

Part 1

Measuring the Global Gender Gap

The Global Gender Gap Index 2013

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The Global Gender Gap Index,¹ introduced by the World Economic Forum in 2006, is a framework for capturing the magnitude and scope of gender-based disparities and tracking their progress. The Index benchmarks national gender gaps on economic, political, education and health criteria, and provides country rankings that allow for effective comparisons across regions and income groups, and over time. The rankings are designed to create greater awareness among a global audience of the challenges posed by gender gaps and the opportunities created by reducing them. The methodology and quantitative analysis behind the rankings are intended to serve as a basis for designing effective measures for reducing gender gaps.

The first part of Part 1 reviews the underlying concepts employed in creating the Global Gender Gap Index and outlines the methods used to calculate it. The second part presents the 2013 rankings, global patterns and regional performances and calls attention to notable country cases. Next, we provide an overview of the links between gender gaps and the economic performance of countries. In the fourth part, we include information on the trends revealed by the Index in the eight years that we have been producing it.

The Country Profiles contained in Part 2 of this *Report* give a more detailed picture of the relative strengths and weaknesses of each country's performance compared with that of other nations. The first page of each profile contains key demographic and economic indicators as well as detailed information on the country's performance in 2013. The second page shows the trends between 2006 and 2013 on the overall Index and four subindexes, as well as nearly 40 gender-related variables that reflect some of the legal and social factors that affect gender disparity in each country.

MEASURING THE GLOBAL GENDER GAP

Three underlying concepts

There are three basic concepts underlying the Global Gender Gap Index. First, it focuses on measuring gaps rather than levels. Second, it captures gaps in outcome variables rather than gaps in means or input variables. Third, it ranks countries according to gender equality rather than women's empowerment. These three concepts

are briefly outlined below. For a description of how these concepts are captured by the construction techniques used in the creation of the Index, please see the section below, *Construction of the Index*.

Gaps vs. levels

The Index is designed to measure gender-based gaps in access to resources and opportunities in individual countries rather than the actual levels of the available resources and opportunities in those countries. We do this in order to make the Global Gender Gap Index independent from the countries' levels of development. In other words, the Index is constructed to rank countries on their gender gaps not on their development level. For example, rich countries, generally speaking, are able to offer more education and health opportunities to all members of society, which is often reflected in measures of education levels (although this is quite independent of the gender-related issues faced by each country at its own level of income). The Global Gender Gap Index, however, rewards countries for smaller gaps in access to these resources, regardless of the overall level of resources. Thus the Index penalizes or rewards countries based on the size of the gap between male and female enrolment rates, but not for the overall levels of education in the country.

Outcomes vs. means

The second basic concept underlying the Global Gender Gap Index is that it evaluates countries based on outcomes rather than inputs. Our aim is to provide a snapshot of where men and women stand with regard to some fundamental outcome indicators related to basic rights such as health, education, economic participation and political empowerment. Indicators related to country-specific policies, culture or customs—factors that we consider to be “input” or “means” variables—are not included in the Index, but they are displayed in the Country Profiles. For example, the Index includes an indicator comparing the gap between men and women in high-skilled jobs such as Legislators, senior officials and managers (an outcome indicator) but does not include data on Length of maternity leave (a policy indicator).

The Global Gender Gap Index, co-authored by Fiona Greig, Ricardo Hausmann, Laura D. Tyson and Saadia Zahidi, was first introduced in the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report 2006. The co-authors are deeply grateful to Annabel Guinault and Arney Soo for their excellent support in the production of this year's Part 1.

Gender equality vs. women's empowerment

The third distinguishing feature of the Global Gender Gap Index is that it ranks countries according to their proximity to gender equality rather than to women's empowerment. Our aim is to focus on whether the gap between women and men in the chosen indicators has declined, rather than whether women are "winning" the "battle of the sexes". Hence, the Index rewards countries that reach the point where outcomes for women equal those for men, but it neither rewards nor penalizes cases in which women are outperforming men in particular indicators.

The four pillars

The Global Gender Gap Index examines the gap between men and women in four fundamental categories (subindexes): *Economic Participation and Opportunity*, *Educational Attainment*, *Health and Survival* and *Political Empowerment*. Table 1 displays all four of these subindexes and the 14 different indicators that compose them, along with the sources of data used for each.

Economic Participation and Opportunity

This subindex is captured through three concepts: the participation gap, the remuneration gap and the advancement gap. The participation gap is captured using the difference in labour force participation rates. The remuneration gap is captured through a hard data indicator (ratio of estimated female-to-male earned income) and a qualitative variable calculated through the World Economic Forum's Executive Opinion Survey (wage equality for similar work). Finally, the gap between the advancement of women and men is captured through two hard data statistics (the ratio of women to men among legislators, senior officials and managers, and the ratio of women to men among technical and professional workers).

Educational Attainment

In this subindex, the gap between women's and men's current access to education is captured through ratios of women to men in primary-, secondary- and tertiary-level education. A longer-term view of the country's ability to educate women and men in equal numbers is captured through the ratio of the female literacy rate to the male literacy rate.

Health and Survival

This subindex provides an overview of the differences between women's and men's health. To do this, we use two indicators. The first is the sex ratio at birth, which aims specifically to capture the phenomenon of "missing women" prevalent in many countries with a strong son preference. Second, we use the gap between women's and men's healthy life expectancy, calculated by the World Health Organization. This measure provides an estimate of the number of years that women and men can expect to

live in good health by taking into account the years lost to violence, disease, malnutrition or other relevant factors.

Political Empowerment

This subindex measures the gap between men and women at the highest level of political decision-making, through the ratio of women to men in minister-level positions and the ratio of women to men in parliamentary positions. In addition, we include the ratio of women to men in terms of years in executive office (prime minister or president) for the last 50 years. A clear drawback in this category is the absence of any indicators capturing differences between the participation of women and men at local levels of government. Should such data become available at a global level in future years, they will be considered for inclusion in the Global Gender Gap Index.

Construction of the Index

The Global Gender Gap Index is constructed using a four-step process, outlined below.

Convert to ratios

Initially, all data are converted to female/male ratios. For example, a country with 20% of women in ministerial positions is assigned a ratio of 20 women /80 men, thus a variable of 0.25. This is to ensure that the Index is capturing gaps between women and men's attainment levels, rather than the levels themselves.

Truncate data at equality benchmark

As a second step, these ratios are truncated at the "equality benchmark". For all indicators, except the two health indicators, this equality benchmark is considered to be 1, meaning equal numbers of women and men. In the case of the sex ratio at birth variable, the equality benchmark is set to be 0.944,² and the healthy life expectancy benchmark is set to be 1.06.³ Truncating the data at the equality benchmarks for each variable assigns the same score to a country that has reached parity between women and men and one where women have surpassed men.

The type of scale chosen determines whether the Index is rewarding women's empowerment or gender equality.⁴ To capture gender equality, two possible scales were considered. One was a *negative-positive scale* capturing the size and direction of the gender gap. This scale penalizes either men's advantage over women or women's advantage over men, and gives the highest points to absolute equality. The second choice was a *one-sided scale* that measures how close women are to reaching parity with men but does not reward or penalize countries for having a gender gap in the other direction. Thus, it does not reward countries for having exceeded the parity benchmark. We find the one-sided scale more appropriate for our purposes.

Table 1: Structure of the Global Gender Gap Index

Subindex	Variable	Source
Economic Participation and Opportunity	Ratio: female labour force participation over male value	International Labour Organization, <i>Key Indicators of the Labour Market (KILM)</i> , 2010
	Wage equality between women and men for similar work (converted to female-over-male ratio)	World Economic Forum, <i>Executive Opinion Survey (EOS)</i> , 2013
	Ratio: female estimated earned income over male value	World Economic Forum, calculations based on the United Nations Development Programme methodology (refer to <i>Human Development Report 2009</i>)
	Ratio: female legislators, senior officials and managers over male value	International Labour Organization, <i>ILOStat</i> online database, 2010 or latest data available; United Nations Development Programme, <i>Human Development Report 2009</i> , the most recent year available between 1999 and 2007
	Ratio: female professional and technical workers over male value	International Labour Organization, <i>ILOStat</i> online database, 2010 or latest data available; United Nations Development Programme, <i>Human Development Report 2009</i> , the most recent year available between 1999 and 2007
Educational Attainment	Ratio: female literacy rate over male value	UNESCO Institute for Statistics, <i>Education database</i> , 2012 or latest data available; United Nations Development Programme, <i>Human Development Report 2009</i> , the most recent year available between 1997 and 2007
	Ratio: female net primary enrolment rate over male value	UNESCO Institute for Statistics, <i>Education database</i> , 2012 or latest data available
	Ratio: female net secondary enrolment rate over male value	UNESCO Institute for Statistics, <i>Education database</i> , 2012 or latest data available
	Ratio: female gross tertiary enrolment ratio over male value	UNESCO Institute for Statistics, <i>Education database</i> , 2012 or latest data available
Health and Survival	Sex ratio at birth (converted to female-over-male ratio)	Central Intelligence Agency, <i>The CIA World Factbook</i> , data updated weekly, 2013
	Ratio: female healthy life expectancy over male value	World Health Organization, <i>Global Health Observatory database</i> , data from 2007
Political Empowerment	Ratio: females with seats in parliament over male value	Inter-Parliamentary Union, <i>Women in Politics: 2013</i> , reflecting elections/appointments up to 1 January 2013
	Ratio: females at ministerial level over male value	Inter-Parliamentary Union, <i>Women in Politics: 2013</i> , reflecting appointments up to 1 January 2012; data updated every two years
	Ratio: number of years of a female head of state (last 50 years) over male value	World Economic Forum calculations, 30 June 2013

Note: If there are multiple sources, the first source listed is the primary source, followed by the secondary source, if data was not available from the primary source.

Calculate subindex scores

The third step in the process involves calculating the weighted average of the indicators within each subindex to create the subindex scores. Averaging the different indicators would implicitly give more weight to the measure that exhibits the largest variability or standard deviation. We therefore first normalize the indicators by equalizing their standard deviations. For example, within the Educational Attainment subindex, standard deviations for each of the four indicators are calculated. Then we determine what a 1% point change would translate to in terms of standard deviations by dividing 0.01 by the standard deviation for each indicator. These four values are then used as weights to calculate the weighted average of the four indicator. This way of weighting indicators allows us to make sure that each has the same relative impact on the subindex. For example, an indicator with a small variability or standard

deviation, such as Primary enrolment rate, gets a larger weight within the Educational Attainment subindex than an indicator with a larger variability, such as Tertiary enrolment rate. Therefore, a country with a large gender gap in primary education (an indicator where most countries have achieved near-parity between women and men) will be more heavily penalized. Similarly, in the case of the sex ratio indicator (within the Health and Survival subindex), where most countries have a very high sex ratio and the spread of the data is small, the larger weight will penalize more heavily those countries that deviate from this value. Table 2 displays the values of the weights used in the Global Gender Gap Index 2006.⁵

Calculate final scores

In the case of all subindexes, the highest possible score is 1 (equality) and the lowest possible score is 0

Table 2: Calculation of weights within each subindex

Economic Participation and Opportunity Subindex	Standard deviation	Standard deviation per 1% point change	Weights
Ratio: female labour force participation over male value	0.160	0.063	0.199
Wage equality between women and men for similar work (converted to female-over-male ratio)	0.103	0.097	0.310
Ratio: female estimated earned income over male value	0.144	0.069	0.221
Ratio: female legislators, senior officials and managers over male value	0.214	0.047	0.149
Ratio: female professional and technical workers over male value	0.262	0.038	0.121
Total			1
Educational Attainment Subindex	Standard deviation	Standard deviation per 1% point change	Weights
Ratio: female literacy rate over male value	0.145	0.069	0.191
Ratio: female net primary enrolment rate over male value	0.060	0.167	0.459
Ratio: female net secondary enrolment rate over male value	0.120	0.083	0.230
Ratio: female gross tertiary enrolment ratio over male value	0.228	0.044	0.121
Total			1
Health and Survival Subindex	Standard deviation	Standard deviation per 1% point change	Weights
Sex ratio at birth (converted to female-over-male ratio)	0.010	0.998	0.693
Ratio: female healthy life expectancy over male value	0.023	0.441	0.307
Total			1
Political Empowerment Subindex	Standard deviation	Standard deviation per 1% point change	Weights
Ratio: females with seats in parliament over male value	0.166	0.060	0.310
Ratio: females at ministerial level over male value	0.208	0.048	0.247
Ratio: number of years of a female head of state (last 50 years) over male value	0.116	0.086	0.443
Total			1

Note: Figures are based on the *Global Gender Gap Report 2006*.

(inequality), thus binding the scores between inequality and equality benchmarks.⁶ An un-weighted average of each subindex score is used to calculate the overall Global Gender Gap Index score. As in the case of the subindexes, this final value ranges between 1 (equality) and 0 (inequality), thus allowing for comparisons relative to ideal standards of equality in addition to relative country rankings.⁷ The equality and inequality benchmarks remain fixed across time, allowing the reader to track individual country progress in relation to an ideal standard of equality. Furthermore, we hope that the option of roughly interpreting the final Index scores as a percentage value that reveals how a country has reduced its gender gap makes the Index more intuitively appealing to readers.⁸

THE GLOBAL GENDER GAP INDEX 2013 RANKINGS

We aim to include a maximum number of countries in the *Report* every year, within the constraints posed by data availability. To be included in the *Report*, a country must have data available for a minimum of 12 indicators out of the 14 that make up the Index.

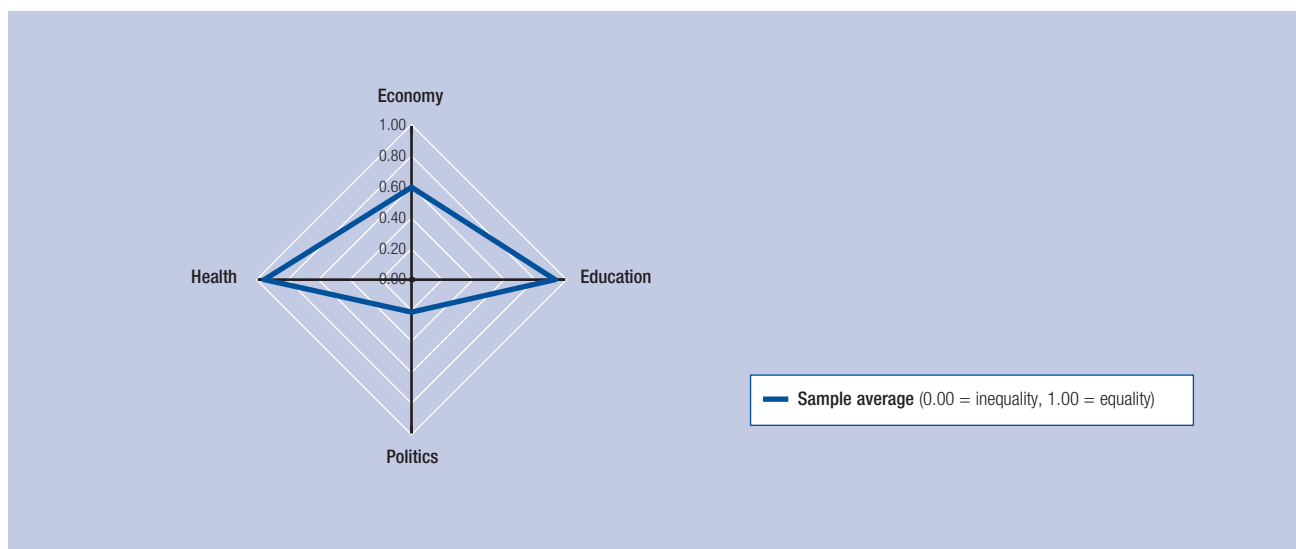
Country coverage, 2013

In 2013, we have been able to include 133 of the 135 countries covered in the 2012 edition of the *Report*. Due to lack of updated data, we have removed Gambia and

Timor-Leste from the *Report* in 2013. However, we were able to include three new countries—Angola, Bhutan and Lao PDR—resulting in a total of 136 countries. Of these, 110 have been included in the *Report* since the first edition in 2006.

Nearly 200 countries were considered for inclusion this year. Out of the 136 ultimately covered in this *Report*, 25 countries had one data point missing: Albania (Women in parliament), Bangladesh (Enrolment in primary education), Bhutan (Years with female head of state), Botswana (Women in ministerial positions), Brazil (Enrolment in secondary education), Canada (Enrolment in secondary education), China (Enrolment in secondary education), Dominican Republic (Estimated earned income), Egypt (Enrolment in secondary education), Germany (Enrolment in secondary education), Honduras (Enrolment in secondary education), Jamaica (Professional and technical workers), Japan (Enrolment in primary education), Maldives (Wage equality for similar work), Nepal (Enrolment in secondary education), Philippines (Women in parliament), Russian Federation (Enrolment in secondary education), Saudi Arabia (Enrolment in secondary education), Serbia (Labour force participation), Singapore (Enrolment in tertiary education), South Africa (Enrolment in tertiary education), Sri Lanka (Women in ministerial positions), Tanzania (Enrolment in secondary education), United Arab Emirates

Figure 1: Global patterns, 2013



Source: Global Gender Gap Index 2013; scores are weighted by population.

(Enrolment in tertiary education) and Zambia (Enrolment in secondary education).

Another 33 countries had two indicators missing: Angola (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Austria (Enrolment in primary education; Enrolment in secondary education), Bahamas (Wage equality for similar work; Enrolment in tertiary education), Belize (Wage equality for similar work; Literacy rate), Benin (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Brunei Darussalam (Enrolment in primary education; Women in parliament), Burkina Faso (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Burundi (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Cameroon (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Cape Verde (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Chad (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Costa Rica (Enrolment in primary education; Enrolment in secondary education), Côte d'Ivoire (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Cuba (Wage equality for similar work; Estimated earned income), Czech Republic (Enrolment in primary education; Enrolment in secondary education), Fiji (Wage equality for similar work; Women in parliament), Ghana (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Guatemala (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), India (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Jordan (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Kenya (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Lao PDR (Legislators, senior officials and managers;

Professional and technical workers), Luxembourg (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Malawi (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Mali (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Mauritania (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Mozambique (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Nigeria (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Senegal (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Slovakia (Enrolment in primary education; Enrolment in secondary education), Syria (Wage equality for similar work; Enrolment in tertiary education), Tajikistan (Legislators, senior officials and managers; Professional and technical workers), Vietnam (Enrolment in primary education; Enrolment in secondary education).

Global patterns

The detailed rankings from this year's Index are shown in Tables 3 through 5.

Table 3a displays the 2013 rankings and provides comparisons with rankings in 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007 and 2006. Table 3b displays the complete 2013 rankings, including the subindex scores and ranks for the four subindexes. Table 3c provides the year-to-year score changes over the last seven years. Out of the 110 countries that have been involved every year since 2006, 95 (86%) have improved their performance over the last four years, while 15 (14%) have shown widening gaps.

Figure 1 shows a global snapshot of the gender gap in the four subindexes. It shows that the 136 countries covered in the *Report*, representing over 90% of the world's population, have closed almost 96% of the gap in

Table 3a: The Global Gender Gap Index 2013 rankings: comparisons with 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007 and 2006

Country	2013 rank	2013 score	2013 rank among 2012 countries	2012 rank	2012 score	2011 rank	2011 score	2010 rank	2010 score
Iceland	1	0.8731	1	1	0.8640	1	0.8530	1	0.8496
Finland	2	0.8421	2	2	0.8451	3	0.8383	3	0.8260
Norway	3	0.8417	3	3	0.8403	2	0.8404	2	0.8404
Sweden	4	0.8129	4	4	0.8159	4	0.8044	4	0.8024
Philippines	5	0.7832	5	8	0.7757	8	0.7685	9	0.7654
Ireland	6	0.7823	6	5	0.7839	5	0.7830	6	0.7773
New Zealand	7	0.7799	7	6	0.7805	6	0.7810	5	0.7808
Denmark	8	0.7779	8	7	0.7777	7	0.7778	7	0.7719
Switzerland	9	0.7736	9	10	0.7672	10	0.7627	10	0.7562
Nicaragua	10	0.7715	10	9	0.7697	27	0.7245	30	0.7176
Belgium	11	0.7684	11	12	0.7652	13	0.7531	14	0.7509
Latvia	12	0.7610	12	15	0.7572	19	0.7399	18	0.7429
Netherlands	13	0.7608	13	11	0.7659	15	0.7470	17	0.7444
Germany	14	0.7583	14	13	0.7629	11	0.7590	13	0.7530
Cuba	15	0.7540	15	19	0.7417	20	0.7394	24	0.7253
Lesotho	16	0.7530	16	14	0.7608	9	0.7666	8	0.7678
South Africa	17	0.7510	17	16	0.7496	14	0.7478	12	0.7535
United Kingdom	18	0.7440	18	18	0.7433	16	0.7462	15	0.7460
Austria	19	0.7437	19	20	0.7391	34	0.7165	37	0.7091
Canada	20	0.7425	20	21	0.7381	18	0.7407	20	0.7372
Luxembourg	21	0.7410	21	17	0.7439	30	0.7216	26	0.7231
Burundi	22	0.7397	22	24	0.7338	24	0.7270	—	—
United States	23	0.7392	23	22	0.7373	17	0.7412	19	0.7411
Australia	24	0.7390	24	25	0.7294	23	0.7291	23	0.7271
Ecuador	25	0.7389	25	33	0.7206	45	0.7035	40	0.7072
Mozambique	26	0.7349	26	23	0.7350	26	0.7251	22	0.7329
Bolivia	27	0.7340	27	30	0.7222	62	0.6862	76	0.6751
Lithuania	28	0.7308	28	34	0.7191	37	0.7131	35	0.7132
Barbados	29	0.7301	29	27	0.7232	33	0.7170	31	0.7176
Spain	30	0.7266	30	26	0.7266	12	0.7580	11	0.7554
Costa Rica	31	0.7241	31	29	0.7225	25	0.7266	28	0.7194
Kazakhstan	32	0.7218	32	31	0.7213	49	0.7010	41	0.7055
Mongolia	33	0.7204	33	44	0.7111	36	0.7140	27	0.7194
Argentina	34	0.7195	34	32	0.7212	28	0.7236	29	0.7187
Colombia	35	0.7171	35	63	0.6901	80	0.6714	55	0.6927
Trinidad and Tobago	36	0.7166	36	43	0.7116	21	0.7372	21	0.7353
Panama	37	0.7164	37	40	0.7122	40	0.7042	39	0.7072
Slovenia	38	0.7155	38	38	0.7132	41	0.7041	42	0.7047
Malawi	39	0.7139	39	36	0.7166	65	0.6850	68	0.6824
Bahamas	40	0.7128	40	37	0.7156	22	0.7340	36	0.7128
Cape Verde	41	0.7122	41	35	0.7180	—	—	—	—
Serbia	42	0.7116	42	50	0.7037	—	—	—	—
Bulgaria	43	0.7097	43	52	0.7021	51	0.6987	50	0.6983
Namibia	44	0.7094	44	41	0.7121	32	0.7177	25	0.7238
France	45	0.7089	45	57	0.6984	48	0.7018	46	0.7025
Uganda	46	0.7086	46	28	0.7228	29	0.7220	33	0.7169
Jamaica	47	0.7085	47	51	0.7035	47	0.7028	44	0.7037
Guyana	48	0.7085	48	42	0.7119	38	0.7084	38	0.7090
Croatia	49	0.7069	49	49	0.7053	50	0.7006	53	0.6939
Venezuela	50	0.7060	50	48	0.7060	63	0.6861	64	0.6863
Portugal	51	0.7056	51	47	0.7071	35	0.7144	32	0.7171
Moldova	52	0.7037	52	45	0.7101	39	0.7083	34	0.7160
Israel	53	0.7032	53	56	0.6989	55	0.6926	52	0.6957
Poland	54	0.7031	54	53	0.7015	42	0.7038	43	0.7037
Sri Lanka	55	0.7019	55	39	0.7122	31	0.7212	16	0.7458
Madagascar	56	0.7016	56	58	0.6982	71	0.6797	80	0.6713
Macedonia, FYR	57	0.7013	57	61	0.6968	53	0.6966	49	0.6996
Singapore	58	0.7000	58	55	0.6989	57	0.6914	56	0.6914
Estonia	59	0.6997	59	60	0.6977	52	0.6983	47	0.7018
Lao PDR*	60	0.6993	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Russian Federation	61	0.6983	60	59	0.6980	43	0.7037	45	0.7036
Brazil	62	0.6949	61	62	0.6909	82	0.6679	85	0.6655
Kyrgyz Republic	63	0.6948	62	54	0.7013	44	0.7036	51	0.6973
Ukraine	64	0.6935	63	64	0.6894	64	0.6861	63	0.6869
Thailand	65	0.6928	64	65	0.6893	60	0.6892	57	0.6910
Tanzania	66	0.6928	65	46	0.7091	59	0.6904	66	0.6829
Senegal	67	0.6923	66	90	0.6657	92	0.6573	101	0.6414
Mexico	68	0.6917	67	84	0.6712	89	0.6604	91	0.6577

Table 3a: The Global Gender Gap Index 2013 rankings: comparisons with 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007 and 2006 (cont'd.)

