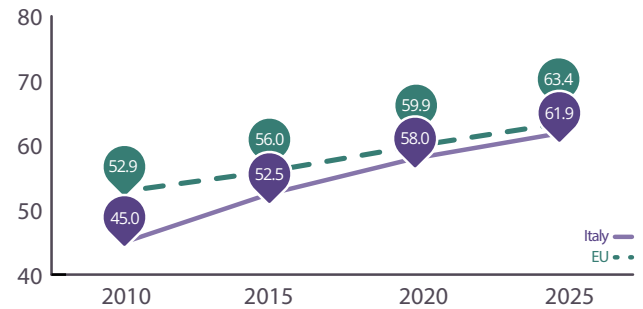


# Gender Equality Index 2025

 **Italy**



Italy scores 61.9 points out of 100 in the Gender Equality Index 2025, ranking 12th in the EU. The Gender Equality Index score has increased by 9.4 points since 2015. Since 2020 it has risen by 3.9 points, mostly due to improvements in the domain of power.<sup>1</sup>

Italy is improving in gender equality over time but performing lower than the EU. The scores show that the distance from the EU average is reducing.



<sup>1</sup> The Gender Equality Index has been reviewed in 2025 (see About the Index below). The domain of time is calculated with the 2024 EIGE CARE survey. Index 2025 uses 2024 data for the most part and traces progress from a short-term (2020–2024) and longer-term (2015–2024) perspective. Greece and Romania have the same scores. Their position in the ranking is determined statistically based on the second decimal place of the Index score.

## Best performance

Italy achieves its highest ranking (9th) in the domains of knowledge and in the domain of power (56.8 points and 47.9 points, respectively). In the domain of knowledge, Italy holds the 2nd position in segregation in education, relatively lower than other countries. However, the scores in segregation in education in Italy (49.3 points) and in the EU (41.8 points) are among the lowest among domains and subdomain, showing a persistent issue in the EU. Regarding the domain of power, the main reason of the ranking lies in economic power, in which Italy ranks 2nd in the EU with a score of 74.3 points.

## Most room for improvement

Italy has the **most room for improvement** in the domain of work, ranking last in the EU with a score of 61.0. This result is primarily given by low performance in the subdomain of participation, in which it holds last position in the EU scoring 69.0 points. However, the lowest score in Italy is in the domain of power (47.9 points).

## Biggest improvement

The **biggest improvement** for Italy is recorded in the domain of power, which has increased by 12.7 points since 2020. The key elements for this increase are the economic power (+ 18.1 points) and social power (+ 17.5 points).

## A step backwards

Since 2020, Italy has seen a small **step backwards** of 0.1 points in the domain of health. As health behaviour remained unchanged, the decline in this domain is mainly due to a drop in the health status subdomain (- 0.1 points).

# Explore Italy's Index results

	2010	2015	2020	2025	Change since 2015	Change since 2020
<b>Index</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>52.5</b>	<b>58.0</b>	<b>61.9</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>3.9</b>
<b>Work</b>	<b>62.4</b>	<b>58.9</b>	<b>60.5</b>	<b>61.0</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>0.5</b>
Participation	63.0	65.8	67.3	69.0	3.2	1.7
Segregation and quality of work	61.8	52.7	54.3	54.0	1.3	-0.3
<b>Money</b>	<b>65.6</b>	<b>65.0</b>	<b>64.2</b>	<b>67.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.8</b>
Financial resources	74.9	72.8	72.8	75.4	2.6	2.6
Economic situation	57.5	58.0	56.7	59.6	1.6	2.9
<b>Knowledge</b>	<b>59.2</b>	<b>60.3</b>	<b>56.6</b>	<b>56.8</b>	<b>-3.5</b>	<b>0.2</b>
Attainment and participation	68.7	68.2	64.3	65.3	-2.9	1.0
Segregation	51.0	53.3	49.9	49.3	-4.0	-0.6
<b>Time</b>	<b>59.4</b>	<b>59.4</b>	<b>59.4</b>	<b>59.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Care activities	51.9	51.9	51.9	51.9	0.0	0.0
Social activities	67.9	67.9	67.9	67.9	0.0	0.0
<b>Power</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>35.2</b>	<b>47.9</b>	<b>27.2</b>	<b>12.7</b>
Political	18.7	31.3	42.1	41.2	9.9	-0.9
Economic	4.3	34.3	56.2	74.3	40.0	18.1
Social	8.2	8.2	18.4	35.9	27.7	17.5
<b>Health</b>	<b>81.0</b>	<b>83.7</b>	<b>87.0</b>	<b>86.9</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Status	80.6	86.2	89.6	89.5	3.3	-0.1
Behaviour	81.4	81.4	84.5	84.5	3.1	0.0

