

Index
60.9

The data for 2024 Index is mostly from 2022.

Progress in gender equality

With a score of 60.9 out of 100, Cyprus ranks 20th in the Gender Equality Index 2024, 9.1 points below the EU score. Since last year's edition, Cyprus's score has increased by only 0.2 points¹. The main improvements have been in the domains of work (+ 0.8 points, driven by the participation sub-domain) and money (+ 0.8 points, mostly within the financial resources sub-domain). Cyprus also registered a 0.4-point decrease in the domain of power (especially in the social sub-domain), continuing the trend initiated in 2020. Since 2010, Cyprus's overall score has increased by 11.9 points, with improvements in all domains and especially in the domain of power (+ 13.4 points).

			Change since	
			2010	2021
SE	82,0		1,9	-0,2
DK	78,8		3,6	1,0
NL	78,8		4,8	0,9
ES	76,7		10,3	0,3
BE	76,1		6,8	0,1
FR	76,1		8,6	0,4
LU	75,4		14,2	0,7
FI	74,5		1,4	0,1
IE	73,4		8,0	0,4
DE	72,0		9,4	1,2
AT	71,7		13,0	0,5
EU	71,0		7,9	0,8
SI	70,1		7,4	0,7
MT	70,1		15,7	2,3
IT	69,2		15,9	1,0
PT	68,6		14,9	1,2
LT	65,8		10,9	1,7
BG	64,5		9,5	-0,6
PL	63,4		7,9	1,5
LV	62,6		7,4	1,1
CY	60,9		11,9	0,2
EE	60,8		7,4	0,6
SK	59,9		6,9	0,7
CZ	59,9		4,3	2,0
HR	59,7		7,4	-1,0
EL	59,3		10,7	1,3
HU	57,8		5,4	0,5
RO	57,5		6,7	1,4

Note: Index 2024 uses 2022 data for the most part and traces progress from a short-term (2021-2022) and longer-term (2010-2022) perspective.

[1] In Index 2024, four pairs of countries share the same score (DK/NL, BE/FR, SI/MT, SK/CZ). Their position in the rank is determined statistically, by the second decimal place of the Index score.

Best performance

Cyprus ranks the highest in the domain of work where it ranks 9th and scores 77.3 points (+ 0.8 points since 2021). Within the domain, the sub-domain of participation scores the highest at 88.2 points. From 2021 to 2022 the ranking in the sub-domain of participation improved from 13th to 10th place, due to a 2.1-point increase.

Most room for improvement

Cyprus has the most room for improvement in the domain of power, scoring 28.8 points in this year's edition of the Index. Since 2021, the country has remained stable at 26th place in this domain. This position is due to a decrease of 0.4 points, and faster progress by other Member States. Within the domain of power, Cyprus ranks 25th in the sub-domain of political decision-making. In this sub-domain, Cyprus scores 34.9 points, which is 27.7 points lower than the EU average.

Biggest improvement

Since 2021, Cyprus has seen the most improvement in the domains of work and money, each increasing by 0.8 points. In the domain of work, Cyprus's ranking has moved up from 10th place to 9th, driven primarily by an improvement in the sub-domain of participation, which increased by 2.1 points, moving from 13th to 10th place. In the domain of money, although the score improved, the ranking remained stable at 13th place. The main increase in this domain was in the financial resource's sub-domain, which increased by 1.1 points, maintaining its position in 13th place.

A step backwards

Since 2021, Cyprus has worsened the most in the power domain, with a decrease of 0.4 points, remaining last in the ranking before Hungary. This change is due to increasing gender inequality in the social sub-domain, which decreased by 1.9 points, moving down from 22nd to 24th place since 2021.

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 2010–2022, 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 average².

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

[2] Convergence analysis is based on the EU unweighted average, which differs from the EU's Gender Equality score (weighted EU average).

