

**NATIONAL
WOMEN'S
LAW CENTER**





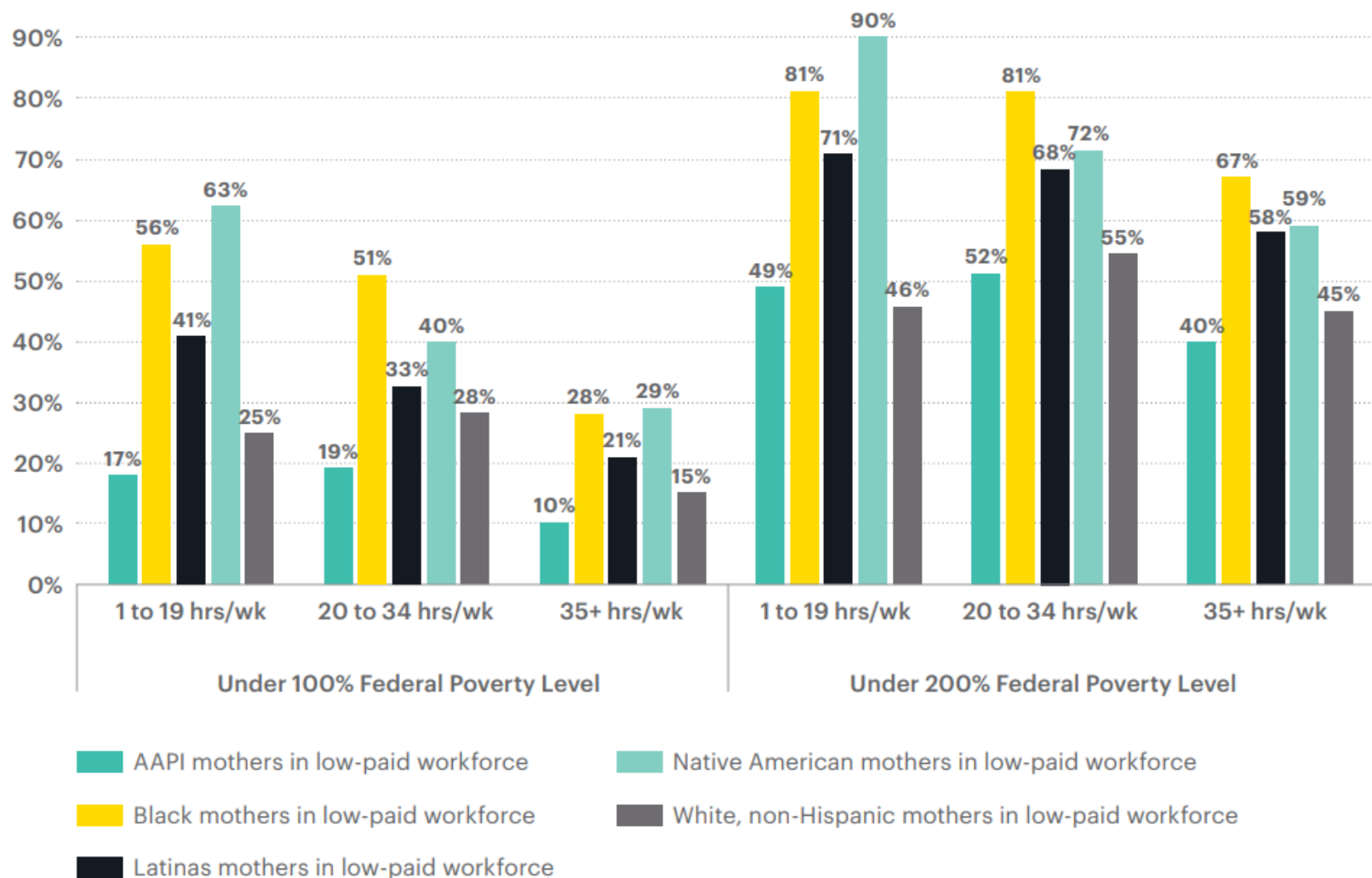
The Effect of COVID-19 on Women's Employment and Their Work-Life Balance

