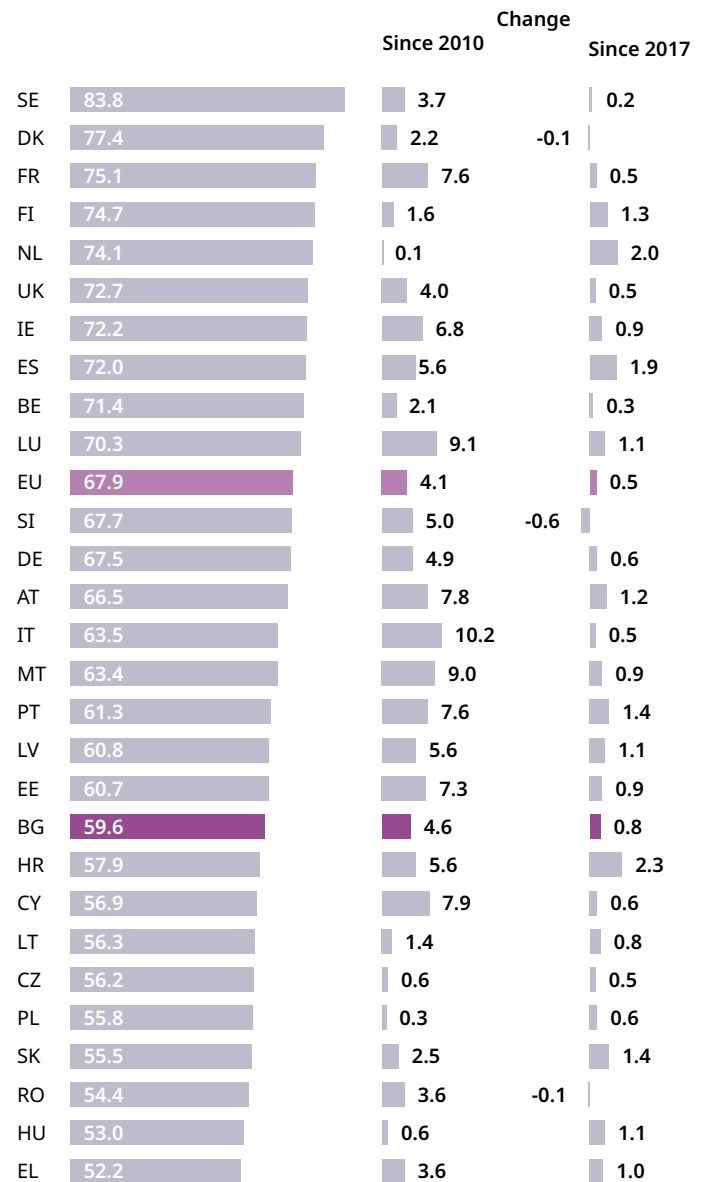


Progress on gender equality in Bulgaria since 2010

With 59.6 out of 100 points, Bulgaria ranks 19th in the EU on the Gender Equality Index. Bulgaria's score is 8.3 points below the EU's score.

Since 2010, Bulgaria's score has increased by 4.6 points. Its score has increased only slightly (by 0.8 points) since 2017. The country's ranking has fallen two places since 2010.



Best performance

Bulgaria's scores are highest in the domains of health (77.2 points) and work (69.0 points), although the country ranks low in both domains (27th in the domain of health and 21st in the domain of work).

Most room for improvement

Gender inequalities are most pronounced in the domain of time (42.7 points). Having fallen three places since 2010, Bulgaria ranks last in this domain.













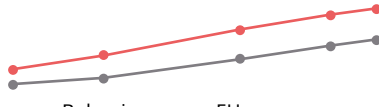








Biggest improvement

Since 2010, Bulgaria's scores have improved the most in the domain of power, increasing its ranking by two places (it ranks 6th). Since 2010, Bulgaria has gained 15.7 points in the domain of power.

