

Dominican Republic

WBL 2.0 legal
frameworks score

72.5

WBL 2.0 supportive
frameworks score

60.0

WBL 2.0 expert
opinions score

67.5

Women, Business and the Law 2024 (WBL 2024) identifies barriers for women's economic empowerment in three areas: women's legal rights, policy instruments designed to support the implementation of these rights, and how these rights are realized in practice. For that purpose, three new *Women, Business and the Law 2.0* indexes are presented for ten indicators: (1) legal frameworks, (2) supportive frameworks, and (3) expert opinions. For the WBL 2.0 legal frameworks index, 40 questions are scored across the ten indicators for 190 economies. For the WBL 2.0 supportive frameworks index, 30 questions are scored across the ten indicators for 190 economies. Overall economy level legal and supportive frameworks scores are then calculated by taking the average of each indicator, with 100 representing the highest possible score. The WBL 2.0 expert opinions index is created for a total of 164 economies. Expert opinion scores are not available for 26 economies due to an insufficient number of responses received from those economies during data collection. Individual responses at the economy level for 15 expert opinions questions across the ten indicators are scored by taking the median value of all responses per question. The economy level expert opinions index is equal to the simple unweighted average of the ten indicator scores.

For Dominican Republic, data refer to the legal frameworks, supportive frameworks, and expert opinions that are applicable to the main business city (Santo Domingo). The scores for Dominican Republic are shown in the table below.

Women, Business and the Law 2024 2.0 indicator scores

										
WBL 2.0	Safety	Mobility	Workplace	Pay	Marriage	Parenthood	Childcare	Entrepreneurship	Assets	Pension
Legal frameworks score	25.0	100.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	50.0	100.0	75.0
Supportive frameworks score	50.0	66.7	66.7	50.0	100.0	33.3	50.0	66.7	66.7	50.0
Expert opinions score	25.0	100.0	81.3	25.0	100.0	75.0	12.5	81.3	100.0	75.0

In summary, the **WBL 2.0 legal frameworks score** for Dominican Republic (72.5 out of 100.0) is higher than the global average (64.2) and higher than the Latin America & Caribbean regional average (69.1). When it comes to constraints on freedom of movement and laws affecting women's property and inheritance, Dominican Republic obtains a perfect score (100.0 out of 100.0). As an example, one of the lowest scores for Dominican Republic is on the indicator measuring laws affecting women's safety. To improve on the Safety indicator, Dominican Republic may wish to consider putting in place legislation on domestic violence, introducing legislation on femicide and introducing legislation on child marriage.

The **WBL 2.0 supportive frameworks score** for Dominican Republic (60.0 out of 100.0) is higher than the global average (39.5) and higher than the Latin America & Caribbean regional average (38.6). When it comes to supportive frameworks related to marriage, Dominican Republic obtains a perfect score (100.0 out of 100.0). As an example, one of the lowest scores for Dominican Republic is on the indicator measuring supportive frameworks affecting women's work after having

children. To improve on the Parenthood indicator, Dominican Republic may wish to consider putting incentives in place to encourage fathers to take paternity leave on the birth of a child and publishing sex-disaggregated data on unpaid care work.

The **WBL 2.0 expert opinions score** for Dominican Republic (67.5 out of 100.0) is higher than the global average (65.7) and higher than the Latin America & Caribbean regional average (61.8). When it comes to expert opinions on freedom of movement, expert opinions on marriage and expert opinions on women's property and inheritance, Dominican Republic obtains a perfect score (100.0 out of 100.0). As an example, one of the lowest scores for Dominican Republic is on the indicator measuring expert opinions on childcare.

