



Progress in gender equality

The data for 2022 Index is mostly from 2020. The UK is not included.

With 65.0 out of 100 points, Italy ranks 14th in the EU on the Gender Equality Index. Its score is 3.6 points below the EU's score.

Since 2010, Italy's score has increased by 11.7 points, raising its ranking by seven places. This is one of the largest long-term improvements compared to other Member States. Since 2019, Italy's score has increased by 1.2 points; however, its ranking has remained the same (14th). Both long and short-term improvements are mainly due to a better performance in the domain of power.

Best performance

Italy's score is the highest in the domain of health in which it scores 89.0 points and ranks 10th among all Member States. With a score of 98.6 points, the country performs best in the sub-domain of access to health services, in which it ranks 10th. Since 2019, Italy's score in the domain of health has stalled (+ 0.6 points) and its ranking has dropped by one place due to its slower progress than other Member States.

Most room for improvement

Since 2019, Italy has progressed the least in the domain of knowledge (+ 0.5 points). Its ranking has remained the same, at the 13th place. Progress has stalled in the sub-domain of educational attainment and participation (- 0.6 points since 2019), and its ranking has remained unchanged over the last several years, staying at the 25th place.

Biggest improvement

Since 2019, Italy's score (56.9 points) has improved the most in the domain of power (+ 4.7 points), moving up the country's ranking from the 14th to the 12th place. Improvements in the sub-domain of political decision-making (+ 6.0 points) and social decision-making (+ 5.2 points) have especially powered this change. Since 2010, Italy's score has increased considerably in the domain of power (+ 31.7 points), which is one of the largest improvements across all Member States. This is mainly due to an increase in score in the sub-domain of economic decision-making (+ 48.9 points).

A step backwards

Since 2019, Italy's score has decreased by 0.5 points in the domain of work, in which it currently scores 63.2 points and consistently ranks last among all EU Member States. This is mostly due to high levels of gender inequality in the sub-domain of participation at work, ranking 27th with a score of 68.1 points.

		Change since	
		2010	2019
SE	83.9	3.8	0.0
DK	77.8	2.6	0.0
NL	77.3	3.3	1.4
FI	75.4	2.3	0.1
FR	75.1	7.6	-0.4
ES	74.6	8.2	0.9
IE	74.3	8.9	1.2
BE	74.2	4.9	1.5
LU	73.5	12.3	1.1
AT	68.8	10.1	0.8
DE	68.7	6.1	0.1
EU	68.6	5.5	0.6
SI	67.5	4.8	-0.1
MT	65.6	11.2	0.6
IT	65.0	11.7	1.2
PT	62.8	9.1	0.6
LV	61.4	6.2	-0.7
EE	61.0	7.6	-0.6
HR	60.7	8.4	1.5
BG	60.7	5.7	0.8
LT	60.6	5.7	2.2
PL	57.7	2.2	1.1
CY	57.3	8.3	0.3
CZ	57.2	1.6	0.5
SK	56.0	3.0	0.0
HU	54.2	1.8	0.8
RO	53.7	2.9	-0.8
EL	53.4	4.8	0.9

Explore Italy's Index results

	2010	2012	2015	2017	2018	2019	2020
Index	53.3	56.5	62.1	63.0	63.5	63.8	65.0
Work	61.3	62.4	62.4	63.1	63.3	63.7	63.2
Participation	64.9	66.7	66.7	68.2	68.6	69.1	68.1
Segregation and quality of work	57.8	58.5	58.4	58.5	58.5	58.6	58.7
Money	78.9	78.7	78.6	78.8	79.0	79.4	80.5
Financial resources	72.5	72.8	73.0	74.4	74.8	75.8	76.6
Economic situation	86.0	85.1	84.6	83.5	83.4	83.1	84.6
Knowledge	53.8	56.7	61.4	61.2	61.9	59.0	59.5
Attainment and participation	53.7	54.4	56.1	57.0	58.0	58.3	57.7
Segregation	53.9	59.2	67.1	65.8	66.0	59.7	61.4
Time	55.1	61.4	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3
Care activities	54.5	67.6	61.2	61.2	61.2	61.2	61.2
Social activities	55.7	55.7	57.4	57.4	57.4	57.4	57.4
Power	25.2	29.4	45.3	47.6	48.8	52.2	56.9
Political	31.7	35.8	47.4	47.9	49.3	52.8	58.8
Economic	10.6	14.8	44.7	53.1	54.9	56.7	59.5
Social	47.8	47.8	43.7	42.5	43.1	47.5	52.7
Health	86.3	86.5	86.3	88.7	88.4	88.4	89.0
Status	91.1	91.3	91.3	95.1	94.3	94.4	93.9
Behaviour	74.2	74.2	74.2	74.2	74.2	74.2	76.1
Access	94.9	95.5	94.8	99.0	98.6	98.6	98.6

