

2011

The Status of Women in Wisconsin Counties



Dane County, WI

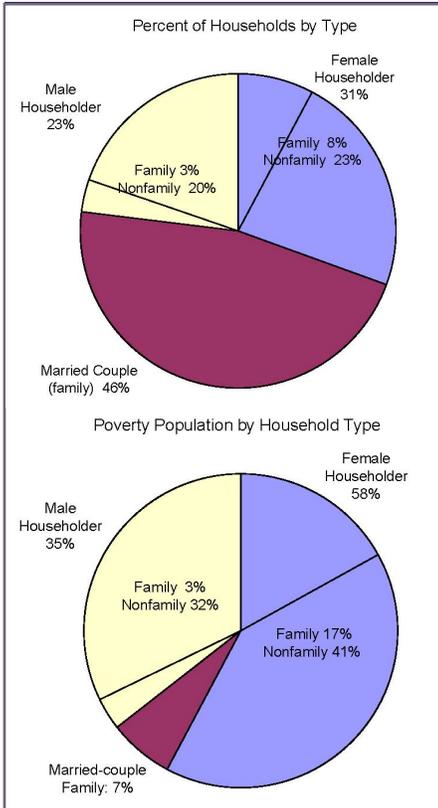
HIGHLIGHTS

- Dane County is home to more than 248,000 women and girls, accounting for **50.5%** of the population.
- Female-headed households account for about one-third (31%) of all households in Dane County, but make up nearly 60% of the county's households living below the poverty line.
- Family households headed by women of color face high poverty rates — about 1-in-2 African American and Asian, and 1-in-3 Hispanic single-mother families in Dane County live below the poverty line.
- African American and Native American women in Dane County are more likely to have less than a high school education, compared to their counterparts statewide; but also more likely to attain a bachelor's degree or higher.
- The county's Gender Wage Gap of 78 cents on the dollar is narrower than the statewide gap of 72 cents; however, women of color face large wage gaps ranging from 55 cents on the dollar for African American women to 63 cents on the dollar for Asian women.
- Dane County ranks 10th, among all counties, for women's political participation in local elected offices in state government.

The Status of Women* Dane County, WI



Female-Headed Households & Poverty



- Statewide, female-headed households are disproportionately living in poverty compared to other household types.
- In Dane County, **female-headed households** account for about one-third (31%) of all households (family and non-family*), but make up 58% of the county's households in poverty.
- 23% are females headed "non-family" households (living alone or with non-relatives only) - the most numerous type of female-headed households. These non-family households account for 41% - nearly half - of the county's households in poverty.
- 8% of all households are female-headed "family" households - often referred to as single-mother households.
- Female-headed family households in the county make up a smaller percent of all family households for nearly all racial/ethnic groups, compared to their counterparts statewide (see table).
- 1-in-4 single-mother (family) households (25%) live below the poverty line, making them the most likely type of household to be in poverty line, versus 1-in-5 female non-family households (22%) and 1-in-50 married couple households (2%).
- Family households headed by women of color face even higher poverty rates: about 1 in 2 African American and Asian, and 1-in-3 Hispanic single-mother families are below the poverty line.

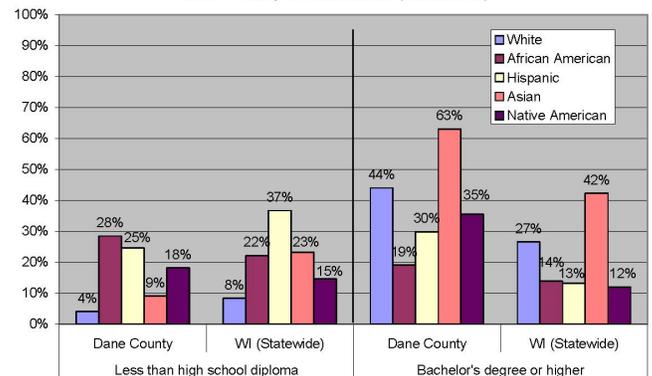
	Dane County	WI
All Female-Headed Family Households	8%	10%
White (non-Hispanic)	6%	8%
African American	27%	36%
Hispanic (any race)	11%	18%
Asian American	10%	9%
Native American	9%	25%

*Note: The US Census Bureau reports on two types of householders: family and non-family. A family householder is a head of household living with one or more individuals related to him or her by birth, marriage, or adoption. The householder and all people in the household related to him or her are family members. A non-family householder is a head of household living alone or with non-relatives only.

