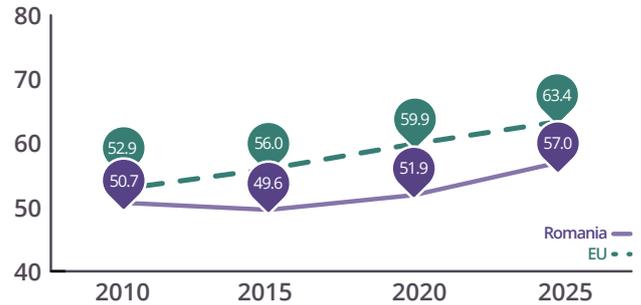


Gender Equality Index 2025

Romania



Romania scores 57.0 points out of 100 in the Gender Equality Index 2025. It holds the 23rd position in the EU. This ranking is mainly due to the domain of health (27th) and the domain of time (18th). Since 2015 its Gender Equality Index has increased by 7.4 points, while since 2020 it has improved by 5.1 points, due to the increase in the domain of power.¹

Romania is improving in gender equality over time yet is performing lower than the EU. The scores show an increasing distance from the EU average.



¹ 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

Romania achieves its highest ranking (2nd) among domains in the domain of knowledge, scoring 64.1 points. This result is mostly due to segregation subdomain, in which Romania holds the first position in the EU (with a score of 50.9 points).

Most room for improvement

The **most room for improvement** in Romania lies in the domain of health, in which it holds the last position in the EU with a score of 60.9 points. The reasons for this performance stand in both subdomains of health status (80.1 points, 26th) and behaviour (46.3 points, 27th). However, the domain with the lowest score is the domain of power (26.6 points).

Biggest improvement

Romania records its **biggest improvement** in the domain of power, which has increased by 11.3 points since 2020. The main element improving this score is economic power (+ 16.5 points), followed by social power (+ 9.3 points).

A step backwards

A **step backwards** occurred in the domain of health (– 1.8 points), the domain of money (– 1.3 points) and the domain of work (– 0.8 points) since 2020. The key factors are the fallbacks in health status (– 4.9 points), economic situation (– 1.9 points), and in participation, segregation and quality of work (– 0.8 points).

Explore Romania's Index results

| | 2010 | 2015 | 2020 | 2025 | Change since 2015 | Change since 2020 |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Index | 50.7 | 49.6 | 51.9 | 57.0 | 7.4 | 5.1 |
| Work | 72.1 | 71.9 | 73.1 | 72.3 | 0.4 | -0.8 |
| Participation | 77.8 | 76.2 | 75.7 | 74.9 | -1.3 | -0.8 |
| Segregation and quality of work | 66.9 | 67.8 | 70.6 | 69.8 | 2.0 | -0.8 |
| Money | 74.3 | 70.9 | 81.1 | 79.8 | 8.9 | -1.3 |
| Financial resources | 77.5 | 65.4 | 84.8 | 84.1 | 18.7 | -0.7 |
| Economic situation | 71.1 | 76.9 | 77.6 | 75.7 | -1.2 | -1.9 |
| Knowledge | 67.4 | 69.5 | 63.7 | 64.1 | -5.4 | 0.4 |
| Attainment and participation | 88.1 | 86.4 | 78.8 | 80.7 | -5.7 | 1.9 |
| Segregation | 51.6 | 55.9 | 51.6 | 50.9 | -5.0 | -0.7 |
| Time | 61.0 | 61.0 | 61.5 | 61.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 |
| Care activities | 50.2 | 50.2 | 50.9 | 50.9 | 0.7 | 0.0 |
| Social activities | 74.2 | 74.2 | 74.2 | 74.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Power | 14.7 | 13.3 | 15.3 | 26.6 | 13.3 | 11.3 |
| Political | 11.4 | 17.5 | 21.6 | 29.2 | 11.7 | 7.6 |
| Economic | 25.1 | 12.1 | 13.9 | 30.4 | 18.3 | 16.5 |
| Social | 11.1 | 11.1 | 12.0 | 21.3 | 10.2 | 9.3 |
| Health | 61.0 | 61.7 | 62.7 | 60.9 | -0.8 | -1.8 |
| Status | 78.6 | 80.4 | 85.0 | 80.1 | -0.3 | -4.9 |
| Behaviour | 47.3 | 47.3 | 46.3 | 46.3 | -1.0 | 0.0 |