About Index

The Gender Equality Index is a tool that monitors progress in gender equality across the EU over time. It measures gender gaps between women and men in six core domains – work, money, knowledge, time, power and health, and it is composed of 31 indicators. The Index uses a scale of 1 to 100, where 1 stands for total inequality and 100 for total equality.

Two additional domains are included in the Index but do not impact a country's final score. The domain of intersecting inequalities highlights how gender inequalities manifest in combination with age, dis/ability, education, family type and migrant background (based on the country of birth). The domain of violence against women monitors, measures and analyses the most common and widely criminalised forms of violence against women across the EU.

The Gender Equality Index 2022 also includes a thematic focus on the COVID-19 pandemic and care.

Explore Italy's performance by indicator

		Italy		EU	
		Women	Men	Women	Men
Work					
Participation	FTE employment rate (%)*	31	51	41	57
	Duration of working life (years)	26	36	33	38
Segregation and quality of work	Employed people in education, human health and social work activities (%)	27	7	30	8
	Ability to take one hour or two off during working hours to take care of personal or family matters (%)	19	22	22	26
	Career Prospects Index (points, 0-100)	52	56	62	63
Money					
Financial resources	Mean monthly earnings (PPS)	2201	2620	2321	2818
	Mean equivalised net income (PPS)	20015	20927	20010	21013
Economic situation	At-risk-of-poverty (%)	20	18	17	15
	Income distribution S20/80	17	17	20	20
Knowledge					
Attainment and participation	Graduates of tertiary education (%)	17	14	27	26
	People participating in formal or non-formal education (%)	12	12	16	15
Segregation	Tertiary students in education, health and welfare, humanities and arts (%)	48	25	43	21
Time					
Care activities	People caring for and educating their children or grandchildren, elderly or people with disabilities, every day (%)	34	24	37	25
	People doing cooking and/or household, every day (%)	81	20	78	32
Social activities	Workers doing sporting, cultural or leisure activities outside of their home, at least daily or several times a week (%)	24	28	27	31
	Workers involved in voluntary or charitable activities, at least once a month (%)	13	11	12	11
Power					
Political	Share of ministers (%)	43	56	33	66
	Share of members of parliament (%)	36	64	33	67
	Share of members of regional assemblies (%)	22	77	29	70
Economic	Share of members of boards in largest quoted companies, supervisory board or board of directors (%)	39	60	31	68
	Share of board members of central bank (%)	27	72	26	73
Social	Share of board members of research funding organisations (%)	30	69	40	59
	Share of board members of publically owned broadcasting organisations (%)	33	66	36	63
	Share of members of highest decision making body of the national Olympic sport organisations (%)	26	73	20	79
Health					
Status	Self-perceived health, good or very good (%)	70	76	67	72
	Life expectancy at birth (years)	85	80	83	78
	Healthy life years at birth (years)	69	67	65	64
Behaviour	People who don't smoke and are not involved in harmful drinking (%)**	80	69	73	56
	People doing physical activities and/or consuming fruits and vegetables (%)	25	30	38	43
Access	Population with unmet needs for medical examination (%)	2	2	5	4
	Population with unmet needs for dental examination (%)	4	3	5	5

* FTE employment rate measures employed persons in a comparable way, even though they may work a different number of hours per week

** EU: EIGE estimation

Source: Eurostat (education statistics, European Union Labour Force Survey, European Health Interview Survey, European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions, Structure of Earnings Survey), Eurofound (European Working Conditions Survey, European Quality of Life Survey), EIGE (Women and Men in Decision-Making).

