Impact of COVID-19 on Working Women in STEM in South Florida







Team A

"THINKERS IN PINK"

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Methods Used in Analysis

- PinkTank Survey
- Resources provided by Pink
 Tank
- Other Online resources
- Tableau



"WE SHOULD GO AHEAD AND CALL THIS A SHE-CESSION"

~C. NICOLE MASON, PRESIDENT

AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE FOR

WOMEN'S POLICY RESEARCH



Major Issues



Lack of Financial Stability



Increase in Caregiving Responsibilities

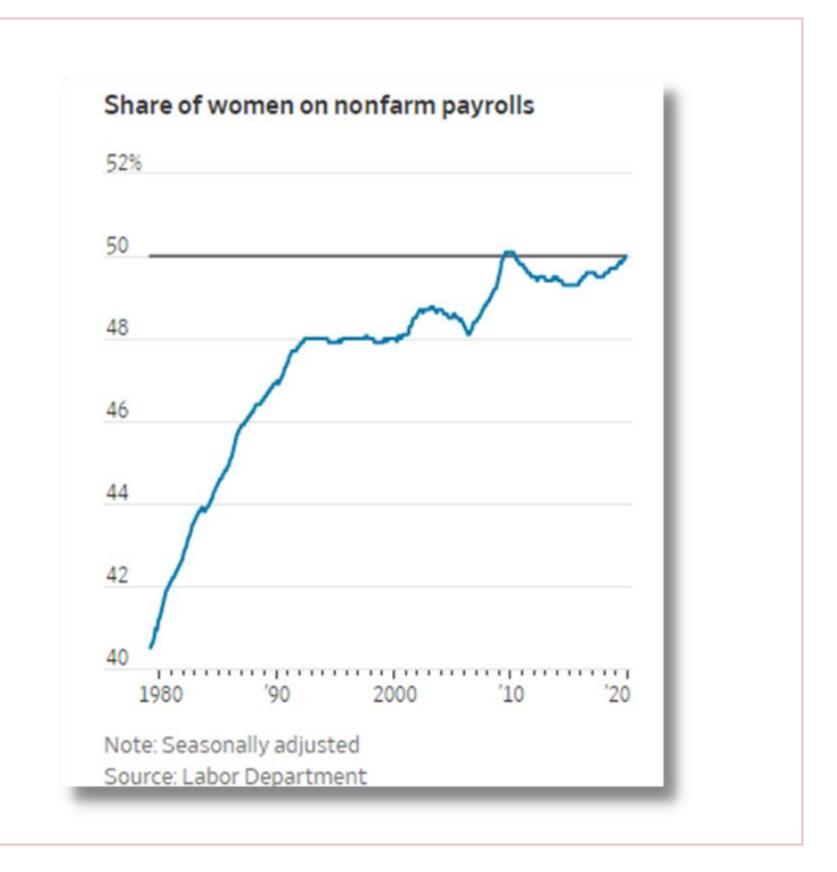


Feelings of Anxiety & Burnout

Financial Stability

PRIOR TO COVID-19

Women held 50.04% of jobs in December 2019, surpassing men on payrolls.



Issue 1 - Lack of Financial Stability

- 11.9M women were unemployed in the U.S (1)
 - o In Florida: 1.5 M (2)
- 10.5M men were unemployed in the U.S (1)
 - o In Florida: 1.3M (2)
- She-cession (3)

