

The data for 2023 Index is mostly from 2021.

Progress in gender equality

With 59.2 points out of 100, Slovakia ranks 23rd in the EU on the Gender Equality Index. Its score is 11.0 points below the score for the EU as a whole.¹

Since 2010, Slovakia's score has increased by 6.2 points, mainly due to improvements in the domain of time (+ 21.1 points). Since 2020, Slovakia's score has increased by 3.2 points, which is one of the biggest improvements among the Member States. This can be attributed to improvements in the domains of time (+ 14.7 points) and work (+ 5.4 points). As a result, Slovakia's ranking in the Index has risen by one place since 2020, and currently stands in 23rd place.

		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
EU	70.2	7.1	1.6
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
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

Compared with other domains, Slovakia ranks highest in the domain of knowledge (12th among all Member States), with a score of 62.1 points. Since 2020, Slovakia has maintained the same position in the ranking for knowledge, despite the country's score increasing by 1.2 points in this domain. Within this domain, the country's highest ranking (4th place) is in the sub-domain of segregation (61.9 points). Slovakia highest scores (62.3 points) is in the sub-domain of attainment and participation, where it has ranked 23rd since 2020.

Most room for improvement

Slovakia's lowest score is in the domain of power (31.1 points), in which it ranks 22nd among the Member States. Since 2020, progress in this domain has stalled (- 0.3 points), although its ranking has improved by one place. With a score of 27.5 points, Slovakia's greatest room for improvement is in the sub-domain of economic decision-making, in which the country ranks 22nd in the EU. Gender inequalities are also particularly pronounced in the sub-domain of social decision-making, in which the country ranks 25th with a score of 29.6 points.

Biggest improvement

Since 2020, the biggest improvement in Slovakia's score (+ 14.7 points) has been in the domain of time, in which the country has increased to 61.0 points and moved its ranking up three places to 22nd. An improvement in the sub-domain of social activities (+ 15.8 points) has been the key driver of this change, with the country's ranking in this sub-domain rising from 24th place to 18th. With a score of 69.3 points, Slovakia has also improved in the sub-domain of care activities (+ 12.8 points), in which the country has ranked 24th since 2020.;

A step backwards

Since 2020, Slovakia's score in the domain of money (74.2 points) has decreased slightly (- 0.6 points), but its ranking (18th place) remains unchanged. Slovakia's lack of progress towards gender equality in this domain is due to a decrease in score in the sub-domain of financial resources (- 0.9 points). As a result, Slovakia's ranking has fallen one place, and currently stands last in the EU. While progress has stalled since 2020 in the sub-domain of economic situation (- 0.2 points), the country remains 1st in the EU in this sub-domain, with a score of 98.4 points.

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.

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

Explore Slovakia's Index results

	2010	2012	2015	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Change since	
	2010	2012	2015	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2010	2020
Index	53.0	52.4	52.4	54.1	55.5	56.0	56.0	59.2	6.2	3.2
Work	64.8	64.9	65.5	66.5	66.6	66.8	66.5	71.9	7.1	5.4
Participation	79.0	78.8	80.6	82.6	82.7	83.2	82.7	87.4	8.4	4.7
Segregation and quality of work	53.1	53.4	53.2	53.5	53.7	53.7	53.5	59.1	6.0	5.6
Money	70.2	72.1	74.0	74.2	75.1	75.1	74.8	74.2	4.0	-0.6
Financial resources	51.9	53.9	56.4	56.8	57.1	57.5	56.8	55.9	4.0	-0.9
Economic situation	95.1	96.4	97.2	96.9	98.8	98.2	98.6	98.4	3.3	-0.2
Knowledge	59.5	59.6	60.0	60.4	61.2	61.6	60.9	62.1	2.6	1.2
Attainment and participation	59.1	58.8	58.8	59.7	60.9	60.9	59.5	62.3	3.2	2.8
Segregation	59.9	60.3	61.2	61.1	61.5	62.4	62.3	61.9	2.0	-0.4
Time	39.9	43.4	46.3	46.3	46.3	46.3	46.3	61.0	21.1	14.7
Care activities	52.7	62.5	56.5	56.5	56.5	56.5	56.5	69.3	16.6	12.8
Social activities	30.2	30.2	37.9	37.9	37.9	37.9	37.9	53.7	23.5	15.8
Power	29.5	25.4	23.1	26.8	29.6	30.7	31.4	31.1	1.6	-0.3
Political	31.0	28.4	29.0	35.3	36.9	37.2	36.8	36.8	5.8	0.0
Economic	34.1	23.7	14.6	17.9	23.3	26.3	27.6	27.5	-6.6	-0.1
Social	24.3	24.4	29.1	30.4	30.0	29.6	30.6	29.6	5.3	-1.0
Health	84.8	85.0	85.3	85.8	85.5	85.5	85.2	85.1	0.3	-0.1
Status	85.4	86.1	87.4	88.1	87.8	87.7	87.7	87.3	1.9	-0.4
Behaviour	73.1	73.1	73.1	73.1	73.1	73.1	72.9	72.9	-0.2	0.0
Access	97.6	97.5	97.3	98.0	97.4	97.6	96.7	96.9	-0.7	0.2

