

Latvia

Women, Business and the Law 2023 (WBL2023) presents an index covering 190 economies and structured around the life cycle of a working woman. In total, 35 questions are scored across eight indicators. Overall scores are then calculated by taking the average of each indicator, with 100 representing the highest possible score. Data refer to the laws and regulations that are applicable to the main business city (Riga). Different rules may apply in other jurisdictions so local legislation should be reviewed. Based on this approach, **Latvia scores 100 out of 100**. The overall score for Latvia is higher than the regional average observed across OECD high-income economies (95.3). Within the OECD high-income region, there are 14 economies that score 100 out of 100.

Latvia - Scores for Women, Business and the Law 2023



Relative Strengths

When it comes to constraints on freedom of movement, laws affecting women's decisions to work, laws affecting women's pay, constraints related to marriage, laws affecting women's work after having children, constraints on women starting and running a business, gender differences in property and inheritance, and laws affecting the size of a woman's pension, Latvia gets a perfect score.

Areas for Improvement

Latvia attains a perfect score on all of the WBL2023 indicators.

Recent Reforms

No reforms were observed during the past year (October 2nd, 2021 – October 1st, 2022).



Further data details for Latvia are available at:
<https://wbl.worldbank.org/en/data/exploreeconomies/latvia/2023>



	QUESTION	ANSWER	LEGAL BASIS
Mobility	Can a woman choose where to live in the same way as a man?	Yes	Civil Law, Arts. 84-85
	Can a woman travel outside her home in the same way as a man?	Yes	Civil Law, Arts. 84-85
	Can a woman apply for a passport in the same way as a man?	Yes	Law on Personal Identification Documents, Arts. 6 and 9; Passport application procedures
	Can a woman travel outside the country in the same way as a man?	Yes	Civil Law, Arts. 84-85
Workplace	Can a woman get a job in the same way as a man?	Yes	Civil Law, Arts. 84-85
	Does the law prohibit discrimination in employment based on gender?	Yes	Labor Law, Sec. 7
	Is there legislation on sexual harassment in employment?	Yes	Labor Law, Sec. 29(4) and (7)
	Are there criminal penalties or civil remedies for sexual harassment in employment?	Yes	<i>Criminal:</i> No applicable provisions could be located <i>Civil:</i> Labor Law, Sec. 29(8)
Pay	Does the law mandate equal remuneration for work of equal value?	Yes	Labor Law, Secs. 59 and 60
	Can a woman work at night in the same way as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
	Can a woman work in a job deemed dangerous in the same way as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
	Can a woman work in an industrial job in the same way as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
Marriage	Is the law free of legal provisions that require a married woman to obey her husband?	Yes	Civil Law, Arts. 84-85
	Can a woman be head of household in the same way as a man?	Yes	Civil Law, Arts. 84-85
	Is there legislation specifically addressing domestic violence?	Yes	Criminal Law, Sec. 48(1)(15); Civil Procedure Law, Ch. 30.5
	Can a woman obtain a judgment of divorce in the same way as a man?	Yes	Civil Law, Arts. 69, 70 and 74
Parenthood	Does a woman have the same rights to remarry as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
	Is paid leave of at least 14 weeks available to mothers?	Yes	Labor Law, Sec. 154
	Does the government pay 100% of maternity leave benefits?	Yes	Law on Maternity and Sickness Insurance, Sec. 33
	Is paid leave available to fathers?	Yes	Labor Law, Sec. 155
	Is there paid parental leave?	Yes	Labor Law, Sec. 156; Law on Maternity and Sickness Insurance, Sec. 10-6
	Is dismissal of pregnant workers prohibited?	Yes	Labor Law, Sec. 109
Entrepreneurship	Does the law prohibit discrimination in access to credit based on gender?	Yes	Consumers' Rights Protection Law, Arts. 3-1 and 3-8
	Can a woman sign a contract in the same way as a man?	Yes	Civil Law, Arts. 84-85
	Can a woman register a business in the same way as a man?	Yes	Commercial Law, Art. 10
	Can a woman open a bank account in the same way as a man?	Yes	Civil Law, Arts. 84-85
Assets	Do men and women have equal ownership rights to immovable property?	Yes	Civil Law, Art. 90
	Do sons and daughters have equal rights to inherit assets from their parents?	Yes	Civil Law, Arts. 391 and 398-401
	Do female and male surviving spouses have equal rights to inherit assets?	Yes	Civil Law, Arts. 391 and 392
	Does the law grant spouses equal administrative authority over assets during marriage?	Yes	Civil Law, Art. 90
	Does the law provide for the valuation of nonmonetary contributions?	Yes	Civil Law, Arts. 89, 91 and 109
Pension	Is the age at which men and women can retire with full pension benefits the same?	Yes	Law on State Pensions, Sec. 11; Transitional provisions to the Law on State Pensions, Sec. 8
	Is the age at which men and women can retire with partial pension benefits the same?	Yes	Law on State Pensions, Secs. 11(6) and 32(12); Transitional provisions to the Law (8)
	Is the mandatory retirement age for men and women the same?	Yes	No applicable provisions could be located
	Are periods of absence due to childcare accounted for in pension benefits?	Yes	Law on State Pensions, Secs. 9(2)(2) and (7)

