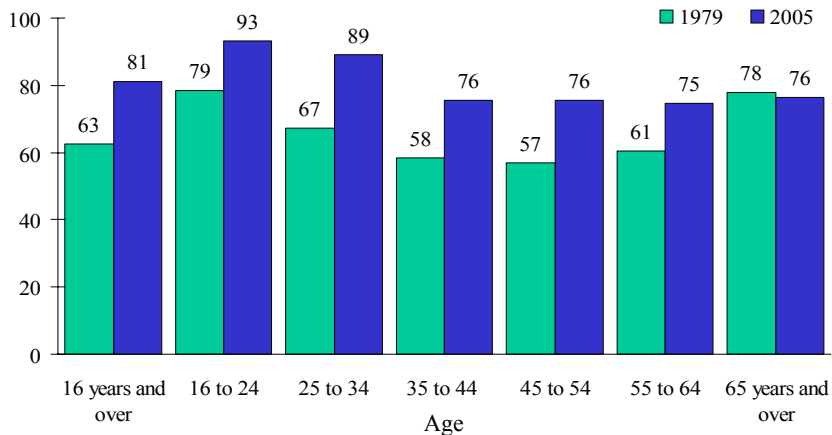


Chart 5-10. The women's-to-men's earnings ratio has increased for most major age groups

Women's earnings as a percent of men's



NOTE: Earnings are median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Chart 5-10. The women's-to-men's earnings ratio has increased for most major age groups

- The women's-to-men's earnings ratios have increased for workers under 65 years of age over the 1979-2005 period. The ratio for those 65 years of age and over was little changed.
- In 2005, the ratios were highest for women 16 to 34 years old.
- Care should be taken in interpreting these data, however, as they provide only a snapshot of earnings patterns in 2005. Older women faced a different social and economic climate at the start of their work lives than that which exists for young women today. Consequently, the lifetime earnings pattern of today's older women is not a reliable guide to the lifetime earnings pattern of today's younger women.