European Institute for Gender Equality

Gender Equality Index 2026

Greece

60.0

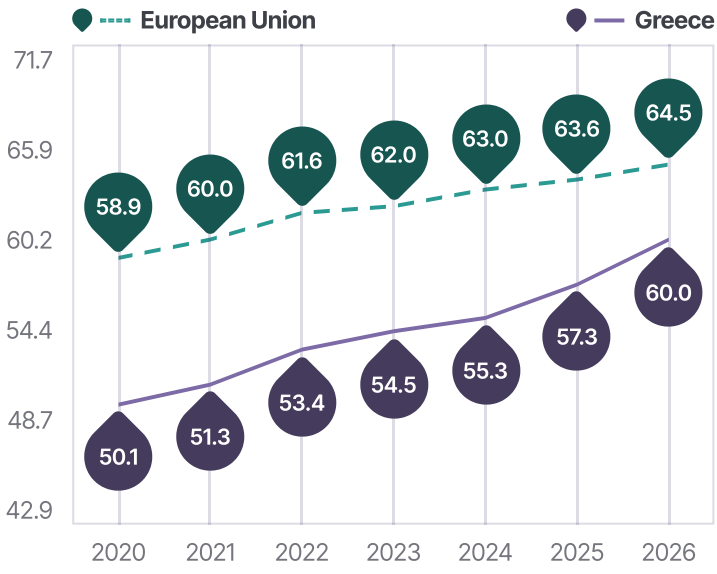
The Gender Equality Index score for Greece is 60.0 points out of 100 – 16th position in the EU – an improvement of five positions in one year. Since 2025, it has risen by 2.7 points, mainly due to the domain of power. The Gender Equality Index score has increased by 9.9 points since 2020, marking the highest progress across the EU in this period.

Greece is improving in gender equality, narrowing the gap with the EU average.

Scores (0-100)

Index	60.0
Work	68.8
Money	77.9
Knowledge	59.2
Time	56.0
Power	33.1
Health	84.9

Trend (2020 - 2026)



Compare countries

	Index 2026[1]	Change since 2020	Change since 2025
FR	74.8	+5.4	+1.3
SE	73.6	+1.7	-0.1
DK	73.0	+6.4	+1.2
ES	72.6	+8.2	+1.6
NL	70.7	+6.9	+1.2
BE	70.1	+7.9	+1.4
IE	69.4	+8.2	+0.2
FI	68.3	+2.4	-0.1
PT	65.7	+7.4	+2.2
LU	64.7	+8.1	+0.8
EU	64.5	+5.6	+0.9
DE	63.9	+5.7	+0.7
IT	62.7	+6.7	+0.5
AT	61.9	+3.3	+0.7
PL	61.1	+9.8	+3.1
EE	60.2	+6.3	+0.7
EL	**60.0**	**+9.9**	**+2.7**
MT	59.6	+9.8	+0.9
LT	59.5	+7	-1.5
LV	59.5	+2.5	+2.8
SI	59.4	+3.3	+1.3
HR	58.4	+2.6	+1.1
BG	58.4	-0.7	+0.3
SK	58.2	+3.1	+0.7
RO	57.6	+5.4	+0.5
CZ	54.3	+3.4	+0.9
HU	53.6	+2.7	+1.3
CY	46.7	+2.9	-0.9

1. The Gender Equality Index has been reviewed in 2025 (see About the Index). For the Index 2026, data corrections and updates to the European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC) microdata carried out by several National Statistical Institutes affected a number of indicators included in the Index. As a result, the previous editions of the Gender Equality Index have been recalculated, and scores might be slightly different compared to the scores presented in the Index 2025. The Index is calculated every year by using N-1 data, for the overall time series. The Index 2026 is mostly based on 2025 data and traces progress from a short-term (2024–2025) and longer-term (2019–2025) perspective. The domain of time is calculated with the 2024 EIGE CARE survey. Lithuania/Latvia, and Croatia/Bulgaria have the same scores. Their position in the ranking is determined statistically based on the second decimal place of the Index score.

Progress in gender equality

Best performance

The **best performance** for Greece is in the domain of knowledge, where it ranks 6th in the EU with a score of 59.2 points, mainly due to segregation in education subdomain –48.5 points, 3rd in the EU – as reflected in the high levels of women among STEM graduates.

