

The data for 2023 Index is mostly from 2021.

## Progress in gender equality

With 60.7 points out of 100, Croatia ranks 20th in the EU on the Gender Equality Index. Its score is 9.5 points below the score for the EU as a whole.<sup>1</sup>

Since 2010, Croatia's score has increased by 8.4 points, mainly due to improvements in the domain of power (+ 21.1 points). Since 2020, Croatia's overall score has remained unchanged (60.7 points). This has meant that due to other Member States making faster progress, Croatia's overall ranking has dropped from 19th to 20th place since 2020. The biggest improvement shown by the country is in the domain of work (+ 2.4 points).

		Change since	
		2010	2020
SE	82.2	2.1	-1.7
NL	77.9	3.9	0.6
DK	77.8	2.6	0.0
ES	76.4	10.0	1.8
BE	76.0	6.7	1.8
FR	75.7	8.2	0.6
LU	74.7	13.5	1.2
FI	74.4	1.3	-1.0
IE	73.0	7.6	-1.3
AT	71.2	12.5	2.4
DE	70.8	8.2	2.1
<b>EU</b>	<b>70.2</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>1.6</b>
SI	69.4	6.7	1.9
IT	68.2	14.9	3.2
MT	67.8	13.4	2.2
PT	67.4	13.7	4.6
BG	65.1	10.1	4.4
LT	64.1	9.2	3.5
PL	61.9	6.4	4.2
LV	61.5	6.3	0.1
<b>HR</b>	<b>60.7</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>
CY	60.7	11.7	3.4
EE	60.2	6.8	-0.8
SK	59.2	6.2	3.2
EL	58.0	9.4	4.6
CZ	57.9	2.3	0.7
HU	57.3	4.9	3.1
RO	56.1	5.3	2.4

[1] The Gender Equality Index 2023 has been affected by certain changes in EU-wide surveys and through the use of the most up-to-date sources. For the first time, it benefits from EIGE's survey data on gender gaps in care, individual and social activities carried out across the EU in 2022, and from new data from the 2021 EWCTS survey (Eurofound). Regulation (EU) 2019/1700, which came into force from 1 January 2021, also introduced some changes into the EU-LFS. These methodological changes will affect nine indicators included in the domains of work, knowledge and time, together with their respective scores, as well as the overall Index and the analysis of intersecting inequalities using the respective indicators.

An analysis has been carried out of the possible impact that these changes may have had on the Index and on the interpretation of the corresponding time series. Despite the break in time series that the changes entail, the time series analysis can be considered adequate (see Index 2023 report).

## Best performance

Croatia's highest ranking is in the domain of power (16th out of all Member States), with a score of 49.5 points. Since 2020, Croatia has risen from the 17th place, despite progress in its score for this domain having stalled (– 0.2 points). In the sub-domain of economic decision-making, Croatia ranks 16th with a score of 43.0 points. Similarly, in the sub-domain of political decision-making, the country ranks 17th with a score of 54.7 points.

## Most room for improvement

Gender inequalities in Croatia are notably pronounced in the domain of knowledge. The country scores 54.2 points in this domain, placing Croatia in 26th place out of all EU Member States. Since 2020, Croatia has dropped one place, mainly due to stalled progress in the sub-domain of segregation (+ 0.2 points). Despite gaining 1.4 points in the sub-domain of knowledge attainment and participation, the country has fallen from 24th to 25th place in this sub-domain.

## Biggest improvement

Since 2020, Croatia's biggest improvement has been in the domain of work (+ 2.4 points), which is the country's largest increase in score for any domain. This increase has been driven by an improvement in the sub-domain of segregation and quality of work (+ 3.1 points). However, due to other Member States making faster progress in the domain of work, Croatia has dropped from 19th to 20th place overall in this domain.

