LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION AMONG UTAH WOMEN
A 2023 Update

OVERVIEW
Women in Utah make up a significant proportion of the overall labor force in the state.

Utah women’s labor force participation has increased by 36.2% over the past 50 years.

36% of Utah WOMEN work full-time, year round.

HOW DOES UTAH STACK UP?
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DEMOGRAPHICS
Utah women’s labor force participation varies according to demographic factors.

Full-Time Workers
Utah women remain less likely than US women to work full-time, year-round:

- 38.5% of Utah women
- 44.1% of US women

Working Mothers
Female labor force participation by county:

- Grand (67.0%)
- Summit (66.0%)
- Tooele (64.0%)
- Wasatch (64.0%)
- Duchesne (49.0%)
- Emery (49.0%)
- Rich (46.0%)
- Piute (42.0%)

Race/Ethnicity

- Asian: 66.2%
- Black or African American: 65.3%
- Pacific Islander: 62.7%
- White: 61.0%
- Native American: 57.2%

Post-Pandemic Workforce
Employment rate for women recovered faster than the rate for men, with U.S. women’s employment rates reaching a historical high of 75.3% in September 2023.
OCCUPATIONAL SEGREGATION
Utah is one of the more highly segregated states in the US in terms of women’s employment.

Occupations with Highest Percent Women:
- Healthcare Support: 81.9%
- Health Technology: 78.1%
- Personal Care & Service: 75.4%

Occupations with Lowest Percent Women:
- Construction & Extraction: 3.3%
- Installation, Maintenance, & Repair: 5.6%
- Architecture & Engineering: 13.7%

CHALLENGES FOR WORKING WOMEN

Childcare Options
Utah ranked 48th in the nation on one childcare index.

Gender Pay Gap
Utah ranks worst in the nation. Women make 60.8% of what their male counterparts make.

Support for Women Entrepreneurs
Women own 16.0% of Utah businesses (89,000 women owned businesses) generating $15.7B a year.

Advanced Degrees
Increase support for mothers and women of color.

WHAT CAN WE DO?
Various stakeholders can do their part to support Utah women in the labor force.

- Address the complex issue of the gender wage gap.
- Improve educational participation & completion for women.
- Support women-owned businesses.
- Increase access to quality, affordable childcare.

Click here for the full report.