

# PAPUA NEW GUINEA GENDER LANDSCAPE

This briefing showcases the gender landscape in Papua New Guinea on key indicators helpful for monitoring gender equality and designing effective policy interventions. Gender equality fosters productivity gains, minimizes losses in wealth, reduces poverty, boosts shared prosperity, and supports green, resilient, and inclusive development. Papua New Guinea is a Fragile, Conflict, or Violence (FCV) impacted country with high institutional and social fragility.

➤ Click the measures below to explore the [World Bank Gender Data Portal](#).

Compared to:	Base Year	Region
>10% Higher Value	↗	
Equal/No Change	→	
>10% Lower Value	↘	
No Data	---	

		Country Performance					Peer Comparison		
		Baseline			Latest		Latest		
		Value	Year		Value	Year	EAP	LMC	World
HUMAN ENDOWMENTS									
Learning-Adjusted Years of Schooling	Female	NA	NA	---	5.76	2020	NA	NA	NA
	Male	NA	NA	---	6.20	2020	NA	NA	NA
Literacy rate (% 15+)	Female	57.9	2010	---	NA	NA	94.4	NA	83.3
	Male	65.3	2010	---	NA	NA	97.4	NA	90.1
Primary completion rate (% of relevant group)	Female	49.8	2003	↗	71.5	2016	97.8	NA	89.9
	Male	58.7	2003	↗	82.4	2016	97.6	NA	90.3
Fertility rate, total (births per woman)		3.98	2010	↘	3.48	2020	1.81	NA	2.39
Adolescent fertility rate (births per 1,000 women 15-19)		58.4	2010	↘	50.6	2020	20.6	NA	41.0
Pregnant women receiving prenatal care of at least four visits (% of pregnant women)		54.9	2006	↘	49.0	2018	NA	NA	NA
Mortality from chronic vascular disease, cancer, diabetes or cardiorespiratory disease between 30 and 70 (%)	Female	31.0	2010	→	31.6	2019	12.5	NA	14.8
	Male	39.9	2010	→	40.3	2019	21.2	NA	21.7
Prevalence of HIV (% 15-24)	Female	0.30	2010	↗	0.40	2020	NA	NA	0.40
	Male	0.10	2010	↗	0.20	2020	NA	NA	0.20
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY									
Labor force participation rate (% 15+, modeled ILO estimate)	Female	47.7	2010	→	46.3	2021	59.0	NA	46.3
	Male	49.0	2010	→	48.1	2021	74.8	NA	71.7
Wage and salaried workers (% of employment, modeled ILO estimate)	Female	11.0	2010	↗	15.1	2019	54.8	NA	54.6
	Male	26.6	2010	↗	34.9	2019	57.8	NA	53.0
Employment in agriculture (% of employment, modeled ILO estimate)	Female	69.7	2010	↘	60.1	2019	22.1	NA	25.3
	Male	61.3	2010	↘	52.3	2019	26.9	NA	27.6
Share of youth not in education, employment or training (% of youth population)	Female	29.0	2010	---	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Male	26.4	2010	---	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Age dependency ratio (% of working-age population)		71.3	2010	↘	63.2	2020	45.4	NA	54.6
Financial institution account (% 15+)	Female	NA	NA	---	NA	NA	NA	51.7	63.7
	Male	NA	NA	---	NA	NA	NA	60.6	70.6
Borrowed to start, operate, or expand a farm or business (% 15+)	Female	NA	NA	---	NA	NA	NA	6.81	5.26
	Male	NA	NA	---	NA	NA	NA	9.00	7.57
Firms with female participation in ownership (% of firms)		NA	NA	---	46.5	2015	47.4	NA	33.1
VOICE AND AGENCY									
Firms with female top manager (% of firms)		NA	NA	---	13.8	2015	32.8	NA	17.8
Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments (%)		0.92	2010	↘	0.00	2021	21.4	NA	26.1
Women who were first married by 18 (% of women 20-24)		21.3	2006	↗	27.3	2018	NA	NA	NA
Proportion of women subjected to physical and/or sexual violence in the last 12 months (% of ever-partnered women 15-49)		NA	NA	---	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

**Note:** The East Asia and Pacific (EAP) region includes 38 countries (all income levels), as classified by The World Bank Group. Papua New Guinea is a lower middle income (LMC) country, which includes 55 countries with a Gross National Income (GNI) per capita from \$1,046 to \$4,095 (calculated using the World Bank Atlas method). Data and definitions can be found on the [Gender Data Portal](#).