Country	2009 rank	2009 score	2008 rank	2008 score	2007 rank	2007 score	2006 rank	2006 score
Iceland	1	0.8276	4	0.7999	4	0.7836	4	0.7813
Finland	2	0.8252	2	0.8195	3	0.8044	3	0.7958
Norway	3	0.8227	1	0.8239	2	0.8059	2	0.7994
Sweden	4	0.8139	3	0.8139	1	0.8146	1	0.8133
Philippines	9	0.7579	6	0.7568	6	0.7629	6	0.7516
Ireland	8	0.7597	8	0.7518	9	0.7457	10	0.7335
New Zealand	5	0.7880	5	0.7859	5	0.7649	7	0.7509
Denmark	7	0.7628	7	0.7538	8	0.7519	8	0.7462
Switzerland	13	0.7426	14	0.7360	40	0.6924	26	0.6997
Nicaragua	49	0.7002	71	0.6747	90	0.6458	62	0.6566
Belgium	33	0.7165	28	0.7163	19	0.7198	20	0.7078
Latvia	14	0.7416	10	0.7397	13	0.7333	19	0.7091
Netherlands	11	0.7490	9	0.7399	12	0.7383	12	0.7250
Germany	12	0.7449	11	0.7394	7	0.7618	5	0.7524
Cuba	29	0.7176	25	0.7195	22	0.7169	—	—
Lesotho	10	0.7495	16	0.7320	26	0.7078	43	0.6807
South Africa	6	0.7709	22	0.7232	20	0.7194	18	0.7125
United Kingdom	15	0.7402	13	0.7366	11	0.7441	9	0.7365
Austria	42	0.7031	29	0.7153	27	0.7060	27	0.6986
Canada	25	0.7196	31	0.7136	18	0.7198	14	0.7165
Luxembourg	63	0.6889	66	0.6802	58	0.6786	56	0.6671
Burundi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
United States	31	0.7173	27	0.7179	31	0.7002	23	0.7042
Australia	20	0.7282	21	0.7241	17	0.7204	15	0.7163
Ecuador	23	0.7220	35	0.7091	44	0.6881	82	0.6433
Mozambique	26	0.7195	18	0.7266	43	0.6883	—	—
Bolivia	82	0.6693	80	0.6667	80	0.6574	87	0.6335
Lithuania	30	0.7175	23	0.7222	14	0.7234	21	0.7077
Barbados	21	0.7236	26	0.7188	—	—	—	—
Spain	17	0.7345	17	0.7281	10	0.7444	11	0.7319
Costa Rica	27	0.7180	32	0.7111	28	0.7014	30	0.6936
Kazakhstan	47	0.7013	45	0.6976	32	0.6983	32	0.6928
Mongolia	22	0.7221	40	0.7049	62	0.6731	42	0.6821
Argentina	24	0.7211	24	0.7209	33	0.6982	41	0.6829
Colombia	56	0.6939	50	0.6944	24	0.7090	22	0.7049
Trinidad and Tobago	19	0.7298	19	0.7245	46	0.6859	45	0.6797
Panama	43	0.7024	34	0.7095	38	0.6954	31	0.6935
Slovenia	52	0.6982	51	0.6937	49	0.6842	51	0.6745
Malawi	76	0.6738	81	0.6664	87	0.6480	81	0.6437
Bahamas	28	0.7179	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cape Verde	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Serbia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bulgaria	38	0.7072	36	0.7077	25	0.7085	37	0.6870
Namibia	32	0.7167	30	0.7141	29	0.7012	38	0.6864
France	18	0.7331	15	0.7341	51	0.6824	70	0.6520
Uganda	40	0.7067	43	0.6981	50	0.6833	47	0.6797
Jamaica	48	0.7013	44	0.6980	39	0.6925	25	0.7014
Guyana	35	0.7108	—	—	—	—	—	—
Croatia	54	0.6944	46	0.6967	16	0.7210	16	0.7145
Venezuela	69	0.6839	59	0.6875	55	0.6797	57	0.6664
Portugal	46	0.7013	39	0.7051	37	0.6959	33	0.6922
Moldova	36	0.7104	20	0.7244	21	0.7172	17	0.7128
Israel	45	0.7019	56	0.69	36	0.6965	35	0.6889
Poland	50	0.6998	49	0.6951	60	0.6756	44	0.6802
Sri Lanka	16	0.7402	12	0.7371	15	0.7230	13	0.7199
Madagascar	77	0.6732	74	0.6736	89	0.6461	84	0.6385
Macedonia, FYR	53	0.6950	53	0.6914	35	0.6967	28	0.6983
Singapore	84	0.6664	84	0.6625	77	0.6609	65	0.6550
Estonia	37	0.7094	37	0.7076	30	0.7008	29	0.6944
Lao PDR*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Russian Federation	51	0.6987	42	0.6994	45	0.6866	49	0.6770
Brazil	81	0.6695	73	0.6737	74	0.6637	67	0.6543
Kyrgyz Republic	41	0.7058	41	0.7045	70	0.6653	52	0.6742
Ukraine	61	0.6896	62	0.6856	57	0.6790	48	0.6797
Thailand	59	0.6907	52	0.6917	52	0.6815	40	0.6831
Tanzania	73	0.6797	38	0.7068	34	0.6969	24	0.7038
Senegal	102	0.6427	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mexico	98	0.6503	97	0.6441	93	0.6441	75	0.6462

* New countries 2013

Table 3a: The Global Gender Gap Index 2013 rankings: comparisons with 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007 and 2006 (cont'd.)

Country	2013 rank	2013 score	2013 rank among 2012 countries	2012 rank	2012 score	2011 rank	2011 score	2010 rank	2010 score
China	69	0.6908	68	69	0.6853	61	0.6866	61	0.6881
Romania	70	0.6908	69	67	0.6859	68	0.6812	67	0.6826
Italy	71	0.6885	70	80	0.6729	74	0.6796	74	0.6765
Dominican Republic	72	0.6867	71	89	0.6659	81	0.6682	73	0.6774
Vietnam	73	0.6863	72	66	0.6867	79	0.6732	72	0.6776
Slovak Republic	74	0.6857	73	70	0.6824	72	0.6797	71	0.6778
Bangladesh	75	0.6848	74	86	0.6684	69	0.6812	82	0.6702
Ghana	76	0.6811	75	71	0.6778	70	0.6811	70	0.6782
Uruguay	77	0.6803	76	76	0.6745	58	0.6907	59	0.6897
Kenya	78	0.6803	77	72	0.6768	99	0.6493	96	0.6499
Cyprus	79	0.6801	78	79	0.6732	93	0.6567	86	0.6642
Peru	80	0.6787	79	78	0.6742	73	0.6796	60	0.6895
Greece	81	0.6782	80	82	0.6716	56	0.6916	58	0.6908
Honduras	82	0.6773	81	74	0.6763	54	0.6945	54	0.6927
Czech Republic	83	0.6770	82	73	0.6767	75	0.6789	65	0.6850
Malta	84	0.6761	83	88	0.6666	83	0.6658	83	0.6695
Botswana	85	0.6752	84	77	0.6744	66	0.6832	62	0.6876
Georgia	86	0.6750	85	85	0.6691	86	0.6624	88	0.6598
Hungary	87	0.6742	86	81	0.6718	85	0.6642	79	0.6720
Brunei Darussalam	88	0.6730	87	75	0.6750	76	0.6787	77	0.6748
Paraguay	89	0.6724	88	83	0.6714	67	0.6818	69	0.6804
Tajikistan	90	0.6682	89	96	0.6608	96	0.6526	89	0.6598
Chile	91	0.6670	90	87	0.6676	46	0.7030	48	0.7013
Angola*	92	0.6659	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bhutan*	93	0.6651	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Armenia	94	0.6634	91	92	0.6636	84	0.6654	84	0.6669
Indonesia	95	0.6613	92	97	0.6591	90	0.6594	87	0.6615
El Salvador	96	0.6609	93	94	0.6630	94	0.6567	90	0.6596
Maldives	97	0.6604	94	95	0.6616	101	0.6480	99	0.6452
Mauritius	98	0.6599	95	98	0.6547	95	0.6529	95	0.6520
Azerbaijan	99	0.6582	96	99	0.6546	91	0.6577	100	0.6446
Cameroon	100	0.6560	97	112	0.6291	119	0.6073	114	0.6110
India	101	0.6551	98	105	0.6442	113	0.6190	112	0.6155
Malaysia	102	0.6518	99	100	0.6539	97	0.6525	98	0.6479
Burkina Faso	103	0.6513	100	104	0.6455	115	0.6153	111	0.6162
Cambodia	104	0.6509	101	103	0.6457	102	0.6464	97	0.6482
Japan	105	0.6498	102	101	0.6530	98	0.6514	94	0.6524
Nigeria	106	0.6469	103	110	0.6315	120	0.6011	118	0.6055
Belize	107	0.6449	104	102	0.6465	100	0.6489	93	0.6536
Albania	108	0.6412	105	91	0.6655	78	0.6748	78	0.6726
United Arab Emirates	109	0.6372	106	107	0.6392	103	0.6454	103	0.6397
Suriname	110	0.6369	107	106	0.6409	104	0.6395	102	0.6407
Korea, Rep.	111	0.6351	108	108	0.6356	107	0.6281	104	0.6342
Bahrain	112	0.6334	109	111	0.6298	110	0.6232	110	0.6217
Zambia	113	0.6312	110	114	0.6279	106	0.63	106	0.6293
Guatemala	114	0.6304	111	116	0.6260	112	0.6229	109	0.6238
Qatar	115	0.6299	112	115	0.6264	111	0.6230	117	0.6059
Kuwait	116	0.6292	113	109	0.6320	105	0.6322	105	0.6318
Fiji	117	0.6286	114	113	0.6285	109	0.6255	108	0.6256
Ethiopia	118	0.6198	115	118	0.62	116	0.6136	121	0.6019
Jordan	119	0.6093	116	121	0.6103	117	0.6117	120	0.6048
Turkey	120	0.6081	117	124	0.6015	122	0.5954	126	0.5876
Nepal	121	0.6053	118	123	0.6026	126	0.5888	115	0.6084
Oman	122	0.6053	119	125	0.5986	127	0.5873	122	0.5950
Lebanon	123	0.6028	120	122	0.6030	118	0.6083	116	0.6084
Algeria	124	0.5966	121	120	0.6112	121	0.5991	119	0.6052
Egypt	125	0.5935	122	126	0.5975	123	0.5933	125	0.5899
Benin	126	0.5885	123	117	0.6258	128	0.5832	128	0.5719
Saudi Arabia	127	0.5879	124	131	0.5731	131	0.5753	129	0.5713
Mali	128	0.5872	125	128	0.5842	132	0.5752	131	0.5680
Morocco	129	0.5845	126	129	0.5833	129	0.5804	127	0.5767
Iran, Islamic Rep.	130	0.5842	127	127	0.5927	125	0.5894	123	0.5933
Côte d'Ivoire	131	0.5814	128	130	0.5785	130	0.5773	130	0.5691
Mauritania	132	0.5810	129	119	0.6129	114	0.6164	113	0.6152
Syria	133	0.5661	130	132	0.5626	124	0.5896	124	0.5926
Chad	134	0.5588	131	133	0.5594	134	0.5334	133	0.5330
Pakistan	135	0.5459	132	134	0.5478	133	0.5583	132	0.5465
Yemen	136	0.5128	133	135	0.5054	135	0.4873	134	0.4603

Table 3a: The Global Gender Gap Index 2013 rankings: comparisons with 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007 and 2006 (cont'd.)

Country	2009 rank	2009 score	2008 rank	2008 score	2007 rank	2007 score	2006 rank	2006 score
China	60	0.6907	57	0.6878	73	0.6643	63	0.6561
Romania	70	0.6805	70	0.6763	47	0.6859	46	0.6797
Italy	72	0.6798	67	0.6788	84	0.6498	77	0.6456
Dominican Republic	67	0.6859	72	0.6744	65	0.6705	59	0.6639
Vietnam	71	0.6802	68	0.6778	42	0.6889	—	—
Slovak Republic	68	0.6845	64	0.6824	54	0.6797	50	0.6757
Bangladesh	93	0.6526	90	0.6531	100	0.6314	91	0.6270
Ghana	80	0.6704	77	0.6679	63	0.6725	58	0.6653
Uruguay	57	0.6936	54	0.6907	78	0.6608	66	0.6549
Kenya	97	0.6512	88	0.6547	83	0.6508	73	0.6486
Cyprus	79	0.6706	76	0.6694	82	0.6522	83	0.6430
Peru	44	0.7024	48	0.6959	75	0.6624	60	0.6619
Greece	85	0.6662	75	0.6727	72	0.6648	69	0.6540
Honduras	62	0.6893	47	0.6960	68	0.6661	74	0.6483
Czech Republic	74	0.6789	69	0.6770	64	0.6718	53	0.6712
Malta	88	0.6635	83	0.6634	76	0.6615	71	0.6518
Botswana	39	0.7071	63	0.6839	53	0.6797	34	0.6897
Georgia	83	0.6680	82	0.6654	67	0.6665	54	0.67
Hungary	65	0.6879	60	0.6867	61	0.6731	55	0.6698
Brunei Darussalam	94	0.6524	99	0.6392	—	—	—	—
Paraguay	66	0.6868	100	0.6379	69	0.6659	64	0.6556
Tajikistan	86	0.6661	89	0.6541	79	0.6578	—	—
Chile	64	0.6884	65	0.6818	86	0.6482	78	0.6455
Angola*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bhutan*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Armenia	90	0.6619	78	0.6677	71	0.6651	—	—
Indonesia	92	0.6580	93	0.6473	81	0.6550	68	0.6541
El Salvador	55	0.6939	58	0.6875	48	0.6853	39	0.6837
Maldives	99	0.6482	91	0.6501	99	0.6350	—	—
Mauritius	96	0.6513	95	0.6466	85	0.6487	88	0.6328
Azerbaijan	89	0.6626	61	0.6856	59	0.6781	—	—
Cameroon	118	0.6108	117	0.6017	116	0.5919	103	0.5865
India	114	0.6151	113	0.6060	114	0.5936	98	0.6011
Malaysia	100	0.6467	96	0.6442	92	0.6444	72	0.6509
Burkina Faso	120	0.6081	115	0.6029	117	0.5912	104	0.5854
Cambodia	104	0.6410	94	0.6469	98	0.6353	89	0.6291
Japan	101	0.6447	98	0.6434	91	0.6455	80	0.6447
Nigeria	108	0.6280	102	0.6339	107	0.6122	94	0.6104
Belize	87	0.6636	86	0.6610	94	0.6426	—	—
Albania	91	0.6601	87	0.6591	66	0.6685	61	0.6607
United Arab Emirates	112	0.6198	105	0.6220	105	0.6184	101	0.5919
Suriname	78	0.6726	79	0.6674	56	0.6794	—	—
Korea, Rep.	115	0.6146	108	0.6154	97	0.6409	92	0.6157
Bahrain	116	0.6136	121	0.5927	115	0.5931	102	0.5894
Zambia	107	0.6310	106	0.6205	101	0.6288	85	0.6360
Guatemala	111	0.6209	112	0.6072	106	0.6144	95	0.6067
Qatar	125	0.5907	119	0.5948	109	0.6041	—	—
Kuwait	105	0.6356	101	0.6358	96	0.6409	86	0.6341
Fiji	103	0.6414	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ethiopia	122	0.5948	122	0.5867	113	0.5991	100	0.5946
Jordan	113	0.6182	104	0.6275	104	0.6203	93	0.6109
Turkey	129	0.5828	123	0.5853	121	0.5768	105	0.5850
Nepal	110	0.6213	120	0.5942	125	0.5575	111	0.5478
Oman	123	0.5938	118	0.5960	119	0.5903	—	—
Lebanon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Algeria	117	0.6119	111	0.6111	108	0.6068	97	0.6018
Egypt	126	0.5862	124	0.5832	120	0.5809	109	0.5786
Benin	131	0.5643	126	0.5582	123	0.5656	110	0.5780
Saudi Arabia	130	0.5651	128	0.5537	124	0.5647	114	0.5242
Mali	127	0.5860	109	0.6117	112	0.6019	99	0.5996
Morocco	124	0.5926	125	0.5757	122	0.5676	107	0.5827
Iran, Islamic Rep.	128	0.5839	116	0.6021	118	0.5903	108	0.5803
Côte d'Ivoire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mauritania	119	0.6103	110	0.6117	111	0.6022	106	0.5835
Syria	121	0.6072	107	0.6181	103	0.6216	—	—
Chad	133	0.5417	129	0.5290	127	0.5381	113	0.5247
Pakistan	132	0.5458	127	0.5549	126	0.5509	112	0.5434
Yemen	134	0.4609	130	0.4664	128	0.4510	115	0.4595

