

*California's 10 fastest growing occupations through 2008 are:*

1. Computer Scientists
2. Electronic Pagination System Operators
3. Computer Support Specialists
4. Systems Analysts-Electronic Data Processing
5. Medical Assistants
6. Computer Engineers
7. Medical Records Technicians
8. Surgical Technologists and Technicians
9. Paralegal Personnel
10. Physician Assistants



*A California survey determined that depending on the community she lives in, a single mother with two children needs to earn between \$11.00 and \$18.00 an hour to become self-sufficient.*

Career and Technical Education emphasizes the connection between schooling and the world of work and reinforces the importance of attaining skills. Studies show that students with career and technical training benefit from increased employment opportunities and higher earnings.

In order to promote economic self-sufficiency female students need to receive increased access to career and technical high school programs that provide training for nontraditional occupations, two year or four-year community college and university education.



## *Activities that support opportunities for Girls and Women in Nontraditional Career and Technical Education*

1. Early grade hands-on, risk taking activities including sports, math and science
2. Middle grade focus on self-awareness and nontraditional occupations
3. Positive and diverse images of women in media and curricula
4. Opportunities for interaction with diverse role models and mentors
5. Developing career aspirations and economic literacy through comprehensive guidance and experiential learning
6. Basic education, tutoring, physical and mental health and financial planning
7. Integrated curriculum that includes hands-on training and varied high-tech activities
8. Computer and technical training
9. Complete range of support services including childcare, transportation
10. Safe community learning and workplace environments
11. Specific nontraditional training and workplace opportunities
12. Knowledgeable, supportive, sensitive educators and employers and community members
13. Extensive and active recruitment program
14. Strong intra-and inter-agency collaboration
15. Nontraditional students meet nontraditional occupation role models
16. Work experience opportunities, job placement services and follow-up are in place



### **Web Addresses:**

Chancellor's Office, California Community Colleges  
[www.cccco.edu](http://www.cccco.edu)

California Department of Education, Office of Career and Technical  
[www.cde.ca.gov](http://www.cde.ca.gov)

National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity NAPE  
[www.napequity.org](http://www.napequity.org)

Multi-state Academic and Vocational Curriculum Consortium  
[www.mavcc.com](http://www.mavcc.com)

Joint Special Populations Advisory Council  
[www.casp.cc](http://www.casp.cc)

### **Sources:**

Department of Labor, Bureau of Statistics  
Women's Bureau

US Department of Commerce

Wider Opportunities for Women

National Commission on Working Women

Office of Advocacy, US Small Business Administration (SBA)

US Department of Education (DOE)

Center for American Women and Politics

Girls Incorporated®

California Department of Education

Chancellor's Office, California Community College

National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity

Women's Educational Equity Act

California Commission on the Status of Women

# *Girls and Women Today*

## **Data and Statistics Affecting Girls and Women Today**

- ◆ Nontraditional Occupations
- ◆ Math, Science and Technology
- ◆ Economics

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# Did you Know ???

## Education

The high school graduation rate for Latino girls is lower than for girls in any other racial or ethnic group.

Latino girls are the least likely of any group to complete a bachelor's degree.

50% of the students in California Public Schools are from typically low income ethnic groups. (3.1 million).

24.7% of the students in California Public Schools have limited proficiency in the English language.

In 1998-99, there were 76,000 students with disabilities enrolled in California Community Colleges.



## Government

13% of US Senators are women

14% of US Representatives are women

20 women of color serve in the US Congress

Women hold 27% of the 2001 US statewide elective executive offices. These include:

- 5 Governors
- 8 Attorneys General
- 204 Mayors

50% of all government workers are women

## Media

21% of Americans under age 18 are people of color but only 14% of TV characters under age 18 are people of color.

A 1997 content analysis of media sources found that women on TV shows are less frequently shown working than men.

A 1999 study showed that 78% of the most popular women's magazines had messages on the cover about diet, exercise and cosmetic surgery.

## Economics

Today, girls have a 90% chance of becoming sole support for themselves and/or their children at some time during their lives.



1998 statistics show that overall women earned 76 cents for every dollar men earned. At the managerial level Caucasian women earned 74 cents, Asian/other women earned 67cents, African American women earned 58 cents, and Hispanic women earned 48 cents.

African American women are three times as likely to be in poverty and twice as likely to be unemployed.

Women who are members of unions earn about 35% more than women working in places without unions.

The average age when women start to invest is 47 years.

About 40% of all businesses are owned by women and they employ nearly 20 million people and generate \$2.3 trillion in sales.

Women make up 48% of the total workforce.

Women work an average of 34 years outside the home.

1 in 4 households with children under the age of 18 are headed by women.

2/3 of women with children under the age of 6 years are in the workforce.



Studies show that 50-75% of women employed will experience sexual harassment on the job.

50% of all women over 65 years of age have annual incomes of less than \$10,000 a year.

## Math Science and Technology

In the early grades, girls consistently match or surpass boy's achievement in science and mathematics as measured by scholastic aptitude tests, achievement tests and classroom grades.

By eighth grade twice as many boys as girls show interest in science engineering and mathematics careers.

The top five fastest growing occupations between 1998 and 2008 are information technology occupations, which require advanced computer skills. However, girls enroll more in clerical and data entry computer courses, the contemporary equivalent of typing classes, than in advanced computer classes.

In 1998, girls made up only 17% of the high school students who took the advanced placement exam in computer science.

Fewer than 33% participants in computer and related activities are girls yet 75% of tomorrow's jobs require use of computers.

34% of high school aged girls report being advised by a faculty member not to take senior math.

16% fewer girls than boys report ever talking to their parents about science and technology issues.

## Nontraditional Occupations (NTO)

Used to describe any occupation in which women (or men) comprise 25% or less of total employment. As many as 70% of the well-paying jobs over the next 10-15 years may not require a 4 year college degree. These service, craft or technical positions will require an associate degree or technical training certificate. Many of these jobs are nontraditional for women.

National apprenticeship programs have been challenged to meet an employment goal of 21.5% women apprentices. Overall, 7% of apprentices are women (includes bakers and cosmetologists, etc.) Currently the construction industry reflects a 2.3% apprenticeship rate.

Women in nontraditional jobs typically earn 20-30% more than women in traditional occupations. Nontraditional occupations for women will earn 150% more over a lifetime of work than a traditional occupation for women.

## Nontraditional occupations for women:

- 25% Computer Analysts and Scientists
- 23.7% Architects
- 14.4% Sheriffs, Bailiffs and other Law Enforcement Officers
- 14% Active duty military
- 9.9% Engineers
- 8% Railway Drivers
- 4.9% Welders
- 4.7% Truck Drivers
- 3.1% Airplane Pilots and Navigators
- 3% Firefighters
- 3% Aircraft Engine Mechanics
- 2.3% Construction Workers
- 1.4% Automobile Mechanics
- less than 1% Motion Picture Projectionists



Women leave science and engineering careers twice as frequently as men.

Less than 35 of CEO's, COO's and presidents of Fortune 500 companies are women.

Women are about one in fifty of electricians and one in one hundred plumbers, power installers and repairers, excavation and loading machine operators, masons and carpenters.

## Traditional jobs for women:

- 96.8% Early Childhood Teacher Assistants
- 97.4% Child-care Workers
- 90.0% Hairdressers and Cosmetologists
- 79.0% Household Servants
- 76.0% Restaurant Servers
- 98.7% Secretaries
- 77.1% Cashiers
- 45.75% Sales Representatives
- 84.7% Legal Assistants

