

The Long and Winding Road to Equal Pay



Slower Progress and Substantial Differences Among States Mark the 1990s

Highlights for Working Women in Iowa

- Working women in Iowa are farther along the road to equal pay than women in many states; in 2000, Iowa's working women earned 78.1 percent as much per hour as men, while nationwide women earned only 77.6 percent as much per hour as men. Iowa ranked 21st among all states in equal pay.
- The rate of progress in closing Iowa's hourly wage gap was better than average in the 1990s. Iowa ranked third among all states in progress in closing the hourly wage gap.
- Slow wage growth for men contributed to the closing of the gap—wages for men in Iowa grew only 5.5 percent over the decade, compared with 18.8 percent wage growth for women.
- At the current rate of change, working women in Iowa won't have equal pay until 2021. Nationwide, women won't achieve equal pay until after 2050.

One of a series of fact sheets on Equal Pay produced by the AFL-CIO Civil, Human & Women's Rights Department and Public Policy Department. If you would like more information on the AFL-CIO Working Women's Program, please contact Rachna Choudhry at 202-508-6904 or via e-mail at rchoudhr@aflcio.org. Also, please visit the AFL-CIO Working Women website at www.aflcio.org/women.