

Women in US workforce climb to highest since 2002, record low unemployment rate for Blacks

Ann Wilson / The BL

[The Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) (BLS) released its monthly Employment Situation Report, showcasing the highest level of prime-age women in the U.S. workforce in more than 17 years and a record low unemployment rate for blacks.

Labor force participation for prime-aged women (25 to 54 years old) climbed to 76.3%, up a full percentage point from July and the highest since February 2002.

BLS said the number of people employed in the United States hit a record 1.58 million in August, the 21st record set under President Donald Trump, adding 590,000 from July.

The unemployment rate held steady at 3.7%. For blacks, the unemployment rate dropped to a record low of 5.5%, presenting the smallest gap on record between the unemployment rates for blacks and whites.

The unemployment rate for black women also fell to a record 4.4% from 5.2% in July.

These figures completely reverse the efforts of critics and media trying to speculate about fear of recession on the horizon in the coming months.