

2015 Mrs. Claus Survey



July 6-10, 2016

The World's Largest meeting of Santa's and Mrs. Claus

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Survey Name: 2015 Mrs Claus Survey

Results collected between 10/22/15 and 10/29/15 121 Mrs. Claus and wives participated

1. Where do you live?

City	118
State/Province (US/Canada)	120

2. How old are you? For the Santas we collected the detailed age of each Santa. For the Mrs. Claus we gave a range. Using the data collected we can estimate that the average Mrs. Claus is over 21.

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
18-30	0	0.0%
31-40	2	1.6%
41-50	6	4.9%
51-60	41	33.8%
61-70	55	45.4%
71-80	15	12.3%
81+	0	0.0%
Total	121	100%

3. Are you a Mrs. Claus; A Santa Helper; just handle his schedule; or do you just step back and let him do his own thing?. Select the most correct or closest answer.

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
I am Mrs. Claus to my Husband.	77	63.6%
I am Santa's helper going with my husband when he needs me.	8	6.6%
I handle Santas schedule and finances.	7	5.7%
I step back and let my Santa do his own thing.	3	2.4%
I just want to make sure that he looks good when he leaves the house.	6	4.9%
I am an independent Mrs. Claus working with various Santas or Solo.	11	9.0%
I want to work with my husband, but I am too young to be a Grandma/Mrs. Claus	0	0.0%
I would like to be Mrs. Claus, but my husband is impossible to work with!	0	0.0%
Total	121	100%

4. What is the most rewarding thing about working with the Children?

102 Response(s)

5. If you are a Mrs. Claus, How many years ?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Two years or less	19	15.7%
3-4	21	17.3%
5-6	18	14.8%
7-8	13	10.7%
9-10	11	9.0%
11-12	3	2.4%
13-14	4	3.3%
15-16	10	8.2%
17-18	0	0.0%
19-20	5	4.1%
21-22	2	1.6%
23-24	1	<1%
25-26	0	0.0%
27-28	0	0.0%
29-30	0	0.0%
31-35	2	1.6%
36-40	2	1.6%
41-45	3	2.4%
46-50	0	0.0%
over 50 years	0	0.0%
Total	121	100%

6. Why or What made you decide to become Mrs. Claus? Please select the answer that is closest to your reason.

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
My Husband asked me	25	20.6%
My Husband was having so much fun, I wanted to have fun too!	21	17.3%
My Church asked me	0	0.0%
The Local School asked me	0	0.0%
I started helping my Santa and one thing lead to another, and I was hooked.	39	32.2%
I have always enjoyed being with children and this was a perfect match	15	12.3%
I was a party entertainer and this was a natural transition	4	3.3%
Other	11	9.0%
No Responses	6	4.9%
Total	121	100%

7. What kind of outfit or wardrobe do you have?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Full-length Custom Dress to Match Santa's Suit	53	43.8%
Full length, Custom made, full-skirt with blouse and apron	20	16.5%
Casual outfit in holiday colors	10	8.2%
Packaged Costume from a costume store	8	6.6%
Other	22	18.1%
No Responses	8	6.6%
Total	121	100%

8. How do you wear your hair?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
My hair is not white, but I like to use my own hair and do not wear any wig (I'm not that old!)	40	33.0%
I like wearing a granny type white wig with bun on top	7	5.7%
I wear an old fashioned "granny cap" over my own hair	28	23.1%
I wear an old fashioned "granny cap" over a wig	6	4.9%
I wear a modern-styled, white wig as I do not like the "granny" style	11	9.0%
Other	20	16.5%
No Responses	9	7.4%
Total	121	100%

10. If Married, how many years?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
under 5 years	2	1.6%
5 to 10 years	11	9.0%
11 to 15 years	7	5.7%
16 to 20 years	8	6.6%
21 to 25 years	9	7.4%
26 to 30 years	12	9.9%
31 to 35 years	13	10.7%
36 to 40 years	10	8.2%
41 to 45 years	21	17.3%
46 to 50 years	8	6.6%
over 50 years	6	4.9%
Other	1	<1%
No Responses	13	10.7%
Total	121	100%

11. What is Mrs. Claus' (your) favorite cookie?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Sugar Cookie	19	15.7%
Rice Krispy Treat	4	3.3%
Gingerbread	11	9.0%
Oatmeal Raisin	26	21.4%
Oreo	2	1.6%
Peanut Butter	7	5.7%
Chocolate Chip	40	33.0%
Other	11	9.0%
No Responses	1	<1%
Total	121	100%

12. Where will Mrs. Claus (you) be working this year? You may check on or more answers. If the exact answer you want is not listed, please try to select an answer as close to what you do as Mrs. Claus

