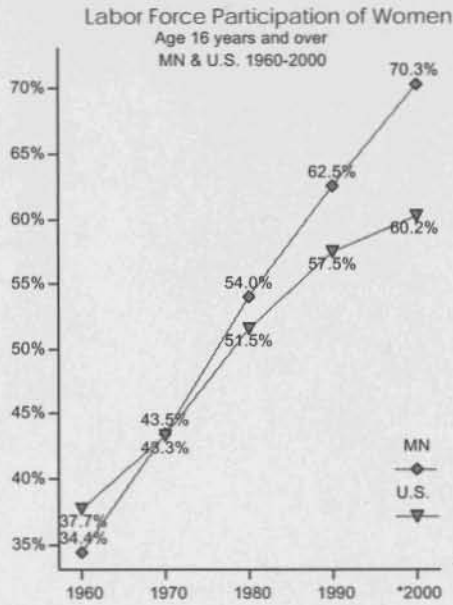


# Fact Sheet

## LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN, MINNESOTA AND U.S.

### Women's Labor Force Participation in the U.S. and Minnesota



Women are almost half of the civilian labor force, and six in ten U.S. women participate in the paid labor force.

- Women's share of the U.S. labor force has steadily increased over the decades. Women comprised 46.6 percent of the U.S. labor force in 2000, up from one-third (33.4%) in 1960.
- The labor force participation rates of U.S. women age 16 years and over have increased substantially. In 2000, 60.2 percent of U.S. women were in the labor force, compared to 37.7 percent in 1960.
- In Minnesota, labor force participation rates of women have been higher than the national average since 1970.
- In 2000, seventy percent (70.3%) of women age 16 years and over in Minnesota participated in the labor force. This was the highest state rate of labor force participation of women in the United States.

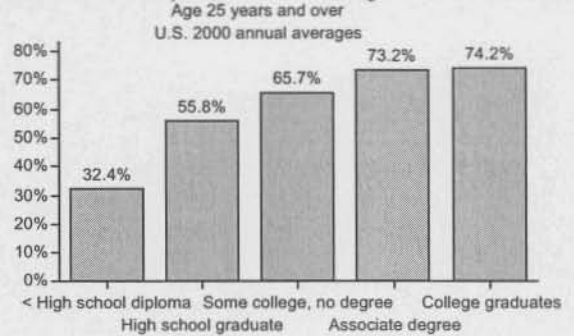
\*Note: 2000 data are 2000 annual averages from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Historical data are decennial census data from the U.S. Census Bureau.

### Labor Force Participation of U.S. Women by Educational Attainment

Labor force participation rates of U.S. women age 25 years and over increase as educational attainment levels increase.

- In 2000, nearly three-quarters (74.2%) of women with educational attainment of a college degree or more participated in the labor force. In comparison, fifty-six percent of women high school graduates (no college) and less than one-third (32.4%) of women with less than a high school diploma participated in the labor force.
- Nearly sixty percent (59.5%) of the U.S. female labor force age 25 years and over had educational attainment of some college or more in 2000.

Labor Force Participation of Women by Educational Attainment



### Labor Force Participation of U.S. Women by Age



Labor force participation rates of U.S. women vary by age.

- In 2000, labor force participation rates were highest for U.S. women age 35 to 44 years (77.3%) and lowest for women age 65 years and over (9.4%). More than three-quarters of women age 25 to 54 years were in the labor force, compared to just over one-half of women age 16 to 19 years and age 55 to 64 years.
- Women age 25 to 44 years accounted for one-half (48.9%) of the U.S. female labor force in 2000.

Data compiled from the U.S. Census Bureau and Bureau of Labor Statistics.