



Comité économique et social européen  
European Economic and Social Committee

# Gender equality is moving at a snail's space

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***European Institute for Gender Equality***

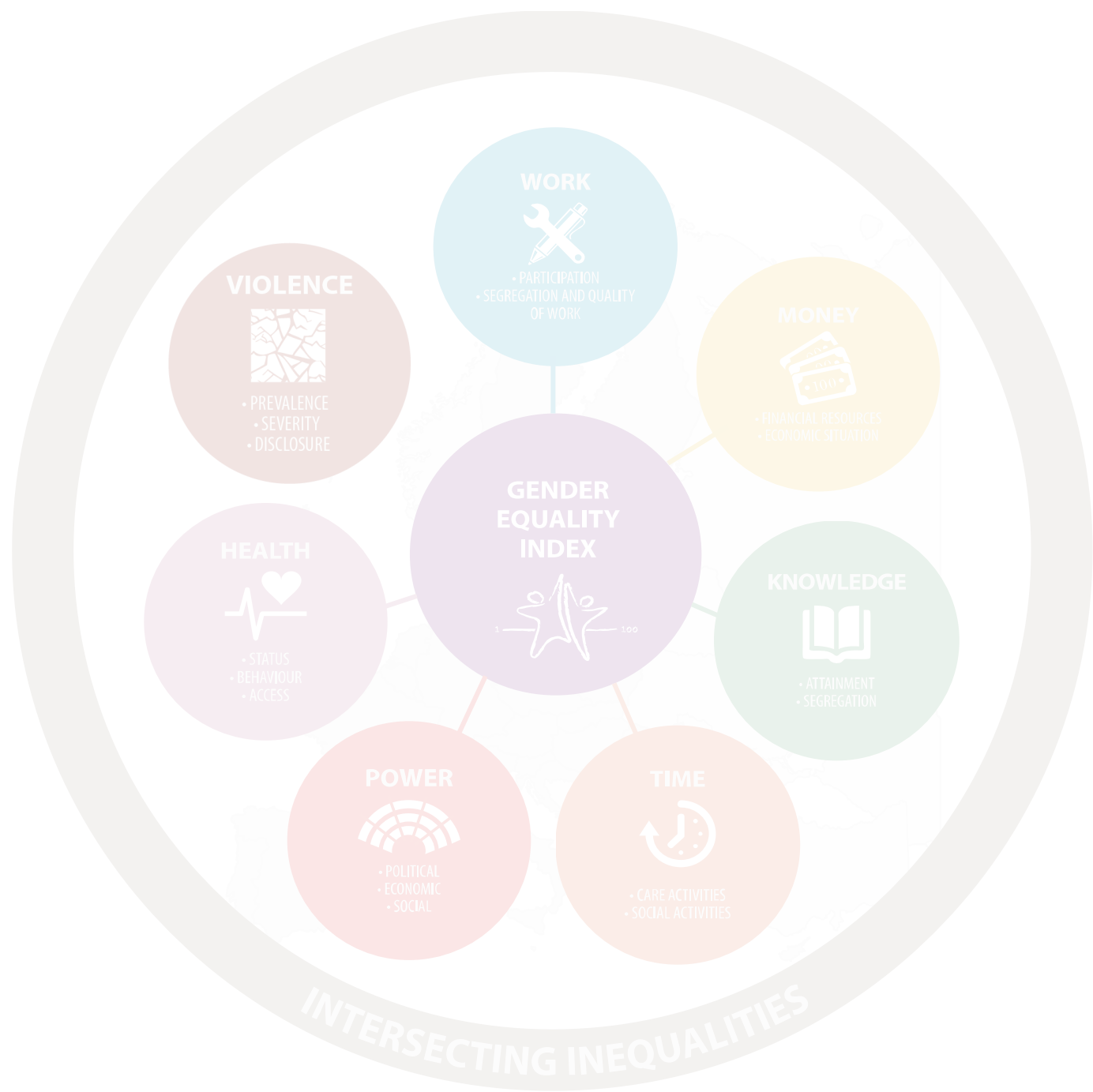
**4-5 December 2017**

**European Economic and Social Committee**

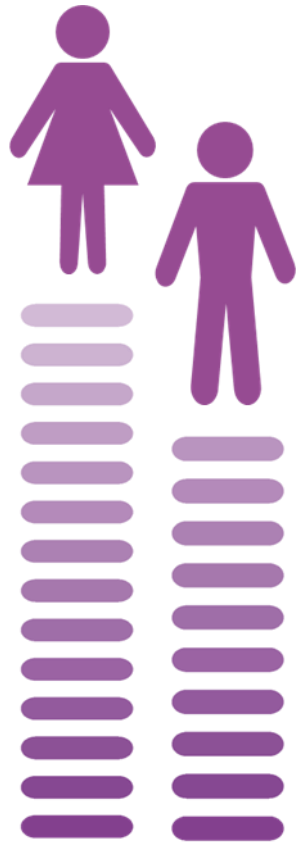
**Brussels, Belgium**

*Celebrating 21 Years of Setting the Agenda in Women's Health*

