



bumpahead



On average, and across all occupations, women in the United States earn 79 cents for every dollar earned by men.



**Due, in large part, to
the motherhood penalty.**



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**When women have a child,
their potential future earnings
decreases by 5%.**



Simultaneously, their expenses drastically increase. On average, child care in the U.S. costs \$11,666 per year.



Imagine...



**that you are about to be a mother
for the first time.**

**You are excitedly planning for the
new life that you and your child
will share.**



You are young and driven and want to make something of your life.

You work full-time and plan on continuing to work after the baby comes.



**That means you need affordable
and high quality child care.**

**You take this decision seriously,
because your baby's first year is
critical to healthy development
and future success.**



**Play to see how this choice causes
the motherhood penalty.**

 **Play**



bumpahead

- ☒ Location
- ☐ Job
- ☐ Marital status
- ☐ Maternity leave
- ☐ Family
- ☐ Childcare

Where do you live?

Select a state



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- Location
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Where do you live?

Washington, DC



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DC ranks 1st in the country for pay equality.

See how other states compare [▶](#)

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You are college educated and have big plans to succeed.

Let's see what field inspires you.



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● Washington,
DC

● Job

● Marital status

● Maternity
leave

● Family

● Childcare

Public Relations

Child Care

Restaurants

Public Service

Finance

Economics

Education

Design

Media

Social Work

Engineering

Journalism

Psychology

Hospitality

Nursing

Medicine



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Public Relations

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Restaurants

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Psychology

Hospitality

Nursing

Medicine



- Location
- Server
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You're a server at a high end restaurant, taking night classes to become a chef.



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You get paid hourly plus tips. On average, you make \$400 per week, or about \$20,080 per year.



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Your male counterparts make \$23,340.



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\$20,080

Annual salary

Your male counterparts make \$23,340.

\$3,260 more than you,
each year.



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You fall in the 30th percentile of earners in the United States.

The pay gap increases as income increases. See how ▶

Continue ▶



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Do you have a partner?

- ☐ With my partner
- ☐ By myself but I'll get child support
- ☐ By myself

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- Server
- Marital status
- Maternity leave
- Family
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Do you have a partner?

- ☐ With my partner
- ☐ By myself but I'll get child support
- ☒ By myself

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bumpahead

● Location

● Job

● Single

● Maternity
leave

● Family

● Childcare

**83% of single parent families
are head by a mother.**

Learn more about single mother statistics 

Continue 



bumpahead

● Washington,
DC

● Server

● Single

● Maternity
leave

● Family

● Childcare

What do you think the maternity leave policy is at your restaurant?

☐ 12 weeks paid leave

☐ 12 weeks unpaid leave, 2 weeks paid time off

☐ No maternity leave, 2 weeks paid time off

☐ No maternity leave or paid time off

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- Washington, DC
- Server
- Marital status
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- Family
- Childcare

What do you think the maternity leave policy is at your restaurant?

- ☐ 12 weeks paid leave
- ☐ 12 weeks unpaid leave, 2 weeks paid time off
- ☒ No maternity leave, 2 weeks paid time off
- ☐ No maternity leave or paid time off

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- Washington, DC
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As an hourly worker, you don't get maternity leave or paid time off.

You can request less shifts or get a coworker to cover for you but that means you don't get paid.

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You're worried that if you are out too much your boss will hire another server, meaning less shifts when you return to work.

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bumpahead

- Location
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The United States is the only industrialized country in the world that does not guarantee paid time off to new parents.

Learn more about single mother statistics [▶](#)

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- ☒ Washington, DC
- ☒ Server
- ☒ Single
- ☒ No maternity leave
- ☐ Family
- ☐ Childcare

Only taking a month off will definitely help your budget but it won't be easy. You'll have to find a way to pump at work so you can continue breast feeding.

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- Family
- Childcare

A one-month old does not have a strong immune system, keep that in mind when choosing your baby's child care. Kids frequently get sick from their day care centers.

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- Family
- Childcare

How long will you take off?

2 weeks

1 month

2 months

6 months

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- No maternity leave
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How long will you take off?

2 weeks

1 month

2 months

6 months

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Kids frequently get sick from their day care centers.

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Do you family nearby that can help care for your new baby?

Yes

No

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- Server
- Single
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Do you family nearby that can help care for your new baby?



Yes

No

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- Family nearby
- Childcare

That's a big help. Your family happily offers to care for your baby 10 hours a week.

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- No maternity leave
- Family nearby
- Childcare

The average American lives only 18 miles from his or her mom.

Learn more about family support [▶](#)

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- Washington, DC
- Server
- Single
- No maternity leave
- Family nearby
- Childcare

How will you care for your child for the other 30 hours?

In home care
(nanny)

Day care center

In licensed
childcare
provider's home

Head start
program



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How will you care for your child for the other 30 hours?

In home care
(nanny)

Day care center

In licensed
childcare
provider's home

Head start
program



You qualify for head start but the program is underfunded and there is a 6 month waiting list

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- Washington, DC
- Server
- Single
- No maternity leave
- Family nearby
- Day care center

How will you care for your child for the other 30 hours?

In home care
(nanny)

✓
day care cost =
\$550 per month

In licensed
childcare
provider's home

Head start
program



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Being a stay at home mom is not an option for you. Instead you have to take on more shifts to afford the basic necessities.



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You start working 60 hours a week and spend all of the time you aren't working with your baby. This leaves you less time to pursue skills-building so you can achieve your goals



You see co-workers succeeding around you but feel stuck in your position.

You don't have many chances for career advancement, but you still work as hard as possible because you want to give your child everything she needs to succeed - you want her to achieve her dreams since you aren't able to.



Now you are back to being you.



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**Studies have shown that
constituent correspondence is
very influential.**



Staffers thoughts according to an online survey Perceptions of Citizen Advocacy:

- **57% felt email and the Internet have made Senators and Representatives more accountable to their constituents**
- **88 believe email would influence an undecided Member of Congress**
- **More than 60% strongly agreed—that responding to constituent communications is a high priority in their office**



**Would you like to challenge
your state representative to play
bumpahead?**

Yes

No



Would you like to challenge
your state senators to play
bumpahead?



Yes

No



Insert your zipcode

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Insert your zipcode

20601



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Thank you
for playing!



Ask U.S. Senator for Maryland,
Barbara Mikulski to play
bumpahead

Email your rep

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Ask U.S. Senator for Maryland,
Ben Cardin to play bumpahead

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