Most room for improvement

Greece has the **most room for improvement** in the domain of time, holding 26th position in the EU with 56.0 points. This result is due to challenges in the subdomain of care activities (43.9 points, 25th position).

Greece's lowest score is in the domain of power (33.1 points, 15th position), mainly caused by the subdomain of political power (28.3 points, 22nd position). The domain of work also shows room for improvement (68.8 points, 20th position), where participation in employment remains a persistent issue (75.1 points, 26th position).

Biggest improvement

The **biggest improvement** for Greece is in the domain of power, which has increased by 6.9 points since 2025, due to an improvement recorded in social power (+ 17.5 points).

A step backwards

Greece records a **step backwards** in the domain of work, where the score has decreased by 0.5 since the last edition of the Index, due to a decline in segregation and quality of work (– 1.8 points).

Explore Greece's Index results

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Change since 2020	Change since 2025
Index	**50.1**	**51.3**	**53.4**	**54.5**	**55.3**	**57.3**	**60.0**	**9.9**	**2.7**
Work	**66.8**	**69.4**	**67.8**	**69.1**	**68.3**	**69.3**	**68.8**	**2.0**	**-0.5**
Participation	72.2	72.8	73.3	72.6	73.1	74.0	75.1	2.9	1.1
Segregation and quality of work	61.8	66.2	62.7	65.7	63.8	64.8	63.0	1.2	-1.8
Money	**75.8**	**75.1**	**76.7**	**76.0**	**76.2**	**77.4**	**77.9**	**2.1**	**0.5**
Financial resources	77.9	78.9	79.3	79.3	79.5	81.9	82.0	4.1	0.1
Economic situation	73.7	71.5	74.2	72.8	73.1	73.1	74.0	0.3	0.9
Knowledge	**58.5**	**62.0**	**63.6**	**61.2**	**59.5**	**58.7**	**59.2**	**0.7**	**0.5**
Attainment and participation	73.2	80.9	82.0	78.0	74.1	72.3	72.3	-0.9	0.0
Segregation	46.7	47.5	49.3	48.0	47.7	47.7	48.5	1.8	0.8
Time	**56.0**	**56.0**	**56.0**	**56.0**	**56.0**	**56.0**	**56.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**
Care activities	43.9	43.9	43.9	43.9	43.9	43.9	43.9	0.0	0.0
Social activities	71.6	71.6	71.6	71.6	71.6	71.6	71.6	0.0	0.0
Power	**13.4**	**14.2**	**17.3**	**19.8**	**21.9**	**26.2**	**33.1**	**19.7**	**6.9**
Political	22.6	20.6	22.3	22.1	24.7	30.6	28.3	5.7	-2.3
Economic	10.5	13.5	20.5	28.9	32.4	35.3	37.5	27.0	2.2
Social	10.2	10.3	11.4	12.1	13.2	16.6	34.1	23.9	17.5
Health	**83.5**	**83.3**	**84.1**	**83.9**	**84.3**	**83.8**	**84.9**	**1.4**	**1.1**
Status	89.8	89.5	91.1	90.6	91.6	90.4	92.9	3.1	2.5
Behaviour	77.6	77.6	77.6	77.6	77.6	77.6	77.6	0.0	0.0

