

Gender Equality Index 2017: Portugal



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The Gender Equality Index 2017 examines the progress and challenges in achieving gender equality across the European Union from 2005 to 2015. Using a scale from 1 (full inequality) to 100 (full equality), it measures the differences between women and men in key domains of the EU policy framework (work, money, knowledge, time, power and health). The Index also measures violence against women and intersecting inequalities. These are satellite domains and are part of the framework of the Gender Equality Index, but do not have an impact on the overall score. Intersecting inequalities show how gender intersects with age, education, family composition, country of birth and disability. The Gender Equality Index provides results for each domain and sub-domain for the EU and its 28 Member States.¹

Progress in gender equality in Portugal, 2005-2015

In the Gender Equality Index 2017, Portugal reached a score of **56.0 out of 100**. This represents an increase of 8.1 points. Despite being 30 years' older than the EU average, Portugal shows more pronounced progress than the EU as a whole. From 2005-2015, all domain scores increased with the exception of the domains of time and health, which saw no improvement.

The domain of **power** shows significant improvements due to progress in women's representation in decision-making in the political arena. Women's access to decision-making in the economic arena also improved but remains very low. Despite such gains, the overall score of women in decision-making, when compared to men, particularly in the economic arena, remains one of the greatest challenges.

The domain of **knowledge** highlights solid progress in educational attainment and participation for both women and men, but also a strong segregation of study fields along national gender lines, inequalities also pointed by the division of time dedicated to social and care or domestic activities between women and men.

The situation in the domain of **work** has slightly improved, due to progress in participation, progression and quality of work.

Regarding gender equality in the domain of **money**, some progress is visible, in terms of financial inclusion and the economic situation.

The gender equality score in the domain of **health** is high, showing a good gender balance in access to services and overall health issues. However, large differences in the health-related behaviours of women and men highlight gender-specific risks.



18 Change in score from 2005 to 2015

Footnote 1: The Gender Equality Index 2017 is based on the data of Gender Equality Indicators, EU Gender Survey Survey, European Health Interview Survey, EU Survey on Gender and Living Conditions, Structure of Europe Survey, ACER Annual Gender Equality Survey, EU Survey on Women's Working Conditions Survey, EU Gender Survey, Gender Inequality and Risk to Gender-Based Violence Survey and the Gender Equality Index Agency's Gender Equality Survey. The use of primary data from the EU is subject to the age of the information available for the indicators in order to be used in the calculation of the index.

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