Explore Slovakia's performance by indicator

		Slovakia		EU	
		Women	Men	Women	Men
Work					
Participation	Full-time equivalent employment rate (% , 15-89 population, 2021)*	51	62	42	57
	Duration of working life (years, 15+ population, 2021)	33	36	34	38
Segregation and quality of work	Employed people in education, human health and social work activities (% , 15-89 employed, 2021)	28	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)	20	28	29	37
	Career Prospects Index (points, 0-100, +15 population, 2015)	66	67	62	63
Money					
Financial resources	Mean monthly earnings (PPS, +16 working population, 2018)	1285	1628	2321	2818
	Mean equivalised net income (PPS, 16+ population, 2021)	9862	10158	20261	21221
Economic situation	At-risk-of-poverty (% , 16+ population, 2021)	12	10	17	15
	Income distribution S20/80 (16+ population, 2021)	32	32	20	20
Knowledge					
Attainment and participation	Graduates of tertiary education (% , 15-89 population, 2021)	26	20	28	26
	People participating in formal or non-formal education and training (15-74 population, 2021)	13	12	19	18
Segregation	Tertiary students in education, health and welfare, humanities and arts (% , 15+ population, 2021)	51	26	43	21
Time					
Care activities	People caring for and educating their children or grandchildren, elderly or people with disabilities, every day (% , 18-74 population, 2022)	37	24	34	25
	People doing cooking and/or housework, every day (% , 18-74 population, 2022)	53	23	63	36
Social activities	Workers doing sporting, cultural or leisure activities outside of their home, at least daily or several times a week (% , 16-74 workers, 2022)	24	29	29	34
	Workers involved in voluntary or charitable activities, at least once a month (% , 16-74 workers, 2022)	8	9	11	15
Power					
Political	Share of ministers (% , 2nd quarter 2023)	18	82	34	66
	Share of members of parliament (% , 2nd quarter 2023)	22	78	33	67
	Share of members of regional assemblies/local municipalities (% , 2023)**	14	86	30	70
Economic	Share of members of boards in largest quoted companies, supervisory board or board of directors (% , 1st semester 2023)	25	75	33	67
	Share of board members of central bank (% , 2022)	0	100	28	72
Social	Share of board members of research funding organisations (% , 2022)	8	92	41	59
	Share of board members of publically owned broadcasting organisations (% , 2022)	22	78	38	62
	Share of members of highest decision making body of the national Olympic sport organisations (% , 2022)	11	89	20	80
Health					
Status	Self-perceived health, good or very good (% , 16+ population, 2021)	62	68	67	72
	Life expectancy at birth (years, 2021)	78	71	83	77
	Healthy life years at birth (years, 2021)	58	56	64	63
Behaviour	People who don't smoke and are not involved in harmful drinking (% , 15+ population, 2019)***	76	56	73	56
	People doing physical activities and/or consuming fruits and vegetables (% , 15+ population, 2019)	31	41	38	43
Access	Population with unmet needs for medical examination (% , 16+ population, 2021)	9	7	5	4
	Population with unmet needs for dental examination (% , 16+ population, 2021)	4	4	5	5