Explore Greece's performance by indicator

		Greece		EU	
Work		Women	Men	Women	Men
Participation	Full-time equivalent employment rate (%, 15-89, 2024)[2]	39	58	44	59
	Duration of working life (years, 15+ population, 2025)	32	39	35	40
Segregation and quality of work	ICT specialists (%, 15-74, 2025)	17	83	20	81
	Managerial positions (%, 15-74, 2025)	33	67	36	64
	Low paid workers (%, 16+, 2025)	34	34	37	29
Money					
Financial resources	Median earnings (PPS, 18-64 employed population, 2025)	17818	20713	25525	32079
	Gender pension gap (65+, %, 2025)	22		24	
Economic situation	Median partner earnings ratio (18-64,%, 2025)[3]	75	150	73	147
	In-work poverty of adults in single or single-parent households (%, 16+ employed population, 2025)	11	9	16	13
Knowledge					
Attainment and participation	Graduates of tertiary education (%, 30-34, 2025)	51	36	51	40
	Graduates in IVET (Initial vocational education and training) (%, 25-34, 2025)	17	23	27	34
Segregation	Graduated in tertiary education in EHW (Education, Health and Welfare, Humanities and Art (tertiary students) (%, 2024)	75	25	75	25
	Graduated in tertiary education in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) (%, 2024)	42	58	34	66
Time					
Care activities	Informal childcare (0-11) for more than 35 weekly hours (%, 16-74, 2024)	37	15	41	20
	Informal long-term care for more than 20 hours per week (%, 45-64, 2019)	26	12	20	13
	Housework chores every day (%, 16-74, 2024)	65	28	59	33
Social activities	Hours spent on leisure activities per week (%, 16-74, 2024)	21	31	30	43
	Voluntary, charitable or political activities at least once per week (%, 16-74, 2024)	14	18	13	17
Power					
Political	Share of ministers (%, 2025)	21	79	32	68
	Share of members of parliament (%, 2025)	23	77	33	67
	Share of members of regional assemblies/local municipalities (%, 2025)[4]	25	75	32	68
Economic	Share of members of boards in largest quoted companies (%, 2025)	28	72	35	65
Social	Share of members of highest decision making body of the national Olympic most popular sport organisations (%, 2025)	26	74	26	74
Health					
Status	Self-perceived health, good or very good (%, 16+, 2025)	76	81	65	71
	Healthy life years at 65 in percentage of the total life expectancy (%, 65+, 2024)	48	52	48	54
Behaviour	People who don't smoke and are not involved in harmful drinking (%, 16+ population, 2019)	76	59	73	56
	People doing physical activities and/or consuming fruits and vegetables (%, 16+ population, 2019)	25	32	38	43

Source: EU-LFS, EU-SILC, European Health Interview Survey (EHIS), Eurostat health statistics, EIGE's CARE survey, EIGE, Gender Statistics Database, WMID.

2. FTE employment rate measures employed persons in a comparable way, even though they may work a different number of hours per week
3. Median of the annual earnings expressed as a percentage of a partner's earnings for coupled women and men in employment and in working age
4. Share of members in local municipalities for BG, EE, IE, CY, LT, LU, MT, SI

Key highlights

Women's employment rate is among the lowest in the EU

In Greece, the full-time equivalent (FTE) employment rate[5] stands at 39 % for women and 58 % for men. Both figures have increased by 1 pp since the previous year. However, Greece has among the lowest levels in the EU for women and one of the widest gender gaps. The gender disparity is higher among couples with children (34 pp) and people born outside the country (33 pp), both to the disadvantage of women.

The wide gender gap in working life duration persists

The average duration of working life for women is 32 years, while for men it is 39 years. This is one of the widest gender gaps in the EU.

Gender segregation in work remains a challenge

Women make up 17 % among ICT (information and communications technology) specialists (+ 1 pp over the previous year) and 33 % among managers (– 2 pp over the previous year).

High level of low-paid workers among women and men

In Greece, 34 % of both women and men are low-paid workers[6], after a decline for both genders since the previous year (– 2 pp and 3 pp, respectively). Men record one of the highest levels of low-paid workers in the EU.

Improvements observed in the gender pension gap

The gender pension gap in Greece is 22 %, below the EU average of 24 %. The difference between women and men remains high but has decreased by 2 pp since the previous year.

Gender differences in earnings ratio among couples remain high

Women living in couples earn on average 75 % of their partners' earnings (+ 1 pp since the previous year), while men earn 50 % more than their partner (– 7 pp since the previous year). This is a gender gap of 75 pp, almost equal to the EU average of 74 pp.

5. The FTE employment rate measures working hours comparatively, even though people may work different numbers of hours per week.
6. Percentage of employed population receiving two thirds or less of the national median employee income, which covers gross employee cash or near cash income, gross non-cash employee income and employers' social insurance contributions.

More single women and single mothers than men affected by in-work poverty

In Greece, 11 % women living alone or single mothers are at risk of poverty when working, compared with 9 % of men. Since the previous year, these figures have fallen by 1 pp for women and 3 pp for men. The figure for women is among the lowest in the EU. The gender gap is particularly wide among people born outside the country at 13 pp, with women at higher risk.

