

Women and Housing

Homeownership is one of the most dynamic tools a person can use to build a stronger future, but far too many women are unevenly denied access to homeownership.

Homeownership improves:

- children's performance in school
- neighborhood crime rates
- the health and well-being of children and adults

8.6 million

American households are headed by single mothers

Black women have the highest rate of growth in college enrollment of all groups, an important and impressive advancement. However, they also have the highest level of student debt, further increasing their debt-to-income ratio and worsening their credit characteristics. This makes it harder for these women to become homeowners.

Single women are denied mortgages at higher rates than single men despite the fact women are more reliable at paying back mortgages.

Older, single black women with a college degree have an average of

\$11,000

in wealth, compared to the

\$384,000

of their white counterparts.

Men earn more on average than women, resulting in access to higher credit, better loans and better quality homes and neighborhoods.

According to the US Census more than 40% of women who head families are now living in poverty.