

THE STATUS OF WOMEN

*A PORTRAIT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS
IN ONEIDA-HERKIMER COUNTIES:*



Prepared for:

The Women's Fund of Oneida-Herkimer Counties

By

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Preface

Beginning in 2001, The Women's Fund of Oneida-Herkimer Counties has been on a mission to produce a report on the status of women and girls in the communities comprising the two counties. The goal of our project is to tell the stories associated with the status of women. Which are the salient characteristics of these **151,735 women and girls** and what do they tell us as an opening chapter to the story? How do the important features of their lives unfold in regard to health, employment, relationships, income? And, finally, what does all of this suggest in regard to community need for women and girls to grow and thrive in a hospitable environment?

This report is intended to be the beginning of the story. The Women's Fund established a committee for the Status of Women study in 2001. We also began an informal partnership between The Women's Fund and The Arthur Levitt Public Affairs Center to collect community level data and to work with the committee in producing a report. We met as a larger Women's Fund-Hamilton College faculty group intermittently over the next two years, with oversight and direction provided by Judith Owens-Manley, Associate Director for Community Research in the Levitt Center. A Portrait of Women and Girls in Oneida-Herkimer Counties, Part I is the production of this partnership. This report is intended to facilitate a process of leveraging resources for needed programs and services. Part II has already begun. It will look more closely at the lives of women and girls in specific life states: Adolescent Girls, Working Age Women, and Aging Women. We look forward to our continued partnership in helping to tell these stories; stories that will make a difference in the lives of women and girls in our communities.

Acknowledgements

Special acknowledgements are due to the Women's Fund's Status of Women Committee and the Special Project committee at Hamilton College for overseeing the production of this report. Ann Lowery's leadership as Chair of the committee from 2001-2003 and the passing of the baton to Aileen Townsend as Chair in June 2003 carried the project through revisions and periodic presentations to the Women's Fund Board. Acknowledgements at Hamilton College include the Advisory Group of faculty members who have helped to guide this report and Sally Carman for editing and formatting of the report. Student Research Assistants also produced data for and edited versions of the report: Rebecca Karb '02, Allison Conway '03, and Jacqueline Kook, '05

And a special thanks to Ann Allen, the original whirlwind behind the establishment of The Women's Fund of Herkimer and Oneida Counties and the originator of the idea for this report. It is Ann's lifelong mission to improve the lives of women and girls. It is her intention, and our intention, that this report be used to inform the community and to leverage support and resources for those improvements.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AGE DISTRIBUTION

- Children and youth in the two county area are declining in numbers, especially in the 0-9 age group.
- Trends in the 18-24 and 25-44 age groups have shown significant decline in population.
- The “baby boomers,” 45-64 year-olds, have grown by 15 percent in the last decade.
- The over-85 population group grew at a faster rate from 1990-2000 than any other adult age group, and our area is “older” than New York State and the United States.

RACE AND ETHNICITY

- In our two county area, we have less racial and ethnic diversity than is typical of the population nationally.
- Racial diversity in the youth population is changing more rapidly with a significant decline in white youth and increases in Hispanic, Asian, and Pacific-Islander youth. Black youth remained at approximately the same level.
- Diversity in the community has been enriched by the Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees; over 10,000 refugees from 26 countries have resettled in Utica since 1979.
- The foreign-born population increased for the counties in the last decade, especially for the City of Utica, primarily from the countries of Bosnia, Vietnam, and Russia.

FAMILY STRUCTURE

- Divorce rates were higher in Oneida County (20/1,000) and lower in Herkimer County (16.3/1,000) than New York State as a whole (18.2/1,000)..
- Well over half of divorces in the two counties involved one or more children under age 18.
- The teenage pregnancy rate for 15-19 year-olds decreased in Oneida County (58.4/1,000) and increased in Herkimer County (59.1/1,000), but both rates are well below the statewide rate of 77.5/1,000.
- More than 75 percent of women are seeking prenatal care in the first trimester of birth, which is significantly higher than New York State as a whole.
- Nationally, 2/3 of women under 25 having their first child in the year 2000 were not married.
- Over 3/4 of households in the two counties are married couple families.
- Locally, 2/3 of children under 18 live in two-parent families; nationally the figure is 69%.
- Percentages of Black and Hispanic children living in one-parent families are dramatically higher compared to White, non-Hispanic children, both locally and nationally.
- For females 65 years of age and older, one in four live alone.

INCOME

- U.S. median household income is \$41,994; New York State, \$43,393; Oneida County, \$35,909; and Herkimer County, \$32,924.
- Full-time, year-round female workers earn \$.75 on the dollar as compared to male workers locally and nationally contributing to the feminization of poverty.
- Poverty is a serious issue locally and nationally for one-parent families with children. It has greater impact on Black and Hispanic families, and some middle-aged to elderly women.
- Pockets of more extreme poverty exist in both the cities of Utica and Rome, as well as rural areas in both counties.
- Income nationally is highly associated with education; each educational level brings significant increases in earning power.

EDUCATION

- One in five women in the two county area who are 18 years or older lack a high school degree or its equivalent.
- The percentage of local residents overall with a high school diploma or equivalency (79%) is comparable to New York State and slightly lower than the United States.
- High school equivalency for female minority groups remains far below that of white females.
- High school achievement of White girls in the area is 82% (Oneida County) and 80% (Herkimer County). New York State and national percentages are 83.7% and 84.1% respectively.
- College enrollment of minorities has increased in the United States over the past two decades.
- Nationally, additional levels of education are shown to bring relief from problems in material well-being, such as safety, adequate housing, and meeting essential expenses, in addition to having income above the poverty level.

EMPLOYMENT

- Locally, smaller percentages of women work in full-time, year round employment as compared to men. White women have higher percentages of participation than Black or Hispanic males or females.
- Over half of all women in the two counties made between \$10,000 - \$24,999 in the year 1999.
- 6.9% of White women (5.5% of Black women and 4.2% of Hispanic women) make \$50,000 per year or more compared to 19.2 % of White men (9% of Black men; 9.6% of Hispanic men).
- Higher educated women are nearly always more likely to have paid employment, according to national statistics.

Introduction

Oneida and Herkimer Counties are the area of focus for the Women's Fund, and each are comprised of urban and rural communities. The combined population is nearly 300,000 (235,469 OC; 64,427 HC) residents, and the area covers 2,625 square miles. Females comprise half of the total population for the two counties (50.6%). This is a population decline of 5.3% from the 1990 census total of 316,633. **There are 151,735 women and girls living in Oneida-Herkimer Counties region (OC=118,556; HC=33,179)**

The two-county area is geographically diverse with flat plains, extensive woodlands and mountains; it encompasses the Mohawk River, the old Erie Canal, and the foothills of the Adirondacks. Oneida County, population 235,469 in the 2000 Census count, covers 1,213 square miles in the center of New York State. The city of Utica (pop. 60,651), marketed as the "Gateway to the Adirondacks," and City of Rome (pop. 34,950) are home to many of the poor and minority residents of the county, including significant refugee populations in Utica. The suburbs and small towns and villages are largely White and much less diverse, but there is significant rural poverty as well. Both Utica and Rome are old industrial centers whose manufacturing businesses have moved South and West. The City of Rome also lost Griffiss Air Force Base in the early 1990s.