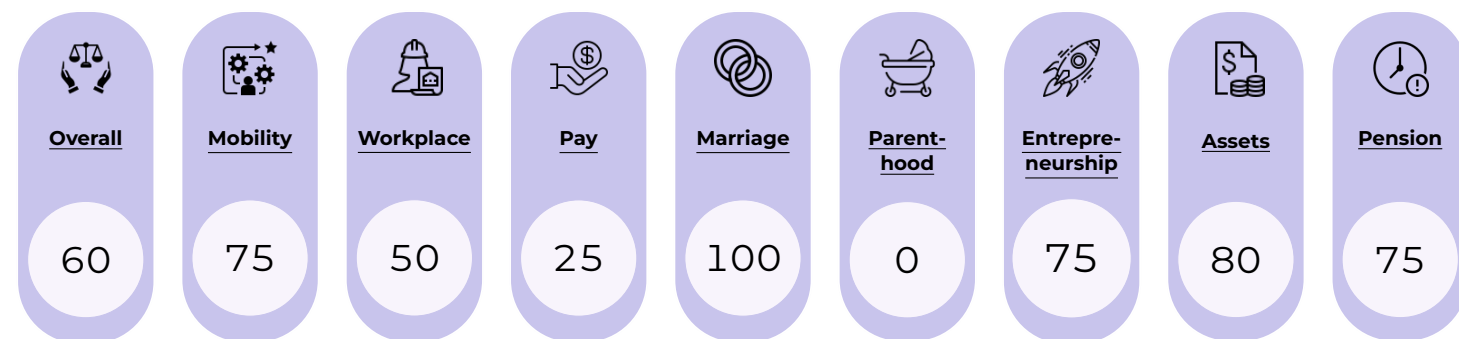
Country Baseline provides a reference from 1990 to 2010. Latest Value shows the latest available comparison from 2011 onwards. The arrow icon represents country increases or decreases over 10 percent relative to the base year. Peer comparisons show how Papua New Guinea performs relative to the region, income group, and the world. Lighter and darker shades represent values 10 percent above and below regional peer values, respectively.



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## Women, Business and the Law in Papua New Guinea

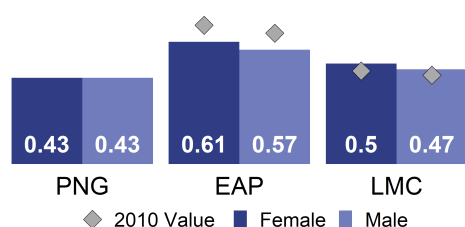
**Women, Business and the Law (WBL) 2022** presents an index covering 190 economies, structured around the life cycle of a working woman. In total, 35 questions are scored across eight indicators. **Papua New Guinea scores 60 out of 100**, while the regional average across East Asia and Pacific is 80.



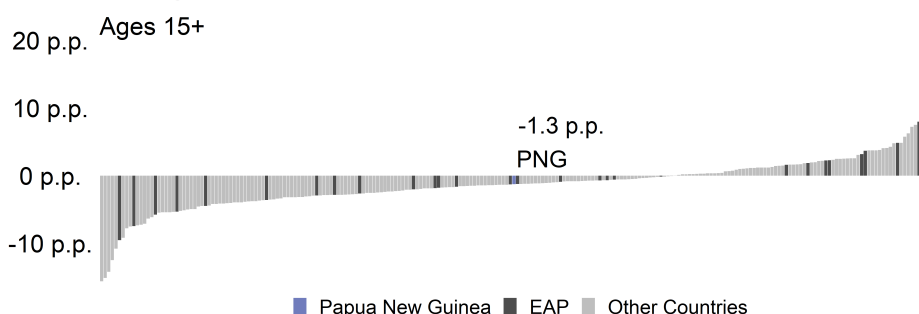
## A Closer Look at Gender Equality in Papua New Guinea

### Human Capital Index Score (0-1)

Baseline compared to 2020



### Change in Female Labor Force Participation 2010-2020 (p.p.)



## Unpacking the Numbers in Papua New Guinea

### 43 percent

A girl born today will be 43 percent as productive as if she enjoyed full education, health, and employment **(2020)**

### 3 in 25

12 percent of women 15 to 19 years old have had children or already pregnant **(2018)**

### 28 percent

28 percent of women report having ever experienced any form of sexual violence **(2018)**

### 21 in 100

21 percent of women are not able to visit family, relatives and friends on her own decision **(2018)**

### 10 in 11

91 percent of women do not have any land, both solely and jointly, registered under their name **(2018)**

## LEARN MORE

**The World Bank in Gender:** This portal features the latest research, news, and events around gender equality in international development.

**Women, Business and the Law:** This portal includes reports, data, and news on the laws and regulations that affect women's economic opportunity.

**World Bank Group Gender Strategy (FY16-FY23):** This 2015 report outlines the World Bank Group's strategy to promote gender equality.

**World Bank Gender Data Portal:** This open data tool shares the latest statistics and research to improve understanding and inform policy choices.

**EAP Gender Innovation Lab:** This page features policy research by the GIL, evaluating innovative solutions to close priority gender gaps in the region.