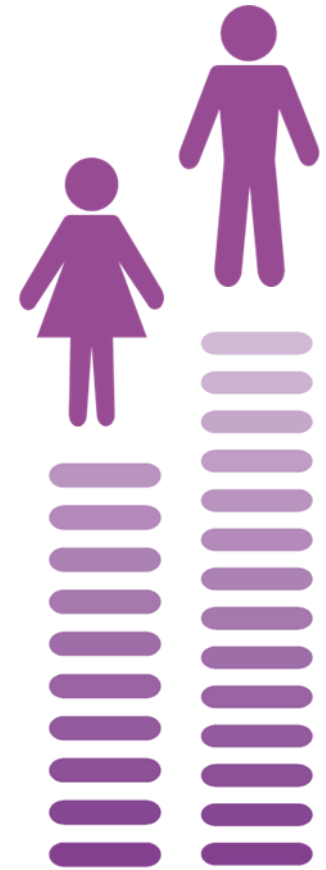
The Gender Equality Index is adapted to the **context of the EU** and is based on **EU policy priorities**



# What Gender Equality Index measures?



Gender gaps  
adjusted for  
levels of  
achievement



Full Inequality

Full Equality

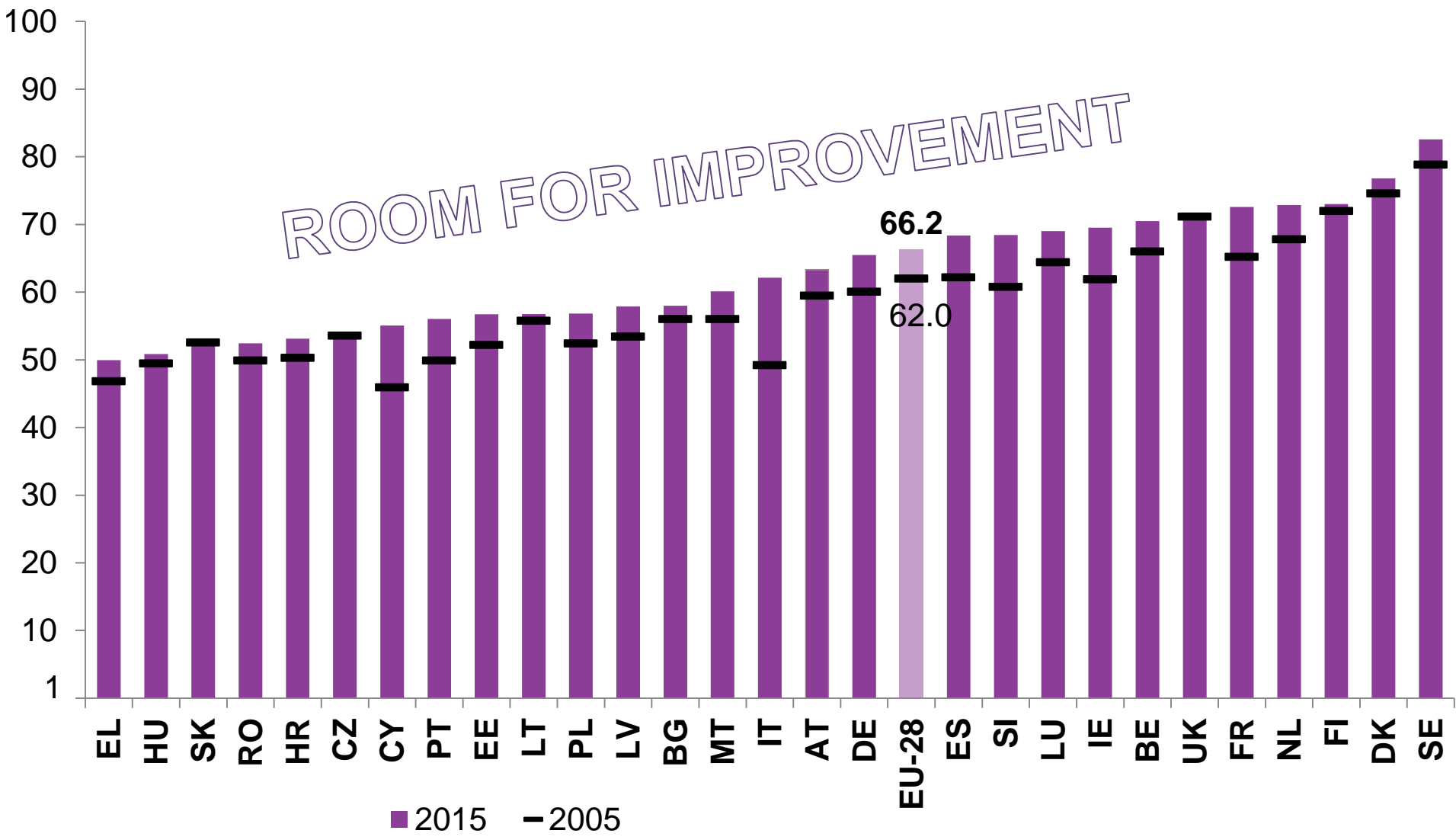
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100