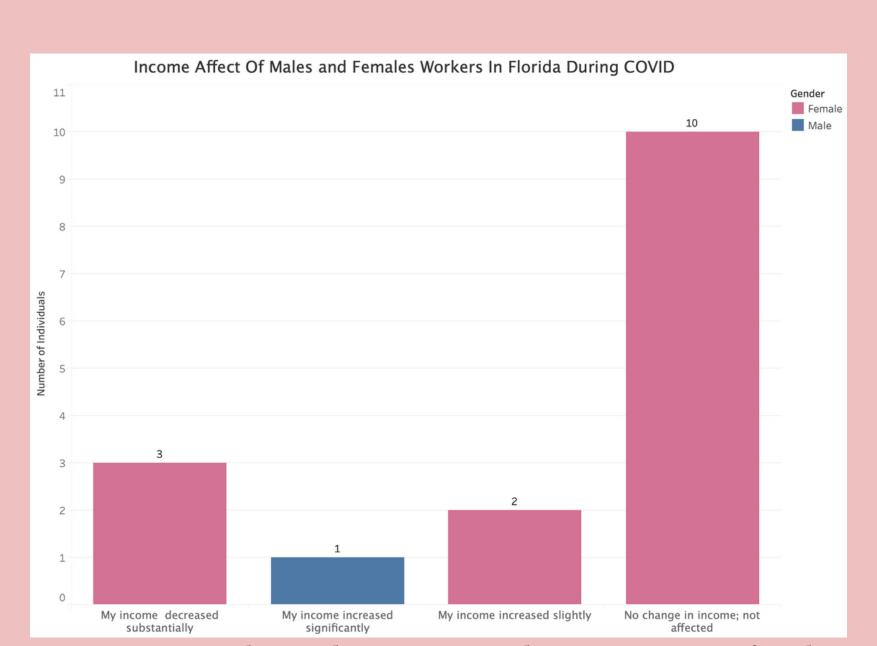


Figure 1. Compares the gender responses relating to income affect during the COVID pandemic in Florida Workers

Income Affect

In South Florida STEM Workers

- 10 women saw no change
- 2 women saw a slight increase
- 3 women saw a substantial decrease
 - **1** man saw a significant increase

Source: PinkTank Survey 02/19/2021

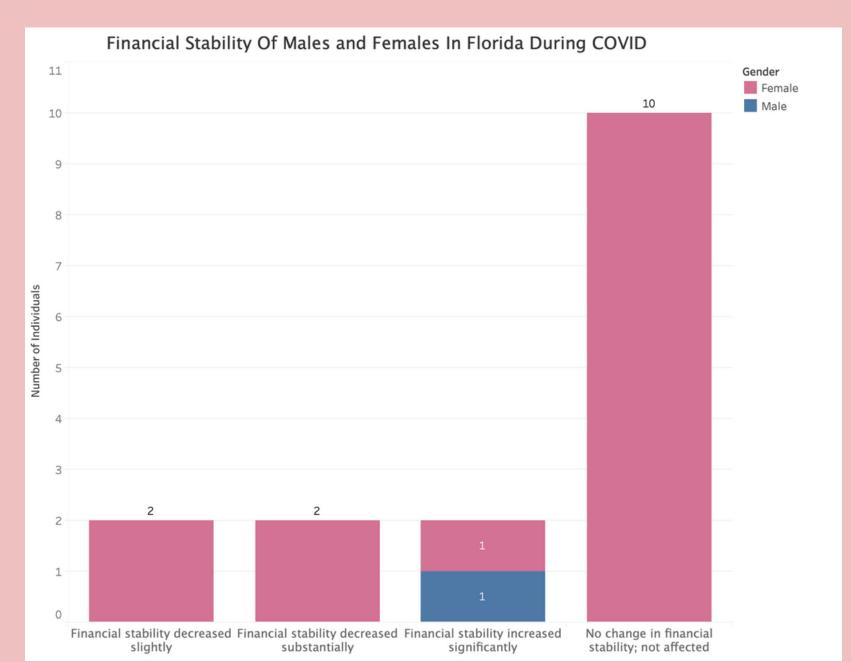


Figure 2. Compares the gender responses relating to financial stability during the COVID pandemic in Florida Workers.

Financial Stability

In South Florida STEM Workers

- 10 women saw no change
- 1 woman saw a significant increase
- ② 2 women saw a substantial decrease
 - ② 2 women saw a slight decrease
 - 1 man saw a significant increase

Source: PinkTank Survey 02/19/2021

Solutions for Financial Stability

Program (EAP)

Work-based intervention program to assist employees with issues they encounter in their everyday lives.

Employee Assistance In-House/Community Interventions

Chief financial officer that offers workshops pertaining to addressing common financial issues and aiding in the next steps

Job Guarantee Program

Relief program that allows individuals who would want work the ability to earn minimum wage.

