

# Cabo Verde

*Women, Business and the Law 2021* 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 (Praia). Different rules may apply in other jurisdictions so local legislation should be reviewed. Based on this approach, **Cabo Verde scores 86.3 out of 100**. The overall score for Cabo Verde is higher than the regional average observed across Sub-Saharan Africa (71). Within the Sub-Saharan Africa region, the maximum score observed is 91.9 (Mauritius).

## Cabo Verde - Scores for Women, Business and the Law 2021

Mobility	Workplace	Pay	Marriage	Parenthood	Entrepreneurship	Assets	Pension	WBL 2021 Index Score
100	100	75	100	40	100	100	75	86.3

### Relative Strengths

When it comes to constraints on freedom of movement, laws affecting women's decisions to work, constraints related to marriage, constraints on women's starting and running a business, and gender differences in property and inheritance, Cabo Verde gets a perfect score.

### Areas for Improvement

However, when it comes to laws affecting women's pay, laws affecting women's work after having children, and laws affecting the size of a woman's pension, Cabo Verde could consider reforms to improve legal equality for women.

For example, one of the lowest scores for Cabo Verde is on the indicator related to laws affecting women's work after having children (the WBL2021 Parenthood Indicator). To improve on the Parenthood Indicator, Cabo Verde may wish to consider making paid leave of at least 14 weeks available to mothers, making the government administer 100% of maternity leave benefits, and making paid parental leave available.

### Recent Reforms

No reforms were observed during the past year.



Further data details for Cabo Verde are available at:  
<https://wbl.worldbank.org/en/data/exploreconomies/cabo-verde/2021>

	QUESTION	ANSWER	LEGAL BASIS
Mobility	Can a woman choose where to live in the same way as a man?	Yes	Civil Code, Art. 1630
	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; Passport application form
	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?	Yes	Civil Code, Art. 1632
	Does the law prohibit discrimination in employment based on gender?	Yes	Legislative-Decree n. 5 of 2007, Art. 15
	Is there legislation on sexual harassment in employment?	Yes	Penal Code, Art. 152; Labor Code, Art. 410
	Are there criminal penalties or civil remedies for sexual harassment in employment?	Yes	<i>Criminal:</i> Penal Code, Art. 152; Labor Code, Art. 410 <i>Civil:</i> Penal Code, Art. 100
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 there no legal provision that requires a married woman to obey her husband?	Yes	Civil Code, Art. 1627
	Can a woman be head of household in the same way as a man?	Yes	Civil Code, Art. 1628
	Is there legislation specifically addressing domestic violence?	Yes	Act No. 84/VII/2011 on Gender Based Violence, Art. 2(3)
	Can a woman obtain a judgment of divorce in the same way as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
Parenthood	Does a woman have the same rights to remarry as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
	Is paid leave of at least 14 weeks available to mothers?	No	Legislative-Decree No. 5 of 2007, Art. 271
	Does the government pay 100% of maternity leave benefits?	No	Decree-Law No. 50 of 2009, Art. 44; Legislative-Decree No. 5 of 2007, Art. 212
	Is paid leave available to fathers?	Yes	Legislative-Decree No. 5 of 2007, Arts. 186(2)(j) and 189
	Is there paid parental leave?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
Entrepren.	Is dismissal of pregnant workers prohibited?	Yes	Legislative-Decree No. 5 of 2007, Art. 275 and 409
	Does the law prohibit discrimination in access to credit based on gender?	Yes	Penal Code, Art. 161(1)(a)
	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	Civil Code, Art. 1633
	Do men and women have equal ownership rights to immovable property?	Yes	Civil Code, Art. 1638(1)
	Do sons and daughters have equal rights to inherit assets from their parents?	Yes	Civil Code, Arts. 2064 and 2070
	Do female and male surviving spouses have equal rights to inherit assets?	Yes	Civil Code, Arts. 2064 and 2072
	Does the law grant spouses equal administrative authority over assets during marriage?	Yes	Civil Code, Art. 1638(3)
Pension	Does the law provide for the valuation of nonmonetary contributions?	Yes	Civil Code, Arts. 1626(4), 1677, 1683-1686 and 1691
	Is the age at which men and women can retire with full pension benefits the same?	No	Women: Decree-Law No. 5 of 2009, Art. 81 Men: Decree-Law No. 5 of 2009, Art. 81
	Is the age at which men and women can retire with partial pension benefits the same?	Yes	Women: No applicable provisions could be located Men: No applicable provisions could be located
	Is the mandatory retirement age for men and women the same?	Yes	Women: No applicable provisions could be located Men: No applicable provisions could be located
	Are periods of absence due to child care accounted for in pension benefits?	Yes	Decree-Law No. 5 of 2004, Art. 15