

# COVID-19, WOMEN, AND VERMONT'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY



## Women are more likely to leave the workforce.

- Women were 4 times more likely than men to cite family and/or personal obligations as reasons for working part-time—and 7 times more likely to cite child care problems. Time out of the workforce impacts promotion, opportunity, and long-term financial opportunity. (*Change the Story VT, Women, Work and Wages, 2019*)

“Access to childcare. I was a teacher, got on wait lists at 3 months pregnant. Didn’t get off in-home and center-based daycare (wait) lists until my son was 2. That’s 2 years of missing out on experience, salary, promotions, etc. That shouldn’t happen.”

-Addison County woman between 25 and 34

## Women are carrying the majority of the “essential work” weight.

### Here in Vermont:

- Women make up majority of nurses (91%)
- Women make up majority of healthcare workers (82%)
- Women make up majority of personal care workers (82%)
- Women make up majority of tipped workers (81%)  
(the largest percentage in the country)

Sourced data available at [women.vermont.gov/covid19](https://women.vermont.gov/covid19)

Sixteen cents on the dollar may not sound like a lot...but for a single person, \$8,000 would pay for about seven months of rent. For a family of four it could buy about a half a year’s groceries or four months of child care for two children.

-Change the Story VT

## The wage gap mattered before – it matters even more now.

- Women were financially behind pre-COVID-19 (making 84 cents to every dollar a man makes). That 16-cent gap widens for women of color and those with disabilities.
- 60% of the wage gap is linked to two factors: occupational segregation and time in and out of the labor force.

(*Change the Story VT, Women, Work and Wages, 2019*)

*Women are essential  
to getting Vermont back to work.*



### MORE INFO:

Change the Story VT: [changethestoryvt.org](https://changethestoryvt.org)

COVID-19 Crisis & VT Women: [women.vermont.gov](https://women.vermont.gov)