

Statistical Profile of Unmarried Women: Illinois

Narrative Brief – Updated August 2016

Unmarried women in Illinois:

- Make up 27.4% of the population
- Are very diverse (22.5% African American, 12.3% Hispanic, 3.7% Asian), and one in six (16.0%) are single moms with children under 18
- Are somewhat younger than the state's overall population (median age of 43 vs. 47 for overall population; 34% under 30 vs. 22% for overall population)
- Are as likely as the overall population to have obtained at least some post-high school education (65% for each), but less likely have attained a college degree (27% for unmarried women vs. 35% for overall population)
- Are slightly less likely to be in the labor force (62% for unmarried women vs. 66% for overall population), but more likely to be unemployed (9.8% for unmarried women vs. 7.0% for overall population)
- Experience a disproportionately large gender wage gap, with median earnings for full-time, year-round work of \$37,228 (65.6% of men's earnings)
- Are much more likely to have low incomes (31% with household income of less than \$25,000 vs. 19% of the overall population) and live in poverty (20% below the federal poverty line vs. 11% of overall population)
- Are about as likely as men to have been without health insurance coverage for all of 2014 (8% for unmarried women vs. 9% for men) and more likely than married women (4.5%) to have been without such coverage.

All figures are for vote eligible population only, and are derived from Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey March Supplement*, March 2015, and Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey*, November 2015. Figures for population, age distribution, educational attainment, labor force participation, and median earnings are for 2015, whereas those for distribution of household income, health insurance coverage and poverty rates are for 2014.

A PROJECT OF

THE VOTER PARTICIPATION CENTER



DATA.VOTERPARTICIPATION.ORG



VOTERPARTICIPATIONCENTER



VOTERCENTER