

## Macro Roundup Article

**Headline:** [Women's Evolving Careers Helped Shrink the Gender Pay Gap](#)

**Article Link:** <https://www.stlouisfed.org/on-the-economy/2023/may/women-evolving-careers-helped-shrink-gender-pay-gap>

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**Tweet:** The gender pay gap has narrowed as women have become more attached to the labor force and moved into higher earning occupations. Between 1970 and 2015 the share of women in the four highest paying occupations increased from 30% to 55%. @stlouisfed

**Summary:** The figure shows how the distribution of working women across 10 broadly defined occupations evolved over time. We are looking at women in the beginning of their careers (in their late 20s). The occupations (top to bottom) are ranked according to the average male wages in 2015, with technicians, managers and professionals having the highest average wages that year, and machine operators and those in farming and services ranking near the bottom of the pay distribution. In 1970, women entered into lower-paying occupations, working predominantly in administrative jobs. Over time, women clearly shifted toward better-paying occupations. For example, we see that the percentage of women working in the professional occupations went up from about 19% in 1970 to about 26% in 2015. The fraction of women working in the top four high-paying occupations increased from around 30% to 55%.

**Primary Topic:** Gender Pay Gap

**Topics:** Gender Pay Gap, Government/NGO, Workforce

**Permalink:** <https://www.edwardconard.com/macro-roundup/the-gender-pay-gap-has-narrowed-as-women-have-become-more-attached-to-the-labor-force-and-moved-into-higher-earning-occupations-between-1970-and-2015-the-share-of-women-in-the-four-highest-paying-oc?view=detail>

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