

# Women's earnings and family incomes

*Abdul Rashid*

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The 1970s saw major changes in the sex composition of Canada's work force, changes which continued in the 1980s. The socio-economic impact of these changes has been extensive. Increasing participation of wives in the labour force augmented family incomes and enhanced the overall well-being of Canadians. [\(1\)](#)

In 1970, about 15% of the total income of all families with husbands under 65 years was contributed by wives. This contribution increased to 25% in 1985. [\(2\)](#) Dual-earner families accounted for nearly two-thirds of all families in 1985 compared with less than one-half of all families in 1970.

Using data from the 1971, 1981 and 1986 censuses, [\(3\)](#) this article reviews changes in the incidence of employment income among men and women, their average earnings and the overall female-to-male earnings ratios between 1970 and 1985. The impact of these changes on family work patterns and family incomes is then examined.

## Female earners increase faster than the female population

The incidence of employment income among men 15 years and over dropped from 81.2% in 1970 to 79.9% in 1980. By 1985, it had decreased even further, to 76.9%.

Except for the youngest age group (15 to 19 years), the incidence of employment income among men dropped in all age groups between 1970 and 1985 - by more than 17 points for men 55 years and over.

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## Chart **Incidence of employment income.**

*Sources: 1971, 1981 and 1986 Censuses of Canada*

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The trend for women was the opposite. The incidence of employment income increased from 43.8% in 1970 to 54.8% in 1980 and to 56.7% in 1985. This increase, shared by almost all working-age groups, and was especially pronounced in the middle age groups. Compared with the 1970s, the change between 1980 and 1985 was less sharp. On an annual basis, the increase in the number of female earners was 4.6% between 1970 and 1980, and 1.9% between 1980 and 1985. [\(4\)](#)

Over the 15 year period, the incidence of employment income declined for men aged 20 and over but increased for women between 15 and 60.



## Table 1 **Male and female population and earners, aged 15 and over, 1970, 1980 and 1985**

*Sources: 1971, 1981 and 1986 Censuses of Canada*

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On the whole, between 1970 and 1985, the male population increased by 28.5% and the female population by 32.3%. But, as a result of the much more rapid growth in female employment, the changes in the number of male and female earners differed substantially. Overall, the number of male earners increased by 21.7%, whereas that of female earners increased by 71.3%. [\(5\)](#)

The changes in the male and female populations in various age groups were of about the same magnitude, but major differences existed between the changes in the number of earners. Between the ages of 20 and 59, the changes in the number of male earners were consistent with their population growth. [\(6\)](#) Beginning with age 60, the changes in the number of male earners were significantly below their population changes.



## Chart **Changes in population and earners.**

*Sources: 1971 and 1986 Censuses of Canada*

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In contrast, the percentage increases in the number of female earners in various age groups exceeded C

quite substantially in some cases C their population increases in over the 1970s. The number of female employment income recipients in the middle age groups more than doubled, from less than 1 million in 1970 to over 2 million in 1985. The increases in the 30 to 34 and the 35 to 39 age groups were 171.0% and 161.6% respectively.

Thus, while the proportion of women in the population 15 years and over changed from 50.3% in 1970 to 51.0% in 1985, their proportion among all earners increased substantially, from 35.4% in 1970 to 43.5% in 1985.

## Age-earning profile of women begins to change

The average employment income of men increased by 19.0% between 1970 and 1980, but dropped by 3.7% between 1980 and 1985. Women experienced significantly higher increases in both periods C 27.7% between 1970 and 1980, and another 2.9% between 1980 and 1985.

Women gained significantly more in almost all age groups in each of the two periods. In the four five-year age groups beginning with age 25, the rates of growth between 1970 and 1980 in the average earnings of women were substantially higher than those for men. The recession of the early 1980s had an impact on both sexes but, on the whole, women fared much better than men. Average male earnings in 1985 were lower than in 1980 for every working-age group. In contrast, only women under 30 had lower average earnings in 1985 than in 1980, but their loss was smaller than that for men. In all other age groups, women experienced gains.



### Chart **Change in average earnings.**

*Sources: 1971 and 1986 Censuses of Canada*

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The earnings profile of a population group reflects the intensity of work, education, training and work experience of its members.

In the absence of information on work experience, age is often used as a proxy in the expectation that the accumulation of work experience will continue over the working life if the attachment to the labour force is stable. Census data reveal that the intensity of work measured in terms of weeks and hours worked is lower for the population at the two ends of the age distribution. Beginning at a low level, it increases with age to a maximum between 35 to 44 years and then declines steadily.

Moreover, as may be expected from rising levels of education over time, the data also show that the proportion of university graduates was higher among these individuals than the older, more experienced

individuals.