IVET graduates are declining for both women and men

In Greece, 51 % of women aged 30–34 have completed tertiary education, compared with 36 % of men. Since the previous year, the figure for men has fallen by 2 pp.

Among people aged 25–34, 17 % of women and 23 % of men have completed IVET (initial vocational education and training) studies. Since the previous year, these figures have fallen by 2 pp for women and 4 pp for men. The gender gap is wider among people born in Greece (7 pp) than among those born outside the country (5 pp).

Greece has the highest level of women among STEM graduates in the EU

Women account for 75 % of graduates in EHW (education, health and welfare, humanities and the arts), in line with the EU average. Among STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) graduates, women have slightly increased their presence by 1 pp at 42 % since the previous year, resulting in the highest share in the EU.

Women dedicate more time to childcare and housework, leaving them with less leisure time

In Greece, 37 % of women spend more than 35 hours a week on childcare, compared with 15 % of men. Both figures are among the lowest in the EU, yet the gender gap remains wide.

For housework chores, 65 % of women perform them daily, against 28 % of men. This is one of the highest gender disparities in the EU.

Moreover, 21 % of women spend more than 8 hours a week on leisure activities, compared with 31 % of men. Both rates are among the lowest in the EU.

Women's representation in politics is declining

Women hold 21 % of senior and junior ministerial positions (– 4 pp from the previous year). In the national parliament, women's position remained stable at 23 % of seats since the previous year, while their share in regional assemblies has fallen by 1 pp, to 25 %.

> Greece adopted candidate gender quotas in 2012 for parliament: at least one-third of political parties' candidate lists, both for national and constituency lists, must be filled with candidates of each gender. In March 2019, the quota was increased to 40 % of each gender.

Women's presence in sport organisations has increased

Women now hold 28 % of seats on the boards of the largest listed companies, an increase of 1 pp since the previous year.

Even greater progress has been made in the highest decision-making body of the national Olympic most popular sport organisations, where women's representation has grown by 11 pp over the previous year, reaching 26 %.

> As of December 2025, Greece has notified complete transposition of the Directive (EU) 2022/2381 (Gender Balance on Boards Directive) into national law.

Greece shows the highest rates for self-perceived health and a rise in healthy living past 65

In Greece, 76 % of women and 81 % of men reported their health as 'good' or 'very good'. These are the highest rates in the EU for both genders.

Women and men aged 65 or over are expected to live 48 % and 52 % respectively of their remaining life in good health. Both figures have risen over previous year, by 10 pp for women and 8 pp for men.

Explore intersecting inequalities

Full-time equivalent employment rate (%, 15-89, 2024)[7]		Women	Men	Gender gap	Gender gap in 2019	Gap change
Household composition	Couple without children	33	37	-4	-6	🟢
	Couple with children	64	98	-34	-31	🔴
Level of education	Low educated	15	35	-20	-16	🔴
	Medium educated	43	67	-24	-21	🔴
	High educated	67	74	-7	-9	🟢
Country of birth	Native born	39	57	-18	-17	🔴
	Foreign born	40	73	-33	-28	🔴
In-work poverty of adults in single or single-parent households (%, 16+ employed population, 2025)						
Household composition	Single-adult household	10	9	1	2	🟢
	Single-parent household	16	n/a	n/a	-22	n/a
Age groups	15/16-24	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	25-49	12	8	4	1	🔴
	50-64	9	10	-1	5	🟢
	65+	20	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Country of birth	Native born	10	9	1	1	🟠
	Foreign born	23	10	13	9	🔴
Graduates in IVET (Initial vocational education and training) (%, 25-34, 2024)						
Country of birth	Native born	20	27	-7	-8	🟢
	Foreign born	9	14	-5	-3	🔴
Disability	With disabilities	n/a	40	n/a	-10	n/a
	Without disabilities	22	25	-3	-13	🟢
Informal childcare (0-11) for more than 35 weekly hours (%, 16-74, 2024)						
Household composition	Single-parent household	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Couple with children	47	17	30	n/a	n/a
Age groups	15/16-24	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	25-49	42	16	26	n/a	n/a
	50-64	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Self-perceived health, good or very good (%, 16+, 2025)						
Household composition	Single-adult household	48	73	-25	-24	🔴
	Single-parent household	84	95	-11	-4	🔴
	Couple without children	72	62	10	7	🔴
	Couple with children	95	94	1	2	🟢
Age groups	15/16-24	98	99	-1	-1	🟠
	25-49	95	95	0	1	🟢
	50-64	85	89	-4	-2	🔴
	65+	39	44	-5	-8	🟢
Disability	With disabilities	10	12	-2	-2	🟠
	Without disabilities	92	94	-2	-1	🔴

Source: Eurostat (European Union Labour Force Survey, European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions), EIGE CARE survey.