## A step backwards

Croatia's score in the domain of time has decreased since 2020 (– 2.4 points), with the country's ranking falling from the 21st place to the 27th. This was due to a considerable decrease of 15.4 points in the sub-domain of social activities (to 32.5 points). As a result of this decrease, Croatia dropped from 18th to 27th place in this sub-domain. This was one of the biggest decreases in this sub-domain among all Member States.

## Convergence

Upward convergence in gender equality describes increasing equality between women and men in the EU, accompanied by a decline in variations between Member States. This means that countries with lower levels of gender equality are catching up with those with the highest levels, thereby reducing disparities across the EU. Analysis of convergence patterns in the Gender Equality Index shows that disparities between Member States decreased over the period 2010–2021, and that **EU countries continue their trend of upward convergence**.

Looking more closely at the performance of each Member State, patterns can be identified that reflect a relative improvement or slipping back in the Gender Equality Index score of each Member State in relation to the EU average.

Croatia is *catching up*. This means that its Gender Equality Index score was initially lower than the EU average, but has grown faster over time than other countries, reducing the gap.

# Explore Croatia's Index results

	2010	2012	2015	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Change since	
	2010	2012	2015	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2010	2020
<b>Index</b>	<b>52.3</b>	<b>52.6</b>	<b>53.1</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>57.9</b>	<b>59.2</b>	<b>60.7</b>	<b>60.7</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Work</b>	<b>67.2</b>	<b>68.3</b>	<b>69.4</b>	<b>69.2</b>	<b>69.9</b>	<b>70.1</b>	<b>69.7</b>	<b>72.1</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>2.4</b>
Participation	75.0	75.5	78.5	78.9	79.6	79.7	79.1	80.7	5.7	1.6
Segregation and quality of work	60.3	61.8	61.4	60.7	61.4	61.6	61.3	64.4	4.1	3.1
<b>Money</b>	<b>68.6</b>	<b>68.9</b>	<b>69.9</b>	<b>72.2</b>	<b>72.6</b>	<b>74.0</b>	<b>74.1</b>	<b>73.6</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>-0.5</b>
Financial resources	56.2	55.7	57.1	60.1	60.6	62.1	62.3	62.8	6.6	0.5
Economic situation	83.8	85.2	85.6	86.9	86.9	88.1	88.3	86.4	2.6	-1.9
<b>Knowledge</b>	<b>49.9</b>	<b>48.5</b>	<b>49.8</b>	<b>50.4</b>	<b>51.6</b>	<b>51.8</b>	<b>53.4</b>	<b>54.2</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>0.8</b>
Attainment and participation	57.5	58.7	59.3	59.2	60.6	60.1	59.0	60.4	2.9	1.4
Segregation	43.3	40.0	41.8	42.9	43.9	44.7	48.4	48.6	5.3	0.2
<b>Time</b>	<b>49.8</b>	<b>54.7</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>48.6</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>-2.4</b>
Care activities	53.0	63.9	54.4	54.4	54.4	54.4	54.4	72.7	19.7	18.3
Social activities	46.7	46.7	47.9	47.9	47.9	47.9	47.9	32.5	-14.2	-15.4
<b>Power</b>	<b>28.4</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>28.5</b>	<b>34.8</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>45.3</b>	<b>49.7</b>	<b>49.5</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
Political	40.2	40.0	38.7	42.2	45.1	46.3	49.9	54.7	14.5	4.8
Economic	24.8	22.2	19.0	19.8	28.6	37.2	46.9	43.0	18.2	-3.9
Social	22.9	22.9	31.6	50.2	55.1	54.2	52.6	51.6	28.7	-1.0
<b>Health</b>	<b>81.5</b>	<b>82.8</b>	<b>83.3</b>	<b>83.7</b>	<b>83.7</b>	<b>83.8</b>	<b>85.1</b>	<b>84.8</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
Status	85.1	85.7	86.4	87.5	87.4	87.6	88.3	88.2	3.1	-0.1
Behaviour	68.3	68.3	68.3	68.3	68.3	68.3	70.9	70.9	2.6	0.0
Access	93.1	97.0	97.8	98.1	98.3	98.3	98.3	97.6	4.5	-0.7