Julie Vogtman

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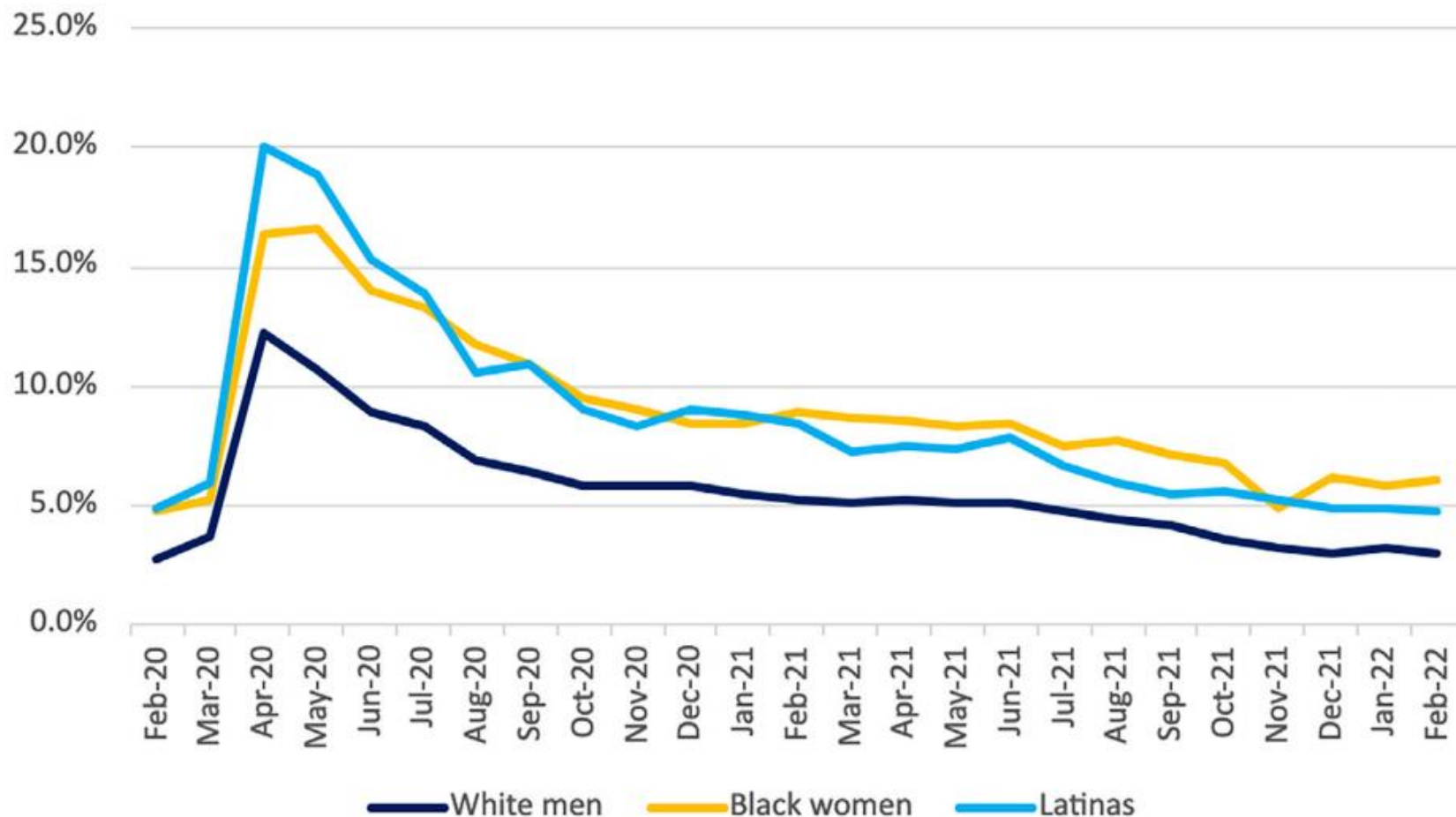
Clearinghouse on Women's Issues | February 28, 2023

Poverty and Near-Poverty Rates Among Mothers in Low-Paid Jobs, by Race/Ethnicity (2018)



