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LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON THE ECONOMIC STATUS OF WOMEN

Fact Sheet

## LEADING OCCUPATIONS OF EMPLOYED WOMEN UNITED STATES 1870 TO 2000

## Ten Leading Occupations of Employed Women in the United States: 1870 to 2000

| 1870                                   | 1890                                | 1910  | 1930   | 1950                                       | 1970   | 1990  | 2000   |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| Domestic<br>Servants                   | Servants                            | Other<br>Servants                                 | Other<br>Servants                              | Stenographers,<br>Typists &<br>Secretaries | Secretaries                                    | Secretaries                                     | Secretaries &<br>Administrative<br>Assistants      |
| Agricultural<br>Laborers               | Agricultural<br>Laborers            | Home Farm<br>Laborers                             | School<br>Teachers                             | Other Clerical<br>Workers                  | Sales Clerks,<br>retail trade                  | Cashiers  | Elementary &<br>Middle School<br>Teachers          |
| Tailoresses &<br>Seamstresses          | Dressmakers                         | Laundresses<br>(not in laundry)                   | Stenographers<br>& Typists                     | Saleswomen                                 | Bookkeepers                                    | Bookkeepers,<br>Accounting &<br>Auditing Clerks | Registered<br>Nurses                               |
| Milliners,<br>Dress & Mantua<br>Makers | Teachers                            | School<br>Teachers                                | Other Clerks<br>(except clerks in<br>stores)   | Private<br>Household<br>Workers            | Elementary<br>School<br>Teachers               | Registered<br>Nurses                            | Cashiers   |
| Teachers<br>(not specified)            | Farmers,<br>Planters<br>& Overseers | Dressmakers &<br>Seamstresses<br>(not in factory) | Saleswomen                                     | Teachers<br>(elementary<br>school)         | Typists  | Nursing Aides,<br>Orderlies &<br>Attendants     | Retail<br>Salespersons                             |
| Cotton-Mill<br>Operatives              | Laundresses                         | Farm<br>Laborers<br>(working out)                 | Farm<br>Laborers<br>(unpaid family<br>workers) | Waitresses                                 | Waitresses                                     | Elementary<br>School<br>Teachers                | Bookkeeping,<br>Accounting, &<br>Auditing Clerks   |
| Laundresses                            | Seamstresses                        | Cooks   | Bookkeepers<br>& Cashiers                      | Bookkeepers                                | Sewers<br>& Stitchers                          | Waiters<br>& Waitresses                         | Nursing,<br>Psychaitric, &<br>Home Health<br>Aides |
| Woolen-Mill<br>Operatives              | Cotton-Mill<br>Operatives           | Stenographers<br>& Typewriters                    | Laundresses<br>(not in laundry)                | Sewers &<br>Stitchers                      | Registered<br>Nurses                           | Sales Workers,<br>other<br>commodities          | Customer<br>Service<br>Representatives             |
| Farmers<br>& Planters                  | Housekeepers                        | Farmers   | Trained Nurses                                 | Nurses,<br>Registered                      | Cashiers                                       | Child Care<br>Workers                           | Child Care<br>Workers                              |
| Nurses                                 | Clerks & Copyists                   | Saleswomen<br>(stores)                            | Other Cooks                                    | Telephone<br>Operators                     | Private<br>Household<br>Cleaners &<br>Servants | Cooks, except<br>short order                    | Waiters &<br>Waitresses                            |