# Gender Equality Index 2017





# Index 2005-2015

## Most improved

Italy +12.9

Cyprus +9.1

Slovenia +7.6

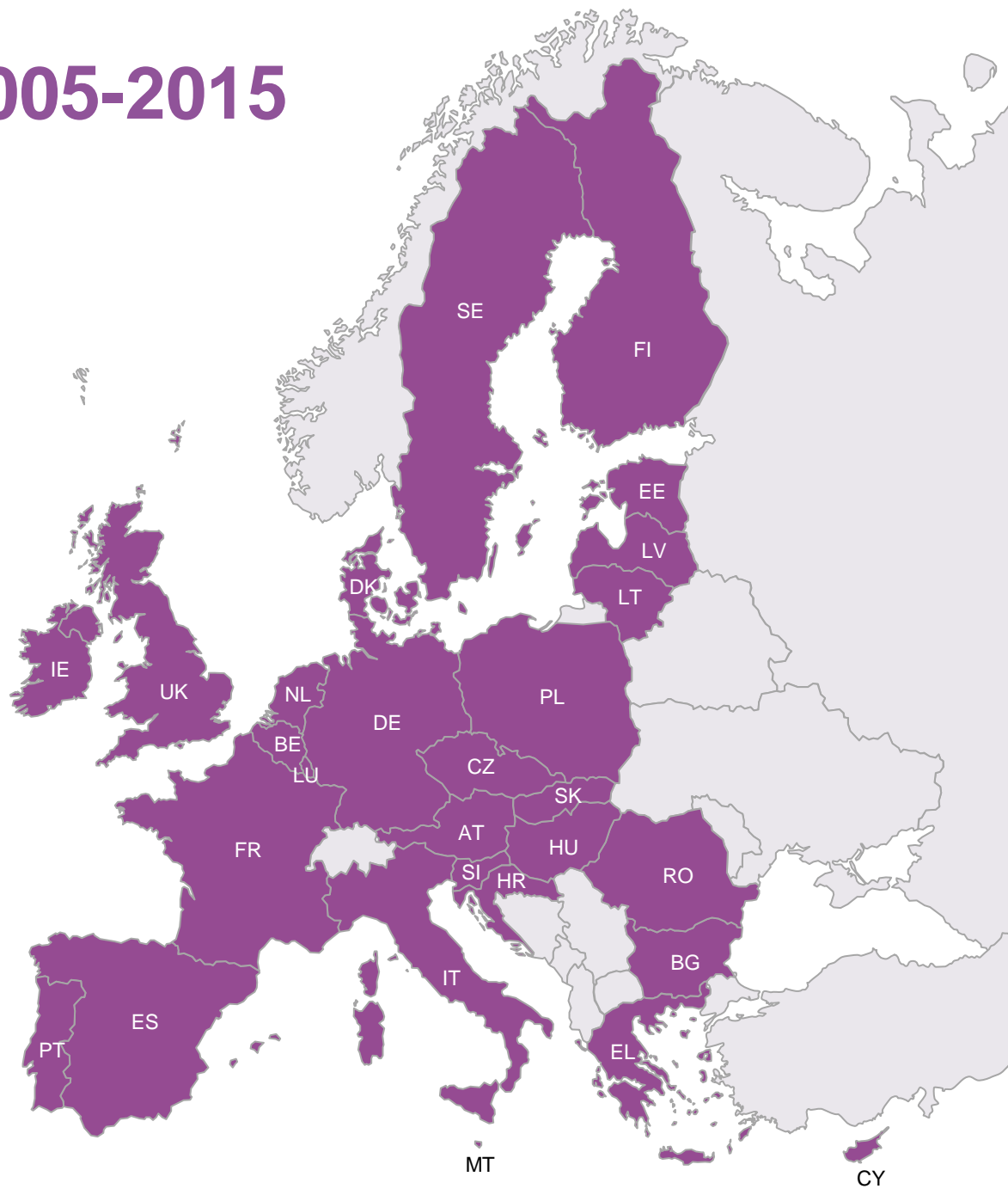
Ireland +7.6

## Least improved

UK +0.3

Czech Republic 0.0

Slovakia -0.1

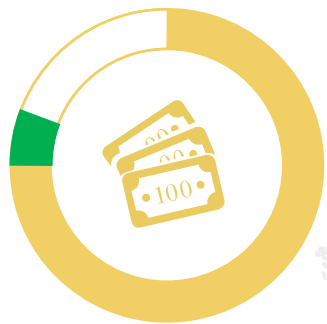


KNOWLEDGE

63.4



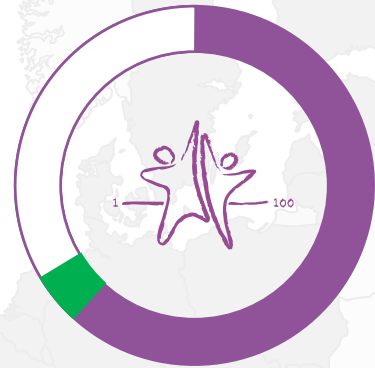
MONEY 79.6



TIME 65.7



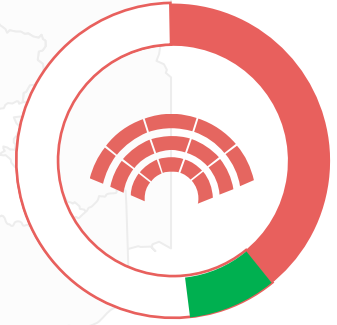
INDEX 66.2



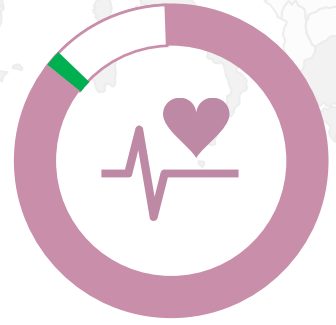
WORK 71.5



POWER 48.5



HEALTH 87.4





# Gender equality in decision-making makes slow but steady progress

- Progress in gender equality is most pronounced in corporate boards
- Legislative quotas seem to accelerate progress in political decision-making
- Men make decisions in research funding, media and sports

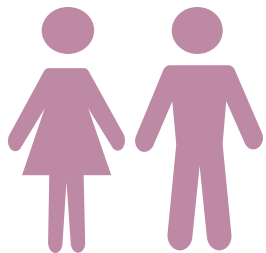
Ministers	27%	
Members of parliament	28%	
Boards of largest companies	22%	
Media organizations	32%	
Sports federations	14%	





# Gender inequalities in health are an increasing challenge for ageing societies

- Low education means poorer health, especially for women
- Men are more physically active than women, but smoke and drink more
- Medical and dental care needs of lone mothers and people with disabilities are often unmet

