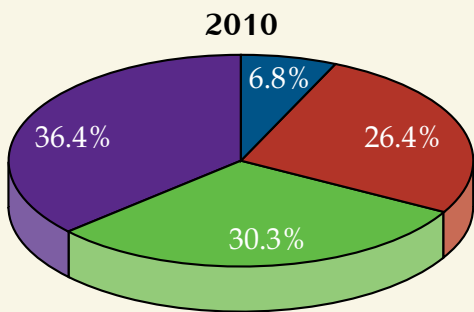
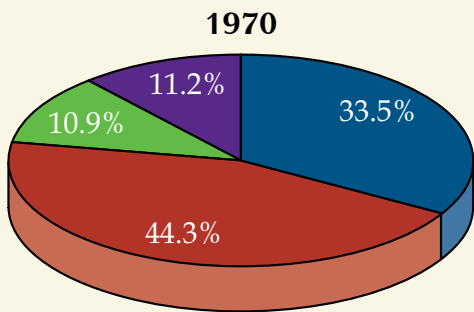


Women in the Workforce

Labor Force by Educational Attainment

In 1970, 22.1% of women in the civilian labor force had either attended some college or graduated with a degree. By 2010, that figure had increased over three-fold to 66.7% of women in the labor force. The percentage of women in the civilian labor force that had less than a high school diploma decreased from 33.5% in 1970 to 6.8% in 2010.

Percentage of women in civilian labor force, aged 25 to 64 years, by educational attainment
1970 and 2010



- Less than a high school diploma
- High school graduates, no college
- Some college, or associates degree
- College graduates

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Labor Force Projections

From 2008 to 2018, the women's civilian labor force is projected to increase by 9.0%, or 6,462,000 workers. The number of women aged 65 to 74 in the civilian labor force is projected to increase more than the number of women in any other age group – increasing by 89.8%, or 2,030,000 workers. The number of women aged 16 to 19, as well as those aged 35 to 54, is projected to decrease over that same period.

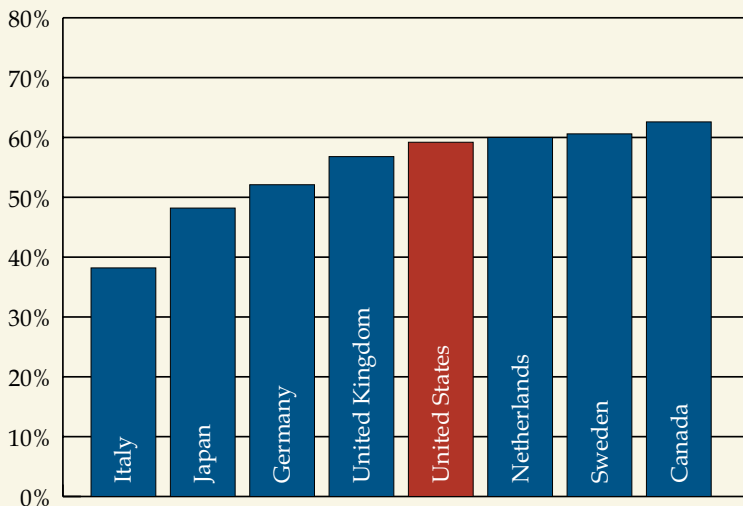
Percent and net change in women's civilian labor force, by age, 2008–18

Age group	Projected labor force level in 2018	Percent change	Net change
16-19	2,946,000	-13	-439,000
20-24	7,198,000	1.3	89,000
25-34	16,641,000	10.7	1,611,000
35-44	15,678,000	-2.6	-411,000
45-54	16,316,000	-4.4	-759,000
55-64	14,275,000	39	4,005,000
65-74	4,291,000	89.8	2,030,000
75 and older	883,000	61.4	336,000

Labor Force Participation Rates by Country

In 2009, 59% of working-age women in the United States were in the labor force. This percentage has increased from 43% four decades ago.

Select Countries



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics