Poverty in Massachusetts by Gender

Randy Albelda
*University of Massachusetts Boston*, randy.albelda@umb.edu

Ferry Cadet
Dinghong Mei

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Poverty in Massachusetts by Gender

US and Massachusetts

Massachusetts has lower poverty rates compared to US average. But, like the US, female poverty rates exceed those of males.

Massachusetts Distribution of Total Population by Gender

Women are just under 49% of the total Massachusetts population, but are close to 57% of the poor.

Massachusetts Distribution of Total Poor Population by Gender

Poverty Rates by Gender in Massachusetts’ 10 largest cities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Massachusetts</th>
<th>Boston</th>
<th>Brockton</th>
<th>Cambridge</th>
<th>Fall River</th>
<th>Lowell</th>
<th>Lynn</th>
<th>New Bedford</th>
<th>Quincy</th>
<th>Springfield</th>
<th>Worcester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
<td>27.4%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
<td>11.6%</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
<td>16.6%</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>20.1%</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
<td>25.1%</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>29.1%</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Female poverty rates are higher than male poverty rates in Massachusetts’ ten largest cities. But, these rates vary widely from 8.2% for males and 9.9% for females in Quincy to 25.6% for males and 29.1% for females in Springfield.

NOTE: All data are 5-year estimates, 2005-2009.

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey Five Year Estimates, Subject Table S1701. Developed by Randy Albelda, Ferry Cadet and Dinghong Mei for the Center for Social Policy, 2011.