



# Women Still Lagging Behind In Obama's Economy

***For Women In The Obama Economy, Low-Paying Work And Poverty Are All Too Common***

**WITH POOR JOB PROSPECTS AND GROWING POVERTY, PROGRESS FOR WOMEN IN OBAMA'S ECONOMY "IS A MIRAGE"**

**For Women "Progress, In Fact, Is A Mirage" In The Obama Economy.** "[T]he number of women employed compared with the total female population is 55.2 percent, actually worse than it was in October 2010. Progress, in fact, is a mirage, the product of what economists call the disappearing work force: people giving up and dropping out." (Jonathan Weisman, "Economic Recovery Yields Few Benefits for the Voters Democrats Rely On," [The New York Times](#), 5/19/14)

- **Progress Is "The Product Of What Economists Call The Disappearing Work Force: People Giving Up And Dropping Out."** "Progress, in fact, is a mirage, the product of what economists call the disappearing work force: people giving up and dropping out." (Jonathan Weisman, "Economic Recovery Yields Few Benefits for the Voters Democrats Rely On," [The New York Times](#), 5/19/14)

***Women Are Experiencing The Weakest Job Growth Than In The Previous Three Recessions***

**"Women Have Experienced Weaker Job Growth" During Obama's Recovery "Than They Had Experienced In The Previous Three Recessions."** "Nevertheless, women have experienced weaker job growth after the end of the 2007-2009 downturn than they had experienced in the previous three recessions." ("The Rise In Women's Share Of Nonfarm Employment During The 2007-2009 Recession: A Historical Perspective," [Bureau Of Labor Statistics' Monthly Labor Review](#), 4/14)

**While Men Have Gained 4.6 Million Jobs Since The End Of The Recession Women Have Only Gained Only 2.9 Million Jobs.** (Current Employment Statistics, [Bureau Of Labor Statistics](#), Accessed 6/18/14)

***Weak Job Growth Is Forcing Women To Shift To Lower-Wage Jobs In Obama's Economy***

**The Wall Street Journal Headline: "Women Lagging On Job Creation, Shifting To Lower-Wage Industries."** (Josh Mitchell, "Women Lagging On Job Creation, Shifting To Lower-Wage Industries," [The Wall Street Journal's Real Time Economics](#), 2/7/14)

**According To The Vice President At The National Women's Law Center, Women Have Gained Jobs With "Very Low Pay And Bad Working Conditions."** "But that does not mean that women are coming

out ahead. ‘The good news is that women are getting jobs,’ said Joan Entmacher, the vice president for family economic security at the National Women’s Law Center, which crunched the gender numbers in today’s jobs report. ‘The bad news is they have very low pay and bad working conditions.’” (Shaila Dewan, “Women Made Jobs Gains In February,” [The New York Times’ Economix Blog](#), 3/7/14)

**60% Of The Increase In Women’s Employment Between 2009 And 2012 Was In The 10 Largest Low-Wage Jobs.** “Women have regained a large number of the jobs they lost during the recession, but their gains are highly concentrated in low-wage occupations. Sixty percent of the increase in employment for women between 2009 and 2012 was in the 10 largest occupations that typically pay less than \$10.10 per hour.” (“60 Percent Of Women’s Job Gains In The Recovery Are In The 10 Largest Low-Wage Jobs,” [National Women’s Law Center](#), 7/13)

**Women Have Gained Jobs “Disproportionately In Low-Wage Sectors Like Hospitality And Health Care.”** “Since the start of the recovery, Ms. Entmacher said, women’s gains have been disproportionately in low-wage sectors like hospitality and health care.” (Shaila Dewan, “Women Made Jobs Gains In February,” [The New York Times’ Economix Blog](#), 3/7/14)

**Adult Women “Far Outnumber” Other Demographics Among Minimum Wage Workers.** “Adult women are the single biggest demographic group among minimum wage workers, far outnumbering teenagers of both genders and men of all ages.” (Laura D’Andrea Tyson, “The Significance Of The Minimum Wage For Women And Families,” [The New York Times’ Economix](#), 3/7/14)

