Nearly <u>one million women rejoined the labor force in</u> <u>2021</u> with the unemployment rate for Latina women improving the most from 9.1% in December 2020 to 4.8% in February 2022. Despite these job gains, women are down 1.4 million net jobs and represent more than two in three (68.5%) net job losers since February 2020. Notably, in February 2022, <u>Black women</u> were the only group to see an increase in unemployment, were most likely to have been out of work for 6 months or longer, and left the labor force in the largest numbers compared to January 2022.

According to the <u>Bureau of Labor Statistics</u>, the overall quit rate rose over the past year, from 2.4% in February 2021 to 2.9% in 2022. A <u>Gusto</u> analysis of small and medium-sized business shows that women leave work at consistently higher rates and that this gender gap widened in January 2022, with 4.1% of women quitting their jobs compared to 3.4% of men. The analysis finds that this gap was driven by states with high rates of childcare disruptions due to the Omicron surge.

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According to <u>Future Forum</u>, globally 52% of women want to have work location flexibility at least three days a week, compared with 46% of men, and 50% of working mothers want to work remotely most or all of the time, compared with 43% of working fathers. Among unemployed individuals surveyed by <u>WFH Research</u>, women are more likely than men to prefer jobs that allow them to work