A step backwards

Since 2010, Bulgaria's score has decreased in the domain of time (-1.2 points). There has been minor progress in the domains of work (+1.1 points), money (+1.5 points) and health (+1.9 points).

Explore Bulgaria's Index results

| Scores | 2010 | 2012 | 2015 | 2017 | 2018 | Trends in scores 2010-2018 Country and EU trends |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---|
|  1-100 | 55.0 | 56.9 | 58.0 | 58.8 | 59.6 |  |
| Work | 67.9 | 68.7 | 68.6 | 69.0 | 69.0 | |
|  Participation | 81.3 | 82.0 | 82.7 | 83.5 | 83.5 |  |
|  Segregation and quality of work | 56.7 | 57.6 | 56.9 | 57.0 | 57.0 |  |
| Money | 60.8 | 60.5 | 61.9 | 61.8 | 62.3 | |
|  Financial resources | 44.7 | 44.2 | 48.2 | 50.2 | 49.6 |  |
|  Economic situation | 82.8 | 82.7 | 79.5 | 76.1 | 78.2 |  |
| Knowledge | 50.4 | 51.9 | 53.3 | 53.2 | 54.9 | |
|  Attainment and participation | 53.9 | 54.6 | 56.1 | 55.4 | 57.3 |  |
|  Segregation | 47.1 | 49.3 | 50.7 | 51.0 | 52.7 |  |
| Time | 43.9 | 47.4 | 42.7 | 42.7 | 42.7 | |
|  Care activities | 48.6 | 56.6 | 55.7 | 55.7 | 55.7 |  |
|  Social activities | 39.7 | 39.7 | 32.6 | 32.6 | 32.6 |  |
| Power | 45.8 | 49.4 | 56.0 | 59.9 | 61.5 | |
|  Political | 50.3 | 53.4 | 49.2 | 53.8 | 56.5 |  |
|  Economic | 27.6 | 32.7 | 53.2 | 59.9 | 60.0 |  |
|  Social | 69.3 | 69.3 | 67.0 | 66.8 | 68.5 |  |
| Health | 75.3 | 75.8 | 76.4 | 77.1 | 77.2 | |
|  Status | 88.1 | 88.4 | 88.1 | 89.0 | 89.1 |  |
|  Behaviour | 52.3 | 52.3 | 52.3 | 52.3 | 52.3 |  |
|  Access | 92.6 | 94.1 | 96.9 | 98.5 | 98.5 |  |

About the Index

Each year, we score the EU Member States and the EU as a whole to see how far they are from reaching gender equality. The Index uses **a scale of 1 to 100, where 1 is for total inequality and 100 is for total equality.**

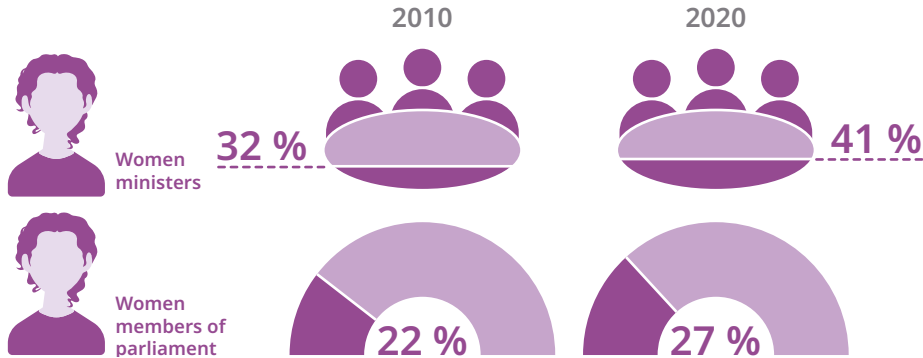
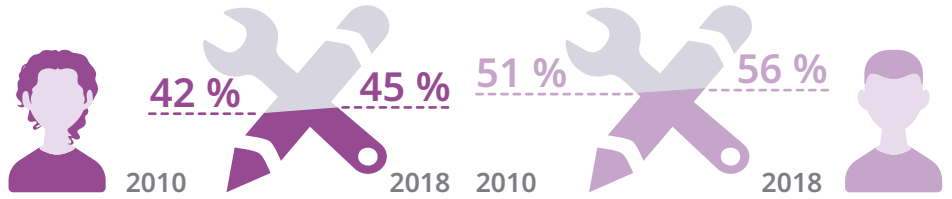
The scores are based on the gaps between women and men and levels of achievement in six core domains – work, money, knowledge, time, power and health – and **their subdomains. Two additional domains** are included in the Index but do not have an impact on the final score. The domain of intersecting inequalities highlights how gender inequalities manifest in combination with age, (dis)ability, country of birth, education and family type. The domain of violence against women measures and analyses women's experiences of violence. The Index is composed of **31 indicators.** The Gender Equality Index 2020 also includes **a thematic focus on digitalisation and the future of work.**

