



## CITY OF GLENDALE

Glendale Commission on the Status of Women  
Prepared by Mount Saint Mary's University

# Glendale's Armenian Women

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## Glendale’s Armenian Women: 2017-2021

This document provides a snapshot of Glendale’s women of Armenian origin using data released by the U.S. Census Bureau in June 2023. The American Community Survey program of the Census Bureau releases its findings on detailed population groups in summaries of 5-year data estimates, the most recent of which covers the period of 2017-2021.

The purpose of this document, a supplement to the 2023 Report on the Status of Women and Girls in Glendale, is two-fold: first, to explore changes in selected characteristics of Armenian women which occurred between 2011-2015 and 2017-2021 and second, to illustrate how Armenian women fare in 2017-2021 relative to all women and white women (of which Armenians are a subset in the 2023 Report on the Status of Women in Glendale).<sup>1</sup>

### Armenian Women then and now: 2011-2015 and 2017-2021

**Population.** Glendale’s Armenian population is the largest ethnic minority in the city. The population has grown from 65,434 individuals in 2006-2010 to 69,558 in 2017-2021. During this time span Armenians have comprised just over 1 in 3 (34-35%) of Glendale residents. Just over half (52-54%) of Armenians are women and girls.

Population (number of people)	Armenian women	Armenian men	Total Armenian population	Total Glendale population
2006-2010	33,833	31,601	65,434	192,190
2011-2015	37,962	34,508	72,470	196,984
2017-2021	37,699	31,859	69,558	196,512

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010, 2015, and 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Tables B01001 detailed population table: Armenian*

In 2017-2021, nearly 55,000 of Glendale’s Armenians were born outside of the United States. Of these, 55% are women and 45% are men.<sup>2</sup> Armenians have emigrated from many countries, but 96% are from Asia and 39% (nearly 22,000) of Glendale’s foreign-born Armenians are from Armenia.<sup>3</sup>

**Median age.** The median age of Glendale’s Armenian women has increased by about two years from 44.8 years in 2011-2015 to 46.6 years in 2017-2021. In 2006-2010, the median age was 40.6 years.

	2011-2015	2017-2021
Median Age	44.8 years	46.6 years

*Note: In 2017-2021, the median age of Glendale’s women as a whole was 42.8 years. White women (not of Hispanic origin) had a median age of 45.7 years; Asian American women of 43.4 years; African American women of 40.5 years; and Latinas had a median age of 37.2 years.*

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2010, 2015, 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Table B01002 detailed population tables selected for Armenian women*

<sup>1</sup> For a fuller understanding of Glendale women, please see the 2023 Report on the Status of Women and Girls in Glendale.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Table B06003 detailed population table: Armenian.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Tables B05002, B05006 detailed population tables: Armenian.

**Housing tenure.** The percentage of Armenian households that are owner-occupied has not changed significantly from 2011-2015: one in four (25-26%) are owner-occupied, and three out of four (74-75%) are renter-occupied.

	2011-2015	2017-2021
Household owner	25%	26%
Household renter	75%	74%

*Note: Among all Glendale households, 36% are occupied by owners and 64% are occupied by renters.*

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2015 and 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Table B25003 detailed population table: Armenian*

**Marital status.** Over the period 2011-2015 to 2017-2021, the marital status of Armenian women has not changed significantly: a majority of women 15 years and over are married, while roughly 25% have never been married. However, going back to 2006-2010, a greater proportion of Armenian women was married (57%) than in 2017-2021 (51%), and smaller percentages were widowed (13% versus 15%) and divorced (5% versus 8%). As in 2017-2021, 1 in 4 women 15 years and over had never been married.