🟢 gender gap decreased (<= -1 p.p.) 🟠 no change (gender gap increases/decreases between -1 and 1 p.p.) 🔴 gender gap increased (>= 1 p.p.)

7. FTE employment rate measures employed persons in a comparable way, even though they may work a different number of hours per week. Family type is based on the relationships between the members of households. Children are only those economically dependent household members (i.e. aged below 18).

Violence against women

Violence against women is one of the additional domains of the Gender Equality Index. The composite indicator on violence against women was calculated based on the EU-GBV survey on violence against women[8].

Greece's score for the domain of violence is 24.6 points, which is lower than the EU average[9].

The scores for the subdomain of prevalence are 20.8 points; the subdomain of severity is 36.6 points and for the subdomain of disclosure 16.5 points.

- In Greece, 37 % of women have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by any perpetrator since the age of 15. This is 6 pp higher than the EU-27 average (31 %).
- In Greece, 52 % of women have experienced health consequences of physical and/or sexual violence since the age of 15.
- In Greece, 16 % of women who have experienced physical or sexual violence by any perpetrator in the past 12 months have not told anyone. On a par with Poland, this rate is the lowest in the EU-27.
- In 2025, 0.32 women out of 100 000 inhabitants were victims of intentional homicide by a current or former partner (0.04) or a family member (0.28).
- In Greece, girls report cyberbullying slightly more often than boys at age 13, with the gap closing entirely by 15. Among 13-year-olds, 11 % of girls reported cyberbullying, compared with 10 % of boys. At age 15, the levels were equal, at 9 % for both[10].
- In Greece, 11 % of women who have ever worked have experienced sexual harassment at work via social networks or messaging apps[11].

The **Istanbul Convention** is the most comprehensive international human rights treaty on preventing and combatting violence against women and domestic violence.

Greece signed the Istanbul Convention in May 2011 and ratified it in June 2018. The Convention entered into force in Greece in October 2018.

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

8. The calculations of the composite measure in 2024 differ in several ways from the calculations carried out in 2017 due to slight differences in methodologies between the FRA EU-wide survey on violence against women of 2012 and the EU-GBV survey (wave 2021). For more details, see EIGE (2025). Gender Equality Index 2024: Tackling violence against women, tackling gender inequalities. Publications Office.
9. More information can be found in the report 'Gender Equality Index 2024, Tackling violence against women, tackling gender inequalities'.
10. Based on HBSC study data browser (findings from the 2021–2022 HBSC Survey)
11. Based on EU-GBV Survey (2021 wave)

Violence against women

Physical and/or sexual violence	Greece Women	EU Women
Women having experienced physical and/or sexual violence by any perpetrator since age 15 (%, 18-74, 2021)	**37**	**31 e**
18-29	43	35 e
30-44	42	35 e
45-64	36	31 e
65-74	24	24 e
severe limitations	45	46 e
limited but not severely or not limited at all	36	30 e
some	45	40 e
some or severe	45	41 e
no limitations	35	28 e
intimate partner violence	22	18 e
non-partner violence	25	20 e
Women having experienced physical and/or sexual violence by any perpetrator in the past 12 months (%, 18-74, 2021)	**4**	**3 e**

Femicide	Greece Women	EU Women
Women victims of intentional homicide by current or former partner or family member, rate per 100 000 inhabitants (2024) [12]	**0.32**	**0.4**
family member	0.04	0.4
current or former partner	0.28	:

Health consequences of violence and multiple victimisation	Greece Women	EU Women
Women having experienced health consequences of physical and/or sexual violence since the age of 15 (%, 18-74, 2021)	**52**	**57 e**
intimate partner violence	65	72 e
non-partner violence	33	37 e
Women having experienced health consequences of physical and/or sexual violence in the past 12 months (%, 18-74, 2021)	**25**	**37 e**
Women having experienced physical and/or sexual violence from one or several types of perpetrators (non-partner, current partner or former partner) (%, 18-74, 2021)	**31**	**31 e**

