



The data for 2023 Index is mostly from 2021.

## Progress in gender equality

With 56.1 out of 100 points, Romania ranks last in the EU on the Gender Equality Index. Its score is 14.1 points below the score for the EU as a whole.<sup>1</sup>

Since 2010, Romania's score has increased by 5.3 points, mainly due to improvements in the domain of time (+18.6 points). Since 2020, Romania's score has risen by 2.4 points. However, there has been a setback in the domain of power, in which Romania's score has fallen by 1.9 points. Due to slower progress than other Member States, Romania's overall ranking has dropped by one place since 2020.

[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).

		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
HR	60.7	8.4	0.0
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
<b>RO</b>	<b>56.1</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>2.4</b>

## Best performance

Romania's highest score (70.6 points) is in the domain of money. Within this domain, Romania's best ranking (22nd place) is in the sub-domain of financial resources, in which it has moved up five places since 2010 and has a current score of 62.3 points – an increase of 1.5 points since 2020. Within the domain of money, the country's highest score is in the sub-domain of economic situation (80.1 points), in which it ranks 25th.

## Most room for improvement

Gender inequalities are strongly pronounced in the domain of health (70.0 points), in which Romania has ranked last among all Member States since 2010. Between 2020 and 2021, Romania's score in this domain has decreased slightly (– 0.4 points). This change has been driven by decreases in the sub-domains of status and access (both – 0.7 points). Within the domain of health, the country scores lowest in the sub-domain of health behaviour (40.7 points), in which it also ranks last in the EU.

## Biggest improvement

Since 2020, Romania's score has improved the most in the domain of time (+ 18.9 points), moving the country's ranking up from 23rd place to 8th. This is one of the largest increases among all EU countries in this domain. An improvement in the sub-domain of social activities (+ 23.6 points since 2020) has been the key driver of this change. As a result, the country's ranking in this sub-domain has risen by 17 places to 8th.

## A step backwards

Since 2020, Romania's score in the domain of power has decreased (– 1.9 points), resulting in a drop in ranking from 22nd to 23rd place. Over this period, gender inequalities have widened in the sub-domains of political (– 4.3 points) and economic (– 2.1 points) decision-making, in which the country ranks 26th and 27th, respectively.

## 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.

Romania is improving at a **slower pace** than other Member States. Its Gender Equality Index score has improved, but is consistently and considerably lower than the EU average. Progress towards gender equality in Romania has been slower. The gap between the country and the EU average has widened over time.

