

EMPLOYMENT

FACT SHEET

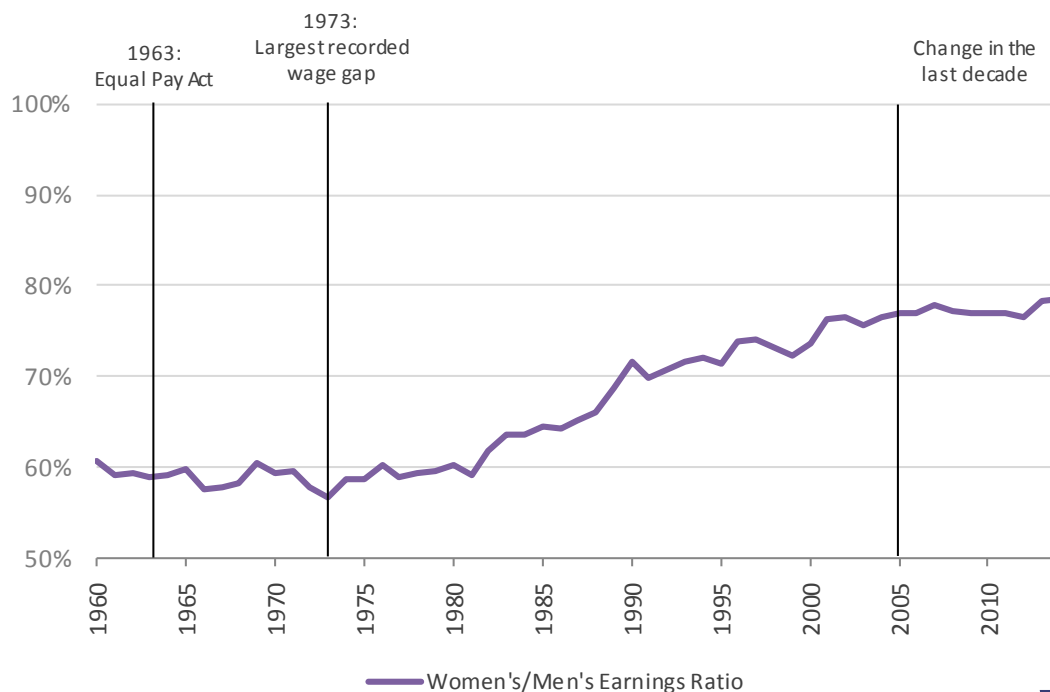
The Wage Gap Over Time

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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. 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 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 2014, the most recent year for which data are available, a woman working full time, year round typically made just 79 cents for every dollar paid to her male counterpart. The wage gap was 21 cents—just 20 cents smaller than when the Equal Pay Act became law. It has remained unchanged for nearly a decade.

The Wage Gap Over Time
Ratio of Median Earnings of Full-Time, Year-Round Workers



Source: Census Bureau, Current Population Survey

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The Overall Wage Gap Over Time

Year	Women's Earnings	Men's Earnings	Gap in Earnings	Women's/Men's Earnings Ratio	Wage Gap
2014	\$39,621	\$50,383	\$10,762	78.6%	21.4%
2013	\$39,428	\$50,833	\$11,405	77.6%	22.4%
2012	\$38,967	\$50,936	\$11,969	76.5%	23.5%
2011	\$39,073	\$50,740	\$11,667	77.0%	23.0%
2010	\$40,055	\$52,068	\$12,013	76.9%	23.1%
2009	\$40,030	\$52,001	\$11,971	77.0%	23.0%
2008	\$39,305	\$50,985	\$11,680	77.1%	22.9%
2007	\$40,080	\$51,511	\$11,431	77.8%	22.2%
2006	\$38,179	\$49,623	\$11,444	76.9%	23.1%
2005	\$38,620	\$50,171	\$11,551	77.0%	23.0%
2004	\$39,154	\$51,131	\$11,977	76.6%	23.4%
2003	\$39,548	\$52,348	\$12,800	75.5%	24.5%
2002	\$39,745	\$51,886	\$12,141	76.6%	23.4%
2001	\$39,066	\$51,180	\$12,114	76.3%	23.7%
2000	\$37,752	\$51,210	\$13,458	73.7%	26.3%
1999	\$37,404	\$51,724	\$14,320	72.3%	27.7%
1998	\$37,541	\$51,306	\$13,765	73.2%	26.8%
1997	\$36,741	\$49,542	\$12,801	74.2%	25.8%
1996	\$35,637	\$48,313	\$12,676	73.8%	26.2%
1995	\$34,729	\$48,621	\$13,892	71.4%	28.6%
1994	\$35,104	\$48,777	\$13,673	72.0%	28.0%
1993	\$35,098	\$49,074	\$13,976	71.5%	28.5%
1992	\$35,351	\$49,941	\$14,590	70.8%	29.2%
1991	\$34,853	\$49,891	\$15,038	69.9%	30.1%
1990	\$34,836	\$48,643	\$13,807	71.6%	28.4%
1989	\$34,612	\$50,401	\$15,789	68.7%	31.3%
1988	\$33,868	\$51,277	\$17,409	66.0%	34.0%
1987	\$33,725	\$51,743	\$18,018	65.2%	34.8%
1986	\$33,465	\$52,069	\$18,604	64.3%	35.7%
1985	\$32,794	\$50,785	\$17,991	64.6%	35.4%
1984	\$32,088	\$50,407	\$18,319	63.7%	36.3%
1983	\$31,467	\$49,481	\$18,014	63.6%	36.4%
1982	\$30,666	\$49,665	\$18,999	61.7%	38.3%
1981	\$29,985	\$50,621	\$20,636	59.2%	40.8%
1980	\$30,640	\$50,930	\$20,290	60.2%	39.8%
1979	\$30,888	\$51,771	\$20,883	59.7%	40.3%
1978	\$31,149	\$52,403	\$21,254	59.4%	40.6%
1977	\$30,679	\$52,067	\$21,388	58.9%	41.1%
1976	\$30,651	\$50,921	\$20,270	60.2%	39.8%
1975	\$30,033	\$51,061	\$21,028	58.8%	41.2%
1974	\$30,189	\$51,382	\$21,193	58.8%	41.2%
1973	\$30,182	\$53,294	\$23,112	56.6%	43.4%
1972	\$29,884	\$51,649	\$21,765	57.9%	42.1%
1971	\$29,164	\$49,010	\$19,846	59.5%	40.5%
1970	\$28,972	\$48,801	\$19,829	59.4%	40.6%
1969	\$28,424	\$46,984	\$18,560	60.5%	39.5%
1968	\$26,589	\$45,721	\$19,132	58.2%	41.8%
1967	\$25,729	\$44,526	\$18,797	57.8%	42.2%
1966	\$25,228	\$43,833	\$18,605	57.6%	42.4%
1965	\$25,168	\$41,999	\$16,831	59.9%	40.1%
1964	\$24,493	\$41,409	\$16,916	59.1%	40.9%
1963	\$23,852	\$40,464	\$16,612	58.9%	41.1%
1962	\$23,406	\$39,472	\$16,066	59.3%	40.7%
1961	\$22,967	\$38,764	\$15,797	59.2%	40.8%
1960	\$22,792	\$37,565	\$14,773	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 2014 dollars. Figures may differ from those in other NWLC reports due to rounding or updated Census estimates.