

EMPLOYMENT

FACT SHEET

The Wage Gap Over Time: African American Women

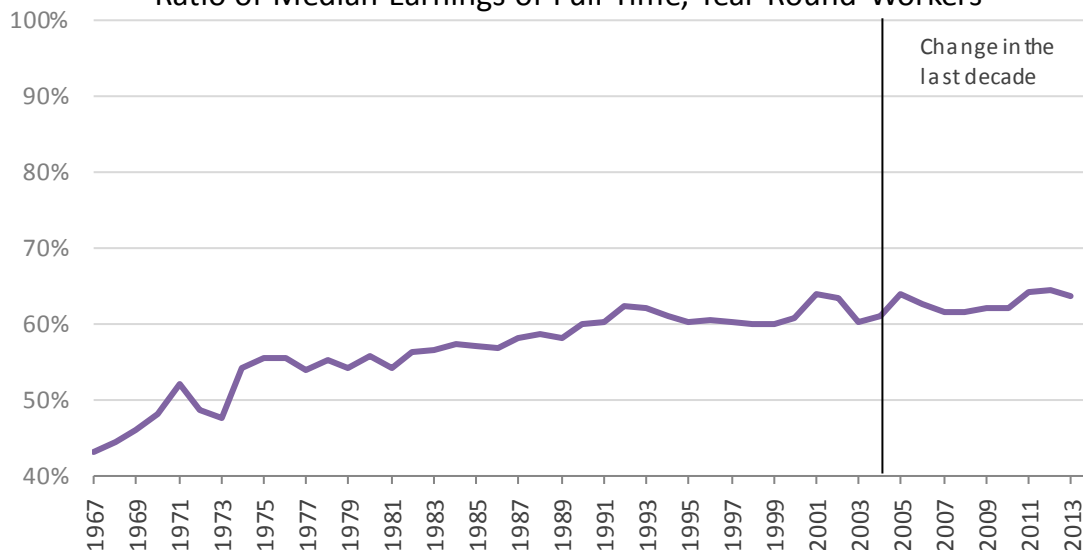
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American women who work full time, year round are typically paid only 78 cents for every dollar paid to their male counterparts. But the wage gap is even worse for African American women—among full-time, year-round workers, African American women are typically paid only 64 cents for every dollar paid to white, non-Hispanic men. It has been more than 50 years since the passage of the Equal Pay Act and in that time we've seen women make huge strides forward in the labor force. Yet, more than 50 years later, the wage gap still persists. Since the passage of this landmark legislation, how much progress have African American women made?

In 1967, the earliest year for which data are available, an African American woman working full time, year round typically made only 43 cents for every dollar paid to her white, non-Hispanic male counterpart. By 2013, the most recent year for which data are available, that gap had narrowed by 21 cents, but African American women working full time, year round were still only paid 64 cents for every dollar paid to their white, non-Hispanic male counterparts.

The Wage Gap Over Time for African American Women Compared to White, Non-Hispanic Men

Ratio of Median Earnings of Full-Time, Year-Round Workers



Source: Census Bureau, Current Population Survey

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The Wage Gap for African American Women Over Time

Year	African American Women's Earnings	White, Non-Hispanic Men's Earnings	Gap in Earnings	Women's/Men's Earnings Ratio	Wage Gap
2013	\$34,089	\$53,488	\$19,399	63.7%	36.3%
2012	\$34,337	\$53,298	\$18,921	64.5%	35.5%
2011	\$34,698	\$54,187	\$19,489	64.0%	36.0%
2010	\$34,512	\$55,514	\$21,002	62.2%	37.8%
2009	\$34,562	\$55,827	\$21,265	61.9%	38.1%
2008	\$34,068	\$55,441	\$21,373	61.4%	38.6%
2007	\$34,838	\$56,545	\$21,707	61.6%	38.4%
2006	\$35,067	\$55,942	\$20,875	62.7%	37.3%
2005	\$35,406	\$55,410	\$20,004	63.9%	36.1%
2004	\$34,203	\$55,613	\$21,960	60.9%	39.1%
2003	\$34,153	\$56,688	\$22,535	60.2%	39.8%
2002	\$34,808	\$55,003	\$20,195	63.3%	36.7%
2001	\$34,993	\$54,843	\$19,850	63.8%	36.2%
2000	\$33,938	\$55,797	\$21,859	60.8%	39.2%
1999	\$33,869	\$56,545	\$22,676	59.9%	40.1%
1998	\$32,323	\$53,855	\$21,532	60.0%	40.0%
1997	\$31,887	\$52,960	\$20,073	60.2%	39.8%
1996	\$31,746	\$52,397	\$20,651	60.6%	39.4%
1995	\$31,364	\$52,214	\$20,850	60.1%	39.9%
1994	\$30,946	\$50,731	\$19,785	61.0%	39.0%
1993	\$31,457	\$50,753	\$19,296	62.0%	38.0%
1992	\$32,151	\$51,601	\$19,450	62.3%	37.7%
1991	\$31,224	\$51,785	\$20,561	60.3%	39.7%
1990	\$31,169	\$52,063	\$20,894	59.9%	40.1%
1989	\$31,542	\$54,359	\$22,817	58.0%	42.0%
1988	\$31,292	\$53,466	\$21,174	58.5%	41.5%
1987	\$30,897	\$53,304	\$22,407	58.0%	42.0%
1986	\$29,878	\$52,576	\$22,698	56.8%	43.2%
1985	\$29,540	\$51,742	\$21,202	57.1%	42.9%
1984	\$29,298	\$51,170	\$21,872	57.3%	42.7%
1983	\$28,208	\$49,830	\$21,622	56.6%	43.4%
1982	\$28,119	\$50,068	\$21,949	56.2%	43.8%
1981	\$27,523	\$50,887	\$23,364	54.1%	45.9%
1980	\$28,725	\$51,563	\$22,838	55.7%	44.3%
1979	\$28,181	\$52,045	\$23,864	54.1%	45.9%
1978	\$28,925	\$52,413	\$23,508	55.1%	44.9%
1977	\$28,352	\$52,733	\$24,381	53.8%	46.2%
1976	\$28,477	\$51,419	\$22,942	55.4%	44.6%
1975	\$28,490	\$51,390	\$22,900	55.4%	44.6%
1974	\$27,960	\$51,626	\$23,666	54.2%	45.8%
1973	\$25,714	\$53,967	\$28,253	47.6%	52.4%
1972	\$25,630	\$52,749	\$27,119	48.6%	51.4%
1971	\$25,716	\$49,540	\$23,824	51.9%	48.1%
1970	\$23,808	\$49,377	\$25,569	48.2%	51.8%
1969	\$22,520	\$49,074	\$26,554	45.9%	54.1%
1968	\$20,461	\$46,181	\$25,720	44.3%	55.7%
1967	\$19,477	\$45,101	\$25,624	43.2%	56.8%

Source: National Women's Law Center calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Historical Data, Table P-38: Full-Time, Year-Round Workers by Median Earnings and Sex, available at <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/income/data/historical/people/>. Median earnings are in 2013 dollars. Figures may differ from those in other reports due to rounding. Data for white, non-Hispanic men are for "white alone, not Hispanic" from 2002-2013, "white, not Hispanic" from 1987-2001, and "white" from 1967-1986. Data for black women are for "black alone" from 2002-2012 and "black" from 1967-2001.