# Explore Italy's performance by indicator

		Italy		EU	
		Women	Men	Women	Men
<b>Work</b>					
Participation	Full-time equivalent employment rate (% , 15-89, 2023) <sup>1</sup>	33	53	44	59
	Duration of working life (years, 15+ population, 2024)	28	37	35	39
Segregation and quality of work	ICT specialists (% , 15-74, 2024)	17	83	20	81
	Managerial positions (% , 15-74, 2024)	28	72	35	65
	Low paid workers (% , 16+, 2024)	31	16	28	16
<b>Money</b>					
Financial resources	Median earnings (PPS, 18-64 employed population, 2024)	23942	30174	23000	29960
	Gender pension gap (65+, %, 2024)	29		25	
Economic situation	Median partner earnings ratio (18-64, %, 2024) <sup>2</sup>	53	212	70	152
	In-work poverty of adults in single or single-parent households (% , 16+ employed population, 2024)	20	15	16	13
<b>Knowledge</b>					
Attainment and participation	Graduates of tertiary education (% , 30-34, 2024)	38	24	50	39
	Graduates in IVET (Initial vocational education and training) (% , 25-34, 2024)	28	41	27	34
Segregation	Graduated in tertiary education in EHW (Education, Health and Welfare, Humanities and Art (tertiary students) (% , 2023)	73	27	75	25
	Graduated in tertiary education in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) (% , 2023)	39	61	34	66
<b>Time</b>					
Care activities	Informal childcare (0-11) for more than 35 weekly hours (% , 16-74, 2024)	41	16	41	20
	Informal long-term care for more than 20 hours per week (% , 45-64, 2019)	31	23	20	13
	Housework chores every day (% , 16-74, 2024)	65	28	59	33
Social activities	Hours spent on leisure activities per week (% , 16-74, 2024)	28	42	30	43
	Voluntary, charitable or political activities at least once per week (% , 16-74, 2024)	10	14	13	17
<b>Power</b>					
Political	Share of ministers (% , 2024)	30	70	35	65
	Share of members of parliament (% , 2024)	34	66	33	67
	Share of members of regional assemblies/local municipalities (% , 2024) <sup>3</sup>	27	73	32	68
Economic	Share of members of boards in largest quoted companies (% , 2024)	44	56	34	66
Social	Share of members of highest decision making body of the national Olympic most popular sport organisations (% , 2024)	28	72	23	77
<b>Health</b>					
Status	Self-perceived health, good or very good (% , 16+, 2024)	73	78	66	71
	Healthy life years at 65 in percentage of the total life expectancy (% , 65+, 2023)	48	56	44	50
Behaviour	People who don't smoke and are not involved in harmful drinking (% , 16+ population, 2019)	80	69	73	56
	People doing physical activities and/or consuming fruits and vegetables (% , 16+ population, 2019)	25	30	38	43

EU-LFS, EU-SILC, European Health Interview Survey (EHIS), Eurostat health statistics, EIGE's CARE survey, EIGE, Gender Statistics Database, WMID.

<sup>1</sup> FTE employment rate measures employed persons in a comparable way, even though they may work a different number of hours per week.

<sup>2</sup> Median of the annual earnings expressed as a percentage of a partner's earnings for coupled women and men in employment and in working age.

<sup>3</sup> Share of members in local municipalities for BG, EE, IE, CY, LT, LU, MT, SI.

## Lowest employment rates in the EU

The full-time equivalent (FTE) employment rate<sup>1</sup> for women stands at 33 %, compared to 53 % for men. The participation in work in Italy remains the lowest in the EU for both genders. The gender gap is widest among couples with children while the level of employment rates is particularly low for women with low education levels and for women in couples without children.

## Duration of working life remains with room for improvement

The duration of working life for women is 28 years, and for men it is 37 years. Both figures increased slightly during the last decade (+ 2 years). However, the women's level is the lowest in the EU.

## Slight improvement in segregation at work

In Italy, 17 % of information and communications technology specialists are women, while less than one out of three women holds a managerial position. Both shares have slightly increased since 2015.

## Widest disparity in earnings ratio among couples in the EU

Women living in couples earn on average the 53 % of their partner's earnings, the lowest level for women in the EU. On the other hand, men in couples earn 112 % more than their partner. This is the widest difference in the EU. The disparity is higher among couples where at least one partner has low levels of education.

