

**Table 7: How the States Measure Up: Women's Social and Economic Autonomy, by Race and Ethnicity**  
**Percent of Women Aged 25 and Over with a Four-Year College Degree or More<sup>a</sup>**

State	Total Population			Whites		African Americans			Asian Americans		
	Percent of Women	Percent of Men	Percent of Women	Rank for Women (of 51)	Percent of Men	Percent of Women	Rank for Women (of 45)	Percent of Men	Percent of Women	Rank for Women (of 51)	Percent of Men
Alabama	18.0%	20.2%	19.4%	43	23.0%	13.0%	33	9.5%	37.7%	29	51.5%
Alaska	25.3%	24.1%	29.8%	11	28.4%	15.3%	24	14.1%	21.1%	50	20.6%
Arizona	21.7%	25.6%	25.3%	22	31.2%	19.0%	10	18.2%	38.9%	25	52.2%
Arkansas	16.0%	17.7%	16.7%	49	19.3%	12.0%	38	9.0%	30.0%	44	39.8%
California	24.8%	28.7%	30.4%	8	37.3%	17.9%	11	16.2%	38.5%	26	44.7%
Colorado	30.7%	34.4%	34.3%	3	39.4%	22.0%	5	19.1%	38.3%	27	48.6%
Connecticut	29.4%	33.3%	31.9%	6	36.3%	14.5%	27	13.4%	52.3%	6	61.3%
Delaware	23.7%	27.4%	25.1%	23	29.8%	16.3%	18	13.7%	53.8%	3	78.9%
District of Columbia	36.5%	41.2%	77.3%	1	81.8%	17.8%	12	17.4%	56.5%	2	61.0%
Florida	20.1%	24.9%	21.6%	33	28.2%	13.5%	32	11.2%	36.0%	31	44.6%
Georgia	23.1%	25.7%	25.5%	20	30.1%	17.0%	14	14.1%	39.1%	24	49.8%
Hawaii	25.2%	27.0%	35.8%	2	39.0%	25.6%	4	19.4%	23.9%	49	24.6%
Idaho	18.8%	23.9%	19.4%	43	25.3%			29.4%	29.4%	45	41.6%
Illinois	24.5%	27.8%	26.5%	18	31.5%	15.8%	21	13.3%	53.4%	5	62.4%
Indiana	17.8%	20.7%	18.2%	48	21.4%	11.9%	39	11.5%	48.4%	9	66.5%
Iowa	20.3%	22.1%	20.3%	39	22.3%	14.4%	28	12.8%	39.5%	22	53.2%
Kansas	24.3%	27.2%	25.6%	19	28.9%	15.6%	23	16.1%	34.2%	35	45.3%
Kentucky	16.3%	18.0%	16.5%	50	18.3%	10.7%	45	10.3%	41.1%	19	60.7%
Louisiana	18.5%	19.3%	20.8%	37	23.2%	12.9%	34	8.7%	33.2%	37	36.7%
Maine	22.8%	23.8%	22.8%	29	24.0%	27.5%	2	19.2%	34.8%	34	30.1%
Maryland	29.5%	33.4%	32.0%	5	37.9%	21.1%	6	18.9%	50.8%	8	60.7%
Massachusetts	31.3%	35.2%	32.4%	4	36.7%	19.6%	9	21.0%	46.6%	11	54.9%
Michigan	20.2%	23.5%	20.8%	37	24.9%	14.0%	30	11.5%	53.8%	3	67.0%