As a consequence of these phenomena, overall average earnings tend to rise with age, reach a peak and then decline. This relationship is clearly demonstrated by the age-earnings profile of men. In contrast, the average employment income of women in 1970 reached a level slightly higher than their overall average between ages 25 and 29 years, and then stayed at a relatively even plateau.

One of the factors contributing to this difference is women's historical lack of permanent attachment to the labour force and, thus, the absence of a relationship between their age and work experience. Between 1970 and 1985, the number of female earners increased by about 2.37 million. About one-half of this can be ascribed to population increases and the remaining half to the increases in the incidence of employment among women. [\(7\)](#)

This increase in the number of female earners was spread across all working-age groups. [\(8\)](#) But in the upper-age groups, female entrants generally did not bring the same length of work experience as their male counterparts. Thus, each successive age group of female earners is a mixture of experienced workers and fresh entrants to the work force. Since these new entrants in the upper age groups are likely to receive less than the normal wage of their age group, they tend to depress the overall average earnings of the group. This is one reason for lack of variation in the average earnings of women by age.



### Chart **Average earnings.**

*Sources: 1971, 1981 and 1986 Censuses of Canada*

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As a consequence of the increasing numbers of women with long-term labour force attachment, the age-earnings profile of women has started to lose its traditional flat shape. Compared with 1970, female average earnings by age varied more in 1980 and 1985. [\(9\)](#) This variation is likely to increase further as the overall earnings of women grow with their age and work experience.

## **Ratio of female-to-male earnings increasing steadily**

The overall average earnings of women are often discussed in terms of their ratio to the average earnings of men. This ratio increased from 48.4% in 1970 to 51.9% in 1980 and 55.5% in 1985. Thus, the ratio increased by an average of half a percentage point annually between 1970 and 1985. Although the overall ratio of female-to-male earnings is a convenient summary measure, it is important to note two points.

First, it is unrealistic to expect large changes in the ratio between two averages over a short period of time, especially when both averages are changing in the same direction. [\(10\)](#) The ratio of female-to-male earnings increased by 7 percentage points from 1970 to 1985, although the annual rate of increase in the earnings of women (1.84%) was twice the rate for men (0.91%) [\(11\)](#) during this period. If these average rates continued for the next 15 years, the overall ratio of female-to-male earnings would rise to 63.7% in the year 2000, and that of full-year, full-time working women would increase to 71.7%.

Second, as mentioned earlier, earnings of both men and women reflect the impact of many factors, such as the intensity of work, education, training and occupation. Since male and female earners differ significantly in terms of these factors, a comparison of changes in the overall average earnings will hide the impact of these differences. It is therefore more revealing to examine the changes in the earning ratios between relatively homogeneous groups of men and women.

As a consequence of changes in the earnings of various age groups, the ratio of female-to-male earnings increased in all age groups. In the 30 to 34 group, it improved by 14 percentage points between 1970 and 1985, while the increases in each of the two surrounding groups (25 to 29 years and 35 to 39 years) were close to 12 points. Work experience itself may consist of full-time or part-time work. The female-to-male earning ratios for full-year, full-time workers increased from 59.9% in 1970 to 63.8% in 1980 and to 65.5% in 1985. In 1970, the ratio between the earnings of full-year, full-time working married women and men was 52.8%. It increased by 9 percentage points, to 62% in 1985. Within this group, the ratio for married women 35 to 44 years increased by 14 points, from 47.3% in 1970 to 61.7% in 1985.

Thus, compared with the overall changes, improvements in both averages and ratios for female earnings are more noteworthy in the middle and lower age groups. [\(12\)](#)

## Family work patterns are continuously changing

The most important factor leading to the spectacular increase in the number of working women is the entry of wives into the labour market. Not long ago, the roles of spouses were defined as breadwinner for the husband and homemaker for the wife. Generally, wives entered the labour market to supplement the husband's income. Thus, the lower the husband's income, the more likely the wife was to enter the labour market. This traditional relationship between a husband's income and a wife's work status has lost much of its strength and the dual-earner family has already become the norm rather than the exception.



**Chart Percentage of wives working, by husband's income in 1985 constant dollars.**

*Sources: 1971, 1981 and 1986 Censuses of Canada*

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## Chart **Work patterns of spouses.**

*Sources: 1971, 1981 and 1986 Censuses of Canada*

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In 1970, while the overall proportion of working wives was 46.9%, it ranged from 29.7% when the husband's income was \$60,000 or more to 51.5% when his income was \$20,000 to \$24,999, a spread of 22 percentage points. In 1980, the proportions ranged between 52.2% and 66.1% C a spread of 14 points. By 1985, the range had declined to less than 9 points, with the highest proportion (70.8%) of wives working in families with husbands whose incomes were in the \$15,000 to \$19,999 range, and the lowest (62.3%) among women whose husbands were in the highest income group (\$60,000 or more).