	2011-2015	2017-2021
Never married	26%	25%
Now married	52%	51%
Widowed	15%	15%
Divorced	7%	8%

*Note: In 2017-2021, among all Glendale women who are 15 years and over, 32% have never been married, 48% are married, 11% are widowed and 9% are divorced.*

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2010, 2015, and 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Table B12001 detailed population table: Armenian*

**Educational attainment.** The level of educational attainment of Glendale's Armenian women aged 25 years and over has risen over the years 2011-2015 to 2017-2021. In 2017-2021, 32% of women held a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 28% in 2011-2015. The percentage of Armenian women with less than a high school diploma has decreased from 23% in 2011-2015 to 15% in 2017-2021.

	2011-2015	2017-2021
No high school diploma	23%	15%
High school diploma	22%	28%
Some college, no degree	19%	12%
Associate's degree	8%	13%
Bachelor's degree	18%	20%
Graduate/professional degree	10%	12%

*Note: These data are for Armenian women 25 years and over. In 2006-2010, 30% of Armenian women held a bachelor's degree or higher and 21% had less than a high school diploma.*

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2010, 2015, 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Table B15002 detailed population table: Armenian*

Employment status (20-64 years). From 2011-2021, nearly two out of three (64%) of Glendale’s Armenian women aged 20-64 years have been a part of the labor force; over half of them have been employed. The unemployment rate in 2011-2015 was higher than in 2006-2010 (10%) and in 2017-2021 (9%).

	2011-2015	2017-2021
Percent in labor force	64%	64%
Percent of total women employed	56%	58%
Percent of labor force unemployed (unemployment rate)	13%	9%

*Note: These data do not differ in any significant way from those covering 2006-2010 when 64% were in the labor force, 58% were employed and the unemployment rate was 10%.*

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2010, 2015, 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Table B23001 detailed population table: Armenian*

Median Earnings for 16 years and over with earnings. The median earnings of Glendale’s Armenian women who worked either full- or part-time has increased by 58% from \$21,320 in 2011-2015 to \$33,753 in 2017-2021. The increase in annual median earnings of women who worked full-time was 26%. However, Armenian women earn less than their male counterparts. Moreover, from 2011-2015 to 2017-2021, Armenian men working full-time experienced a 36% increase in earnings, compared to a 26% increase of full-time working Armenian women. Among full-time workers in 2011-2015, Armenian women were at earnings parity with men but in 2017-2021, women earn on average only 93% of what men earn.

	Women 2011-2015	Men 2011-2015	Women 2017-2021	Men 2017-2021
All workers	\$21,320	\$25,854	\$33,753	\$46,553
Full-time workers	\$42,196	\$42,258	\$53,367	\$57,273
% earnings of full-time women/men	100%		93%	

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2015, 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Table B20017 detailed population table: Armenian*

Poverty Status of Women and Girls. Despite the increase in median earnings, the poverty rate among Armenian women and girls has not changed significantly in 2017-2021 relative to 2011-2015: nearly one in four of Glendale’s Armenian women (23%) lives in poverty, and nearly one in three of Armenian women 65 years and over lives in poverty. Additionally, the poverty rate of Armenian women is greater than that of men: in 2017-2021, the poverty rate of women was 23% compared to 17% for men.

	2011-2015	2017-2021
Women of all ages	23%	23%
Women 65 years and over	29%	32%

*Note: Poverty status is based on the federal poverty level (FPL) threshold used by the U.S. Census Bureau and defined by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In 2021, the FPL for individuals was \$12,900; for a family of four (two children) it was \$26,500.*

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2015, 2021 American Community Survey. Table B17001 detailed population table: Armenian*

## A Profile of Glendale Women

This section looks at Glendale’s Armenian women and how they fare relative to Glendale women of all races and to white women (not of Hispanic origin). Based on the U.S. Census definition of race, white women include those of European, North African and Middle Eastern origins. Current U.S. Census surveys count Armenians as a subset of the white population.

