

EMPLOYMENT

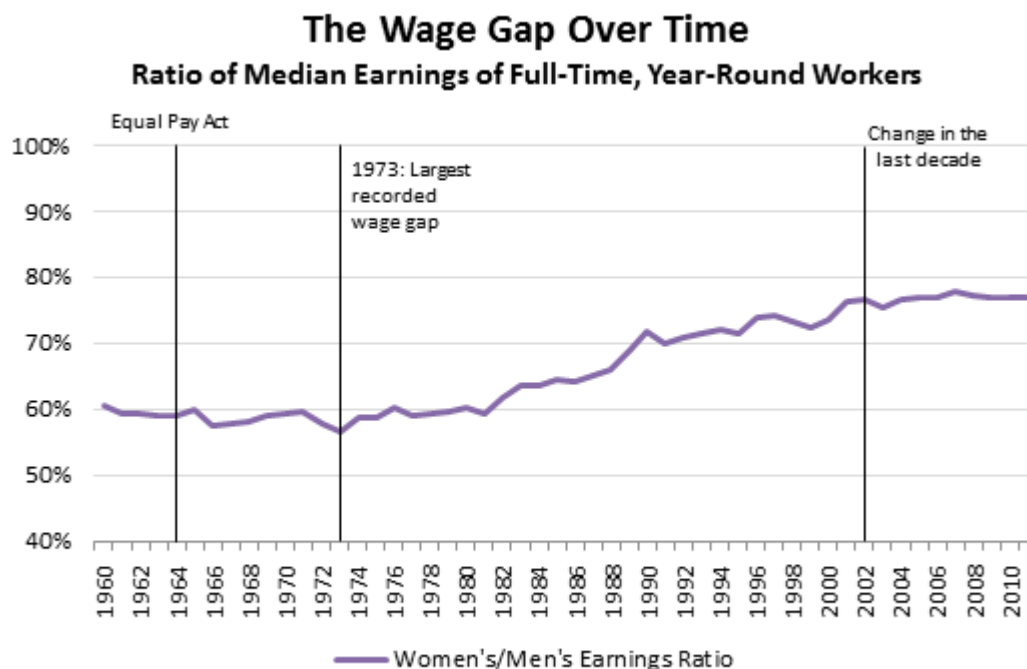
FACT SHEET

The Wage Gap Over Time

June 2013

American women who work full time, year round are typically paid only 77 cents for every dollar paid to their male counterparts. This June marks 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, 50 years later, the wage gap still persists. Since the passage of this landmark legislation, how much progress have women made?

In 1963, a woman working full time, year round typically made just 59 cents for every dollar paid to her male counterpart. The wage gap was 41 cents. In 2011, the most recent year for which data are available, a woman working full time, year round typically made just 77 cents for every dollar paid to her male counterpart. The wage gap was 23 cents – just 18 cents smaller than when the Equal Pay Act became law. It's been stuck at 77 cents for the last decade.



Source: Census Bureau, Current Population Survey

www.nwlc.org 

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/>.



The Overall Wage Gap Over Time

Year	Women's Earnings	Men's Earnings	Gap in Earnings	Women's/Men's Earnings Ratio	Wage Gap
2011	\$37,118	\$48,202	\$11,084	77.0%	23.0%
2010	\$38,052	\$49,464	\$11,412	76.9%	23.1%
2009	\$38,040	\$49,416	\$11,376	77.0%	23.0%
2008	\$37,339	\$48,435	\$11,096	77.1%	22.9%
2007	\$38,076	\$48,935	\$10,859	77.8%	22.2%
2006	\$36,271	\$47,142	\$10,872	76.9%	23.1%
2005	\$36,703	\$47,680	\$10,977	77.0%	23.0%
2004	\$37,197	\$48,576	\$11,378	76.6%	23.4%
2003	\$37,572	\$49,732	\$12,160	75.5%	24.5%
2002	\$37,759	\$49,294	\$11,534	76.6%	23.4%
2001	\$37,114	\$48,624	\$11,510	76.3%	23.7%
2000	\$35,867	\$48,653	\$12,786	73.7%	26.3%
1999	\$35,522	\$49,121	\$13,599	72.3%	27.7%
1998	\$35,637	\$48,704	\$13,067	73.2%	26.8%
1997	\$34,892	\$47,050	\$12,157	74.2%	25.8%
1996	\$33,844	\$45,882	\$12,039	73.8%	26.2%
1995	\$32,967	\$46,154	\$13,187	71.4%	28.6%
1994	\$33,323	\$46,302	\$12,979	72.0%	28.0%
1993	\$33,332	\$46,605	\$13,273	71.5%	28.5%
1992	\$33,572	\$47,428	\$13,856	70.8%	29.2%
1991	\$33,099	\$47,381	\$14,281	69.9%	30.1%
1990	\$33,067	\$46,172	\$13,105	71.6%	28.4%
1989	\$32,871	\$47,865	\$14,995	68.7%	31.3%
1988	\$32,164	\$48,697	\$16,533	66.0%	34.0%
1987	\$32,028	\$49,140	\$17,112	65.2%	34.8%
1986	\$31,781	\$49,449	\$17,668	64.3%	35.7%
1985	\$31,144	\$48,229	\$17,085	64.6%	35.4%
1984	\$30,473	\$47,871	\$17,397	63.7%	36.3%
1983	\$29,864	\$46,961	\$17,097	63.6%	36.4%
1982	\$29,123	\$47,166	\$18,043	61.7%	38.3%
1981	\$28,477	\$48,074	\$19,597	59.2%	40.8%
1980	\$29,098	\$48,368	\$19,270	60.2%	39.8%
1979	\$29,308	\$49,123	\$19,815	59.7%	40.3%
1978	\$29,581	\$49,766	\$20,185	59.4%	40.6%
1977	\$29,135	\$49,447	\$20,312	58.9%	41.1%
1976	\$29,109	\$48,359	\$19,250	60.2%	39.8%
1975	\$28,522	\$48,492	\$19,970	58.8%	41.2%
1974	\$28,670	\$48,796	\$20,126	58.8%	41.2%
1973	\$28,664	\$50,613	\$21,949	56.6%	43.4%
1972	\$28,381	\$49,050	\$20,669	57.9%	42.1%
1971	\$27,697	\$46,544	\$18,847	59.5%	40.5%
1970	\$27,515	\$46,345	\$18,831	59.4%	40.6%
1969	\$26,993	\$45,857	\$18,863	58.9%	41.1%
1968	\$25,251	\$43,421	\$18,169	58.2%	41.8%
1967	\$24,434	\$42,285	\$17,852	57.8%	42.2%
1966	\$23,959	\$41,628	\$17,669	57.6%	42.4%
1965	\$23,901	\$39,886	\$15,984	59.9%	40.1%
1964	\$23,260	\$39,325	\$16,065	59.1%	40.9%
1963	\$22,652	\$38,428	\$15,776	58.9%	41.1%
1962	\$22,228	\$37,486	\$15,258	59.3%	40.7%
1961	\$21,812	\$36,813	\$15,002	59.2%	40.8%
1960	\$21,646	\$35,675	\$14,029	60.7%	39.3%

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 2011 dollars.