

The Long and Winding Road to Equal Pay



Slower Progress and Substantial Differences Among States Mark the 1990s

Highlights for Working Women in New Jersey

- Working women in New Jersey are in nearly the same place on the road to equal pay as women nationwide; in 2000, New Jersey's working women earned 77.4 percent as much per hour as men, while nationwide women earned 77.6 percent as much per hour as men. New Jersey ranked 25th among all states in equal pay.
- The rate of progress in closing New Jersey's hourly wage gap was slower than average in the 1990s. New Jersey ranked 33rd 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 New Jersey grew by only 0.4 percent over the decade, compared with 5.5 percent wage growth for women.
- At the current rate of change, working women in New Jersey—as well as working women nationwide—won't have 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.