# Explore Croatia's performance by indicator

		Croatia		EU	
		Women	Men	Women	Men
<b>Work</b>					
<b>Participation</b>	Full-time equivalent employment rate (% , 15-89 population, 2021)*	41	54	42	57
	Duration of working life (years, 15+ population, 2021)	31	35	34	38
<b>Segregation and quality of work</b>	Employed people in education, human health and social work activities (% , 15-89 employed, 2021)	26	5	30	8
	Ability to take one hour or two off during working hours to take care of personal or family matters (% , 15+ workers, 2021)	38	50	29	37
	Career Prospects Index (points, 0-100, +15 population, 2015)	60	61	62	63
<b>Money</b>					
<b>Financial resources</b>	Mean monthly earnings (PPS, +16 working population, 2018)	1572	1783	2321	2818
	Mean equivalised net income (PPS, 16+ population, 2021)	12213	12721	20261	21221
<b>Economic situation</b>	At-risk-of-poverty (% , 16+ population, 2021)	22	18	17	15
	Income distribution S20/80 (16+ population, 2021)	20	21	20	20
<b>Knowledge</b>					
<b>Attainment and participation</b>	Graduates of tertiary education (% , 15-89 population, 2021)	23	19	28	26
	People participating in formal or non-formal education and training (15-74 population, 2021)	14	11	19	18
<b>Segregation</b>	Tertiary students in education, health and welfare, humanities and arts (% , 15+ population, 2021)	37	17	43	21
<b>Time</b>					
<b>Care activities</b>	People caring for and educating their children or grandchildren, elderly or people with disabilities, every day (% , 18-74 population, 2022)	39	28	34	25
	People doing cooking and/or housework, every day (% , 18-74 population, 2022)	78	34	63	36
<b>Social activities</b>	Workers doing sporting, cultural or leisure activities outside of their home, at least daily or several times a week (% , 16-74 workers, 2022)	12	24	29	34
	Workers involved in voluntary or charitable activities, at least once a month (% , 16-74 workers, 2022)	4	8	11	15
<b>Power</b>					
<b>Political</b>	Share of ministers (% , 2nd quarter 2023)	22	78	34	66
	Share of members of parliament (% , 2nd quarter 2023)	34	66	33	67
	Share of members of regional assemblies/local municipalities (% , 2023)**	30	70	30	70
<b>Economic</b>	Share of members of boards in largest quoted companies, supervisory board or board of directors (% , 1st semester 2023)	31	69	33	67
	Share of board members of central bank (% , 2022)	11	89	28	72
<b>Social</b>	Share of board members of research funding organisations (% , 2022)	14	86	41	59
	Share of board members of publically owned broadcasting organisations (% , 2022)	20	80	38	62
	Share of members of highest decision making body of the national Olympic sport organisations (% , 2022)	11	89	20	80
<b>Health</b>					
<b>Status</b>	Self-perceived health, good or very good (% , 16+ population, 2021)	61	65	67	72
	Life expectancy at birth (years, Break in times series)	80	74	83	77
	Healthy life years at birth (years, 2021)	59	58	64	63
<b>Behaviour</b>	People who don't smoke and are not involved in harmful drinking (% , 15+ population, 2019)***	71	55	73	56
	People doing physical activities and/or consuming fruits and vegetables (% , 15+ population, 2019)	25	30	38	43
<b>Access</b>	Population with unmet needs for medical examination (% , 16+ population, 2021)	6	5	5	4
	Population with unmet needs for dental examination (% , 16+ population, 2021)	3	3	5	5

