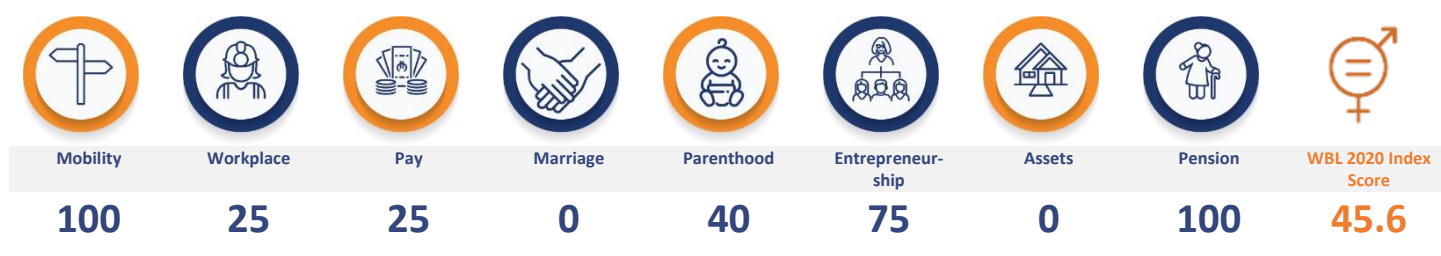


Mauritania

Women, Business and the Law 2020 presents an index covering 190 economies and structured around the life cycle of a working woman. In total, 35 questions are scored across the eight indicators. Overall scores are then calculated by taking the average of each indicator, with 100 representing the highest possible score. Data refer to the laws and regulations that are applicable to the main business city (Nouakchott). Different rules may apply in other jurisdictions so local legislation should be reviewed. Based on this approach, **Mauritania scores 45.6 out of 100**. The overall score for Mauritania is lower than the regional average observed across Sub-Saharan Africa (69.9).

Mauritania - Scores for Women, Business and the Law 2020



Relative Strengths

When it comes to constraints on freedom of movement, and laws affecting the size of a women's pension, Mauritania gets a perfect score.

Areas for Improvement

However, when it comes to laws affecting women's decisions to work, laws affecting women's pay, constraints related to marriage, laws affecting women's work after having children, constraints on women's starting and running a business, and gender differences in property and inheritance, Mauritania could consider reforms to improve legal equality for women.

For example, one of the lowest scores for Mauritania is on the indicator related to constraints related to marriage (the WBL2020 Marriage Indicator). To improve on the Marriage Indicator, Mauritania may wish to consider no longer requiring a married woman to obey her husband, allowing women to be head of household, enacting legislation protecting women from domestic violence, allowing women to obtain a divorce in the same way as a man, and giving women the same rights to remarry as men.

Recent Reforms (2018-2019)

No reforms impacting the WBL2020 indicators have been observed during the past two years.

	QUESTION	ANSWER	LEGAL BASIS
Mobility	Can a woman choose where to live in the same way as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
	Can a woman travel outside her home in the same way as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
	Can a woman apply for a passport in the same way as a man?	Yes	Passport application procedures
	Can a woman travel outside the country in the same way as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
Workplace	Can a woman get a job in the same way as a man?	No	Loi No. 2001-052 du 19 Juillet 2001 Portant Code du Statut Personnel, Art. 57
	Does the law prohibit discrimination in employment based on gender?	Yes	Code du Travail, Art. 395
	Is there legislation on sexual harassment in employment?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
	Are there criminal penalties or civil remedies for sexual harassment in employment?	No	<i>Criminal</i> : No applicable provisions could be located <i>Civil</i> : No applicable provisions could be located
Pay	Does the law mandate equal remuneration for work of equal value?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
	Can women work the same night hours as men?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
	Can women work in jobs dangerous in the same way as men?	No	Jobs deemed hazardous: Code du Travail, Art. 247 Jobs deemed arduous: Code du Travail, Art. 247 Jobs deemed morally inappropriate: Code du Travail, Art. 247
	Are women able to work in the same industries as men?	No	Mining: Code du Travail, Art. 166 Construction: Code du Travail, Arts. 166 et 247 Factories: Code du Travail, Art. 166 Agriculture: No restrictions could be located Energy: No restrictions could be located Water: No restrictions could be located Transportation: No restrictions could be located Other: No restrictions could be located
Marriage	Is there no legal provision that requires a married woman to obey her husband?	No	Loi No. 2001-052 du 19 Juillet 2001 Portant Code du Statut Personnel, Art. 150
	Can a woman be head of household in the same way as a man?	No	Loi No. 2001-052 du 19 Juillet 2001 Portant Code du Statut Personnel, Art. 56
	Is there legislation specifically addressing domestic violence?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
	Can a woman obtain a judgment of divorce in the same way as a man?	No	Personal Status Law, Arst. 83 and 102-110
Parenthood	Does a woman have the same rights to remarry as a man?	No	Personal Status Law, Arts. 112 and 113
	Is paid leave of at least 14 weeks available to mothers?	Yes	Code du Travail, Arts. 39 et 41
	Does the government pay 100% of maternity leave benefits?	Yes	Loi No. 67-39 de 3 Février 1967 Instituant un Regime de Sécurité Sociale, Art. 22
	Is there paid paternity leave?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
	Is there paid parental leave?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
Entrepren.	Is dismissal of pregnant workers prohibited?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
	Does the law prohibit discrimination in access to credit based on gender?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
	Can a woman sign a contract in the same way as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
	Can a woman register a business in the same way as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
Assets	Can a woman open a bank account in the same way as man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
	Do men and women have equal ownership rights to immovable property?	No	Personal Status Law No. 052-2001, Art. 58
	Do sons and daughters have equal rights to inherit assets from their parents?	No	Personal Status Law No. 052-2001, Arts. 254, 262-264 and 268
	Do female and male surviving spouses have equal rights to inherit assets?	No	Personal Status Law No. 052-2001, Arts. 254-256
	Does the law grant spouses equal administrative authority over assets during marriage?	No	Personal Status Law No. 052-2001, Art. 58
Pension	Does the law provide for the valuation of nonmonetary contributions?	No	Personal Status Law No. 052-2001, Art. 58
	Are the ages at which men and women can retire with full pension benefits equal?	Yes	Women: Loi 2014-032 modifiant certaines dispositions de la loi N 67 39 du 3 février 1967 instituant un régime de sécurité sociale, Art. 1 (art. 52 nouveau) Men: Loi 2014-032 modifiant certaines dispositions de la loi N 67 39 du 3 février 1967 instituant un régime de sécurité sociale, Art. 1 (art. 52 nouveau)
	Are the ages at which men and women can retire with partial pension benefits equal?	Yes	Women: No applicable provisions could be located Men: No applicable provisions could be located
	Are the mandatory retirement ages for men and women equal?	Yes	Women: Code du Travail, Art. 51; Loi 2014-032 modifiant certaines dispositions de la loi N 67 39 du 3 février 1967 instituant un régime de sécurité sociale, Art. 1 (art. 52 nouveau) Men: Code du Travail, Art. 51; Loi 2014-032 modifiant certaines dispositions de la loi N 67 39 du 3 février 1967 instituant un régime de sécurité sociale, Art. 1 (art. 52 nouveau)
	Are periods of absence due to child care accounted for in pension benefits?	Yes	Loi N 67 39 Du 3 Février 1967 Instituant Un Régime de Sécurité Sociale, Art. 59