* New countries 2013

Table 3b: Detailed rankings, 2013

Country	OVERALL		ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION AND OPPORTUNITY		EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		HEALTH AND SURVIVAL		POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT	
	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score
Iceland	1	0.8731	22	0.7684	1	1.0000	97	0.9696	1	0.7544
Finland	2	0.8421	19	0.7727	1	1.0000	1	0.9796	2	0.6162
Norway	3	0.8417	1	0.8357	1	1.0000	93	0.9697	3	0.5616
Sweden	4	0.8129	14	0.7829	38	0.9977	69	0.9735	4	0.4976
Philippines	5	0.7832	16	0.7773	1	1.0000	1	0.9796	10	0.3760
Ireland	6	0.7823	29	0.7450	34	0.9988	65	0.9737	6	0.4115
New Zealand	7	0.7799	15	0.7797	1	1.0000	93	0.9697	12	0.3703
Denmark	8	0.7779	25	0.7639	1	1.0000	64	0.9739	11	0.3738
Switzerland	9	0.7736	23	0.7681	66	0.9919	72	0.9733	16	0.3610
Nicaragua	10	0.7715	91	0.6218	28	0.9996	55	0.9758	5	0.4889
Belgium	11	0.7684	34	0.7367	67	0.9918	47	0.9787	14	0.3664
Latvia	12	0.7610	17	0.7767	1	1.0000	1	0.9796	26	0.2875
Netherlands	13	0.7608	26	0.7592	44	0.9954	93	0.9697	22	0.3191
Germany	14	0.7583	46	0.7120	86	0.9818	49	0.9780	15	0.3611
Cuba	15	0.7540	65	0.6736	30	0.9995	63	0.9743	13	0.3685
Lesotho	16	0.7530	18	0.7756	1	1.0000	1	0.9796	35	0.2570
South Africa	17	0.7510	78	0.6505	54	0.9941	102	0.9677	8	0.3919
United Kingdom	18	0.7440	35	0.7320	31	0.9994	92	0.9698	29	0.2747
Austria	19	0.7437	69	0.6642	1	1.0000	47	0.9787	19	0.3318
Canada	20	0.7425	9	0.7959	1	1.0000	49	0.9780	42	0.1959
Luxembourg	21	0.7410	7	0.8162	1	1.0000	85	0.9719	51	0.1757
Burundi	22	0.7397	3	0.8307	114	0.8895	99	0.9685	31	0.2702
United States	23	0.7392	6	0.8185	1	1.0000	33	0.9792	60	0.1593
Australia	24	0.7390	13	0.7879	1	1.0000	69	0.9735	43	0.1945
Ecuador	25	0.7389	90	0.6253	52	0.9942	55	0.9758	17	0.3604
Mozambique	26	0.7349	11	0.7897	124	0.8355	112	0.9612	18	0.3533
Bolivia	27	0.7340	57	0.6841	99	0.9623	84	0.9719	23	0.3175
Lithuania	28	0.7308	21	0.7688	60	0.9928	34	0.9791	47	0.1826
Barbados	29	0.7301	10	0.7907	1	1.0000	1	0.9796	63	0.1503
Spain	30	0.7266	76	0.6521	40	0.9971	75	0.9730	27	0.2841
Costa Rica	31	0.7241	98	0.5955	1	1.0000	62	0.9747	21	0.3263
Kazakhstan	32	0.7218	20	0.7706	69	0.9913	1	0.9796	65	0.1458
Mongolia	33	0.7204	2	0.8338	49	0.9946	1	0.9796	108	0.0734
Argentina	34	0.7195	101	0.5887	42	0.9962	1	0.9796	24	0.3136
Colombia	35	0.7171	39	0.7275	45	0.9954	34	0.9791	55	0.1662
Trinidad and Tobago	36	0.7166	47	0.7112	51	0.9944	130	0.9516	38	0.2092
Panama	37	0.7164	45	0.7136	43	0.9958	61	0.9753	48	0.1811
Slovenia	38	0.7155	43	0.7189	26	0.9999	75	0.9730	54	0.1702
Malawi	39	0.7139	4	0.8253	112	0.8961	101	0.9683	56	0.1660
Bahamas	40	0.7128	5	0.8244	1	1.0000	1	0.9796	124	0.0471
Cape Verde	41	0.7122	96	0.6020	97	0.9663	1	0.9796	25	0.3011
Serbia	42	0.7116	59	0.6791	55	0.9940	111	0.9642	39	0.2089
Bulgaria	43	0.7097	49	0.7067	64	0.9924	34	0.9791	58	0.1606
Namibia	44	0.7094	53	0.6980	1	1.0000	105	0.9671	52	0.1727
France	45	0.7089	67	0.6690	1	1.0000	1	0.9796	45	0.1870
Uganda	46	0.7086	37	0.7285	123	0.8425	1	0.9796	28	0.2839
Jamaica	47	0.7085	36	0.7317	80	0.9884	1	0.9796	74	0.1345
Guyana	48	0.7085	102	0.5885	1	1.0000	45	0.9789	33	0.2668
Croatia	49	0.7069	61	0.6753	47	0.9951	34	0.9791	50	0.1779
Venezuela	50	0.7060	89	0.6256	33	0.9993	1	0.9796	37	0.2196
Portugal	51	0.7056	66	0.6726	56	0.9940	83	0.9724	46	0.1834
Moldova	52	0.7037	32	0.7407	74	0.9907	34	0.9791	87	0.1043
Israel	53	0.7032	56	0.6915	82	0.9874	93	0.9697	57	0.1643
Poland	54	0.7031	73	0.6563	37	0.9983	34	0.9791	49	0.1786
Sri Lanka	55	0.7019	109	0.5590	48	0.9946	1	0.9796	30	0.2744
Madagascar	56	0.7016	51	0.7033	93	0.9750	74	0.9732	61	0.1547
Macedonia	57	0.7013	71	0.6611	75	0.9903	128	0.9533	40	0.2007
Singapore	58	0.7000	12	0.7883	105	0.9409	85	0.9719	90	0.0989
Estonia	59	0.6997	41	0.7228	59	0.9931	34	0.9791	88	0.1038
Lao PDR*	60	0.6993	8	0.7999	113	0.8948	106	0.9669	73	0.1355
Russian Federation	61	0.6983	42	0.7204	36	0.9984	34	0.9791	94	0.0951
Brazil	62	0.6949	74	0.6561	1	1.0000	1	0.9796	68	0.1440
Kyrgyz Republic	63	0.6948	60	0.6789	77	0.9888	75	0.9730	71	0.1383
Ukraine	64	0.6935	30	0.7426	27	0.9998	75	0.9730	119	0.0587
Thailand	65	0.6928	50	0.7035	78	0.9888	1	0.9796	89	0.0992
Tanzania	66	0.6928	70	0.6635	118	0.8779	112	0.9612	32	0.2684
Senegal	67	0.6923	81	0.6401	125	0.8270	71	0.9734	20	0.3286
Mexico	68	0.6917	111	0.5499	70	0.9911	1	0.9796	36	0.2463

Table 3b: Detailed rankings, 2013 (cont'd.)

Country	OVERALL		ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION AND OPPORTUNITY		EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		HEALTH AND SURVIVAL		POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT	
	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score
China	69	0.6908	62	0.6752	81	0.9880	133	0.9398	59	0.1604
Romania	70	0.6908	55	0.6928	50	0.9945	34	0.9791	91	0.0970
Italy	71	0.6885	97	0.5973	65	0.9924	72	0.9733	44	0.1912
Dominican Republic	72	0.6867	63	0.6751	84	0.9822	89	0.9711	84	0.1184
Vietnam	73	0.6863	52	0.7023	95	0.9741	132	0.9441	80	0.1247
Slovak Republic	74	0.6857	86	0.6350	1	1.0000	1	0.9796	77	0.1284
Bangladesh	75	0.6848	121	0.4954	115	0.8846	124	0.9557	7	0.4036
Ghana	76	0.6811	24	0.7662	111	0.8970	104	0.9674	95	0.0937
Uruguay	77	0.6803	58	0.6833	41	0.9967	1	0.9796	116	0.0617
Kenya	78	0.6803	44	0.7146	107	0.9230	102	0.9677	85	0.1157
Cyprus	79	0.6801	85	0.6353	83	0.9853	91	0.9701	76	0.1298
Peru	80	0.6787	88	0.6278	88	0.9796	109	0.9658	69	0.1417
Greece	81	0.6782	79	0.6470	46	0.9953	65	0.9737	92	0.0969
Honduras	82	0.6773	94	0.6061	35	0.9988	52	0.9762	78	0.1280
Czech Republic	83	0.6770	95	0.6039	1	1.0000	46	0.9788	79	0.1254
Malta	84	0.6761	108	0.5655	58	0.9935	65	0.9737	53	0.1716
Botswana	85	0.6752	48	0.7108	1	1.0000	127	0.9549	127	0.0353
Georgia	86	0.6750	64	0.6741	89	0.9790	126	0.9553	97	0.0915
Hungary	87	0.6742	68	0.6677	62	0.9925	34	0.9791	120	0.0574
Brunei Darussalam	88	0.6730	33	0.7372	76	0.9889	109	0.9658	135	0.0000
Paraguay	89	0.6724	83	0.6363	61	0.9928	55	0.9758	104	0.0847
Tajikistan	90	0.6682	38	0.7284	110	0.8993	123	0.9559	100	0.0891
Chile	91	0.6670	112	0.5445	32	0.9993	1	0.9796	67	0.1448
Angola*	92	0.6659	92	0.6163	127	0.8062	1	0.9796	34	0.2614
Bhutan*	93	0.6651	27	0.7528	116	0.8843	82	0.9725	122	0.0509
Armenia	94	0.6634	82	0.6384	29	0.9995	131	0.9497	115	0.0662
Indonesia	95	0.6613	103	0.5881	101	0.9574	107	0.9663	75	0.1334
El Salvador	96	0.6609	114	0.5345	79	0.9886	1	0.9796	70	0.1409
Maldives	97	0.6604	99	0.5914	1	1.0000	112	0.9612	101	0.0890
Mauritius	98	0.6599	105	0.5735	72	0.9907	1	0.9796	93	0.0959
Azerbaijan	99	0.6582	72	0.6591	85	0.9820	136	0.9254	114	0.0663
Cameroon	100	0.6560	40	0.7258	122	0.8470	112	0.9612	99	0.0902
India	101	0.6551	124	0.4465	120	0.8574	135	0.9312	9	0.3852
Malaysia	102	0.6518	100	0.5904	73	0.9907	75	0.9730	121	0.0530
Burkina Faso	103	0.6513	28	0.7467	128	0.7987	99	0.9685	98	0.0914
Cambodia	104	0.6509	77	0.6514	117	0.8811	1	0.9796	96	0.0916
Japan	105	0.6498	104	0.5841	91	0.9757	34	0.9791	118	0.0603
Nigeria	106	0.6469	54	0.6965	126	0.8115	122	0.9607	83	0.1190
Belize	107	0.6449	80	0.6458	103	0.9445	1	0.9796	133	0.0099
Albania	108	0.6412	87	0.6324	92	0.9755	134	0.9313	130	0.0256
United Arab Emirates	109	0.6372	122	0.4672	1	1.0000	112	0.9612	81	0.1206
Suriname	110	0.6369	119	0.4986	39	0.9973	1	0.9796	110	0.0723
Korea, Rep.	111	0.6351	118	0.5036	100	0.9592	75	0.9730	86	0.1046
Bahrain	112	0.6334	117	0.5146	71	0.9911	112	0.9612	113	0.0667
Zambia	113	0.6312	84	0.6354	121	0.8472	98	0.9690	109	0.0732
Guatemala	114	0.6304	113	0.5422	102	0.9522	1	0.9796	123	0.0475
Qatar	115	0.6299	106	0.5735	53	0.9941	129	0.9522	135	0.0000
Kuwait	116	0.6292	115	0.5252	57	0.9936	112	0.9612	126	0.0370
Fiji	117	0.6286	120	0.4975	63	0.9925	1	0.9796	125	0.0448
Ethiopia	118	0.6198	93	0.6148	131	0.7451	68	0.9737	66	0.1457
Jordan	119	0.6093	128	0.4145	68	0.9915	90	0.9706	117	0.0607
Turkey	120	0.6081	127	0.4269	104	0.9431	59	0.9755	103	0.0868
Nepal	121	0.6053	116	0.5151	130	0.7462	112	0.9612	41	0.1989
Orman	122	0.6053	123	0.4489	94	0.9745	59	0.9755	132	0.0221
Lebanon	123	0.6028	126	0.4420	87	0.9796	1	0.9796	133	0.0099
Algeria	124	0.5966	133	0.3307	106	0.9387	108	0.9661	62	0.1511
Egypt	125	0.5935	125	0.4426	108	0.9199	51	0.9768	128	0.0348
Benin	126	0.5885	31	0.7419	136	0.5127	112	0.9612	72	0.1383
Saudi Arabia	127	0.5879	134	0.3223	90	0.9761	52	0.9762	105	0.0769
Mali	128	0.5872	107	0.5668	132	0.7291	54	0.9761	106	0.0769
Morocco	129	0.5845	129	0.3949	109	0.9002	88	0.9712	111	0.0720
Iran, Islamic Rep.	130	0.5842	130	0.3655	98	0.9653	87	0.9714	129	0.0346
Côte d'Ivoire	131	0.5814	110	0.5561	133	0.7141	1	0.9796	107	0.0758
Mauritania	132	0.5810	131	0.3651	119	0.8591	1	0.9796	82	0.1201
Syria	133	0.5661	136	0.2508	96	0.9682	58	0.9756	112	0.0697
Chad	134	0.5588	75	0.6547	135	0.5311	112	0.9612	102	0.0883
Pakistan	135	0.5459	135	0.3108	129	0.7685	124	0.9557	64	0.1487
Yemen	136	0.5128	132	0.3577	134	0.6980	81	0.9727	131	0.0227

* New countries 2013

Table 3c: The Global Gender Gap Index 2013 rankings: changes in scores (detailed)

Country	Change in score (2012–2013)	Change in score (2011–2012)	Change in score (2010–2011)	Change in score (2009–2010)	Change in score (2008–2009)	Change in score (2007–2008)	Change in score (2006–2007)	Change in score (2006–2013)
Iceland	0.0091	0.0110	0.0034	0.0220	0.0277	0.0164	0.0023	0.0918
Finland	-0.0030	0.0068	0.0123	0.0008	0.0057	0.0151	0.0086	0.0463
Norway	0.0014	0.0000	0.0000	0.0177	-0.0011	0.0180	0.0065	0.0423
Sweden	-0.0030	0.0115	0.0020	-0.0116	0.0000	-0.0007	0.0014	-0.0004
Philippines	0.0075	0.0072	0.0031	0.0076	0.0011	-0.0061	0.0113	0.0316
Ireland	-0.0016	0.0009	0.0057	0.0177	0.0079	0.0061	0.0122	0.0488
New Zealand	-0.0006	-0.0005	0.0002	-0.0072	0.0021	0.0210	0.0140	0.0290
Denmark	0.0002	-0.0001	0.0059	0.0091	0.0090	0.0019	0.0057	0.0316
Switzerland	0.0063	0.0045	0.0065	0.0136	0.0066	0.0436	-0.0073	0.0739
Nicaragua	0.0018	0.0452	0.0069	0.0175	0.0255	0.0289	-0.0108	0.1149
Belgium	0.0031	0.0121	0.0022	0.0344	0.0003	-0.0035	0.0120	0.0606
Latvia	0.0037	0.0174	-0.0030	0.0013	0.0019	0.0064	0.0242	0.0519
Netherlands	-0.0051	0.0189	0.0026	-0.0046	0.0091	0.0016	0.0133	0.0359
Germany	-0.0046	0.0039	0.0060	0.0080	0.0055	-0.0224	0.0094	0.0058
Cuba	0.0122	0.0023	0.0142	0.0076	-0.0019	0.0026	—	—
Lesotho	-0.0078	-0.0058	-0.0012	0.0183	0.0176	0.0242	0.0271	0.0724
South Africa	0.0015	0.0018	-0.0056	-0.0175	0.0477	0.0038	0.0069	0.0385
United Kingdom	0.0007	-0.0029	0.0002	0.0058	0.0036	-0.0075	0.0076	0.0075
Austria	0.0045	0.0226	0.0074	0.0060	-0.0121	0.0092	0.0074	0.0451
Canada	0.0043	-0.0026	0.0035	0.0176	0.0060	-0.0063	0.0034	0.0260
Luxembourg	-0.0030	0.0223	-0.0015	0.0342	0.0087	0.0016	0.0115	0.0738
Burundi	0.0059	0.0068	—	—	—	—	—	—
United States	0.0020	-0.0039	0.0001	0.0238	-0.0006	0.0177	-0.0039	0.0351
Australia	0.0096	0.0003	0.0020	-0.0011	0.0041	0.0037	0.0040	0.0226
Ecuador	0.0184	0.0171	-0.0037	-0.0148	0.0129	0.0210	0.0448	0.0956
Mozambique	-0.0001	0.0099	-0.0078	0.0134	-0.0071	0.0383	—	—
Bolivia	0.0118	0.0360	0.0111	0.0058	0.0026	0.0093	0.0239	0.1004
Lithuania	0.0117	0.0060	0.0000	-0.0043	-0.0046	-0.0012	0.0157	0.0231
Barbados	0.0070	0.0062	-0.0006	-0.0060	0.0048	—	—	—
Spain	-0.0001	-0.0314	0.0026	0.0209	0.0063	-0.0162	0.0125	-0.0053
Costa Rica	0.0017	-0.0042	0.0072	0.0014	0.0069	0.0097	0.0078	0.0305
Kazakhstan	0.0005	0.0202	-0.0045	0.0043	0.0037	-0.0006	0.0054	0.0290
Mongolia	0.0092	-0.0029	-0.0054	-0.0026	0.0171	0.0318	-0.0090	0.0382
Argentina	-0.0017	-0.0024	0.0049	-0.0024	0.0002	0.0227	0.0153	0.0366
Colombia	0.0269	0.0187	-0.0213	-0.0012	-0.0004	-0.0146	0.0041	0.0122
Trinidad and Tobago	0.0050	-0.0256	0.0019	0.0054	0.0054	0.0385	0.0062	0.0368
Panama	0.0042	0.0081	-0.0031	0.0048	-0.0071	0.0141	0.0019	0.0230
Slovenia	0.0023	0.0091	-0.0006	0.0066	0.0045	0.0094	0.0097	0.0410
Malawi	-0.0027	0.0317	0.0025	0.0087	0.0074	0.0183	0.0044	0.0702
Bahamas	-0.0029	-0.0184	0.0212	-0.0050	—	—	—	—
Cape Verde	-0.0057	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Serbia	0.0079	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bulgaria	0.0076	0.0034	0.0004	-0.0089	-0.0005	-0.0007	0.0215	0.0227
Namibia	-0.0027	-0.0055	-0.0062	0.0072	0.0026	0.0129	0.0147	0.0230
France	0.0105	-0.0035	-0.0007	-0.0306	-0.0010	0.0518	0.0303	0.0568
Uganda	-0.0142	0.0008	0.0051	0.0102	0.0086	0.0148	0.0036	0.0289
Jamaica	0.0050	0.0007	-0.0008	0.0024	0.0032	0.0055	-0.0089	0.0071
Guyana	-0.0034	0.0034	-0.0005	-0.0019	—	—	—	—
Croatia	0.0016	0.0047	0.0066	-0.0004	-0.0023	-0.0243	0.0066	-0.0076
Venezuela	0.0000	0.0199	-0.0002	0.0024	-0.0036	0.0078	0.0133	0.0396
Portugal	-0.0015	-0.0074	-0.0026	0.0158	-0.0038	0.0092	0.0037	0.0134
Moldova	-0.0064	0.0018	-0.0077	0.0056	-0.0140	0.0071	0.0044	-0.0091
Israel	0.0044	0.0063	-0.0031	-0.0061	0.0118	-0.0064	0.0076	0.0144
Poland	0.0015	-0.0023	0.0001	0.0039	0.0047	0.0194	-0.0046	0.0228
Sri Lanka	-0.0103	-0.0090	-0.0246	0.0056	0.0032	0.0141	0.0031	-0.0180
Madagascar	0.0033	0.0185	0.0084	-0.0019	-0.0003	0.0274	0.0076	0.0630
Macedonia, FYR	0.0045	0.0002	-0.0030	0.0046	0.0036	-0.0054	-0.0015	0.0031
Singapore	0.0011	0.0075	0.0000	0.0250	0.0039	0.0017	0.0059	0.0450
Estonia	0.0020	-0.0005	-0.0035	-0.0076	0.0018	0.0068	0.0064	0.0054
Lao PDR*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Russian Federation	0.0003	-0.0057	0.0001	0.0049	-0.0007	0.0128	0.0096	0.0212
Brazil	0.0040	0.0230	0.0024	-0.0040	-0.0042	0.0100	0.0094	0.0406
Kyrgyz Republic	-0.0065	-0.0023	0.0063	-0.0086	0.0013	0.0392	-0.0088	0.0206
Ukraine	0.0042	0.0033	-0.0008	-0.0027	0.0041	0.0065	-0.0006	0.0138
Thailand	0.0035	0.0001	-0.0018	0.0003	-0.0010	0.0102	-0.0016	0.0096
Tanzania	-0.0163	0.0187	0.0074	0.0032	-0.0271	0.0100	-0.0069	-0.0110
Senegal	0.0266	0.0084	0.0160	-0.0013	—	—	—	—
Mexico	0.0205	0.0108	0.0027	0.0074	0.0062	0.0000	-0.0021	0.0455
China	0.0056	-0.0013	-0.0014	-0.0026	0.0029	0.0235	0.0082	0.0348
Romania	0.0050	0.0046	-0.0014	0.0020	0.0043	-0.0097	0.0062	0.0111
Italy	0.0156	-0.0066	0.0031	-0.0033	0.0010	0.0290	0.0042	0.0430

Table 3c: The Global Gender Gap Index 2013 rankings: changes in scores (detailed) (cont'd.)