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
I am a Volunteer Mrs. Claus	51	43.5%
In Business for myself - working with various Santas, etc	9	7.6%
In Business for myself - Own photo operation at a Mall	2	1.7%
Work for one of the Major Mall Photo Companies	4	3.4%
Work full-time with my Husband as Mrs. Claus	57	48.7%
Only work behind the scenes for my Husband	10	8.5%
I appear with Santa in a Parade	25	21.3%
I appear with Santa at a Tree Lighting	29	24.7%
I have appeared in print advertising as Mrs. Claus	13	11.1%
I have appeared in a local commercial (cable) as Mrs. Claus	5	4.2%
I have appeared in a regional commercial as Mrs. Claus	0	0.0%
I have appeared in a national commercial as Mrs. Claus	1	<1%
I have appeared on a national network talk or reality show (not the news)	1	<1%
I have appeared in a major motion picture as Mrs. Claus	0	0.0%
I have been interviewed or featured in a documentary as Mrs. Claus	5	4.2%
I visit hospitals	24	20.5%
I do visits to Military Units or Wounded Warriors	16	13.6%
I have volunteered with Toys for Tots	11	9.4%
I am Hospice Trained	16	13.6%
I visit Senior Centers and Convalescent Homes	33	28.2%
Other	26	22.2%
Total	117	100%

13. Did you serve in the Military?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
No Military Service	107	88.4%
Air Force	3	2.4%
Army	2	1.6%
Coast Guard	0	0.0%
Marines	1	<1%
Navy	1	<1%
Other	5	4.1%
No Responses	2	1.6%
Total	121	100%

14. In your previous life (Before Mrs. Claus or Santa) what was your main occupation

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Arts - Painter/Sculptor/Writer	3	2.6%
Public Service / Law Enforcement / Fire / etc.	3	2.6%
Elected Official	0	0.0%
General Construction - / Building Trades / Carpenter/Electrician/Plumber, etc.	1	<1%
Heavy Construction	0	0.0%
Doctor - Medical/Dental/Health	2	1.7%
Finance / Banking / Loans / Investments (St. Nicholas is your Patron Saint)	8	6.9%
Sales / Marketing / Advertising	8	6.9%
Education - Administrator or Teacher	23	20.0%
Entertainer / Entertainment Industry	7	6.0%
Cullinary / Restaurant Owner / Chef etc.	2	1.7%
Lawyer / Legal (St. Nicholas is your Patron Saint, too!)	4	3.4%
Health Professional / Nurse / Lab technician	10	8.6%
Public Administration - City/County/State/National	2	1.7%
Public Works	0	0.0%
Aviation	0	0.0%
Military - Career (Retired)	1	<1%
Broadcasting / Journalism - Newspaper/Magazine/Radio/Television	1	<1%
Science - Researcher / Lab Tech / CSI etc.	0	0.0%
Home Maker / Domestic Goddess	24	20.8%

Total 115 100%

15. During the rest of the year, when not appearing as Mrs. Claus, do you work as any other character?

100 Response(s)

16. If working for a Mall, how many hours a day will you be working?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Less than 5 hours a day	9	7.4%
5 hours a day	0	0.0%
6 hours a day	1	<1%
7 hours a day	2	1.6%
8 hours a day	1	<1%
9 hours a day	0	0.0%
10 hours a day	0	0.0%
11 hours a day	0	0.0%
12 hours a day	0	0.0%
More than 12 hours a day	0	0.0%
No Responses	108	89.2%
Total	121	100%

17. If you are working or volunteering independently, when will you start your Holiday visits?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
During the week before Thanksgiving	23	19.0%
After Thanksgiving	43	35.5%
The week before Christmas	1	<1%
Other	22	18.1%
No Responses	32	26.4%
Total	121	100%

18. For those ladies who work as an independent Mrs. Claus, how many total hours will you work during the entire holiday season? (Please give us only the hours you actually work or appear as Mrs. Claus. Do not include time for driving, dressing or preparations.)

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Less than 10 hours	16	13.2%
10 to 20 hours	5	4.1%
21 to 30 hours	8	6.6%
31 to 40 hours	7	5.7%
41 to 50 hours	3	2.4%
51 to 60 hours	1	<1%
61 to 70 hours	2	1.6%
71 to 80 hours	3	2.4%
81 to 90 hours	2	1.6%
91 to 100 hours	2	1.6%
Over 100 hours	4	3.3%
Other	6	4.9%
No Responses	62	51.2%
Total	121	100%

19. When you work as Mrs. Claus, please tell us what steps you take to help reduce the spread of colds and flu. Select one or more answers.

