



# Knowledge Center

## 2013 Catalyst Census: Fortune 500 Women Board Directors

### Report

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Part Of: [2013 Catalyst Census: Fortune 500](#)

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Date: December 10, 2013

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### Where Are the Women on Boards?

Once again there's been little to no increase for women on boards in corporate America, according to the *2013 Catalyst Census: Fortune 500 Women Board Directors*.

Among the findings:

- Women held only 16.9% of board seats in 2013—no change from last year (16.6%).
- In both 2012 and 2013, less than one-fifth of companies had 25% or more women directors, while one-tenth had no women serving on their boards.
- Less than one-quarter of companies had three or more women directors serving together in both 2012 and 2013.
- Women of color held 3.2% of board seats, essentially the same as last year (3.3%).

**Research Partners:** [AT&T Inc.](#); [Bloomberg](#); [BMO Financial Group](#); [Cardinal Health, Inc.](#); [Chevron Corporation](#); [Credit Suisse](#); [Dell Inc.](#); [Deloitte LLP](#); [Desjardins Group](#); [Deutsche Bank AG](#); [EY](#); [General Motors Company](#); [Hewlett-Packard Company](#); [IBM Corporation](#); [KeyBank](#); [Kimberly-Clark Corporation](#); [McDonald's Corporation](#); [PPL Corporation](#); [Sodexo, Inc.](#); [State Street Corporation](#); [UPS](#)

Next Element in this Project

## [2013 Catalyst Census: Fortune 500 Appendix 8—Women's Representation By NAICS Industry](#)

Part of: [2013 Catalyst Census: Fortune 500](#)

Topic: [Corporate Governance](#), [Women in Leadership](#)

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## 5 Reader Comments

Madhu Mazumdar says:  
1/14/2014 09:21:38

This is shocking. How could I help?

reply

kgoodenow says:  
1/22/2014 03:54:05

Thank you for your support! There are a lot of different ways that people and companies can help, but being aware of the problem and vocal about your opinion within your community are great first steps.

Commitment to this issue comes in many forms; individuals who know directors can introduce qualified women candidates to directors in their social circles, and companies can make a commitment to a target representation of women on their board by signing the Catalyst Accord. To see more about what we're doing at Catalyst visit our Corporate Board Services Page <http://catalyst.org/what-we-do/services/corporate-board-services>.

Our corporate boards e-newsletter is a great place to learn more about the work Catalyst is doing to increase the representation of women in the boardroom, and what other organizations, companies, and countries are doing too. <http://catalyst.org/corporate-board-services-quarterly>

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Nancy Onyango says:  
4/18/2014 10:24:09

This is real shocking but women must strive to demonstrate that they can make a positive contribution otherwise Boards will continue to appoint token representation and not expect much from them. Affirmative action can be counter productive if not handled properly. The few who are appointed should really make their presence and contribution felt. Be well prepared, ask questions, consider decisions and weigh option. If need be seek experet advice so that you fully understand what the key issues are - do not simply endorse decisions unless you truly understand what impact it will have on the organisation and on shareholder value. Regards, N

[reply](#)

chris says:  
5/18/2014 03:42:16

where is the appendix 1, mention in the report?

[reply](#)

JOhm says:  
5/19/2014 11:10:35

Hi Chris: All of the appendices can be found in the sidebar to the right side of the page.

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