This increased activity of wives in the labour market has affected family work patterns and, in turn, family incomes. In 1970, less than one-half (46.9%) of all wives worked. This increased to 61.6% in 1980 and to 66.9% in 1985.

Changes, though less significant, also took place in the work patterns of husbands. According to the 1971 Census, 96.4% of all husbands under 65 worked in 1970. During the 1970s, this proportion dropped to 94.8%. [\(13\)](#) This trend continued in the 1980s with another decrease of 2 percentage points (to 92.5%) in the proportion of working husbands in 1985. Thus, 7.5% of husbands under the age of 65 did not work in 1985 compared with only 3.6% in 1970. [\(14\)](#)

Between 1970 and 1985, the total number of families increased by 24.6% (20.5% during the 1970s and 3.5% during the first half of the 1980s), but the number of working husbands increased by only 19.6%. In contrast, the number of working wives increased by 77.9%. Thus, the increases in the number of working husbands did not keep pace with the overall increase in the number of families either during 1970 to 1980 or during 1980 to 1985. However, the increases in the number of working wives, (whether full year, full time, or part year or part time) were several times the overall growth in the number of families. [\(15\)](#)

Families were divided into nine categories by combining the work patterns of husbands and wives ([Table 2](#)). Compared with the overall increase of 24.6% in the number of all families, the changes in the various husband-wife work combinations ranged from -32.6% to 255.7%.

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## Table 2 Husband-wife families by work patterns of spouses, 1970, 1980 and 1985 (husbands under age 65)

Sources: 1971, 1981 and 1986 Censuses of Canada

The three categories in which the husbands did not work show large increases in percentage terms, but their overall impact is small since these categories account for a very small proportion of all families. Of the remaining six categories, the two that have shrunk over the 15 years consist of families in which the husbands worked but the wives did not. The proportion of these families dropped from 50.5% in 1970 to 34.9% in 1980 and to 28.4% in 1985. Thus, dual-earner families increased from less than one-half of all families in 1970 to almost two-thirds in 1985.

## Changing work patterns affect family incomes

The simplest way to see the impact of these work-pattern changes on family incomes is to compare average family incomes with and without the incomes contributed by wives. Total average family income increased by 31.0% between 1970 and 1980. Family incomes declined during the recession of the early 1980s, so that average family income in 1985 was still 0.4% lower than in 1980. When the incomes of wives are excluded, the 1970 to 1980 increase is reduced to 20.4%, while the 1980 to 1985 decrease plunges to 4.7%.

The contribution of wives towards family income has been increasing over the years, from 14% in 1970 to 22% in 1980 and to 25% in 1985. In the case of the steadily increasing number of wives working full year, full time, their increased from 37% in 1970 to 40% in 1985. The contribution of wives working part year or part time increased from about 20% in 1970 to 25% in 1985.

It is possible to estimate family incomes in 1980 and 1985 based on the family work patterns in 1970. [\(16\)](#) Actual average family incomes in 1970, 1980 and 1985 were, respectively, \$32,212, \$42,192 and \$42,011. Had the work patterns of husbands not changed over the period under review, average family income would have been \$42,675 in 1980 and \$43,006 in 1985. Changing work patterns of husbands resulted, on average, in a reduction of \$483 between 1970 and 1980 and a drop of another \$512 during the first half of the 1980s. This is not surprising given the declining proportions of working husbands under age 65 years of age during this period.

In contrast, without the change in the work patterns of wives, family income would have been lower, on average, by \$1,522 in 1980 and by another \$945 in 1985. Again, this result is not surprising, given the increasing proportions of working wives. Average family income increased by 30.4% between 1970 and 1985. Without the higher participation of wives in the labour market, the increase would have amounted to only 22.8%.

When the joint impact of changes in the work patterns of husbands and wives is taken into account, the overall change has been for the better. The negative impact of the decline in the proportion of working husbands has been more than offset by the positive impact of the increase in working wives.

## Conclusion

During the 1970s and early 1980s, the increases in the number of female earners surpassed their population growth. Although the proportion of women among all earners increased from 35% in 1970 to 44% in 1985, there is still potential for further growth in the number of female earners, albeit at a slower pace.

Although average earnings for men in various age groups reflect the impact of their work experience, women's earnings do not show the same degree of increments by age. However, compared with 1970, the female age-earnings profile in 1985 had assumed a greater similarity to the male profile. The more stable attachment of women to the labour force has started to give women greater work experience with concomitant monetary dividends.

