

Table 6. Labor force participation rates of women by presence and age of children, March 1980-2000

(Percent)

Year	Total women	With no children under 18	With children under 18				
			Total	6 to 17 years	With children under 6		
					Total	3 to 5 years	Under 3 years
1980	51.1	48.1	56.6	64.3	46.8	54.5	41.9
1981	52.0	48.7	58.1	65.5	48.9	56.1	44.3
1982	52.1	48.6	58.5	65.8	49.9	56.5	45.6
1983	52.3	48.7	58.9	66.3	50.5	57.7	46.0
1984	53.2	49.3	60.5	68.1	52.1	58.8	47.6
1985	54.5	50.4	62.1	69.9	53.5	59.5	49.5
1986	54.7	50.5	62.8	70.4	54.4	59.9	50.8
1987	55.4	50.5	64.7	72.0	56.7	62.4	52.9
1988	56.0	51.2	65.1	73.3	56.1	61.5	52.4
1989	56.7	51.9	65.7	74.2	56.7	63.1	52.4
1990	57.2	52.3	66.7	74.7	58.2	65.3	53.6
1991	57.0	52.0	66.6	74.4	58.4	64.4	54.5
1992	57.4	52.3	67.2	75.9	58.0	63.3	54.5
1993	57.2	52.1	66.9	75.4	57.9	63.7	53.9
1994 ¹	58.4	53.1	68.4	76.0	60.3	64.9	57.1
1995	58.7	52.9	69.7	76.4	62.3	67.1	58.7
1996	58.8	53.0	70.2	77.2	62.3	66.9	59.0
1997 ¹	59.8	53.6	72.1	78.1	65.0	69.3	61.8
1998 ¹	60.2	54.1	72.3	78.4	65.2	69.3	62.2
1999 ¹	60.2	54.3	72.1	78.5	64.4	69.5	60.7
2000 ¹	60.7	54.8	72.9	79.0	65.3	71.5	61.0

¹ The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and conceptual changes. For an explanation, see the Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error section of *Employment and Earnings*,

a monthly periodical published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NOTE: Data refer to single, married, spouse present, and widowed, divorced, and separated women.