Minnesota	26.4%	28.5%	27.0%	14	29.1%	16.6%	17	20.2%	31.8%	40	39.8%
Mississippi	16.5%	17.4%	18.7%	46	21.4%	11.9%	39	8.1%	32.0%	39	41.6%
Missouri	20.4%	23.2%	21.0%	36	24.3%	13.8%	31	11.1%	44.9%	13	57.4%
Montana	23.1%	25.5%	23.9%	25	26.5%				28.6%	47	39.5%
Nebraska	22.9%	24.8%	23.9%	25	26.0%	11.6%	41	16.3%	36.2%	30	43.2%
Nevada	16.7%	19.5%	18.3%	47	22.7%	12.9%	34	11.2%	26.0%	48	30.8%
New Hampshire	26.8%	30.5%	26.7%	17	30.4%	31.5%	1	29.5%	47.1%	10	63.2%
New Jersey	27.4%	32.6%	29.2%	13	36.0%	16.9%	15	15.6%	57.8%	1	67.5%
New Mexico	22.4%	24.7%	31.9%	6	36.2%	21.0%	7	18.5%	41.8%	17	54.5%
New York	26.1%	28.8%	30.0%	9	33.8%	17.3%	13	15.2%	39.2%	23	43.1%
North Carolina	21.5%	23.1%	23.6%	27	26.5%	14.4%	28	11.4%	38.1%	28	50.1%
North Dakota	21.6%	21.4%	22.0%	32	21.8%				20.1%	51	
Ohio	19.3%	23.0%	19.8%	41	23.8%	12.3%	36	11.5%	51.1%	7	64.5%
Oklahoma	18.8%	21.8%	19.6%	42	23.7%	15.3%	24	12.6%	30.8%	43	45.6%
Oregon	23.5%	26.3%	24.1%	24	27.5%	15.8%	21	19.1%	35.3%	32	42.1%
Pennsylvania	20.6%	24.2%	21.3%	35	25.2%	12.3%	36	11.4%	43.2%	14	54.7%
Rhode Island	24.0%	27.6%	25.5%	20	29.3%	16.9%	15	18.3%	33.6%	36	41.5%
South Carolina	19.4%	21.5%	22.5%	31	26.1%	11.4%	42	8.0%	31.8%	40	47.8%
South Dakota	20.7%	22.7%	21.5%	34	23.8%			13.5%	31.1%	42	
Tennessee	18.4%	21.1%	18.9%	45	22.4%	14.6%	26	11.6%	40.3%	21	52.7%
Texas	21.4%	25.1%	26.9%	15	33.3%	16.3%	18	14.4%	41.5%	18	53.5%
Utah	21.9%	29.7%	22.9%	28	31.9%	26.4%	3	21.6%	29.0%	46	36.3%
Vermont	29.9%	29.5%	29.8%	11	29.5%				40.6%	20	
Virginia	27.5%	31.6%	29.9%	10	35.3%	16.0%	20	13.5%	45.1%	12	55.0%
Washington	26.0%	29.7%	26.9%	15	31.2%	19.7%	8	20.5%	33.0%	38	39.9%
West Virginia	14.0%	15.7%	13.9%	51	15.5%	10.8%	44	10.5%	42.8%	15	63.5%
Wisconsin	21.9%	23.0%	22.7%	30	23.7%	10.9%	43	10.4%	35.3%	32	47.4%
Wyoming	19.3%	22.7%	19.9%	40	23.9%				42.0%	16	
<b>United States</b>	<b>22.8%</b>	<b>26.1%</b>	<b>24.8%</b>		<b>29.2%</b>	<b>15.3%</b>		<b>13.2%</b>	<b>39.8%</b>		<b>47.6%</b>