The average annual rate of growth in female earnings was twice the rate of increase in men's earnings between 1970 and 1985. The overall ratio of female-to-male earnings increased by 7 percentage points. Increased work experience, accompanied by appropriate changes in educational and occupational profiles would likely narrow the gap further.

The most important factor in the growth of the female labour force has been the entry of wives into the labour market. Between 1970 and 1985, the proportion of working wives increased from 47% to 67%.

The overall contribution of wives to family income increased from 15% in 1970 to 25% in 1985. In the case of working-wife families, their contribution amounted to nearly one-third of family income. This contribution is likely to increase as female earnings improve due to a more stable labour force attachment and greater work experience, as well as other factors such as employment equity and pay equity legislation, higher levels of education and occupational diversification.

Furthermore, since most working wives (57% in 1985) still work only part year or part time, there is significant potential for a change towards full-year, full-time work, and the consequent increase in family income.

Finally, the pool of non-working wives (33% in 1985) is likely to shrink further, leading to an increase in the number of working wives and, consequently, to an increase in their contribution towards family income.

In spite of the slight decline in the proportion of working husbands between 1970 and 1985, the fast rise in the proportion of working wives has led to a significant increase in the number of dual-earner families.

On the one hand, during times of rising incomes and prosperity (as in the 1970s working wives augmented family incomes and raised standards of living. On the other hand, during recessionary periods (the early 1980s), the contribution of working wives absorbed some of the effects of the recession and helped maintain family living standards.

The 1991 Census will extend the detailed and consistent data on the characteristics of individuals and families and their incomes to two decades. These data will not only confirm (or negate) the conclusions drawn in this study, but will also provide a valuable source to undertake further research on individual and family incomes.

## Actual and standardized family incomes



### Table Actual and standardized family incomes

*\* $P_i$  = proportion of husbands in each of the three work categories (FYFT, PY/PT, None) in 1970.*

*$P_j$  = proportion of wives in each of the three work categories (FYFT, PY/PT, None) in 1970.*

*$P_{ij}$  = proportion of families in each of the nine husband-wife work combinations in 1970.*

*$Y_i$  = average family income in each of the three work categories of husbands in 1980 and 1985.*

*$Y_j$  = average family income in each of the three work categories of wives in 1980 and 1985.*

*$Y_{ij}$  = average family income in each of the nine husband-wife work combinations in 1980 and 1985.*

## Definitions

**Employment income and earnings** are used as synonyms in this study and consist of wages and salaries, net income from self-employment in a non-farm unincorporated business or professional practice, and net income from the operation of a farm in the calendar year preceding the census.

The **incidence of employment income** is the percentage of individuals 15 years and over who reported employment income.

**Average earnings** are calculated by dividing the total earnings of a group by the number of earners in the group.

To allow comparisons in real terms, the income data for 1970 and 1980 were adjusted to reflect the purchasing power of the dollar in 1985. Thus, all income figures in this article are stated in **constant (1985) dollars**.

A **census family** consists of a couple with or without any never-married children, or a lone-parent with one or more never-married children. The analysis is restricted to husband-wife families with husbands under 65 years of age, since both spouses in these families are potential labour force participants. Excluded are elderly families and lone-parent families headed by single (mostly female), parents with young children, since their work patterns are unique.

Actual weeks during which the spouses worked in the year preceding the census were used to analyze **work patterns**. Those who worked 49 to 52 weeks, mostly full time, were classified as full-year, full-time (FYFT) workers. Those who worked part time or worked 1 to 48 weeks were classified as part-year/part-time (PY/PT) workers.

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## Notes

### *Note 1*

In 1931, 19.6% of all women 15 years and over, and only 3.5% of all married women, participated in the labour force. The demands of World War II brought about an irreversible change. By 1986, these proportions had grown to 59.4% and 57.4%, respectively. Minor differences of concept and coverage often underlie historical statistics on the labour force but these differences do not reduce the importance or magnitude of change in the sex composition of Canada's work force. For some of the relevant statistics, see [F.T. Denton and S. Ostry, \*Historical estimates of the Canadian labour force\* \(1967\)](#); [Statistics Canada, \*Historical, labour force, for Canada and provinces, 1911-1971\* \(1974\)](#); [Statistics Canada, \*Labour force activity\* \(1989\)](#); and [B.G. Spencer and D.C. Featherstone, \*Married female labour force participation: a micro study\* \(1970\)](#).

### *Note 2*

The analysis of family income in this study is restricted to families with husbands under 65 years (see [Definitions](#)). For the elderly families, the contribution of wives towards family income amounted to 21.5% in 1970 and 29.3% in 1985. Thus, the average contribution of wives in all husband-wife families increased from 15.1% in 1970 to 25.3% in 1985.

