STATUS OF WOMEN  
IN THE STATES

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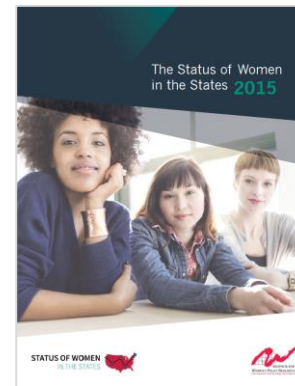
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## Comprehensive National Report



Fact sheets for 50 states & DC

STATUS OF WOMEN IN THE STATES

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The Status of Women in the District of Columbia, 2015: Highlights

Women in the District of Columbia have made considerable advances in recent years but still face challenges that often prevent them from reaching their full potential. Since the area Status of Women in the States report was published, higher percentages of women have bachelor's degrees, and women are more likely to work in managerial or professional occupations. In addition, the gender wage gap in the District of Columbia has widened, although it remains one of the most narrow gaps in the nation. In addition, as in all other states, women in the District of Columbia are less likely than men to be in the labor force and more likely to live in poverty.

↑ ↓

Wage gap narrows, income in the District of Columbia will not see equal pay until the year 2055

Key Findings

- The District of Columbia has made gains in the area of employment equality, for which it receives an A- in our grade for health and well-being.
- The District of Columbia remains the only full-time, year-round work force on the labor compact with nearly equal pay.
- Agreements as a percent of those working in nursing, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields in the District of Columbia are narrow, compared with all 50 general categories.
- Women in the District of Columbia who are nonresident have full-time pay levels, on average, that are the lowest among all states.
- Agreements as a percent of women in the District of Columbia have a bachelor's degree or higher, an indicator of labor's productivity growth rate.
- In many ways, not a percent of the District of Columbia has state skills were awarded in state pay, C- provided special advantages, or were not below the state.
- Black women in the highest 10th of women in the United States. The District of Columbia ranks 4th of 50th in overall score (4.87) from 2010-2014.

Report on progress based on data from 2010 and 2014. See Appendix A of the Status of Women in the States, 2015 for more information. Calculated by the Institute for Women's Policy Research.

**STATUS OF WOMEN**  
IN THE STATES



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