# Explore Romania's Index results

										Change since	
	2010	2012	2015	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2010	2020	
<b>Index</b>	<b>50.8</b>	<b>51.2</b>	<b>52.4</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>54.4</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>53.7</b>	<b>56.1</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>2.4</b>	
<b>Work</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>67.8</b>	<b>67.1</b>	<b>67.7</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>67.5</b>	<b>67.3</b>	<b>67.0</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	
Participation	78.8	78.5	77.5	79.0	78.8	78.8	78.4	74.1	-4.7	-4.3	
Segregation and quality of work	58.6	58.5	58.1	58.0	58.0	57.9	57.7	60.6	2.0	2.9	
<b>Money</b>	<b>59.8</b>	<b>59.2</b>	<b>59.4</b>	<b>62.0</b>	<b>63.0</b>	<b>69.1</b>	<b>70.2</b>	<b>70.6</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>0.4</b>	
Financial resources	42.5	42.7	45.7	47.2	49.3	60.1	60.8	62.3	19.8	1.5	
Economic situation	84.2	82.1	77.3	81.6	80.4	79.5	80.9	80.1	-4.1	-0.8	
<b>Knowledge</b>	<b>47.2</b>	<b>50.2</b>	<b>51.8</b>	<b>51.5</b>	<b>52.4</b>	<b>52.8</b>	<b>52.2</b>	<b>54.4</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>2.2</b>	
Attainment and participation	50.1	52.7	52.9	52.4	52.6	53.4	53.1	57.6	7.5	4.5	
Segregation	44.4	47.9	50.7	50.7	52.2	52.1	51.3	51.4	7.0	0.1	
<b>Time</b>	<b>50.6</b>	<b>53.2</b>	<b>50.3</b>	<b>50.3</b>	<b>50.3</b>	<b>50.3</b>	<b>50.3</b>	<b>69.2</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>18.9</b>	
Care activities	70.9	78.1	70.7	70.7	70.7	70.7	70.7	80.7	9.8	10.0	
Social activities	36.2	36.2	35.8	35.8	35.8	35.8	35.8	59.4	23.2	23.6	
<b>Power</b>	<b>30.8</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>33.2</b>	<b>38.8</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>34.7</b>	<b>32.6</b>	<b>30.7</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	
Political	23.5	26.5	32.9	40.8	41.6	41.0	36.1	31.8	8.3	-4.3	
Economic	28.0	20.4	21.4	20.5	21.5	19.0	17.8	15.7	-12.3	-2.1	
Social	44.4	44.4	51.8	69.7	59.3	53.6	54.1	57.6	13.2	3.5	
<b>Health</b>	<b>69.9</b>	<b>70.2</b>	<b>70.4</b>	<b>71.1</b>	<b>71.2</b>	<b>71.3</b>	<b>70.4</b>	<b>70.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	
Status	87.9	88.5	88.6	88.6	88.7	89.2	89.2	88.5	0.6	-0.7	
Behaviour	42.5	42.5	42.5	42.5	42.5	42.5	40.7	40.7	-1.8	0.0	
Access	91.6	92.1	92.9	95.7	96.0	95.9	96.0	95.3	3.7	-0.7	

# Explore Romania's performance by indicator

		Romania		EU	
		Women	Men	Women	Men
<b>Work</b>					
<b>Participation</b>	Full-time equivalent employment rate (% , 15-89 population, 2021)*	39	58	42	57
	Duration of working life (years, 15+ population, 2021)	27	35	34	38
<b>Segregation and quality of work</b>	Employed people in education, human health and social work activities (% , 15-89 employed, 2021)	19	4	30	8
	Ability to take one hour or two off during working hours to take care of personal or family matters (% , 15+ workers, 2021)	25	34	29	37
	Career Prospects Index (points, 0-100, +15 population, 2015)	66	67	62	63
<b>Money</b>					
<b>Financial resources</b>	Mean monthly earnings (PPS, +16 working population, 2018)	1732	1782	2321	2818
	Mean equivalised net income (PPS, 16+ population, 2021)	9805	9942	20261	21221
<b>Economic situation</b>	At-risk-of-poverty (% , 16+ population, 2021)	22	20	17	15
	Income distribution S20/80 (16+ population, 2021)	15	14	20	20
<b>Knowledge</b>					
<b>Attainment and participation</b>	Graduates of tertiary education (% , 15-89 population, 2021)	14	14	28	26
	People participating in formal or non-formal education and training (15-74 population, 2021)	12	13	19	18
<b>Segregation</b>	Tertiary students in education, health and welfare, humanities and arts (% , 15+ population, 2021)	34	18	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)	52	40	34	25
	People doing cooking and/or housework, every day (% , 18-74 population, 2022)	66	38	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)	25	28	29	34
	Workers involved in voluntary or charitable activities, at least once a month (% , 16-74 workers, 2022)	18	13	11	15
<b>Power</b>					
<b>Political</b>	Share of ministers (% , 2nd quarter 2023)	9	91	34	66
	Share of members of parliament (% , 2nd quarter 2023)	20	80	33	67
	Share of members of regional assemblies/local municipalities (% , 2023)**	21	79	30	70
<b>Economic</b>	Share of members of boards in largest quoted companies, supervisory board or board of directors (% , 1st semester 2023)	20	80	33	67
	Share of board members of central bank (% , 2022)	0	100	28	72
<b>Social</b>	Share of board members of research funding organisations (% , 2018)	45	55	41	59
	Share of board members of publically owned broadcasting organisations (% , 2022)	38	62	38	62
	Share of members of highest decision making body of the national Olympic sport organisations (% , 2022)	16	84	20	80
<b>Health</b>					
<b>Status</b>	Self-perceived health, good or very good (% , 16+ population, 2021)	69	77	67	72
	Life expectancy at birth (years, 2021)	77	69	83	77
	Healthy life years at birth (years, 2021)	58	57	64	63
<b>Behaviour</b>	People who don't smoke and are not involved in harmful drinking (% , 15+ population, 2019)***	73	35	73	56
	People doing physical activities and/or consuming fruits and vegetables (% , 15+ population, 2019)	6	14	38	43
<b>Access</b>	Population with unmet needs for medical examination (% , 16+ population, 2021)	10	7	5	4
	Population with unmet needs for dental examination (% , 16+ population, 2021)	7	5	5	5