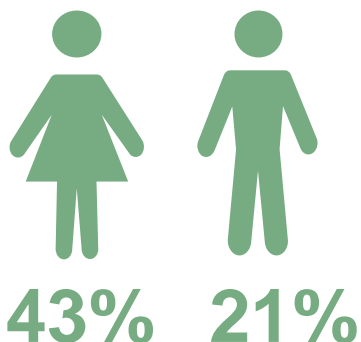


**14% lone mothers and 10% lone fathers have unmet needs for dental care**

# Despite improving educational attainment, gender segregation persists

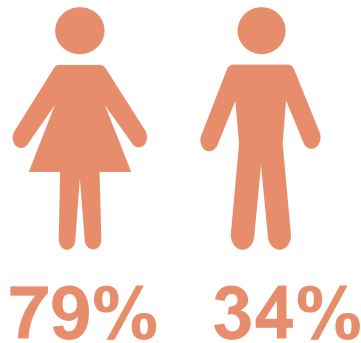


- Young men are losing out on educational attainment
- No progress in participation in lifelong learning
- Decreasing interest among men in studying education, health and welfare



Study in the fields of education, health, welfare, humanities or arts

# Gender inequalities in time use are persistent and growing



spend every day 1 hour or  
more on cooking and  
housework

- Also care for children, elderly and disabled is mostly done by women
- Unpaid care burden is especially high among non-EU born women
- Men have more time for sporting, cultural or leisure activities

# 10 years of slow progress in the domain of work

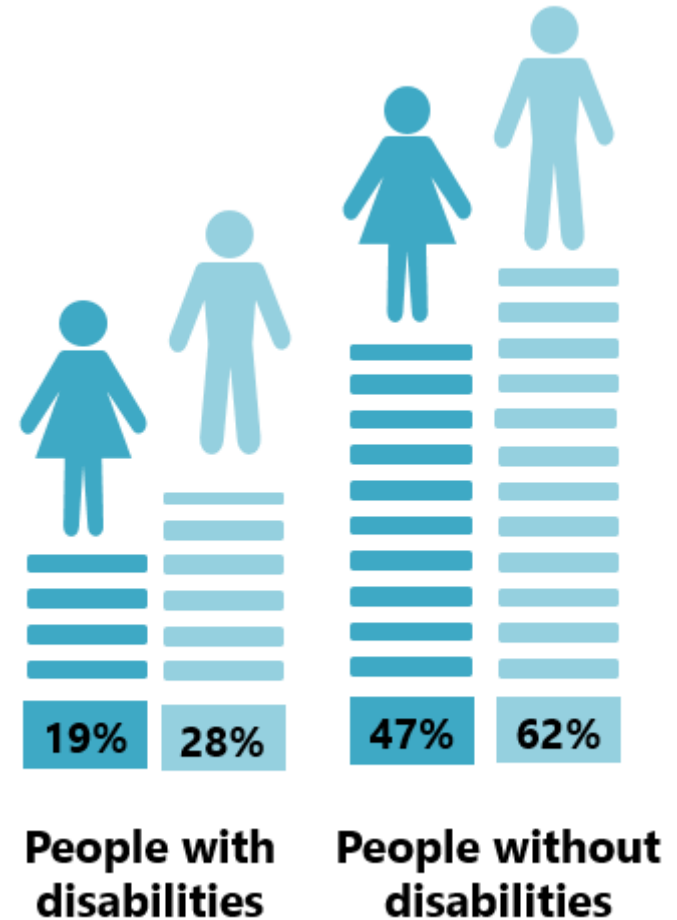


**FTE employment rate for  
women is 40%, for men 56%**

**Participation in employment is  
particularly low for**

- women with disabilities
- women with low education
- women with children

Gender segregation in  
employment is resistant to change

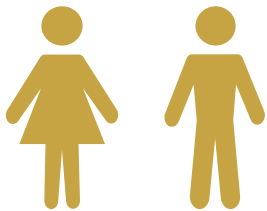


# Poverty reduction remains a challenge despite increases in average income



- Having children means a financial penalty for women and an earnings boost for men
- Poverty risk is more than double for those born outside the EU
- Lifetime inequalities lead to acute gender gaps in older age

## At-risk-of poverty



**18% of women older than 75 years**

**12% of men older than 75 years**

**33% of lone mothers**

**23% of lone fathers**



# The progress in gender equality is as slow as a snail's pace

Political pressure and legislative actions accelerate progress and improve gender balance in decision-making.

Unequal sharing of time for caring duties proves to be the most resistant to change.

Implementation of gender and intersectional perspective helps to develop more equitable and effective policies.



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# Explore the Gender Equality Index:

<http://eige.europa.eu/gender-equality-index>

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