Key highlights



Increase in labour market participation

The full-time equivalent (FTE) employment rate has risen for both women and men.



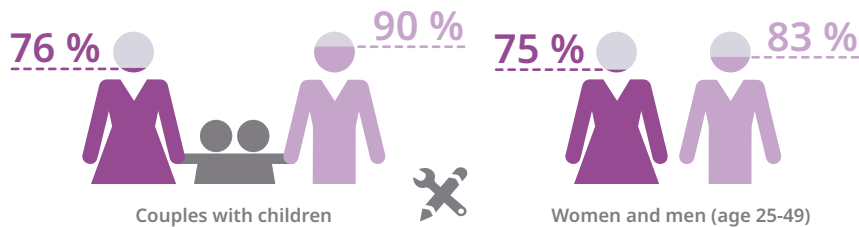
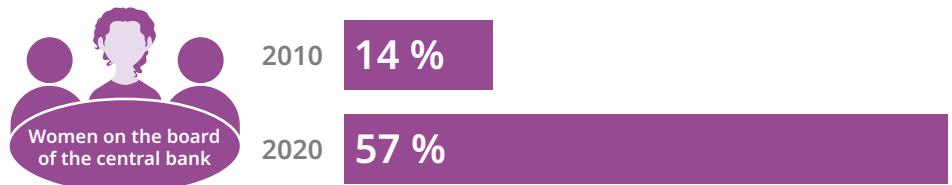
Improvements in political decision-making

The share of women among ministers and the share of women among members of parliament have increased.



Improvements in economic decision-making

The share of women on the board of the central bank is four times higher than in 2010.



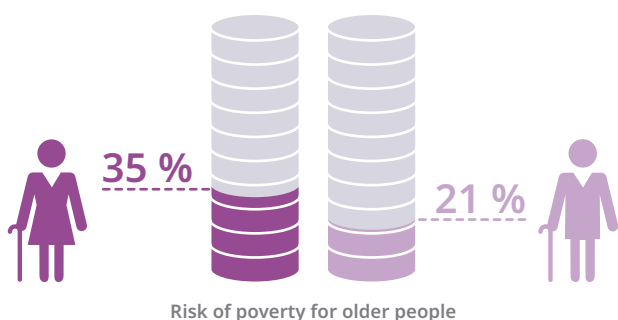
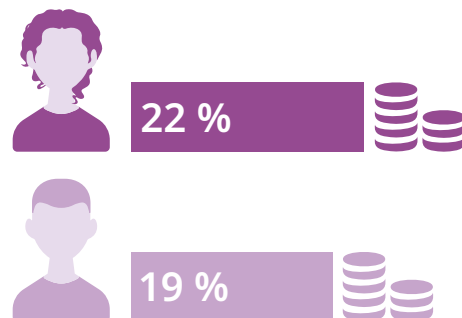
Gender gap in employment has widened, especially for some groups

The gender gap in full-time equivalent (FTE) employment rate is much wider between people in couples with children, and among those aged 25-49.



