

# Chapter 5: Economic Issues

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## **Women-owned Firms Nationally**

**Source: Illinois Women's Business Ownership Council. *1996 Annual Report*. 1997.**

- Between 1987 and 1996, the number of women-owned firms increased 78%, nearly twice the of all U.S. firms.
- Nationwide, nearly 8 million businesses owned by women generate over 2.3 trillion in sales, representing one-third of all domestic firms and 40% of all retail and service businesses.
- Women owned-businesses employ 26% of the U. S. workforce, totaling 18.5 million people.

## **Women-owned Firms in Chicago and Illinois**

**Source: Illinois Women's Business Ownership Council, 1996 Annual Report. 1997.**

- According to a recent study by the Gallup organization, approximately one-fourth of small business owners in the Chicago area are women.
- 1996 statistics compiled by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs estimate more than 336,000 women-owned businesses in Illinois, with over 949,000 employees, and sales and receipts exceeding \$39 billion.

## **Facts on Working Women**

**Source:U.S. Department of Labor Women's Bureau.  
*Facts on Working Women. 1996.***

- Women's share of the workforce continues to rise. Women accounted for 46% of the total U.S. labor force in 1995 and are projected to comprise 48% in the year 2005.
- Women between the ages of 20 and 54 had labor force participation rates of at least 70%.
- Unemployment for all women in 1995 was 5.6%. For white women it was 4.8%; 10.2% for black women; and 10.0% for Hispanic women.
- Of the 57.5 million employed women in the U.S. in 1995, 42 million worked full time (35 or more hours per week); 16 million worked part time (less than 35 hours per week). Two-thirds of all part-time workers were women (68%).

# Chicago Executive Women

Source: Crain's 2000 Edition

- Of the top 300 privately held companies in Chicago approximately 7% have a female top executive (President, CEO, and/or Chairman)
- Of the top 100 salaries for CEO's, none are for a woman CEO

# Mothers in the Labor Force

Source: *Final Report of the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women in Illinois, 1998*

- 63% of Illinois women workers have children under six years of age.
- 76% of Illinois women are employed outside the home, and the majority of these women work full time.
- 46% of the total Illinois workforce has children between the ages of 6 and 17.
- 84% of Illinois women employed outside the home need child care.
- 8% of American women work for employers that provide help with child care.

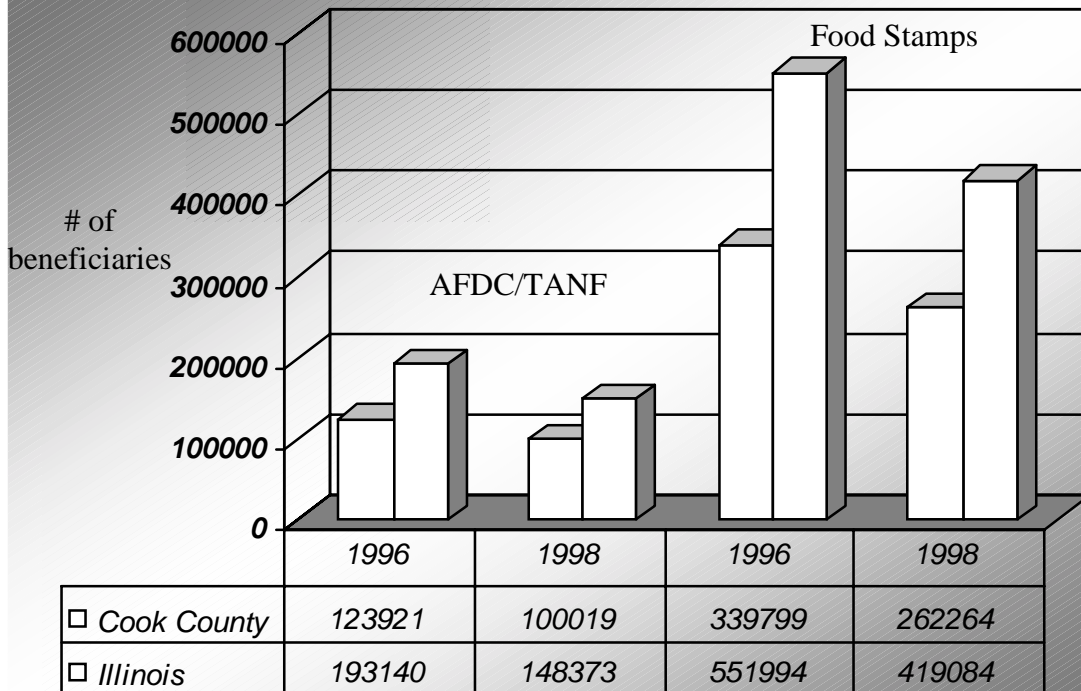
## Women's Earnings as a Percent of Men's in Same Major and Occupation

Source: Monthly Labor Review, *Earnings of College Graduates*, March 1998.