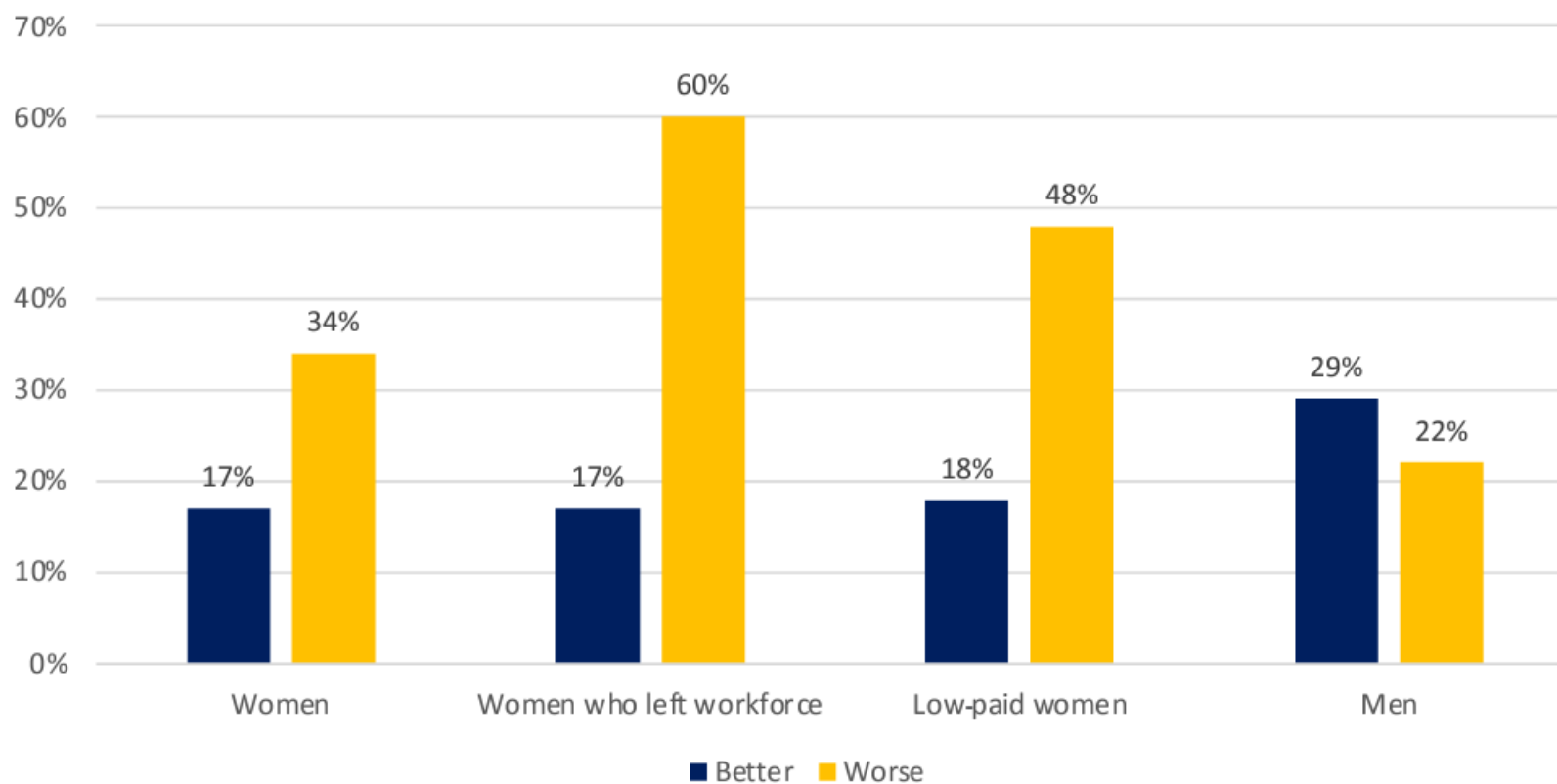
Source: NWLC, [When Hard Work Is Not Enough: Women in Low-Paid Jobs](#) (2020)

Unemployment Rates by Selected Demographics, February 2020 – February 2022



Source: NWLC, [Resilient But Not Recovered](#) (2022)

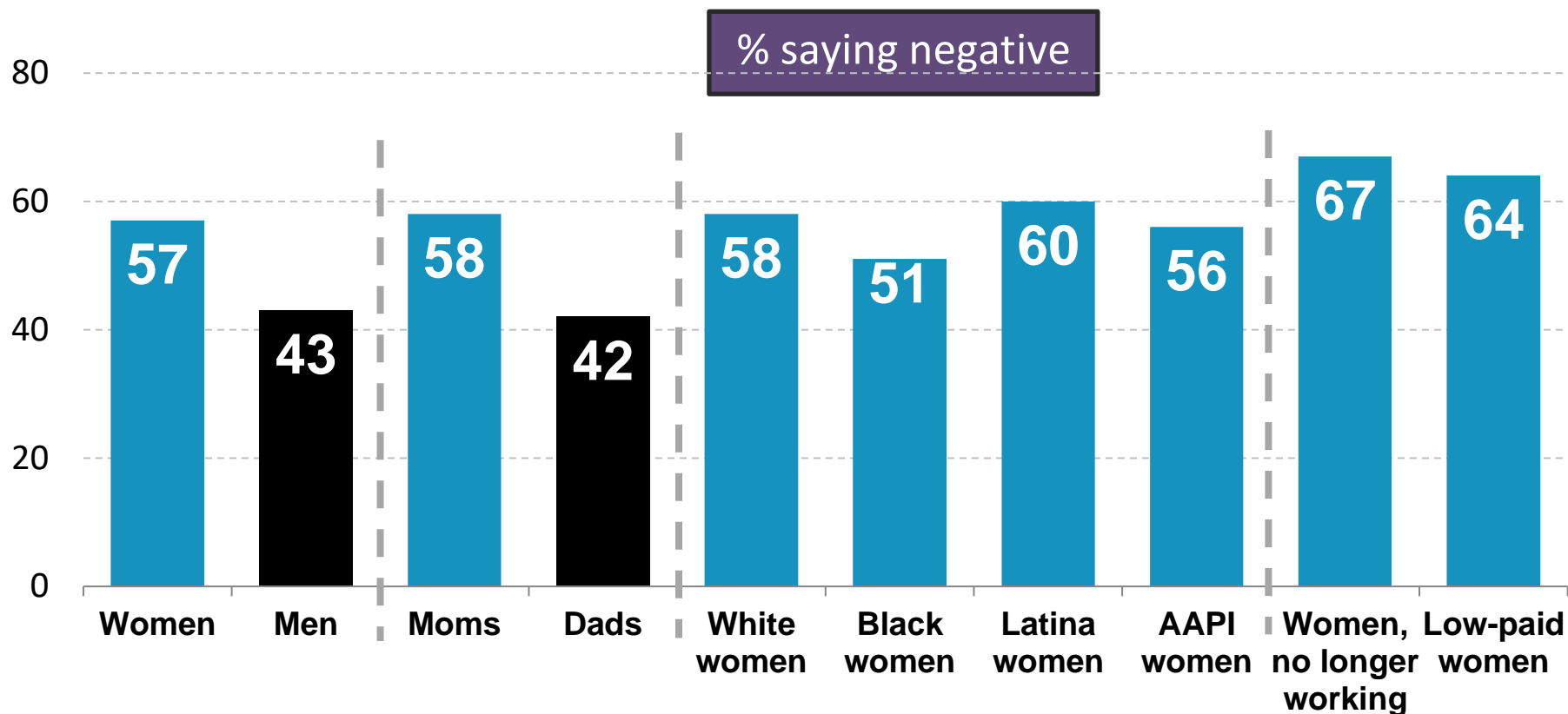
Compared to before the pandemic, is your family's financial situation today better, worse, or is it about the same?