Explore Cyprus's Index results

	2010	2012	2015	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change since	
	2010	2012	2015	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2010	2021
Index	49.0	50.6	55.1	56.3	56.9	57.0	57.3	60.7	60.9	11.9	0.2
Work	70.5	68.9	70.7	70.7	70.8	70.6	69.9	76.5	77.3	6.8	0.8
Participation	85.2	83.4	84.7	84.9	86.2	86.0	85.0	86.1	88.2	3.0	2.1
Segregation and quality of work	58.3	56.9	59.0	58.8	58.2	57.9	57.5	67.9	67.8	9.5	-0.1
Money	80.7	81.7	79.2	80.8	81.7	82.6	83.1	83.3	84.1	3.4	0.8
Financial resources	74.8	76.4	72.1	72.8	72.8	76.0	75.2	75.5	76.6	1.8	1.1
Economic situation	87.1	87.4	87.1	89.7	91.6	89.8	91.7	91.8	92.2	5.1	0.4
Knowledge	55.5	58.2	58.5	56.5	56.2	56.0	57.8	65.5	66.1	10.6	0.6
Attainment and participation	73.6	73.2	73.3	73.2	73.1	71.1	71.6	78.9	79.9	6.3	1.0
Segregation	41.9	46.2	46.6	43.5	43.3	44.1	46.7	54.4	54.7	12.8	0.3
Time	45.9	45.9	51.3	51.3	51.3	51.3	51.3	58.4	58.4	12.5	0.0
Care activities	52.6	52.7	65.7	65.7	65.7	65.7	65.7	73.3	73.3	20.7	0.0
Social activities	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	46.5	46.5	6.5	0.0
Power	15.4	17.4	24.7	28.2	29.8	30.0	30.1	29.2	28.8	13.4	-0.4
Political	30.1	30.2	25.8	27.5	29.9	32.3	34.6	34.5	34.9	4.8	0.4
Economic	4.7	6.8	22.6	23.0	23.0	22.9	22.8	22.2	22.6	17.9	0.4
Social	25.9	25.7	25.8	35.6	38.6	36.6	34.6	32.3	30.4	4.5	-1.9
Health	86.4	87.1	88.2	88.4	88.0	87.9	87.0	87.1	87.4	1.0	0.3
Status	93.7	94.4	95.5	96.1	94.8	94.6	94.8	94.9	95.5	1.8	0.6
Behaviour	73.0	73.0	73.0	73.0	73.0	73.0	70.2	70.2	70.2	-2.8	0.0
Access	94.4	96.0	98.4	98.4	98.4	98.4	98.9	99.2	99.6	5.2	0.4