Educational Attainment & Wages

- Women are more likely to have a bachelor's degree (or higher), across racial/ethnic groups, than their counterparts statewide—with Hispanic women more than twice as likely as the counterparts statewide.
- African American and Native American women are less likely than their counterparts statewide to graduate from high school.
- Dane County's 2009 **Gender Wage Gap** of 78 cents on the dollar (for every dollar earned by a white male), for full-time, year-round workers, is narrower than the statewide wage gap of 72 cents. This is driven by a narrow gap for White women of 80 cents.
- Women of color face much larger wage gaps, though those in Dane County are on par with the statewide averages. Dane County's wage gaps for women of color are: African American women, 55 cents; Hispanic women, 56 cents; and Asian women, 63 cents.
- In Dane County, women's average annual **median wage** of \$40,200 is 19% (\$9,300) below men's median wage of \$49,500, but is higher than women's median wage statewide (\$33,600).

Educational Attainment (selected), Women Age 25 and Over
Dane County & Wisconsin (statewide)



Basic Demographics

Race/Ethnicity	Percent of Women by Race/Ethnicity (2009)		Women's Median Age (5-yr avg. 2005-2009)
	Under age 18	Age 18 and over	
White (non-Hispanic)	74%	87%	37
African American	6%	4%	25
Native American	<1%	<1%	31
Asian	4%	4%	26
Hispanic (any race)	9%	4%	24
Other/2 or More	7%	1%	26/19

- Dane County is home to about 248,000 women (2009), accounting for 50.5% of the population.
- The population of girls under age 18 is twice as **racially/ethnically diverse** as among adult women—13% of adult women belong to racial/ethnic minority groups, compared to 26% of girls/young women under age 18.
- The **median age** of 37 years for white women is significantly above the median age for women in most other racial/ethnic groups.
- The median age for women of color, ranging from age 19 to 31, suggests the average woman is in her childbearing years, college age, entering the workforce and/or starting a career.

*Data are compiled from the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates 2005-2009, unless otherwise noted.

The Status of Women Dane County, WI



Women's Business Ownership

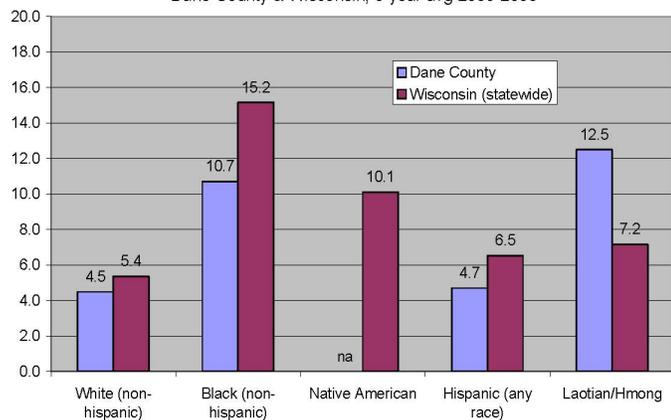
- In 2007, 27% of county businesses were majority women-owned, down from 29% in 2002, but still above the statewide average.
- Women-owned firms, with paid employees, employed over 14,000 workers, with annual payrolls totaling \$360 million. The average woman-owned employer firm employed 10 people.
- 12% of women-owned businesses are employer firms (versus sole proprietor firms), on par with the statewide average of 13%.
- Women-owned firms generated \$1.9 billion in sales and receipts.