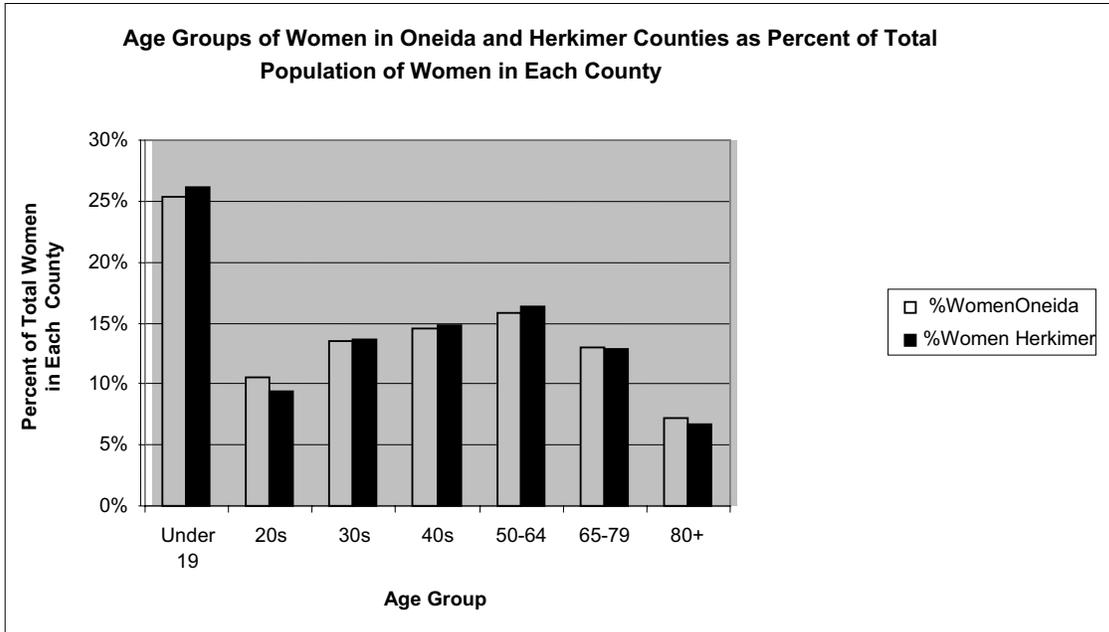
Top employers in the area are the Oneida Indian Nation at nearly 3,000 employees, with its Casino resort, shops, and new golf resorts and RV park; Fleet Financial Group & AFSA Data Corporation, providing financial services with about 2,300 employees; and Wal-Mart Stores, distribution and retail, at 1,780 employees in year 2000 and growing. New York State has also traditionally been one of the largest employers in the area, first through the mental health system, and following the closing and downsizing of the psychiatric hospitals, through the correctional institutions that have been built in the area. The area also has a number of institutions of higher education, including Mohawk Valley Community College, Herkimer County Community College and the Utica School of Commerce, SUNY Institute of Technology at Utica-Rome, Hamilton College, and Utica College (Regional Profile, 2000).

Herkimer County is far more rural than Oneida County with numerous lakes and streams. Its population of only 64,427 is dispersed over 1,412 square miles, which is nearly 200 square miles larger than the land area of Oneida County. Herkimer County's only city, Little Falls, like Utica and Rome, is an old industrial area with visible history of the importance of the cotton mills in this area in the last century. Herkimer County experienced less of a population decline overall than Oneida County in the last decade (2.10% versus 6.13%), but few towns or villages in the County experienced an increase in population. Herkimer County residents are largely working class Whites, with very few minority families living within the boundaries of the County. Tourism is a major source of income for the County.

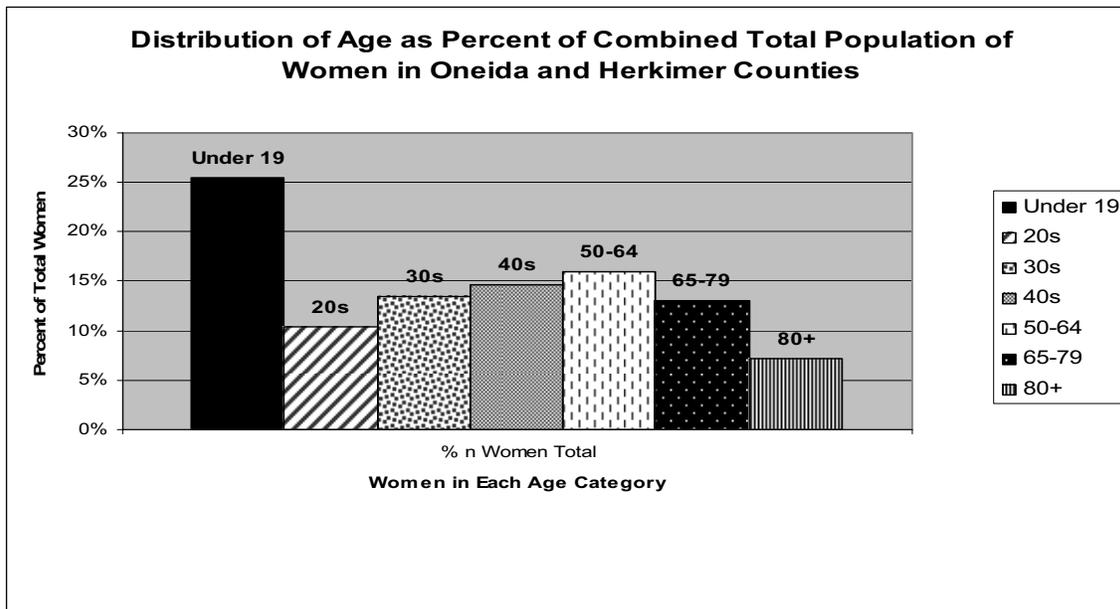
The purpose of this study is to establish a community profile of the socioeconomic conditions for women and girls that form a context for their lives in Oneida and Herkimer Counties. A demographic picture is drawn of the area as a whole and analyzed separately for the two counties as well. This first report will provide a foundation for subsequent stages of this study. The following narrative will provide information on personal characteristics of county residents and their households, such as age, race and ethnicity, and household type. In addition, important facts about women's income, women's education, and women's employment are included.

Age distribution

The age distribution of women in the two-county area is shown in the figure below for each county separately and as a total of the two counties.



Source: P8. SEX BY AGE [79] - Universe: Total population
Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data



Source: P8. SEX BY AGE [79] - Universe: Total population
Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data

What is significant about the age distribution of women in the two counties? A closer look at the statistics across the lifespan tells us more:

Children and Youth

- There are 38,822 female children 19 and under in the two-county area, just over one-quarter of the total female population (25.5%).
- In the last decade there has been a dramatic decline in Oneida County, where the number of children and youth 19 and under dropped by 8,059 (11.4% decline). Nearly half of that number came from the population drop in the city of Rome and is probably attributable to the closing of the Air Base mentioned above.
- In Herkimer County there was a 10% decrease in the youth population of 19,130 in 1990.
- The children and youth population in both Rome and Utica was much higher for children ages 0-9 than for youth ages 10-19 (20% vs. 13%).
- Oneida County's non-urban communities (excluding Utica and Rome) also counted significantly fewer children in the 0-9 age group as a whole, but the number of youth ages 10-19 increased in towns and villages collectively.ⁱ
(<http://factfinder.census.gov>)

Young Adult Women

- Population trends in Oneida County for the 18-24 year old age group and the 25-44 year old age group have shown significant declines from 1990-2000, with a decrease of 28% and 15% respectively.
- In 2000, in Herkimer County there were 2,554 females in the 18-24 age group. This decreased from 1990 when there were 3,227 females. In the 25-44 age group in 2000, Herkimer had 8,743 females. This decreased from 1990 when Herkimer County had 9,460 females.

Women of Middle Age

- In the last decade, women in the 45-64 year old age group have increased by 12.5%. With fewer people in the younger age groups, there may be implications for the provision of care to this age group as they age. For instance, the need for assisted living for skilled nursing facilities and other healthcare services may increase as the numbers of younger people to care for those in this age group are decreasing.

Aging Women

- In Oneida County the age group of female residents who are 65-84 has remained relatively constant in size during the last decade, with 18,760. Those 85 and over, which are predominately female, have grown by 33% in Oneida County, with 5,447 residents in 2,000, as compared to 4,089 in 1990 (see figure below).
- Although a relatively small percentage of the overall population, 2.31% in 2000, the over-85 population group grew at a faster rate from 1990 to 2000 than any other adult age group. This is significant because as a group, they require the most healthcare expenditures per person. Oneida County is also "older" than New York State as a whole and the United States. Herkimer County showed similar growth in the over-85 age group from 1.8 % to 2.32% of the population, but a decline of over 4% in the 65-84 age group.
- There are 10,128 female residents in the two county area who are 80 years and up (6.7%). The decline in population per age group is much more significant in male residents (after age 65), but the continued high numbers of residents who are

female have implications for services for the aging offered in Oneida and Herkimer counties. Oneida County represents over three-quarters of the total for the two counties (78%).

Population of Oneida and Herkimer County All Residents Ages 65 and Over 1990-2000

	Oneida County 1990	Oneida County 2000	Herkimer County 1990	Herkimer County 2000
65-84	34, 673	32, 816	11,904	9,368
85+	4,089	5,447	1,157	1,528
Total Population	250,836	235,468	64,427	65,797

Source: US Census Bureau, Census 1990 and Census 2000.

- In Oneida County, between 1990 and 2000, the 65-84 year age group decreased in numbers, and the 85 and over group increased by .68%.
- In Herkimer County, between 1990 and 2000, the 65-84 year age group decreased substantially, and the 85 and over group increased by .52%, but increased slightly as a percentage of the total population by .14%.