Explore intersecting inequalities

		Women	Men	Gender gap in 2020 (p.p)	Gender gap in 2014 (p.p)	Gap change 2014 - 2020
FTE employment rate (%)*						
Family type	Couple without children	24	32	-8	-8	●
	Couple with children	50	86	-36	-36	●
Level of education	Low educated	13	37	-24	-23	●
	Medium educated	41	62	-21	-19	●
	High educated	61	70	-9	-9	●
Country of birth	Native born	30	49	-19	-19	●
	Foreign born	35	67	-32	-25	●
At-risk-of-poverty (%)						
Age groups	15/16-24	26	26	0	-1	●
	25-49	21	19	2	4	●
	50-64	20	18	2	0	●
	65+	19	13	6	6	●
Disability	Without disabilities	20	18	2	2	●
	With disabilities	22	20	2	2	●
Graduates of tertiary education (%)						
Age groups	15/16-24	7	4	3	2	●
	25-49	29	20	9	7	●
	50-64	14	13	1	-1	●
	65+	7	10	-3	-4	●
Country of birth	Native born	17	14	3	1	●
	Foreign born	15	9	6	5	●
People caring for and educating their children or grandchildren, elderly or people with disabilities, every day (%)**						
Family type	Couple without children	11	11	0	0	●
	Couple with children	81	66	15	15	●
Disability	Without disabilities	35	25	10	10	●
	With disabilities	25	15	10	10	●
Self-perceived health, good or very good (%)						
Age groups	15/16-24	95	94	1	0	●
	25-49	88	89	-1	-2	●
	50-64	74	77	-3	-4	●
	65+	36	45	-9	-10	●
Disability	Without disabilities	85	87	-2	-3	●
	With disabilities	24	29	-5	-4	●

- gender gap decreased (< -1 p.p.)
- no change (gender gap increases/decreases between -1 and 1 p.p.)
- gender gap increased (> 1 p.p.)

* FTE employment rate measures employed persons in a comparable way, even though they may work a different number of hours per week

** Gap change since 2014 not shown because there are no new data

Source: Source: Eurostat (education statistics, European Union Labour Force Survey, European Health Interview Survey, European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions, Structure of Earnings Survey), Eurofound (European Working Conditions Survey, European Quality of Life Survey), EIGE (Women and Men in Decision-Making).

Violence

A lack of evidence to assess violence against women

No score is given to Italy in the domain of violence, due to a lack of comparable EU-wide data.

Femicide

In 2020, 788 women were murdered by an intimate partner, a family member or a relative in 17 EU Member States, according to official reports. In Italy, 67 women were killed by their intimate partners and 32 women were killed by a family member in 2020.

Source: Eurostat, 2020

Istanbul Convention: state of play

The Istanbul Convention is the most comprehensive international human rights treaty on preventing and combatting violence against women and domestic violence. Italy signed the Istanbul Convention in September 2012 and ratified it in September 2013. The treaty entered into force in August 2014.

EIGE/FRA survey

The EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) and the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) will carry out a survey on violence against women (VAW II) in eight EU Member States (CZ, DE, IE, CY, LU, HU, RO, SE), which will complement the Eurostat-led data collection on gender-based violence and other forms of interpersonal violence (EU-GBV) in the remaining countries. The use of a unified methodology will ensure the availability of comparable data across all EU Member States. Data collection will be completed in 2023, and the results will be used to update the domain of violence in the Gender Equality Index 2024 and its thematic focus on violence against women.

Index 2022 - thematic focus on COVID-19

The Gender Equality Index 2022 focuses on socio-economic consequences resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. The thematic focus analyses the following aspects:

- Childcare
- Long-term care
- Housework
- Flexible working arrangement

The data was gathered using a survey that was carried out in all EU Member States between June and July 2021. Both the survey design and data collection timeframe ensured a comprehensive coverage of the COVID-19 pandemic's impact. The survey was conducted using an international web panel with a quota sampling method based on a stratification approach^[1]. It targeted the general population, aged between 20 and 64 years. Representative quotas were designed based on 2020 Eurostat population statistics. Post-stratification weighting was carried out to adjust for differences between the sample and population distribution in key variables and to ensure the sample accurately reflected the socio-demographic structure of the target population.