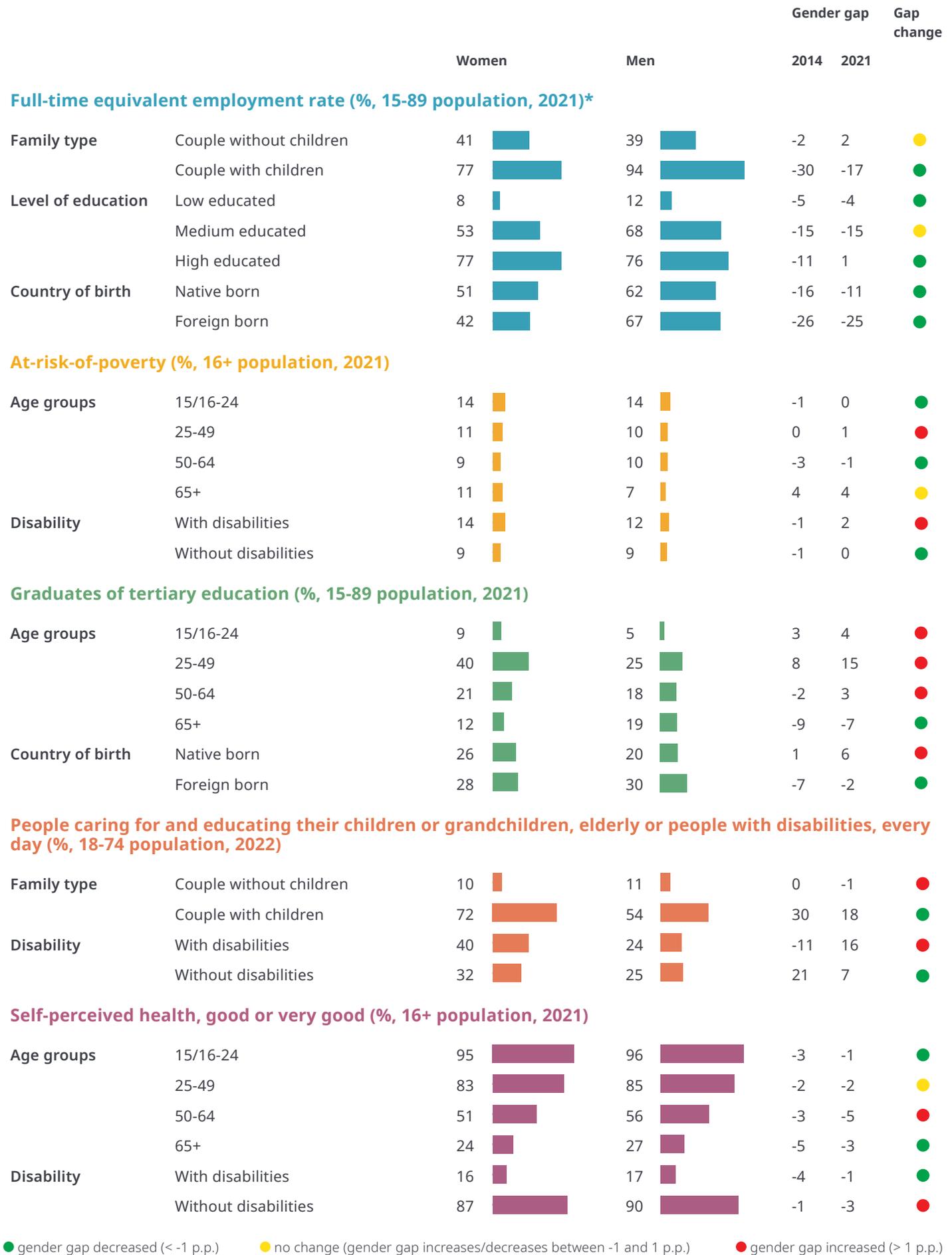
* FTE employment rate measures employed persons in a comparable way, even though they may work a different number of hours per week

** SK: 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 Slovakia 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 Slovakia, two women were murdered by an intimate partner. No data is available for the number of women murdered by a family member.

Source: Eurostat, 2021

Violence at a glance

Intimate partner violence

In Slovakia, 51 % of women who have ever been in a relationship have experienced violence by an intimate partner during their adult life. In total, 31 % have experienced physical violence (including threats) or sexual violence, while 49 % have experienced psychological violence. Around 11 % have experienced intimate partner violence during the last 12 months, while 17 % have experienced it in the last five years.