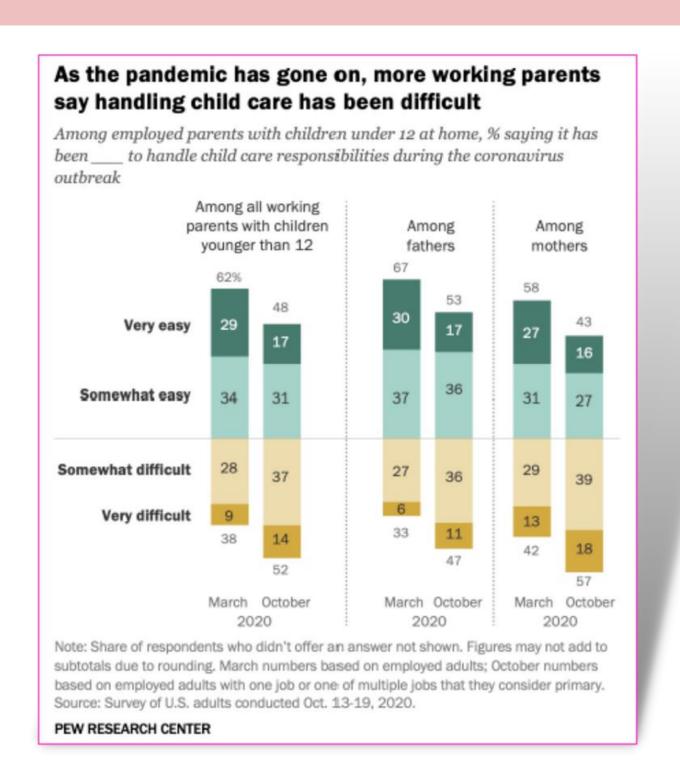
Issue #2 Increase in Caregiving Responsibilities



Handling Child Care is Worsening since the Start of the Pandemic

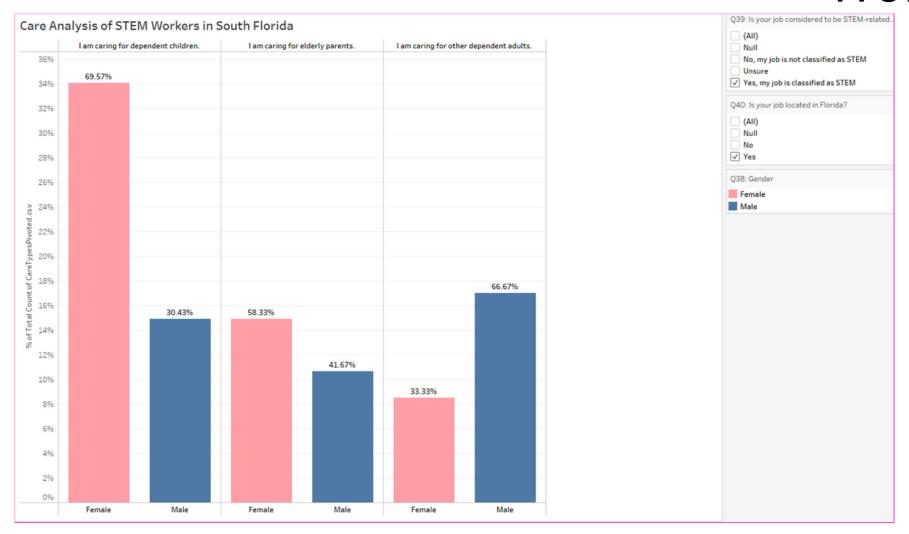
Difficulty in handling child care for Working Mothers is worsening since the Start of the Pandemic

