



Working Women in Small Utah Counties

COUNTIES

With New Data Under
the Five-Year ACS Estimates:

Beaver	Millard
Carbon	Piute
Daggett	Rich
Duchesne	San Juan
Emery	Sanpete
Garfield	Sevier
Grand	Uintah
Iron	Wasatch
Juab	Wayne
Kane	

The Census Bureau's five-year estimates for the American Community Survey present an opportunity to more closely understand the demographic and labor market characteristics across the United States. Previous releases of ACS data have only covered the counties with larger populations, but with five years of data now collected, robust observations of smaller rural populations are now at our fingertips. (For a list of the 19 Utah counties newly added to the ACS data collection, please see list.)

One particular sub-population of these rural counties that to date we've known little about (at least since the 2000 Census) is working women. There are both similarities and notable differences when relating the economies of rural counties to the statewide average, so it's worthwhile to investigate the comparisons for the female labor force.

According to the five-year ACS estimates, the labor force participation rate for 16 to 65 year old women in Utah is just under 69 percent. Of the 19 small Utah counties observed here, only two have a higher rate of women working: Wayne and Garfield. San Juan exhibits the lowest rate at just under 53 percent. The average labor force participation rate for this collection of counties is 60.5 percent.

Earnings tell an interesting story as well. Of the full-time wage earners, only in four of the 19 counties do women have a higher female-to-male earnings ratio than the statewide

average. Women in Utah earn approximately 70 percent of their male counterpart's earnings level; only the working women in Beaver, Grand, Wayne, and Kane counties fare better. Uintah County's working women fare the worst of this group with less than 50 cents to the male dollar, while Kane county women come out on top with an earnings ratio just under 90 percent.

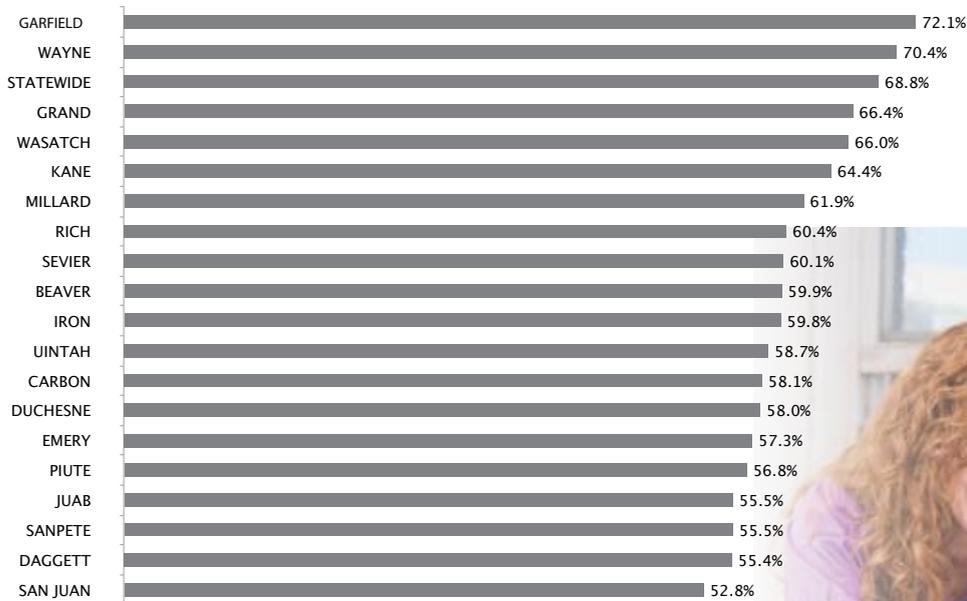
The most common occupations held by the working women in Utah are: office and administrative support occupations (26.4 percent), sales and related occupations (12.6 percent), and education, training, and library occupations (9.8 percent). Does this pattern hold true for the women of smaller counties? The answer turns out to be yes.

While there are certainly differences in the economic make-up of the rural areas of Utah as compared to the Wasatch Front, the data shows that women tend to gravitate toward these types of occupations. In fact, for all but two counties (Piute and Rich), office and administrative support occupations exhibited significantly higher percentages of the total female employment.

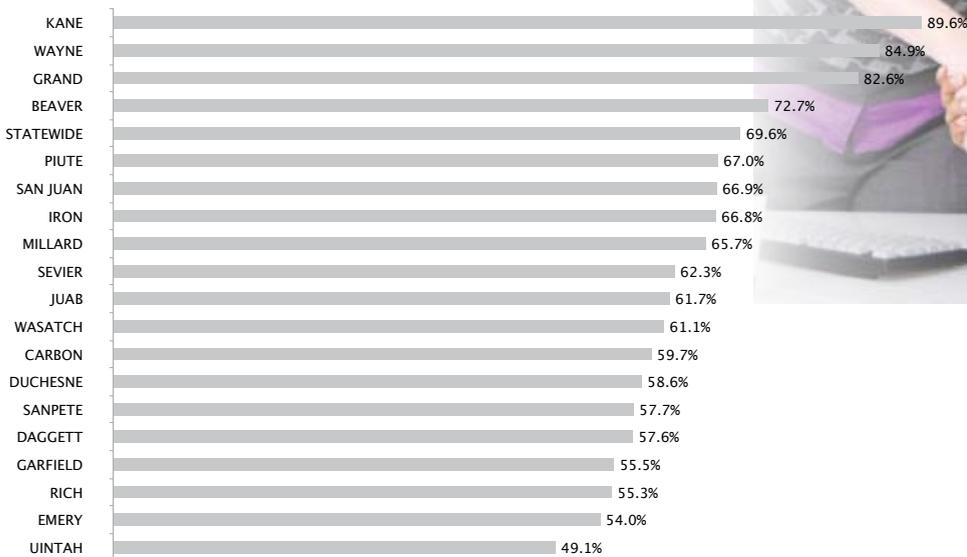
Find out more about the demographic and economic characteristics of women in Utah's rural counties at the following link: <http://factfinder.census.gov>



Female Labor Force Participation Rates



Female Full-Time Wage Earnings As a Percent of Male



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

