

## Global Gender Gap Report 2023: Key Points and India's Performance

Greetings everyone!

The World Economic Forum has recently released the **Global Gender Gap Report 2023**. In this article, we will discuss all the major points of Global Gender Gap Report 2023. We will also look at India's ranking in the Global Gender Gap Report 2023 in detail. To know all the important facts of this report, read the article attentively till the end.

## Global Gender Gap Report- Introduction

The Global Gender Gap Report was first published in 2006 by the World Economic Forum (WEF). The Global Gender Gap Index is an index designed to measure gender equality. The report aims to serve "as a compass to track progress on relative gaps between women and men on health, education, economy and politics". It examines the drivers of gender gaps and outlines the policies and practices needed for a gender-inclusive recovery. Through this report, the stakeholders within each country are able to set priorities relevant in each specific economic, political and cultural context. The Index benchmarks the evolution of gender-based gaps among four key dimensions i.e.

1. Economic Participation and Opportunity,
2. Educational Attainment
3. Health and Survival
4. Political Empowerment

## Highlights of Global Gender Gap Report 2023

Recently, the World Economic Forum has released the Global Gender Gap Report 2023. This year, the Global Gender Gap Index benchmarked 146 countries. The key points of this report are:

- According to the report, the average distance completed to gender parity is at 68.4%, a step forward compared to 2022 (+0.3 percentage points). On its current trajectory, it will now take 131 years to close the gender gap worldwide.
- The largest gender disparity is in political empowerment. Women make up 22.9% of parliament members worldwide, according to data from 76 countries. Women now account for more than 40% of local government officials in 18 nations, including Bolivia, India, and France.
- The gender gap in Economic Participation and Opportunity remains the second-largest of the four key gaps tracked by the index. The countries with the largest gender gaps in economic participation include Iran, India, Pakistan and Afghanistan.
- Gender gaps in Educational Attainment and Health and Survival are nearly closed. In Educational Attainment, 95.2% of this gender gap has been closed globally, with 25 countries already at parity.
- Iceland is the most gender-equal country in the world for the 14th time. The top 10 most gender-equal countries include Finland, Norway, New Zealand, Sweden, Germany, Nicaragua, Namibia, Lithuania and Belgium.
- Middle East and North Africa are one of the worst performing regions, followed only by the Southern Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa.

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(Source: WEF's Global Gender Gap Report 2023)

# India's Ranking in the Global Gender Gap Report 2023

India has risen 8 places in the Global Gender Gap Report 2023 and is now ranked 127 among 146 countries. In 2022, India had ranked 135th among 146 countries.

- **Economic Participation:** The report highlights that the economic participation gender gap actually widened in India by 1.7% this year. While there has been an increase in salary and income equality, there has been a minor decrease in the presence of women in senior positions and technical professions.
- **Political Empowerment:** India has declined on the political empowerment index by 1.4 percentage points. It saw a decline in the number of women ministers, from 25% in 2022 to 14 in 2023.
- **Education Attainment:** In the index of education attainment, India has been ranked at 26.
- **Health and Survival index:** On this India has fared the worst, ranking at 142. The report points to a skewed sex ratio at birth as a major factor for the worst performance of India in the Health and Survival index.

## Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic on Gender Gaps

The COVID-19 pandemic has raised new barriers to building inclusive and prosperous economies and societies. This pandemic has amplified pre-existing gender gaps between men and women. The report mentions that another generation of women will have to wait for gender equality as 36 more years are added to the time left to close the gender gap. Some of the major impacts of Covid-19 highlighted by the report:

- During the crisis, 5% of all employed women lost their jobs as compared with 3.9% of employed men.
- The report shows that women experience a bigger gender gap in potential-based job transitions in fields where they are currently under-represented. For example, Cloud Computing, Engineering and Data & AI.
- There was an increase of stress, anxiety around job insecurity and difficulty in maintaining work-life balance among women with children.
- The growing "double shift", and other labour market dynamics such as occupational segregation, the pandemic is likely to have a scarring effect on future economic opportunities for women.

## Know about World Economic Forum (WEF)

The World Economic Forum is the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation. It was established in 1971 as a not-for-profit foundation and is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. It is independent, impartial and not tied to any special interests. The Forum strives in all its efforts to demonstrate entrepreneurship in the global public interest while upholding the highest standards of governance. It engages political, business, cultural and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas.



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So this was all about the Global Gender Gap Report 2023. In this article, we have covered all the major highlights of the report. We hope you have gained some wonderful insights after reading this article. For more such informative articles, stay tuned!

*Thank you*