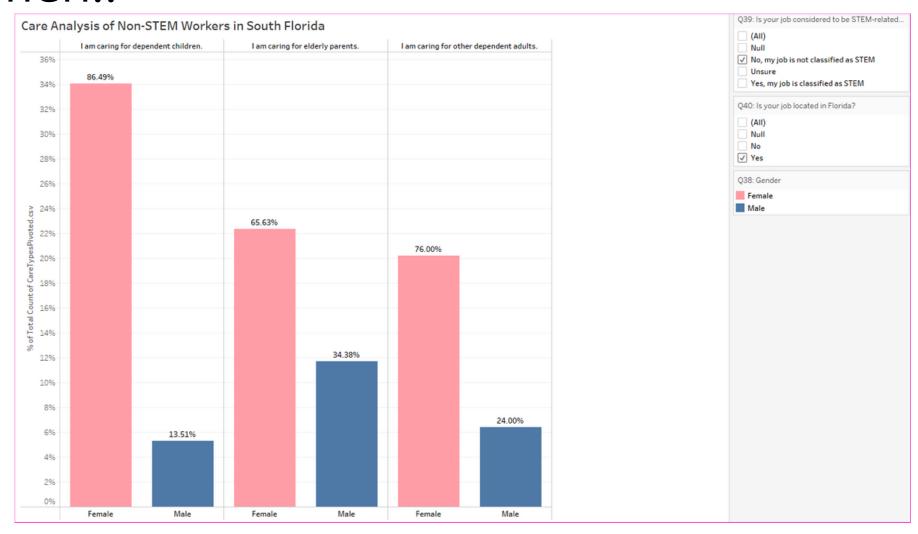
Rising from 42% in March 2020 to 57% in October 2020.



Care Analysis From Atom Pink Tank Survey

Non-STEM Workers Chart showed a great Increase in Caregiving for Women!!





Source: PinkTank Survey 03/21/2021

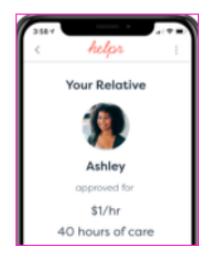
Average Percentage Increase In Caregiving

Women have increased in more time spent in "Supporting Children's Remote School and in other activities other than school" with about 28% and 20%, respectively.



Solutions for Increase in Caregiving Responsibilities







Offer a Educational Training program in STEM To Employees

- Can utilize a third-party service.
- Partner with a third party and offer a discount.

Employers to Offer the Helpr Benefit App

- Backup Care for children or adults.
- Pro-Family policies reduce employee turnover.
- Extended to other relatives participating in caregiving.