WBL 2.0 legal frameworks data

QUESTION	ANSWER	LEGAL BASIS
Safety		
Does the law address child marriage?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
Does the law address sexual harassment?	Yes	Ley 24-97 sobre Violencia Intrafamiliar y Contra la Mujer, Art. 3 (Código Penal, Art. 333-2); Código de Trabajo, Arts. 47(9), 96, 97(13) y 101; Reglamento del Estatuto del Docente, Arts. 35(i) y 97(6)(a); Ley No. 53-07 sobre Crímenes y Delitos de Alta Tecnología, Arts. 6, 9-24 y 62
Does the law address domestic violence?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
Does the law address femicide?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
Mobility		
Can a woman choose where to live in the same way as a man?	Yes	Código Civil, Art. 215
Can a woman travel internationally in the same way as a man?	Yes	Ley Núm. 208-71 sobre pasaportes, Arts. 1, 2 y 5
Can a woman travel outside her home in the same way as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
Do a woman and a man have equal rights to confer citizenship on their spouses and their children?	Yes	Constitución de la República Dominicana, Arts. 18.1, 18.4 y 18.5
Workplace		
Can a woman get a job in the same way as a man?	Yes	Código Civil, Art. 220
Does the law explicitly prohibit discrimination in recruitment based on marital status, parental status, and age?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
Does the law prohibit discrimination in employment based on gender?	Yes	Código de Trabajo, Principio VII
Does the law allow employees to request flexible work?	Yes	Resolución Núm. 23/2020, Art. Primero y Segundo (a)
Pay		
Does the law mandate equal remuneration for work of equal value?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
Can a woman work at night in the same way as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
Can a woman work in a job deemed dangerous in the same way as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
Can a woman work in an industrial job in the same way as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
Marriage		
Is the law free of legal provisions that require a married woman to obey her husband?	Yes	Código Civil, Arts. 212 y 213
Can a woman be "head of household" or "head of family" in the same way as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
Can a woman obtain a judgment of divorce in the same way as a man?	No	Ley sobre Divorcio, Art. 23
Does a woman have the same rights to remarry as a man?	Yes	Código Civil, Art. 147; Sentencia TC/0070/15TC/0070/15
Parenthood		
Is paid leave of at least 14 weeks available to mothers?	Yes	Código de Trabajo, Arts. 236 y 237; Resolución Núm. 211-14, Art. 4
Are leave benefits for mothers paid solely by the government?	No	Código de Trabajo, Art. 239; Ley Núm. 87-01, Art. 132



Is paid leave available to fathers?	Yes	Código de Trabajo, Art. 54
Is dismissal of pregnant workers prohibited?	Yes	Código de Trabajo, Art. 233
Childcare		
Does the law establish the provision of center-based childcare services?	Yes	Ley Núm. 342-22, Arts. 28-30, 34, 36 y 31; Ley No. 87-01, Arts. 134-136
Does the law establish any form of support for families for childcare services?	Yes	Sitio Web Oficial de Instituto Nacional de Atención Integral a la Primera Infancia (INAPI); Manual de gestión y funcionamiento de los Centros de Atención Integral a la Primera Infancia, CAIPI, Secs. 7.3-7.4
Does the law establish any form of support for nonstate childcare providers?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
Does the law establish quality standards for the provision of center-based childcare services?	Yes	Normativas Generales del Consejo Nacional de Estancias Infantiles, Norma 1, Art. 3(a)(d), Norma 3, Arts. 11 and 16, Norma 5, Art. 9, Norma 8, Art. 9 y 18(b); Ley 66-97, Arts. 134 y 136
Entrepreneurship		
Can a woman undertake entrepreneurial activities in the same way as a man?	Yes	Código Civil, Arts. 213, 217 et 218
Does the law prohibit discrimination in access to credit based on gender?	Yes	Reglamento de protección al usuario de los productos y servicios financieros de 2015, Arts. 4(h), 5(i) y 24(f)
Does the law prescribe a gender quota for corporate boards?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
Does the law include gender-sensitive procurement provisions for public procurement processes?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
Assets		
Do a woman and a man have equal administrative power and ownership rights to immovable property, including land?	Yes	Ley Núm. 189-01 modifica y deroga artículos del Código Civil, Art. 1; Código Civil, Art. 1421
Do sons and daughters have equal rights to inherit assets?	Yes	Código Civil, Art. 745
Do male and female surviving spouses have equal rights to inherit assets?	Yes	Código Civil, Art. 767
Does the law provide for the valuation of nonmonetary contributions?	Yes	Código Civil, Arts. 1400-1408
Pension		
Are the ages at which a woman and a man can retire with full pension benefits the same?	Yes	Ley Núm. 87-01, Art. 45
Are the ages at which a woman and a man can retire with partial pension benefits the same?	Yes	No applicable provisions could be located
Is the mandatory retirement age for a woman and a man the same?	Yes	No applicable provisions could be located
Are periods of absence due to childcare accounted for in pension benefits?	No	No applicable provisions could be located