Explore Romania's performance by indicator

| | | Romania | | EU | |
|---------------------------------|--|---------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | Women | Men | Women | Men |
| Work | | | | | |
| Participation | Full-time equivalent employment rate (% , 15-89, 2023) ¹ | 40 | 58 | 44 | 59 |
| | Duration of working life (years, 15+ population, 2024) | 29 | 36 | 35 | 39 |
| Segregation and quality of work | ICT specialists (% , 15-74, 2024) | 27 | 73 | 20 | 81 |
| | Managerial positions (% , 15-74, 2024) | 34 | 66 | 35 | 65 |
| | Low paid workers (% , 16+, 2024) | 16 | 7 | 28 | 16 |
| Money | | | | | |
| Financial resources | Median earnings (PPS, 18-64 employed population, 2024) | 21434 | 24624 | 23000 | 29960 |
| | Gender pension gap (65+, %, 2024) | 19 | | 25 | |
| Economic situation | Median partner earnings ratio (18-64, %, 2024) ² | 78 | 132 | 70 | 152 |
| | In-work poverty of adults in single or single-parent households (% , 16+ employed population, 2024) | 7 | 14 | 16 | 13 |
| Knowledge | | | | | |
| Attainment and participation | Graduates of tertiary education (% , 30-34, 2024) | 27 | 20 | 50 | 39 |
| | Graduates in IVET (Initial vocational education and training) (% , 25-34, 2024) | 49 | 56 | 27 | 34 |
| Segregation | Graduated in tertiary education in EHW (Education, Health and Welfare, Humanities and Art (tertiary students) (% , 2023) | 74 | 26 | 75 | 25 |
| | Graduated in tertiary education in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) (% , 2023) | 42 | 58 | 34 | 66 |
| Time | | | | | |
| Care activities | Informal childcare (0-11) for more than 35 weekly hours (% , 16-74, 2024) | 46 | 22 | 41 | 20 |
| | Informal long-term care for more than 20 hours per week (% , 45-64, 2019) | 22 | 13 | 20 | 13 |
| | Housework chores every day (% , 16-74, 2024) | 61 | 29 | 59 | 33 |
| Social activities | Hours spent on leisure activities per week (% , 16-74, 2024) | 25 | 38 | 30 | 43 |
| | Voluntary, charitable or political activities at least once per week (% , 16-74, 2024) | 11 | 13 | 13 | 17 |
| Power | | | | | |
| Political | Share of ministers (% , 2024) | 30 | 70 | 35 | 65 |
| | Share of members of parliament (% , 2024) | 19 | 81 | 33 | 67 |
| | Share of members of regional assemblies/local municipalities (% , 2024) ³ | 22 | 78 | 32 | 68 |
| Economic | Share of members of boards in largest quoted companies (% , 2024) | 25 | 75 | 34 | 66 |
| Social | Share of members of highest decision making body of the national Olympic most popular sport organisations (% , 2024) | 19 | 81 | 23 | 77 |
| Health | | | | | |
| Status | Self-perceived health, good or very good (% , 16+, 2024) | 72 | 79 | 66 | 71 |
| | Healthy life years at 65 in percentage of the total life expectancy (% , 65+, 2023) | 20 | 29 | 44 | 50 |
| Behaviour | People who don't smoke and are not involved in harmful drinking (% , 16+ population, 2019) | 73 | 35 | 73 | 56 |
| | People doing physical activities and/or consuming fruits and vegetables (% , 16+ population, 2019) | 6 | 14 | 38 | 43 |

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

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

² 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.