Explore Cyprus's performance by indicator

		Cyprus		EU	
		Women	Men	Women	Men
Work					
Participation	Full-time equivalent employment rate (% , 15-89 population, 2022)*	52	65	44	58
	Duration of working life (years, 15+ population, 2022)	35	42	34	39
Segregation and quality of work	Employed people in education, human health and social work activities (% , 15-89 employed, 2022)	19	6	30	8
	Ability to take one hour or two off during working hours to take care of personal or family matters (% , 15+ workers, 2021)	43	48	29	37
	Career Prospects Index (points, 0-100, +15 population, 2015)	53	51	62	63
Money					
Financial resources	Mean monthly earnings (PPS, +16 working population, 2018)	1941	2303	2321	2818
	Mean equivalised net income (PPS, 16+ population, 2022)	22635	23456	20859	21967
Economic situation	At-risk-of-poverty (% , 16+ population, 2022)	15	13	17	15
	Income distribution S20/80 (16+ population, 2022)	24	24	21	21
Knowledge					
Attainment and participation	Graduates of tertiary education (% , 15-89 population, 2022)	41	37	28	26
	People participating in formal or non-formal education and training (15-74 population, 2022)	17	17	20	19
Segregation	Tertiary students in education, health and welfare, humanities and arts (% , 15+ population, 2022)	49	22	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)	41	28	34	25
	People doing cooking and/or housework, every day (% , 18-74 population, 2022)	70	33	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)	19	27	29	34
	Workers involved in voluntary or charitable activities, at least once a month (% , 16-74 workers, 2022)	6	6	11	15
Power					
Political	Share of ministers (% , 2nd quarter 2024)	29	71	35	65
	Share of members of parliament (% , 2nd quarter 2024)	14	86	33	67
	Share of members of regional assemblies/local municipalities (% , 2023)**	15	85	31	69
Economic	Share of members of boards in largest quoted companies, supervisory board or board of directors (% , 1st semester 2024)	9	91	34	66
	Share of board members of central bank (% , 2023)	14	86	29	71
Social	Share of board members of research funding organisations (% , 2023)	22	78	43	57
	Share of board members of publically owned broadcasting organisations (% , 2023)	11	89	38	62
	Share of members of highest decision making body of the national Olympic sport organisations (% , 2023)	10	90	22	78
Health					
Status	Self-perceived health, good or very good (% , 16+ population, 2022)	77	79	65	70
	Life expectancy at birth (years, 2022)	83	80	83	78
	Healthy life years at birth (years, 2022)	66	66	63	62
Behaviour	People who don't smoke and are not involved in harmful drinking (% , 15+ population, 2019)***	84	60	73	56
	People doing physical activities and/or consuming fruits and vegetables (% , 15+ population, 2019)	24	31	38	43
Access	Population with unmet needs for medical examination (% , 16+ population, 2022)	0	0	5	4
	Population with unmet needs for dental examination (% , 16+ population, 2022)	2	2	5	5

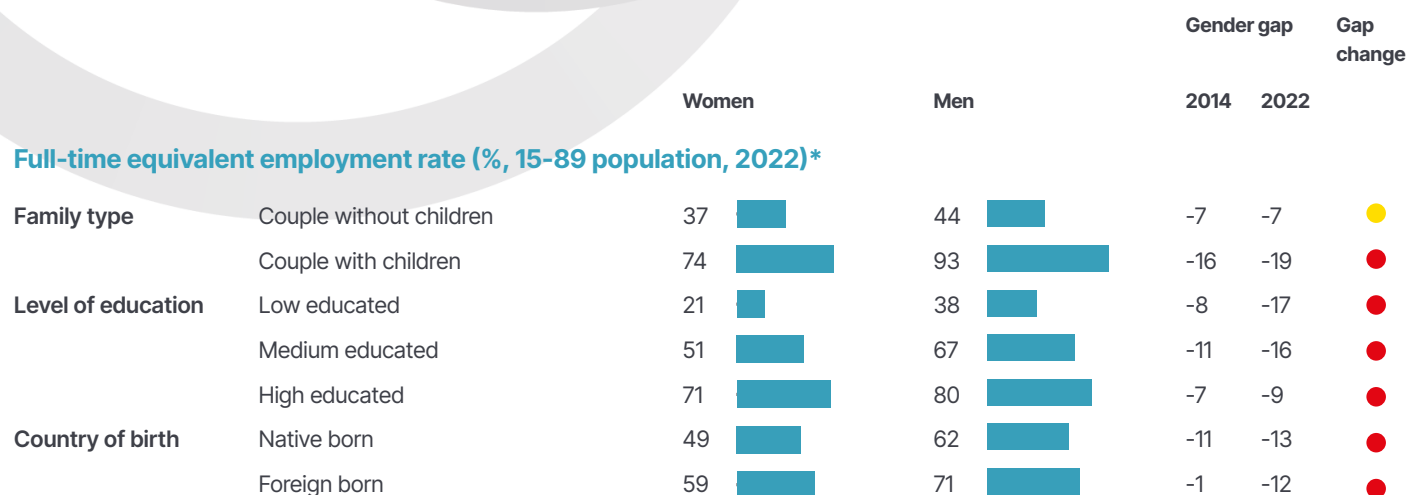
* FTE employment rate measures employed persons in a comparable way, even though they may work a different number of hours per week