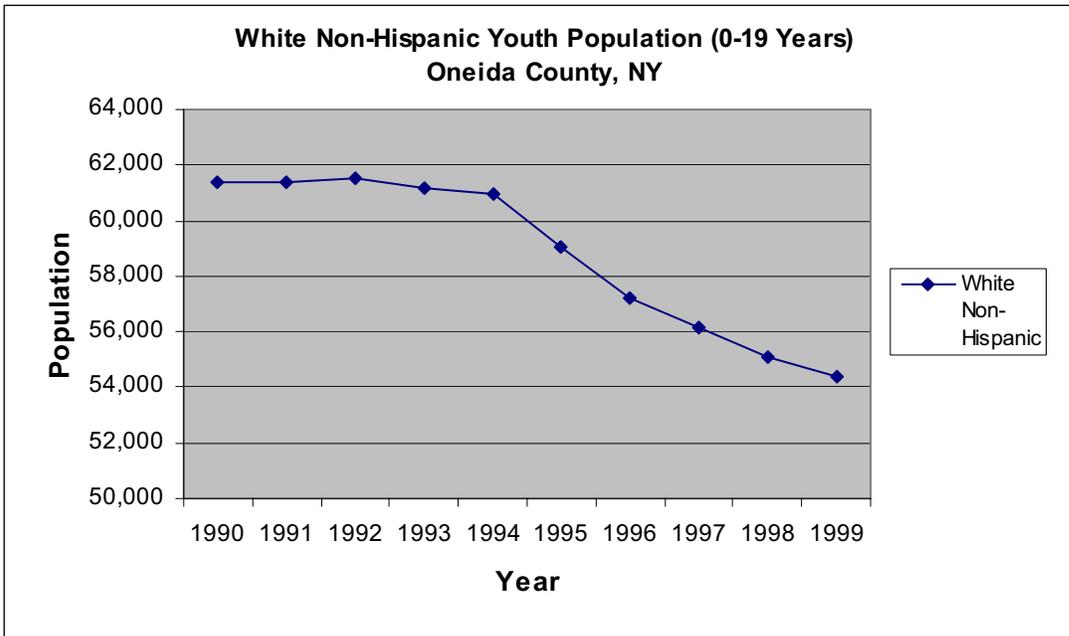
Race and Ethnicity

In the two county area overall, we have less racial and ethnic diversity than is typical of our population nationally. Racial and ethnic diversity “add texture to the fabric of the community,” and new immigrants to an area are additional contributions of multicultural perspectives (Washington Area Women’s Foundation, 2003). Race and ethnicity can present areas of vulnerability for women and girls, as we see in later statistics presented for poverty, employment and education.

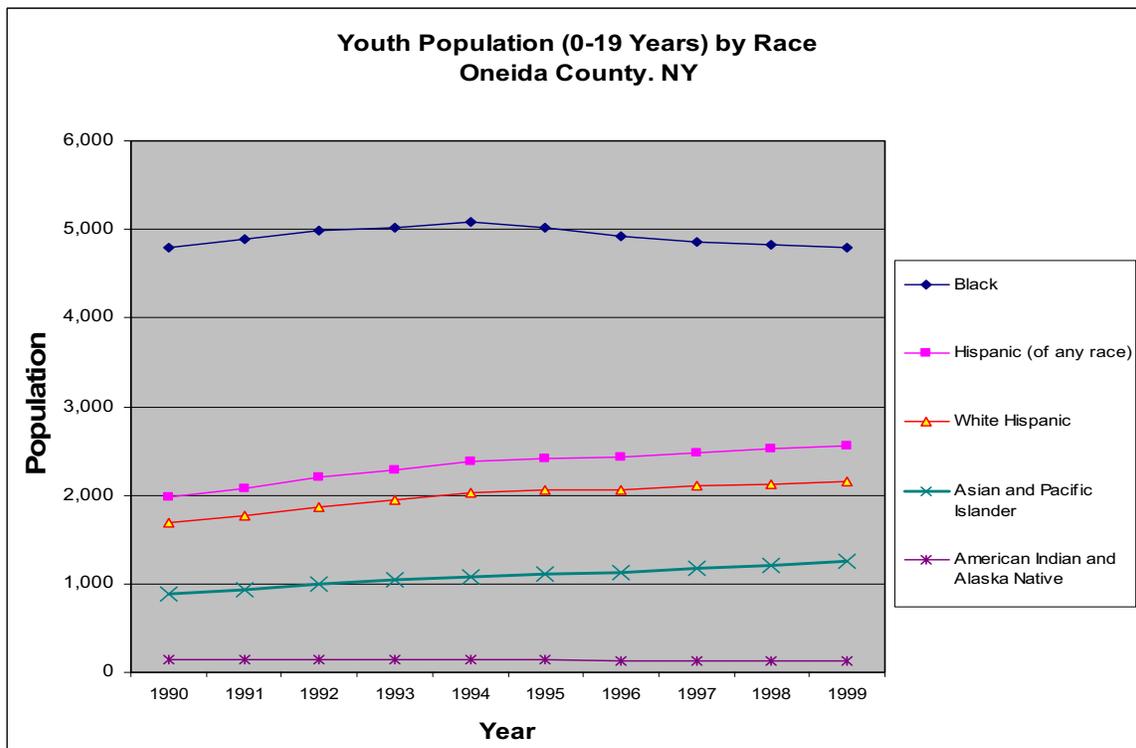
Herkimer County is counted in the 2000 Census as 97.9% White alone (300 of those individuals also identified themselves as Hispanic), with very small numbers of Black/African American individuals (n=320), American Indian (n=72), or Asian (n=255).

Oneida County is a little more diverse, with 90 percent of the residents identifying themselves as White alone, and 3% of the total population reporting Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. About 5.7% of the population identified themselves as Black/African American alone (n=13,398), with smaller numbers of Asian (n=2,740), and American Indians (n=495). In Oneida County, over 2,500 people also identified themselves as “Some Other Race Alone,” and over 4,000 as “Two or More Races.” Most of the ethnic and racial diversity in Oneida County is located in the cities of Utica and Rome.

Racial diversity in the youth population in Oneida County is changing more rapidly than for the population as a whole. The figures below illustrate changes over the last decade in racial composition of youth ages 0-19.



Source: Darman and Cline, 2002



Source: Darman and Cline, 2002

- While the numbers of White youth have declined significantly this decade (previous), Hispanic youth of any race are increasing at a higher rate than any other group.
- The number of black youth rose midway through the decade, and numbers of Asian and Pacific Islander youth have increased.

The foreign born population in Utica has changed considerably over the last decade. From the 1990 Census to the 2000 Census, the number of foreign-born rose from 3,718 to 7,231—an 84.5 percent increase for the city (U.S. Bureau of the Census). Of those respondents for Census 2000, 2,596 reported Bosnia of Herzegovina as their “Country of Birth” (35.9%); 1,335 were from Asia, primarily Vietnam (18.5%); and 18.1 percent were from Russia, Belarus, or the Ukraine (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census Population, Summary File 3).

Diversity in the two-county area has been enriched by the presence of the Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees (MVRRCR), under the umbrella organization of the Lutheran Immigration Refugee Service (LIRS) nationally. MVRRCR was officially established in 1979 to serve incoming refugees from around the world and has resettled over 10,000 refugees in the City of Utica since its creation. Today, Utica has the fourth highest density of refugees in the United States behind Miami, Phoenix, and St. Louis (Hasset, 1999). The table below shows a picture of the many diverse groups who have repopulated the city of Utica over the past twenty years.

Afghanistan	36
Amerasian (Vietnam)	1,281
Vietnam	774
Bosnia	4,427
Bulgaria	25
Cambodia	365
China	9
Congo (Zaire)	13
Cuba	63
Czechoslovakia	80
Ethiopia	8
Former Soviet Union	2,163
Haiti	89
Hungary	29
Iran	35
Iraq	164
Kosovo	77
Laos	266
Liberia	4
Libya	6
Myan Mar (Burma)	84
Poland	146
Romania	28
Sierra Leone	17
Somalia	15
Sudan	102
Yugoslavia	5
Totals	10,311

Source: Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees, Utica, NY, 2002

- The major populations resettled by the Refugee Center are Bosnian, Russian, and Vietnamese.

