Women and Economic Security in Mississippi

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Sara Miller
Mississippi Economic Policy Center
Labor Force Participation Among Women in Mississippi by Age Group

Source: MEPC analysis of US Census American Communities Survey data, 2012 3-year estimate
Median Earnings by Race and Gender in Mississippi

Source: MEPC analysis of US Census American Communities Survey data, includes civilian employees 16 and older employed full-time
Median Annual Earnings by Gender

Source: MEPC analysis of US Census American Communities Survey data, 2012 3-year estimate, includes civilian employees 16 and older.
Occupations

- Women make up over 80% of workers in the largest industry in Mississippi, healthcare.
- Median earnings for women in health care are only 60% of men’s median earnings.
- 40% of working women in Mississippi work in education or health care vs. 11% of men.
- Earnings more equitable in non-traditional fields
Median Earnings by Educational Attainment and Gender

Source: MEPC analysis of US Census American Communities Survey data, 2012 3-yr estimates, includes persons 25 and older with earnings
Mississippi University Graduation Rates by Race and Gender

Source: MEPC analysis of data from the Chronicle of Higher Education, includes students at the state’s public 4-year universities who complete their degree within 150% of the expected time and can be found at http://collegecompletion.chronicle.com/state/
• 49% of children live in a family headed by a single mother and 55% of births in MS are to unmarried parents
• 64% of families in poverty in MS are headed by single mothers
• Two out of three families headed by single mothers with a child 5 years old or younger live in poverty.
Basic Economic Security for Single Parent Families
1 Worker, 1 pre-school aged child and 1 school-aged child

**BEST Index, $43,968**

**Federal Poverty Level, $18,530**

- **Minimum Wage ($7.25/hr)**: $15,312
- **Median Income, Single Mothers**: $17,634
- **Median Income, Single Fathers**: $28,091
- **Median Family Income**: $46,496


**Note:** BEST Index values are those for workers with benefits. “Benefits” include unemployment insurance and employment-based health insurance and retirement plans.