To celebrate International Women’s Day and Women’s History Month, SHRM collected data on women’s experiences in the workplace.

Many employed Americans rank their female supervisors higher than their male supervisors in multiple categories:

- 45% say their female supervisors are better at expressing empathy
- ⅓ say their female supervisors are better at inclusion and openness for mentorship
- 31% say their female supervisors are better at resolving conflict
- 1 in 4 say their female supervisors have better leadership capabilities

Over ¼ of female employed Americans with caregiving responsibilities feel their professional development has been stifled during the pandemic (27%), compared to 10% of male employed Americans who feel the same.

Nearly 1/3 of female employed Americans personally know a woman who has voluntarily left the workforce during the COVID-19 pandemic because of caregiving responsibilities (31%).

44% of employed Americans agree that being successful in the workplace is more challenging for women with caregiving responsibilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

While job security is most important for both male and female employed Americans, the respondents differ in how important they rate other reasons to stay at their jobs, especially when meaningfulness of the work is considered.

A sample of 536 employed Americans was surveyed using the AmeriSpeak Omnibus, NORC at the University of Chicago’s probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. household population. The survey was administered from Thursday, February 11, to Monday, February 15, 2021. For the purposes of this survey, we refer to “employed Americans” as those who are either working as paid employees or have been laid off or furloughed since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. All data was weighted to reflect the U.S. adult population.