

Gender Equality Index - Leaflet



Gender Equality Index

The Gender Equality Index is a unique measurement tool that synthesises the complexity of gender equality in a multi-dimensional concept into a user-friendly and easily interpretable measure.

It is formed by combining gender indicators, according to a conceptual framework, into a single summary measure. It consists of six core domains: work, money, knowledge, time, gender and health and time quality (combining interacting inequalities and activities).

The Gender Equality Index of measures how far EU-27 and its Member States were from achieving complete gender equality in 2010. It provides results at both Member States and EU-27 level. The Gender Equality Index also provides results for each domain and sub-domain.

It measures gender gaps that are adjusted to levels of achievement, ensuring that gender gaps cannot be regarded positively when they point to an adverse situation for both women and men. The Gender Equality Index assigns scores for Member States, between 0 (total inequality) and 100 (full equality).

Scores of the Gender Equality Index



Background and Policy Framework

Equality between women and men is a fundamental value of the European Union, enshrined in its Treaties and in the Charter of Fundamental Rights. The EU places a central role in ensuring that the principle of gender equality flows down from the constitutional and EU level to national, regional and local levels. Over time and in various areas, specific policies have been developed to improve gender equality in the European Union and in the Member States. To measure the level of gender equality in various priority domains at transnational or national level, different monitoring tools have been developed worldwide. However, none of them were specifically created for the purpose of measuring gender equality within the policy framework of the European Union.

The need for the Gender Equality Index was initially highlighted by the European Commission in the Roadmap for Equality between Women and Men 2010-2012 and subsequently included in the Action Plan of its Strategy for Equality between Women and Men 2010-2012. The European Institute for Gender Equality undertook the task of constructing a composite indicator that reflects the multi-faceted reality of gender equality and is specifically tailored towards the policy framework of the European Union. It is one of the major suggestions in the European Women's Policy Programme 2010-2012. The Gender Equality Index started in 2010 and has been launched in Brussels on 12 June 2011.

Why a Gender Equality Index?

- to provide a synthetic measure of gender equality that is easy to understand and to communicate
- to give a better made composite indicators measuring gender equality in the European Union and its Member States
- to provide a tool to support decision-makers in assessing how far a given Member State is from reaching gender equality
- to allow meaningful comparisons between different gender equality priority domains
- to measure achievements in the area of gender equality over time

This leaflet presents the [Gender Equality Index](#) in a nutshell.

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