

Gender Equality Index 2015: France


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The Gender Equality Index is a unique measurement tool that synthesises the complexity of gender equality into a user-friendly and easy-to-understand measure. Based on the EU policy framework, it assists the monitoring of progress in gender equality across the European Union over time.

The Gender Equality Index consists of six core domains (work, money, knowledge, time, power and health) and two satellite domains (violence and interacting inequalities). The Gender Equality Index assigns scores for Member States between 1 for total inequality and 100 for full equality. It measures gender gaps between women and men as well as takes into account the country context and the different levels of achievement of Member States in various areas. A high overall score reflects both small (or absent) gender gaps and a good situation for all (eg. high involvement of both women and men in employment).

The Gender Equality Index 2015 measures how far (or close) the EU and its Member States were from achieving gender equality in 2005, 2010 and 2012 (1) in provides results for each domain and subdomain. It also presents the first attempt to calculate a composite measure for violence against women.

Progress in gender equality in France since 2005

With an increase in score of 3.2 points, progress in France is marginal, even though its score is slightly higher than the EU-28 average. In 2010, France was only halfway towards achieving full gender equality, with a score of 55.7 out of 100.

Significant challenges remain in some areas. One of these is the domain of time, where gender inequalities in the division of time spent on childcare and domestic and leisure activities persist, with damaging effects on the work-life balance of women. Challenges also remain in the domain of knowledge, with a growing gender gap in educational attainment and a drop in participation in lifelong learning. Access to education has a long-lasting effect on the structure of the labour market and therefore impacts on gender equality in employment in the long term.

The domain of work remained stable while the domain of money increased slightly, mainly due to an improvement in the overall situation for both women and men rather than to a reduction in gender gaps. Major progress is visible in the domain of power, where women have better access to decision-making positions in the political and economic spheres, even though they remain under-represented. The gender equality score in the domain of health is high, showing good gender balance in access to services and overall health status. However, differences in the health-related behaviours of women and men will be added to the Gender Equality Index in the future to provide a more complete picture of gender equality in health.



(1) The Gender Equality Index is based on data from Eurostat for the period 2005-2012. It is based on the EU policy framework and incorporates the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) Gender Equality Index. It is based on the EU policy framework and incorporates the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) Gender Equality Index. It is based on the EU policy framework and incorporates the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) Gender Equality Index.

This publication summarises the main results of the Gender Equality Index 2015 for France. It presents scores for 2005, 2010 and 2012, allowing for an assessment of the progress made in the pursuit of gender equality in France over time.

Downloads



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