WBL 2.0 supportive frameworks data

QUESTION	ANSWER	SOURCE
Safety		
Has the government developed comprehensive mechanisms to address violence against women?	Yes	Política de Prevención y Atención a las Uniones Tempranas y el Embarazo en Adolescentes (PPA); Asistencia Legal de la Dirección de Prevención y Atención a la Violencia contra la Mujer e Intrafamiliar; Oficinas de la Procuraduría Fiscal – Centros de Atención a Víctimas de Violencia de Género; Asistencia psicológica de la Dirección de Prevención y Atención a la Violencia contra la Mujer e Intrafamiliar; Escuela Nacional de la Judicatura y Poder Judicial capacitan sobre las buenas prácticas en el manejo de casos de violencia
Are special procedures in place for cases of sexual harassment?	No	Insufficient evidence located





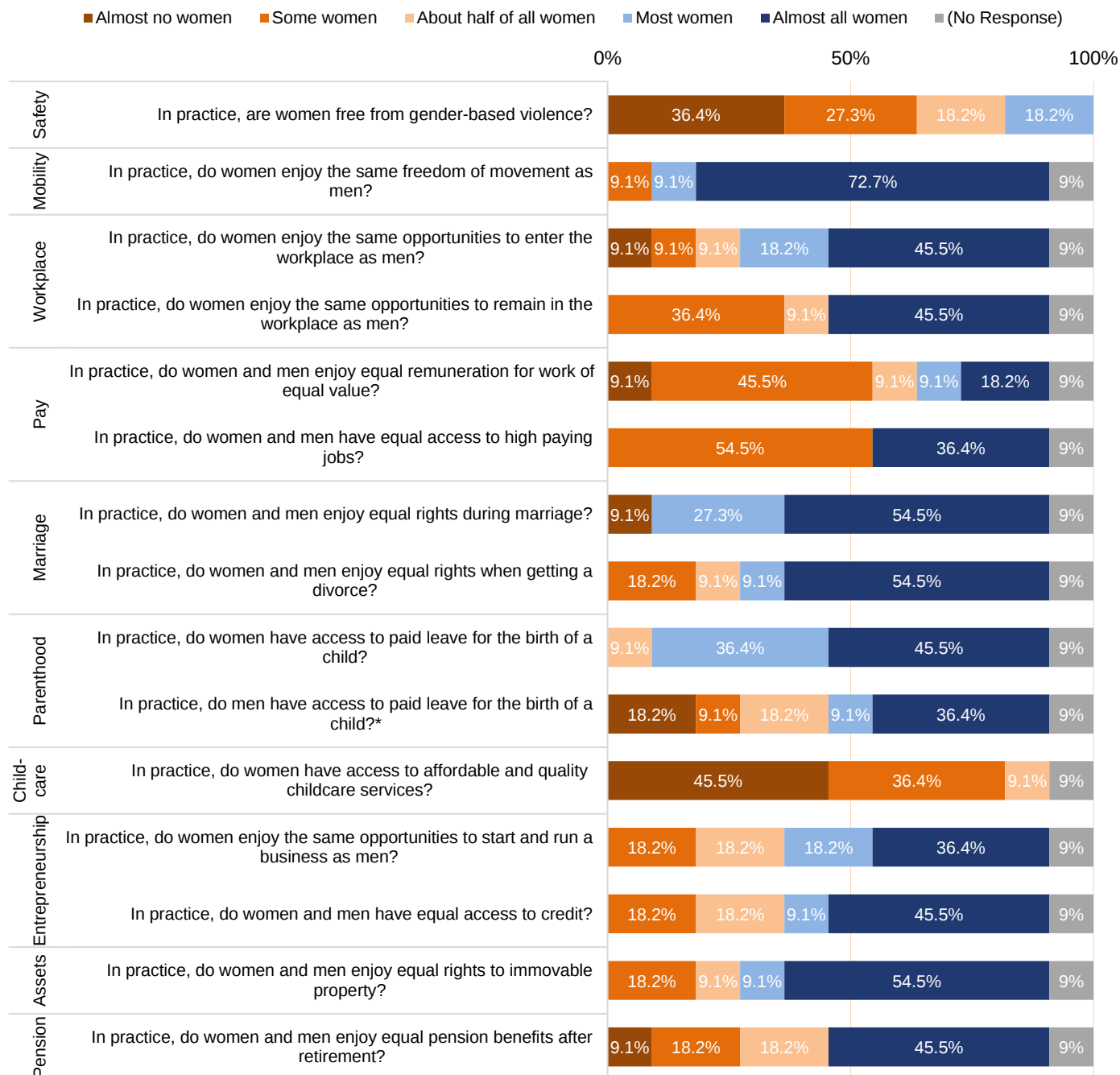
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Is a government entity responsible for monitoring and implementing national services, plans and programs addressing violence against women?	No	Insufficient evidence located
Is an annual budgetary allocation devoted to violence against women risk mitigation, prevention, and response programs?	Yes	Presupuesto del Ministerio de la Mujer
Mobility		
Are passport application processes the same for a woman and a man?	Yes	Passport application procedures
Are the application processes for official identity documents the same for a woman and a man?	Yes	Cédula de Identidad y Electoral, application procedures
Does a current policy or plan explicitly consider the specific mobility needs of women in public transportation?	No	Insufficient evidence located
Workplace		
Does a specialized body receive complaints about gender discrimination in employment?	Yes	Código de Trabajo, Art. 425 y 427
Has the government published guidelines on nondiscrimination based on gender in recruitment?	No	Insufficient evidence located
Has the government published guidelines on flexible work arrangements?	Yes	Guía sobre Teletrabajo y Acceso Remoto
Pay		
Are pay transparency measures or enforcement mechanisms in place to address the pay gap?	No	Insufficient evidence located
Have sex-disaggregated data on employment in different industries or sectors been published?	Yes	Ministerio de Economía Planificación y Desarrollo
Marriage		
Is there a fast-track process or procedure for family law disputes?	Yes	Resolución núm. 2142-2018, del 19 de julio del año 2018, Art. 26
Are there specialized family courts?	Yes	Resolución No. 439-2004 que crea el Tribunal de Familia
Is legal aid available for family law disputes?	Yes	Centro de Mediación Familiar (CEMEFA)
