

# Bolivia

*Women, Business and the Law 2022* (WBL2022) presents an index covering 190 economies and structured around the life cycle of a working woman. In total, 35 questions are scored across 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 (La Paz). Different rules may apply in other jurisdictions so local legislation should be reviewed. Based on this approach, **Bolivia scores 88.8 out of 100**. The overall score for Bolivia is higher than the regional average observed across Latin America and the Caribbean (80.4). Within the Latin America and the Caribbean region, the maximum score observed is 95 (Peru).

## Bolivia - Scores for Women, Business and the Law 2022



## Relative Strengths

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

## Areas for Improvement

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

For example, one of the lowest scores for Bolivia is on the indicator measuring laws affecting women's work after having children (the WBL2022 Parenthood indicator). To improve on the Parenthood indicator, Bolivia may wish to consider making paid leave of at least 14 weeks available to mothers, and making paid parental leave available.

## Recent Reforms

No reforms were observed during the past year (October 2nd, 2020 – October 1st, 2021).



Further data details for Bolivia are available at:  
<https://wbl.worldbank.org/en/data/exploreconomies/bolivia/2022>



	QUESTION	ANSWER	LEGAL BASIS
Mobility	Can a woman choose where to live in the same way as a man?	Yes	Código de las Familias y del Proceso Familiar, Art. 175(c)
	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	Ley de Migración, Art. 2; 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?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
	Does the law prohibit discrimination in employment based on gender?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
	Is there legislation on sexual harassment in employment?	Yes	Ley Núm. 348, Arts. 84(Art. 312 quater); Decreto Supremo Núm. 2145, Art. 3(II)(c)
	Are there criminal penalties or civil remedies for sexual harassment in employment?	Yes	<i>Criminal:</i> Ley Núm. 348, Arts. 84(Art. 312 quater); Código Penal, Art. 312 quater <i>Civil:</i> No applicable provisions could be located
Pay	Does the law mandate equal remuneration for work of equal value?	Yes	Constitución Política del Estado, Art. 48(V)
	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	Código de las Familias y del Proceso Familiar, Art. 173
	Can a woman be head of household in the same way as a man?	Yes	Código de las Familias y del Proceso Familiar, Art. 174
	Is there legislation specifically addressing domestic violence?	Yes	Ley Núm. 1674, Arts. 3-5; Ley Núm. 348, Arts. 7(15) y 84(Art. 272 bis); Código Penal, Art. 272 bis
	Can a woman obtain a judgment of divorce in the same way as a man?	Yes	Código de las Familias y del Proceso Familiar, Arts. 207 y 210
	Does a woman have the same rights to remarry as a man?	Yes	Código de las Familias y del Proceso Familiar, Art. 218
Parenthood	Is paid leave of at least 14 weeks available to mothers?	No	Ley General del Trabajo, Art. 61; Decreto Ley Núm. 13.214 de 1975, Art. 31
	Does the government pay 100% of maternity leave benefits?	Yes	Decreto Ley Núm. 13.214 de 1975, Arts. 28 y 31
	Is paid leave available to fathers?	Yes	Decreto Supremo Núm. 1212, Art. Único
	Is there paid parental leave?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
	Is dismissal of pregnant workers prohibited?	Yes	Constitución Política del Estado, Art. 48(VI)
Entrepreneurship	Does the law prohibit discrimination in access to credit based on gender?	Yes	Ley Contra el Racismo y Toda Forma de Discriminación, Arts. 5 y 14(1)(b); Ley de Servicios Financieros, Arts. 74(a), 75(I) y 89
	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
	Can a woman open a bank account in the same way as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
Assets	Do men and women have equal ownership rights to immovable property?	Yes	Código de las Familias y del Proceso Familiar, Arts. 176, 185 y 191
	Do sons and daughters have equal rights to inherit assets from their parents?	Yes	Código Civil, Arts. 1083, 1094 y 1095
	Do female and male surviving spouses have equal rights to inherit assets?	Yes	Código Civil, Arts. 1083 y 1102-1105
	Does the law grant spouses equal administrative authority over assets during marriage?	Yes	Código de las Familias y del Proceso Familiar, Arts. 185, 191 y 192
	Does the law provide for the valuation of nonmonetary contributions?	Yes	Código de las Familias y del Proceso Familiar, Arts. 176-179
	Is the age at which men and women can retire with full pension benefits the same?	No	Women: Ley de Pensiones Núm. 65, Art. 8(b). Men: Ley de Pensiones Núm. 65, Art. 8(b)
Pension	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: Ley General Del Trabajo, Art. 66. Men: Ley General Del Trabajo, Art. 66
	Are periods of absence due to childcare accounted for in pension benefits?	Yes	Ley Núm. 65, Art. 77