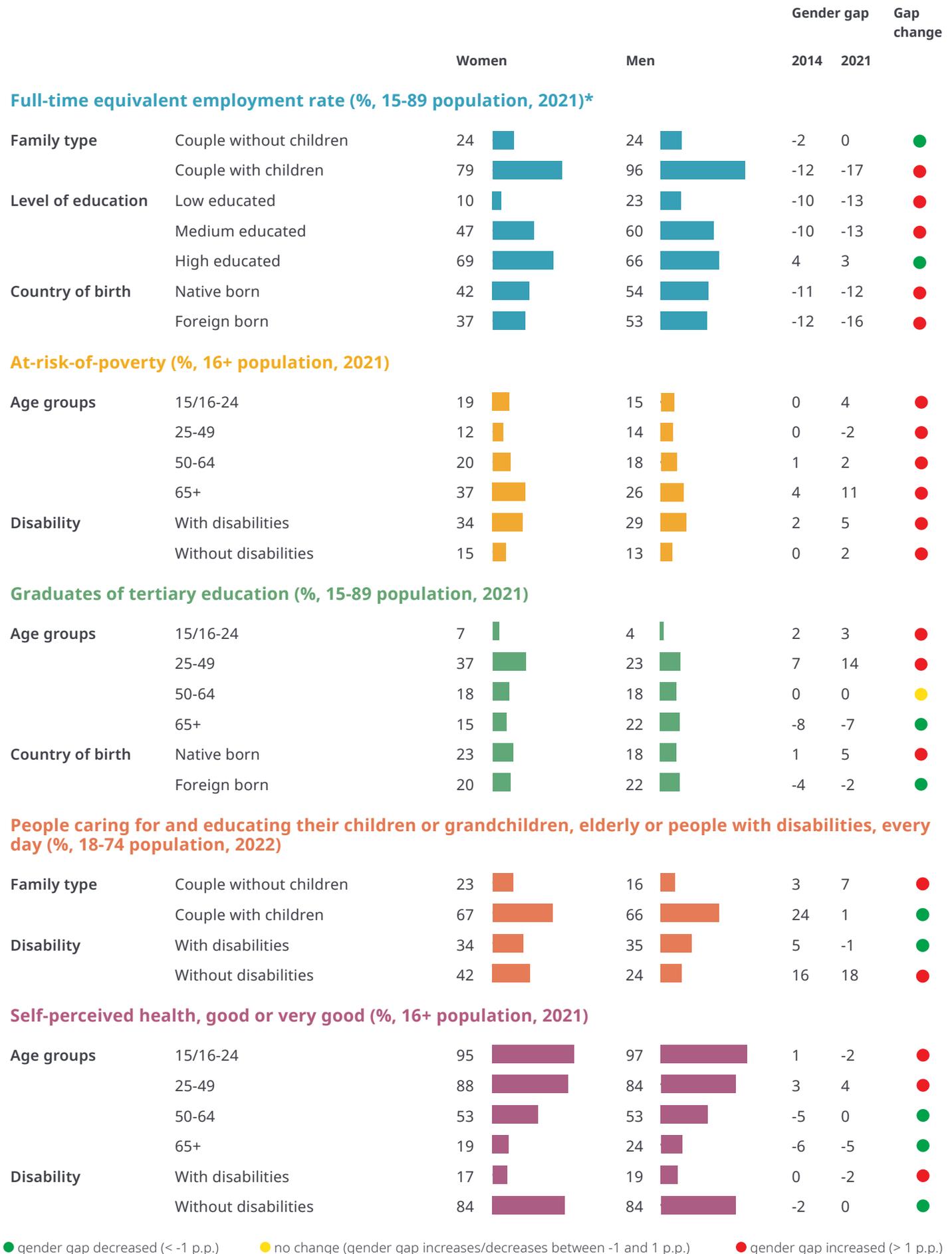
\* FTE employment rate measures employed persons in a comparable way, even though they may work a different number of hours per week

\*\* HR: Regional assemblies

\*\*\* 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), EIGE (Survey on gender gaps in care, individual and social activities, Women and Men in Decision-Making).