Country	Change in score (2012–2013)	Change in score (2011–2012)	Change in score (2010–2011)	Change in score (2009–2010)	Change in score (2008–2009)	Change in score (2007–2008)	Change in score (2006–2007)	Change in score (2006–2013)
Dominican Republic	0.0208	-0.0023	-0.0092	-0.0085	0.0115	0.0039	0.0065	0.0228
Vietnam	-0.0004	0.0135	-0.0044	-0.0026	0.0023	-0.0110	—	—
Slovak Republic	0.0033	0.0027	0.0019	-0.0067	0.0021	0.0027	0.0040	0.0101
Bangladesh	0.0165	-0.0128	0.0110	0.0176	-0.0005	0.0216	0.0044	0.0578
Ghana	0.0033	-0.0033	0.0030	0.0078	0.0025	-0.0046	0.0072	0.0158
Uruguay	0.0058	-0.0162	0.0010	-0.0039	0.0029	0.0299	0.0058	0.0254
Kenya	0.0034	0.0275	-0.0007	-0.0013	-0.0035	0.0039	0.0023	0.0317
Cyprus	0.0069	0.0165	-0.0075	-0.0064	0.0012	0.0172	0.0092	0.0371
Peru	0.0045	-0.0054	-0.0099	-0.0128	0.0064	0.0336	0.0005	0.0168
Greece	0.0066	-0.0200	0.0008	0.0245	-0.0064	0.0079	0.0107	0.0242
Honduras	0.0010	-0.0182	0.0017	0.0035	-0.0068	0.0300	0.0178	0.0290
Czech Republic	0.0003	-0.0022	-0.0061	0.0061	0.0019	0.0052	0.0006	0.0059
Malta	0.0094	0.0008	-0.0037	0.0060	0.0002	0.0019	0.0097	0.0243
Botswana	0.0008	-0.0088	-0.0044	-0.0195	0.0232	0.0041	-0.0100	-0.0145
Georgia	0.0059	0.0067	0.0025	-0.0082	0.0026	-0.0011	-0.0035	0.0050
Hungary	0.0024	0.0076	-0.0078	-0.0158	0.0012	0.0136	0.0033	0.0044
Brunei Darussalam	-0.0020	-0.0038	0.0039	0.0224	0.0132	—	—	—
Paraguay	0.0010	-0.0104	0.0014	-0.0064	0.0489	-0.0279	0.0103	0.0168
Tajikistan	0.0073	0.0082	-0.0072	-0.0063	0.0120	-0.0038	—	—
Chile	-0.0005	-0.0355	0.0017	0.0129	0.0066	0.0336	0.0027	0.0216
Angola*	—	—	-0.0088	0.0358	0.0321	-0.0002	-0.0005	—
Bhutan*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Armenia	-0.0001	-0.0018	-0.0015	0.0050	-0.0059	0.0027	—	—
Indonesia	0.0022	-0.0003	-0.0021	0.0035	0.0107	-0.0077	0.0009	0.0072
El Salvador	-0.0021	0.0063	-0.0029	-0.0343	0.0064	0.0023	0.0016	-0.0228
Maldives	-0.0012	0.0136	0.0028	-0.0030	-0.0019	0.0151	—	—
Mauritius	0.0053	0.0018	0.0010	0.0007	0.0047	-0.0022	0.0160	0.0272
Azerbaijan	0.0036	-0.0031	0.0131	-0.0180	-0.0230	0.0075	—	—
Cameroon	0.0269	0.0218	-0.0037	0.0002	0.0091	0.0098	0.0053	0.0695
India	0.0109	0.0252	0.0035	0.0004	0.0091	0.0124	-0.0075	0.0539
Malaysia	-0.0021	0.0014	0.0046	0.0012	0.0025	-0.0002	-0.0065	0.0009
Burkina Faso	0.0058	0.0302	-0.0010	0.0081	0.0052	0.0117	0.0059	0.0659
Cambodia	0.0052	-0.0007	-0.0018	0.0073	-0.0059	0.0116	0.0062	0.0218
Japan	-0.0032	0.0017	-0.0010	0.0077	0.0013	-0.0021	0.0008	0.0051
Nigeria	0.0155	0.0303	-0.0044	-0.0225	-0.0059	0.0217	0.0018	0.0365
Belize	-0.0015	-0.0025	-0.0047	-0.0100	0.0026	0.0183	—	—
Albania	-0.0243	-0.0093	0.0021	0.0125	0.0010	-0.0094	0.0078	-0.0195
United Arab Emirates	-0.0020	-0.0062	0.0058	0.0199	-0.0022	0.0036	0.0265	0.0453
Suriname	-0.0039	0.0014	-0.0012	-0.0319	0.0051	-0.0120	—	—
Korea, Rep.	-0.0005	0.0076	-0.0061	0.0196	-0.0008	-0.0254	0.0251	0.0194
Bahrain	0.0036	0.0066	0.0015	0.0081	0.0209	-0.0003	0.0037	0.0440
Zambia	0.0033	-0.0020	0.0007	-0.0017	0.0106	-0.0084	-0.0071	-0.0048
Guatemala	0.0044	0.0031	-0.0009	0.0028	0.0137	-0.0072	0.0077	0.0237
Qatar	0.0035	0.0035	0.0170	0.0153	-0.0041	-0.0093	—	—
Kuwait	-0.0028	-0.0002	0.0004	-0.0038	-0.0002	-0.0051	0.0068	-0.0049
Fiji	0.0000	0.0031	-0.0002	-0.0158	—	—	—	—
Ethiopia	-0.0001	0.0064	0.0117	0.0071	0.0080	-0.0124	0.0045	0.0252
Jordan	-0.0010	-0.0013	0.0068	-0.0133	-0.0093	0.0072	0.0094	-0.0016
Turkey	0.0066	0.0061	0.0078	0.0047	-0.0025	0.0085	-0.0082	0.0231
Nepal	0.0027	0.0139	-0.0196	-0.0130	0.0271	0.0367	0.0097	0.0575
Oman	0.0067	0.0113	-0.0077	0.0012	-0.0023	0.0057	—	—
Lebanon	-0.0003	-0.0053	0.0000	—	—	—	—	—
Algeria	-0.0145	0.0120	-0.0061	-0.0067	0.0008	0.0042	0.0050	-0.0052
Egypt	-0.0040	0.0042	0.0034	0.0037	0.0029	0.0023	0.0023	0.0150
Benin	-0.0373	0.0426	0.0113	0.0076	0.0061	-0.0075	-0.0123	0.0106
Saudi Arabia	0.0148	-0.0022	0.0040	0.0062	0.0114	-0.0110	0.0405	0.0637
Mali	0.0031	0.0089	0.0073	-0.0181	-0.0257	0.0098	0.0022	-0.0124
Morocco	0.0013	0.0029	0.0037	-0.0159	0.0168	0.0082	-0.0151	0.0019
Iran, Islamic Rep.	-0.0085	0.0033	-0.0039	0.0094	-0.0182	0.0117	0.0101	0.0039
Côte d'Ivoire	0.0029	0.0012	0.0082	—	—	—	—	—
Mauritania	-0.0319	-0.0035	0.0011	0.0050	-0.0014	0.0095	0.0187	-0.0025
Syria	0.0035	-0.0270	-0.0030	-0.0146	-0.0109	-0.0035	—	—
Chad	-0.0006	0.0260	0.0004	-0.0087	0.0126	-0.0091	0.0134	0.0341
Pakistan	-0.0019	-0.0105	0.0118	0.0007	-0.0090	0.0040	0.0075	0.0026
Yemen	0.0074	0.0181	0.0270	-0.0006	-0.0055	0.0154	-0.0085	0.0533
Belarus	—	—	—	—	0.0042	-0.0015	—	—
Gambia, The	—	-0.013	0.000	0.001	0.013	0.020	-0.003	—
Timor-Leste	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tunisia	—	—	-0.0011	0.0033	-0.0062	0.0012	-0.0006	—
Uzbekistan	—	—	—	—	0.0008	-0.0016	0.0035	—
Zimbabwe	—	—	0.0033	0.0056	0.0032	0.0021	0.0004	—

* New countries 2013

Table 3c: The Global Gender Gap Index 2013 rankings: changes in scores (summary)

Number of countries	2012–2013	2011–2012	2010–2011	2009–2010	2008–2009	2007–2008	2006–2007	2006–2013
Widening gaps	47	51	60	54	43	41	24	15
Narrowing gaps	86	81	74	78	87	87	91	95
Improving (%)	65	61	55	59	67	68	79	86
Deteriorating (%)	35	39	45	41	33	32	21	14
TOTAL	133	132	134	132	130	128	115	110

health outcomes between women and men and almost 93% of the gap in educational attainment. However, the gap between women and men on economic participation and political empowerment remains wide: only 60% of the economic outcomes gap and only 21% of the political outcomes gap have been closed.

Table 4 shows the rankings of countries by income group (Table B2 in Appendix B displays the income group categories used). In 2013, in the high-income group, the Nordic countries lead the way while Saudi Arabia (127) is the lowest performing country in this category. In the upper-middle-income group, Cuba (15) ranks highest while Iran, Islamic Rep. (130) occupies the lowest position. In the lower-middle-income group, the Philippines (5) comes out on top while Yemen (136) holds last position. In the lower-income group, Burundi (22) is the strongest performer while Chad (134) is in last place.

Table 5 shows the rankings of countries by subindex. In 2013, twenty-five countries have fully closed the gap in Educational Attainment (5 more than last year) while Benin, the lowest-ranking country on this subindex, has closed only about 51% of its gender gap. Thirty-three countries have closed the gap in Health and Survival. China, Albania, India and Azerbaijan remain the lowest-ranking countries on this subindex.

Ten countries have closed the gap on both the Health and Survival and Educational Attainment subindexes. No country has closed the economic participation gap or the political empowerment gap. On the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex, the highest-ranking country (Norway) has closed over 84% of its gender gap, while the lowest ranking country (Syria) has closed only 25% of its economic gender gap. There is similar variation in the Political Empowerment subindex. The highest-ranking country (Iceland) has closed almost 75% of its gender gap whereas the two lowest-ranking countries (Brunei Darussalam and Qatar) have closed none of the political empowerment gap according to this measure.

Regional trends

Figure 2 displays the regional performance on the overall Index score, while Figures 3 through 6 display regional performances on each of the four subindexes.⁹ All scores are weighted by population to produce the regional

averages. Table B1 in Appendix B displays the regional categories used.¹⁰ In the overall Index scores shown in Figure 2, North America holds the top spot having closed 74% of its gender gap, while the Middle East and North Africa region occupies the last place, having closed almost 59% of its gender gap. Table 6 displays the rankings within each regional category. Among the Economic Participation and Opportunity scores shown in Figure 3, North America holds the top spot, having closed 82% of its gender gap, while the Middle East and North Africa region is in the last place (39% of its economic gender gap is closed). Among the Educational Attainment scores shown in Figure 4, North America once again tops the rankings, having fully closed its educational gender gap, while Sub-Saharan Africa holds last place with only 83% of its educational gender gap closed. Among the Health and Survival scores shown in Figure 5, North America holds the top spot, while Asia and the Pacific occupies the last place as the worst region for women's health and survival relative to that of men (95% of its health and survival gender gap is closed). Among the Political Empowerment scores shown in Figure 6, while all regions are well below parity, Asia and the Pacific leads the way with 24% of its political gender gap being closed, while the Middle East and North Africa region is in last place (7% of the political gender gap is closed). Table 6 displays the rankings within each regional category.

Top 10

The four Nordic countries that have consistently held the highest positions in previous editions of the Global Gender Gap Index continue to hold privileged positions. **Iceland** (1) holds the top spot for the fifth consecutive year and therefore continues to be the country with the narrowest gender gap in the world. Iceland's overall score moves up due to improvements in the Economic Participation and Opportunity and the Political Empowerment subindexes. **Finland** (2) continues to hold the second position despite slight losses in its overall score because of a decrease of its Economic Participation and Opportunity score. **Norway** (3) follows next, with a small increase in its overall score. **Sweden** (4) continues to hold the fourth position.

Although no country has yet achieved gender equality, all of the Nordic countries, with the exception of Denmark,

Table 4: Rankings by income group, 2013

LOW INCOME			LOWER-MIDDLE INCOME			UPPER-MIDDLE INCOME			HIGH INCOME		
Country	Overall score	Overall rank	Country	Overall score	Overall rank	Country	Overall score	Overall rank	Country	Overall score	Overall rank
Burundi	0.7397	22	Philippines	0.7832	5	Cuba	0.7540	15	Iceland	0.8731	1
Mozambique	0.7349	26	Nicaragua	0.7715	10	South Africa	0.7510	17	Finland	0.8421	2
Malawi	0.7139	39	Lesotho	0.7530	16	Ecuador	0.7389	25	Norway	0.8417	3
Uganda	0.7086	46	Bolivia	0.7340	27	Costa Rica	0.7241	31	Sweden	0.8129	4
Madagascar	0.7016	56	Mongolia	0.7204	33	Kazakhstan	0.7218	32	Ireland	0.7823	6
Kyrgyz Republic	0.6948	63	Cape Verde	0.7122	41	Argentina	0.7195	34	New Zealand	0.7799	7
Tanzania	0.6928	66	Guyana	0.7085	48	Colombia	0.7171	35	Denmark	0.7779	8
Bangladesh	0.6848	75	Moldova	0.7037	52	Panama	0.7164	37	Switzerland	0.7736	9
Kenya	0.6803	78	Sri Lanka	0.7019	55	Serbia	0.7116	42	Belgium	0.7684	11
Tajikistan	0.6682	90	Lao PDR*	0.6993	60	Bulgaria	0.7097	43	Latvia	0.7610	12
Burkina Faso	0.6513	103	Ukraine	0.6935	64	Namibia	0.7094	44	Netherlands	0.7608	13
Cambodia	0.6509	104	Senegal	0.6923	67	Jamaica	0.7085	47	Germany	0.7583	14
Ethiopia	0.6198	118	Vietnam	0.6863	73	Venezuela	0.7060	50	United Kingdom	0.7440	18
Nepal	0.6053	121	Ghana	0.6811	76	Macedonia, FYR	0.7013	57	Austria	0.7437	19
Benin	0.5885	126	Honduras	0.6773	82	Brazil	0.6949	62	Canada	0.7425	20
Mali	0.5872	128	Georgia	0.6750	86	Thailand	0.6928	65	Luxembourg	0.7410	21
Chad	0.5588	134	Paraguay	0.6724	89	Mexico	0.6917	68	United States	0.7392	23
			Bhutan*	0.6651	93	China	0.6908	69	Australia	0.7390	24
			Armenia	0.6634	94	Romania	0.6908	70	Lithuania	0.7308	28
			Indonesia	0.6613	95	Dominican Republic	0.6867	72	Barbados	0.7301	29
			El Salvador	0.6609	96	Peru	0.6787	80	Spain	0.7266	30
			Cameroon	0.6560	100	Botswana	0.6752	85	Trinidad and Tobago	0.7166	36
			India	0.6551	101	Hungary	0.6742	87	Slovenia	0.7155	38
			Nigeria	0.6469	106	Angola*	0.6659	92	Bahamas	0.7128	40
			Zambia	0.6312	113	Maldives	0.6604	97	France	0.7089	45
			Guatemala	0.6304	114	Mauritius	0.6599	98	Croatia	0.7069	49
			Egypt	0.5935	125	Azerbaijan	0.6582	99	Portugal	0.7056	51
			Morocco	0.5845	129	Malaysia	0.6518	102	Israel	0.7032	53
			Côte d'Ivoire	0.5814	131	Belize	0.6449	107	Poland	0.7031	54
			Mauritania	0.5810	132	Albania	0.6412	108	Singapore	0.7000	58
			Syria	0.5661	133	Suriname	0.6369	110	Estonia	0.6997	59
			Pakistan	0.5459	135	Fiji	0.6286	117	Russian Federation	0.6983	61
			Yemen	0.5128	136	Jordan	0.6093	119	Italy	0.6885	71
						Turkey	0.6081	120	Slovak Republic	0.6857	74
						Lebanon	0.6028	123	Uruguay	0.6803	77
						Algeria	0.5966	124	Cyprus	0.6801	79
						Iran, Islamic Rep.	0.5842	130	Greece	0.6782	81
									Czech Republic	0.6770	83
									Malta	0.6761	84
									Brunei Darussalam	0.6730	88
									Chile	0.6670	91
									Japan	0.6498	105
									United Arab Emirates	0.6372	109
									Korea, Rep.	0.6351	111
									Bahrain	0.6334	112
									Qatar	0.6299	115
									Kuwait	0.6292	116
									Oman	0.6053	122
									Saudi Arabia	0.5879	127

Note: Income classifications are taken from the World Bank, which classifies economies into four income categories based on GNI per capita: high income, upper-middle income, lower-middle income and low income.

* New countries 2013

Table 5: Rankings by subindex, 2013

ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION AND OPPORTUNITY					
Country	Score	Rank	Country	Score	Rank
Norway	0.8357	1	Austria	0.6642	69
Mongolia	0.8338	2	Tanzania	0.6635	70
Burundi	0.8307	3	Macedonia, FYR	0.6611	71
Malawi	0.8253	4	Azerbaijan	0.6591	72
Bahamas	0.8244	5	Poland	0.6563	73
United States	0.8185	6	Brazil	0.6561	74
Luxembourg	0.8162	7	Chad	0.6547	75
Lao PDR*	0.7999	8	Spain	0.6521	76
Canada	0.7959	9	Cambodia	0.6514	77
Barbados	0.7907	10	South Africa	0.6505	78
Mozambique	0.7897	11	Greece	0.6470	79
Singapore	0.7883	12	Belize	0.6458	80
Australia	0.7879	13	Senegal	0.6401	81
Sweden	0.7829	14	Armenia	0.6384	82
New Zealand	0.7797	15	Paraguay	0.6363	83
Philippines	0.7773	16	Zambia	0.6354	84
Latvia	0.7767	17	Cyprus	0.6353	85
Lesotho	0.7756	18	Slovak Republic	0.6350	86
Finland	0.7727	19	Albania	0.6324	87
Kazakhstan	0.7706	20	Peru	0.6278	88
Lithuania	0.7688	21	Venezuela	0.6256	89
Iceland	0.7684	22	Ecuador	0.6253	90
Switzerland	0.7681	23	Nicaragua	0.6218	91
Ghana	0.7662	24	Angola*	0.6163	92
Denmark	0.7639	25	Ethiopia	0.6148	93
Netherlands	0.7592	26	Honduras	0.6061	94
Bhutan*	0.7528	27	Czech Republic	0.6039	95
Burkina Faso	0.7467	28	Cape Verde	0.6020	96
Ireland	0.7450	29	Italy	0.5973	97
Ukraine	0.7426	30	Costa Rica	0.5955	98
Benin	0.7419	31	Maldives	0.5914	99
Moldova	0.7407	32	Malaysia	0.5904	100
Brunei Darussalam	0.7372	33	Argentina	0.5887	101
Belgium	0.7367	34	Guyana	0.5885	102
United Kingdom	0.7320	35	Indonesia	0.5881	103
Jamaica	0.7317	36	Japan	0.5841	104
Uganda	0.7285	37	Mauritius	0.5735	105
Tajikistan	0.7284	38	Qatar	0.5735	106
Colombia	0.7275	39	Mali	0.5668	107
Cameroon	0.7258	40	Malta	0.5655	108
Estonia	0.7228	41	Sri Lanka	0.5590	109
Russian Federation	0.7204	42	Côte d'Ivoire	0.5561	110
Slovenia	0.7189	43	Mexico	0.5499	111
Kenya	0.7146	44	Chile	0.5445	112
Panama	0.7136	45	Guatemala	0.5422	113
Germany	0.7120	46	El Salvador	0.5345	114
Trinidad and Tobago	0.7112	47	Kuwait	0.5252	115
Botswana	0.7108	48	Nepal	0.5151	116
Bulgaria	0.7067	49	Bahrain	0.5146	117
Thailand	0.7035	50	Korea, Rep.	0.5036	118
Madagascar	0.7033	51	Suriname	0.4986	119
Vietnam	0.7023	52	Fiji	0.4975	120
Namibia	0.6980	53	Bangladesh	0.4954	121
Nigeria	0.6965	54	United Arab Emirates	0.4672	122
Romania	0.6928	55	Oman	0.4489	123
Israel	0.6915	56	India	0.4465	124
Bolivia	0.6841	57	Egypt	0.4426	125
Uruguay	0.6833	58	Lebanon	0.4420	126
Serbia	0.6791	59	Turkey	0.4269	127
Kyrgyz Republic	0.6789	60	Jordan	0.4145	128
Croatia	0.6753	61	Morocco	0.3949	129
China	0.6752	62	Iran, Islamic Rep.	0.3655	130
Dominican Republic	0.6751	63	Mauritania	0.3651	131
Georgia	0.6741	64	Yemen	0.3577	132
Cuba	0.6736	65	Algeria	0.3307	133
Portugal	0.6726	66	Saudi Arabia	0.3223	134
France	0.6690	67	Pakistan	0.3108	135
Hungary	0.6677	68	Syria	0.2508	136

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT					
Country	Score	Rank	Country	Score	Rank
Australia	1.0000	1	Kazakhstan	0.9913	69
Austria	1.0000	1	Mexico	0.9911	70
Bahamas	1.0000	1	Bahrain	0.9911	71
Barbados	1.0000	1	Mauritius	0.9907	72
Botswana	1.0000	1	Malaysia	0.9907	73
Brazil	1.0000	1	Moldova	0.9907	74
Canada	1.0000	1	Macedonia, FYR	0.9903	75
Costa Rica	1.0000	1	Brunei Darussalam	0.9889	76
Czech Republic	1.0000	1	Kyrgyz Republic	0.9888	77
Denmark	1.0000	1	Thailand	0.9888	78
Finland	1.0000	1	El Salvador	0.9886	79
France	1.0000	1	Jamaica	0.9884	80
Guyana	1.0000	1	China	0.9880	81
Iceland	1.0000	1	Israel	0.9874	82
Latvia	1.0000	1	Cyprus	0.9853	83
Lesotho	1.0000	1	Dominican Republic	0.9822	84
Luxembourg	1.0000	1	Azerbaijan	0.9820	85
Maldives	1.0000	1	Germany	0.9818	86
Namibia	1.0000	1	Lebanon	0.9796	87
New Zealand	1.0000	1	Peru	0.9796	88
Norway	1.0000	1	Georgia	0.9790	89
Philippines	1.0000	1	Saudi Arabia	0.9761	90
Slovak Republic	1.0000	1	Japan	0.9757	91
United Arab Emirates	1.0000	1	Albania	0.9755	92
United States	1.0000	1	Madagascar	0.9750	93
Slovenia	0.9999	26	Oman	0.9745	94
Ukraine	0.9998	27	Vietnam	0.9741	95
Nicaragua	0.9996	28	Syria	0.9682	96
Armenia	0.9995	29	Cape Verde	0.9663	97
Cuba	0.9995	30	Iran, Islamic Rep.	0.9653	98
United Kingdom	0.9994	31	Bolivia	0.9623	99
Chile	0.9993	32	Korea, Rep.	0.9592	100
Venezuela	0.9993	33	Indonesia	0.9574	101
Ireland	0.9988	34	Guatemala	0.9522	102
Honduras	0.9988	35	Belize	0.9445	103
Russian Federation	0.9984	36	Turkey	0.9431	104
Poland	0.9983	37	Singapore	0.9409	105
Sweden	0.9977	38	Algeria	0.9387	106
Suriname	0.9973	39	Kenya	0.9230	107
Spain	0.9971	40	Egypt	0.9199	108
Uruguay	0.9967	41	Morocco	0.9002	109
Argentina	0.9962	42	Tajikistan	0.8993	110
Panama	0.9958	43	Ghana	0.8970	111
Netherlands	0.9954	44	Malawi	0.8961	112
Colombia	0.9954	45	Lao PDR*	0.8948	113
Greece	0.9953	46	Burundi	0.8895	114
Croatia	0.9951	47	Bangladesh	0.8846	115
Sri Lanka	0.9946	48	Bhutan*	0.8843	116
Mongolia	0.9946	49	Cambodia	0.8811	117
Romania	0.9945	50	Tanzania	0.8779	118
Trinidad and Tobago	0.9944	51	Mauritania	0.8591	119
Ecuador	0.9942	52	India	0.8574	120
Qatar	0.9941	53	Zambia	0.8472	121
South Africa	0.9941	54	Cameroon	0.8470	122
Serbia	0.9940	55	Uganda	0.8425	123
Portugal	0.9940	56	Mozambique	0.8355	124
Kuwait	0.9936	57	Senegal	0.8270	125
Malta	0.9935	58	Nigeria	0.8115	126
Estonia	0.9931	59	Angola*	0.8062	127
Lithuania	0.9928	60	Burkina Faso	0.7987	128
Paraguay	0.9928	61	Pakistan	0.7685	129
Hungary	0.9925	62	Nepal	0.7462	130
Fiji	0.9925	63	Ethiopia	0.7451	131
Bulgaria	0.9924	64	Mali	0.7291	132
Italy	0.9924	65	Côte d'Ivoire	0.7141	133
Switzerland	0.9919	66	Yemen	0.6980	134
Belgium	0.9918	67	Chad	0.5311	135
Jordan	0.9915	68	Benin	0.5127	136

Table 5: Rankings by subindex, 2013 (cont'd.)