- A women with a Master's degree earns 76% of men's earnings in the same major and occupation.
- A women with a Bachelor's degree earns 74% of men's earning in the same major and occupation.
- The degree that listed the highest median annual earnings was engineering, including computer engineering. In this field women earned between 92%-95% of men's earnings. With a Master's degree the median annual earnings in this occupation was \$55,597 for women and \$58,407 for men. With a bachelor's degree, the median earnings were \$49,246 for women and \$53,134 for men.

# AFDC/TANF and Food Stamp Benefits in Cook County and Illinois

Source: Illinois Kids Count 1998-1999



- AFDC/TANF caseloads in Cook County decreased by 19.3% between 1996 and 1998.
- Food stamp numbers in Cook County decreased by 22.8% between 1996 and 1998.
- Approximately 51% of the food stamp recipients are under age 18.

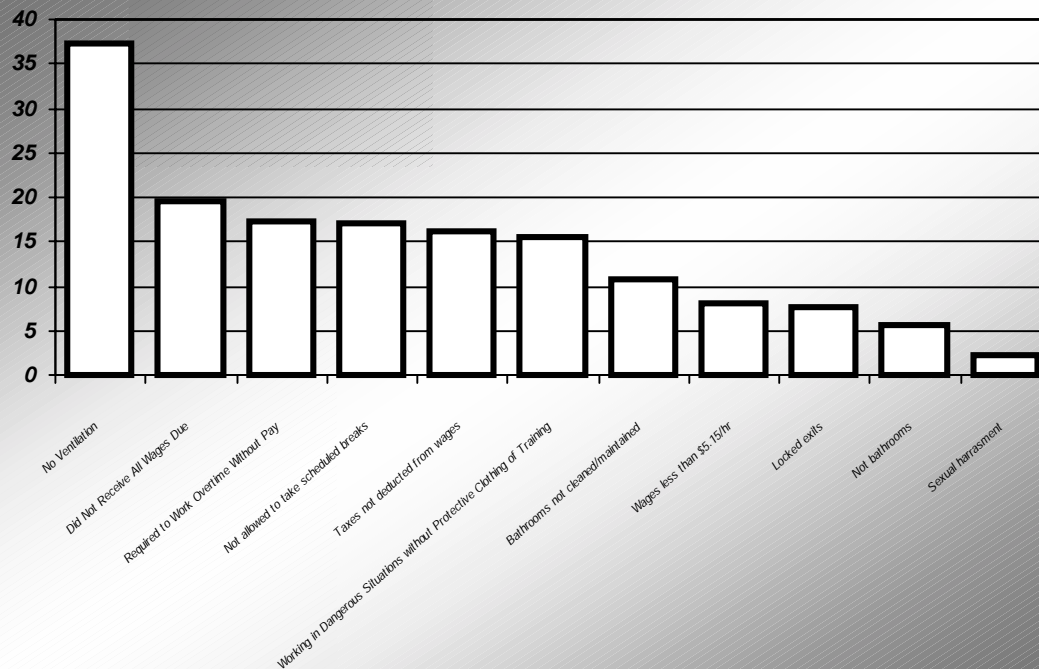
# Poverty in Illinois

Source: Chicago Community Trust. *Women in Illinois: Diverse Perspectives/ Common Agenda, Summary of Findings from a Statewide Public Opinion Study, 1996.*

- One in every six women in Illinois report a household income of less than \$15,000.
- One in ten say their income is less than \$10,000.
- 62% of women in Illinois indicate making more money as a key goal.