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

Employment rates for women have slightly decreased

The full-time equivalent (FTE) employment rate¹ for women is 40 %, compared to 58 % for men. While the percentage for men did not change over the past decade, the employment levels for women slightly decreased. The FTE employment rates are very low for low educated people, and the widest gender gap lies among people born abroad.

Vertical segregation in labour slightly increased

The share of women among ICT specialist remains at 27 %, without any changes over the last decade. On the other hand, the portion of women in managerial positions is 34 % – an increase of 3 percentage points since 2015.

Slight improvement in earnings ratio among couples

Women in couples earn on average the 78 % of their partner's earnings, while men earn 32 % more than their partner. The ratio for men decreased slightly, improving the gender equality in earnings among couples. The disparity between women and men are wide among couples with children and among people aged 25–49.

In-work poverty decreased significantly for women

In Romania 7 % women and 14 % of men who are employed and live in single or single-parent households are at risk of poverty². Over the last decade the percentage of women decreased by 16 percentage points. The portion of men decreased too, but at a slower pace (– 11 percentage points).

Men's share among tertiary graduates decreased

The share of women holding a tertiary education degree is 27 %, compared to 20 % for men. These are the lowest levels in the EU. Moreover, the percentage of men has decreased in the last decade (– 4 percentage points).

Highest levels of IVET qualifications among women

In Romania, 49 % of women and men aged 25–34 successfully completed IVET (initial vocational education and training) studies – the highest level for women in the EU. The percentage of men is 56 %. Both figures increased significantly over the past decade.

Segregation in education widened

About three out of four graduates in EHW fields (Education, Health and Welfare, Humanities, and the Arts) are women. The share of graduated women in these disciplines has increased since 2015, resulting in a higher gender segregation. On the other hand, men account for nearly three out of five graduates in STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). The portion of women who graduated in STEM fields has not changed since 2015.

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

² In-work at-risk-of-poverty refers to employed persons whose disposable household income (after social transfers) is below 60 % of the national median equivalised income.

Women bear a greater share of household chores than men

Women continue to spend more time than men on childcare, with 46 % of women and 22 % of men caring for children aged 0–11 for over five hours a day. Household chores (cooking, cleaning, laundry) are also more commonly performed daily by women (61 %) than men (29 %). The gender gap is particularly pronounced among couples with children

Women's presence in government greatly increased

Women's representation in government stands at 30 % of ministers – a share that has increased by 11 percentage points since 2023. In parliament, women account for 19 % of seats, and in the local municipalities their presence is 22 % of members (+ 1 percentage point since 2023).

Romania does not have gender quotas for parliament nor for listed companies.

Representation of women in quoted companies improved

In Romania, women now hold 25 % of board positions in the largest listed companies, marking an increase of 4 percentage points since 2023.

Self-perceived health grew

The share of women rating their health as 'good' or 'very good' is 72 %, after an increase of 3 percentage points since 2020. For men, the percentage is 79 % – up by 2 percentage points since 2020. People with disabilities record the lowest levels of self-perceived health.

Women aged 65 are expected to spend 20 % of their remaining life in good health, compared to 29 % for men. These shares are the lowest among EU and they have both declined since 2020.

