

Chart 5-8. Women's earnings have increased substantially as a percent of men's

- The ratio of women's to men's earnings, at 81 percent in 2005, has risen sharply since 1979, when it stood at about 63 percent.
- In 2005, black women earned 89 percent of what black men did; among Hispanics, the earnings ratio was 88 percent. In contrast, white women's earnings were 80 percent of white men's and Asian women's earnings were 81 percent of Asian men's.
- This simple comparison of earnings for men and women who worked full time does not control for many factors that can be significant in explaining earnings differences, such as educational attainment, occupation, hours of work, job tenure, and other factors.