# Sweatshops in Chicago

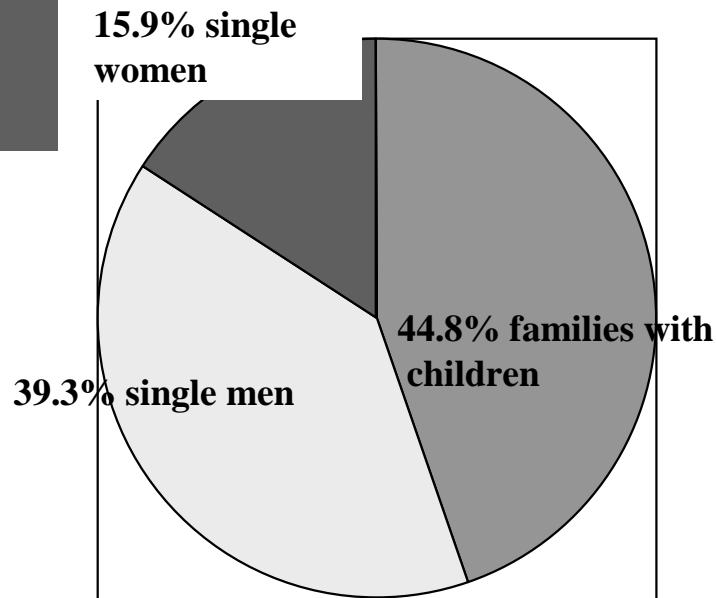
Source: Levin, R, and Ginsburg, R, *Sweatshops in Chicago: A survey of working conditions in low-income and immigrant communities*. February 2000.



- The Sweatshop Survey and Report have shown that there are a significant number of people in the Chicago Metropolitan area in workplaces that violate multiple federal wage and labor standards. Thirty-six percent of the population surveyed, which was predominantly drawn from low income and immigrant communities, work in places that meet the Department of Labor's definition of sweatshops.
- Thirty-five percent of the women surveyed were working in sweatshops.

# Chicago Homeless Demographics 1999

Source: The Chicago Coalition for the Homeless. *The Fact Behind the Faces*. Summer 1999.



- 50% of all homeless women cited domestic violence as their primary cause for becoming homeless. (Promises Made, Promises Broken, Heartland Alliance for Human Rights and Human Needs, 1990)
- There are nearly three times as many animal shelters in the U.S. as shelters for battered women. (Senate Judiciary Committee, 1990.)

# Self-Sufficiency Standard for Cook County 1996

Source: Wider Opportunities for Women, *The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Illinois, Selected Family Types, Fall 1998.*

Monthly Costs	Adult	Adult + infant	Adult + pre-schooler	Adult + infant + preschooler	Adult + schoolage teenager	Adult + infant + preschooler + schoolage child	2 adults + infant + pre-schooler
Housing	\$591	\$704	\$704	\$704	\$704	\$881	\$704
Child Care	\$0	\$432	\$430	\$861	\$202	\$1,063	\$861
Food	\$153	\$225	\$233	\$303	\$400	\$408	\$435
Transportation	\$96	\$96	\$96	\$96	\$96	\$96	\$191
Medical Care	\$80	\$164	\$144	\$144	\$188	\$202	\$233
Miscellaneous	\$92	\$162	\$161	\$160	\$159	\$265	\$242
Taxes	\$246	\$428	\$422	\$422	\$337	\$721	\$621
Earned Income Tax Credit (-)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$89)	\$0	\$0
Child Care Tax Credit (-)	\$0	(\$44)	(\$44)	(\$44)	(\$46)	(\$80)	(\$80)
<b>Monthly Self-Sufficiency Wage</b>	<b>\$1,258</b>	<b>\$2,166</b>	<b>\$2,145</b>	<b>\$2,145</b>	<b>\$1,950</b>	<b>\$3,556</b>	<b>\$3,208</b>
<b>Hourly Self-Sufficiency Wage</b>	<b>\$7.15</b>	<b>\$12.31</b>	<b>\$12.19</b>	<b>\$12.19</b>	<b>\$11.08</b>	<b>\$20.20</b>	<b>\$9.11</b> <i>Per adult</i>

Note all figures rounded to whole dollar except for hourly wage which is rounded to whole cent.

