

Making the Most of Your Money

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10/23/12

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Pay Inequality Persists



Despite many of the advances women have achieved in the last century, such as obtaining the right to vote, they continue to lag men in how much they earn on the job. The reasons for this vary and may include factors such as taking time off to raise children.

The online magazine [Slate](#) recently released some findings related to women's earnings based on the 2010 U.S. census. The publication's team looked at the 50 states and numerous counties across America to develop a comprehensive map. The states where women fared the worst included **Utah**, **Wyoming** and **Louisiana**. The best states for female workers included **Maryland**, **Nevada**, **Florida** and **North Carolina**, where they tend to average three-quarters of men's wages.

In **Illinois**, the average woman worker earns 66 cents for every dollar a man brings home. This ties **Wisconsin's average** but ranks the state worse when compared with neighbors, such as **Indiana, Missouri, and Iowa**.

[The Wall Street Journal](#) published another take on similar data, stating that when one considers benefits, the disparity declines. In addition, presently, more men hold higher paying positions, which may skew the data.

Perhaps in the future, women will make up the pay gap, especially considering that the majority of young people now attending college are women. Currently, more than 20 million women hold bachelor's degrees, while nearly 19 million men do. Experts expect women to continue to earn greater numbers of bachelor's and advanced degrees in the upcoming decades.

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