Parenthood		
Is it possible to apply for maternity benefits through a single government application process?	Yes	Reglamento sobre el Subsidio por Maternidad y el Subsidio por Lactancia, Art. 6, 8 y 9
Are incentives in place to encourage fathers to take paternity leave on the birth of a child?	No	Insufficient evidence located
Have sex-disaggregated data on unpaid care work been published?	No	Insufficient evidence located
Childcare		
Is there a publicly available registry or database of childcare providers?	Yes	Sitio Web Oficial de Instituto Nacional de Atención Integral a la Primera Infancia (INAPI)
Is there a clearly outlined application procedure to request financial support from the government for childcare services by parents?	Yes	Sitio Web Oficial de Instituto Nacional de Atención Integral a la Primera Infancia (INAPI)
Is there a clearly outlined application procedure to request financial support from the government for childcare services by nonstate childcare providers?	No	Insufficient evidence located
Has the government published any reports on the quality of childcare services?	No	Insufficient evidence located
Entrepreneurship		
Have sex-disaggregated data on business activities, entrepreneurship, or women-owned businesses been published?	No	Insufficient evidence located
Are government-led programs supporting female entrepreneurs providing access to finance and training, coaching, or business development?	Yes	Programa Supérate
Does a current national government plan or strategy focus on women's access to financial services?	Yes	Estrategia Nacional de Inclusión Financiera (2022-2030)
Assets		
Are mechanisms or incentives in place to encourage women to register immovable property (including joint titling)?	Yes	Ley No. 5879 de reforma agraria, Art. 14



Are awareness measures in place to improve women's access to information about marital and inheritance rights?	Yes	Acciones de sensibilización y formación, Ministerio de la Mujer
Have anonymized sex-disaggregated data on property ownership been published?	No	Insufficient evidence located
Pension		
Are incentives in place to increase women's retirement benefits?	No	Insufficient evidence located
Is a procedure in place for pension beneficiaries to challenge the decisions of the competent authority regarding their benefits?	Yes	Dirección General de Jubilaciones y Pensiones

WBL 2.0 distribution of expert opinion responses



*Note: The response options for the second Parenthood question above are formatted as almost no men, some men, about half of all men, most men, almost all men.