## In-work poverty calls for improvement

In Italy 20 % of employed women and 15 % of men in single or single-parent households are at risk of poverty.<sup>2</sup> Both shares increased over the last decade.

## Tertiary education graduates increased, but remain below EU levels

In Italy, 38 % of women and 24 % of men aged 30–34 have completed tertiary education, among the lowest shares in the EU. Since 2015, attainment has risen for both groups, increasing by 7 percentage points for women and 4 percentage points for men.

## Women's presence in scientific disciplines has slightly decreased

Nearly three out of four graduates in EHW fields (Education, Health and Welfare, Humanities, and the Arts) are women, while in STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), women account for 39 % of graduates. Since 2015, the share of women among STEM graduates has slightly decreased.

<sup>1</sup> The FTE employment rate measures working hours comparatively, even though people may work different numbers of hours per week.

<sup>2</sup> In-work at-risk-of-poverty is the percentage of employed persons who are at risk of poverty, meaning that their disposable household income (after social transfers) is below 60 % of the national median equivalised disposable income.

## Women carry out most of the childcare and housework activities

Among parents of children aged 0–11, 41 % of women spend more than five hours a day on childcare, compared with 16 % of men. Women also shoulder a greater share of household chores (cooking, cleaning, laundry), with 65 % undertaking them every day compared to 28 % of men. The gender gap is even more pronounced among couples with children, and older generations.

## Women are under-represented in politics

In Italy, women hold 30 % of senior and junior ministerial seats, a share that has decreased by 1 percentage point since 2023. Women's representation in parliament stands at 34 %, reflecting a slight increase of 1 percentage point since 2023. In regional assemblies, women account for 27 % of members, after an increase of 3 percentage points since 2023.

Italy adopted candidate gender quotas in 2012: single or coalition lists cannot have more than 60 % of the same gender.

## One of the highest presence of women on the boards of the largest quoted companies

The presence of women on the boards of the largest listed companies has reached 44 %, an increase of 1 percentage point since 2023. This is one of the highest shares for women in the EU.

In Italy the gender quotas target for listed quoted companies is 40 %.

## Healthy life years expectancy has slightly decreased for women

In Italy, 73 % of women rated their health as 'good' or 'very good', compared to 78 % of men. Self-perceived health levels are particularly low among people with disabilities (10 % for women, 12 % for men).

Women aged 65 are expected to spend 48 % of their remaining life in good health, compared to 56 % for men. Since 2020 both percentages have remained quite stable.

# Explore intersecting inequalities

		Women	Men	Gender gap	Gender gap in 2015	Gap change
<b>Full-time equivalent employment rate (% , 15-89, 2023)<sup>1</sup></b>						
<b>Family type</b>	Couple without children	25	33	-8	-9	●
	Couple with children	54	91	-37	-38	●
<b>Level of education</b>	Low educated	14	38	-24	-23	●
	Medium educated	42	64	-22	-21	●
	High educated	66	73	-7	-11	●
<b>Country of birth</b>	Native born	32	51	-19	-20	●
	Foreign born	39	72	-33	-27	●
<b>Median partner earnings ratio (18-64, %, 2024)<sup>2</sup></b>						
<b>Family type</b>	Couple without children	80	147	-67	-76	●
	Couple with children	43	236	-193	-225	●
<b>Age groups</b>	25-49	46	211	-165	-215	●
	50-64	65	213	-148	-98	●
<b>Level of education</b>	Low educated	32	264	-232	-283	●
	Medium educated	52	202	-150	-172	●
	High educated	72	184	-112	-131	●
<b>Graduates of tertiary education (% , 30-34, 2024)</b>						
<b>Country of birth</b>	Native born	40	26	14	11	●
	Foreign born	19	8	11	12	●
<b>Disability</b>	With disabilities	41	17	24	7	●
	Without disabilities	38	28	10	9	●
<b>Housework chores every day (% , 16-74, 2024)</b>						
<b>Family type</b>	Single	58	38	20	n/a	n/a
	Lone parent	73	44	29	n/a	n/a
	Couple without children	64	25	39	n/a	n/a
	Couple with children	76	27	49	n/a	n/a
<b>Age groups</b>	15/16-24	45	30	15	n/a	n/a
	25-49	66	27	39	n/a	n/a
	50-64	69	29	40	n/a	n/a
	65+	82	33	49	n/a	n/a
<b>Self-perceived health, good or very good (% , 16+, 2024)</b>						
<b>Age groups</b>	15/16-24	95	97	-2	-1	●
	25-49	92	91	1	-1	●
	50-64	80	82	-2	-3	●
	65+	40	47	-7	-8	●
<b>Disability</b>	With disabilities	10	12	-2	-5	●
	Without disabilities	86	88	-2	-2	●

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

Eurostat (European Union Labour Force Survey, European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions), EIGE CARE survey.