Source: Eurostat, 2021

Sexual harassment at work

In Slovakia, over half of women who have ever worked have experienced sexual harassment at work. Up to 9 % of women have experienced sexual harassment at work during the last 12 months, while 24 % 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. Slovakia signed the Istanbul Convention in May 2011, but has not yet ratified it. The Convention has not yet entered into force in Slovakia.

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.¹ 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 opt for environment-friendly options more frequently than men

In Slovakia, considerably more women (46 %) than men (33 %) reported regularly choosing environmentally friendly options for childcare activities in 2022; for example, by avoiding single-use items, buying second-hand goods, and educating the children under their care about environmental issues. Around 41 % of women, compared with 34 % of men, reported regularly avoiding plastic and/or single-use products.

Women and men with low education, as well as single women and men, struggle the most to keep their homes warm

In 2021, 16 % of women with low education were unable to keep their homes adequately warm, compared with 19 % of men with low education. These percentages are higher than the EU average, which is 12 % for both. Keeping the home warm was also a struggle for single people, with 11 % of single women and 9 % of single men experiencing difficulties in this regard. These figures are likely to have risen significantly with the ongoing energy crisis.

The energy and transport sectors and decision-making positions in Slovakia suffer from the significant under-representation of women

In 2022, women comprised 27 % of workers in the energy sector in Slovakia.² Similarly, women accounted for 28 % of workers in the transport sector. In 2022, only 17 % of decision-makers in parliamentary committees focusing on the environment and climate change were women, which was notably lower than the EU average of 30 %. In contrast, the representation of women in senior administrative roles within national ministries dealing with environment and climate change stood at 58 %, surpassing the EU average of 44 %.

[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.

[2] Low reliability.

Green Deal in Slovakia

	Slovakia		EU	
	Women	Men	Women	Men
Public attitudes and behaviours on climate change and mitigation				
Personal responsibility to try to reduce climate change (% , 15+, 2018)*	n/a	n/a	62	61
Avoiding animal products (% , 16-74, 2022)				
Regularly	23	19	31	23
Sometimes	48	41	43	41
Never	29	40	26	36
Avoiding plastic single-use products (% , 16-74, 2022)				
Regularly	41	34	49	42
Sometimes	51	52	44	46
Never	8	14	7	11
Choosing environmentally friendly options in childcare activities (% , 16-74, 2022)				
Regularly	46	33	51	49
Sometimes	48	55	41	41
Never	6	12	8	10
Choosing friendly options in housework activities daily (% , 16-74, 2022)				
Regularly	61	56	59	53
Sometimes	34	36	35	39
Never	5	8	6	8
Tertiary graduates in natural sciences and technologies (% , 15+, 2021)				
Natural sciences and technologies	36	64	36	64
Natural sciences	68	32	56	44
Technologies	25	75	28	72
Energy				
People unable to keep the home adequately warm (% , +16, 2021)				
65+	8	7	8	6
Low educational attainment	16	19	12	12
Single	11	9	10	9
Lone parents	5	7	12	11
Non-EU migrants	9	n/a	12	13
People with disabilities	9	9	12	11
People with arrears on utility bills (% , +16, 2021)				
16-24	7	6	8	9
Low educational attainment	9	12	9	10
Single	11	9	10	9
Lone parents	5	7	12	11
Non-EU migrants	9	n/a	11	12
People with disabilities	5	6	8	9
Employed in the energy sector (% , +15, 2022)				
	27	73	24	76
Transport				
People opting for low carbon-emission modes of transport (% , 16-74, 2022)				
Regularly	46	40	42	41
Sometimes	39	42	39	41
Never	15	18	19	18
People using the car as main means of transport during a typical week (% , 16-74, 2022)				
	58	68	66	70
People using public transportation as main means of transport during a typical week (% , 16-74, 2022)				
	44	34	32	29
People using walking as main means of transport during a typical week (% , 16-74, 2022)				
	58	53	46	43
Employed in the transport sector (% , 15+, 2022)				
	28	72	22	78
Decision-making				
Senior administrators in national ministries dealing with environment and climate change (% , 2022)				
	42	58	56	44
Members of parliamentary committees dealing with environment and climate change (% , 2022)				
	83	17	70	30

* n.a.: not available or not reliable

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.

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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