This document is made available electronically by the Minnesota Legislative Reference Library as part of an ongoing digital archiving project. http://www.leg.state.mn.us/lrl/lrl.asp

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON THE ECONOMIC STATUS OF WOMEN

Status Report

LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN

MINNESOTA AND UNITED STATES

Women's Labor Force Participation in Minnesota and the United States



The labor force participation rates of women have increased over the decades in Minnesota and the United States.

- From 1960 to 2000, the labor force participation rate of Minnesota women age 16 years and over almost doubled from just over one-third (34.4%) in 1960 to two-thirds (66.0%) in 2000.
- Minnesota labor force participation rates of women age 16 years and over have been higher than the national rates since 1970.
- In 2000, Minnesota had the highest state rate of labor force participation of women in the United States.

Labor Force Participation of Minnesota Women by Age

Labor force participation rates of Minnesota women varied by age.

- More than three-fifths (63.9%) of young women age 16 to 19 years participated in the labor force in Minnesota in 2000.
- Labor force participation was highest for women age 20 to 54 years. More than four-fifths (82.9%) of women in this age range participated in the labor force in Minnesota in 2000.
- Labor force participation rates were lower for each age group beginning at age 55 years. Nearly 7 in 10 (69.5%) women age 55 to 59 years and just under one-half (47.5%) of women age 60 to 64 years participated in the labor force in Minnesota in 2000.
- Just under one-quarter (24.0%) of women age 65 to 69 years and just over 1 in 15 (6.8%) women age 70 years and over participated in the labor force in Minnesota in 2000.



Data Sources: Historical data are decennial data from the U.S. Census Bureau. 2000 data compiled from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 3 (SF3) data.

Updated 6/21/04

LCESW • Room G-22 State Capitol • St. Paul, MN 55155 • 651-296-8590 or 1-800-657-3949 • http://www.lcesw.leg.mn