

How is Gender Equality Measured?

While no single measure fully captures gender equality, gaps in equality between men and women are examined with measures in four basic areas:

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

Since 2005, the World Economic Forum has used measures in the above areas to rank countries on gender equality. Canada's rankings out of 136 countries in 2013 are below:

- **Number 9 in Economic Participation and Opportunity:** women's presence in the workforce (e.g. unemployment, remuneration for equal work): the quality of women's economic involvement (e.g.. women in managerial positions, duration and wages with maternity leave)
- **Number 1 in Educational Attainment:** women and girls obtaining equal education (e.g. rates of enrollment in all levels of education, literacy rates)
- **Number 49 in Health and survival:** equal access to health (e.g. sex ratio at birth, life expectancy)
- **Number 42 in Political empowerment:** equal representation of women in formal and informal decision-making positions in their communities (e.g. parliament seats held by women, years a women has been head of state)