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
I have had or plan to have a flu shot.	81	71.0%
I try to wash my hands often with soap and water, especially after I cough or sneeze.	74	64.9%
I like to have hand sanitizer dispensers for the children and families.	37	32.4%
I carry a personal bottle of hand sanitizer.	75	65.7%
We wipe down our set and Santa chair with disinfecting wipes.	16	14.0%
I sanitize my gloves and change them periodically during the day.	48	42.1%
I encourage children to follow me and "Santa-tize" (sanitize) their hands regularly.	24	21.0%
Other	9	7.8%
Total	114	100%

20. Do you feel like ever since you became Mrs. Claus, you've gotten the cold or flu more frequently?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes, I have gotten a cold or flu more frequently since I've become a Santa.	5	4.1%
NO, I have not gotten a cold or flu more frequently since I've become a Santa.	109	90.0%
No Responses	7	5.7%
Total	121	100%

21. Do you appear in a community parade?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
NO, I do not appear in any parade/s.	73	60.3%
YES, I appear in a parade/s.	35	28.9%
No Responses	13	10.7%
Total	121	100%

22. Do you preside or appear at a Tree Lighting Ceremony?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
NO, I do not appear at any tree lighting ceremonies.	74	61.1%
YES, I do appear at a tree lighting ceremony.	35	28.9%
No Responses	12	9.9%
Total	121	100%

23. When working with Santa, what else do you do to make the children's visit enjoyable? Select one or more answers.

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
I read or tell stories	81	78.6%
I can sing songs	40	38.8%
I can perform a little magic	9	8.7%
I play a musical instrument (explain below)	5	4.8%
I have a puppet/s (explain below)	14	13.5%
Other	20	19.4%
Total	103	100%

24. What is your favorite Holiday Greeting? Please rank the following greetings in the order of your preference with '7' as the most used and '1' as the least used. You must put a number in each box in order to fully answer this.

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Least Used						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Feliz Navidad	7 7%	23 22%	17 16%	26 25%	18 17%	14 13%	0 0%
Happy Hanukkah	21 20%	17 16%	17 16%	25 24%	8 8%	11 10%	6 6%
Happy Holidays	7 7%	17 16%	13 12%	7 7%	16 15%	42 40%	3 3%
Joyous Noel	6 6%	24 23%	26 25%	23 22%	11 10%	15 14%	0 0%
Mele Kalikimaka	39 37%	9 9%	17 16%	10 10%	9 9%	6 6%	15 14%
Merry Christmas	20 19%	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	3 3%	81 77%
Season's Greetings	5 5%	14 13%	15 14%	14 13%	43 41%	14 13%	0 0%

25. Have you taken the Santa Claus Oath?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
No, I have not had the opportunity to take the Santa Claus Oath.	33	27.2%
Yes, I have taken the Santa Claus Oath	83	68.5%
No Responses	5	4.1%
Total	121	100%

26. Have you taken the Mrs. Claus Pledge? The Mrs. Claus Pledge was introduced just a few years ago and its following is growing.

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
No, I have not had the opportunity to take the Mrs. Claus Pledge.	70	57.8%
Yes, I have taken the Mrs. Claus Pledge	50	41.3%
No Responses	1	<1%
Total	121	100%

27. Have you attended a Santa School? Select all that apply.

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Charles W. Howard	14	11.5%
School4Santas - International University of Santa Claus	72	59.5%
Victor Nevada School	0	0.0%
Professional Santa Claus School - Susan Mesco	2	1.6%
St. Nicholas Institute	2	1.6%
Noerr Progreams Santa Training	4	3.3%
IUSC Correspondence DVD Course	2	1.6%
No, I have never attended a Santa School	35	28.9%
Other	8	6.6%
Total	121	100%

28. How many Mrs. Claus outfits do you own?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
1	17	14.0%
2	38	31.4%
3	18	14.8%
4	11	9.0%
5	11	9.0%
6	3	2.4%
7	2	1.6%
8	3	2.4%
9	1	<1%
10	1	<1%
None	8	6.6%
Other	6	4.9%
No Responses	2	1.6%
Total	121	100%

29. What is the most rewarding thing about working with Santa?

98 Response(s)

30. What is the most difficult thing about working with your Santa?

91 Response(s)

31. If you could change one thing with your Santa, what would it be?

82 Response(s)

32. If you could change one thing about being Mrs. Claus, what would it be?

79 Response(s)

33. What does Mrs. Claus (That's you) want for Christmas? Sometimes the families visiting Santa will ask him what he wants for Christmas? Let's see what Mrs. Claus wants

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Clothes	9	7.4%
Jewelry	4	3.3%
Travel: Vacation	51	42.1%
Electronics / Computer / tablet / phone	5	4.1%
Entertainment/ Big Screen TV / Audio Components etc.	0	0.0%
New Car	6	4.9%
Recreation / Outdoors	1	<1%
New Phone	2	1.6%
Other	36	29.7%
No Responses	7	5.7%
Total	121	100%

34. And Finally, What are Mrs. Claus's Plans (your plan's) after this holiday Season? Select as many answers as you wish

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
I plan on taking a well deserved vacation.	36	30.0%
I will be attending Discover Santa 2016 in July, in Branson	61	50.8%
I am planning to take advantage of the after Christmas sales.	29	24.1%
I plan to catch up on my household chores.	34	28.3%
I plan to visit the relatives and friends I missed seeing at Christmas.	29	24.1%
I will be returning to my regular job.	31	25.8%
Other	17	14.1%
Total	120	100%