Explore intersecting inequalities

| | | Women | Men | Gender gap | Gender gap in 2015 | Gap change |
|---|-------------------------|-------|-----|------------|--------------------|------------|
| Full-time equivalent employment rate (% , 15-89, 2023)¹ | | | | | | |
| Family type | Couple without children | 37 | 42 | -5 | -5 | ● |
| | Couple with children | 66 | 90 | -24 | -22 | ● |
| Level of education | Low educated | 12 | 36 | -24 | -17 | ● |
| | Medium educated | 45 | 61 | -16 | -16 | ● |
| | High educated | 80 | 82 | -2 | -3 | ● |
| Country of birth | Native born | 40 | 58 | -18 | -17 | ● |
| | Foreign born | 37 | 74 | -37 | n/a | n/a |
| Median partner earnings ratio (18-64, %, 2024)² | | | | | | |
| Family type | Couple without children | 89 | 119 | -30 | -15 | ● |
| | Couple with children | 74 | 136 | -62 | -91 | ● |
| Age groups | 25-49 | 75 | 136 | -61 | -85 | ● |
| | 50-64 | 92 | 124 | -32 | -15 | ● |
| Level of education | Low educated | 5 | n/a | n/a | -75 | n/a |
| | Medium educated | 78 | 133 | -55 | -65 | ● |
| | High educated | 88 | 121 | -33 | -42 | ● |
| Graduates of tertiary education (% , 30-34, 2024) | | | | | | |
| Country of birth | Native born | 27 | 19 | 8 | 3 | ● |
| | Foreign born | n/a | 39 | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Disability | With disabilities | n/a | n/a | n/a | 14 | n/a |
| | Without disabilities | 26 | 28 | -2 | 6 | ● |
| Housework chores every day (% , 16-74, 2024) | | | | | | |
| Family type | Single | 45 | 31 | 14 | n/a | n/a |
| | Lone parent | 72 | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| | Couple without children | 55 | 22 | 33 | n/a | n/a |
| | Couple with children | 74 | 28 | 46 | n/a | n/a |
| Age groups | 15/16-24 | 54 | 41 | 13 | n/a | n/a |
| | 25-49 | 66 | 27 | 39 | n/a | n/a |
| | 50-64 | 51 | 27 | 24 | n/a | n/a |
| | 65+ | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Self-perceived health, good or very good (% , 16+, 2024) | | | | | | |
| Age groups | 15/16-24 | 98 | 98 | 0 | 1 | ● |
| | 25-49 | 96 | 97 | -1 | -3 | ● |
| | 50-64 | 72 | 79 | -7 | -10 | ● |
| | 65+ | 24 | 30 | -6 | -8 | ● |
| Disability | With disabilities | 9 | 10 | -1 | -4 | ● |
| | Without disabilities | 89 | 92 | -3 | -3 | ● |

● 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.

¹ 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).

² 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.

Romania's score for the domain of violence is 36.5 points, which is higher than the EU average.¹

The score for the subdomain of prevalence is 26.5 points, the subdomain of severity is 48.1 points and the subdomain of disclosure is 34.8 points.

- In Romania, 42 % of women have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by any perpetrator since the age of 15. This is 11 percentage points higher than the EU-27 average (31 %).
- Some 69 % of women have experienced health consequences of physical and/or sexual violence since the age of 15.
- Around 34 % of women who have experienced physical or sexual violence by any perpetrator in the past 12 months have not told anyone.

The **Istanbul Convention** is the most comprehensive international human rights treaty on preventing and combatting violence against women and domestic violence.

Romania signed the Istanbul Convention in June 2014 and ratified it in May 2016. The Convention entered into force in Romania in September 2016.