Source: NWLC, [Resilient But Not Recovered](#) (2022)

Mental health worsens most for women who lost jobs, are low-paid

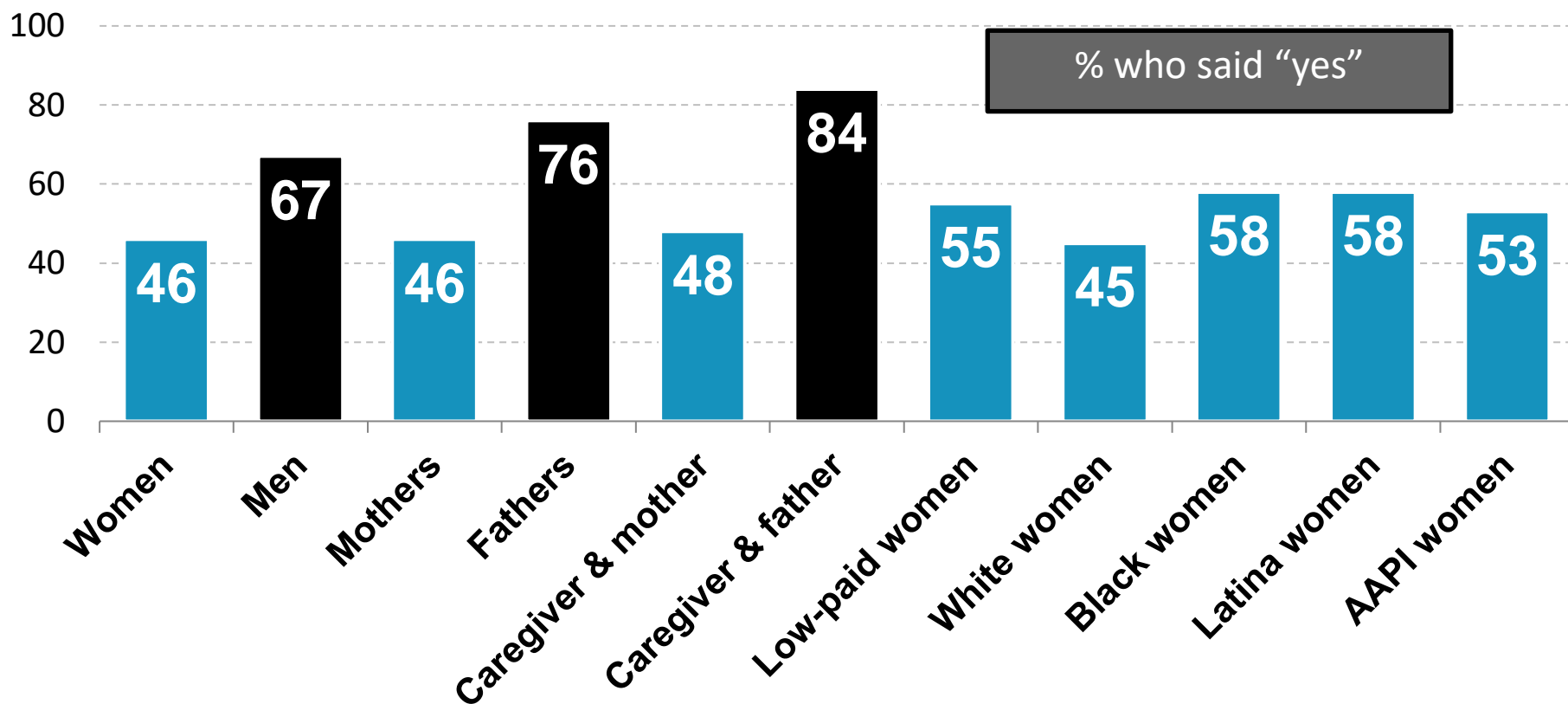
Would you say that the COVID-19 pandemic had a positive, a negative or no impact on your mental health, such as depression, anxiety, or sleep difficulties?