Poverty is a persistent problem

The risk of poverty has increased by 1 percentage point for both women and men since 2010. The poverty rates are among the highest in the EU.









Inequality in economic situation

The people facing the highest risk of poverty are women and men with a low level of education (47% and 43%), single women (46%), women with disabilities (34%) and women aged 65 or older (35%).



Explore Bulgaria's performance by indicator

| Indicators | | | Bulgaria | | EU | |
|--|---|---|----------|-------|--------|--------|
| | | | Women | Men | Women | Men |
| Work | | | | | | |
|  | Participation | *FTE employment rate measures employed persons in a comparable way, even though they may work a different number of hours per week; | 45 | 56 | 42 | 57 |
| | | Duration of working life (15+, years, 2018) | 31 | 35 | 34 | 39 |
| | Segregation and quality of work | Segregation in employment (15+, %, 2018) | 19 | 4 | 31 | 8 |
| | | Flexibility (15+, %, 2015) | 20 | 31 | 23 | 27 |
| | | Career Prospects Index (15+, points, 0-100, 2015) | 66 | 62 | 63 | 64 |
| Money | | | | | | |
|  | Financial resources | Mean monthly earnings (16+, Euros in Purchasing Power Standard, 2014) | 830 | 970 | 2 249 | 2 809 |
| | | Mean yearly household net income** (16+, Euros in Purchasing Power Standard, 2018) | 9 134 | 9 776 | 17 860 | 18 668 |
| | Economic conditions | At-risk-of-poverty (16+, %, 2018) | 22 | 19 | 17 | 16 |
| | | Income distribution (16+, %, 2018) | 14 | 13 | 20 | 19 |
| Knowledge | | | | | | |
|  | Attainment and participation | Graduates of tertiary education (15+, %, 2018) | 27 | 20 | 26 | 25 |
| | | Participation in life-long learning (15+, %, 2018) | 9 | 9 | 17 | 16 |
| | Segregation | Segregation in education (15+, %, 2017) | 34 | 18 | 43 | 21 |
| Time | | | | | | |
|  | Care activities | Caring for children, grandchildren, older people, or people with disabilities (18+, %, 2016) | 39 | 26 | 38 | 25 |
| | | Cooking and/or housework every day (18+, %, 2016) | 73 | 13 | 79 | 34 |
| | Social activities | Sport cultural or leisure activities (15+, %, 2015) | 12 | 20 | 28 | 32 |
| | | Voluntary or charitable activities (15+, %, 2015) | 3 | 2 | 12 | 11 |
| Power | | | | | | |
|  | Political | Ministers (% , the second quarter of 2020) | 41 | 59 | 32 | 68 |
| | | Members of parliament (both houses) (% , the second quarter of 2020) | 27 | 73 | 32 | 68 |
| | | Members of regional assemblies/local municipalities (% , 2019) | 26 | 74 | 29 | 71 |
| | Economic | Board members of largest companies (% , the first semester of 2020) | 17 | 83 | 29 | 71 |
| | | Board members of central bank (% , 2019) | 57 | 43 | 25 | 75 |
| | Social | Board members of research funding organisations (% , 2019) | 40 | 60 | 38 | 62 |
| | | Board members of public broadcasting organisations (% , 2019) | 30 | 70 | 37 | 63 |
| | | Board members of national Olympic sport organisations (% , 2019) | 21 | 79 | 17 | 83 |
| | Health | | | | | |
|  | Status | People in good health (16+, %, 2018) | 63 | 70 | 67 | 72 |
| | | Life expectancy (years, 2018) | 79 | 72 | 84 | 78 |
| | | Healthy life years (years, 2018) | 68 | 64 | 64 | 63 |
| | Behaviour | Smoking and drinking** (16+, %, 2014) | 32 | 53 | 28 | 48 |
| | | Physical activities and/or consuming fruits and vegetables** (16+, %, 2014) | 9 | 18 | 36 | 40 |
| | Access | Unmet needs for medical examination (16+, %, 2018) | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| | Unmet needs for dental examination (16+, %, 2018) | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | |



Violence

Why is there no score for the violence domain?

