

# U.S. Census Bureau News

U.S. Department of Commerce • Washington, D.C. 20233

Profile America  
**Facts** for  
Features

CB14-FF.05  
Feb. 11, 2014  
Graphic 1 | [JPG](#) | [PDF](#)  
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## Women's History Month: March 2014

National Women's History Month's roots go back to March 8, 1857, when women from New York City factories staged a protest over working conditions. International Women's Day was first observed in 1909, but it wasn't until 1981 that Congress established National Women's History Week to be commemorated the second week of March. In 1987, Congress expanded the week to a month. Every year since, Congress has passed a resolution for Women's History Month, and the President has issued a proclamation.

### 161 million

The number of females in the U.S. as of December 2013. The number of males was 156.1 million.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Monthly Postcensal Resident Population: 7/1/2013 – 12/1/2013  
<<http://www.census.gov/popest/data/national/asrh/2012/2012-nat-res.html>>

### 2 to 1

At 85 and older, the approximate ratio by which women outnumbered men in 2012 (3.9 million to 2.0 million).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates  
<[http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP\\_2012\\_PEPAGESEX&prodType=table](http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP_2012_PEPAGESEX&prodType=table)>

## Jobs

### 74.8 million

The number of females 16 and older who participated in the civilian labor force in 2012. Women comprised 47.4 percent of the civilian labor force in 2012.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey, DP03  
<[http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12\\_1YR/DP03](http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12_1YR/DP03)>

### 41.6%

Percent of employed females 16 and over in 2012 (annual average) who worked in management, professional and related occupations, compared with 34.7 percent of employed males in the same year (annual average).

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey  
<<http://www.bls.gov/cps/cpsaat09.htm>>

## Military

### 1.6 million

Number of female veterans in the United States in 2012.

Source: 2012 American Community Survey

<[http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12\\_1YR/B21001/0100000US](http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/12_1YR/B21001/0100000US)>

## Earnings

### \$37,791

The median annual earnings of women 15 or older who worked year-round, full time in 2012. In comparison, the median annual earnings of men were \$49,398.

Source: Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2012, Page 7.

<<http://www.census.gov/prod/2013pubs/p60-245.pdf>>

### 77¢

The amount that female year-round, full time workers earned in 2012 for every dollar their male counterparts earned. This ratio was statistically unchanged from 2011.

Source: Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2012, Page 11.

<<http://www.census.gov/prod/2013pubs/p60-245.pdf>>

## Education

### 11.3 million

Number of women college students in fall 2012. Women comprised 56.8 percent of all college students.

Source: School Enrollment in the United States: 2012, Table 5

<<http://www.census.gov/hhes/school/data/cps/2012/tables.html>>

### 31.4

Percent of women 25 and older who had obtained a bachelor's degree or more as of 2012.

Source: Educational Attainment in the United States: 2012, Table 3

<<http://www.census.gov/hhes/socdemo/education/data/cps/2013/tables.html>>

### 25%

Percentage of women 18 and older with an alternative educational credential — such as professional certifications, licenses and educational — not statistically different from men. However, women had higher rates of alternative credentials than men at the bachelor's degree and advanced degree levels.

Source: Measuring Alternative Educational Credentials: 2012

<<http://www.census.gov/prod/2014pubs/p70-138.pdf>>

## **15%**

Among people with advanced degrees, the percentage of women who held educational certificates compared with 12 percent of men; 51 percent of women held professional certifications or licenses compared with 43 percent of men.

Source: Measuring Alternative Educational Credentials: 2012

<<http://www.census.gov/prod/2014pubs/p70-138.pdf>>

## **Voting**

### **63.7%**

Percentage of female citizens 18 and older who reported voting in the 2012 presidential election, in comparison to 59.7 percent of their male counterparts.

Source: Voting and Registration in the Election of November 2012, Table 2

<<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/socdemo/voting/publications/p20/2012/tables.html>>

## **Motherhood**

### **85.4 million**

Estimated number of mothers in the U.S. in 2009.

Source: Unpublished data from the Survey of Income and Program Participation

### **1.9**

Average number of children that women 40 to 44 had given birth to as of 2010, down from 3.1 children in 1976, the year the Census Bureau began collecting such data.

Source: Fertility of American Women: 2010 table 2 and Historical table 2

<<http://www.census.gov/hhes/fertility/data/cps/>>

The percentage of women in this age group who had given birth was 81 percent in 2010, down from 90 percent in 1976.

Source: Fertility of American Women: 2010 table 1 and Historical table 2

<<http://www.census.gov/hhes/fertility/data/cps/>>

## **Marriage**

### **66 million**

Number of married women 18 and older (including those who were separated or had an absent spouse) in 2013.

Source: Families and Living Arrangements: 2013, Table A1

<<http://www.census.gov/hhes/families/files/cps2013/tabA1-all.xls>>

### **5.2 million**

Number of stay-at-home mothers nationwide in 2013; compared with 214,000 stay-at-home fathers.

Source: Families and Living Arrangements: 2013, Table FG8

<<http://www.census.gov/hhes/families/files/cps2013/tabFG8-all.xls>>

Following is a list of observances typically covered by the Census Bureau's *Facts for Features* series:

African-American History Month (February)	Labor Day
Super Bowl	Grandparents Day
Valentine's Day (Feb. 14)	Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15-Oct. 15)
Women's History Month (March)	Unmarried and Single Americans Week
Irish-American Heritage Month (March)/ St. Patrick's Day (March 17)	Halloween (Oct. 31)
Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month (May)	American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month (November)
Older Americans Month (May)	Veterans Day (Nov. 11)
Cinco de Mayo (May 5)	Thanksgiving Day
Mother's Day	The Holiday Season (December)
Hurricane Season Begins (June 1)	
Father's Day	
The Fourth of July (July 4)	
Anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act (July 26)	
Back to School (August)	

**Editor's note:** The preceding data were collected from a variety of sources and may be subject to sampling variability and other sources of error. Facts for Features are customarily released about two months before an observance in order to accommodate magazine production timelines. Questions or comments should be directed to the Census Bureau's Public Information Office at 301-763-3030 or <pio@census.gov>.