Source: NWLC, [Resilient But Not Recovered](#) (2022)

Women less likely than men to have returned to work

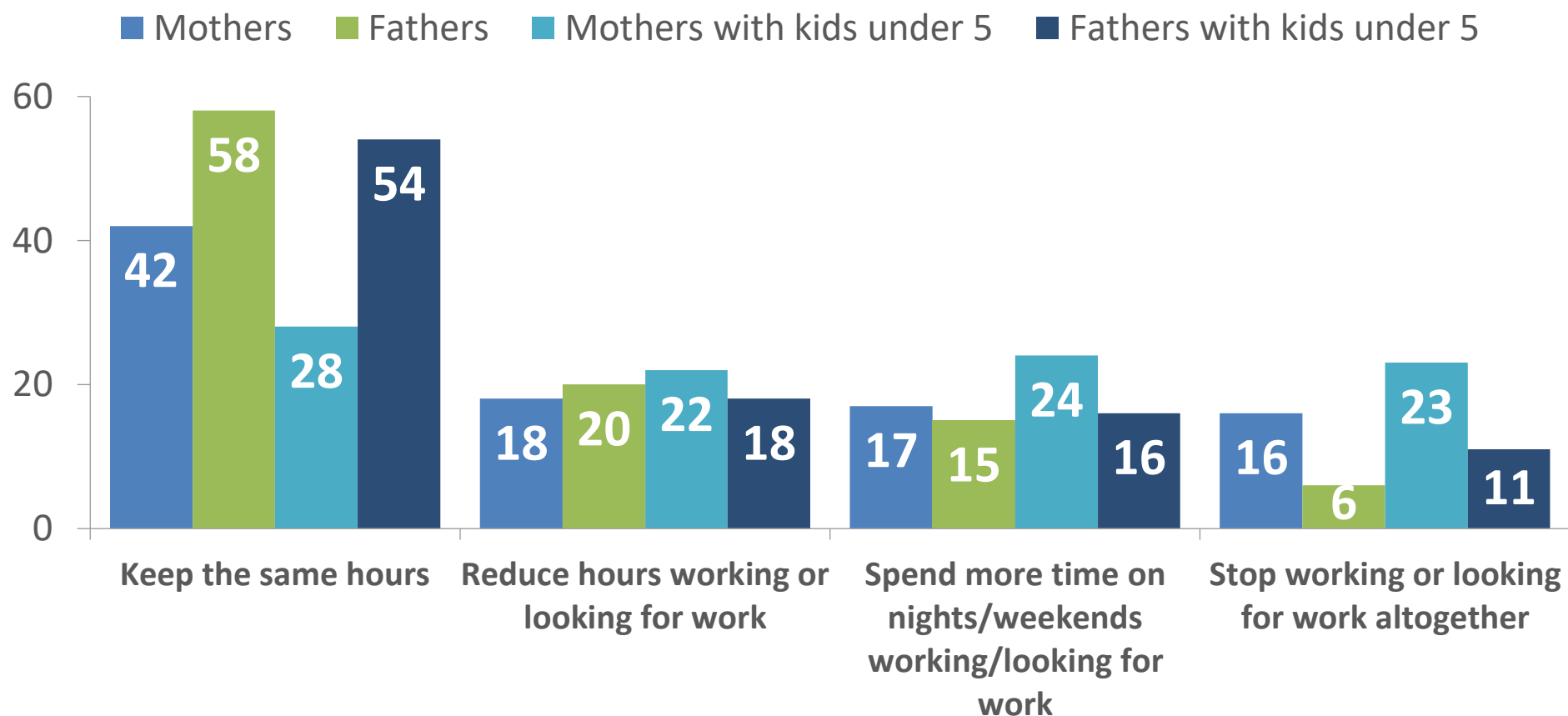
(IF LOST OR QUIT JOB) Did you get a new job since losing or quitting your job?