**Snapshot Data for Glendale Women: 2017-2021**

	All women	Armenian women
Population	103,229	37,699
Median age	42.8 years	46.6 years
Marital status (15 years and over)		
• Never married	32%	25%
• Now married	48%	51%
• Widowed	11%	15%
• Divorced	9%	8%
Educational attainment (25 years and over)		
• Less than high school	12%	15%
• High school diploma	21%	28%
• Some college, no degree	14%	12%
• Associate’s degree	10%	13%
• Bachelor’s degree	28%	20%
• Graduate/professional degree	15%	12%
Employment status (20-64 years)		
• Percent of total women in labor force	72%	64%
• Percent of total women employed	66%	58%
• Unemployment rate	7%	9%
Median earnings (16+ years with earnings)		
• All workers	\$39,022	\$33,753
• Full-time workers	\$60,372	\$53,367
Poverty status		
• All ages	15%	23%
• Women over 65 years	21%	32%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, except where noted. Table numbers are given in earlier tables for the detailed population of Armenians.

Based on data in this report:

- Armenian women comprise roughly 36% of all women in Glendale, but they comprise well over half (60%) of white women.
- As a group, Armenian women tend to be older than white women.
- While 32% of Armenian women have a bachelor’s degree or higher, 43% of all women have attained this level of education.
- A greater proportion of women (all races and ethnicities) than Armenian women is in the labor force (72% versus 64%); Armenian women have a higher rate of unemployment.

- The median earnings of Armenian workers are lower than those of all women.
- The poverty rate of Armenian women of all ages is 23%, significantly higher than for women as a whole (15%).

*A comparison of selected economic indicators of Glendale women by race/ethnicity: 2017-2021.* Many factors (e.g., education, health, income, marital status, number of dependents, and inherited wealth) determine the economic security of women. The following table illustrates the disparity in educational attainment and median earnings among Glendale women as a function of race/ethnicity.

	Number in Glendale's population	Percent with bachelor's degree or higher	Median earnings for all workers	Median earnings for full-time workers	Percent living on income below federal poverty level
Armenian women	37,699	32%	\$33,753	\$53,367	23%
African American women	1,745	NA	\$53,902	\$66,024	11%
Asian American women	15,119	61%	\$51,206	\$67,740	5%
Latina	19,700	26%	\$27,272	\$44,636	16%
White women (not of Hispanic origin, but including Armenian)	62,627	38%	\$39,683	\$62,852	17%
All women	103,229	43%	\$39,022	\$60,372	15%

*Note: NA indicates that data are not available. Percent with bachelor's degree or higher is for women 25 years and over and, except for Armenian women, is based on a 2019 single-year count. Median earnings for all and full-time workers are for women 16 years and over with earnings; percent living on income below federal poverty level is for women and girls of all ages. These data account for the roughly 97% of Glendale women; 3% identify with other races or with multiple races.*

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2017-2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Tables B01001 (column 1); B15002 (column 2); B20017 (columns 3 and 4); and B17001 (column 5).*

While detailed data are not available for the population of Armenians, research shows that in general the higher the level of educational attainment, the higher the median earnings and the lower the poverty rate.<sup>4</sup> The increasing level of educational attainment of Armenian women evidenced on page 2 suggests a potentially more secure economic future for Glendale's community of Armenian women.

<sup>4</sup> For example, see the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey data in Table B20004: Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months by Sex by Educational Attainment for the Population 25 Years and Over; and Table B17003: Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Individuals by Sex by Education Attainment.

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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**Mount Saint Mary's University Los Angeles** is the only women's university in Los Angeles and one of the most diverse in the nation. The University is known nationally for its research on gender equity, its innovative health and science programs, and its commitment to community service. Mount Saint Mary's provides year-round, flexible and online programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. **MSMU.EDU**

The mission of the **City of Glendale Commission on the Status of Women**, is to advance social justice and equity and ensure equality of rights and opportunities for all women and girls in Glendale by building new and strengthening existing bridges between the City's diverse groups, organizations, agencies and individuals; by increasing the level of knowledge in the community regarding women's issues and the status of women in our community; by encouraging and promoting participation; and by increasing visibility of women in all spheres of life in Glendale (including home, work, school, and government).