Women-Owned Businesses (2007)	Dane County	WI
Number of women-owned businesses	11,390	112,402
Women-owned businesses as a percent of all businesses	27%	26%
Annual payroll of women-owned businesses with paid employees	\$360 M	\$3.9 B
Average number of employees of women-owned businesses with paid employees	10	10
Sales/receipts of woman owned businesses	\$2 B	\$21 B

Source: US Census Bureau, Survey of Business Owners, released 2010.

Child & Maternal Health

Infant Mortality (deaths of infants under one year old per 1,000 live births),
Dane County & Wisconsin, 3-year avg 2006-2008



Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services, WISH Database, for the 3-year period 2006-2008. na = data not available/published.

- Women are as likely or more likely to begin **prenatal care** in the first trimester of pregnancy, across racial/ethnic groups, compared to their counterparts statewide. The percentages of women in Dane County that begin prenatal care in the first trimester are: White, 92%; Hispanic, 80%; Native American, 77%; African American, 72%; and Laotian/Hmong, 62%.
- **Infant mortality** rates are below the statewide figures for most racial ethnic groups, except in the Laotian/Hmong community, with a rate of 12.5 deaths per 1,000 live births, compared to 7.2 per 1,000 statewide. Of note, infant mortality rates for African American and Laotian/Hmong infants are about two to three times those for White and Hispanic infants.
- About 1.8% of all births are to younger teens (those under 18) compared to 2.7% statewide. The percentages of **births to young teens**, by race/ethnicity, are: White, 1%; African American, 8%; Native American, 2%; Hispanic, 4%; and Laotian/Hmong, 5%. It is notable that these percentages, for all groups, are below the corresponding statewide averages.

Benefit Programs Enrollment

In 2009, nearly 22,300 households (12% of all households) in the County had incomes below the federal poverty level (FPL). On average, family households (all types) have 2.3 persons in the family; while female-headed family households have 2.8 persons in the family.

Federal Poverty Level, 2009	
Persons in family	Annual Income Threshold
1	\$10,830
2	14,570
3	18,310
4	22,050

For families with more than 4 persons, add \$3,740 for each additional person.

Source: US Dept. of Health & Human Services

In Dane County:

W2: there were 1,295 Wisconsin Works (W-2) participants (unduplicated, 2009). The W-2 program is available to parents of minor children whose family income is below 115% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

Food Stamps: about 12,100 households (6% of all households) received food stamps (2009).

Child Care Subsidy: 2,300 families per month, on average, received Wisconsin Shares child care subsidies (2009).

Badger Care: about 42,900 persons were covered by Badger Care, including 25,500 chil-

Food Stamp Recipients, 2009 (all household types)
Dane County

Households	Households receiving food stamps	
	Total Households	Households receiving food stamps
	204,700	12,100 6%
Percent with one or more people 60 years and over	26%	14%
Percent with children <18 years	26%	58%
Percent below the Federal poverty level	11%	57%

Benefit Data Sources: WI Dept. of Health Services, Badger-Care Plus Enrollment Data (dhs.wisconsin.gov); WI Dept. of Children & Families, Wisconsin Shares Monthly Statistics and Wisconsin Works, Research & Statistics, Unduplicated Participants (dcf.wisconsin.gov); and US Census, American Community Survey 2009, S2201 Food Stamps/SNAP and S1101 Households and Families.

Female-headed households account for 31% of all households, but make up 58% of the county's households living below the poverty line.