### *Note 3*

The 1976 Census did not collect information on income.

**Note 4**

However, the economy had not yet fully recovered from the recession of the early 1980s. The overall income levels in 1985 were still below the peak reached in 1980.

**Note 5**

If there had been no changes in the overall population between 1970 and 1985, the number of male earners would have actually dropped by 6%, but the number of female earners would still have increased by 29%.

**Note 6**

The large increase in the very young (15 to 19 years) male (and female) earners is consistent with the information on weeks worked and the annual labour force participation rates in 1970 and 1980. This increase could be due to the greater availability of employment for summer students in 1980 compared with 1970 and 1985.

**Note 7**

The impact of changes in population and incidence of employment income between 1970 and 1985 can be estimated as follows:

$$\Sigma(\Delta P_i)(I_i 70) + \Sigma(\Delta I_i)(P_i 70) + \Sigma(\Delta P_i)(\Delta I_i),$$

where  $\Delta P_i$  = change in female population 15 years and over and  $\Delta I_i$  = change in the incidence of employment income in each of  $i = 11$  age groups.

**Note 8**

During the period, there was a drop in the incidence of employment among women 60 years and over.

**Note 9**

A measure of variation around the average is provided by the coefficient of variation calculated as follows:

$$CV = \frac{\sqrt{\sum P_i (X_i - \bar{X})^2}}{\bar{X}} * 100,$$

where  $P_i$  is the proportion of female earners in each age group,  $X_i$  is the average earning in each age group, and  $\bar{X}$  is the overall average earning of women.

The CV for female average earnings by age increased from 25% in 1970 to nearly 30% in 1985.

**Note 10**

Two variables, F and M, with unequal values at time T and subject to unequal (but constant) annual rates of change, -F and M, will equal each other in N years provided the rate of change is higher for the variable with lower value. That is:

$$(F)(1 + \Delta F)^N = (M)(1 + \Delta M)^N$$

or

$$N = \frac{\log (M/N)}{\log (1 + \Delta F)/(1 + \Delta M)}$$

**Note 11**

These annual increases are in real terms after adjustment for changes in prices.

**Note 12**

The 1991 Census data would provide an opportunity to study changes, spanning two decades, in the earnings of men and women in various age-education-occupation groups.

**Note 13**

The drop was even larger in full-year, full-time work (from 68.0% in 1970 to 65.7% in 1980).

**Note 14**

This decline is not entirely unexpected in view of the increasing trend towards early retirement. Between 1970 and 1985, the incidence of employment income dropped by 9 percentage points among men aged 55 to 59 years and by 19 percentage points among men aged 60 to 64.

### **Note 15**

The significance of these changes becomes apparent when changes in the population are taken into account. Compensating for the increases in the overall number of families, the incidence of work among husbands declined by 4%, while it increased by 42.7% among wives.

### **Note 16**

The procedure adopted controls for change in a single variable C work patterns. However, family incomes are actually influenced by a host of factors that vary over time.

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## **References**

- Denton, F.T. and S. Ostry. *Historical estimates of the Canadian labour force*. 1961 Census: Monograph Programme: labour force studies series, Catalogue 99-549. Ottawa: Dominion Bureau of Statistics, 1967.
- Spencer, B.G. and D.C. Featherstone. *Married female labour force participation: a micro study*, Special labour force studies, Series B, No. 4, Occasional, Catalogue 71-516. Ottawa: Dominion Bureau of Statistics, 1970.
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001E). This is the third of six articles in the issue.

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 HIGHLIGHTS

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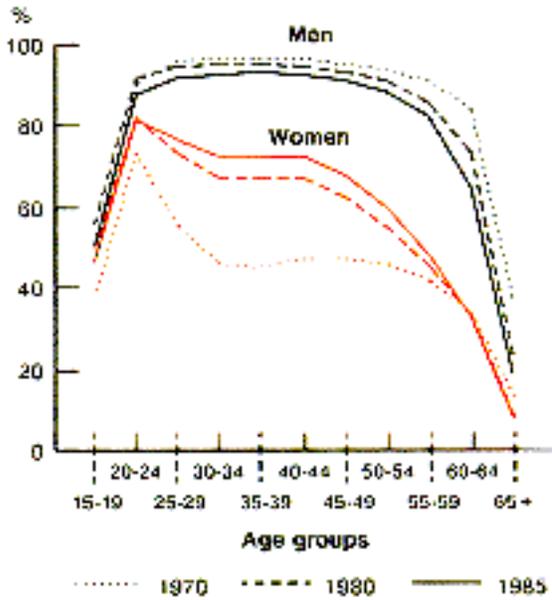
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### Incidence of employment income

The proportion of women with employment income has increased dramatically - from 44% in 1970 to 57% in 1985.