# Self-Sufficiency Standard for DuPage County 1996

Source: Wider Opportunities for Women, *The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Illinois, Selected Family Types, Fall 1998.*

Monthly Costs	Adult	Adult + infant	Adult + pre-schooler	Adult + infant + preschooler	Adult + schoolage teenager	Adult + infant + preschooler + schoolage child	2 adults + infant + pre-schooler
Housing	\$591	\$704	\$704	\$704	\$704	\$881	\$704
Child Care	\$0	\$556	\$507	\$1,063	\$381	\$1,445	\$1,063
Food	\$153	\$225	\$233	\$303	\$400	\$408	\$435
Transportation	\$113	\$117	\$117	\$117	\$117	\$117	\$227
Medical Care	\$80	\$164	\$144	\$183	\$188	\$202	\$233
Miscellaneous	\$94	\$177	\$171	\$237	\$179	\$305	\$266
Taxes	\$252	\$483	\$461	\$658	\$448	\$878	\$713
Earned Income Tax Credit (-)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Child Care Tax Credit (-)	\$0	(\$40)	(\$42)	(\$80)	(\$40)	(\$80)	(\$80)
<b>Monthly Self-Sufficiency Wage</b>	<b>\$1,284</b>	<b>\$2,386</b>	<b>\$2,296</b>	<b>\$3,186</b>	<b>\$2,378</b>	<b>\$4,156</b>	<b>\$3,562</b>
<b>Hourly Self-Sufficiency Wage</b>	<b>\$7.29</b>	<b>\$12.31</b>	<b>\$13.04</b>	<b>\$18.10</b>	<b>\$13.51</b>	<b>\$23.62</b>	<b>\$10.12</b> <i>per adult</i>

Note all figures are rounded to whole dollar except for hourly wage which is rounded to whole cent.

# Self-Sufficiency Standard for Kane County 1996

Source: Wider Opportunities for Women, *The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Illinois, Selected Family Types, Fall 1998.*

Monthly Costs	Adult	Adult + infant	Adult + pre-schooler	Adult + infant + preschooler	Adult + schoolage teenager	Adult + infant + preschooler + schoolage child	2 adults + infant + pre-schooler
Housing	\$591	\$704	\$704	\$704	\$704	\$881	\$704
Child Care	\$0	\$556	\$507	\$1,063	\$381	\$1,445	\$1,063
Food	\$153	\$225	\$233	\$303	\$400	\$408	\$435
Transportation	\$113	\$117	\$117	\$117	\$117	\$117	\$227
Medical Care	\$80	\$164	\$144	\$183	\$188	\$202	\$233
Miscellaneous	\$94	\$177	\$171	\$237	\$179	\$305	\$266
Taxes	\$252	\$483	\$461	\$658	\$448	\$878	\$713
Earned Income Tax Credit (-)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Child Care Tax Credit (-)	\$0	(\$40)	(\$42)	(\$80)	(\$40)	(\$80)	(\$80)
<b>Monthly Self-Sufficiency Wage</b>	<b>\$1,284</b>	<b>\$2,386</b>	<b>\$2,296</b>	<b>\$3,186</b>	<b>\$2,378</b>	<b>\$4,156</b>	<b>\$3,562</b>
<b>Hourly Self-Sufficiency Wage</b>	<b>\$7.29</b>	<b>\$12.31</b>	<b>\$13.04</b>	<b>\$18.10</b>	<b>\$13.51</b>	<b>\$23.62</b>	<b>\$10.12</b> <i>per adult</i>

Note all figures are rounded to whole dollar except for hourly wage which is rounded to whole cent.

# Self-Sufficiency Standard for Lake County 1996

Source: Wider Opportunities for Women, *The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Illinois, Selected Family Types, Fall 1998.*

Monthly Costs	Adult	Adult + infant	Adult + pre- schooler	Adult + infant + preschooler	Adult + schoolage teenager	Adult + infant + preschooler + schoolage child	2 adults + infant + pre- schooler
Housing	\$591	\$704	\$704	\$704	\$704	\$881	\$704
Child Care	\$0	\$516	\$476	\$992	\$206	\$1,198	\$992
Food	\$153	\$225	\$233	\$303	\$400	\$408	\$435
Transportation	\$113	\$117	\$117	\$117	\$117	\$117	\$227
Medical Care	\$80	\$164	\$144	\$183	\$188	\$202	\$233
Miscellaneous	\$94	\$173	\$167	\$230	\$162	\$281	\$259
Taxes	\$252	\$469	\$449	\$631	\$352	\$782	\$686
Earned Income Tax Credit (-)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$77)	\$0	\$0
Child Care Tax Credit (-)	\$0	(\$42)	(\$42)	(\$80)	(\$44)	(\$80)	(\$80)
<b>Monthly Self- Sufficiency Wage</b>	<b>\$1,284</b>	<b>\$2,327</b>	<b>\$2,250</b>	<b>\$3,080</b>	<b>\$2,007</b>	<b>\$3,789</b>	<b>\$3,456</b>
<b>Hourly Self- Sufficiency Wage</b>	<b>\$7.29</b>	<b>\$13.22</b>	<b>\$12.78</b>	<b>\$17.50</b>	<b>\$11.40</b>	<b>\$21.53</b>	<b>\$9.82 per adult</b>