Source: NWLC, [Resilient But Not Recovered](#) (2022)

Men more likely to keep the same hours when children are home

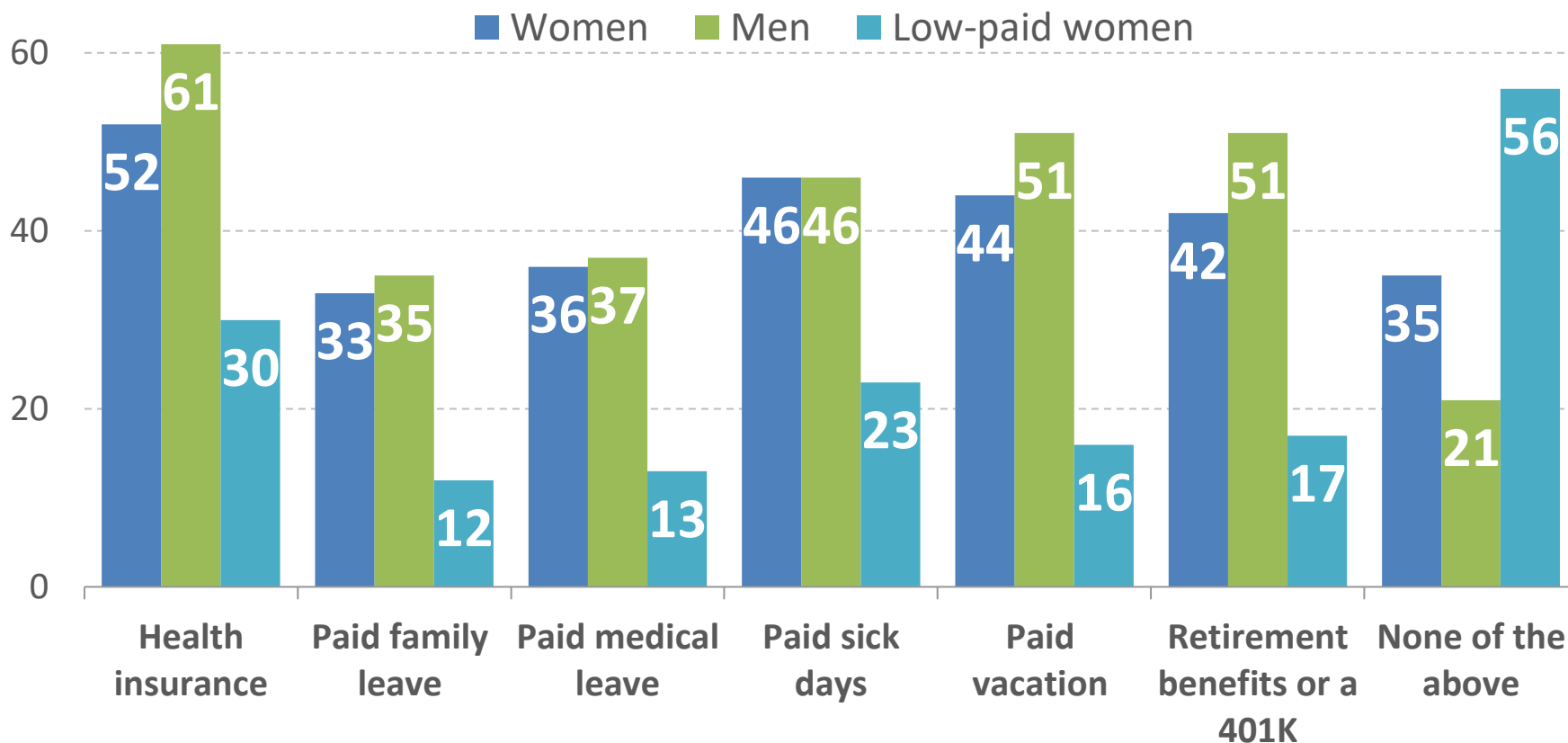
[IF HAVE KIDS UNDER 18 AT HOME) When your child/children are not at school in person or when you do not have child care, do you:



Source: NWLC, [Resilient But Not Recovered](#) (2022)

