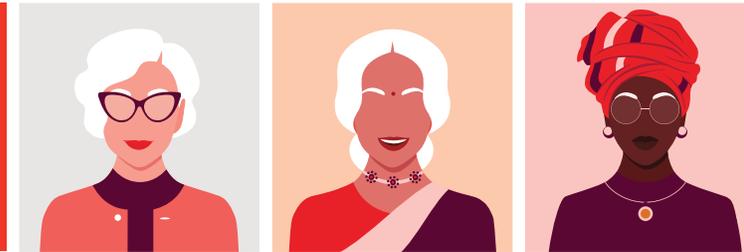


# Older Women: Inequality at the Intersection of Age and Gender

Supporting the well-being of all older women across the world demands more and better data.



Many women are confronted with economic insecurity in old age.

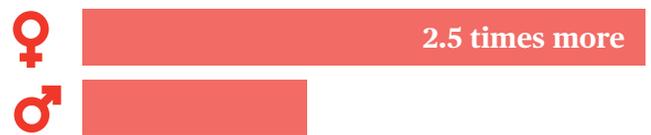
26.3% of working-age women worldwide are covered under a pension scheme, compared to 38.7% of men.<sup>1</sup>



In lower-middle income countries, only 8.1% of working-age women are covered under a pension scheme, compared to 20.8% of men.<sup>1</sup>

As women age, their social roles also evolve.

Women do an average of **2.5 times the amount** of unpaid care and domestic work as men do globally.<sup>3</sup>



More than half of older women aged 60 and over reported **increased time spent on unpaid care and domestic work** during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4</sup>

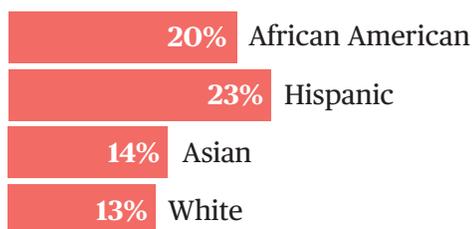


The intersecting discriminations that women experience in their lifetimes have a cumulative impact in old age that make their situation more vulnerable in a crisis.

**41% of women in the US aged 40-65** have lost job-based income since the beginning of 2020.<sup>2</sup>



**14% of women in the US aged 40-65** have lost their jobs.<sup>2</sup>



**The invisibility of abuse and violence against older women makes their situation more vulnerable.**

**34% of women 60-plus** reported experiencing violence or knowing someone who has since the beginning of the pandemic.<sup>5</sup>

**63% of women 60-plus** think that **domestic violence** has increased, while **55%** think that **sexual harassment** has worsened.<sup>5</sup>



The pandemic adversely impacted older women's income and ability to work.

**61% of women aged 60-plus** reported having lost income as a result of the pandemic.<sup>4</sup>

**54% of older women aged 60-plus reported a reduction in paid working hours**, compared to 38% of men.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>International Labour Organization (2021) "https://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS\_817572/lang-en/index.htm" World Social Protection Report 2020-2022.

<sup>2</sup>AARP survey "Women, Work, and the Road to Resilience: Working Women at Mid-Life and Beyond".

<sup>3</sup>UN DESA (2021) "https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2021/goal-05/" Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

<sup>4</sup>UN Women (2021) "https://data.unwomen.org/publications/women-and-girls-left-behind-glaring-gaps-pandemic-responses" Women and Girls left behind: Glaring gaps in pandemic responses.

<sup>5</sup>UN Women (2021) "https://data.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/documents/Publications/Measuring-shadow-pandemic.pdf" Measuring the shadow pandemic: violence against women during COVID-19.