Notes: Hispanics may be of any race or two or more races. Racial categories (whites, African Americans, Asian Americans, Native Americans, other/two or more) do not include Hispanics. See Appendix III for methodology.

Blank cells indicate insufficient sample sizes to reliably estimate these figures.

<sup>a</sup> The numbers and rankings presented here are based on 2000 Census data for the year 2000.

<sup>b</sup> This category includes men and women who report "other" or "two or more" races.

Source: Urban Institute 2004b.

Compiled by the Institute for Women's Policy Research.

**Table 7: How the States Measure Up: Women's Social and Economic Autonomy, by Race and Ethnicity**  
**Percent of Women Aged 25 and Over with a Four-Year College Degree or More<sup>a</sup> (Continued)**

State	Native Americans			Other/Two or More <sup>b</sup>			Hispanics		
	Percent of Women	Rank for Women (of 48)	Percent of Men	Percent of Women	Rank for Women (of 51)	Percent of Men	Percent of Women	Rank for Women (of 51)	Percent of Men
Alabama	12.2%	24	12.9%	18.1%	30	19.2%	16.6%	11	14.1%
Alaska	7.3%	47	4.2%	20.6%	22	20.2%	22.8%	5	15.5%
Arizona	7.9%	44	6.0%	20.7%	21	23.4%	8.7%	47	7.9%
Arkansas	8.8%	40	14.7%	13.7%	49	14.8%	10.6%	37	5.9%
California	13.6%	17	13.8%	25.6%	5	29.4%	7.9%	48	7.8%
Colorado	16.3%	9	14.8%	24.8%	7	30.7%	10.6%	37	9.8%
Connecticut	16.0%	11	15.4%	22.6%	12	22.9%	11.8%	33	11.3%
Delaware	7.1%	48	15.1%	21.9%	14	25.2%	14.8%	21	11.9%
District of Columbia				42.5%	1	44.2%	25.9%	3	24.2%
Florida	15.1%	14	17.9%	18.2%	29	20.4%	17.2%	10	18.1%
Georgia	18.3%	3	18.8%	24.4%	8	25.4%	15.5%	15	12.7%
Hawaii	17.9%	4		16.8%	34	18.3%	13.8%	24	12.6%
Idaho	12.4%	22	6.8%	16.8%	34	15.5%	7.5%	49	5.7%
Illinois	10.3%	32	19.0%	25.4%	6	29.5%	9.5%	42	8.4%
Indiana	15.5%	12	16.3%	16.4%	40	20.2%	12.4%	31	9.3%
Iowa	9.8%	36	9.3%	18.6%	27	14.2%	13.8%	24	10.3%
Kansas	11.1%	29	15.7%	20.3%	24	22.1%	9.5%	42	7.9%
Kentucky	14.2%	16	18.2%	16.2%	42	16.6%	16.4%	12	12.3%
Louisiana	9.8%	36	8.3%	16.4%	40	23.5%	17.8%	9	19.3%
Maine	12.2%	24	9.5%	18.5%	28	15.5%	18.5%	8	25.2%
Maryland	17.1%	7	16.6%	32.4%	2	35.3%	23.7%	4	19.3%
Massachusetts	20.4%	1	28.0%	21.2%	19	22.9%	15.1%	18	13.4%
Michigan	10.7%	31	11.4%	16.7%	36	20.8%	13.5%	26	12.2%
Minnesota	11.5%	27	8.0%	21.7%	15	23.1%	13.2%	28	14.4%
Mississippi	11.1%	29	7.7%	14.1%	48	22.3%	15.0%	20	10.4%
Missouri	13.5%	18	10.7%	16.7%	36	18.8%	15.8%	14	16.5%
Montana	9.9%	35	8.0%	21.3%	18	18.2%	14.6%	22	12.6%
Nebraska	8.9%	39	9.8%	15.9%	43	15.2%	9.1%	44	7.1%
Nevada	10.0%	34	9.8%	15.0%	46	17.9%	7.0%	51	5.7%
New Hampshire				15.9%	43	22.5%	21.3%	6	25.6%
New Jersey	18.9%	2	17.7%	23.5%	10	29.3%	13.3%	27	11.7%
New Mexico	8.7%	42	7.1%	31.0%	3	34.0%	10.9%	36	11.1%
New York	16.2%	10	16.8%	21.7%	15	24.9%	12.1%	32	10.8%
North Carolina	11.4%	28	9.2%	22.4%	13	21.1%	13.1%	29	8.6%
North Dakota	8.2%	43	6.3%	21.7%	15	37.9%	30.6%	2	14.6%
Ohio	13.4%	19	18.4%	16.7%	36	21.7%	15.5%	15	15.4%
Oklahoma	14.4%	15	12.1%	16.7%	36	18.4%	10.3%	39	9.7%
Oregon	12.2%	24	13.5%	18.9%	26	19.4%	10.3%	39	8.9%
Pennsylvania	15.2%	13	15.5%	20.5%	23	24.0%	12.8%	30	11.8%
Rhode Island	7.9%	44	18.2%	14.9%	47	15.8%	7.3%	50	8.8%
South Carolina	12.7%	21	11.4%	17.9%	32	19.6%	15.1%	18	14.1%
South Dakota	10.3%	32	7.6%	10.8%	51	13.5%	11.5%	34	18.8%
Tennessee	17.3%	5	13.4%	15.8%	45	21.2%	16.1%	13	14.3%
Texas	17.1%	7	21.8%	23.4%	11	30.0%	9.0%	45	8.6%
Utah	9.4%	38	9.4%	19.8%	25	29.3%	9.0%	45	8.9%
Vermont				23.9%	9	5.0%	33.2%	1	42.1%
Virginia	17.2%	6	20.3%	29.0%	4	35.7%	20.7%	7	19.2%
Washington	13.3%	20	13.1%	21.1%	20	24.2%	11.3%	35	10.2%
West Virginia	12.3%	23	16.7%	17.0%	33	19.7%	15.4%	17	22.8%
Wisconsin	8.8%	40	8.0%	18.1%	30	21.4%	14.0%	23	11.6%
Wyoming	7.7%	46	3.1%	13.2%	50	12.6%	10.3%	39	8.0%
<b>United States</b>	<b>12.1%</b>		<b>11.7%</b>	<b>21.7%</b>		<b>25.0%</b>	<b>10.8%</b>		<b>10.2%</b>

Compiled by the Institute for Women's Policy Research.