

Women by the numbers

147.8 million

The number of females in the United States as of July 1, 2003. That exceeds the number of males (143.0 million). Males outnumber females in every five-year-age group through the 35 to 39 age group. Starting with the 40 to 44 age group, women outnumber men. At 85 and over, there are more than twice as many women as men.

US Census Bureau

THE AMOUNT US WOMEN, WHO WORKED FULL TIME, YEAR-ROUND, EARNED FOR EVERY \$1 THEIR MALE COUNTERPARTS EARNED. THIS AMOUNT IS DOWN FROM 77¢ FOR EVERY DOLLAR IN 2002.

US Census Bureau

Women

now account for almost half of all cases of HIV/AIDS, and in countries with high HIV prevalence, young women are at higher risk than young men of contracting HIV.

UN Division of Statistics

1.7 MILLION

The number of U.S. military veterans who are women.

US Census Bureau

215,243

Total number of active duty women in the U.S. military, compared to 1,219,134 men, in 2003. Of that total, 34,796 women are officers, 178,428 are enlisted and 2,019 are enrolled in military academies.

16%

Percent of U.S. Persian Gulf War (1990-91) veterans who are women. In contrast, women account for 5% of World War II vets, 3 % of Vietnam vets and 2 % of Korean War vets.

2/3 of the world's 876 million illiterate people are women. This number is not expected to decrease significantly in the next 20 years.

31%

of women ages 25 to 29 years who had attained a bachelor's degree or higher world wide in 2003, which exceeded that of men in this age range (26%). 88% percent of young women and 85% of young men had completed high school. The last year young women and men had equal rates of high school and college attainment was 1995.

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In some African countries, more than half of all women and girls have undergone female genital mutilation and its prevalence is not declining.

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