Disclosure of violence to institutions or to anyone else	Greece Women	EU Women
Women having experienced physical and/or sexual violence in the past 12 months and have not told anyone (%, 18-74, 2021)	**16**	**31 e**
intimate partner violence	19	31 e
non-partner violence	19	38 e

12. Data for the EU and for RO not disagregated by perpetrators. Data for Finland from 2023.

Cyberviolence	Greece		EU	
	Women	Men	Women	Men
13-year-olds who have been cyberbullied at least once or twice in the past couple of months (%, 2022) [13]	11	10	19 e	16 e
15-year-olds who have been cyberbullied at least once or twice in the past couple of months (%, 2022) [14]	9	9	15 e	14 e
	Women		Women	
Ever-working women who have experienced sexual harassment at work via social network and messages (%, 18-74, 2022)	11		7 e	

Source:
- EU-GBV survey on violence against women (Statistics | Eurostat (europa.eu))
- Italy, the data based on Victimisation survey 2022-2023 (Le molestie: vittime e contesto – Anno 2022-2023 – Istat); women aged 18-70.
- Femicide, Eurostat (crim_hom_vrel) • HBSC study data browser (findings from the 2021–2022 HBSC Survey)

Legend:
- EU: EIGE's estimation
- u: low reliability (estimate is based on 20 to 49 sample observations or if non-response for the item concerned exceeds 20% and is lower or equal to 50%)
- d: definition differs
- e: estimated
- : not available

13. EU: EIGE estimation, unweighted average of the 27 Member States BE: unweighted average of Flemish Belgium and French Belgium data.
14. EU: EIGE estimation, unweighted average of the 27 Member States BE: unweighted average of Flemish Belgium and French Belgium data.

Parental leave

The Gender Equality Index 2026 focuses on parental leave as a key policy tool for promoting gender equality, supporting families and promoting children's well-being. Well-designed parental leave can help parents reconcile work and family life, support a more equal division of care responsibilities and strengthen participation in the labour market. It also supports children's early development by enabling parents to spend time with them during the first years of life. Although parental leave is available in all EU Member States, rules on access and benefits vary considerably[15].

The analysis looks at who is eligible for parental leave and its related benefits.

Greece has the highest levels of ineligibility for parental leave and parental leave benefits in the EU for both women and men, mostly due to self-employment conditions

Among employed people in Greece, 24 % of women and 28 % of men are not eligible for statutory parental leave. These are the highest levels of ineligibility in the EU for both women and men. Self-employment accounts for most of these cases at 71 % for women and 88 % for men; 24 % of women and 28 % of men among the employed population are not eligible for statutory parental leave benefits.

Around one in two women and men in Greece are not eligible for parental leave benefits

In Greece, 55 % of women and 46 % of men are not eligible for parental leave benefits, a gender gap of 9 pp. These are the highest ineligibility rates in the EU for both women and men in the EU. Among women in Greece who are not eligible for parental leave benefits, unemployment or inactivity accounts for 74 % of exclusions. Self-employment accounts for 18 %, and unmet employment conditions for 8 %. Among men, unemployment or inactivity accounts for 53 % of exclusions, while self-employment accounts for 41 % and unmet employment conditions accounts for 6 %.

A four-year gap separates well-paid leave from guaranteed childcare in Greece

In Greece, well-paid parental leave ends four years before childcare is guaranteed. During this gap, families have neither well-paid leave nor guaranteed childcare.

15. The analysis uses a static microsimulation to estimate how many potential parents would be eligible for parental leave across the EU. Country-specific eligibility rules are applied to representative survey data. The analysis covers people aged 20–49 and focuses on formal eligibility rather than actual take-up. It distinguishes between eligibility for job-protected parental leave (the statutory right to take time away from work while keeping a job) and eligibility for parental leave benefits (the financial compensation received during that leave). In countries where the eligibility conditions for leave and benefits are identical, the two measures produce the same results. However, where eligibility criteria differ, benefit eligibility is often broader than leave eligibility, as entitlement to financial support may extend to individuals who are not in employment. To reflect these differences, eligibility rates were simulated separately for the employed population (leave entitlement) and for the overall population (benefit entitlement). It uses 2024 data from the European Union Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS) and the European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC). For more details, see Gender Equality Index 2026: Making parental leave work (EIGE, 2026).