** CY: Local 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).

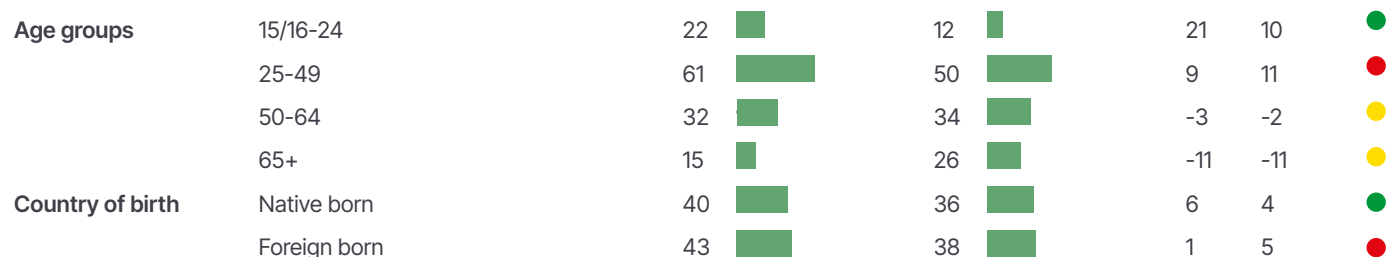
Explore intersecting inequalities



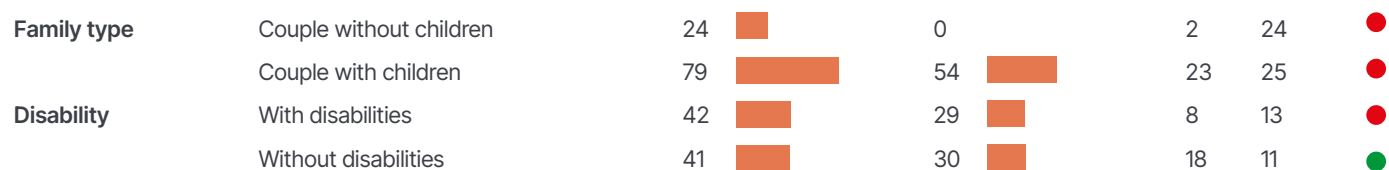
At-risk-of-poverty (% , 16+ population, 2022)



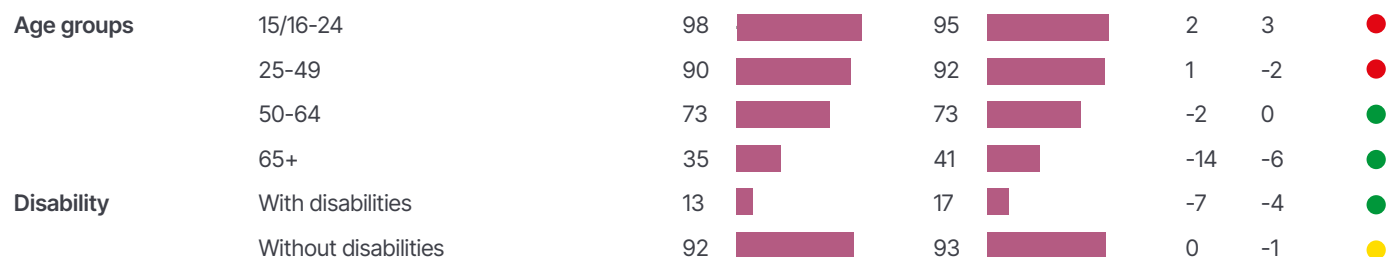
Graduates of tertiary education (% , 15-89 population, 2022)



People caring for and educating their children or grandchildren, elderly or people with disabilities, every day (% , 18-74 population, 2022)



Self-perceived health, good or very good (% , 16+ population, 2022)



● 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. 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).

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.