[1] The data was collected via a web survey using the international panel platform CINT as a main resource. CINT is an international platform that brings together several international panels, reaching more than 100 million registered panellists across more than 150 countries. To fulfil the required sampling in small countries, additional panel providers (IPSOS, TOLUNA, KANTAR) were engaged, which allowed for the same profiling requirements of the respondents and GDPR compliance.

COVID-19 in Italy

Italy EU
Women Men Women Men

	Italy Women	Italy Men	EU Women	EU Men
Childcare				
Caring for children/grandchildren 0-11 every day during the pandemic (% , 20–64, 2021)				
Less than 1 hour	10	15	10	14
Between 1 and 4 hours	51	69	50	65
More than 4 hours	39	16	40	21
Caring for children/grandchildren 12-17 every day during the pandemic (% , 20–64, 2021)				
Less than 1 hour	21	21	22	23
Between 1 and 4 hours	56	68	58	63
More than 4 hours	23	12	20	14
Relying on external support for children 0-17 by type of support (% , 20–64, 2021)				
Daycare centre/school (also if with reduced offer/online format)	41	52	42	51
After-school programme(s) and other extracurricular activities	46	54	41	49
Nanny or babysitter	32	39	22	31
Nurse or social worker	30	34	20	28
Grandparents or other relatives	52	64	46	54
Other adults (neighbours, friends, parents from child's school or daycare)	43	48	32	39
Caring for children/grandchildren 0-11 and participating in social and individual activities (% , 20–64, 2021)				
Never	12	5	13	7
1-2 times a week	11	6	13	9
3 times a week or more	77	88	74	84
Distribution of care and supervision for children (aged 0-11) (% , 20-64, EU, 2021)				
Completely or mostly my partner	24	35	13	31
About equal or both together	26	35	32	44
Completely or mostly me	48	29	52	23
Mainly another person	2	2	2	2
Long-term care				
Long-term caring (% , 20–64, 2021)				
	36	33	30	31
Long-term caring every day during the pandemic (% , 20–64, 2021)				
Less than 1 hour	16	19	20	21
Between 1 and 4 hours	66	59	62	60
More than 4 hours	18	22	18	19
Rely on external support by use of external support (% , 20-64, 2021)				
Residential long-term care facilities/ institutions	44	65	39	57
Daycare centre	47	63	39	55
Home-based personal care workers	47	64	43	58
Domestic cleaners and helpers	54	66	45	58
Nurse and/or health care assistants	44	65	41	57
Social worker	46	58	36	52
Relatives, neighbours, friends	66	74	65	72
Long-term caring and participating in social and individual activities (% , 20–64, 2021)				
Never	5	3	9	6
1-2 times a week	10	7	12	8
3 times a week or more	85	91	79	86
Housework				
Undertaking housework tasks every day (% , 20–64, 2021)				
Less than 1 hour	8	21	11	18
Between 1 and 4 hours	68	69	69	70
More than 4 hours	24	10	20	12
Distribution of housework chores within the household (% , 20-64, EU, 2021)				
Completely or mostly my partner	19	45	11	39
About equal or both together	12	30	22	40
Completely or mostly me	67	22	66	20
Mainly another person	2	2	1	2
Flexible working arrangement				
Change in your working time arrangements (% , 20–64, 2021)				
You chose to reduce your working time to take care of your children and/or other relatives	10	9	8	10
You chose to change your working time in order to take care of your children and/or other relatives	18	21	12	18
You chose to reduce your working time and/or change your working schedule for reason other than care	8	13	7	10
Your employer reduced your working time	15	12	10	10
Your working time increased	6	5	7	6

Source: EIGE's survey on gender equality and socio-economic consequences of COVID-19



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[Explore the 2022 Index](#)

European Institute for Gender Equality

The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) is the EU knowledge centre on gender equality. EIGE supports policymakers and all relevant institutions in their efforts to make equality between women and men a reality for all Europeans by providing them with specific expertise and comparable and reliable data on gender equality in Europe.

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European Institute for Gender Equality
Gedimino pr. 16
LT- 01103 Vilnius
LITHUANIA

Contact details

eige.europa.eu 

facebook.com/eige.europa.eu 

twitter.com/eurogender 

youtube.com/user/eurogender 

eige.sec@eige.europa.eu 

+370 52157444 

eurogender.eige.europa.eu 