# Explore intersecting inequalities



● 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

Source: Eurostat (European Union Labour Force Survey, European Health Interview Survey, European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions, Structure of Earnings Survey), EIGE's survey on gender gaps in care, individual and social activities.

# Violence

## A lack of evidence to assess violence against women

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

## Femicide

In 2021, 720 women were murdered by an intimate partner, family member or relative in 17 EU Member States, according to official reports. In Croatia, four women were murdered by an intimate partner, and seven women were murdered by a family member.

**Source:** Eurostat, 2021

## Violence at a glance

### Intimate partner violence

In Croatia, 28 % of women who have ever been in a relationship have experienced violence by an intimate partner during their adult life. In total, 13 % have experienced physical violence (including threats) or sexual violence, while 27 % have experienced psychological violence. Around 5 % have experienced intimate partner violence during the last 12 months, while 11 % have experienced it in the last five years.

**Source:** Eurostat, 2021

### Sexual harassment at work

In Croatia, over a third of women who have ever worked have experienced sexual harassment at work. Up to 6 % of women have experienced sexual harassment at work in the last 12 months, while 14 % have experienced it in the last 5 years.

**Source:** Eurostat, 2021

## 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. Croatia signed the Istanbul Convention in January 2013, and ratified it in June 2018. The Convention entered into force in Croatia in October 2018.

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

## EIGE/FRA survey on violence against women

The Fundamental Rights Agency (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 this year, and the results will be used to update the domain of violence in the Gender Equality Index 2024, with its thematic focus on violence against women.

# Thematic focus

The Gender Equality Index 2023 focuses on the socially fair transition of the European Green Deal. Its thematic focus analyses the following aspects:

- **Public attitudes and behaviours on climate change and mitigation**
- **Energy**
- **Transport**
- **Decision-making**

The data was collected through various surveys, such as the EIGE 2022 survey on gender gaps in unpaid care, individual and social activities, as well as other EU-wide surveys.<sup>1</sup> The EIGE survey focused on gender differences in unpaid care, including links to transport, the environment and personal consumption and behaviour.

## **Focus 2023: The European Green Deal**

### **Women in Croatia are more inclined than men to choose environmentally friendly options**

In 2022, around 52 % of women in Croatia, compared with 42 % of men, reported regularly avoiding plastic and/or single-use products. Similarly, 63 % of women reported regularly choosing environmentally friendly options in housework activities, compared with 56 % of men. Women (49 %) were also more likely than men (39 %) to regularly choose environmentally friendly options in childcare activities.

### **Women and men in Croatia with low education struggled the most to keep up with mounting energy costs**

In 2021, 19 % of women and 23 % of men in Croatia with low educational attainment reported being in arrears on their utility bills, which was higher than the EU average (9 % and 10 %, respectively). Similarly, 16 % of women with disabilities and 19 % of men with disabilities were behind on their utility bill payments. This was double the EU average for women and men with disabilities (8 % and 9 %, respectively). These numbers may have increased with the ongoing energy crisis.

### **Low shares of those working in the energy and transport sectors in Croatia are women**

Women were highly underrepresented in the energy and transport sectors across the EU, but even more so in Croatia. In 2022, only 12 % of employees in the energy sector in Croatia were women, compared with an EU average of 24 %. In the same year, women made up just 16 % of workers in Croatia's transport sector – 6 % fewer than the EU average of 22 %.

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[1] The following sources were used: the EIGE survey on gender gaps in unpaid care, individual and social activities; the European Social Survey; Eurostat-LFS; EU-SILC; education statistics; and the EIGE's WiDM.

