2014

Working Mothers in the U.S. (Infographic)

Women's Bureau
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**Working Mothers in the U.S.**

31M Mothers with children under 18 in the United States*

![Graph showing labor force participation rates for mothers and fathers from 1975 to 2013](image_url)

**2013 Unemployment Rates**

- **Mothers:** 7.3%
  - Unmarried mothers – 12%
  - Married mothers – 4.8%
- **Fathers:** 4.9%

*Estimate from the 2012 American Community Survey (ACS), U.S. Census Bureau*

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**Earnings**

- **Mothers:** $575
  - Natural Resources, construction, & maintenance: $498
  - Production, transportation, & material moving: $578
  - Service: $973
- **Fathers:** $1349
  - Management, professional & related: $1349
  - Sales & Office: $452
  - Natural Resources, construction, & maintenance: $615

For every $1 made by a father with children under 18, mothers earn 74.7 cents. The gap for all women is 82.1 cents compared to all men.

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**Occupations**

- **Mothers:**
  - Sales & Office: 27.5%
  - Service: 21.7%
  - Natural Resources, construction, & maintenance: 5.3%
- **Fathers:**
  - Management, professional & related: 44.7%
  - Sales & Office: 27.5%
  - Natural Resources, construction, & maintenance: 16.8%

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**Unemployment Rate of Mothers by Age of Youngest Child**

- **6-17 years under 6:** 6.2%
- **under 3:** 8.9%
- **under 3:** 9.1%

**Unemployment rate of mothers by age of youngest child**

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**Labor Force Participation**

- **1975:** 47.4%
- **1985:** 46.3%
- **1995:** 57.2%
- **2005:** 57.2%
- **2010:** 60.3%
- **2013:** 70.3%

**Participation rates for All women are 1975-2013 annual averages; participation rates for Mothers with children under 18 are for March 1975-2013**

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**Mothers are the sole or primary breadwinner for a record 40% of households today compared with 11% of families in 1960.**

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**Mothers with children under 18 in the United States*”**

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**About 25 percent of households today are maintained by unmarried mothers.**

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**Notes:**

1. All data are for mothers of children under 18, unless otherwise noted.
2. Unmarried mothers include mothers who have never been married, divorced, widowed, separated, or are married but with spouse not present.
3. All data are 2013 annual averages, unless otherwise noted.
4. All data are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, unless otherwise noted.