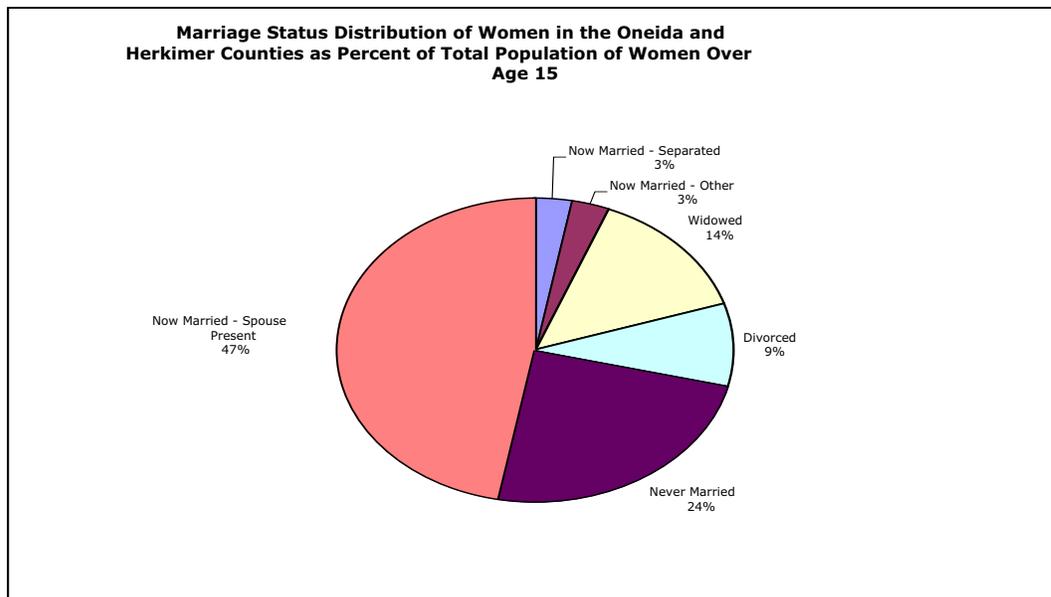
- Children in the Utica City School District speak more than twenty languages.
- Nearly half of Utica’s refugee population came from the former Yugoslavia. Research completed with the Bosnian population in Utica has shown that nearly a quarter (24.7%) were of public school age, 5-17, at the time of arrival; another 450 children were under the age of five. The Bosnian refugees have, on the average, been a young population with over 60 percent between the ages of 18 and 49 at the time of arrival. Many Bosnian women, therefore, are of childbearing age (Coughlin and Owens-Manley, 2002).

Family Structure and Household Composition

Children living in households with only one parent are much more likely to have families whose incomes fall below the poverty line. While two parents in a household may be biological, step, or adoptive, and their presence does not guarantee a child’s success, it generally indicates a greater level of resources available to children and to their well-being (America’s Children, 2002, p.7). In addition, marital status affects the resources available to both women with children and women alone at any age.

Marital Status of Women

The figure below shows the number of females 15 years of age and older by marital status for Oneida and Herkimer counties in 1999. The rate of divorce, though, is more indicative of how family structure may be changing. The rate of divorce is shown below for the year 2000 in Oneida and Herkimer Counties, and in comparison to other New York State Counties and New York State as a whole.¹



P18. SEX BY MARITAL STATUS FOR THE POPULATION 15 YEARS AND OVER – Universe: Population 15 Years and Over.

¹ Comparison counties were chosen by a national health project for Healthy Families 2000; similar New York State counties were selected from those chosen for comparison here.

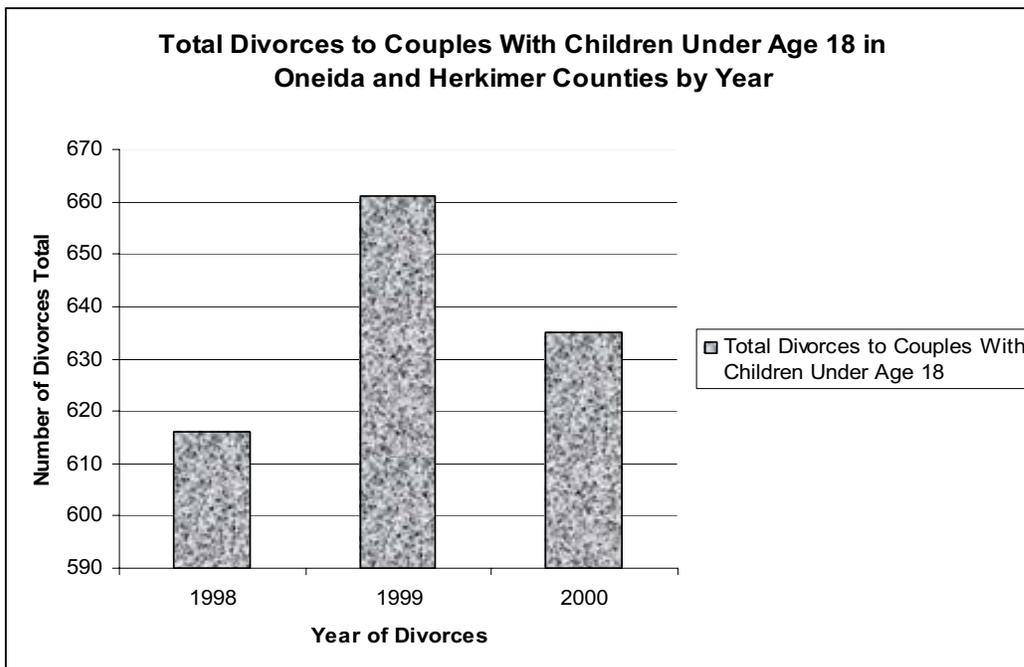
Divorce rate in year 2000 for Oneida and Herkimer Countiesⁱⁱ

Broome County	Herkimer County	Oneida County	Schenectady County	New York State
18.9/1,000	16.3/1000	20/1000	15.5/1000	18.2/1000

Source: U.S. Census 2000, Summary File 1 (SF1) P19

- Nearly half of the women 15 years and over in the two-county area were married with a spouse present at the point of information gathering for the 2000 Census (47%), and nearly a quarter were never married (24%). About 12% were divorced or separated, 14% were widowed.
- The rate of divorce is higher in Oneida County and lower in Herkimer County than New York State as a whole.
- Other counties in New York State show both higher and lower rates (Broome County: 18.9/1,000; Schenectady County: 15.5/1,000).

The last figure in this series shows the number of divorces between couples with children under 18 in the two counties.



Source: Tables 52, New York State Department of Health Vital Statistics of New York State-Annual Vital Statistics

- Well over half (57%) of divorces obtained in Oneida County and 54% in Herkimer County involved one or more child(ren).

Births to Unmarried Women

Children being born to women who are unmarried is one of the changes that has affected family structure and the number of children in poverty. Statistically, children born to unmarried mothers have lower birth weights and higher infant mortality rates, in addition

to being more likely to live in poverty. Nationally, one-third of all births, including 4 in 10 first births, were to unmarried women in 2000 (America's Children, 2000).

Out of Wedlock Live Births for Oneida and Herkimer Counties by Mother's Age

	10-14	15-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44
Broome City n = 780	4	70	130	284	155	80	50	7
Herkimer County n = 244	0	30	44	92	43	20	13	2
Oneida County n = 1,007	4	76	175	371	198	111	55	17
Schenectady n = 633	2	56	88	240	130	72	36	9

Source: Table10. Vital Statistics of New York State 2000 Tables, New York State Department of Health.

- Out of wedlock live births, locally and in similar New York State counties, are highest in the prime child-rearing years, 18-29, and nationally, nearly two-thirds of women under age 25 who were having their first child were not married in 2000 (America's Children, 2000).
- In Oneida County, the number of teenage pregnancies for 15-19 year olds has decreased from a rate of 73.4/1,000 in 1995 to 59.1/1,000 in 1999. The rate for New York State, excluding New York City in 1999 was 77.5/1,000 (Kids count, 2002 Data Book).
- In Herkimer County, 78.7% of pregnant women sought prenatal care in their first trimester, which is recommended for good birth outcomes, compared to nearly 75 percent of Oneida County women in the year 2000.
- For best outcomes, it is also recommended that prenatal care throughout pregnancy be monitored and reported. Just over two-thirds (66.8%) of women in New York State as a whole began prenatal care in the first trimester.

Household types

In the tables on the next page, percentages of family households for the two-county area both with and without children are displayed. The percentages of children who are under six and between six and eighteen who are living with both parents, mother alone or father alone, are also examined, and in the last figure of the series, living arrangements for residents of each county who are 65 years of age and older are illustrated.

Family Households With and Without Children Under 18 Years of Age

Family Households ² (2 or more person households)	Oneida County n = 59,378	Herkimer County n = 17,210
Married couple families	76.2%	76.9%
With own children < 18	33.0%	31.8%
Without own children < 18	43.2%	45.1%
Male householder, no wife present	6.0%	7.7%
With own children < 18	3.2%	4.9%
Without own children < 18	2.8%	2.8%
Female householder no husband present	17.7%	15.3%
With own children < 18	10.9%	9.6%
Without own children < 18	6.8%	5.7%

Source: P10. Household size by household type by presence of own children under 18 years.
Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF3).

- Over three-quarters of households (76.2%, Oneida County; 76.9% Herkimer County) are married couple families.
- Female heads of household comprise 17.7% of the households in Oneida County and 15.3% in Herkimer County
- Male heads of household comprise 6% in Oneida County and 7.7% in Herkimer County.