Note all figures rounded to whole dollar except for hourly wage which is rounded to whole cent.

# Self-Sufficiency Standard for McHenry County 1996

Source: Wider Opportunities for Women, *The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Illinois, Selected Family Types, Fall 1998.*

Monthly Costs	Adult	Adult + infant	Adult + pre-schooler	Adult + infant + preschooler	Adult + schoolage teenager	Adult + infant + preschooler + schoolage child	2 adults + infant + pre-schooler
Housing	\$591	\$704	\$704	\$704	\$704	\$881	\$704
Child Care	\$0	\$494	\$453	\$947	\$190	\$1,136	\$947
Food	\$153	\$225	\$233	\$303	\$400	\$408	\$435
Transportation	\$113	\$117	\$117	\$117	\$117	\$117	\$227
Medical Care	\$80	\$164	\$144	\$183	\$188	\$202	\$233
Miscellaneous	\$94	\$170	\$165	\$225	\$160	\$274	\$256
Taxes	\$252	\$461	\$438	\$613	\$344	\$758	\$686
Earned Income Tax Credit (-)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$84)	\$0	\$0
Child Care Tax Credit (-)	\$0	(\$42)	(\$42)	(\$80)	(\$44)	(\$80)	(\$80)
<b>Monthly Self-Sufficiency Wage</b>	<b>\$1,284</b>	<b>\$2,293</b>	<b>\$2,212</b>	<b>\$3,013</b>	<b>\$1,974</b>	<b>\$3,697</b>	<b>\$3,388</b>
<b>Hourly Self-Sufficiency Wage</b>	<b>\$7.29</b>	<b>\$13.03</b>	<b>\$12.57</b>	<b>\$17.12</b>	<b>\$11.22</b>	<b>\$21.01</b>	<b>\$9.63</b> <i>per adult</i>

Note all figures rounded to whole dollar except for hourly wage which is rounded to whole cent.

# Self-Sufficiency Standard for Will County 1996

Source: Wider Opportunities for Women, *The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Illinois, Selected Family Types, Fall 1998.*

Monthly Costs	Adult	Adult + infant	Adult + pre- schooler	Adult + infant + preschooler	Adult + schoolage teenager	Adult + infant + preschooler + schoolage child	2 adults + infant + pre- schooler
Housing	\$591	\$704	\$704	\$704	\$704	\$881	\$704
Child Care	\$0	\$398	\$401	\$799	\$232	\$1,031	\$799
Food	\$153	\$225	\$233	\$303	\$400	\$408	\$435
Transportation	\$113	\$117	\$117	\$117	\$117	\$117	\$227
Medical Care	\$80	\$164	\$144	\$183	\$188	\$202	\$233
Miscellaneous	\$94	\$161	\$160	\$211	\$164	\$264	\$240
Taxes	\$252	\$422	\$420	\$556	\$366	\$718	\$611
Earned Income Tax Credit (-)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$66)	\$0	\$0
Child Care Tax Credit (-)	\$0	(\$44)	(\$44)	(\$80)	(\$44)	(\$80)	(\$80)
<b>Monthly Self- Sufficiency Wage</b>	<b>\$1,284</b>	<b>\$2,148</b>	<b>\$2,135</b>	<b>\$2,793</b>	<b>\$2,062</b>	<b>\$3,541</b>	<b>\$3,168</b>
<b>Hourly Self- Sufficiency Wage</b>	<b>\$7.29</b>	<b>\$12.20</b>	<b>\$12.13</b>	<b>\$15.87</b>	<b>\$11.72</b>	<b>\$21.12</b>	<b>\$9.00 per adult</b>

Note all figures rounded to whole dollar except for hourly wage which is rounded to whole cent.