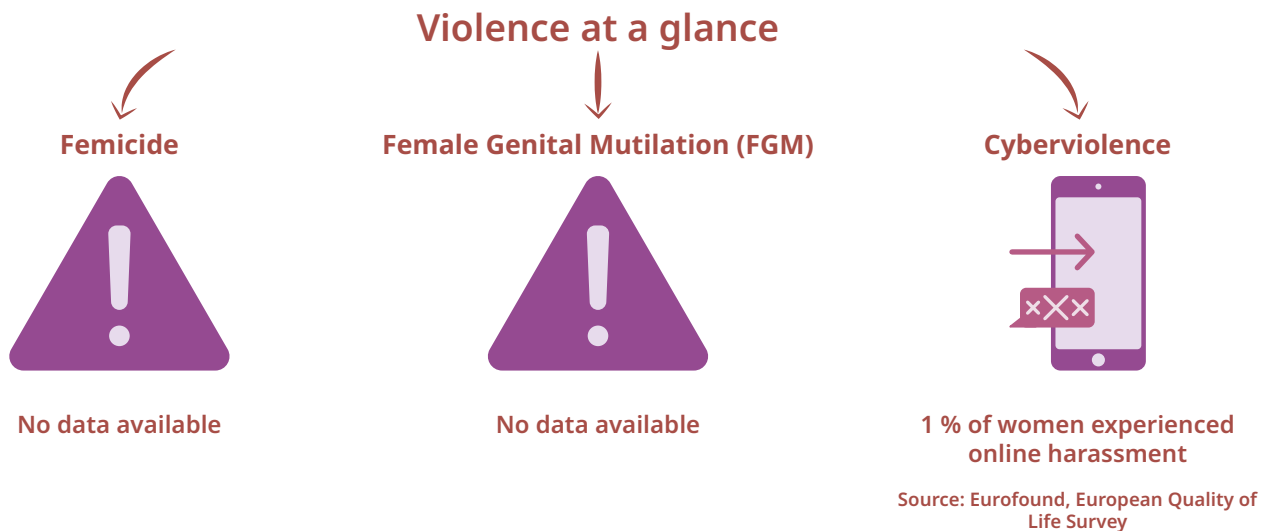
There is no new data to update the score for violence, which is why no figure is given. Eurostat is currently coordinating an EU-wide survey on gender-based violence, with results expected in 2023. EIGE will launch a second round of administrative data collection on intimate partner violence, rape and femicide in 2022. Both data sources will be used to update the domain of violence in the Gender Equality Index 2024.

Unlike the other domains of the Index, the domain of violence does not measure differences between women's and men's situations; rather, it examines women's experiences of violence (prevalence, severity and disclosure). The overall objective is not to reduce the gap in violence between women and men but to eradicate violence completely.



Data gaps mask the true scale of violence.

The EU needs comprehensive, up-to-date and comparable data to develop effective policies that combat violence against women.



During the COVID-19 lockdowns, women in violent relationships were stuck at home and exposed to their abuser for long periods of time, putting them at greater risk of domestic violence. Even without a pandemic, women face the greatest danger from people they know.

Istanbul Convention: state of play

The Istanbul Convention is the most comprehensive international human rights treaty on violence against women and domestic violence. Bulgaria signed the Istanbul Convention in April 2016 but is yet to ratify it.

