

EMPLOYMENT

FACT SHEET

The Wage Gap Over Time: Asian American Women

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More than 50 years after the Equal Pay Act was passed the wage gap still persists. Women who work full time, year round in the United States are typically paid only 79 cents for every dollar paid to their male counterparts. The wage gap is a penny better for Asian American women—among full-time, year-round workers; Asian American women typically make 79 cents for every dollar paid to white, non-Hispanic men. But in the last five decades, how much progress have Asian American women really made?

In 1988, the earliest year for which data are available, an Asian American woman working full time, year round typically made only 69 cents for every dollar paid to get white, non-Hispanic male counterpart. By 2014, the most recent year for which data are available, this figure stood at 84 cents—just over 15 cents less than it was more than a quarter of a century ago.

The Wage Gap Over Time for Asian American Women Compared to White, Non-Hispanic Men Ratio of Median Earnings of Full-Time, Year-Round Workers

Change in the last decade

Change in the last decade

Change in the last decade

70%

70%

60%

50%

40%

Asian American Women's/White, Non-Hispanic Men's Earnings Ratio

Source: Census Bureau, Current Population Survey





The Wage Gap for Asian American Women Over Time

Year	Asian American Women's Earnings	White, Non- Hispanic Men's Earnings	Gap in Earnings	Women's/Men's Earnings Ratio	Wage Gap
2014	\$46,334	\$55,470	\$9,136	83.5%	16.5%
2013	\$46,082	\$56,046	\$9,964	82.2%	17.8%
2012	\$47,005	\$54,170	\$7,165	86.8%	13.2%
2011	\$43,035	\$55,073	\$12,038	78.1%	21.9%
2010	\$44,829	\$56,421	\$11,592	79.5%	20.5%
2009	\$46,709	\$56,722	\$10,013	82.3%	17.7%
2008	\$46,419	\$56,347	\$9,928	82.4%	17.6%
2007	\$46,100	\$57,468	\$11,368	80.2%	19.8%
2006	\$46,162	\$56,855	\$10,693	81.2%	18.8%
2005	\$43,753	\$56,294	\$12,541	77.7%	22.3%
2004	\$45,120	\$57,078	\$11,958	79.0%	21.0%
2003	\$41,946	\$57,611	\$15,665	72.8%	27.2%
2002	\$41,364	\$55,898	\$14,534	74.0%	26.0%
2001	\$41,031	\$55,735	\$14,704	73.6%	26.4%
2000	\$41,894	\$56,704	\$14,810	73.9%	26.1%
1999	\$40,609	\$57,487	\$16,878	70.6%	29.4%
1998	\$39,293	\$54,776	\$15,483	71.7%	28.3%
1997	\$40,872	\$53,843	\$12,971	75.9%	24.1%
1996	\$38,410	\$53,270	\$14,860	72.1%	27.9%
1995	\$38,403	\$53,107	\$14,704	72.3%	27.7%
1994	\$38,656	\$51,599	\$12,943	74.9%	25.1%
1993	\$39,291	\$51,599	\$12,308	76.1%	23.9%
1992	\$37,709	\$52,461	\$14,752	71.9%	28.1%
1991	\$35,906	\$52,648	\$16,742	68.2%	31.8%
1990	\$37,476	\$52,957	\$15,481	70.8%	29.2%
1989	\$39,394	\$55,264	\$15,870	71.3%	28.7%
1988	\$37,219	\$54,357	\$17,138	68.5%	31.5%

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 2014 dollars. Figures may differ from those in other NWLC reports due to rounding or updated Census estimates. Data for Asian women are "Asian alone" from 2002-2014, and "Asian" from 1988-2001. Data for white, non-Hispanic men are "white alone, not Hispanic" from 2002-2014, "white, not Hispanic" from 1988-2001.