The economic impact of COVID-19 has affected women more than men.

Entrepreneurial activity

Women have proven to be resilient, confident and optimistic entrepreneurs.

MEANINGFUL INTENT

Women are seizing opportunities to further their aspirations, but others are driven by necessity.

GLOBAL RANKINGS

The U.S. tops the chart of best places for women entrepreneurs.

The Mastercard Index of Women Entrepreneurs provides insight on the progress of women in business around the globe. Now spanning 65 economies, it explores socioeconomic factors that nurture or hinder the ability of women to progress and thrive in the business world.

Women make up 39% of global employment overall.

52% of men

2 in 3 of those who lost jobs during the pandemic were women.

54%

5 in 10 women who lost jobs didn't return to work.

90%

Global economic recovery depends on investing in women entrepreneurs.

Government policies that intentionally support women's entrepreneurship can meaningfully contribute to a swifter, more balanced recovery.

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Regional and sector-specific impacts

80% of women-owned businesses with credit needs are either unserved or underserved.

80% women in developing countries have closed or may close their businesses soon.

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