<sup>1</sup> FTE employment rate measures employed persons in a comparable way, even though they may work a different number of hours per week. Family type is based on the relationships between the members of households. Children are only those economically dependent household members (i.e. aged below 18).

<sup>2</sup> Median of the annual earnings expressed as a percentage of a partner's earnings for coupled women and men in employment and in working age.

# Violence against women

Violence against women is one of the additional domains of the Gender Equality Index. The 2024 edition of the composite indicator on violence against women is calculated on the basis of the EU-GBV survey on violence against women. The 2024 composite measure scores are not fully comparable with scores calculated in 2017.

Due to data limitations, the composite measure of violence could not be calculated for Italy, but data can be found at indicator level, when available.<sup>1</sup>

- In Italy, 32 % of women have experienced physical and/or sexual violence since the age of 15. This is 1 percentage point higher than the EU-27 average (31 %).<sup>2</sup>
- Women aged 30–44 are the most affected by violence (44 %).
- In Italy, 4 % of women have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by any perpetrator in the past 12 months.

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 Italy in August 2014.

The European Council approved the EU's accession to the Istanbul Convention on 1 June 2023.

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<sup>1</sup> More information can be found in the report 'Gender Equality Index 2024. Tackling violence against women, tackling gender inequalities'.

<sup>2</sup> For Italy, the data is based on the Victimisation survey 2022–2023 (Le molestie: vittime e contesto – Anno 2022–2023 – Istat; women aged 18–70).

# Violence against women

	Italy Women	EU Women
<b>Physical and/or sexual violence</b>		
<b>1 Women having experienced physical and/or sexual violence by any perpetrator since age 15 (% , 18-74, 2021)</b>	32 d	31 e
18-29	41 d	35 e
30-44	44 d	35 e
45-64	39 d	31 e
65-74	25 d	24 e
severe limitations	:	46 e
limited but not severely or not limited at all	:	30 e
some	:	40 e
some or severe	:	41 e
no limitations	:	28 e
intimate partner violence	14 d	18 e
non-partner violence	25 d	20 e
<b>2 Women having experienced physical and/or sexual violence by any perpetrator in the past 12 months (% , 18-74, 2021)</b>	4 d	3 e
<b>Femicide</b>		
<b>3 Women victims of intentional homicide by intimate partner or family member, rate per 100 000 inhabitants (2022)</b>	0.34	:
family member	0.14	:
current or former partner	0.2	:
<b>Health consequences of violence and multiple victimisation</b>		
<b>4 Women having experienced health consequences of physical and/or sexual violence since the age of 15 (% , 18-74, 2021)</b>	:	57 e
intimate partner violence	:	72 e
non-partner violence	:	37 e
<b>5 Women having experienced health consequences of physical and/or sexual violence in the past 12 months (% , 18-74, 2021)</b>	:	37 e
<b>6 Women having experienced physical and/or sexual violence from one or several types of perpetrators (non-partner, current partner or former partner) (% , 18-74, 2021)</b>	:	31 e
<b>Disclosure of violence to institutions or to anyone else</b>		
<b>7 Women having experienced physical and/or sexual violence in the past 12 months and have not told anyone (% , 18-74, 2021)</b>	:	31 e
intimate partner violence	:	31 e
non-partner violence	:	38 e

EU-GBV survey on violence against women (Statistics | Eurostat (europa.eu))

Italy, the data based on Victimisation survey 2022-2023 (Le molestie: vittime e contesto – Anno 2022-2023 – Istat); women aged 18-70.

Femicide, Eurostat (crim\_hom\_vrel)

e: EIGE's estimation

u: low reliability (estimate is based on 20 to 49 sample observations or if non-response for the item concerned exceeds 20% and is lower or equal to 50%)

d: definition differs

: not available

# Gender stereotypes in Italy

The Gender Equality Index 2025 present data on gender stereotypes across the EU and key findings alongside public perceptions of gender roles in each domain. The data shows how deeply engrained gender norms continue to influence our daily lives, choices and opportunities.