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Violence Against Women

Ratio of Domestic Abuse Incidents to the Total Population, for Counties with a Population of 100,000 or more.			
County	Population	Incidents	Ratio
LaCrosse	112,627	950	1 : 119
Rock	160,213	1,199	1 : 134
Dane	482,705	3,260	1 : 148
Winnebago	162,111	858	1 : 189
Marathon	130,962	676	1 : 194
Brown	245,018	1,230	1 : 199
Outagamie	174,993	814	1 : 215
Kenosha	164,465	732	1 : 225
Sheboygan	114,561	496	1 : 231
Washington	129,477	446	1 : 290
Waukesha	380,629	952	1 : 400

Domestic Violence

- In 2008, in Dane County, there were 3,260 domestic abuse incidents reported to law enforcement. This equates to a ratio of 1 domestic abuse incident for about every 150 people in the county's population.
- Arrests were made 80% of the time, compared to 77% statewide (excluding Milwaukee).
- Statewide, women account for 74% of domestic abuse victims; while males account for 77% of offenders.
- In 2009, there were 67 domestic violence-related homicide deaths, statewide, of which 7 were in Dane County, including 2 children.

Sexual Assault

- In 2009, there were 287 sexual assaults reported to law enforcement—a ratio of 58 assaults per 100,000 residents, which is lower than the statewide ratio of 82 assaults per 100,000 residents in the population.
- Statewide, females account for about 84% of sexual assault victims; while more than 90% of assailants were male (8% unknown and 1% female).
- Statewide, a 5-year trend shows that juveniles are the most victimized population, with juveniles aged 15 and under representing over two-thirds of all victims in 2009.

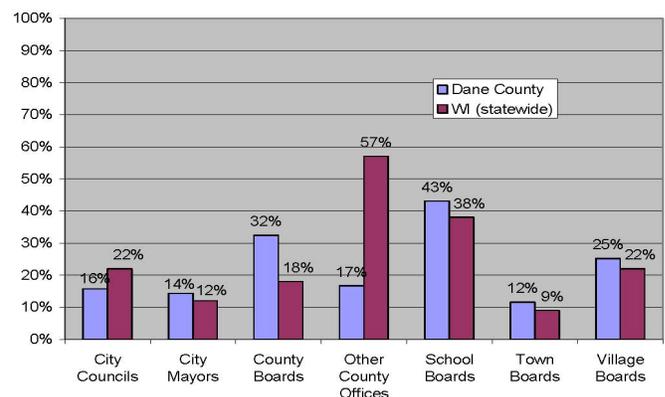
Sources: Sources: WI Dept. of Justice, Domestic Abuse Incident Report for 2008; WI Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 2009 Homicide Report; and WI Office of Justice Assistance, Sexual Assaults in WI 2009

Political Participation

- Dane County ranks high for women in local government. In 2010, Dane County ranked 10th, among all (72) counties, for the percentage of local elected seats held by women.
- 25% (124 of the 502) of government local elected offices were held by women, compared to 22% statewide.
- Dane County ranks in the top one-third of all counties for seats held by women on County, Town, Village, and School Boards; but in the bottom third for women's participation on City Councils.
- Women are less likely to serve as County Constitutional Officers in Dane County (e.g., Clerk, Treasurer, Sheriff, District Attorney, etc.) than women statewide.

Source: Wisconsin Women's Council, Moving Wisconsin Forward, an Analysis of Wisconsin Women in elected Office (2010).

Percent of Local Government Elected Office Held by Women



Women Veterans

Dane County is home to about 28,100 Wisconsin veterans - including an estimated 1,700 women veterans. In general, women account for about 6% of Wisconsin's veteran population. The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs reports that increasingly women veterans are seeking health care and other services. "The new and complex needs of today's women veterans, particularly those who served in Operating Enduring and Iraqi Freedom, required that VA assess the effectiveness of its existing gender specific programs and initiate new ones that strategically address the needs of this cohort."

Source: WI Dept. of Veterans Affairs (see, dva.state.wi.us/womenvets)

The **Wisconsin Women's Council** is a state agency and Wisconsin's statutory commission on the status of women and girls. The Council operates with a 15-member board appointed by the Governor and Legislative leaders. For additional information, contact the Council at: (608) 266-2219 or Christine.Lidbury@wisconsin.gov.

WOMENSCOUNCIL.WI.GOV