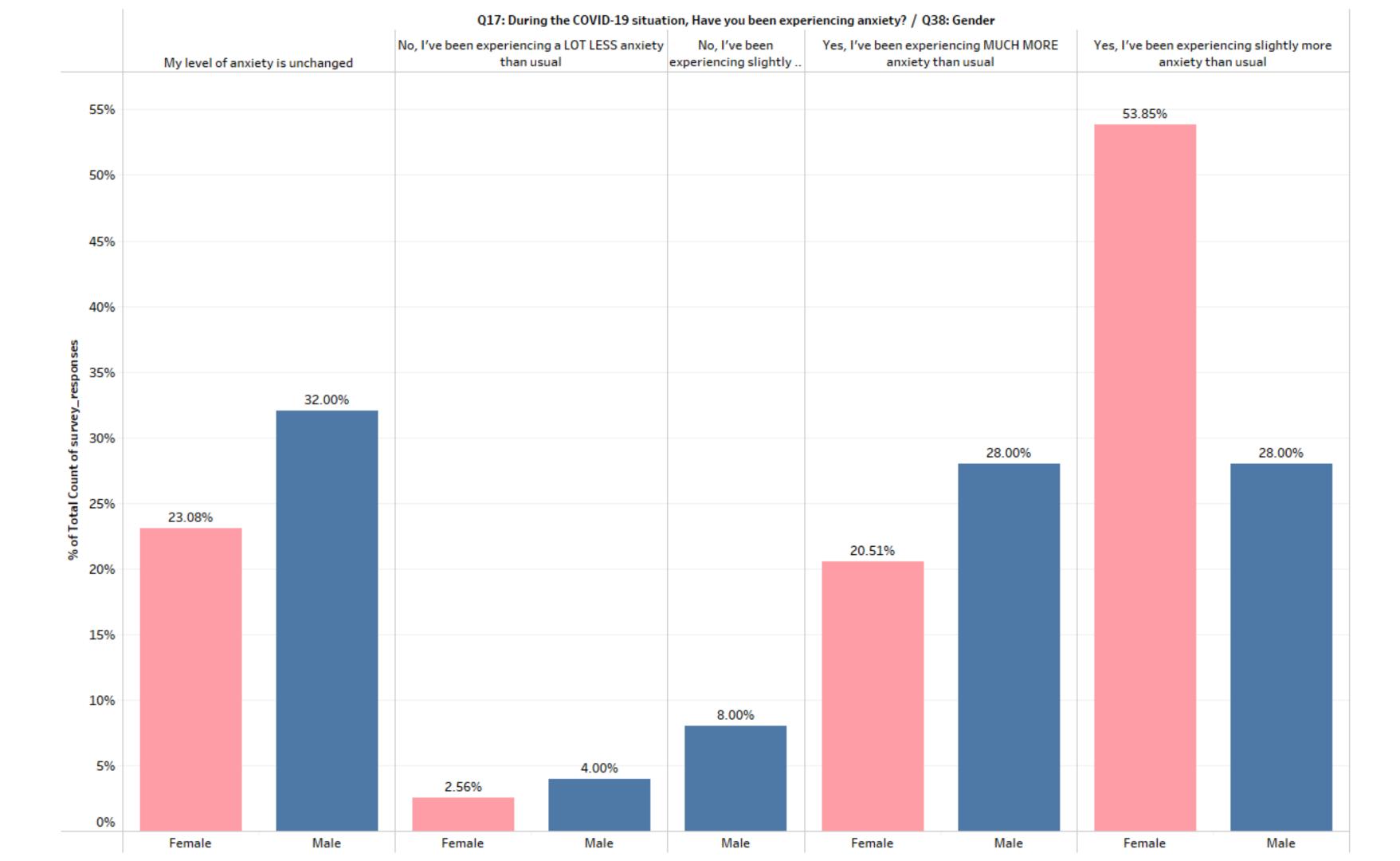
Virtual Child Care with IVR (Immersive Virtual Reality)

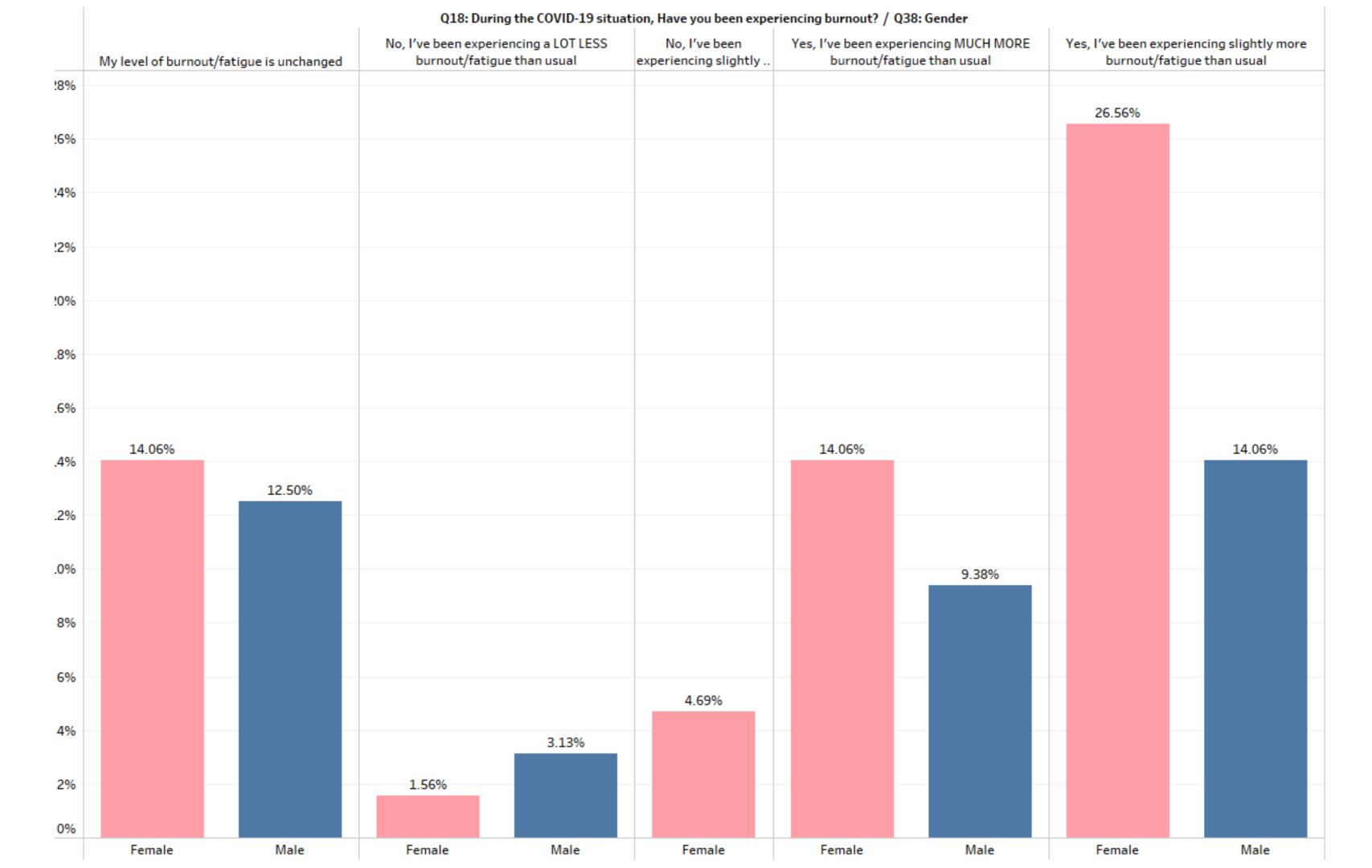
- Found a study that says IVR can enhance attention.
- Employer can partner with company to offer employee discounts.

