

## Supplementary Materials

### *Gender Inequality Index*

Table 1 details the data sources for each of these indicators. The following indicators had to be calculated: maternal mortality ratio, teen birth rate, and labor force participation.

The maternal mortality ratio was calculated using data from CDC WONDER. Maternal death was defined as “the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy”.<sup>1</sup> The calculation used was the provisional total annual number of maternal deaths (ICD-10 codes A34, O00–O95, and O98–O99) divided by total annual live births.

Teen birth rate was calculated using data from CDC WONDER. Teen birth was defined as the mothers aged 15-19 giving birth. Teen birth was calculated by dividing the total number of teen births from the year of interest by the total number of teenage girls aged 15-19 (births per 1,000 women ages 15-19).

The Gender Inequality Index calls for the percentage of the population aged 15 years and older participating in the labor force. Employment data was accessed through the US Census Microdata Access Tool which provided American Community Survey (ACS) 1-Year Estimates.<sup>2</sup> ACS data is unavailable in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and thus, 2021 data was substituted for 2020.

The same was done for educational attainment which required the percentage of male and female population aged 25 and older with at least some secondary education. The United Nations Development Programme defines a population with at least some secondary education as the percentage of the population ages 25 and older that has reached (but not necessarily completed) a secondary level of education. The National Center for Education Statistics defines secondary education having two levels, lower and upper. Lower secondary education is roughly classified as middle school. Higher secondary education is classified as high school. For this study, we classify completing some secondary education as the total number of individuals who have completed at least some higher secondary education: 9th grade and higher.

**Table 1. Gender Inequality Index indicators and data sources**

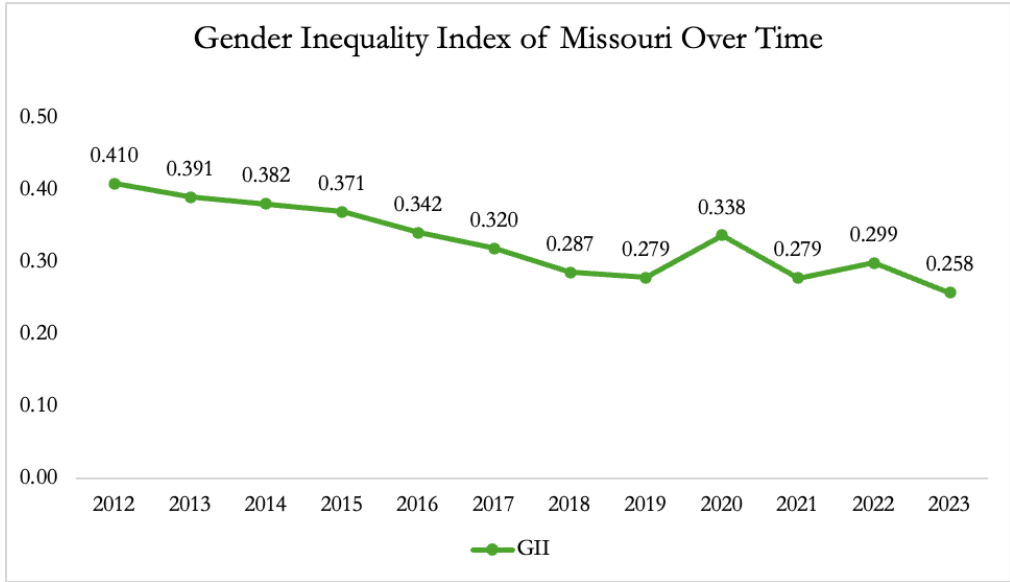
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Data Source</b>
Maternal mortality ratio* (maternal deaths per 100,000 live births) <small>3-5</small>	CDC WONDER
Teen birth rate* (births per 1,000 women ages 15-19) <sup>6-8</sup>	CDC WONDER
Government representation (ratio of female to male representation) <sup>9</sup>	Center for American Women and Politics
Educational attainment*	American Community Survey

(Percentage of male and female population with at least some secondary education) <sup>10</sup>	
Labor Force Participation* (Percentage of male and female population participating in the labor force) <sup>11</sup>	American Community Survey

\* Indicator were calculated using the data source

The average Gender Inequality Index during the time period was 0.330 with the lowest Gender Inequality Index being in 2023 (0.258) and the highest being in 2012 (0.410) (Figure 2). This decrease in Gender Inequality Index occurred in tandem with decreasing maternal mortality ratios and adolescent birth rates as well as increasing female representation in government and female participation in the labor market. The decreasing Gender Inequality Index trend was interrupted in 2020 and increased to 0.338 due to the sharp increase in maternal mortality ratio that year, most likely due to the COVID-19 pandemic <sup>12</sup>. Decreases in Gender Inequality Index indicate increasing gender equality in Missouri.

**Figure 2. Gender Inequality Index of Missouri over time**



## References

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