Parental leave

Parental leave	Greece Women	Greece Men	EU Women	EU Men
1. Employed women and men not eligible for statutory parental leave (%, 20-49, 2024) [16]	**24**	**28**	**8**	**11**
2. Employed women and men not eligible for statutory parental leave by reason for ineligibility (%, 20-49, 2024)				
Self-employment	71	88	71	76
Unmet employment conditions	29	12	20	16
Unmet residency requirement	0	0	8	8
3. Employed women and men not eligible for statutory parental leave benefits (%, 20-49, 2024)	**24**	**28**	**4**	**4**
4. Women and men not eligible for statutory parental leave benefits (%, 20-49, 2024) [17]	**55**	**46**	**18**	**13**
5. Women and men not eligible for statutory parental leave benefits by reason for ineligibility, (%, 20-49, 2024) [18]				
Unemployement or inactivity	74	53	:	:
Self-employment	18	41	:	:
Unmet employment conditions	8	6	:	:
Unmet residency requirement	0	0	:	:
6. Recipients/users of publicly-administered parental leave benefits or publicly-administered paid parental leave (%, 2023) [19]	:	:	:	:
	Gap		**Gap**	
7. Gap between well-paid childcare leave and ECEC place guarantee (years, 2024/2025) [20]	**4**		:	

Source: • EU-LFS, EU-SILC • OECD Family Database • Eurydice

Legend:
- Indicators 1, 2, 3, 4, 5: the analysis uses a static microsimulation to estimate how many potential parents would be eligible for job-protected parental leave (the statutory right to take time away from work while keeping one's job) and eligibility for parental leave benefits (the financial compensation received during that leave).
- Indicators 2, 5, 6: figures rounded to whole numbers, sum may not add up to 100 %
- : not available

16. Sweden applies a one-year residency requirement for EU/EEA and non-EU/EEA nationals, which was simulated but resulted in extremely small numbers, rounded to zero (0).

17. Sweden applies a one-year residency requirement for EU/EEA and non-EU/EEA nationals, which was simulated but resulted in extremely small numbers, rounded to zero (0).

18. 'EU-27' average excluded due to the results being unrepresentative as the figure covers only the subset of Member States with a non-negligible ineligible population to decompose by reason, excluding countries with near-full eligibility and unmet employment conditions and unmet residency requirements will be conflated.

19. DK, SE and PT do not make a distinction between the different leaves, therefore their numbers also include users of maternity and paternity leave. For BE and CZ, data is an average of users/recipients in each month of the given year. For LU, data refer to recipients of the first (right after birth) and second parental leave (before 6th birthday). For EE, data refer to recipients of shared parental benefits (jagatav vanemahüvitis). For FI, data refer to recipients of the sharable parental allowance plus the paternity allowance after the parental allowance period. For DE, data include both recipients of 'Elterngeld' and 'ElterngeldPlus'. PL and FI latest data for 2021; DK latest data for 2022. Data is not available for other countries.

20. Well-paid leave' is defined as leave compensated with an earnings-related payment equivalent to 66 % of earnings or above. The measure combines maternity, paternity, and parental leave, and reflects the continuous well-paid period achievable from birth if leave is taken full-time, in one uninterrupted period, by one or both parents in sequence.

About the Index

The Gender Equality Index, first launched in 2013, has become a cornerstone of gender monitoring in the European Union. In 2025, the Index underwent a comprehensive review to strengthen its alignment with current EU policy priorities, integrate new data and update its methodology.

The Gender Equality Index measures gender gaps between women and men in six core domains – work, money, knowledge, time, power and health – and is composed of 27 indicators. Scores range from 0 to 100, where 0 reflects complete gender inequality and 100 represents full 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, disability, education, family type and migrant background (based on the country of birth). The domain of violence against women measures, monitors and analyses the most common and widely criminalised forms of violence against women across the EU.

European Institute for Gender Equality
Gedimino pr. 16,
LT-01103 Vilnius,
Lithuania

eige.europa.eu

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