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

\*\* RO: Regional municipalities

\*\*\* 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		Gap change
		Women	Men	2014	2021	
<b>Full-time equivalent employment rate (% , 15-89 population, 2021)*</b>						
Family type	Couple without children	36	42	-5	-6	●
	Couple with children	65	90	-15	-25	●
Level of education	Low educated	11	33	-11	-22	●
	Medium educated	45	62	-13	-17	●
	High educated	79	81	-2	-2	●
Country of birth	Native born	39	58	-13	-19	●
	Foreign born	39	54	n/a	-15	●
<b>At-risk-of-poverty (% , 16+ population, 2021)</b>						
Age groups	15/16-24	24	30	2	-6	●
	25-49	19	19	-1	0	●
	50-64	20	21	-2	-1	●
	65+	25	17	9	8	●
Disability	With disabilities	27	24	0	3	●
	Without disabilities	19	19	1	0	●
<b>Graduates of tertiary education (% , 15-89 population, 2021)</b>						
Age groups	15/16-24	5	3	2	2	●
	25-49	26	20	3	6	●
	50-64	12	11	-2	1	●
	65+	5	8	-4	-3	●
Country of birth	Native born	14	14	-1	0	●
	Foreign born	42	34	-17	8	●
<b>People caring for and educating their children or grandchildren, elderly or people with disabilities, every day (% , 18-74 population, 2022)</b>						
Family type	Couple without children	20	20	6	0	●
	Couple with children	79	58	30	21	●
Disability	With disabilities	52	44	20	8	●
	Without disabilities	50	39	21	11	●
<b>Self-perceived health, good or very good (% , 16+ population, 2021)</b>						
Age groups	15/16-24	98	98	1	0	●
	25-49	94	94	-2	0	●
	50-64	65	73	-13	-8	●
	65+	22	30	-10	-8	●
Disability	With disabilities	20	26	-3	-6	●
	Without disabilities	93	94	-5	-1	●

● 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 Romania 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 Romania, 43 women were murdered by a family member and/or intimate partner. Romania does not provide data disaggregated by the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator.

## Violence at a glance

### Intimate partner violence

No data is available. Data on intimate partner violence will be updated in 2024 using Eurostat data, complemented by the survey on violence against women carried out by FRA and EIGE.

**Source:** Eurostat, 2021

### Sexual harassment at work

No data is available. Data on sexual harassment at work will be updated in 2024 with Eurostat data, complemented by the survey on violence against women carried out by FRA and EIGE.

**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. 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.

## 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**

### **More women than men regularly choose environmentally friendly options**

In 2022, more women (45 %) than men (37 %) in Romania regularly avoided plastic and/or single-use products. Similarly, 60 % of women compared with 53 % of men regularly chose environmentally friendly options in childcare activities – for example, by avoiding single-use items, buying second-hand goods and educating the children in their care about environmental issues. Moreover, in 2022, a higher percentage of women (43 %) than men (41 %) regularly opted for low carbon-emission modes of transport such as cycling, public transport and car-pooling instead of using their personal car.