Percentages of Children < 6 and 6-17 Years of Age Living in Two Parent or One Parent Families in Oneida and Herkimer Counties

	Oneida County	Herkimer County
Children < 6 (n = 19,804 two county totals)	67.9% two parents 32% one parent [Father 21.2%] [Mother 78.8%]	65.7% two parents 34.3% one parent [Father 41.8%] [Mother 58.2%]
Children 6-17 (n = 48,441 two county totals)	71.4% two parents 28.5% one parent [Father 21.1%] [Mother 78.9%]	71.4% two parents 28.6% one parent [Father 27.3%] [Mother 72.7%]

Source: P46
Census 2000 Summary File (SF3)

- Approximately two-thirds of children under 18 in both Oneida (67.9%) and Herkimer (65.7%) Counties live in two-parent families.
- The two counties are dissimilar for parenting arrangements in single-parent families with children under 6 years of age. For instance, although only 21.2% of children under the age of 6 in Oneida County live with their father alone, 41.8% of children under 6 in Herkimer County live with their father.
- The percentages are also higher in the 6-17 age group for Herkimer County, but with less dramatic difference (21.2% OC; 27.3% HC).

² Oneida County has 36,367 non-family households, including 10,872 males living alone (over 1/4 of whom are 65 years of age, 27.2%), and 15,810 females living alone (58.4% of whom are over 65 years of age.)

- Nationally, 69% of American children lived with two parents in 2001, a decline from 77% in 1980.
- Nationally, about 22% of children lived with only their mothers in 2001, 4% lived with only their fathers, and 4% lived with neither of their parents (numbers have not increased substantially since 1996).
- Nationally, 78% of White, non-Hispanic children lived with two parents in 2001, while only 38% of Black children and 65% of children of Hispanic origin lived with two parents.

Household for Residents 65 Years of Age and Older in Oneida-Herkimer Counties

Population 65 and over n = 49,759 combined two county totals	Oneida County	Herkimer County
Male householder living alone n = 3,955	7.6%	9.1%
Female householder living alone n = 11,994	23.8%	25.3%
Living in group quartersⁱⁱⁱ	9.5%	6.5%

Source: P11. Household type by relationship for the population 65 years and over.
Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF3)

- For the population of residents 65 years of age and over, over 90 percent live in some type of household, as opposed to group quarters, and 62.8 percent of those are living in family households.
- About a quarter of females 65 years of age and over are living alone (23.8% O.C.; 25.3% H.C.).

Income

The ways in which we measure income make a difference in how we determine economic well-being. Although traditionally, income data for census is reported based on money received during a calendar year, this may not be a completely satisfactory measure for understanding the effect on people's lives. A recent report from the U.S. Census Bureau suggested that, in addition to "money income," the effect of taxes, capital gains, the value of employer-provided health benefits and non-cash transfers, and other government sanctioned benefits should be taken into account (DeNevas-Walt et al., 2003). The Washington Area Women's Foundation (2003, p. 17) reported:

*A woman's income is not the only determinant of economic well-being.
The cost of housing, availability of affordable quality childcare that meets
Her work schedule, and her personal health and safety all affect whether
Her family is thriving, surviving, or slipping below the poverty line.*

The median household income for Oneida County is \$35,909, and for Herkimer County, it is \$32,924. Median earnings for males in Oneida County working full-time and year-round are \$32,194 and for females, \$24,295. In Herkimer County the median earnings for males working full-time year round is \$29,908, for females it is \$21,518 (see table below).

Income levels in Oneida and Herkimer Counties compared to New York State and the United States

	Oneida County	Herkimer County	New York State	United States
Median H.H. Income	\$35,909.	\$32,924	\$43,393.	\$41,994.
Per Capita Income	\$18,516.	\$16,141	\$23,389.	\$21,587.
<\$10,000	11.0%	11.4%	11.5%	9.5%
<\$25,000	34.3%	38.2%	29.6%	28.6%
\$100,000+	6.8%	3.7%	15.3%	12.3%

Source: Table DP-3. Profile of Selected Economic Characteristics: 2000
U.S. Census Bureau "American FactFinder"

- Median household income and per capita income for Oneida and Herkimer Counties are substantially less than that of households in New York State as a whole or in the United States.
- Greater percentages of households in both counties fall in the lowest two categories of under \$10,000 and under \$25,000 than households nationally, and far fewer make over \$100,000 per year – Herkimer County shows even greater discrepancy with state and national averages than does Oneida County.

Median earnings for full-time, year-round workers for Oneida and Herkimer Counties, New York State, and the United States

	Oneida County	Herkimer County	New York State	United States
Median earnings full-time, year-round workers	Male: \$32,194.00 Female: \$24,295.00	Male: \$29,908.00 Female: \$21,518.00	Male: \$40,236.00 Female: \$31,099.00	Male: \$37,057.00 Female: \$27,194.00
Median earnings of female workers as percentage of male workers	75%	72%	77%	73%

Source: Table DP-3. Profile of Selected Economic Characteristics: 2000
U.S. Census Bureau "American FactFinder"

- Median earnings for full-time, year-round female workers in Oneida County were 75% of median earnings of male workers; Herkimer County, 72%; 77% for NYS and 73% nationally.

Poverty Status of Families in Oneida & Herkimer Counties in 1999

	Oneida County	Herkimer County	New York State	United States
All families w/ Children < 18	16.5%	14.2%	16.9%	13.6%
All families w/ Children < 5 only	23.8%	22.7%	20.2%	17.0%
Families w/ Female Head of Household Children < 18	41.3%	31.3%	38.8%	34.3%
Children < 5	57.8%	48.3%	49.8%	46.4%
Female HH, Family and Non- family households, 45- 64 Years Old.	19.8%	20.7%	20.3%	17.9%
Female HH, Family and Non-family Households, 65 years & Older	15.4%	15.5%	19.4%	18%

Source: Tables P90/P89. Poverty status in 1999 of families by family type by presence of children under 18 years of age by age of related children and Poverty status in 1999 by age by household type. Census 2000 Summary File 3(SF3)

- Families with incomes below poverty level with children under 18 in Oneida County (16.5%) are similar to New York State as a whole (16.9%), while Herkimer County is lower (14.2%), and both are higher than the national percentage of 13.6 percent.
- For families with children under 5 years of age only, the percentages of families in poverty are even higher in both counties at 23.8 % (Oneida County) and 22.7% (Herkimer County), while state and national percentages are 20.2 % and 17 %, respectively.
- For families with female-headed households, percentages living in poverty are distressingly high (41.3% for children < 18; 57.8% for children < 5, Oneida County; 31.3% and 48.3%, Herkimer County) State and national percentages are similar, though generally lower.
- The relationship of poverty percentages of families as opposed to individual children somewhat obscures the issue. For instance, as we will see in a later table, in Oneida County, 24.8 percent of all children under 5 years of age and 19.4 percent of all children under the age of 18 were living in poverty in 1999, and in Herkimer County, it was 19.4 percent of children under 5 and 16.1 % of children under 18.
- For women 45-64 years of age, poverty continues to be an issue. Approximately 20 percent of women in family and non-family households in both counties have incomes below poverty level, which is similar to New York State as a whole and higher than the national statistics.
- For women 65 years of age and older, the two counties have similar percentages of women in poverty, about 15.5 %, but these are significantly lower than state and national statistics (19.4% and 18% respectively).

When poverty percentages are broken down by race or ethnicity, statistics mirror national concerns. Percentages of families in poverty are much higher for Black, American Indian,

and Hispanic families, and also for families identifying themselves as “2 or more races” or “Other race”. For single parents, and particularly for female-headed households with children, the percentages rise to alarming rates. Statistics are given for Oneida County alone, because Herkimer County shows little racial and ethnic diversity (see table below).

Percentages of Families in Poverty by Race & Ethnicity in Oneida County.

Families In Poverty	White	Black	American Indian	Asian	Other Race	2 or more Race	Hispanic
Total Families	8.0%	38.9%	23.0%	14.3%	45.2%	23.3%	43.0%
Married Couple	4.1%	15.7%	7.9%	9.4%	41.5%	16.0%	22.4%
Male householder no wife	13.6%	32.7%	0.0%	17.9%	25.4%	0.0%	44.5%
With children < 18	21.0%	43.5%		24.0%	28.5%		45.4%
With children < 5	21.6%	21.6%					45.2%
Female householder no husband	25.6%	55.1%	62.5%	34.4%	57.6%	52.8%	67.8%
With children < 18	36.0%	61.6%	83.3%	47.0%	70.5%	57.6%	72.4%
With Children < 5	46.5%	76.7%	66.7%	25.0%			85.3%

Source: Table P90/P160 A-I. Poverty status in 1999 of families by family type by presence of related children under 18 years by age of related children by race and Hispanic/Latino origin. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF3)

- Racial and ethnic disparities in poverty rates are of concern, with very high percentages of Black and Hispanic families, and therefore their children, living in poverty. Even Black and Hispanic married couple families have much higher rates of poverty than white families.
- National data also indicates disproportionate rates of poverty for Black and Hispanic youth.
- Estimates for people under age 18 in poverty have shown a gradual rise in poverty for Oneida County, while nationally poverty rates have been declining.

