

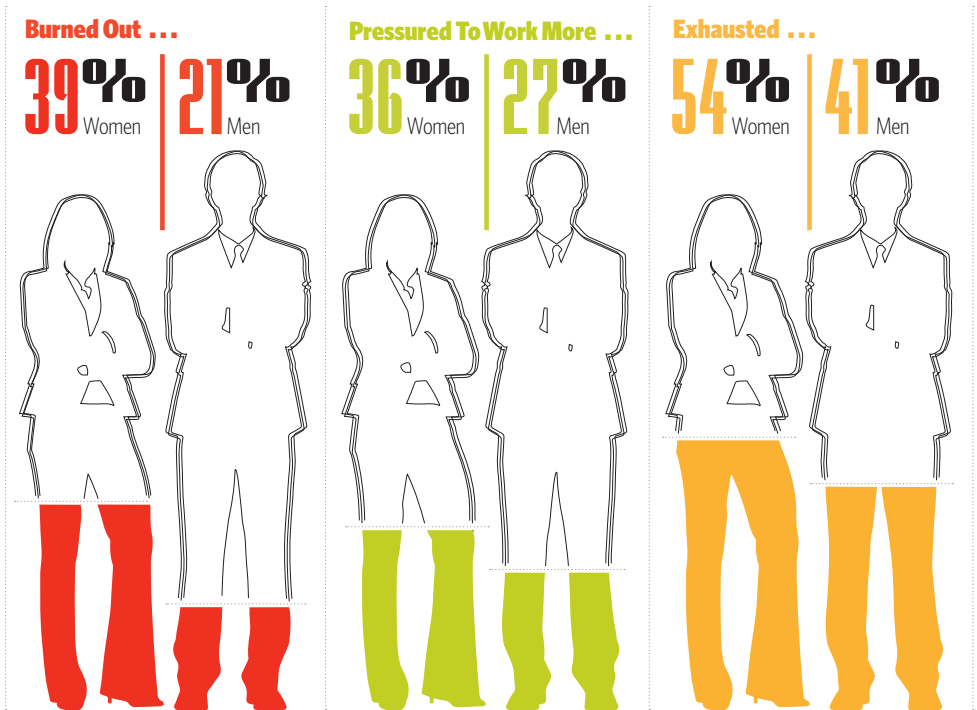
GENDER PARITY DISRUPTION

Worldwide, the pandemic hit women’s jobs the hardest.

Working women are disproportionately feeling the pandemic’s negative impacts amid economists’ concerns about a possible “shecession.” Even looking at our collective response to the pandemic highlights ongoing inequalities, reaching all the way to the C-suite. According to research from the IBM Institute for Business Value, fewer women today hold high-level leadership jobs than they did at the end of 2019, with the percentage of women in senior VP roles shrinking from 18% to 13%. Other unhealthy numbers: A report by UN Women on COVID-19 and leadership reveals that while 70% of workers in the health sector are women, they constitute less than 25% of the world’s health ministers. *By Michael Fuchs*

CAREER DOWNSHIFT

Women who are senior-level executives are **1.5 times more likely** than senior-level men to think about downshifting their careers or leaving the workforce because of the pandemic. They reported having these consistent feelings at work: >>>



TELLING NUMBERS

While the pandemic's grip appears to be slowly loosening in many parts of the world, its effects on working women in particular are still being tallied.

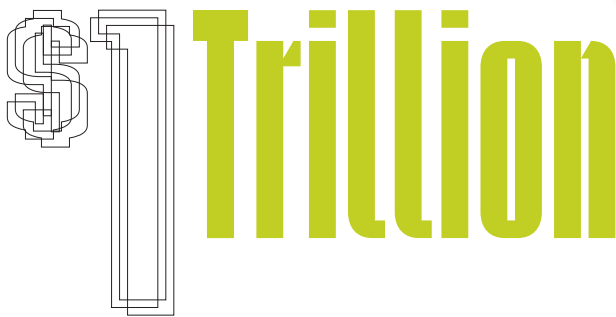


WORKPLACE GAINS | Women constitute **39% of global employment but account for 54% of overall job losses.**

At the onset of the pandemic in late 2019, women in the U.S. held more jobs than men did for the first time since 2010.



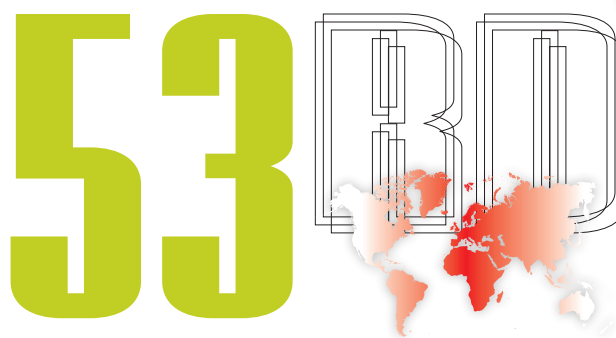
LOOKING FOR WORK | Annual unemployment rate, 2019-20, for women in the 37 nations of the **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development**, a nearly 2% rise. [February 2021]



THE GDP | Forecast **drop in global GDP growth** by 2030. The reason? Loss of women from the workforce. In the "informal" (unregulated) economy, where some 740M women work, income fell by 60% at the onset of the pandemic. [February 2021]



LEADERSHIP | Forty-one women **led Fortune 500 companies** in the first quarter of 2021—the highest number ever. And yet women represent only 8.2% of CEOs in this group. Women account for just over 50% of the U.S. population. [April 2021]



GENDER GAP | Rank of the U.S. in the **Global Gender Gap Report 2020**, which considers economic participation, educational attainment, health and political empowerment. [April 2021]



JOB LOSS | Number of **women in the U.S. who've lost their jobs** since the onset of the pandemic, putting female participation in the workforce at its lowest rate since 1988. [March 2021]

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: 4X6/ISTOCK; VECTORIOS2016/ISTOCK/EMILIA MANEVSKA/GETTY IMAGES