Issue #3: Feelings of Anxiety & Burnout









COMMON CAUSES OF ANXIETY & BURNOUT DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC S

Concern about risk of being exposed to the virus at work

Increased caretaking necessity of children and elders

Lack of access to tools/equipment needed for job performance

"Zoom fatigue"

Quickly adapting to different workspace or work schedule

Unemployment and/or income decrease

THE AFTERMATH...



Feeling irritation, anger, or in denial

Feeling uncertain and nervous

Lacking motivation

Having trouble sleeping and/or concentrating

Feeling tired and overwhelmed

Feeling depressed and isolated

Suggestions for companies to support employees during these times

Walk and Talk Meetings

Encourage employees to walk during simple discussion meetings!

Designate 20-30 minutes for socialization regarding non-work topics.

Meditation Mondays

Mondays are hard,
especially during a
pandemic!
Host meetings in which
employees could follow
along a meditation or
yoga routine.

Friday Hobbies

An hour zoom call to give employees an opportunity to show off their newly gained "pandemic hobbies"

Individual Coping Mechanisms to Avoid Anxiety & Burnout

Change of Scenery

Remote work allows for a flexible location- take advantage by moving to different spots of the house or to favorite quiet spots around town. E.G.

Panera Bread

Call Friends & Family

Feelings of isolation are often caused by the lack of social opportunity we have nowadays

People are only a call away!

Seek out Positive Media

It is very easy to get caught in the negativity shown on the news-

Play your favorite music and start dancing!

THE LITTLE THINGS COUNT!

"What people don't necessarily realize until they go remote is how much they've relied upon being able to walk down the hall and ask a quick question, or lean over a partition to compare notes."

- Northeastern Professor Barbara Larson

Conclusion



COVID-19 has disrupted the lives of men as well.

SOLUTIONS

Job Guarantee Program (employer level)
Virtual Childcare Employee Discounts
Walk & Talk Meetings
Meditation/Yoga Encouragement

MAJOR ISSUES

Lack of Financial Stability
Increase in Caregiving Responsibilities
Feelings of Anxiety & Burnout

EXECUTION

Educational platforms must be readily available to employers.
Employers should utilize these solutions to avoid employee turnover.

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