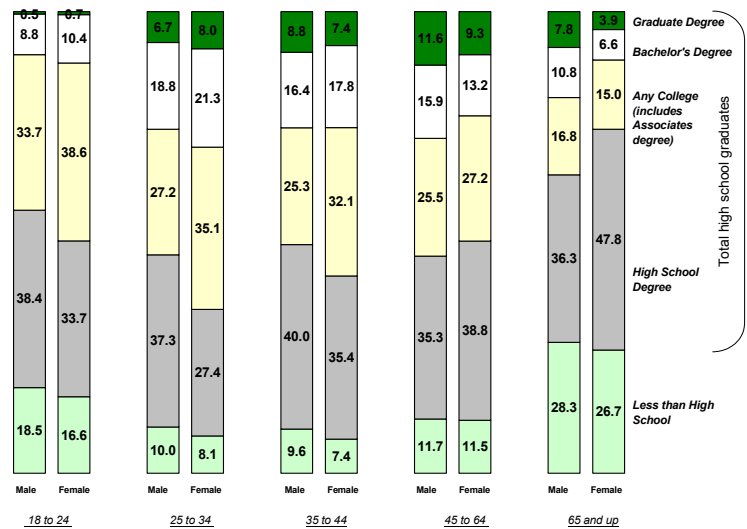


OHIO POPULATION NEWS: Women in Ohio

Recent population estimates suggest that there are 5,878,376 females living in the state of Ohio, exceeding the number of males (5,580,635). The sex ratio—the ratio of males to females in the population—changes across age groups. For example, more boys are born than girls each year resulting in a sex ratio of 105. That is, there are roughly 105 male children per 100 female children. However, given that males have higher rates of death at all ages, the sex ratio evens out toward the young adult ages. Among working ages the gap widens—the sex ratio shifts to 98; among those ages 65 and older there are roughly 69 men per 100 women.

Education- Throughout the state of Ohio, both men and women are making gains in educational attainment. Over thirty percent of Ohio women ages 25 to 29 years had attained a bachelor's degree or higher in 2004, exceeding that of men in this age range (26%). Figure 1 details the educational attainment of Ohio's women and men by select age groups. However, educational progress among women varies by income level and by race/ethnicity. Among the same age group, **less than 10 percent of non-Hispanic Black women living in the state have attained a bachelor's degree by age 29 compared to over a third of non-Hispanic white women.** Further, among those ages 25 and older, twenty-four percent of women without a high school diploma live under the official poverty level, while 12 percent of those with a high school degree live in poverty. School enrollment varies as well, particularly among the population ages 30 and older. For example, in 2004, **women in their 30s were twice as likely to be enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate/professional program as were men in the same age group.**

Figure 1: Educational Attainment by Gender, Ohio 2004.



Source: 2004 American Community Survey B15002. The value shown represents the point estimate of a 90 percent confidence interval.

Labor Force Participation and Income Level

Across the state, 4.6 million women ages 16 and over were participating in the labor force representing a 60.4 percent labor force participation rate. These rates vary across race and ethnicity with black women having the highest rate (64.3), followed by Hispanic women (63.3), Asian (62.8) and white women (59.8). Labor force participation rates also vary by age—women ages 20 to 54 have labor force participation rates over 75 percent, while women ages 16 to 19 and 55 to 64 have rates substantially lower (54.9 and 56.8 respectively). **Estimates from the 2004 American Community Survey (ACS) place the median income for women over the age of 15 who worked full-year, full-time at a level substantially lower than men-- \$30,881 compared with \$42,556,** resulting in an earnings ratio of 72.6. Women in different age and educational groups face different earnings ratios. For ages 25 to 44, the gap between men and women is smaller than for those at older ages. Among those with only a high school degree, the earnings ratio was 71 for the younger ages and 69 for the older ages.

