

## Working Women

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### Fast Facts

- In 2005, women in the United States were paid 77 cents for every dollar men were paid.
- African American women earn only 72 cents and Latinas 59 cents for every dollar men are paid. Asian Pacific American women earn 87 cents for every dollar men make.
- Nationwide, working families lose \$200 billion in income annually due to the wage gap between men and women.
- If married women were paid the same as men in comparable jobs, their family incomes would rise by nearly 6 percent, and their families' poverty rates would fall from 2.1 percent to 0.8 percent.
- If single working mothers earned as much as men in comparable jobs, their family incomes would increase by nearly 17 percent and their poverty rates would be cut in half, from 25.3 percent to 12.6 percent.
- If single women earned as much as men in comparable jobs, their incomes would rise by 13.4 percent and their poverty rates would be reduced from 6.3 percent to 1 percent.
- The 25.6 million women who work in predominantly female jobs lose an average of \$3,446 each per year; the 4 million men who work in predominately female occupations lose an average of \$6,259 each per year—a total \$114 billion loss for men and women in predominately female jobs.
- Half of all women aged 65 and older with income from a pension or an annuity received less than \$6,420 in 2005, compared with \$12,000 for men.
- In the global economy, women account for 60 percent of the world's 550 million working poor—even though they make up 40 percent of the world's workforce.

**Sources:** AFL-CIO and IWPR, *Equal Pay for Working Families: National and State Data on the Pay Gap and Its Costs*, February 1999; EBRI, *Pension, Annuity Income: Differences between Men and Women*, March 22, 2007; International Labour Office, *Global Employment Trends for Women*, March 2007; U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2006 Annual Social and Economic Supplement.