### ***With Weak Job Prospects, Poverty Has Increased Among Women Across The Board In Obama’s Economy***

**In Obama’s Economy, “Poverty Is A Problem... Particularly Among Women.”** “The gender divide in American poverty rates is not breaking news; the latest numbers are just an indication that poverty is a problem in the United States, particularly among women, and that it’s not going anywhere fast.” (Amanda Hess, “30 Percent Of Single American Moms Are Living In Poverty,” [Slate](#), 9/19/13)

**National Women’s Law Center: “Poverty Among Women And Children At Or Near Historically High Levels.”** “Although the economy continued its slow recovery in 2012, poverty rates for most groups were statistically indistinguishable from 2011, leaving poverty among women and children at or near historically high levels.” (Joan Entmacher, Katherine Gallagher Robbins, Julie Vogtman, and Lauren Frohlich, “Insecure & Unequal: Poverty And Income Among Women And Families, 2000-2012,” [National Women’s Law Center](#), 9/13)

**Since Obama Took Office, Women In Poverty Has Grown From 14.4 Percent In 2008 To 16.3 Percent In 2012.** (Current Population Survey, [U.S. Census](#), Accessed 6/17/14)

- **3.7 Million Women Have Entered Poverty Since Obama Became President.** (Current Population Survey, [U.S. Census](#), Accessed 6/17/14)

**African American Women In Poverty Has Grown Since Obama Became President, From 26.3 Percent In 2008 To 28.6 Percent In 2012.** (Current Population Survey, [U.S. Census](#), Accessed 6/17/14)

- **793,000 African American Women Have Entered Poverty Since Obama Became President.** (Current Population Survey, [U.S. Census](#), Accessed 6/17/14)

**Hispanic Women In Poverty Has Grown Since Obama Became President, From 25.5 Percent In 2008 To 27.9 Percent In 2012.** (Current Population Survey, [U.S. Census](#), Accessed 6/17/14)

- **1.5 Million Hispanic Women Have Entered Poverty Since Obama Became President.** (Current Population Survey, [U.S. Census](#), Accessed 6/17/14)

**White Women In Poverty Has Grown Since Obama Became President, From 11.2 Percent In 2008**

**To 12.7 Percent In 2012.** (Current Population Survey, [U.S. Census](#), Accessed 6/17/14)

- **3.8 Million White Women Have Entered Poverty Since Obama Became President.** (Current Population Survey, [U.S. Census](#), Accessed 6/17/14)

**“In 2012, 65 Percent Of Children Residing In Female-Headed Working Families (8.5 Million) Were Low-Income.”** (Deborah Povich, Brandon Roberts, and Mark Mather, “Low-Income Working Mothers And State Policy: Investing For A Better Economic Future,” [The Working Poor Families Project](#), Winter 2013-2014)

## **WHILE WOMEN STRUGGLE IN HIS ECONOMY, OBAMA HAS BEEN FOCUSED ON POLITICIZING THE ISSUE AS THE ELECTION APPROACHES**

***The Washington Post’s Ruth Marcus: “Democrats’ Revolting Equal-Pay Demagoguery.”*** (Ruth Marcus, “Democrats’ Revolting Equal-Pay Demagoguery,” [The Washington Post’s Opinions](#), 4/9/14)

- ***The Washington Post’s Ruth Marcus: “But The Level Of Hyperbole – Actually, Of Demagoguery – That Democrats Have Engaged In Here Is Revolting.”*** (Ruth Marcus, “Democrats’ Revolting Equal-Pay Demagoguery,” [The Washington Post’s Opinions](#), 4/9/14)

**CNN’s John King: White House Equal Pay Rhetoric A “Textbook Case” Of “Do As I Say, Not As I Do.”** CNN’S JOHN KING: “Let’s start with the White House. The President today will sign a couple of executive orders to advance the cause of equal pay for women. Let’s call this a textbook case, Margaret, of do as I say, not as I do. As The White House says women should be treated equally, Jay Carney, the Press Secretary, was asked yesterday about this statistic. Women at house get 88 cents on the dollar compared to men. Jay Carney says, well, we’re making progress.” JAY CARNEY: “We are, as an institution here, have aggressively addressed this challenge. And obviously though at the 88 cents that you cite, that is not 100 but it is better than the national average.” KING: “It’s better than the national average. I guess the coach would say, is that the best you got?” ([CNN’s New Day](#), 4/8/14)