Sources: 1971, 1981 and 1986 Censuses of Canada

Table 1

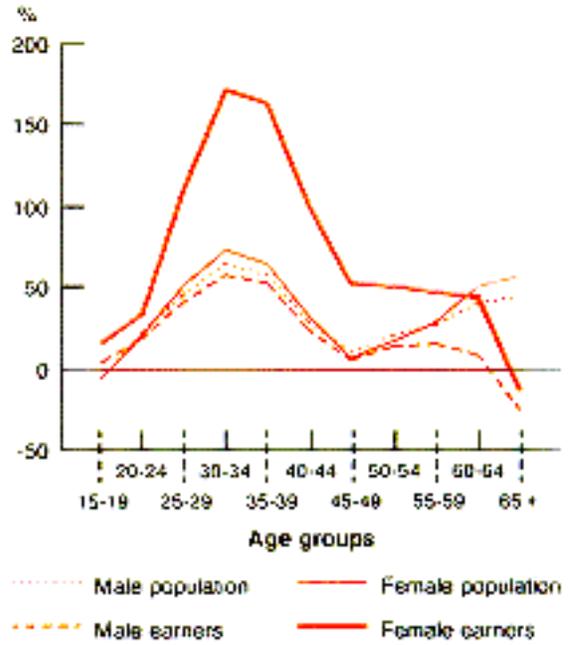
**Male and female population and earners, aged 15 and over, 1970, 1980 and 1985**

Year	Population		Earners		Average earnings	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
	'000				(1985 dollars)	
1970	7,474	7,579	6,071	3,321	20,275	9,808
1980	9,152	9,458	7,309	5,186	24,123	12,528
1985	9,606	10,028	7,387	5,688	23,231	12,891

*Sources: 1971, 1981 and 1986 Censuses of Canada*

## Changes in population and earners

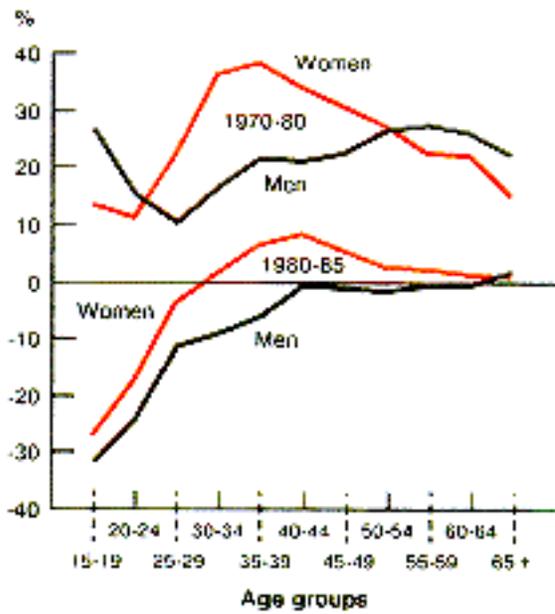
Growth in the number of female earners surpassed the increase in their population between 1970 to 1985.



Sources: 1971 and 1986 Censuses of Canada

### Change in average earnings

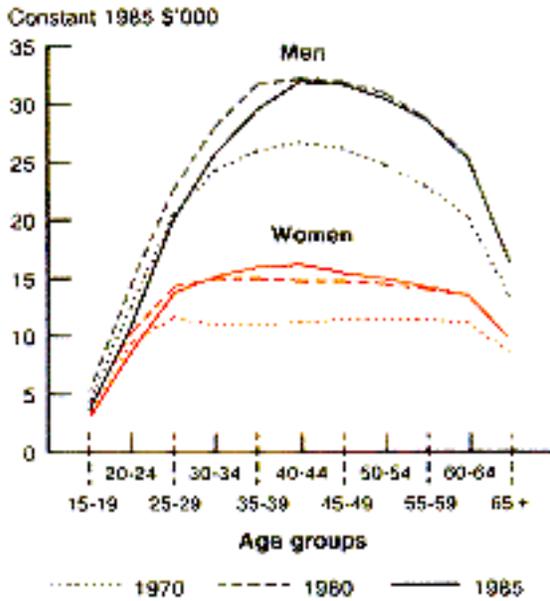
Average earnings of women increased at twice the rate for men.