Key highlights

The gender gap in employment marginally decreased

In 2022, women were less likely to be employed full-time than men (52 % versus 65 %). Between 2010 and 2022, the full-time equivalent (FTE) employment rate³ increased 1 percentage point (pp) for women while it has remained stable at 65 % for men. As a result, the gender gap in the FTE rate has decreased from 14 pp to 13 pp. In 2022, the gender gap in FTE rates was most significant among singles, lone parents and couples with children, people aged 50–64, and among low and medium-educated individuals. In all these groups, the gap increased compared to 2014.

The risk of poverty decreased for both women and men, slightly reducing the gap

Between 2010 and 2022, the risk of poverty rate in Cyprus decreased from 18 % to 15 % for women and from 14 % to 13 % for men, reducing the gender gap from 4 pp to 2 pp. The rate slightly increased from 2021 to 2022 for men (+ 1 pp), marginally reducing the gender gap, from 3 pp to 2 pp. In 2022, the gender gap among singles was particularly wide, with 27 % of women facing the risk of poverty compared to 16 % of men.

Women and men's participation in lifelong learning lower than the EU average

In 2022, 17 % of women and men participated in formal or informal education (+ 1 pp for both since 2021), which is below the EU average. Women in couples with no children (7 %), women aged 50–64 (7 %), and those aged 65+ (2 %) were among the least likely to participate in lifelong learning, with corresponding male counterparts also showing low participation rates (7 %, 6 % and 2 %, respectively). The biggest gender gap in lifelong learning was among lone parents (16 % for women and 20 % for men).

Among the highest share of women in unpaid care work and education in the EU, but half the gender gap compared to 2007

In 2022, 41 % of women and 28 % of men in Cyprus reported caring for and educating their children or grandchildren, older people or people with disabilities every day. The share of women undertaking these activities was the fifth highest in the EU. The gender gap in care and education stood at 13 pp, 4 pp above the EU average. However, this gap has almost halved compared to 2007.

Women constitute a more than a quarter of junior and senior ministers

In 2024, women constituted 29 % of senior and junior ministers. The representation of women among senior and junior ministers has improved by 4 pp since 2023. Women's participation in the national parliament has instead remained stable at 14 %, 19 pp below the EU average of 33 %. There are no legislative candidate quotas in Cyprus. In 2023, 15 % of members in the local municipalities were women, among the lowest shares in the EU.

[3] The FTE employment rate measures working hours comparatively, even though people may work different numbers of hours per week.

Women's participation in economic decision-making is among the lowest in the EU

In 2024, Cyprus had the lowest shares of women (9 %) as board members of the largest publicly listed companies compared to the EU, a decrease since 2023. There are no mandatory national gender quotas for publicly listed companies in Cyprus. Women's representation on the board of the central bank has increased slightly by 1 pp since 2022, standing at 14 % in 2023 (among the lowest in the EU).

The gender gap is big in social decision-making

In 2022 and 2023, women's representation on the boards of public broadcasters in Cyprus remained stable at 11 %. The gender imbalance is also evident in sports, with women holding just 10 % of positions on the board of highest decision-making body of the most popular national Olympic sport organisations in 2023, an increase of 2 pp compared to the previous year. Women's representation on the boards of research funding organisations was also low, with 22 % of board members being women in 2023, a decrease of 3 pp from 2022.

Self-reported health continues to improve for both genders, without narrowing the gap

In 2022, 77 % of women and 79 % of men reported being in good health, both increasing since 2021 (76 % of women and 78 % of men), being the second highest shares in the EU after Ireland. This resulted in a consistent gender gap of 2 pp, the same as in 2020. Between 2014 and 2022, the gender gap for singles increased from 16 pp to 25 pp, to the detriment of women. For people aged 25–49, there was a reversal of the gender gap where the share of men reporting good health increased from 89 % to 92 %; women's share stayed at 90 %. As for individuals aged 50–64, the gender gap closed (from 2 pp in 2014).

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 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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