Pockets of poverty exist in particular towns and villages throughout Oneida and Herkimer Counties, both for children and for the elderly. In the tables below, all of the municipalities are shown for the two counties with percentages of poverty for all children under 5 years of age, under 18 years of age, and all persons 65 years of age and older.

Oneida County Poverty Measures by Municipality

Oneida County Poverty Measures by Municipality:	% in Poverty of All Persons Under 5 Years Old: n=8,263	% in Poverty of All Persons Under 18 Years Old: n=10,688	% in Poverty of All Persons 64 Years of Age & Older: n=3,019
Oneida County	24.8%	19.4%	8.5%
Cities:			
Rome	31.5%	23.5%	7.6%
Sherrill	2.6%	2.6%	3.9%
Utica	44.5%	38.5%	12.1%
Towns:			
Annsville	17.3%	20.1%	0.0%
Augusta	21.6%	12.5%	10.4%
Ava	30.4%	28.8%	14.9%
Boonville	13.1%	13.5%	9.9%
Bridgewater	22.8%	12.1%	9.1%
Camden	17.7%	15.0%	17.7%
Deerfield	0.0%	.5%	8.1%
Florence	5.6%	10.1%	12.5%
Floyd	0.0%	5.6%	5.6%
Forestport	11.0%	11.4%	9.8%
Kirkland	15.3%	10.0%	4.9%
Lee	16.7%	13.3%	6.3%
Marcy	18.0%	9.8%	2.3%
Marshall	10.9%	15.3%	7.0%
New Hartford	3.6%	4.4%	6.5%
Paris	19.1%	10.3%	3.6%
Remsen	19.0%	10.9%	10.4%
Sangerfield	14.4%	11.3%	9.2%
Steuben	15.1%	10.7%	14.0%
Trenten	9.5%	8.0%	3.5%
Vernon	15.8%	15.7%	7.7%
Verona	8.9%	8.6%	3.0%
Vienna	12.0%	10.7%	3.7%
Western	11.0%	10.6%	3.6%
Westmoreland	7.3%	5.7%	3.5%
Whitestown	15.0%	15.1%	9.6%
Villages:			
Barneveld	0%	0%	0.0%
Boonville	8.3%	13.2%	10.6%
Bridgewater	28.3%	15.6%	18.0%
Camden	16.9%	17.8%	19.1%
Clark Mills (CDP)	16.3%	7.4%	2.7%
Clayville	22.2%	21.0%	10.9%
Clinton	10.2%	5.8%	12.2%
Holland Patent	6.1%	2.6%	3.8%
New Hartford	11.3%	6.0%	2.9%
New York Mills	30.5%	17.9%	6.7%
Oneida Castle	12.5%	13.2%	2.5%
Oriskany	13.8%	17.9%	13.7%
Oriskany Falls	46.7%	27.3%	12.4%
Prospect	0%	10.2%	0.0%
Remsen	35.6%	22.1%	13.7%
Sylvan Beach	16.9%	25.7%	13.5%
Vernon	12.7%	10.2%	5.5%
Waterville	25.2%	15.8%	12.8%
Whitesboro	17.3%	23.2%	18.3%
Yorkville	11.3%	26.5%	8.2%

Source: U.S. Census 2000 SF3, Provided by Oneida County Planning Department
 (Bold type indicates greater than county average as a whole)

Herkimer County Poverty Measures by Municipality

	% in Poverty of All Persons Under 5 Years Old: n=677	% in Poverty of All Persons Under 18 Years Old: n=2,460	% in Poverty of All Persons 65 Years of Age & Older: n=1,075
Herkimer County	19.4%	16.1%	10.4%
City			
Little Falls	59.8%	17.9%	11.2%
Towns			
Columbia	48.8%	23.1%	12.4%
Danube	50.0%	28.9%	6.2%
Fairfield	47.5%	14.1%	13.0%
Frankfort	32.1%	12.4%	10.3%
German Flatts	53.2%	17.6%	11.3%
Herkimer	29.7%	8.9%	10.9%
Litchfield	43.8%	17.3%	6.9%
Little Falls	50.0%	14.1%	6.5%
Manheim	61.5%	15.2%	8.5%
Newport	46.2%	14.1%	7.8%
Norway	47.1%	19.3%	8.3%
Ohio	21.1%	27.1%	30.7%
Russia	55.9%	26.9%	13.9%
Salisbury	58.8%	15.7%	14.0%
Schuyler	41.4%	15.2%	9.1%
Stark	62.5%	33.3%	10.8%
Warren	81.3%	16.4%	11.2%
Webb	27.6%	11.5%	5.5%
Winfield	36.7%	12.6%	4.9%
Villages			
Cold Brook	50.0%	16.8%	8.6%
Dolgeville	77.5%	12.3%	10.9%
Frankfort	76.9%	22.9%	7.8%
Herkimer	25.7%	8.5%	10.0%
Ilion	58.6%	24.3%	13.9%
Middleville	35.7%	13.8%	9.8%
Mohawk	33.3%	5.0%	6.1%
Newport	69.2%	14.4%	3.5%
Poland	33.3%	18.9%	0.0%
West Winfield	60.0%	11.9%	8.4%

Source: U.S. Census 2000 SF3, Provided by Oneida County Planning Department
(Bold type indicates greater than county average as a whole)

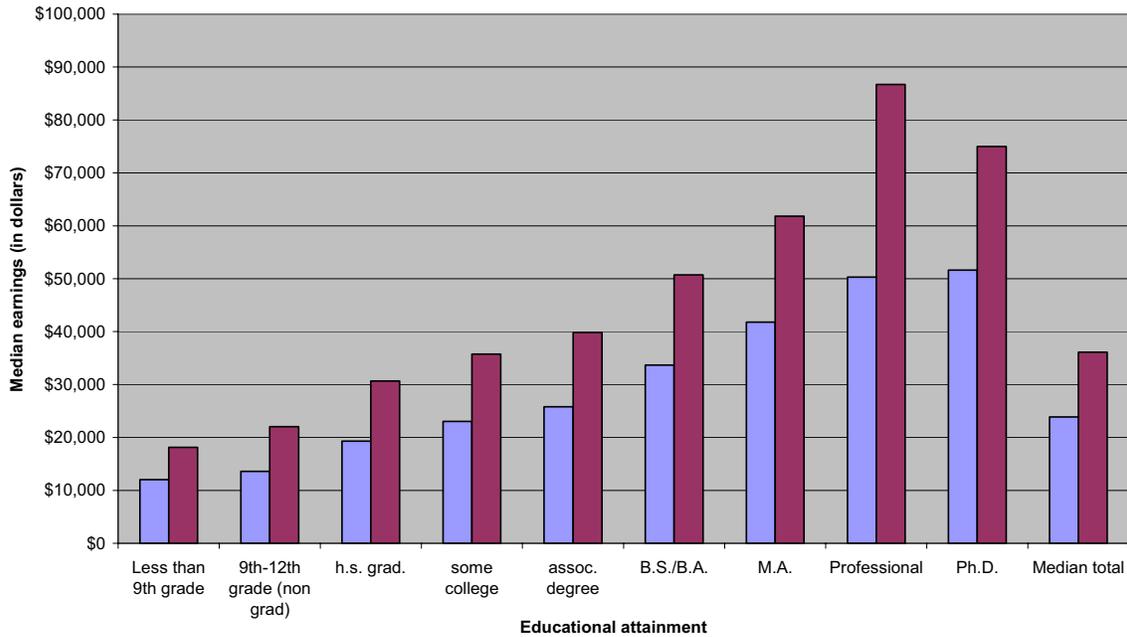
Education

Women, particularly as heads of households, need sufficient education and training to provide for themselves and their families, and with education they may have more protection to keep them from the edge of economic insecurity. There is concern with recent welfare policy changes that poor women are being denied access to resources for education that would allow for greater opportunities (Owens-Manley, 2003). Although job training programs have increased the chances of employment, wage increases have been minimal and have produced wages that, “even if earned full-time, year round, would not lift a family out of poverty” (Institute for Women’s Policy Research, 1998, p.20).