Sources: 1971 and 1985 Censuses of Canada

## Average earnings

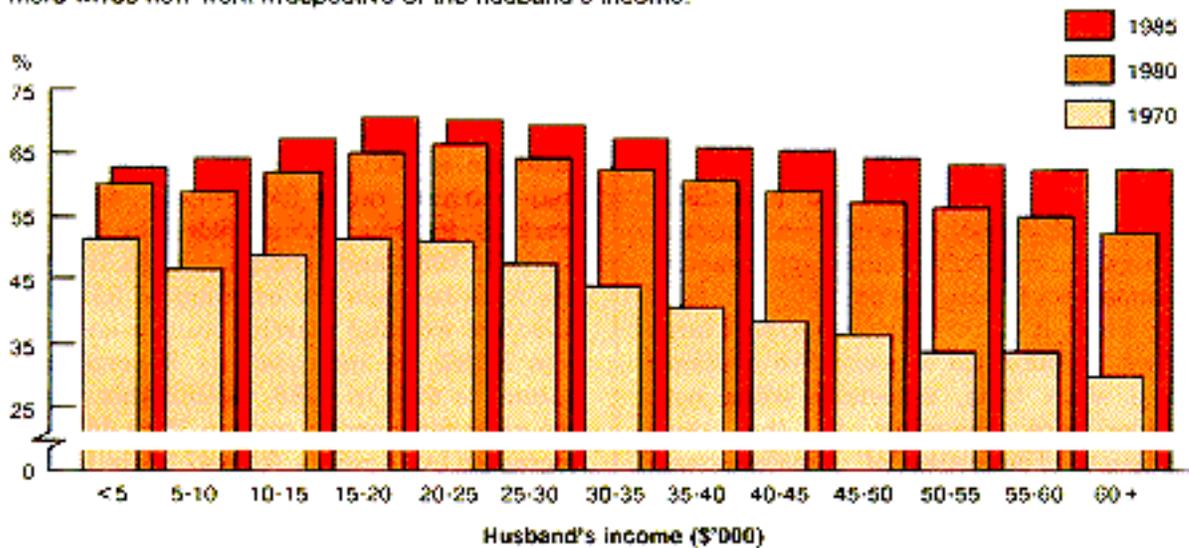
Women's earnings have begun to show a closer relationship to their age, more like the age-earnings profile of men.



Sources: 1971, 1981 and 1986 Censuses of Canada

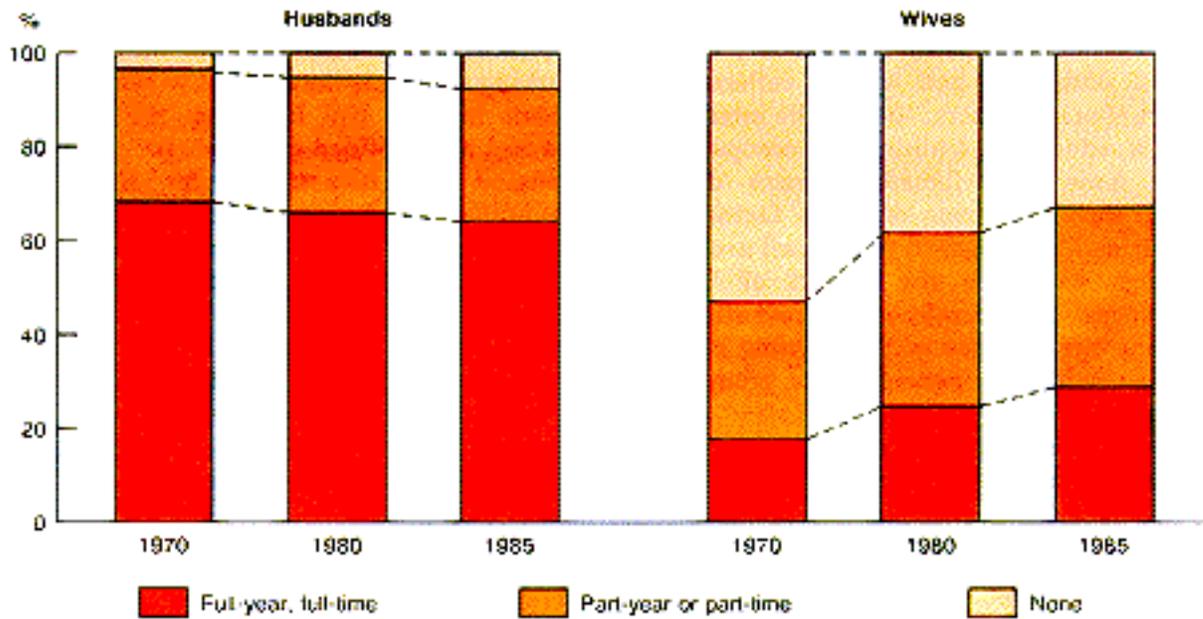
### Percentage of wives working, by husband's income in 1985 constant dollars

More wives now work irrespective of the husband's income.



