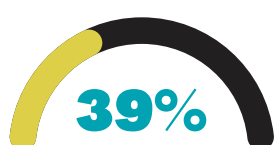




# Differences in how men and women do at work

Finding solutions for people with recent onset rheumatoid arthritis

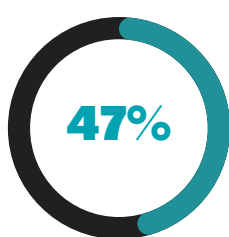
Stopping work early and not being as productive at work or in daily activities are big reasons why rheumatoid arthritis (RA) costs a lot for people and society. We wanted to see if there were differences between men and women in their ability to work and how well they could do their job over time.



**Work affected by RA**

## Work impact

At the beginning of the study, we found that 39% of people said that work ability was affected, which means they couldn't do their jobs as well. About 9% reported time away from work and 36% said they were less productive at work. As time went on, things got a bit better, and both men and women improved.



## Return to work

During the first 5 years of our study, 14% of people who had jobs at the beginning had to stop working because of RA or retire early. Sadly, only 29% of those who had to stop working due to RA were able to go back to work. More men (47%) than women (17%) returned to work.



## Pain and mental health

For women, we found that getting older made it more likely for them to stop working because of RA. Less pain at the previous visit and better mental health lowered the chances of stopping work in men and women.

### References

Hitchon C, Valois MF, Schieir O, Bessette L, Boire G, Bartlett S, Hazlewood G, Keystone E, Pope J, Thorne C, Tin D, Bykerk V. Sex Differences in Employment Outcomes in Patients with Recent Onset Rheumatoid Arthritis. Poster (virtual) presented at 2022 ACR Convergence Annual Scientific Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, Nov 10-14, 2022

Hitchon C, Valois MF, Schieir O, Bessette L, Boire G, Bartlett S, Hazlewood G, Keystone E, Pope J, Thorne C, Tin D, Bykerk V. Sex Differences in Employment Outcomes in Patients with Recent Onset Rheumatoid Arthritis Poster tour presented at 2023 Canadian Rheumatology Association-Arthritis Health Professions Association Annual Scientific Meeting, Quebec City, QC, Feb 08-11, 2023.