**Even If Senate Democrats Paycheck Fairness Bill Is Passed “There Is No Way That It Would Have Ended Inequity In Wage – Or Come Even Close.”** “But, even if the bill had passed the Senate, and then the House, there is no way that it would have ended inequity in wage -- or come even close.” (Wesley Lowery, “The Paycheck Fairness Bill Failed In The Senate Today. It Wouldn’t Have Eliminated The Wage Gap Anyways,” [The Washington Post’s The Fix](#), 4/9/14)

- ***The Washington Post’s Ruth Marcus: “Here’s A Radical Notion: It Is Simultaneously Possible To Believe That Women Are Entitled To Equal Pay And To Not Support The Paycheck Fairness Act.”*** (Ruth Marcus, “Democrats’ Revolting Equal-Pay Demagoguery,” [The Washington Post’s Opinions](#), 4/9/14)

**“All In All, Fixing The Gap Between What Men And Women Make In Wages Is Far More Complicated Than A Congressional Bill.”** (Wesley Lowery, “The Paycheck Fairness Bill Failed In The Senate Today. It Wouldn’t Have Eliminated The Wage Gap Anyways,” [The Washington Post’s The Fix](#), 4/9/14)

## ***While Obama And Democrats Attack Alleged Discrimination, Gender Pay Disparity Is Alive And Well In Their Offices***

**According To An Analysis, Senate Democrats Pay Female Staffers An Average Of Over \$5,500 Less Than Male Staffers.** “The analysis shows female staffers in Democratic Senate offices were paid just 91 cents for each dollar paid to male staffers. The average salary for a woman was more than \$5,500 below the average salary for a man. Men received higher average salaries in more than two-thirds of the 43 Senate offices analyzed.” (Bret Scher, “Senate Dems Remain On Front Lines Of War On Women,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 4/8/14)

**Last Year, The Median Annual Salary Of Women In Obama’s White House Was \$65,000 Compared**

**To \$73,729 For Men.** “Even as Mr. Obama seeks to make an issue of the gender gap in compensation across the country, however, his own hiring is facing some scrutiny. The recent study, by the conservative American Enterprise Institute, showed that the median annual salary for women in the White House last year was \$65,000, while the median annual salary for men was \$73,729. The study was based on White House salary data.” (Michael D. Shear and Annie Lowrey, “As Obama Spotlights Gender Gap In Wages, His Own Payroll Draws Scrutiny,” [The New York Times](#), 4/7/14)

**The New York Times: As Obama Calls Attention To The Gender Pay Gap, By Its Own Math, Women In The White House Make An Average Of 88 Cents For Every Dollar A Male Earns.** “President Obama on Tuesday will call attention to what he has said is an ‘embarrassment’ in America: the fact that women make, on average, only 77 cents for every dollar that a man earns. But critics of the administration are eager to turn the tables and note that Mr. Obama’s White House fares only slightly better. A study released in January showed that female White House staff members make on average 88 cents for every dollar a male staff member earns.” (Michael D. Shear and Annie Lowrey, “As Obama Spotlights Gender Gap In Wages, His Own Payroll Draws Scrutiny,” [The New York Times](#), 4/7/14)

- **CBS: The White House Is Getting “Roughed Up By Its Own Pay Equity Rhetoric” As “The Median Income Of Female Staffers Is 88 Percent Of That Of Male Staffers.”** CBS’S MAJOR GARRETT: “The White House is getting, as you indicated Norah, roughed up by its own pay equity rhetoric. In an analysis of White House salaries, which nobody here disputes, shows that the median income of female staffers is 88 percent of that of male staffers.” ([CBS This Morning](#), 4/8/14)

**The White House’s Wage Gap Is Due To Similar Factors That Account “For The Broader Discrepancy” That Obama Claims He Wants To Fix.** “What accounts for the wage gap at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue? It is probably part of what accounts for the broader discrepancy between men and women’s salaries: Women often take time off or scale back their hours to take care of children, and make up a disproportionate share of employees in lower-earning professions.” (Juliet Eilperin, “The White House’s Own Wage Gender Gap,” [The Washington Post](#), 4/7/14)