	Italy		EU	
	Women	Men	Women	Men
<b>Gender stereotypes</b>				
<b>1 Men earn more than women because their jobs are more demanding (% , 15+, 2024)</b> <i>Tend to agree or totally agree</i>	27	42	36	45
<b>2 If childcare services are not available, mothers should stay at home with the child and fathers should prioritise their job (% , 16-74, 2024)</b> <i>Agree or strongly agree</i>	28	40	33	42
<b>3 A man's most important role is to earn money (% , 15+, 2024)</b> <i>Tend to agree or totally agree</i>	44	48	40	45
<b>4 Women should make most of the decisions on how to run a household (% , 16-74, 2024)</b> <i>Agree or strongly agree</i>	41	40	36	38
<b>5 A university education is more important for a boy than for a girl (% , 15+, 2017/22)<sup>1</sup></b> <i>Disagree or strongly disagree</i>	88	84	92	88
<b>6 Women and men are treated in the same way at school / university (% , 15+, 2024)</b> <i>Agree</i>	70	66	66	69
<b>7 It is good for family wellbeing when fathers and mothers equally share parental leave (% , 16-74, 2024)</b> <i>Agree or strongly agree</i>	90	82	82	78
<b>8 Overall, men are naturally less competent than women to perform household tasks (% , 15+, 2024)</b> <i>Tend to agree or totally agree</i>	61	65	49	48
<b>9 Men are more ambitious than women in politics (% , 15+, 2024)</b> <i>Tend to agree or totally agree</i>	57	57	46	48
<b>10 Soft skills often attributed to women are important for being a good leader (% , 15+, 2024)</b> <i>Tend to agree or totally agree</i>	71	70	65	61
<b>11 Men are better treated by medical staff (% , 15+, 2024)</b> <i>Agree</i>	22	21	22	16
<b>12 Women and men are treated in the same way by medical staff (% , 15+, 2024)</b> <i>Agree</i>	70	70	67	70
<b>13 A man controlling his wife's finance is acceptable (% , 18+, 2024)</b> <i>Acceptable</i>	30	46	26	46
<b>14 If women share intimate pictures of themselves with someone, they are at least partially responsible if the image is shared online without their consent (% , 18+, 2024)</b> <i>Tend to agree or totally agree</i>	26	31	42	45

Special Eurobarometer 545 on Gender Stereotypes  
EIGE' CARE survey II  
2017-2022 European Value Study 5, World Value Survey 7  
Flash Eurobarometer 544 on Gender Stereotypes - Violence against women

e: EIGE's estimation

u: low reliability (estimate is based on 20 to 49 sample observations or if non-response for the item concerned exceeds 20% and is lower or equal to 50%)

d: definition differs

: not available

EIGE's calculations, based on microdata

<sup>1</sup> 23 European countries out of 27 answered the question.

## **Housework seen as women's main task**

Three out of five women believe that men are naturally less competent than women to perform household activities. Almost two out of three men agrees with this thought. This is widely shared by older generations.

## **Political ambition is more commonly attributed to men**

57 % of both women and men believe that men are more ambitious in politics.

## **Qualities often attributed to women play an important role in good leadership**

In Italy, more than two out of three people believe that soft skills commonly associated with women are important for effective leadership. This view is particularly prevalent among younger generations.

# About the Index

The Gender Equality Index, first launched in 2013, has become a cornerstone of gender monitoring in the European Union. More than a decade has passed since its first release and during this time, it has served as a valuable tool for benchmarking progress, identifying persistent gaps and supporting evidence-based policymaking across Member States. In 2025, the Index underwent a comprehensive review to strengthen its alignment with current EU policy priorities, integrate new data and update its methodology.

The Gender Equality Index measures gender gaps between women and men in six core domains – work, money, knowledge, time, power and health – and is composed of 27 indicators. Scores range from 0 to 100, where 0 reflects complete gender inequality and 100 represents full 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, disability, education, family type and migrant background (based on the country of birth). The domain of violence against women measures, monitors and analyses the most common and widely criminalised forms of violence against women across the EU.

Given the changes introduced to the Index, the entire time series has been reconstructed, applying the updated methodology to past years to ensure full comparability over time. Each indicator has been recalculated annually using the most recent data available for that specific year. As a result, the Index time series have been updated and the time series published up to 2024 will no longer be used. This revision preserves the accuracy of historical data while allowing consistent trend analysis under the new methodology.

The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) is the EU knowledge centre on gender equality. EIGE supports policymakers and all relevant institutions in their effort 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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