## Work patterns of spouses

Work activity showed a slight decline among husbands. But two-thirds of wives worked in 1985 compared with less than half in 1970.



Sources: 1971, 1981 and 1986 Censuses of Canada

Table 2				
<b>Husband-wife families by work patterns of spouses, 1970, 1980 and 1985 (husbands under age 65)</b>				
Work patterns of husbands	Work patterns of wives			Total
	Full-year, full-time*	Part-year or part-time**	Did not work	
<b>Number of families</b>				
<b>1970</b>				
Full-year, full-time	550,765	778,115	1,439,615	2,768,495
Part-year or part-time	162,345	377,580	617,165	1,157,090
Did not work	17,445	24,170	105,705	147,320
Total	730,555	1,179,865	2,162,485	4,072,900
<b>1980</b>				
Full-year, full-time	929,720	1,130,555	1,162,775	3,223,050
Part-year or part-time	258,820	619,670	550,875	1,429,365
Did not work	35,095	48,520	171,435	255,050
Total	1,223,635	1,798,745	1,885,085	4,907,460
<b>1985</b>				
Full-year, full-time	1,084,305	1,206,900	970,055	3,261,260
Part-year or part-time	311,650	653,460	470,555	1,435,665
Did not work	62,060	79,215	238,570	379,845
Total	1,458,015	1,939,575	1,679,180	5,076,770
	Constant (1985) dollars			
<b>Average family income</b>				
<b>1970</b>				
Full-year, full-time	40,612	35,397	33,547	35,472
Part-year or part-time	32,834	27,869	24,448	26,741
Did not work	21,586	14,873	12,432	13,916
Total	38,429	32,567	29,918	32,212
<b>1980</b>				
Full-year, full-time	53,899	46,469	41,136	46,688
Part-year or part-time	42,525	37,111	31,215	35,819
Did not work	30,889	23,590	18,380	21,092

Total	50,833	42,628	36,167	42,192
<b>1985</b>				
Full-year, full-time	54,671	46,829	41,119	47,738
Part-year or part-time	41,226	35,127	28,912	34,414
Did not work	32,506	23,634	18,023	21,559
Total	50,854	41,939	34,417	42,011
<b>Wife's average income</b>				
<b>1970</b>				
Full-year, full-time	14,123	6,447	429	4,845
Part-year or part-time	13,978	7,011	443	4,485
Did not work	15,180	7,299	1,313	3,937
Total	14,116	6,645	476	4,710
<b>1980</b>				
Full-year, full-time	20,135	9,739	1,072	9,611
Part-year or part-time	19,308	10,222	1,157	8,374
Did not work	20,775	10,405	2,472	6,500
Total	19,978	9,923	1,224	9,089
<b>1985</b>				
Full-year, full-time	20,828	10,412	1,368	11,185
Part-year or part-time	19,752	10,456	1,544	9,553
Did not work	21,253	10,518	3,053	7,583
Total	20,616	10,431	1,657	10,454

*Sources: 1971, 1981 and 1986 Censuses of Canada*

*\* Worked 49-52 weeks, mostly full time.*

*\*\* Worked less than 49 weeks or mostly part time.*

**Actual and standardized family incomes**

Year		Family income Constant (1985) dollars
<b>1970</b>		
Actual		32,212
<b>1980</b>		
Actual		42,192
Standardized* by 1970 work patterns of:		
Husband:	$\Sigma(P_i)(Y_i80)$	42,675
Wife:	$\Sigma(P_j)(Y_j80)$	40,670
Both spouses:	$\Sigma(P_{ij})(Y_{ij}80)$	41,321
<b>1985</b>		
Actual		42,192
Standardized by 1970 work patterns of:		
Husband:	$\Sigma(P_i)(Y_i85)$	43,006
Wife:	$\Sigma(P_j)(Y_j85)$	39,544
Both spouses:	$\Sigma(P_{ij})(Y_{ij}85)$	40,901
* $P_i =$	<i>proportion of husbands in each of the three work categories (FYFT, PY/PT, None) in 1970.</i>	
$P_j =$	<i>proportion of wives in each of the three work categories (FYFT, PY/PT, None) in 1970.</i>	
$P_{ij} =$	<i>proportion of families in each of the nine husband-wife work combinations in 1970.</i>	
$Y_i =$	<i>average family income in each of the three work categories of husbands in 1980 and 1985.</i>	
$Y_j =$	<i>average family income in each of the three work categories of wives in 1980 and 1985.</i>	
$Y_{ij} =$	<i>average family income in each of the nine husband-wife work combinations in 1980 and 1985.</i>	