Statistics for Women-Owned Firms by Kind of Business: Ohio 2002

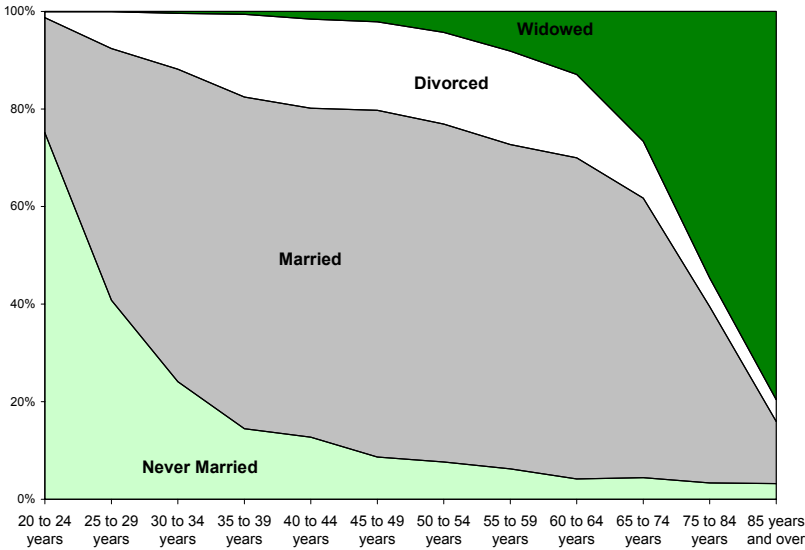
Wholesale/retail trade	19.64
Health care and social assistance	15.52
Professional, scientific and technical services	11.81
Other services (except Public administration)	14.87
Administrative and support	9.25
Real estate	7.49
Arts, entertainment and recreation	3.91
Construction	3.57
Educational services	3.28
Accommodation and food services	2.55

Source: Women-owned Firms 2002. Economic Census Survey of Business Owners Company Statistics Series.

Women-Owned Businesses in Ohio

The number of women-owned businesses in Ohio increased from 205,000 in 1997 to just less than 230,000 in 2002, representing an increase of 12 percent. Women-owned Ohio businesses employed over 264 thousand people and generated 32.2 billion dollars in revenue, up 6 percent from 1997. (The Census defines women-owned businesses as privately held firms in which a woman owns over half the stock or interest in the business.) In addition, another 60 thousand firms in Ohio reported equally female/male-owned with 2.8 billion in receipts. Wholesale and retail trade accounted for roughly 20 percent of women-owned businesses, while service-oriented firms accounted for roughly 15 percent. **Over half of the 70 thousand health care and social assistance firms in the state were owned by women.**

Figure 2: Marital Status of Females ages 20 and older, Ohio 2004.



Source: Ohio ACS 2004 Table B12002. The values shown represent the point estimate of a 90 percent confidence interval.

Marital Status and Fertility

Marriage and childbirth have been increasingly delayed as women attend college, enter and remain in the workforce. In 1990, just over twenty percent of Ohio's adult women ages 24 and younger were married compared with thirteen percent in 2004. Currently, the **median age at first marriage for women in the State of Ohio is 25.4 years, for men it is 26.7**. In 2002, there were 149,679 births to Ohio women. The fertility rate for the state has declined over the last decade—falling from 65.5 births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 49 in 1990 to its current level of 61.4. These rates vary by age groups—the largest percentage point increases in age-specific fertility occurred among those women ages 30 to 34 (15.6), with the largest declines (-28.5) occurring among women ages 18 to 19. Results from the 2004 American Community Survey suggest that among women ages 15 to 50 who had a birth in the past year, almost three out of five (57.9) had at least some college attendance or had obtained an associates degree. While the largest sheer number of births occurred among women with no college experience, **the highest rate of births across education groups occurred among women with graduate or professional degrees—one in six women among this group had a birth in the last year**. However, roughly a quarter of the women who had a birth in the past year live below the official poverty line. Further, 61 percent of unmarried married women who had a birth in the last year live below the poverty line, compared with 12 percent of married women.

Center for Family and Demographic Research

009 Williams Hall
Bowling Green State University
Bowling Green OH 43403

STATISTICS IN BRIEF

19.7

The percentage of the Ohio State Legislature seats that were held by women in 2005.

52.2

The percent of the Ohio adult population that is female.

31 and 54

1975 and 2004 labor force participation rates for married women with children under age one in the U.S.

73 cents

The amount women in Ohio, who worked full time, year-round, earned for every \$1 their male counterparts earned in 2004.

62 thousand

Female veterans in Ohio—six percent of the one million total veterans living in the state.

26.8

The percentage of families with children that are headed by an unmarried woman.

54.8

The poverty rate of single mother families with children under age 5.

290 thousand

The estimated number of Ohio women with graduate or professional degrees.

35.5 years

The median age of immigrant women residing in Ohio.

1.9 births

The average number of lifetime births a woman in Ohio may be expected to have if they have children at 2003 rates.

24.0

Percentage of Ohio adult women who smoke cigarettes daily.

40th out of 50

Ohio's rank among all states in heart disease mortality among women.

Sources: ODH, Information Warehouse; Statistical Abstract of the U.S. 2006, ACS Ohio

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