HEALTH AND SURVIVAL			POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT		
Country	Score	Rank	Country	Score	Rank
Angola*	0.9796	1	Australia	0.9735	69
Argentina	0.9796	1	Sweden	0.9735	69
Bahamas	0.9796	1	Senegal	0.9734	71
Barbados	0.9796	1	Italy	0.9733	72
Belize	0.9796	1	Switzerland	0.9733	72
Brazil	0.9796	1	Madagascar	0.9732	74
Cambodia	0.9796	1	Korea, Rep.	0.9730	75
Cape Verde	0.9796	1	Kyrgyz Republic	0.9730	75
Chile	0.9796	1	Malaysia	0.9730	75
Côte d'Ivoire	0.9796	1	Slovenia	0.9730	75
El Salvador	0.9796	1	Spain	0.9730	75
Fiji	0.9796	1	Ukraine	0.9730	75
Finland	0.9796	1	Yemen	0.9727	81
France	0.9796	1	Bhutan*	0.9725	82
Guatemala	0.9796	1	Portugal	0.9724	83
Jamaica	0.9796	1	Bolivia	0.9719	84
Kazakhstan	0.9796	1	Luxembourg	0.9719	85
Latvia	0.9796	1	Singapore	0.9719	85
Lebanon	0.9796	1	Iran, Islamic Rep.	0.9714	87
Lesotho	0.9796	1	Morocco	0.9712	88
Mauritania	0.9796	1	Dominican Republic	0.9711	89
Mauritius	0.9796	1	Jordan	0.9706	90
Mexico	0.9796	1	Cyprus	0.9701	91
Mongolia	0.9796	1	United Kingdom	0.9698	92
Philippines	0.9796	1	Israel	0.9697	93
Slovak Republic	0.9796	1	Netherlands	0.9697	93
Sri Lanka	0.9796	1	New Zealand	0.9697	93
Suriname	0.9796	1	Norway	0.9697	93
Thailand	0.9796	1	Iceland	0.9696	97
Uganda	0.9796	1	Zambia	0.9690	98
Uruguay	0.9796	1	Burkina Faso	0.9685	99
Venezuela	0.9796	1	Burundi	0.9685	99
United States	0.9792	33	Malawi	0.9683	101
Bulgaria	0.9791	34	Kenya	0.9677	102
Colombia	0.9791	34	South Africa	0.9677	102
Croatia	0.9791	34	Ghana	0.9674	104
Estonia	0.9791	34	Namibia	0.9671	105
Hungary	0.9791	34	Lao PDR*	0.9669	106
Japan	0.9791	34	Indonesia	0.9663	107
Lithuania	0.9791	34	Algeria	0.9661	108
Moldova	0.9791	34	Brunei Darussalam	0.9658	109
Poland	0.9791	34	Peru	0.9658	109
Romania	0.9791	34	Serbia	0.9642	111
Russian Federation	0.9791	34	Bahrain	0.9612	112
Guyana	0.9789	45	Benin	0.9612	112
Czech Republic	0.9788	46	Cameroon	0.9612	112
Austria	0.9787	47	Chad	0.9612	112
Belgium	0.9787	47	Kuwait	0.9612	112
Canada	0.9780	49	Maldives	0.9612	112
Germany	0.9780	49	Mozambique	0.9612	112
Egypt	0.9768	51	Nepal	0.9612	112
Honduras	0.9762	52	Tanzania	0.9612	112
Saudi Arabia	0.9762	52	United Arab Emirates	0.9612	112
Mali	0.9761	54	Nigeria	0.9607	122
Ecuador	0.9758	55	Tajikistan	0.9559	123
Nicaragua	0.9758	55	Bangladesh	0.9557	124
Paraguay	0.9758	55	Pakistan	0.9557	124
Syria	0.9756	58	Georgia	0.9553	126
Oman	0.9755	59	Botswana	0.9549	127
Turkey	0.9755	59	Macedonia, FYR	0.9533	128
Panama	0.9753	61	Qatar	0.9522	129
Costa Rica	0.9747	62	Trinidad and Tobago	0.9516	130
Cuba	0.9743	63	Armenia	0.9497	131
Denmark	0.9739	64	Vietnam	0.9441	132
Greece	0.9737	65	China	0.9398	133
Ireland	0.9737	65	Albania	0.9313	134
Malta	0.9737	65	India	0.9312	135
Ethiopia	0.9737	68	Azerbaijan	0.9254	136
Iceland	0.7544	1	Peru	0.1417	69
Finland	0.6162	2	El Salvador	0.1409	70
Norway	0.5616	3	Kyrgyz Republic	0.1383	71
Sweden	0.4976	4	Benin	0.1383	72
Nicaragua	0.4889	5	Lao PDR*	0.1355	73
Ireland	0.4115	6	Jamaica	0.1345	74
Bangladesh	0.4036	7	Indonesia	0.1334	75
South Africa	0.3919	8	Cyprus	0.1298	76
India	0.3852	9	Slovak Republic	0.1284	77
Philippines	0.3760	10	Honduras	0.1280	78
Denmark	0.3738	11	Czech Republic	0.1254	79
New Zealand	0.3703	12	Vietnam	0.1247	80
Cuba	0.3685	13	United Arab Emirates	0.1206	81
Belgium	0.3664	14	Mauritania	0.1201	82
Germany	0.3611	15	Nigeria	0.1190	83
Switzerland	0.3610	16	Dominican Republic	0.1184	84
Ecuador	0.3604	17	Kenya	0.1157	85
Mozambique	0.3533	18	Korea, Rep.	0.1046	86
Austria	0.3318	19	Moldova	0.1043	87
Senegal	0.3286	20	Estonia	0.1038	88
Costa Rica	0.3263	21	Thailand	0.0992	89
Netherlands	0.3191	22	Singapore	0.0989	90
Bolivia	0.3175	23	Romania	0.0970	91
Argentina	0.3136	24	Greece	0.0969	92
Cape Verde	0.3011	25	Mauritius	0.0959	93
Latvia	0.2875	26	Russian Federation	0.0951	94
Spain	0.2841	27	Ghana	0.0937	95
Uganda	0.2839	28	Cambodia	0.0916	96
United Kingdom	0.2747	29	Georgia	0.0915	97
Sri Lanka	0.2744	30	Burkina Faso	0.0914	98
Burundi	0.2702	31	Cameroon	0.0902	99
Tanzania	0.2684	32	Tajikistan	0.0891	100
Guyana	0.2668	33	Maldives	0.0890	101
Angola*	0.2614	34	Chad	0.0883	102
Lesotho	0.2570	35	Turkey	0.0868	103
Mexico	0.2463	36	Paraguay	0.0847	104
Venezuela	0.2196	37	Saudi Arabia	0.0769	105
Trinidad and Tobago	0.2092	38	Mali	0.0769	106
Serbia	0.2089	39	Côte d'Ivoire	0.0758	107
Macedonia, FYR	0.2007	40	Mongolia	0.0734	108
Nepal	0.1989	41	Zambia	0.0732	109
Canada	0.1959	42	Suriname	0.0723	110
Australia	0.1945	43	Morocco	0.0720	111
Italy	0.1912	44	Syria	0.0697	112
France	0.1870	45	Bahrain	0.0667	113
Portugal	0.1834	46	Azerbaijan	0.0663	114
Lithuania	0.1826	47	Armenia	0.0662	115
Panama	0.1811	48	Uruguay	0.0617	116
Poland	0.1786	49	Jordan	0.0607	117
Croatia	0.1779	50	Japan	0.0603	118
Luxembourg	0.1757	51	Ukraine	0.0587	119
Namibia	0.1727	52	Hungary	0.0574	120
Malta	0.1716	53	Malaysia	0.0530	121
Slovenia	0.1702	54	Bhutan*	0.0509	122
Colombia	0.1662	55	Guatemala	0.0475	123
Malawi	0.1660	56	Bahamas	0.0471	124
Israel	0.1643	57	Fiji	0.0448	125
Bulgaria	0.1606	58	Kuwait	0.0370	126
China	0.1604	59	Botswana	0.0353	127
United States	0.1593	60	Egypt	0.0348	128
Madagascar	0.1547	61	Iran, Islamic Rep.	0.0346	129
Algeria	0.1511	62	Albania	0.0256	130
Barbados	0.1503	63	Yemen	0.0227	131
Pakistan	0.1487	64	Oman	0.0221	132
Kazakhstan	0.1458	65	Belize	0.0099	133
Ethiopia	0.1457	66	Lebanon	0.0099	133
Chile	0.1448	67	Brunei Darussalam	0.0000	135
Brazil	0.1440	68	Qatar	0.0000	135

* New countries 2013

Table 6: Rankings by region, 2013

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC			LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN			MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA		
Country	Overall score	Overall rank	Country	Overall score	Overall rank	Country	Overall score	Overall rank
Philippines	0.7832	5	Nicaragua	0.7715	10	Israel	0.7032	53
New Zealand	0.7799	7	Cuba	0.7540	15	United Arab Emirates	0.6372	109
Australia	0.7390	24	Ecuador	0.7389	25	Bahrain	0.6334	112
Mongolia	0.7204	33	Bolivia	0.7340	27	Qatar	0.6299	115
Sri Lanka	0.7019	55	Barbados	0.7301	29	Kuwait	0.6292	116
Singapore	0.7000	58	Costa Rica	0.7241	31	Jordan	0.6093	119
Lao PDR*	0.6993	60	Argentina	0.7195	34	Oman	0.6053	122
Thailand	0.6928	65	Colombia	0.7171	35	Lebanon	0.6028	123
China	0.6908	69	Trinidad and Tobago	0.7166	36	Algeria	0.5966	124
Vietnam	0.6863	73	Panama	0.7164	37	Egypt	0.5935	125
Bangladesh	0.6848	75	Bahamas	0.7128	40	Saudi Arabia	0.5879	127
Brunei Darussalam	0.6730	88	Jamaica	0.7085	47	Morocco	0.5845	129
Bhutan*	0.6651	93	Guyana	0.7085	48	Mauritania	0.5810	132
Indonesia	0.6613	95	Venezuela	0.7060	50	Syria	0.5661	133
Maldives	0.6604	97	Brazil	0.6949	62	Yemen	0.5128	136
India	0.6551	101	Mexico	0.6917	68			
Malaysia	0.6518	102	Dominican Republic	0.6867	72			
Cambodia	0.6509	104	Uruguay	0.6803	77			
Japan	0.6498	105	Peru	0.6787	80			
Korea, Rep.	0.6351	111	Honduras	0.6773	82			
Fiji	0.6286	117	Paraguay	0.6724	89			
Nepal	0.6053	121	Chile	0.6670	91			
Iran, Islamic Rep.	0.5842	130	El Salvador	0.6609	96			
Pakistan	0.5459	135	Belize	0.6449	107			
			Suriname	0.6369	110			
			Guatemala	0.6304	114			

(Cont'd.)

have closed over 80% of the gender gap and thus serve as models and useful benchmarks for international comparison. While many global indexes tend to be tied to income levels, thus providing an advantage to the high income Nordic economies, the Global Gender Gap Index is disassociated from the income and resource level of an economy and instead seeks to measure how equitably the available income, resources and opportunities are distributed between women and men. Despite this feature of the Index, these countries emerge as top performers and true leaders on gender equality.

All Nordic countries reached 99-100% literacy for both sexes several decades ago and display gender parity at both primary-and secondary-level of education. At the tertiary level, in addition to very high levels of enrolment for both women and men, the gender gap has been reversed and women now make up the majority of the high-skilled workforce. In Norway, Sweden and Iceland there are over 1.5 women for every man enrolled in tertiary education, and in Finland (1.23) and Denmark (1.45) women also make up the majority of those in tertiary education.

While many developed economies have succeeded in closing the gender gap in education, few have succeeded in maximizing the returns from this investment. The Nordic countries are leaders in this area too—all five countries feature in the top 25 of the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex. This occurs due to a combination

of factors: the labour force participation rates for women are among the highest in the world; salary gaps between women and men are among the lowest in the world, although not non-existent; and women have abundant opportunities to rise to positions of leadership. These patterns vary across the Nordic countries, but, on the whole, these economies have made it possible for parents to combine work and family, resulting in high female employment, more shared participation in childcare, more equitable distribution of labour at home, better work-life balance for both women and men and in some cases a boost to declining fertility rates. Policies in some of these countries include mandatory paternal leave in combination with maternity leave, generous federally mandated parental leave benefits provided by a combination of social insurance funds and employers, tax incentives, and post-maternity re-entry programmes. Together these policies have also led to relatively higher and rising birth rates occurring simultaneously with high female workforce participation in the Nordic countries, compared to other OECD economies such as Korea, Japan, Germany, Austria, Italy and Spain, where both birth rates and participation are lower. The Nordic experience points to fewer problems with ageing in the future, as well as higher labour activity and a more robust economy. Finally top-down approaches to promoting women's leadership have also been applied. In Norway, since 2008, publicly listed companies have been required

Table 6: Rankings by region, 2013 (cont'd.)

NORTH AMERICA			SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA			EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA		
Country	Overall score	Overall rank	Country	Overall score	Overall rank	Country	Overall score	Overall rank
Canada	0.7425	20	Lesotho	0.7530	16	Iceland	0.8731	1
United States	0.7392	23	South Africa	0.7510	17	Finland	0.8421	2
			Burundi	0.7397	22	Norway	0.8417	3
			Mozambique	0.7349	26	Sweden	0.8129	4
			Malawi	0.7139	39	Ireland	0.7823	6
			Cape Verde	0.7122	41	Denmark	0.7779	8
			Namibia	0.7094	44	Switzerland	0.7736	9
			Uganda	0.7086	46	Belgium	0.7684	11
			Madagascar	0.7016	56	Latvia	0.7610	12
			Tanzania	0.6928	66	Netherlands	0.7608	13
			Senegal	0.6923	67	Germany	0.7583	14
			Ghana	0.6811	76	United Kingdom	0.7440	18
			Kenya	0.6803	78	Austria	0.7437	19
			Botswana	0.6752	85	Luxembourg	0.7410	21
			Angola*	0.6659	92	Lithuania	0.7308	28
			Mauritius	0.6599	98	Spain	0.7266	30
			Cameroon	0.6560	100	Kazakhstan	0.7218	32
			Burkina Faso	0.6513	103	Slovenia	0.7155	38
			Nigeria	0.6469	106	Serbia	0.7116	42
			Zambia	0.6312	113	Bulgaria	0.7097	43
			Ethiopia	0.6198	118	France	0.7089	45
			Benin	0.5885	126	Croatia	0.7069	49
			Mali	0.5872	128	Portugal	0.7056	51
			Côte d'Ivoire	0.5814	131	Moldova	0.7037	52
			Chad	0.5588	134	Poland	0.7031	54
						Macedonia, FYR	0.7013	57
						Estonia	0.6997	59
						Russian Federation	0.6983	61
						Kyrgyz Republic	0.6948	63
						Ukraine	0.6935	64
						Romania	0.6908	70
						Italy	0.6885	71
						Slovak Republic	0.6857	74
						Cyprus	0.6801	79
						Greece	0.6782	81
						Czech Republic	0.6770	83
						Malta	0.6761	84
						Georgia	0.6750	86
						Hungary	0.6742	87
						Tajikistan	0.6682	90
						Armenia	0.6634	94
						Azerbaijan	0.6582	99
						Albania	0.6412	108
						Turkey	0.6081	120

* New countries 2013

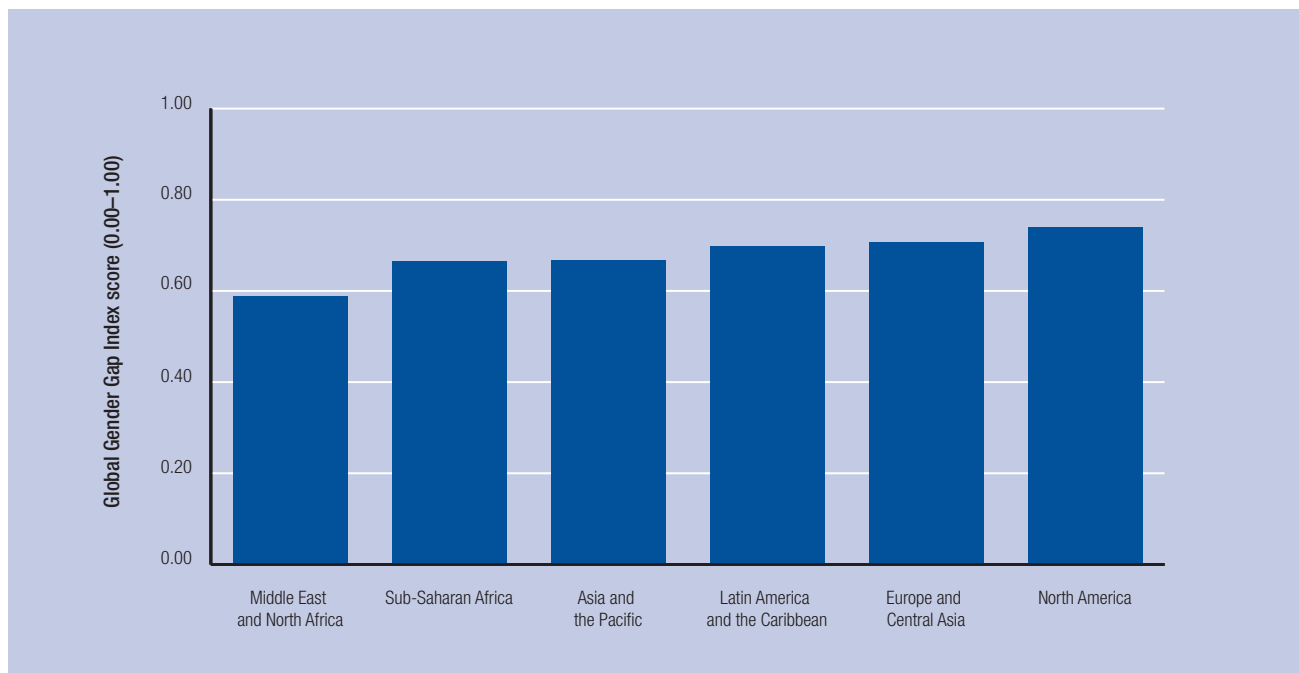
to have 40% of each sex on their boards. Other countries, including emerging markets, are adopting similar measures.

The Nordic countries were also early starters in providing women with the right to vote (Sweden in 1919, Norway in 1913, Iceland and Denmark in 1915, Finland in 1906). In Denmark, Sweden and Norway, political parties introduced voluntary gender quotas in the 1970s, resulting in high numbers of female political representatives over the years. In Denmark, in fact, this quota has since been abandoned as no further stimulus is required. Today, Sweden has among the highest percentages of women in parliament in the world (44.7%) while the other Nordic countries are almost as successful. Indeed, all the Nordic

countries are in the top ten best performers on the Women in parliament indicator. These countries have a similarly strong record on the percentage of women in ministerial level positions with Norway, Sweden, Finland and Iceland being the four best overall countries on that indicator. Finally, Iceland, Finland and Norway are part of the top 10 countries on the years with Female head of state indicator.

Next in the ranking is **Philippines** (5). Philippines moves up three places this year due to small improvements in the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindexes. Philippines ranks 10th on the Political Empowerment subindex and remains the highest-ranking country from Asia in the Index. Philippines is the only country in Asia

Figure 2: Regional performance on the Global Gender Gap Index 2013



Source: Global Gender Gap Index 2013; details of regional classifications are in Appendix B. Scores are weighted by population; population data from the World Bank's *World Development Indicators (WDI)* online database, accessed May 2013.

and the Pacific that has fully closed the gender gap in both education and health. **Ireland** (6) is losing one place this year due to a reduction in the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex score. **New Zealand** (7) moves down one place mainly due to a decrease on the Wage equality for similar work and because of stronger performances on the Political Empowerment subindex of countries such as Denmark, Philippines and India. **Denmark** (8) loses one place in the overall ranking this year despite the improvement in the Political Empowerment subindex. **Switzerland** (9) moves up one spot due to gains in the Estimated earned income indicator. **Nicaragua** (10) continues to be the only Latin America and Caribbean country in the top ten overall best performers.

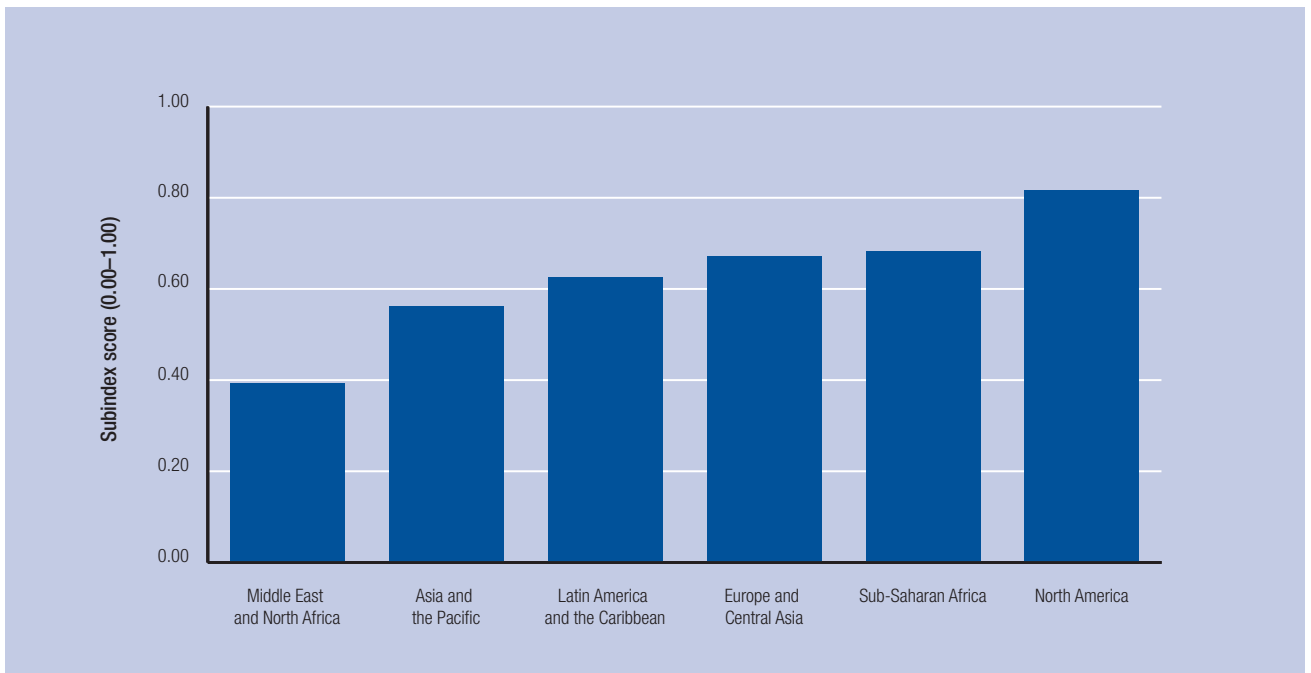
Europe and Central Asia

The overall score of Europe and Central Asia has decreased by 0.3% between 2006 and 2013. This decrease can primarily be explained by a drop in the Health and Survival subindexes, not fully offset by increases in other subindexes. In 2013, Europe and Central Asia has closed 71% of its overall gender gap. The region ranks second after the North America region on the overall index. The region, which has closed 67% of its economic gender gap, slips one place this year compared to last year to third position, just after North America and Sub-Saharan Africa. The region ranks third as well on the Educational

Attainment (99% of gender gap closed), the Health and Survival (97% of gender gap closed) and the Political Empowerment subindexes (19% of gender gap closed). In the overall Index, seven European countries rank among the top 10 and thirteen rank among the top 20. Finland, France, Latvia and Slovak Republic are the four countries from the region that have fully closed both their Educational Attainment and Health and Survival gender gaps. Six out of the top 20 performing countries on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex are from the region, one less than last year. On the Political Empowerment subindex, ten out of the top 20 performing countries are from Europe and Central Asia, also one less than last year. The region continues to perform well on the Professional and technical workers indicator; fifteen out of the top 20 are from Europe and Central Asia. Thirteen out of the 20 lowest countries on the Sex ratio at birth indicator are from the region, whereas eleven of the top 20 countries on the Health life expectancy indicator are also from the region. Seven out of the top 10 best performing countries on the Women in ministerial positions indicator are from the region (Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, Austria, Switzerland and Belgium).

