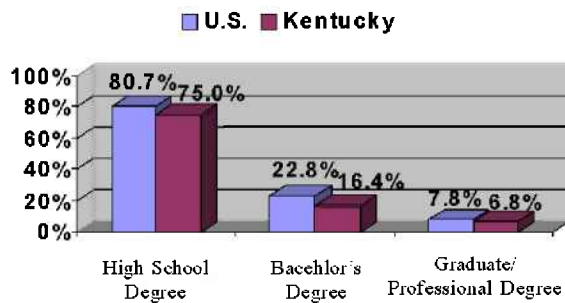


### Women's Educational Attainment

- Kentucky ranks 49<sup>th</sup> in the U.S. for the number of women aged 25 and over with four or more years of college.<sup>1</sup>

#### Educational Attainment of Women in Kentucky vs. U.S.<sup>2</sup>



- In Kentucky, African-American women earn fewer high school, bachelor's, and graduate/professional degrees than white women.<sup>2</sup>
- More women than men are graduating from Kentucky schools with associate, bachelor's and master's degrees, (excluding MBA's.) However, more men are graduating with MBA, professional, and doctoral degrees.<sup>4</sup>
- In Fall 2001, 56.8% of enrolled undergraduate students and 62.4% of graduate students in Kentucky colleges and universities were women. However, women only represented 47.6% of first-professional (medical, law, and dentistry) students and 38.4% of post-graduate students.<sup>4</sup>
- The median income for a working Kentucky woman with a bachelor's degree is more than twice that of a Kentucky woman with less than a high school education<sup>3</sup>
- A college-educated woman in Kentucky can expect average lifetime earnings of \$158,000 more than a Kentucky woman with a high school degree. The average difference for a man in Kentucky is \$357,000.<sup>3</sup>

#### Did You Know?

- The boards of directors of all public universities in Kentucky achieved gender equity in the year 2002.

### Women in Science, Math and Technology

- 16.75% of Kentucky girls who took the ACT in 2001 declared an expected college major in science, technology, engineering or math, compared with 40.81% of Kentucky boys.<sup>4</sup>
- In the U.S., high school girls are less likely to take Advanced Placement courses in science and math.<sup>5</sup>
- The U.S. Department of Labor estimates that nearly 75% of future jobs will require the use of computers, but less than 33% of participants in computer courses and related activities are girls.<sup>5</sup>
- In 2000 and 2001, women earned only 23.4% of total computer science degrees from Kentucky's colleges and universities. African-American women earned only 2.8% of computer science degrees.<sup>4</sup>
- Careers in math and science frequently result in higher pay: in the U.S., engineers had 2001 median weekly earnings of \$1,142, but elementary school teachers had median weekly earnings of \$774, about 30% less.<sup>5</sup>
- On-line education is an important resource for Kentucky's rural women: 77% of Kentucky Virtual University students live in rural counties, and 70% are women.<sup>3</sup>

### Women in Academic Employment

- In the U.S., only 21% of full professors at colleges and universities are women; only 2.4% are women of color. In addition, women full professors earn only 88% of what their male counterparts earn.<sup>5</sup>
- In Kentucky, women represented only 20.2% of full professors at state-sponsored universities and 25% of full professors at independent colleges in Fall 2001. However, women represented 59.1% of full professors at state-sponsored community colleges, and 68.9% at state-sponsored technical colleges.<sup>4</sup>

Sources: <sup>1</sup>Institute for Women's Policy Research - [www.iwpr.org](http://www.iwpr.org), <sup>2</sup>Census 2000 - U.S. Census Bureau - [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), <sup>3</sup>Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center - [www.kltprc.net](http://www.kltprc.net), <sup>4</sup>Kentucky Council on Post-Secondary Education - [www.cpc.state.ky.us](http://www.cpc.state.ky.us), <sup>5</sup>National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education - [www.newge.org](http://www.newge.org)