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

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

Violence against women

| | Romania Women | EU Women |
|--|------------------|-------------|
| Physical and/or sexual violence | | |
| 1 Women having experienced physical and/or sexual violence by any perpetrator since age 15 (% , 18-74, 2021) | 42 | 31 e |
| 18-29 | 42 | 35 e |
| 30-44 | 42 | 35 e |
| 45-64 | 41 | 31 e |
| 65-74 | 46 | 24 e |
| severe limitations | 52 u | 46 e |
| limited but not severely or not limited at all | 41 | 30 e |
| some | 55 | 40 e |
| some or severe | 54 | 41 e |
| no limitations | 39 | 28 e |
| intimate partner violence | 37 | 18 e |
| non-partner violence | 14 | 20 e |
| 2 Women having experienced physical and/or sexual violence by any perpetrator in the past 12 months (% , 18-74, 2021) | 9 | 3 e |
| Femicide | | |
| 3 Women victims of intentional homicide by intimate partner or family member, rate per 100 000 inhabitants (2022) | 0.47 | : |
| family member | : | : |
| current or former partner | 0.47 | : |
| Health consequences of violence and multiple victimisation | | |
| 4 Women having experienced health consequences of physical and/or sexual violence since the age of 15 (% , 18-74, 2021) | 69 | 57 e |
| intimate partner violence | 73 | 72 e |
| non-partner violence | 35 | 37 e |
| 5 Women having experienced health consequences of physical and/or sexual violence in the past 12 months (% , 18-74, 2021) | 51 | 37 e |
| 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) | 23 | 31 e |
| Disclosure of violence to institutions or to anyone else | | |
| 7 Women having experienced physical and/or sexual violence in the past 12 months and have not told anyone (% , 18-74, 2021) | 34 | 31 e |
| intimate partner violence | 33 | 31 e |
| non-partner violence | 54 | 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 Romania

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.

| | Romania | | EU | |
|---|---------|-----|-------|-----|
| | Women | Men | Women | Men |
| Gender stereotypes | | | | |
| 1 Men earn more than women because their jobs are more demanding (% , 15+, 2024) <i>Tend to agree or totally agree</i> | 57 | 65 | 36 | 45 |
| 2 If childcare services are not available, mothers should stay at home with the child and fathers should prioritise their job (% , 16-74, 2024) <i>Agree or strongly agree</i> | 58 | 62 | 33 | 42 |
| 3 A man's most important role is to earn money (% , 15+, 2024) <i>Tend to agree or totally agree</i> | 59 | 61 | 40 | 45 |
| 4 Women should make most of the decisions on how to run a household (% , 16-74, 2024) <i>Agree or strongly agree</i> | 65 | 51 | 36 | 38 |
| 5 A university education is more important for a boy than for a girl (% , 15+, 2017/22)¹ <i>Disagree or strongly disagree</i> | 79 | 74 | 92 | 88 |
| 6 Women and men are treated in the same way at school / university (% , 15+, 2024) <i>Agree</i> | 62 | 61 | 66 | 69 |
| 7 It is good for family wellbeing when fathers and mothers equally share parental leave (% , 16-74, 2024) <i>Agree or strongly agree</i> | 76 | 78 | 82 | 78 |
| 8 Overall, men are naturally less competent than women to perform household tasks (% , 15+, 2024) <i>Tend to agree or totally agree</i> | 59 | 58 | 49 | 48 |
| 9 Men are more ambitious than women in politics (% , 15+, 2024) <i>Tend to agree or totally agree</i> | 59 | 69 | 46 | 48 |
| 10 Soft skills often attributed to women are important for being a good leader (% , 15+, 2024) <i>Tend to agree or totally agree</i> | 64 | 61 | 65 | 61 |
| 11 Men are better treated by medical staff (% , 15+, 2024) <i>Agree</i> | 17 | 17 | 22 | 16 |
| 12 Women and men are treated in the same way by medical staff (% , 15+, 2024) <i>Agree</i> | 67 | 64 | 67 | 70 |
| 13 A man controlling his wife's finance is acceptable (% , 18+, 2024) <i>Acceptable</i> | 27 | 50 | 26 | 46 |
| 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) <i>Tend to agree or totally agree</i> | 48 | 56 | 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

¹ 23 European countries out of 27 answered the question.

University education is more important for a boy than for a girl

About one out of five women believes that a university education is more important for a boy than for a girl, compared to about one out of four men. Both shares are far above the EU levels.

Ambition in politics is more common among men than women

Nearly three out of five of women think that men are more ambitious in politics. More than two out of three men agrees with this view.

A man controlling his wife's finances is acceptable for half of men

More than one out of four women accepts that a man controls his wife's money – half of men agree with this thought. The portion of men who share this view is higher among the younger people.

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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