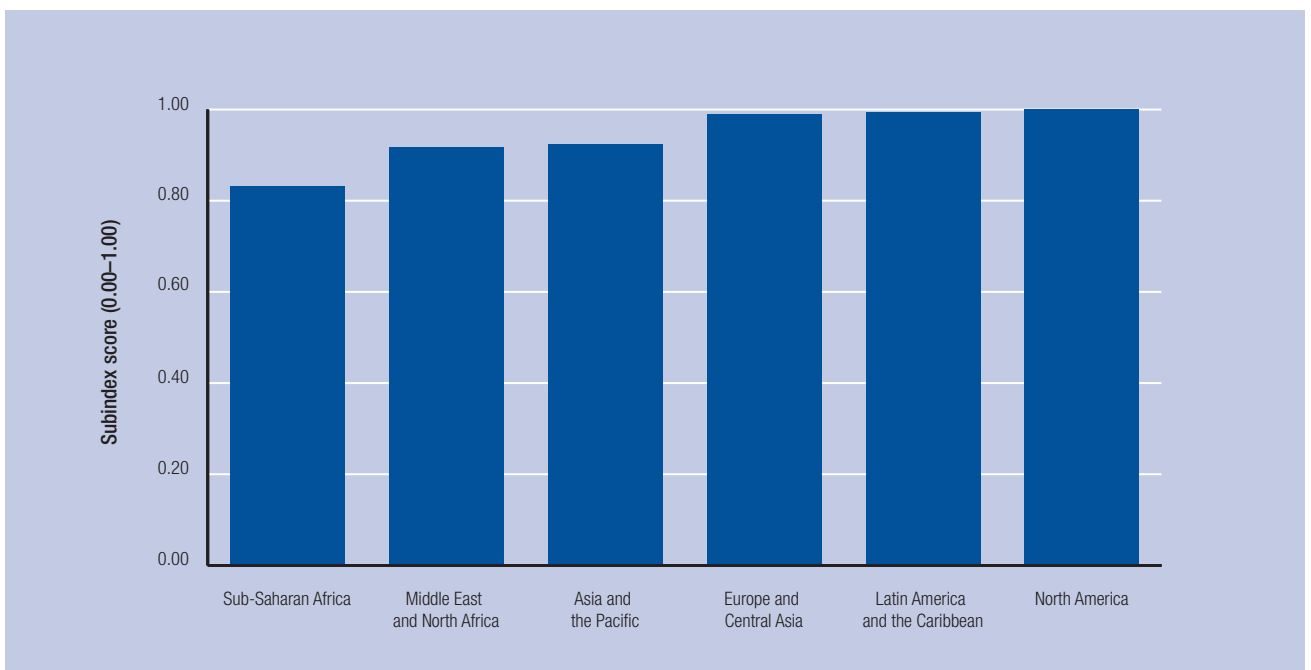
Iceland (1) ranks first on the overall ranking for the fifth consecutive time. It is the sixth overall amongst the highest climbers of the 110 countries that have been included in the *Report* since 2006 and the best performer

Figure 3: Regional performance on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex



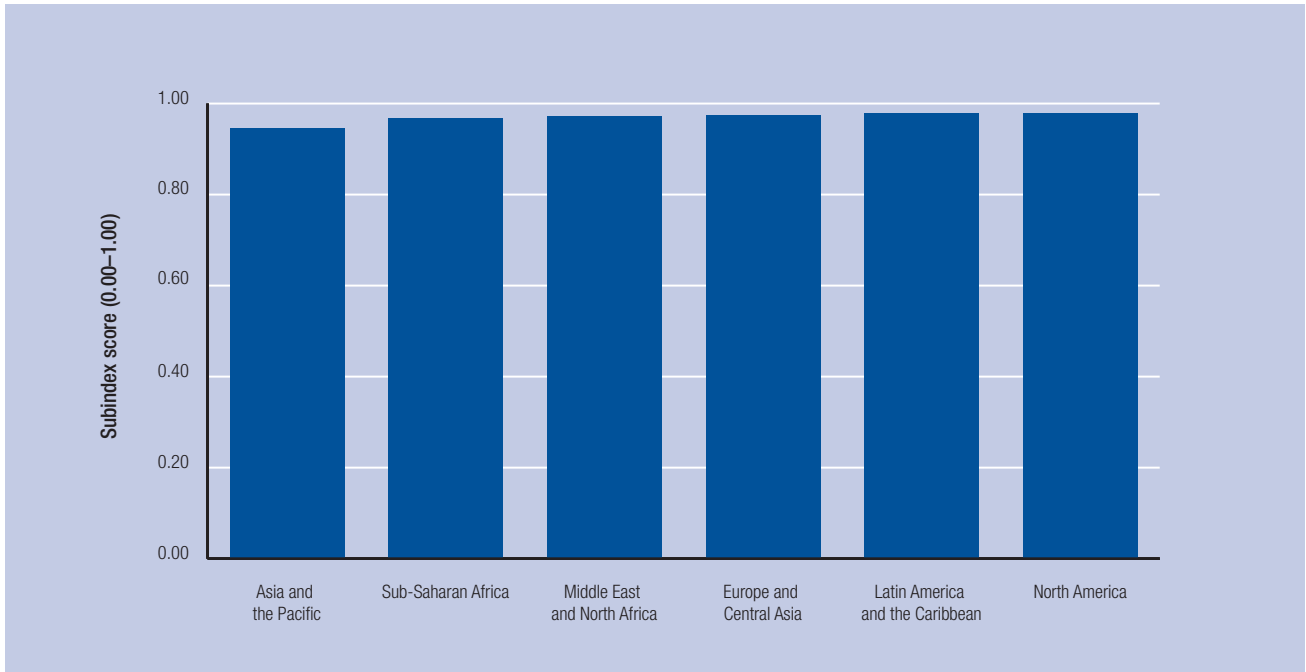
Source: Global Gender Gap Index 2013; details of regional classifications are in Appendix B. Scores are weighted by population; population data from the World Bank's *World Development Indicators (WDI)* online database, accessed May 2013.

Figure 4: Regional performance on the Educational Attainment subindex



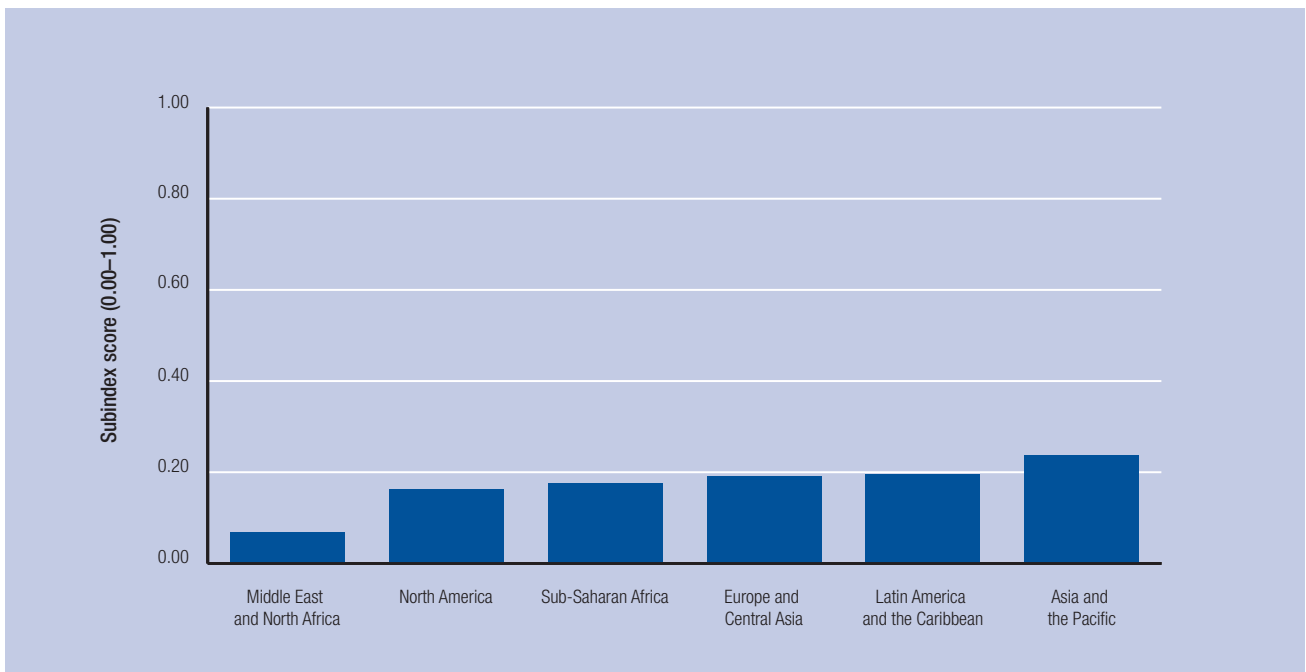
Source: Global Gender Gap Index 2013; details of regional classifications are in Appendix B. Scores are weighted by population; population data from the World Bank's *World Development Indicators (WDI)* online database, accessed May 2013.

Figure 5: Regional performance on the Health and Survival subindex



Source: Global Gender Gap Index 2013; details of regional classifications are in Appendix B. Scores are weighted by population; population data from the World Bank's *World Development Indicators (WDI)* online database, accessed May 2013.

Figure 6: Regional performance on the Political Empowerment subindex



Source: Global Gender Gap Index 2013; details of regional classifications are in Appendix B. Scores are weighted by population; population data from the World Bank's *World Development Indicators (WDI)* online database, accessed May 2013.

from the region on the enrolment in tertiary education indicator. Next are **Finland** (2), **Norway** (3) and **Sweden** (4) with similar positions to last year. Finland is one of the four countries from the region that has closed both its Educational Attainment and Health and Survival gender gaps. Finland, Norway and Sweden hold the overall three top places on the Women in ministerial positions indicator, with the percentage of women in ministerial positions 53% in Norway, 52% in Sweden and 50% in Finland. Sweden also holds the second overall position on the Women in parliament indicator (with 45% parliamentarians being women). **Ireland** (6) falls one place this year due to a decrease in the Wage equality for similar work ratio. Ireland holds the second overall position on the years with Female head of state indicator. Ireland is followed by **Denmark** (8) and **Switzerland** (9). Denmark loses one position whereas Switzerland moves up one spot. Belgium (11) gains one place compared to last year thanks to improvements in the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex. **Latvia** (12) ascends three places relative to its 15th position in the 2012 ranking. Latvia holds the best position from the region on the Legislators, senior officials and managers indicator. **Netherlands** (13) falls two places this year, affected by a drop in education indicators and in the percentage of women in parliament from 41% to 39%. **Germany** (14) falls one place this year because of small decreases in the labour force participation ratio, the Wage equality for similar work ratio and in the percentage of women among legislators, senior officials and managers (from 38% to 30%). There is also no data this year on the Enrolment rate in secondary education indicator. Next are the **United Kingdom** (18), **Austria** (19) and **Luxembourg** (21). The United Kingdom maintains the same overall ranking as last year, although there have been some small improvements in its overall score. Austria moves up one place due to improvements in all indicators of the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex. There is also no data this year for the Enrolment in primary and secondary education indicator. Luxembourg loses four places this year. This is mainly because of a decrease in the percentage of women in parliament (from 25% to 22%). Luxembourg is the ninth highest climber overall out of the 110 countries that have been included in the Report since 2006. **Lithuania** (28), **Spain** (30) and **Kazakhstan** (32) follow next. Lithuania shows a significant improvement in its overall score, with a gain of six places due to improvements in the Economic Participation and Opportunity and Political Empowerment indicators. Lithuania is the highest ranked country from the region on the Labour force participation indicator as well as on the Professional and technical workers indicator where it ranks 8th and 1st respectively. Spain loses four positions relative to its ranking last year. Spain's drop is mainly driven by changes in the sex ratio at birth data. Kazakhstan slips one place in the ranking this year. It is also the country with the overall highest score on the Sex ratio at birth indicator.

The next spots in the region are occupied by **Slovenia** (38), **Serbia** (42), **Bulgaria** (43) and **France** (45). Slovenia slightly improves its overall performance relative to its own score last year but remains in the 38th position in the relative rankings. Serbia, which entered the Index for the first time last year, shows this year a significant improvement in its ranking, climbing from 50th place to 42nd place. Losses in the Health and Survival subindex were offset by improvements in the other three subindexes. Bulgaria gains nine places this year due to increases in the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex and in the percentage of women in parliament (21% in 2012 to 25% in 2013). France experiences the largest leap in the region in terms of overall score and overall ranking, moving up twelve places. This is the consequence of an increase in the percentage of women in parliament (19% in 2012 to 27% in 2013). Similar to last year, France ranks last in the region on the Wage equality for similar work indicator.

France is followed by **Croatia** (49), **Portugal** (51), **Moldova** (52), **Poland** (54), and **Macedonia, FYR** (57). Croatia continues to hold the 49th position while Portugal falls in the ranking by four places. Portugal's drop can be attributed to a fall in its estimated earned income ratio. Portugal is the highest ranked country from the region on the Enrolment in secondary education indicator. Moldova loses seven places because of decreases in both the Economic Participation and Opportunity and the Educational Attainment subindexes. Poland slips one place while Macedonia, FYR moves up four places thanks to improvement in the Women in parliament indicator.

Next in the ranking are **Estonia** (59), **Russian Federation** (61), **Kyrgyz Republic** (63) and **Ukraine** (64). Estonia moves up from the 60th to the 59th position. The Russian Federation loses two places despite a slight improvement in its overall score. The Russian Federation holds the best overall ranking on the Healthy life expectancy indicator. This is due to the more notable achievements of other countries such as Estonia, Macedonia and Colombia. The Kyrgyz Republic experiences a similar decline to last year, falling by nine places. This is primarily due to a drop in the Wage equality for similar work indicator and in the Enrolment in tertiary education. Ukraine displays a steady performance relative to last year. Small losses on the Health and Survival subindex are evened out by slight improvements in the other three subindexes. Ukraine is the only country from the region with no women in ministerial position.

Romania (70) loses three places this year while **Italy** (71) shows relative improvement, gaining nine places. This is mainly because of the significantly larger percentage of women in parliament (22% in 2012 to 31% in 2013). **Slovak Republic** (74) loses four places in the ranking this year. **Cyprus** (79) is next, closely followed by **Greece** (81), **Czech Republic** (83) and **Malta** (84). Greece gains one place this year due to slight improvements in all subindexes except Health and Survival. The Czech Republic moves

down from the 73rd position to the 83rd position this year. This is mainly due to bigger gains of other countries, especially on the Political Empowerment subindex. Malta gains four places mainly thanks to an increased percentage of women in parliament (9% in 2012 to 14% in 2013).

Georgia (86), **Hungary** (87), **Tajikistan** (90), **Armenia** (94) and **Azerbaijan** (99) are found in the lower half of the rankings within the region. Both Georgia and Hungary fall in the rankings by one and six places respectively. Although there have been improvements on Georgia's Political Empowerment subindex, these are offset by weaker performance on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex. Hungary's drop can be mainly explained by the stronger performance of other countries on the Political Empowerment subindex. Hungary is amongst the lowest performing countries from the region on the Women in parliament indicator, with only 9% of women in parliament. Tajikistan's overall score is boosted by improvements in the Labour force participation, Wage equality for similar work and Enrolment in tertiary indicators. It is also the lowest country from the region on the Healthy life expectancy indicator. Armenia falls this year by two places. Azerbaijan maintains the same overall ranking as last year, although there have been slight improvements in its overall score. Azerbaijan is the lowest country overall on the Sex ratio at birth indicator, holding the 136th position.

The final positions in the region are occupied by **Albania** (108) and **Turkey** (120). Albania experiences the biggest loss from the region moving down from the 91st position to the 108th position. This is due to significant drops in all subindexes except the Health and Survival subindex. There is no data this year on the percentage of women in parliament. Turkey remains the lowest ranking country in the region overall, although it has made progress in its overall score and rank. There have been improvements in the labour force participation ratio, in the professional and technical workers ratio, in the literacy rate ratio and in the enrolment in secondary and tertiary education ratios.

North America

The overall score of the North America region has improved by 5% between 2006 and 2013. This improvement is mainly due to increases on the Political Empowerment subindex scores. The North America region has closed 74% of its gender gap this year with a percentage change of the overall score of 0.3% compared to last year. The region is first among the different regions on the global score but also on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex (82% of gender gap closed), Educational Attainment subindex (100% of gender gap closed) and Health and Survival subindex (98% of gender gap closed). On the Political Empowerment subindex, the region ranks in fifth position (16% gender gap closed), just ahead of the Middle East and North Africa region.

Canada (20) moves up one spot in the overall ranking. This is due to improvements on the Labour force participation, Estimated earned income, and the Legislators, senior officials and managers' indicators. These gains are partially offset by decreases in the Wage equality and Professional and technical workers indicators. Canada ranks 9th on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex and has fully closed the education gender gap. Canada has no data this year for the Enrolment in secondary education indicator.

The **United States** (23) falls one spot this year despite the improvement of its overall score. The small decline in the ranking is the result of the relatively stronger performance of countries such as China, Malta, Lithuania, France and Bulgaria on the Political Empowerment subindex, even though the United States showed a minor improvement on the Women in parliament indicator (17% in 2012 to 18% in 2013). The United States' Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex score improves due to increases in labour force participation and the estimated earned income ratio. The country continues to be part of the top 10 on this subindex, gaining two places, from the 8th position to the 6th position. The United States has fully closed its gender gap in education and health.

Latin America and the Caribbean

The overall score of the Latin America region has improved by 6% between 2006 and 2013. This is mainly due to improvements in the Economic Participation and Opportunity and Political Empowerment subindexes. The Latin America and Caribbean region, which has closed 70% of its overall gender gap in 2013, is showing the biggest improvements from last year compared to the other regions. The region ranks fourth on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex, having closed 63% of its gender gap. Only two countries from the region are part of the top twenty of the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex. However, the region performs well on certain economic indicators such as Legislators, senior officials and managers; ten out of the 20 best performers globally are from Latin America and the Caribbean. The region performs well this year again on the Educational Attainment and Health and Survival subindexes holding for both subindexes the 2nd position just after North America. Thirteen countries from the region have fully closed their health and survival gender gap. Nine are part of the top twenty countries on the Literacy rate indicator and eight are in the top twenty on the Enrolment in secondary education indicator. On the Political Empowerment subindex, having closed 20% of its gender gap, the region ranks just after Asia and the Pacific in second position. The three overall highest climbers of the 110 countries that have been included in the *Report* since 2006 are from Latin America and the Caribbean: Nicaragua, Bolivia and Ecuador. **Nicaragua** (10) continues to hold the top spot in the Latin America and the Caribbean region and is the only

country from the region to hold a place in the top 10 of the global rankings. Nicaragua ranks 5th on the Political Empowerment subindex and also holds the second position amongst all lower-middle income countries.

Cuba (15) moves up four places in the overall ranking. This is mainly due to an increase in the number of women in parliament. Cuba is part of the top 20 countries on the Professional and technical workers indicator and is the country with the highest percentage of women in parliament (49%). Cuba is also the best performer in the overall ranking of all upper-middle income countries.

Ecuador (25), **Bolivia** (27) and **Barbados** (29) occupy the next positions in the region's rankings. Ecuador gains 8 places in the ranking, boosted by narrowing gaps in labour force participation, wage equality for similar work, professional and technical workers and parliamentary positions. Bolivia climbs 3 places in the ranking thanks to improvements in all indicators of the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex. Bolivia is the highest performing country from the region on the Estimated earned income indicator, and is also has the second highest percentage of women in ministerial positions (45%). Barbados falls two places this year, from 27th place in 2012, due to the relative gains of other countries, despite an increase in the percentage of women in parliament (from 10% to 17%). Barbados is one of the three countries from the region which have fully closed gender gaps in the Educational Attainment and Health and Survival subindexes and is the country in the region with the best scores on the Wage equality for similar work and the Enrolment in tertiary education indicators.

Costa Rica (31), **Argentina** (34), **Colombia** (35), **Trinidad and Tobago** (36) and **Panama** (37) follow next. Costa Rica slips to the 31st position, mainly due to losses in the Wage equality for similar work and professional and technical workers indicators. Costa Rica is among the countries that have closed their educational gender gap. Argentina falls on both scores and ranks in 2013, the result of a decrease in labour force participation and Wage for similar work. Argentina has the highest score in the region on the Years with female head of state indicator, ranking in 13th position. Colombia shows the biggest climb this year, rising by 28 places. The data show significant improvements in the percentage of females among legislators, senior officials and managers as well as Professional and technical workers. Trinidad and Tobago ascends seven places relative to its 43rd position in the 2012 ranking due to the fall of other countries such as Malawi, Bahamas, Namibia, Guyana and Sri Lanka. Panama gains three spots in the ranking this year driven by narrowing gaps on the Economic Participation and Opportunity and Educational Attainment subindexes.

Bahamas (40), **Jamaica** (47), **Guyana** (48), **Venezuela** (50), **Brazil** (62) and **Mexico** (68) hold the middle rankings in the region. Bahamas loses three places this year because of a slightly larger gap in the Economic

Participation and Opportunity subindex. Bahamas is one of the three countries which have closed the gender gap on both Educational Attainment and Health and Survival subindexes. It is also the best performer from the region on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex, due to very good scores on the Labour force participation and Professional and technical workers indicators. Jamaica moves up four places, mainly due to improvements on the Economic Participation and Opportunity and the Political Empowerment subindexes. Guyana falls six places, affected by a drop in the female percentage of labour force participation and in wage equality for similar work. Venezuela loses two places this year due to a decline in the percentage of female legislators, senior officials and managers. Brazil improves its performance relative to its own score in the previous year but remains in the 62nd position in the relative ranking. Brazil is among the three countries that have closed their gender gaps on the Educational Attainment and Health and Survival subindexes. Mexico continues to improve its standing since 2009, this year gaining 16 places. This is partly the result of an improvement in the percentage of female professional and technical workers and partly due to an increase in the percentage of women in parliament, moving up from 26% to 37%.