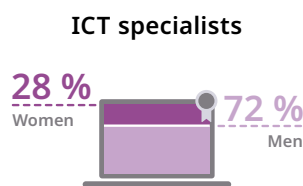
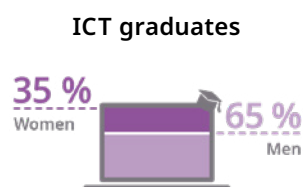
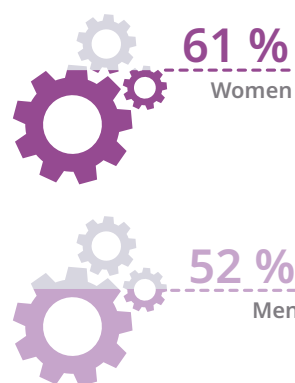


Thematic focus on digitalisation and the future of work

The Gender Equality Index 2020 focuses on digitalisation and the future of work. The thematic focus looks at three areas:

- use and development of digital skills and technologies;
- digital transformation of the world of work (segregation, working conditions, work-life balance);
- broader consequences of digitalisation for human rights, violence against women, and caring activities.

Above basic information skills among persons aged 25–54 years



| Main indicators | Bulgaria | | EU | |
|--|----------|--------|---|--------|
| | Women | Men | Women | Men |
| Digital skills | | | | |
| Internet daily users (16–74, %, 2019) | 59 | 60 | 78 | 80 |
| Above basic digital skills (16–74, %, 2019) | 12 | 10 | 31 | 36 |
| <i>Information skills</i> | 47 | 43 | 71 | 71 |
| <i>Communications skills</i> | 55 | 54 | 67 | 66 |
| <i>Problem-solving skills</i> | 25 | 24 | 56 | 63 |
| <i>Software skills</i> | 18 | 15 | 39 | 44 |
| Training to improve digital skills (16–74, %, 2018) | 13 | 12 | 18 | 22 |
| Segregation in education and labour market | | | | |
| ICT graduates (%, 2018) | 35 | 65 | 20 | 80 |
| ICT specialists (15+, %, 2019) | 28 (s) | 72 (s) | 18 (s) | 82 (s) |
| Scientists and engineers in high-technology sectors (25–64, %, 2019) | 27 | 73 | 20 | 80 |
| Working in ICT | | | | |
| ICT at work and activities performed (16–74, %, 2018) | | | | |
| <i>Used computer, laptop, smartphone, etc.</i> | 21 | 20 | 37 | 42 |
| <i>Used other computerised equipment</i> | 3 | 5 | 8 | 13 |
| <i>Exchanged emails</i> | 16 | 14 | 32 | 36 |
| <i>Created or edited electronic documents</i> | 14 | 11 | 24 | 28 |
| <i>Used social media</i> | 4 | 5 | 9 | 11 |
| <i>Used applications to receive tasks or instructions</i> | 5 | 5 | 10 | 14 |
| <i>Used occupation-specific software</i> | 8 | 8 | 19 | 24 |
| <i>Developed or maintained IT systems or software</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 7 |
| Part-time in ICT (20–64, %, 2018) | 1 (d) | 2 (d) | 17 | 5 |
| Working time arrangements among ICT specialists (20–64, %, 2015, national-level data not available) | | | | |
| | | | In the EU, 21 % of women and 22 % of men entirely determined their working hours themselves, compared with 13 % of women and 18 % of men in other occupations | |
| Gender pay gap in ICT (%, 2014) | | 9 | | 11 |

Source: Eurostat (education statistics, digital economy and society statistics, European Union Labour Force Survey, Structure of Earnings Survey), Eurofound (European Working Conditions Survey)
 s: Eurostat estimate d: definition differs (ICT workers do not include service managers).
 Some areas of concern (e.g. platform work and artificial intelligence) are not covered by the indicators owing to a lack of EU-wide comparable data.

Read more about the Gender Equality Index at <http://eige.europa.eu/gender-equality-index>

European Institute for Gender Equality

The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) is the EU knowledge centre on gender equality. EIGE supports policymakers and all relevant institutions in their efforts to make equality between women and men a reality for all Europeans by providing them with specific expertise and comparable and reliable data on gender equality in Europe.

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