

SDG Goal 5

Gender equality

SDG Target 5.5

Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life

SDG Indicator 5.5.1

Proportion of seats held by women in (a) national parliaments and (b) local governments

Time series

Proportion of women in the parliament

1. General information on the time series

- Date of national metadata: 12 January 2022
- National data: <http://sdg-indikatoren.de/en/5-5-1/>
- Definition: The time series measures the proportion of women in the parliament. The proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments, is currently measured as the number of seats held by women members in single or lower chambers of national parliaments, expressed as a percentage of all seats.
- Disaggregation: region

2. Comparison with global metadata

- Date of global metadata: August 2021
- Global metadata: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-05-05-01a.pdf>
- The time series is partly compliant with the global metadata. It shows the proportion of women in the national parliament based on the results of the election, and not at a cut-off date as requested by the global metadata.

3. Data description

- The time series measures the degree to which women have equal access to parliamentary decision making. Women's participation in parliaments is a key aspect of women's opportunities in political and public life, and is therefore linked to women's empowerment. Equal numbers of women and men in lower chambers would give an value of 50 per cent. A stronger presence of women in parliament allows new concerns to be highlighted on political agendas, and new priorities to be put into practice through the adoption and implementation of policies and laws. The inclusion of the perspectives and interests of women is a prerequisite for democracy and gender equality, and contributes to good governance. A representative parliament also allows the different experiences of men and women to affect the social, political and economic future of societies. Changes in the time series have been tracked over time. Although the international community has supported and promoted women's participation in political decision-making structures for several decades, improvement in women's access to parliament has been slow. This has led to the introduction of special policy measures to increase women's shares of parliamentary seats in several countries. Those countries that have adopted special measures generally have greater representation of women in parliament than countries without special measures.

4. Accessibility of source data

- Results of earlier elections to the Federal parliaments (only available in German):
<https://www.bundeswahlleiter.de/en/bundestagswahlen/2021/publikationen.html>
- Results of earlier elections to the Länder parliaments (only available in German):
<https://www.bundeswahlleiter.de/en/service/landtagswahlen.html>

5. Metadata on source data

- Quality Report - General Election Statistics for Federal Elections - Constituency Statistics (only available in German):
<https://www.destatis.de/DE/Methoden/Qualitaet/Qualitaetsberichte/Wahlen/bundestagswahlen.pdf>
- Results of earlier elections to the Länder parliaments (only available in German):
<https://www.bundeswahlleiter.de/en/service/landtagswahlen.html>

6. Timeliness and frequency

- Timeliness: Usually day of elections
- Frequency: Every 4 or 5 years

7. Calculation method

- Unit of measurement: Percentage
- Calculation method:

$$\text{Women in national parliament} = \frac{\text{Seats occupied by women [number]}}{\text{Seats in national parliament [number]}} \cdot 100 [\%]$$