

Statistical Profile of Unmarried Women: Iowa

Narrative Brief – Updated August 2016

Unmarried women in Iowa:

- Make up 23.8% of the population
- Are mostly non-Hispanic white (89.0%), and one in six (15.7%) are single moms with children under 18
- Are somewhat younger than the state's overall population (32% under 30 vs. 21% for overall population)
- Are somewhat less likely than the overall population to have obtained at least some post-high school education (59% for unmarried women vs. 63% for overall population), and to have attained a college degree (19% for unmarried women vs. 28% for overall population)
- Are less likely to be in the labor force (57% for unmarried women vs. 69% for overall population) but more likely to be unemployed (5.1% for unmarried women vs. 3.1% for overall population)
- Experience a disproportionately large gender wage gap, with median earnings for full-time, year-round work of \$35,350 (70.6% of men's earnings)
- Are much more likely to have low incomes (43% with household income of less than \$25,000 vs. 22% of the overall population) and live in poverty (17% below the federal poverty line vs. 9% of overall population)
- Are slightly likely than men to have been without health insurance coverage for all of 2014 (5% for unmarried women, 7% for men), but as likely to have been uninsured as married women (5%).

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.

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