### **Lone mothers are more likely to experience energy-related difficulties**

In Romania, 21 % of lone mothers and 7 % of lone fathers were unable to keep their homes adequately warm in 2021. A high percentage of women (15 %) and men (17 %) with a low level of education also faced this challenge. In addition, many lone mothers (21 %) and single women (15 %) were in arrears on utility bills in 2021. These figures are higher than the EU average (12 % and 10 %, respectively). The overall situation is likely to worsen with the current energy crisis.

### **Gender imbalances in the energy and transport sectors are among the highest in the EU**

In 2022, only 13 % of workers in the energy sector in Romania were women. Similarly, women comprised just 13 % of workers in the transport sector in the same year. Women were also noticeably underrepresented on parliamentary committees dedicated to the environment and climate change, where they accounted for only 10 % of members in 2022. In contrast, in 2022 women represented 47 % of senior administrators in national ministries dealing with environment and climate change.

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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 Romania

	Romania		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	29	23	31	23
Sometimes	42	43	43	41
Never	29	34	26	36
<b>Avoiding plastic single-use products (% , 16-74, 2022)</b>				
Regularly	45	37	49	42
Sometimes	46	53	44	46
Never	9	10	7	11
<b>Choosing environmentally friendly options in childcare activities (% , 16-74, 2022)</b>				
Regularly	60	53	51	49
Sometimes	37	42	41	41
Never	4	5	8	10
<b>Choosing friendly options in housework activities daily (% , 16-74, 2022)</b>				
Regularly	63	57	59	53
Sometimes	34	39	35	39
Never	3	4	6	8
<b>Tertiary graduates in natural sciences and technologies (% , 15+, 2021)</b>				
Natural sciences and technologies	43	57	36	64
Natural sciences	69	31	56	44
Technologies	37	63	28	72
<b>Energy</b>				
<b>People unable to keep the home adequately warm (% , +16, 2021)</b>				
65+	13	11	8	6
Low educational attainment	15	17	12	12
Single	15	15	10	9
Lone parents	21	7	12	11
Non-EU migrants	n/a	n/a	12	13
People with disabilities	14	15	12	11
<b>People with arrears on utility bills (% , +16, 2021)</b>				
16-24	11	10	8	9
Low educational attainment	12	15	9	10
Single	15	15	10	9
Lone parents	21	7	12	11
Non-EU migrants	n/a	n/a	11	12
People with disabilities	9	11	8	9
Employed in the energy sector (% , +15, 2022)	13	87	24	76
<b>Transport</b>				
<b>People opting for low carbon-emission modes of transport (% , 16-74, 2022)</b>				
Regularly	43	41	42	41
Sometimes	43	46	39	41
Never	13	13	19	18
People using the car as main means of transport during a typical week (% , 16-74, 2022)	55	62	66	70
People using public transportation as main means of transport during a typical week (% , 16-74, 2022)	47	40	32	29
People using walking as main means of transport during a typical week (% , 16-74, 2022)	51	44	46	43
Employed in the transport sector (% , 15+, 2022)	13	87	22	78
<b>Decision-making</b>				
Senior administrators in national ministries dealing with environment and climate change (% , 2022)	53	47	56	44
Members of parliamentary committees dealing with environment and climate change (% , 2022)	90	10	70	30

# 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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European Institute for Gender Equality  
Gedimino pr. 16  
LT01103  
Vilnius  
LITHUANIA  
Tel. +370 52157444  
Email: [eige.sec@eige.europa.eu](mailto:eige.sec@eige.europa.eu)

### Contact details

-  [eige.europa.eu](http://eige.europa.eu)
-  [facebook.com/eige.europa.eu](https://facebook.com/eige.europa.eu)
-  [twitter.com/eige\\_eu](https://twitter.com/eige_eu)
-  [youtube.com/user/eurogender](https://youtube.com/user/eurogender)
-  [eige.sec@eige.europa.eu](mailto:eige.sec@eige.europa.eu)
-  +370 52157444