Women less likely than men to receive benefits from their jobs

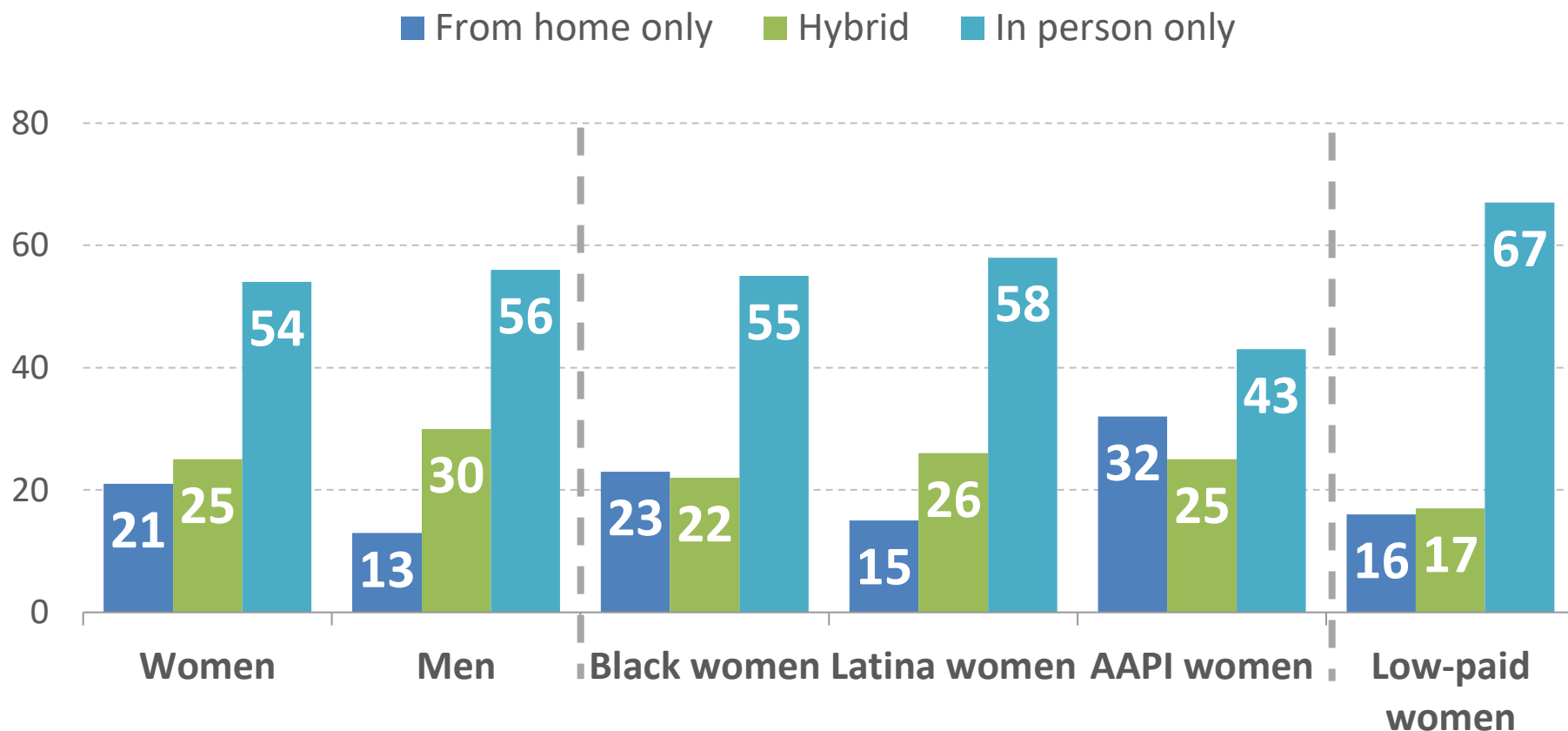
(IF EMPLOYED FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME) Which of the following benefits do you receive through your current or most recent employment, if any?



Source: NWLC, [Resilient But Not Recovered](#) (2022)

Latinas and low-paid women least likely to be working remotely

(IF EMPLOYED FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME IN EMPLOY22) Are you currently:



Source: NWLC, [Resilient But Not Recovered](#) (2022)

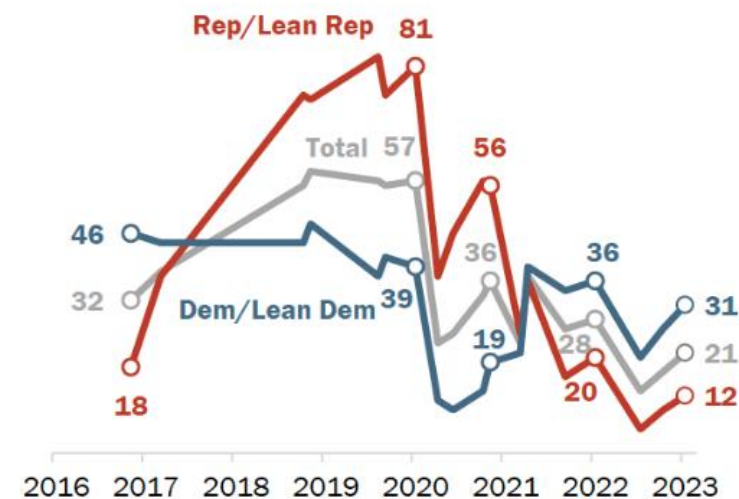
2023: The bad news

- 217,000 fewer women in labor force today compared to February 2020; 1.3 million *more* men
- 57,100 fewer child care workers in January 2023 than in February 2020
- Many jobs—especially in leisure & hospitality—still have low wages, unstable & inadequate hours, few benefits
- *Dobbs* decision

Sources: NWLC, [January jobs analysis](#) (2023), [Women's Jobs Are Being Added Back to the Economy—But Many Need Improving](#) (2022); Pew Research Center, [American Trends Panel survey – January](#) (2023)

Economic ratings remain low but are up over the last six months

% who rate economic conditions in the United States today as *excellent or good*



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Jan. 18-24, 2023.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

2023: The good news!