The argument for education is most eloquently made by examining median earnings by sex and educational attainment in the United States by full-time, year round workers, age 25 and older, in the year 2001 (see table). Education provides one of the most significant routes to employment at a living wage to support a family (Carnevale, 1999). A study

done by the Institute for Women’s Policy Research found a college degree to be worth \$3.65 per hour more (in 1997 dollars) than wages earned by high-school graduates (Institute for Women’s Policy Research, 1998). Day and Curry (1998) noted dramatic declines in poverty rates for all women with at least one year of post-secondary education, but particularly for African-American and Latina women.

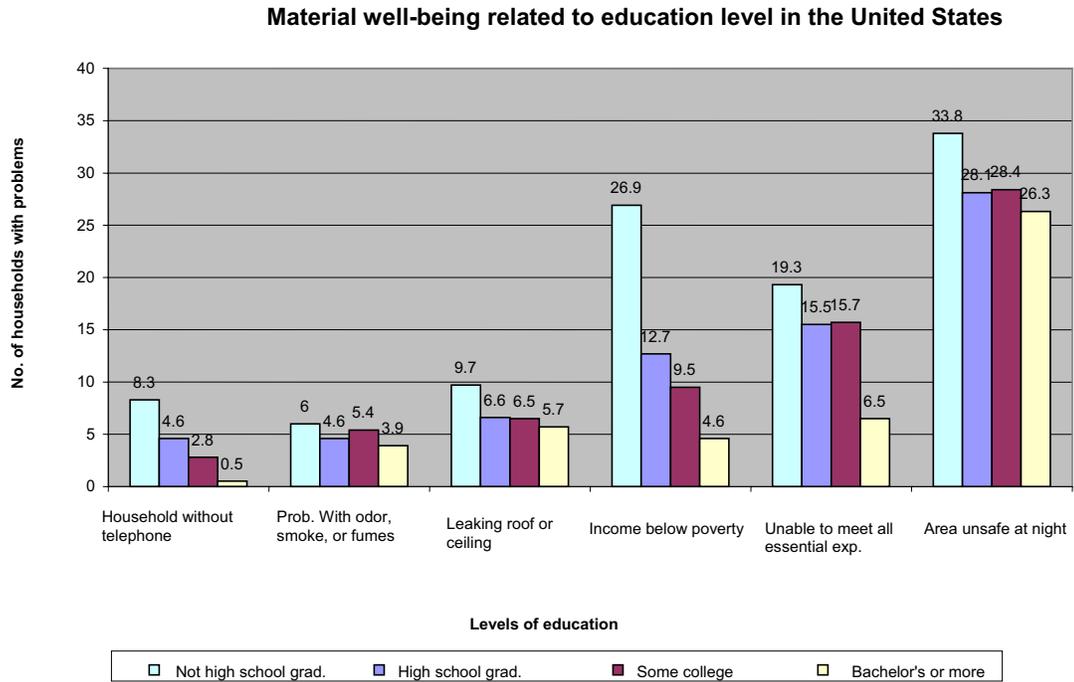
Median earnings of males and females 25 and over related to educational attainment in 2001



Source: http://ferret.bls.census.gov/macro/032002/faminc/new01_001.htm
 2001 income data, 95,146 females, 86,996 males, all races

■ Females 25+ ■ Males 25+

The chart below also illustrates the limitations of considering the impact of education on well-being from a standpoint of income alone. Problems diminish with each level of additional education³.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, 2003.

³ Chart includes men and women grouped together.

The table below shows the percentage of all residents 25 years and older reporting at minimum a high school graduation or equivalency (GED) in the 2000 Census for Oneida County and Herkimer County compared to New York State as a whole and the United States. Educational attainment is very similar for both counties and the comparisons with State and U.S. at 79 to 80 percent.

Educational attainment (25 years & older): Percentage of residents with at least high school diploma or equivalency (GED)

Oneida County	Herkimer County	New York State	United States
79%	79.4%	79.1%	80.4%

P37. Sex by Educational Attainment for the population 25 years of age and over. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF3)

College enrollment for women has increased in New York State over the past twenty years. For instance, females constituted 58 percent of enrollments in NYS colleges in 2001, compared to 42 percent males; it was also an increase of five percent from 1980 (Observer-Dispatch, August 4, 2003). Educational status for women in both counties is shown below.

Educational Attainment for Women 25 Years and Over in Oneida and Herkimer Counties

	Oneida County	Herkimer County
< High School Equivalency	18.9%	20.0%
High school or Equivalency as Terminal Degree	53.3%	53.5%
At least H.S. or Equivalency	81.0%	79.9%
Associate’s Degree	10.4%	11.3%
Bachelor’s or Professional School Degree	11.0%	10.5%
Master’s degree	6.0%	4.5%
Doctorate degree	0.3%	0.1%

P37. Sex by Educational Attainment for the population 25 years of age and over. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF3)

(U.S. Census Bureau “American FactFinder”, <http://factfinder.census.gov>.)

- In Oneida County, 81% of women have attained at least a high school diploma or its equivalency, and over half have achieved that level as a terminal degree.
- In Herkimer County nearly 80% have at least a high school equivalency and over half have achieved that level as a terminal degree.
- Just over 10% and 11% respectively for Oneida and Herkimer counties have an Associate’s degree.
- 11% in Oneida County and 10.5% in Herkimer County have a Bachelor’s degree or Professional school degree.
- Smaller percentages of women hold Master’s or Doctorate degrees (6% OC- 4.5% HC Master’s; .3% OC, .1% HC Doctorate).

College enrollment for minorities has increased over the past two decades in New York State Colleges. In 2001, enrollment of Blacks was 13 percent (+2.2%); Hispanic, 10 percent (+4.4%); and Asian, 7.4 percent (+5.1%)⁴.

High school equivalency attainment is shown below for Oneida County only by racial and ethnic groups, again, excluding Herkimer County due to its homogeneity.

High School or Equivalency Attainment by Race/Ethnicity for Females 25 Years & Older

Population of Oneida County Residents	% of H.S. Equivalency for O.C.	% of H.S. Equivalency for NYS	% of H.S. Equivalency for U.S.
White n=76,855	82%	83.7%	84.1%
White, non-Hispanic n=76,101	82.2%	86.0%	85.5%
Hispanic n=1,212	63.5%	56.2%	54%
Black n=2,871	69.0%	72.2%	73.4%
Asian ⁵ n=892	55.5%	71.5%	77.8%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander n=26	80.8%	70.1%	78.4%
American Indian/Alaskan n=152	67.8%	67.5%	71.7%
2 or more races n=774	69.2%	67.2%	73.7%
Other n=362	61.6%	52.3%	48.4%

Table P148 A-I. Sex by educational attainment for the population 25 years and over. Summary File 3(SF3) U.S. Census Bureau "American FactFinder", <http://factfinder.census.gov>

- The percentage of high school completion for White, non-Hispanic residents is much higher than most other groups, which is a major concern for racially and ethnically mixed schools.
- Black achievement locally is below state and national percentages.
- Very low Asian high school achievement may be indicative of an adult refugee population without formal education.
- Hispanic high school percentages, although higher than state or national percentages, are still lower than nearly every other group.
- White high school achievement is still below state and national percentages.

Employment

One of the most significant social transformations of the last few decades has been the movement of masses of women into the paid labor force (Pettit & Hook, 2002). This has created concerns over time related to equity for women in the workplace, working conditions for women, and institutional factors that influence employment such as public policy decisions. In addition, the effects of work on the family, and more specifically, on children of working women have been studied.

The number of employed adults in the United States grew in 2000 by 1.4 million. The percentages of adult males (73.9%) and the percentages of adult females (58.6%) in the workforce were unchanged from the previous year. Percentages of employed Hispanics grew at a much faster rate (5.1%) than either Blacks (2.0%) or Whites (0.8%). Foreign

⁴ Increases measured from 1980 enrollment levels in New York State Colleges as given by the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities.

⁵ Utica has a relatively large refugee population from Vietnam, Cambodia & Laos.

born workers made up 12.5 percent of the overall workforce in the year 2000. The percentage of workers represented by trade unions was 14.9 in 2000, and this included all employed in both full-time and part-time jobs, excluding the self-employed (www.eiro.eurofound.ie/2001).

Employment is related to other issues for women, such as education and social policies for families. Higher educated women, including those in other countries, are nearly always more likely to have paid employment, as compared to women with lower levels of education. In addition, publicly funded child care has been found to be associated with higher likelihood of employment for not only women with young children, but all women with children. It was speculated that “child care provision during early childhood enables women to maintain continuous attachment to the paid labor force that has implications on their labor market experiences later in life” (Pettit & Hook, 2002, p.25).