Dominican Republic (72) climbs up 17 places since last year due to gains in the Wage equality for similar work, percentage of female legislators, senior officials and managers and enrolment in primary education. There is no data this year on estimated earned income. **Uruguay** (77), **Peru** (80), **Honduras** (82) occupy the next positions. Uruguay loses one place, Peru drops two places and Honduras drops eight places this year. Honduras is the lowest country in the region on the Estimated earned income indicator. Honduras' drop is due to an increase of the gap in enrolment in tertiary education and due to changes in the availability of data on enrolment in secondary education this year.

Paraguay (89), **Chile** (91) and **El Salvador** (96) follow next with Paraguay showing the biggest losses among these countries. **Belize** (107), **Suriname** (110) and **Guatemala** (114) occupy some of the lowest positions in the ranking. Belize and Suriname fall in the ranking by five and four places, respectively. Belize is the lowest performing country from the region on the Enrolment in primary education and the Women in parliament indicators. Suriname is the lowest ranking country from the region on the Professional and technical workers indicator. Guatemala's performance relative to its own performance in 2012 shows a slight improvement, driven by gains in the Labour force participation, Wage equality for similar work and Enrolment in primary education indicators, but it remains the lowest ranking country in the region.

The Middle East and North Africa

The Middle East and North Africa region has closed 59% of its overall gender gap this year. Compared to 2006, the region shows a very slight improvement, despite the fact that the Middle East region experienced a decrease in its overall score compared to last year. The region ranks the lowest on the Economic Participation and Opportunity and Political Empowerment subindexes with, respectively, only 39% and 7% of the gender gap being closed. Thirteen of the twenty lowest performing countries on the Labour force participation indicator are from the region as are eleven of the lowest on the Estimated earned income indicator. Seven of the lowest countries on the Political Empowerment subindex are also from the region. One of only two countries with a score of zero on the Political Empowerment subindex are from the region. On the Educational Attainment subindex, the region is in fifth place (before Sub-Saharan Africa). The region holds the fourth place on the Health and Survival subindex.

The highest-ranking economies of the region have made vast investments in increasing women's education levels in the last decades. In Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Algeria, Oman, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia, the tertiary education enrolment rates for women are higher than those of men. However, these countries have had varying degrees of success at integrating women into the economy and in decision-making in order to reap the benefits of this investment. Six out of the ten high-income countries that rank the lowest on the overall Index are from the region.

Israel (53) continues to hold the top spot in the Middle East and North Africa region and gains three places relative to its rank in 2012. This is mainly due to improvement in the percentage of female parliamentarians. **United Arab Emirates** (109) continues to hold the top position among the Arab countries and is the only country from the region that has fully closed the educational attainment gap. However, the UAE falls two places in the overall ranking this year because of a decrease on the Wage equality for similar work and in the Estimated earned income indicators. The United Arab Emirates ranks sixth on the Literacy rate indicator and seventh on the Enrolment in primary education indicator.

The United Arab Emirates is followed by **Bahrain** (112), **Qatar** (115), **Kuwait** (116) and **Jordan** (119). Bahrain loses one position relative to last year due to a decrease on the Legislators, senior officials and managers indicator. Qatar maintains the same overall ranking as last year although there has been a small improvement in the overall score. Qatar ranks the highest of the region on the Estimated earned income indicator but the lowest of the region on the Healthy life expectancy indicator. Kuwait falls seven spots this year because of losses in the Labour force participation, Wage equality for similar work and Estimated earned income indicators. Jordan moves up two places. Jordan's improvements are driven by gains

in the Educational Attainment and Political Empowerment subindexes.

Next are **Oman** (122), **Lebanon** (123) and **Algeria** (124). Oman ascends three places relative to its 125th position in the 2012 ranking thanks to gains on the Economic Participation and Opportunity and Educational Attainment subindexes. Oman obtains the best score from the region on the Wage equality for similar work indicator. Lebanon moves down one place this year. Lebanon is one of the two countries from the region that has fully closed its health and survival gender gap. **Algeria** (124) drops four places due to losses on the Labour force participation and Enrolment in secondary education indicators.

Egypt (125), **Saudi Arabia** (127), **Morocco** (129) occupy the next positions. Egypt gains one place this year although its overall score is decreasing. Saudi Arabia moves up four places due to an increase in the percentage of women in parliament (from 0% to 20%), based on the introduction of a new quota for women in parliament. Saudi Arabia is the country from the region with the biggest overall score improvement relative to 2006. Morocco continues to rank at the 129th position.

Mauritania (132), **Syria** (133) and **Yemen** (136) occupy the last places in the regional ranking. Mauritania shows the biggest losses in the region, falling by thirteen positions due a decrease in female labour force participation. Despite this fall, Mauritania is one of the two countries from the region that has fully closed its health and survival gender gap. Syria¹¹ moves down one place this year. Syria is the lowest ranking country on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex. Yemen continues to occupy the last place in the region and overall out of the ranking of 136 countries. Yemen is the lowest country from the region on the Enrolment in secondary education indicator. However, Yemen has experienced an absolute increase in its overall gender gap score and is the seventh top climber of the 110 countries that have been included in the *Report* since 2006.

Asia and the Pacific

The Asia and the Pacific region shows a 6 percent change relative to 2006, which is mainly due to improvements in the Political Empowerment subindex. With 67% of the gender gap closed, the Asia and the Pacific region occupies the fourth place out of six regions this year on the overall score, just before the Sub-Saharan region and the Middle East and North Africa region. In terms of improvement between 2012 and 2013, the Asia and the Pacific region is the second best performing region, just after Latin America and the Caribbean. The region has closed 56% of the gender gap on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex, which places the region in fifth position on that subindex, just before the Middle East and North Africa. The region has closed 93% of the gender gap on the Educational Attainment subindex. The region has also closed 24% of the political

empowerment gender gap. The Asia and the Pacific region is the best performing region on that subindex. On the Health and Survival subindex, Asia and the Pacific region occupies the last place (three of the five lowest performing countries on the Sex ratio at birth indicator are from the region).

Philippines (5) and **New Zealand** (7) continue to lead the way in Asia and the Pacific and are the only two countries from the region to hold places in the top 10 of the global rankings. Philippines claims the top spot in the region from New Zealand. Previously in eighth position, Philippines's improvement is characterized by small increases in the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex. Philippines ranks within the top 10 for three out of four subindexes. New Zealand is present in the top 15 performing countries on the Economic Participation and Opportunity, Educational Attainment and Political Empowerment subindexes. This year the Philippines scores a higher ratio in the wage equality survey, improves its estimated earned income and has a larger representation of female professional and technical workers.

Australia (24) gains one position relative to last year due to an improvement on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex, particularly in wage equality and estimated earned income. It continues to hold a strong position in the rankings due to high levels of education, economic participation and political empowerment.

Mongolia (33), **Sri Lanka** (55) and **Singapore** (58) follow next. Mongolia significantly improved from its 2012 position of 44th place. It is also one of two countries from the region that showed the greatest improvement from 2012. It rises 19 places to 108th on the gender gap in political empowerment. Sri Lanka significantly worsened from its 2012 position of 39th place. From this region, Sri Lanka dropped furthest, widening its gender gap on the Political Empowerment subindex and falling 8 places to 30th. Sri Lanka falls 16 spots, relative to its performance last year, due to a fall on both the Economic Participation and Opportunity (from 105th to 109th place) and the Political Empowerment (from 22nd to 30th place) subindexes. As for Singapore, although it dropped 3 places from 55th place its performance remained the same on three out of four subindexes.

Lao PDR (60) is a new entry in this year's index. Both **Thailand** (65) and **China** (69) remained in the same place. Thailand improved its political empowerment. China continues to hold the 69th position while showing an absolute increase in the overall score. **Vietnam** (73) dropped 7 places from 66th place in 2012, mainly due to a worsening in wage equality.

Vietnam is followed by two countries that show significant movements from 2012. **Bangladesh** (75) rises more than 10 places from 86th place in 2012 and was one of two countries that improved the most. It narrowed the gender gap on both the Educational Attainment and Political Empowerment subindexes and rose in the ranks.

In contrast, **Brunei Darussalam** (88) drops significantly by 13 places from 75th place. It is also one of two countries from the region with a score of zero on the Political Empowerment subindex.

Bhutan (93) enters the ranking for the first time this year. **Indonesia** (95) moves up two places in the rankings. Decreases on the Educational Attainment subindex are offset by improvements on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex and the Political Empowerment subindex. **Maldives** (97) slips two places.

India (101), **Malaysia** (102), **Cambodia** (104) and **Japan** (105) are found next in the rankings within the region. India gains four places in the ranking based on improvement in the years with the Female head of state indicator, although India's score on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex decreased. It also continues to be the lowest ranked of the BRIC economies. Malaysia slips two places and Cambodia slips one place with very little change in score from last year. Japan, on the other hand, falls four places reflecting its widening gender gap on both the Educational Attainment and Political Empowerment subindexes. This is mainly due to a decrease in the percentage of women in parliament from 11% to 8% and is affected due to missing data this year for enrolment in primary education.

Japan is followed by **Korea Rep.**, (111) and **Fiji** (117). Korea Rep. loses three places in the overall ranking and two places on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex. There is a decrease on the Labour force participation and a decline in Wage for similar work indicators. Fiji falls four places this year.

Nepal (121), **Iran, Islamic Rep.** (130) and **Pakistan** (135) occupy the last places in the regional rankings. Nepal moves up two places because of an improvement on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex. It not only has an improved labour force participation rate from women this year, it also provides greater wage equality. Iran slips in the rankings by three places and declines on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex. It has the worst representation of females in the labour force and worst female estimated income in the region. Finally, Pakistan moves down in the rankings from 134th to 135th position due to a worsening in political empowerment and occupies the last spot in the Asia and Pacific region.

Sub-Saharan Africa

The Sub-Saharan Africa region shows a 5% change relative to 2006, which is mainly due to improvements on the Political Empowerment subindex. In 2013, the region has closed 66% of its overall gender gap, outperforming Europe and Central Asia on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex. This is due to a very good performance on the Labour force participation indicator. On the Educational Attainment subindex, the region continues to show the highest gender gap, with four countries from the region being part of the five lowest performing

countries on that subindex, and with thirteen countries out of the bottom 20 countries on the Literacy rate indicator. Regarding the Health and Survival subindex, the region continues to hold the 5th position, just before Asia and the Pacific. Having closed 18% of its political empowerment gender gap, the region ranks fourth on that subindex, just before North America and Middle East and North Africa.

Lesotho (16) continues to lead the region for the fourth consecutive year, despite having lost two places this year because of a decrease on the Female labour force participation indicator and a small drop on the Wage equality for similar work indicator. Lesotho performs above average on the four subindexes and is the only country from the region that has closed the gender gap on both the Educational Attainment and Health and Survival subindexes. Lesotho is the third best performer of the lower-middle income countries and is among the highest climbers within the 110 countries that have been included in the *Report* since 2006. **South Africa** (17), previously in 16th place, loses one place mainly due to a slight decrease on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex. South Africa is the second best performing country of all upper-middle income countries. The country continues to be the best performer from the region on the Political Empowerment subindex, holding the fifth position on the Women in parliament indicator and the eleventh on the Women in ministerial positions indicator.

Burundi (22) follows next in the rankings, moving up two spots. Burundi ranks third on the Labour force participation indicator and is the best performer from the region on the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex. The country also shows the highest overall score of all low-income countries. **Mozambique** (26) falls three spots this year from losses in wage equality for similar work. Mozambique is the top performer from the region on the Estimated earned income and Years with female head of state indicators. The next spot in the ranking is occupied by **Malawi** (39). Malawi is the overall top country on the Labour force participation indicator and best performer in the region on enrolment in primary education. Malawi remains among the highest climbers within the 110 countries that have been included in the *Report* since 2006. **Cape Verde** (41) slips down six places relative to its performance last year, the result of a decrease in the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex score. Cape Verde has the highest number of women in ministerial positions in the region, placed globally just after Finland and Iceland. It is also one of the six African countries that has closed its health and survival gender gap. **Namibia** (44) and **Uganda** (46) follow next in the overall ranking. Uganda is part of the six countries from the region that have closed their health and survival gender gap. Namibia loses ground this year on wage equality (on both Wage equality for similar work and for overall estimated earned income). Namibia is one of the three countries from the region that has closed their educational

attainment gap. The Educational Attainment subindex drives down the overall score of Uganda, which loses eighteen places. Uganda is among the seven countries from the region that have closed their health and survival gender gap.

The next spots in the region are occupied by **Madagascar** (56), **Tanzania** (66) and **Senegal** (67). Madagascar gains two places thanks to small improvements on the Economic Participation and Opportunity and Educational Attainment subindexes. Tanzania shows the biggest loss compared to last year, moving down twenty places. This is mainly due to a decrease in the literacy score and on the Enrolment in tertiary education indicator. There is no data for the Enrolment in secondary education indicator, although these have been available in the past. Senegal climbs up 23 places from last year thanks to gains in the percentage of women in parliament, which has increased from 23% to 43%. Senegal ranks 3th on that particular indicator.

Ghana (76) is next in the overall ranking before **Kenya** (78), **Botswana** (85), **Angola** (92) and **Mauritius** (98). Ghana loses five places mainly because of decreases in female enrolment in primary education. Kenya moves down six spots despite showing improvements on the Political Empowerment subindex. Botswana fell eight places, although its overall score has improved, the result of the greatly improved performance of countries such as Cyprus, Italy, Greece, Mexico, Bangladesh and Malta. Botswana is the best performer from the region on the Wage equality for similar work indicator and is part of the three countries from the region that have closed their educational attainment gender gap. Angola enters into the ranking after a one-year hiatus and takes the 92nd position. Angola is among the five lowest performing countries on the Wage equality for similar work indicator but also part of the top six countries from the region that have closed their health and survival gender gap. Mauritius maintains the same overall rankings as last year, although its overall score shows a slight improvement. Mauritius is one of the countries from the region that has closed its health and survival gender gap.

Next in the ranking are **Cameroon** (100), **Burkina Faso** (103) and **Nigeria** (106). Cameroon makes a remarkable climb up in the overall ranking, mainly because of improvements on the Labour force participation and Enrolment in secondary education indicators. It is also the country that made the biggest improvements compared to 2006. Burkina Faso gains one place and Nigeria four.

Zambia (113) moves up one spot and **Ethiopia** (118) shows a steady performance. **Benin** (126), **Mali**(128), **Côte d'Ivoire** (131) and **Chad** (134) remain the lowest-ranking Sub-Saharan Africa countries in the Index. Benin and Chad are the two overall lowest ranking countries on the Education Attainment subindex.

Gender gaps, economic performance and policy implications

The most important determinant of a country's competitiveness is its human talent—the skills, education and productivity of its workforce—and women account for one-half of the potential talent base throughout the world. Closing gender gaps is thus not only a matter of human rights and equity; it is also one of efficiency. Figure 7 shows a plot of the Global Gender Gap Index 2013 scores against the Global Competitiveness Index 2013–2014 scores. Figure 8 plots the Global Gender Gap Index 2013 scores against GDP per capita. Figure 9 shows the relationship between the Global Gender Gap Index and the Human Development Index. The graphs confirm a correlation between gender equality and the level of competitiveness, GDP per capita and human development.

The correlation between competitiveness, income and development and gender gaps is evident despite the fact that the Global Gender Gap Index (unlike other gender indexes) explicitly eliminates any direct impact of the absolute levels of any of the variables used in the Index, as these may be impacted by the relative wealth of a country (e.g. life expectancy, educational attainment, labour force participation). While correlation does not prove causality, it is consistent with the theory and mounting evidence that empowering women means a more efficient use of a nation's human capital endowment and that reducing gender inequality enhances productivity and economic growth.

Over time, therefore, a nation's competitiveness depends, among other things, on whether and how it educates and utilizes its female talent. In Figure 10, we plot the Educational Attainment subindex against the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex. The data in the Global Gender Gap Index reveals four broad groups of countries: (1) countries that are generally closing education gaps and show high levels of women's economic participation, (2) countries that are generally closing education gaps but show low levels of women's economic participation, (3) countries that have large education gaps as well as large gaps in women's economic participation and (4) countries that have large education gaps but display small gaps in women's economic participation.

In the first broad group are countries that have made investments in women's health and education and generally see the returns on this investment in terms of women's economic and political participation. These countries include the Nordic countries, the United States, the Philippines, Canada, New Zealand and Australia. These countries have not, however, fully closed economic and participation gaps—in particular, the gaps in senior positions, wages and leadership levels still persist. According to research, the reduction in the male-female employment gap has been an important driver of European economic growth in the last decade and closing this gap would have massive economic implications for developed

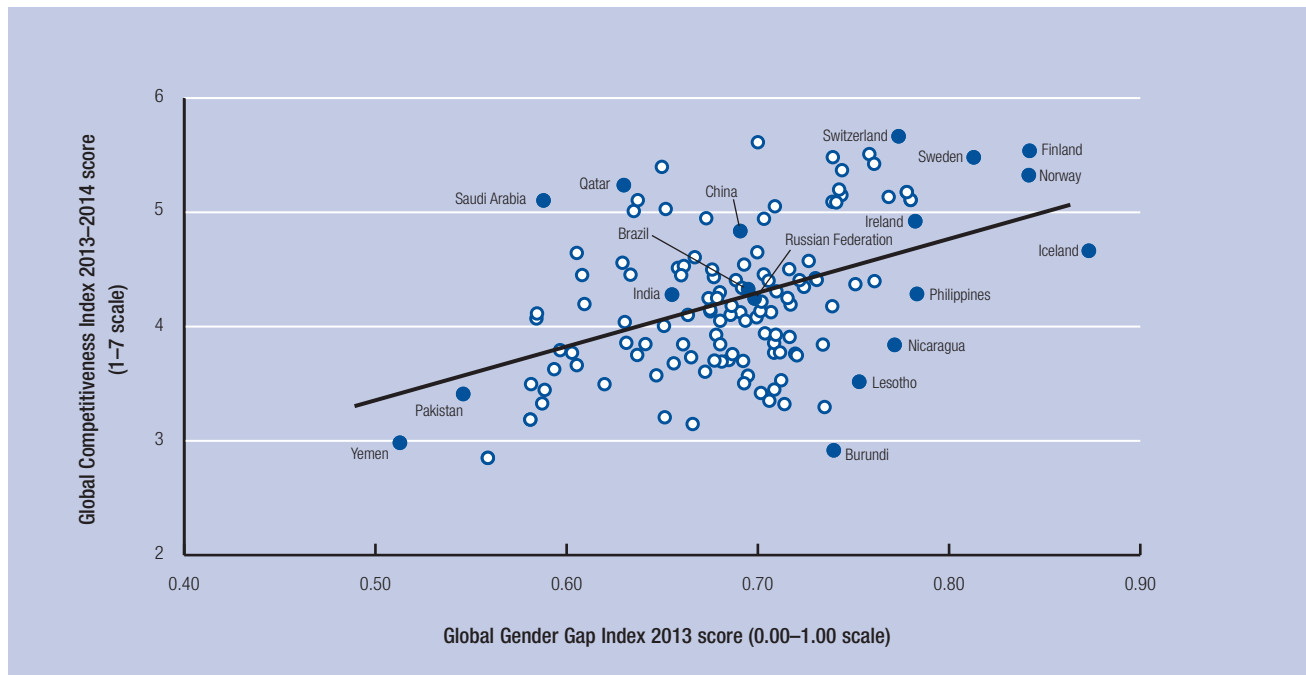
economies, boosting US GDP by as much as 9% and euro zone GDP by as much as 13%.¹²

There are several potential drivers behind this. Innovation requires new, unique ideas—and the best ideas flourish in a diverse environment. There is evidence to show that companies benefit by successfully integrating the female half of the available talent pool across their internal leadership structures, that women may have a propensity for making more inclusive, informed decisions and for engaging in less risky behaviour and that gender-equal teams may be more successful. In addition, in many countries women now account for more than half of the college and university graduates. As they begin to take up half of entry-level positions in several industries, as evident in the data from several OECD countries, it is a loss for companies if these highly skilled women are forced to choose between work and family at later stages of their career.¹³ Business leaders and policy-makers must therefore ensure that, in addition to removing barriers to women's entry to the workforce, they put in place practices and policies that will provide equal opportunities for rising to positions of leadership within companies.