Women Gain 263,000 Jobs in January

[NWLC](#) (Feb. 2023)

U.S. Approval of Labor Unions
at Highest Point Since 1965

[Gallup](#) (Aug. 2022)

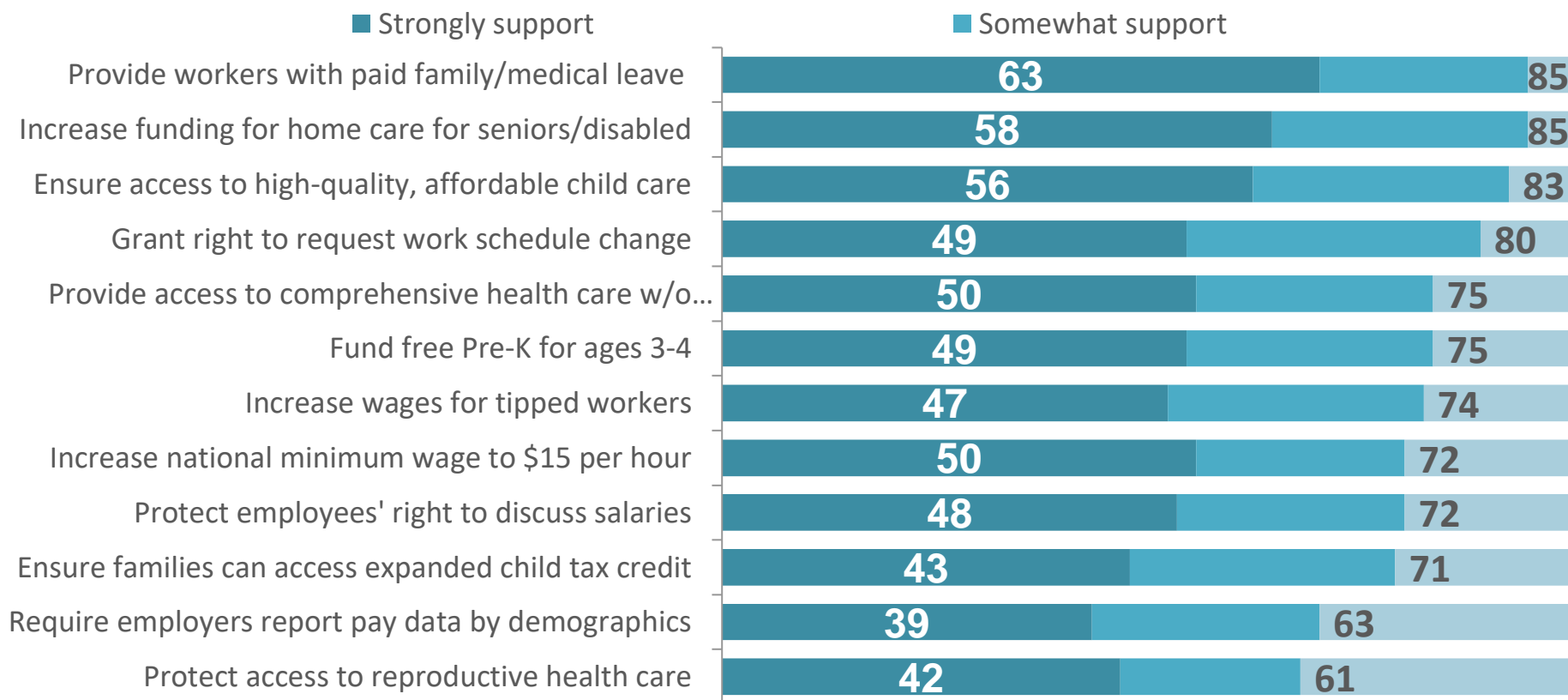
**New Mexico just voted to make pre-K a universal
right** [Vox](#) (Nov. 2022)

**Voters turned out for economic
justice** [Economic Policy Institute](#) (Nov. 2022)

**2023 Brings Important New Protections for Workers
and Families** [A Better Balance](#) (Jan. 2023)

Most popular policies support ability to work + care

Here are some policies that Congress is considering. For each one, please indicate if you support or oppose that policy.



Source: NWLC, [Resilient But Not Recovered](#) (2022)

Contact me:

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We are **advocates, experts, and lawyers who fight for gender justice**, taking on issues that are central to the lives of women and girls. We **drive change in the courts, in public policy, and in our society**, especially for women facing multiple forms of discrimination.