Concern was raised as more women entered the labor force about care for their children. In a national survey of U.S. children under age 13, the study confirmed that mothers spend less time with their children when they work, but that they appeared to protect quality time with their children. This was not true for fathers in the study, but increased education of fathers was a positive factor for spending time with children, probably due to the positive correlation between higher education and nontraditional gender roles. Children in two parent families received more time and attention (Hofferth, 1999).

Below, the first represents occupational categories, the second, participation by males and females, and earnings of full-time, year-round workers by racial and ethnic identity. The third table illustrates families with children under 18 with parents employed for each county. We don't have information on child care of employed parents specific to the local communities, but it is information that may be needed to understand the needs of working women in the area.

Percentages of Females and Males in Specific Occupational Categories in Oneida and Herkimer Counties

Occupation	% of Total	% of Total	% of Total	% of Total
	OC Females in Occupation	OC Males in Occupation	HC Females in Occupation	HC Males in Occupation
Management, professional and related occupations	35.60%	28.20%	32.19%	24.38%
Mgt., business, financial occupations	9.30%	12.50%	8.74%	12.87%
Mgt. (except farmers & farm mgrs.	4.70%	8.30%	4.60%	7.40%
Farmers & farm mgrs.	0.20%	1.00%	0.59%	2.60%
Business & financial operations occupations	4.40%	3.20%	3.55%	2.87%
Professional and related occupations	26.00%	15.70%	23.45%	11.51%
Computer and mathematical occupations	0.60%	1.80%	0.60%	0.73%
Architecture and engineering occupations	0.30%	3.00%	0.26%	2.38%
Life, physical and social science occupations	0.30%	0.60%	0.20%	0.40%
Community and social services occupations	2.80%	1.70%	2.59%	1.33%
Legal occupations	0.60%	0.90%	0.28%	0.59%
Education, training and library occupations	10.20%	3.30%	9.77%	3.08%
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, & media occ.	1.30%	1.50%	0.92%	0.96%
Healthcare practitioners & technical occupations	10.10%	2.80%	8.83%	2.03%
Service occupations	19.70%	16.60%	20.86%	14.73%
Healthcare support occupations	5.70%	1.10%	6.45%	1.13%
Protective service occupations: firefighting, prevention, & law enforcement, including supervisors	0.90%	5.30%	0.95%	3.32%
Other protective services including supervisors	0.40%	1.20%	0.78%	0.98%
Food preparation & serving related occupations	6.10%	4.40%	6.85%	3.92%
Building & grounds cleaning & maintenance occ.	2.20%	4.20%	2.46%	4.23%
Personal care and service occupations	4.80%	1.60%	4.15%	1.14%
Sales and office occupations	36.40%	17.70%	37.43%	16.70%
Sales & related occupations	10.20%	9.30%	10.77%	8.55%
Office & administrative support occupations	26.10%	8.40%	26.67%	8.15%
Farming, fishing, & forestry occupations	0.30%	0.90%	0.31%	1.53%
Construction, extraction and maintenance occupations	0.50%	14.10%	0.92%	16.04%
Production, transportation & material moving occupations	7.60%	22.50%	8.28%	26.62%
<i>Note: OC = Oneida County, HC = Herkimer County</i>				

Source: P50 Occupation, 2000 Census of Population and Housing - Summary File 3, www.census.gov.

**Earnings for White, Black, & Hispanic Females and Males over 16 years
Employed Full-Time Year Round in Oneida and Herkimer Counties**

Earnings	White Alone Females	White Alone Males	Black Alone Females	Black Alone Males	Hispanic/Latino Females, any race	Hispanic/Latino Males, any race
Worked full-time year round	n= 34,528 30.2%	n= 49,687 47.5%	n=937 24.3%	n= 1,665 25.8%	n= 457 25%	N= 1063 28%
< \$10,000	3.5%	3.25%	7.1%	1.4%	2.8%	2.5%
\$10,000-\$24,999	50%	27.7%	57.2%	42.5%	62.6%	49.1%
\$25,000-\$49,999	39.3%	50%	30.0%	47.2%	30.4%	38.8%
\$50,000 - \$99,999	6.6%	16.3%	5.5%	8.5%	4.2%	7.7%
\$100,000 or more	0.3%	2.9%	0.00%	0.5%	0.00%	1.9%

Source: PCT73A, B, H Sex by work experience in 1999 by earnings in 1999 for the population 16 years and over: Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF3) U.S. Census Bureau

- Over half of White females working full-time year round make less than \$25,000, as opposed to 30% of White men, nearly 2/3 of Black women and Hispanic women, and 44% of Black men, 52% of Hispanic men.
- The percentages of men and women in racial and ethnic categories working full-time vary from 24.3% for Black females to 47.5% for White males.

Percentage of Working Parents of Children in Oneida County

Children's Age by Living Arrangements	Percent in Labor Force
Children < 6	
Living with two parents (n=10,528)	68.0%
Two Parents work	59.0%
Father only works	32.7%
Mother only works	4.7%
Neither Parent works	3.4%
Children < 6	
Living with one parent	32%
Live with Father (n=1,055)	
Father works	84.6%
Live with Mother (n=3,912)	
Mother works	68.5%
Children 6-17	
Living with two parents (n=27,093)	71.4%
Two Parents work	71.6%
Father only works	18.9%
Mother only works	5.2%
Neither Parent works	4.3%
Children 6-17	
Living with one parent 28.5%	28.5%
Live with Father (n=2,292)	
Father works	81.7%
Live with Mother (n=8,531)	
Mother works	77.8%

Source: P46. Living Arrangements of Own Children under 18 Years in Families & Sub-Families by Employment Status of Parents. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF3).

- About 68 % of children under the age of six who live with two parents had both parents working.
- For nearly 1/3 of the children under the age of 6 living with two parents, only father worked.
- For young children under 6 living with only one parent, the father was much more likely to work than the mother (84.6% - 68.5%).
- Percentages of 6-17 year olds with both parents working were higher than parents with children under age 6.

Percentage of Working Parents of Children in Herkimer County

Children's Age By Living Arrangements	Percent in Labor Force
Children < 6	
Living with two parents (n=4,309)	65.7%
Two Parents work	63.6%
Father Only works	27.0%
Mother Only works	3.8%
Neither Parent works	5.0%
Children < 6	
Living with one parent	34.3%
Live with Father (n=618)	
Father Works	87.0%
Live with Mother (n=860)	
Mother works	73.5%
Children 6-17	
Living with two parents (n=10,525)	71.3%
Two Parents work	71.8%
Father Only works	20.9%
Mother Only works	4.7%
Neither Parent works	2.5%
Children 6-17	
Living with one parent 28.6%	28.6%
Live with Father (n=823)	
Father works	83.2%
Live with Mother (n=2,192)	
Mother works	80.0%

Source: P46. Living Arrangements of Own Children under 18 Years in Families & Sub-Families by Employment Status of Parents. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF3).

- For young children living with two parents, 63.6% of children had two parents working and about 5% had neither parent working.
- For children of all ages living with only one parent, greater percentages of children in Herkimer County had working parents than children in Oneida County.

Concluding Notes

This study for the Women's Fund is intended to be completed in two stages. This first demographic picture provides a foundation for the next phase of research into issues across the lifespan of adolescent girls and young adults, working age women, and aging women. We are proceeding forward in our study of the Status of Women in Oneida and Herkimer Counties. Understanding the Portrait: Part II will cover the developmental life span of girls and women in three groups: **Adolescent and Young Adult Women (ages 12-25)**; **Working Age Women (ages 25-65)**; and **Aging Women (ages 65 +)**. Key areas addressed across each of the life stage groups are:

- **Health and Well-Being**
- **Economic Security**
- **Violence & Safety**
- **Leadership & Civic Participation**
- **Diversity in the Community**

The Women's Fund of Oneida-Herkimer Counties and The Arthur Levitt Public Affairs Center at Hamilton College are deeply committed to the status of affairs for women in the area. Understanding the Portrait will help us to set and advocate for a community agenda for girls and women in partnership with the many caring individuals, agencies, and organizations in our communities.

Data Sources

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ⁱ Much of the information on children and youth in Oneida County is taken from Research Bulletin, Winter 2002, prepared by Steve Darman and Angela Cline under the auspices of Oneida County Communities That Care and published by the Arthur Levitt Public Affairs Center at Hamilton College.

ⁱⁱ Divorce rate was calculated from number of divorces that occurred in the year 2000 reported through the New York State Health Department and number married couple families reported in the 2000 census x 1000.

ⁱⁱⁱ Although this number includes both institutionalized and non-institutionalized population, over 90% are institutionalized, primarily in nursing homes.

For further information about the Women's Fund, e-mail us at: friends@womensfundhoc.org or look on the website: www.womensfundhoc.org.

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