In the second broad group are countries that have made the key investments in women's education but have generally not removed barriers to women's participation in the workforce and are thus not seeing returns on their investments in the development of one half of their human capital. This group includes Japan, United Arab Emirates, and Brazil. These countries have an untapped but educated talent pool and would have much to gain through women's greater participation in the workforce. A study has shown that closing the gap between male and female employment would boost Japanese GDP by as much as 16%. A report by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Countries found that restricting job opportunities for women is costing the region between US\$ 42 and US\$ 46 billion a year.¹⁴ Research by the World Bank demonstrates that similar restrictions have also imposed massive costs throughout the Middle East, where decades of substantial investment have dramatically reduced the gender gap in education but the gender gap in economic opportunity remains the widest in the world.¹⁵ Furthermore, there is new research showing that the combined impact of growing gender equality, the emerging middle class and women's spending priorities will lead to rising household savings rates and shifting spending patterns. Industry in these countries—particularly in sectors such as food, healthcare, education, childcare, apparel, consumer durables and financial services—will need to be prepared for these changes.¹⁶

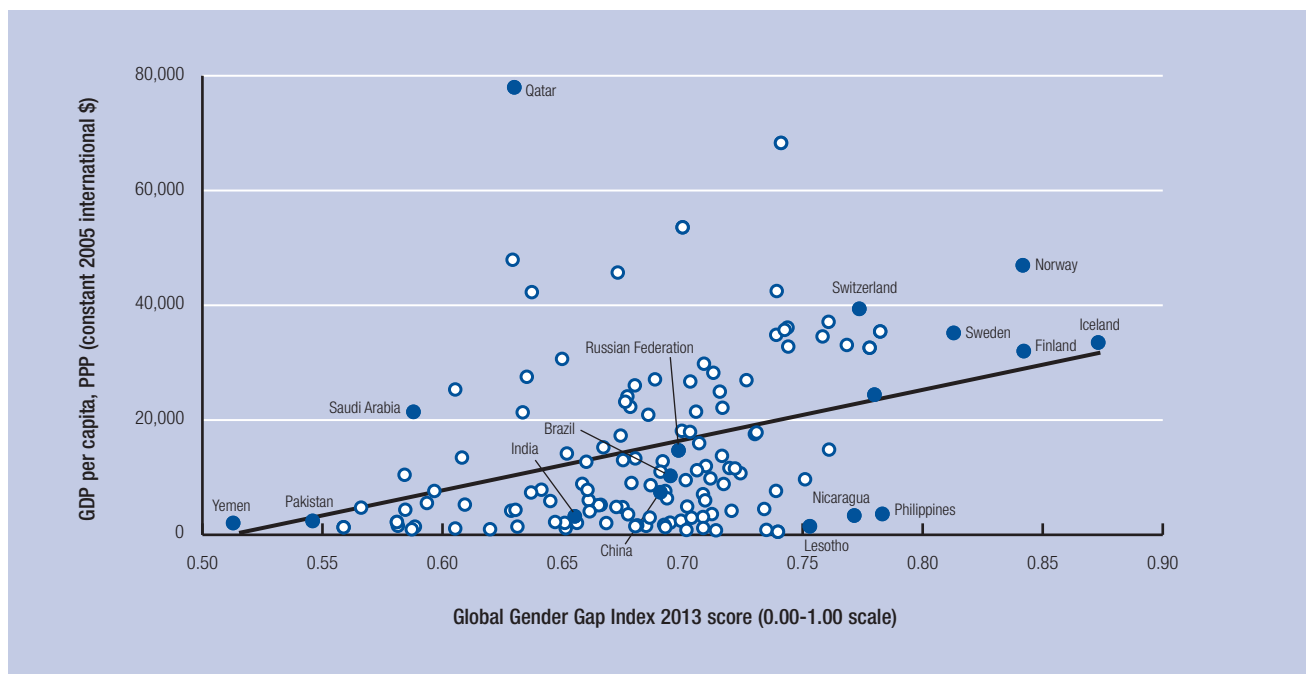
In the third and fourth groups, the most basic investments in girls' and women's education still need to be made, and fundamental rights—including legal frameworks around inheritance, reproductive rights and violence—are often inadequate. Research demonstrates that investment in girls' education has significant multiplier effects: it

Figure 7: Relationship between the Global Competitiveness Index 2013-2014 and the Global Gender Gap Index 2013



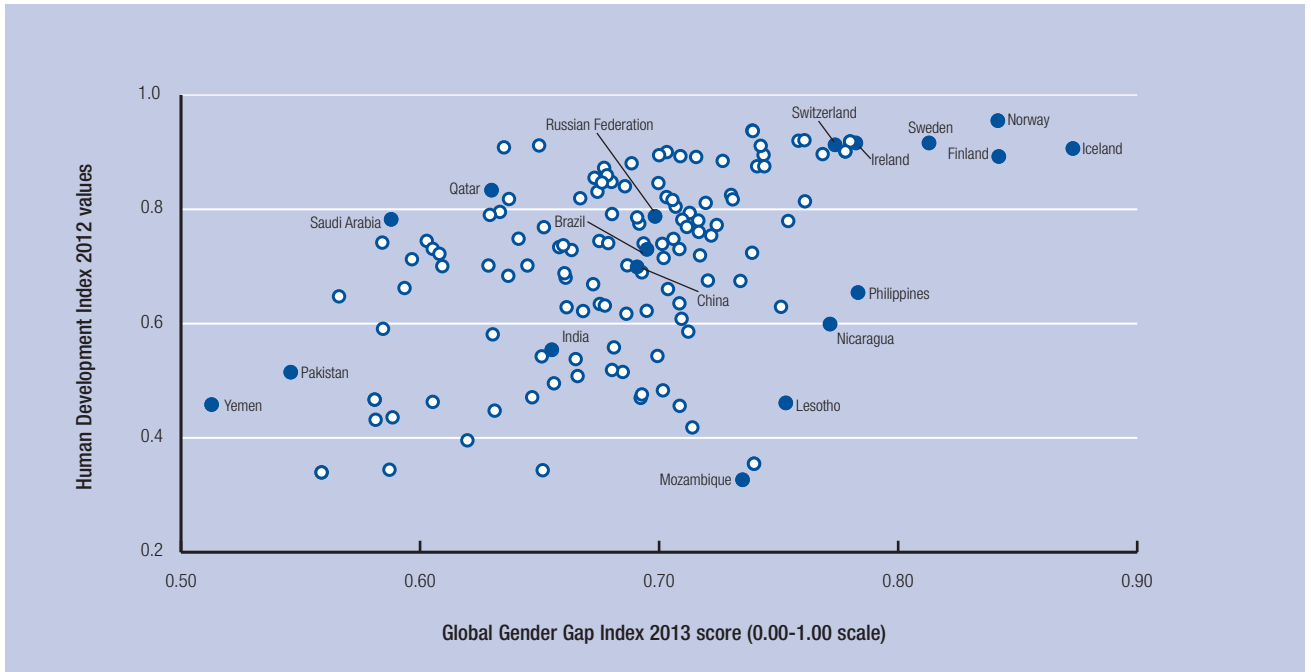
Source: Global Gender Gap Index 2013 and Global Competitiveness Index 2013-2014.
 Note: Global Gender Gap Index and Global Competitiveness Index scales have been truncated to enhance readability.

Figure 8: Relationship between GDP per capita and the Global Gender Gap Index 2013 score



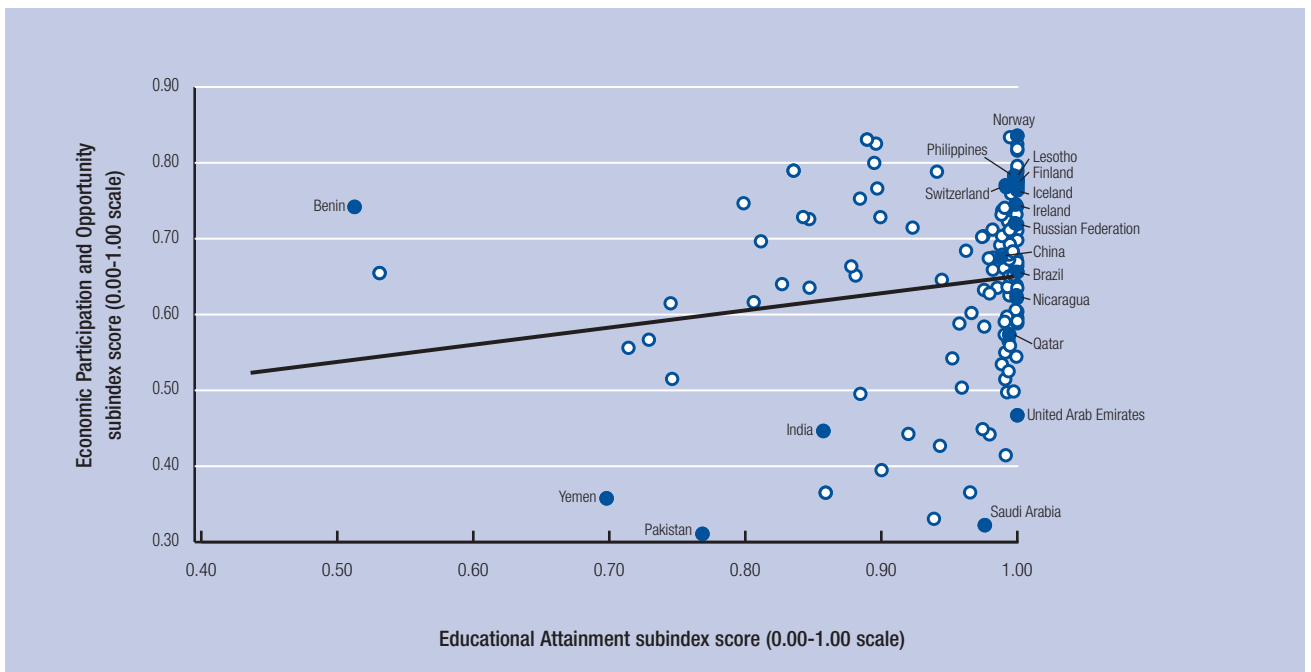
Source: Global Gender Gap Index 2013 and the World Bank's *World Development Indicators (WDI)* online database, accessed May 2013.
 Note: The Global Gender Gap Index has been truncated to enhance readability.

Figure 9: Relationship between the Human Development Index 2012 and the Global Gender Gap Index 2013



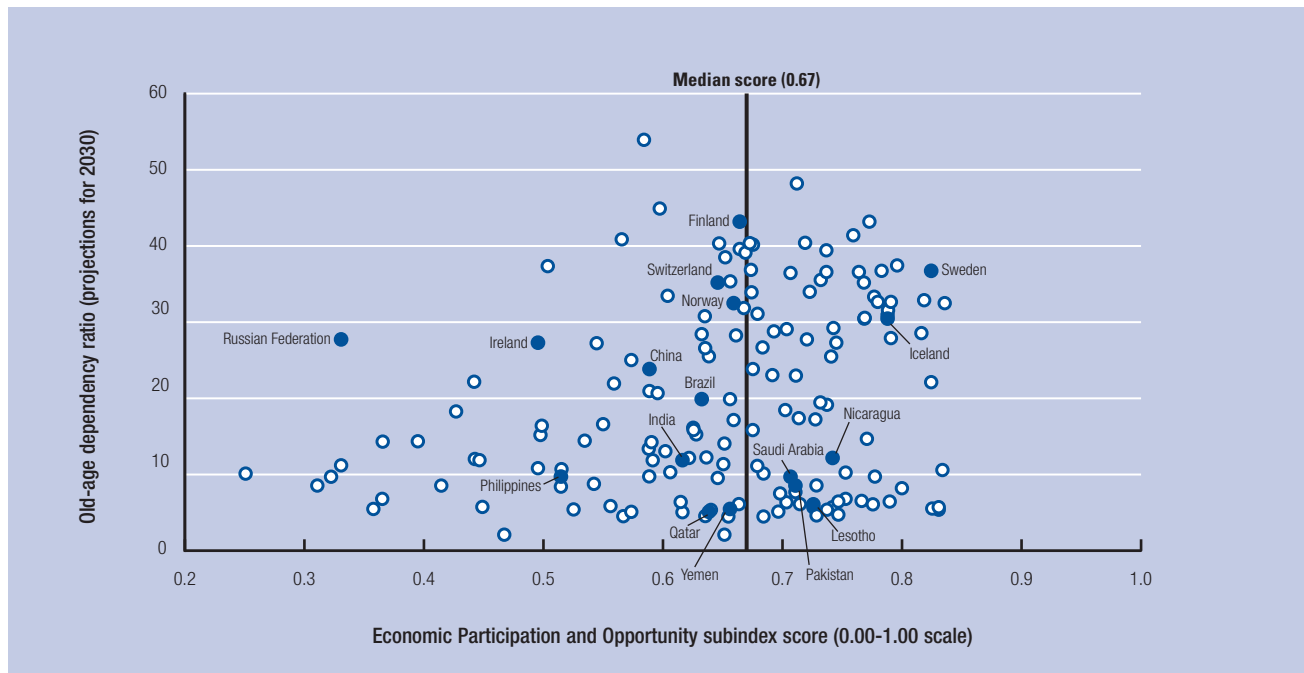
Source: Global Gender Gap Index 2013 and UNDP, *International Human Development Indicators* online database, 2012 (accessed September 2013).
 Note: Global Gender Gap Index and Human Development Index scales have been truncated to enhance readability.

Figure 10: Relationship between Economic Participation and Opportunity and Educational Attainment subindex scores



Source: Global Gender Gap Index 2013.
 Note: Economic Participation and Opportunity and Educational Attainment subindex scores have been truncated to enhance readability.

Figure 11: Relationship between old-age dependency ratio projections for 2030 and the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex 2013



Source: Global Gender Gap Index 2013 and United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision*, New York, 2013, accessed October 2013.

Note: Old-age dependency ratio is the population aged 65+ per 100 population aged 15-64.

reduces high fertility rates, lowers infant and child mortality rates, lowers maternal mortality rates, increases women's labour force participation rates and earnings and fosters educational investment in children.¹⁷ These outcomes not only improve the quality of life, they also foster faster economic growth and development. A substantial body of literature has shown that investing in girls' education is one of the highest-return investments a developing economy can make. The third group contains countries such as Yemen, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh and Nepal, which have both large education gender gaps as well as economic ones. The fourth group contains countries such as Malawi, Mozambique, Burundi, Ghana and Lao PDR, which have large education gender gaps but small economic ones, primarily due to high levels of participation by women in low-skilled work. For these countries, closing education gaps will remain an important factor over time. However, compared with the third group, women in these countries have greater access to income and decision-making. Research has shown that women are more likely to invest a larger proportion of their household income than men in the education and health of their children. There is also some evidence from India to suggest that women in local government roles make decisions with better outcomes for communities than men when charged with budget decisions;¹⁸ they also appear to be more competent representatives than men, obtaining more resources for

their constituencies despite having significantly lower education and relevant labor market experience.¹⁹

Many of the 136 economies covered by the Index are faced with rapidly ageing populations. Figure 11 plots the old-age dependency ratio projections for 2030 against the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex scores of 2013, revealing those countries among the set with high old-age dependency ratios that have low economic participation gaps and those that have high economic participation gaps. In countries where it is relatively easy for women to combine work with having children, female employment and female fertility both tend to be higher. Policies that allow women to combine work and family may thus play a role in addressing the future problems posed by ageing populations.²⁰

The magnitude and particulars of gender gaps in countries around the world are the combined result of various socioeconomic and cultural variables. The closure or continuation of these gaps is intrinsically connected to the framework of national policies in place. New research is required to understand which policies are most effective in closing gender gaps and whether these are transferrable to other replicable and scalable. This year, we have provided supplementary information on policy variables in the Country Profiles. In addition, over the last year, we have conducted a policies survey with ministries responsible for women in the 136 countries covered in this *Report*.

The preliminary results from 87 countries are presented in Appendix E.

TRACKING THE GENDER GAP OVER TIME

The Global Gender Gap Index was first published in 2006 with a view to creating a comprehensive gender parity index that is able to track gaps over time relative to an equality benchmark, thus providing information on a country's progress relative to itself as well as to other countries.

Based on the eight years of data available for the 110 countries that have been part of the *Report* since its inception, we find that the majority of countries covered have made progress on closing gender gaps. Figure A1 in Appendix A displays changes over time within the four subindexes. In 2006, 14% of the global political empowerment gap had been closed; in 2013, 21% of this gap has been closed. In 2006, 56% of the economic participation gap had been closed; in 2013, 60% of this gap has been closed. In 2006, almost 92% of the educational attainment gap had been closed; in 2013, 93% of this gap has been closed. On health and survival, however, there has been a small deterioration between 2006 and 2013, from 97% to 96%. Figure A2 displays changes over time on the Index score across different regions. All regions have shown improvements over the last eight years except Europe and Central Asia.

Table A1 in Appendix A displays the full list of 110 countries covered between 2006 and 2013 and ordered according to the percentage change in their score, relative to their score in 2006. Figure A3 displays these countries in a scatter plot divided into four quadrants: countries that were performing above the median score in 2006 and have shown progress between 2006 and 2013, countries that were performing above the median score in 2006 and have regressed between 2006 and 2013, those that were performing below the median score in 2006 and have shown progress between 2006 and 2013 and those that were performing below the median score in 2006 and have regressed between 2006 and 2013. Overall, 86% of countries have made progress between 2006 and 2013 while 14% have either deteriorated. However, the pace of change is slow. Only three countries have improved by 10% or more while 63 have improved less than 5% during this time period.

We were able to calculate the Global Gender Gap Index backwards to the year 2000 for a limited set of countries in order to take a longer-term look at trends. Table A2 in Appendix A displays the Global Gender Gap Index 2000–2013 for 39 countries where the relevant data were available. In all countries there was a net improvement in scores across the 13 years, with the exception of the Slovak Republic. Switzerland, Belgium, Finland, Ireland, Costa Rica and Bangladesh show the largest absolute increases in score, amounting to relative changes of more than 15% when compared with their performance

in the year 2000. Figures A5 through A8 display changes by region between 2006 and 2013 across the four subindexes.

In the Country Profiles section, readers can explore trends over the last eight years on both the overall Index scores and ranks and the four subindex scores and ranks. It is important to note that there are gaps in international databases and not all countries have information available for all variables across all eight years, nor are all data updated on an annual basis for each country by the international organizations that serve as our primary sources of data.

CONCLUSION

The Global Gender Gap Report 2013 provides a comprehensive overview of current performance and progress over the last eight years. On average, in 2013, over 96% of the gap in health outcomes, 93% of the gap in educational attainment, 60% of the gap in economic participation and 21% of the gap in political empowerment has been closed. No country in the world has achieved gender equality. The four highest ranked countries— Iceland, Finland, Norway and Sweden—have closed between 81% and 87% of their gender gaps, while the lowest ranked country—Yemen—has closed a little over half of its gender gap.

The Global Gender Gap Index was developed in 2006 partially to address the need for a consistent and comprehensive measure for gender equality that can track a country's progress over time. This edition of the *Global Gender Gap Report* reveals the trends observed in the data over the past eight years and seeks to call attention to the need for more rapid progress in closing gender gaps. Out of the 110 countries covered in 2006–2013, 86% have improved their performance, while 14% have widening gaps. In some countries, progress is occurring in a relatively short time, regardless of whether they are starting out near the top or the bottom of the rankings, and independent of their income. Countries such as Nicaragua, Bolivia, Ecuador, Saudi Arabia, Cameroon, Yemen, Switzerland and others have made much progress relative to their own situation in 2006. Relatively few countries (15 out of 110 countries) have regressed relative to their own scores. While some of these are relatively high-ranking countries such as Sweden, Croatia and Sri Lanka, there has also been significant deterioration in countries such as Mali, Jordan, Kuwait and Zambia, which were already at the lower end of the rankings.

The Index points to potential role models by revealing those countries that—within their region or their income group—are leaders in having divided resources more equitably between women and men than other countries have, regardless of the overall level of resources available. The detailed Country Profiles allow users to understand not only how close each country lies relative to the equality benchmark in each of the four critical areas, but also

provides a snapshot of the legal and social framework within which these outcomes are produced.

The Index continues to track the strong correlation between a country's gender gap and its national competitiveness, income and development. A country's competitiveness depends on its human talent—the skills, education and productivity of its workforce. Because women account for one-half of a country's potential talent base, a nation's competitiveness in the long term depends significantly on whether and how it educates and utilizes its women. Four broad groups of countries are evident in the Index: (1) countries that are generally closing education gaps and show high levels of women's economic participation, (2) countries that are generally closing education gaps but show low levels of women's economic participation, (3) countries that have large education gaps as well as large gaps in women's economic participation and (4) countries that have large education gaps but display small gaps in women's economic participation.

This *Report* highlights the message to policy-makers that, in order to maximize competitiveness and development potential, each country should strive for gender equality—that is, should give women the same rights, responsibilities and opportunities as men. The Index does not seek to set priorities for countries but rather to provide a comprehensive set of data and a clear method for tracking gaps on critical indicators so that countries may set priorities within their own economic, political and cultural contexts. We are hopeful that the information contained in the *Global Gender Gap Report* series will also serve as a basis for further research that will facilitate a clearer understanding of the policies that are successful and those that are not, particularly as increasing numbers of policy-makers, employers and civil society seek out best practices and role models to incorporate gender equality into their practices and policies.

NOTES

- 1 See Greig et al. "The Gender Gap Index 2006".
- 2 This ratio is based on what is considered to be a "normal" sex ratio at birth: 1.06 males for every female born. See Klasen and Wink, "Missing Women: Revisiting the Debate".
- 3 This ratio is based on the standards used in the UN's Gender-Related Development Index, which uses 87.5 years as the maximum age for women and 82.5 years as the maximum age for men.
- 4 A first attempt to calculate the gender gap was made by the World Economic Forum in 2005; see Lopez-Claros and Zahidi, *Women's Empowerment: Measuring the Global Gender Gap*. The 2005 Index, which was attempting to capture women's empowerment, used a "feminist" scale that rewarded women's supremacy over men (highest score is assigned to the country with the biggest gap in favour of women).
- 5 The weights derived for the 2006 Index were used again this year and will be used in future years to allow for comparisons over time.
- 6 This is not strictly accurate in the case of the health variable, where the highest possible value a country can achieve is 0.9796. However, for purposes of simplicity we will refer to this value as 1 throughout the chapter and in all tables, figures and Country Profiles.
- 7 Because of the special equality benchmark value of 0.9796 for the Health and Survival subindex, it is not strictly accurate that the equality benchmark for the overall index score is 1. This value is in fact $(1 + 1 + 1 + 0.9796) / 4 = 0.9949$. However, for purposes of simplicity, we will refer to the overall equality benchmark as 1 throughout this chapter.
- 8 Since the indicators in the subindexes are weighted by the standard deviations, the final scores for the subindexes and the overall Index are not a pure measure of the gap vis-à-vis the equality benchmark and therefore cannot be strictly interpreted as percentage values measuring the closure of the gender gap. However, for ease of interpretation and intuitive appeal, we will be using the percentage concept as a rough interpretation of the final scores.
- 9 A population-weighted average of all scores within each region was taken to produce these charts.
- 10 Please note that we have modified our regional classifications from those used in previous editions of the *Report*.
- 11 Due to the current situation in Syria the Executive Opinion Survey was not carried out this year and the results thus do not include this variable in 2013, as it was the case in 2012.
- 12 See Daly, "Gender Inequality, Growth and Global Ageing".
- 13 See Ibarra and Zahidi, *The Corporate Gender Gap Report 2010*.
- 14 ESCAP, *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*.
- 15 See World Bank, "Gender and Development in the Middle East and North Africa".
- 16 Goldman Sachs Global Markets Institute. "The Power of the Purse".
- 17 On the impact of female education on labour force participation and the educational attainment of the next generation, see Hausmann and Székely, "Inequality and the Family in Latin America". On educational investment in children, see Summers, "The Most Influential Investment", 132.
- 18 See Beaman et al., "Powerful Women".
- 19 Munshi and Rosensweig, "The Efficacy of Parochial Politics".
- 20 Daly, "Gender Inequality, Growth and Global Ageing".

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