

Employment in Perspective Minority Workers

Working women of Hispanic origin are one of the fastest growing labor force groups in the Nation. Their number - 3.9 million in 1991 - has increased by 67 percent since 1980. This reflects primarily the rapid growth in the number of Hispanic women in the population. Although there has also been a rise in the labor force participation rate of Hispanic women - that is, in the proportion who are in the labor force - this index is still comparatively low. At 52.3 percent in 1991, it was 5-1/2 percentage points below that for other women.

This difference actually understates the gap in participation rates between Hispanic and non-Hispanic women, as table A shows. For example, among those under 55 years of age differences were much larger - about 15 percentage points. In contrast, there was no substantial difference in the percentages among women 55 years and over.

Differences by age and education. Several factors help explain why participation rates for Hispanic women are lower than those for other women. Educational attainment is an especially important factor. Labor force participation has traditionally been lower among women with less education, and Hispanic women are much more likely to be in the lower educational categories than are non-Hispanic women. Within the same educational categories, the differences in participation rates between Hispanic and non-Hispanic women are much smaller. For example, among women 25 to 54 years of age who completed 4 years of high school or more, the proportion of Hispanic women in the labor force in 1991 is closer to that of their non-Hispanic

counterparts (73 versus 78 percent).

Hispanic women 16 to 24 years of age are also much less likely to be in the labor force than other women. Young Hispanic women are often likely to be solely occupied with household responsibilities. For example, among those 20 to 24 years of age who were not in the labor force in 1991, more than 7 of 10 cited family or home duties as their main activity. In contrast, less than half of their non-Hispanic peers did so.

Participation rate for Hispanic Men. The differences in labor force participation rates between Hispanic men and other men are much smaller than those for women. Indeed, Hispanic men had higher rates in 1991 in two age categories: 20 to 24 year of age and 55 years and over. Clearly, Hispanics in the oldest age category were less likely than non-Hispanics to retire early. The higher rate among younger Hispanics men is due, in large measure, to the fact that they are only about half as likely to be enrolled in school as other young men.

the labor force participation rate for Hispanic men 25 to 54 years of age was only slightly lower than that for their non-Hispanic counterparts, even though Hispanic men were far more likely to be in the lower educational categories. The explanation for this apparent paradox lies in the fact that Hispanics with fewer than 4 years of high school had relatively high participation rates. In fact, they were actually more likely to be in the labor force than non-Hispanics. Men with higher levels of education attainment, of course, are more likely to be in the labor force than those with lower levels, regardless of ethnicity.



Scholarship recipient Ramael Slater works with therapist Julie Eisele, MEd, as part of a rehab program individualized for his needs.

Rehab Scholarships Offered

Disabilities from neurologic impairments affect millions of Americans each year. Head injury, such as from a car crash or fall, accounts for more than two million injured individuals annually. Stroke, anoxia and infections such as encephalitis push the numbers much higher. Unfortunately, many individuals with neurologic impairments are unable to receive the rehabilitation they need to overcome their disabilities.

Since 1986, the New Medico Neurologic Rehabilitation System has offered scholarships to individuals who have sustained neurologic injuries and cannot afford rehabilitation. This year, 28 scholarships, which total more than \$2 million in free care, are available nationwide. Each scholarship is for up to six months of intensive rehabilitation at one of 15 New Medico post-acute neurologic rehabilitation programs across the country.

"Unlike other injuries, an

injury to the brain can disrupt everything we do - how we think, how we control our behavior and how we feel," said James Wasco, MD, New Medico's director of medical affairs. "People with neurologic impairments often need help to re-learn abilities that most of us take for granted."

Candidates interested in applying for the scholarship program must submit an application by July 15, 1992. To receive an application, call New Medico toll-free at 1-800-743-6847.

New Medico scholarships are intended for individuals with neurologic injury who need post-acute rehabilitation services to re-enter their community. Applicants should be medically stable. Recipients are selected on the basis of need and potential for progress in rehabilitation.

"We want this program to demonstrate that neurologic injury does not have to mean a life of dependence," said Dr. Wasco.

UNITED RAINBOW MARCH AGAINST RACISM

FRIDAY, JULY 10TH, 1992 • 3:00 PM



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653-3018 AND VOICE YOUR OPINIONS
ABOUT THEIR RACIST POLICIES.
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Miriam Robinson is an African-American Clinical Social Worker in private practice in the downtown area, located at 1020 SW Taylor, Portland, Oregon 97205 (503)299-4951. She is a member of the Academy of Certified Social Worker, (ACSW); licensed to practice clinical social work in the State of Oregon, (LCSW); and is a member of the Oregon Board of the National Association of Social Workers. Miriam Robinson provides therapy to children, adolescents, individuals, and couples. The fees for therapy are reasonable, please call (503)299-4951 Monday thru Friday.

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Proactive Kids Program Prevents Crime

A structured environment and a great place to hang out during the summer makes the Columbia Boys and Girls Club a great place for kids to spend a portion of the day. Club director Linda White says it keeps kids off the streets and lend encouragement, education and a kind of extended family to children with opportunities otherwise not available.

No children are turned away because of inability to pay and is open to youth ages six to eighteen. There are a variety of programs available for the youngsters including one designed to teach children responsibility and a work ethic.

By far the most popular activity of the club is the Blazer exchange club sponsored by Terry Porter, Jerome Kersey and the Portland TrailBlazers organization. Several club members were awarded trips to Phoenix during the season with the team. The program will continue next year. It's an incentive program designed to enhance self-esteem and develop positive role models.

The Columbia Boys and Girls Club is accomplishing strategies set forth in the Portland Future Focus Plan in Crime, Education and the Economy.

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