# Green Deal in Croatia

	Croatia		EU	
	Women	Men	Women	Men
<b>Public attitudes and behaviours on climate change and mitigation</b>				
Personal responsibility to try to reduce climate change (% ,15+, 2018)	n/a	n/a	62	61
<b>Avoiding animal products (% ,16-74, 2022)</b>				
Regularly	23	18	31	23
Sometimes	39	33	43	41
Never	37	49	26	36
<b>Avoiding plastic single-use products (% ,16-74, 2022)</b>				
Regularly	52	42	49	42
Sometimes	41	49	44	46
Never	7	9	7	11
<b>Choosing environmentally friendly options in childcare activities (% ,16-74, 2022)</b>				
Regularly	49	39	51	49
Sometimes	42	54	41	41
Never	9	7	8	10
<b>Choosing friendly options in housework activities daily (% ,16-74, 2022)</b>				
Regularly	63	56	59	53
Sometimes	33	37	35	39
Never	4	7	6	8
<b>Tertiary graduates in natural sciences and technologies (% ,15+, 2021)</b>				
Natural sciences and technologies	38	62	36	64
Natural sciences	67	33	56	44
Technologies	33	67	28	72
<b>Energy</b>				
<b>People unable to keep the home adequately warm (% ,+16, 2021)</b>				
65+	11	7	8	6
Low educational attainment	12	12	12	12
Single	15	15	10	9
Lone parents	16	12	12	11
Non-EU migrants	11	7	12	13
People with disabilities	11	9	12	11
<b>People with arrears on utility bills (% ,+16, 2021)</b>				
16-24	17	19	8	9
Low educational attainment	19	23	9	10
Single	15	15	10	9
Lone parents	16	12	12	11
Non-EU migrants	18	17	11	12
People with disabilities	16	19	8	9
Employed in the energy sector (% ,+15, 2022)*	12	88	24	76
<b>Transport</b>				
<b>People opting for low carbon-emission modes of transport (% ,16-74, 2022)</b>				
Regularly	37	39	42	41
Sometimes	41	44	39	41
Never	22	17	19	18
People using the car as main means of transport during a typical week (% ,16-74, 2022)	72	73	66	70
People using public transportation as main means of transport during a typical week (% ,16-74, 2022)	26	19	32	29
People using walking as main means of transport during a typical week (% ,16-74, 2022)	52	48	46	43
Employed in the transport sector (% ,15+, 2022)	16	84	22	78
<b>Decision-making</b>				
Senior administrators in national ministries dealing with environment and climate change (% ,2022)	47	53	56	44
Members of parliamentary committees dealing with environment and climate change (% ,2022)	73	27	70	30

\* Low reliability

Source: EIGE Survey on gender gaps in unpaid care, individual and social activities, European Social Survey, Eurostat LFS, EU-SILC, Education statistics, EIGE Women and Men in Decision-Making.

# About Index

The Gender Equality Index is a tool for monitoring 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 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 2023 also includes a thematic focus on the socially fair transition of the European Green Deal.

This year's edition of the Index includes a long-awaited update to the domain of time using the EIGE survey on gender gaps in unpaid care, individual and social activities.

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## EIGE's survey on gender gaps in unpaid care, individual and social activities

This EIGE survey focuses on gender differences in unpaid care in order to better understand how they impact the job opportunities, work-life balance, leisure and social activities of women and men. The survey aims to fill current data gaps and improve the capacity of the Gender Equality Index to capture changes in the domain of time in a more conceptually sound, coherent and regular way. The findings from this EIGE survey will contribute to monitoring the European Care Strategy and the EU Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025, as reducing the gender gap in care is a key objective of these strategies. The survey was carried out during the summer of 2022, and involved over 60,000 respondents aged 16-74 across the 27 EU Member States.

## European Institute for Gender Equality

We are an independent centre and the primary source for information on gender equality in the European Union. We contribute to making the European Union become a Union of Equality, where women and men, girls and boys in all their diversity are free to pursue their chosen path in life, have equal opportunities to thrive, and can equally participate in and lead our societies.

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