

# Paraguay

*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 (Asuncion). Different rules may apply in other jurisdictions so local legislation should be reviewed. Based on this approach, **Paraguay scores 94.4 out of 100**. The overall score for Paraguay 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).

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



## Relative Strengths

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

## Areas for Improvement

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

For example, one of the lowest scores for Paraguay is on the indicator measuring laws affecting the size of a woman's pension (the WBL2022 Pension indicator). To improve on the Pension indicator, Paraguay may wish to consider accounting for periods of absence from work due to childcare in pension benefits.

## Recent Reforms

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



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



	QUESTION	ANSWER	LEGAL BASIS
Mobility	Can a woman choose where to live in the same way as a man?	Yes	Ley de Reforma Parcial del Código Civil, Art. 14
	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	Resolución Núm. 717 de 2010, Arts. 30-32; 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	Ley de Reforma Parcial del Código Civil, Art. 7
	Does the law prohibit discrimination in employment based on gender?	Yes	Código del Trabajo, Art. 9; Constitución de la República de Paraguay, Art. 88
	Is there legislation on sexual harassment in employment?	Yes	Código Penal, Art. 133
	Are there criminal penalties or civil remedies for sexual harassment in employment?	Yes	<i>Criminal</i> : Código Penal, Art. 133 <i>Civil</i> : Código Penal, Arts. 59 y 133
Pay	Does the law mandate equal remuneration for work of equal value?	Yes	Código del Trabajo, Art. 229
	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	Ley de Reforma Parcial del Código Civil, Art. 6
	Can a woman be head of household in the same way as a man?	Yes	Ley de Reforma Parcial del Código Civil, Art. 6
	Is there legislation specifically addressing domestic violence?	Yes	Ley Núm. 1600 Contra la violencia doméstica; Ley Núm. 5777 de Protección Integral para las Mujeres contra la Violencia; Ley Núm. 1160 Código Penal, Art. 229
	Can a woman obtain a judgment of divorce in the same way as a man?	Yes	Ley que Establece el Divorcio Vincular del Matrimonio, Art. 22
Parenthood	Does a woman have the same rights to remarry as a man?	Yes	Ley que Establece el Divorcio Vincular del Matrimonio, Art. 10
	Is paid leave of at least 14 weeks available to mothers?	Yes	Ley Núm. 5508, Arts. 11 y 20
	Does the government pay 100% of maternity leave benefits?	Yes	Ley Núm. 5508, Art. 12
	Is paid leave available to fathers?	Yes	Ley Núm. 5508, Art. 13(b)
	Is there paid parental leave?	No	No applicable provisions could be located
Entrepreneurship	Is dismissal of pregnant workers prohibited?	Yes	Ley Núm. 5508, Art. 15; Constitución de la República de Paraguay, Art. 89
	Does the law prohibit discrimination in access to credit based on gender?	Yes	Ley Núm. 1.334/98 de Defensa del Consumidor y del Usuario, Arts. 14(f), 40, 41, 42 y 51
	Can a woman sign a contract in the same way as a man?	Yes	Ley de Reforma Parcial del Código Civil, Art. 1
	Can a woman register a business in the same way as a man?	Yes	Ley de Reforma Parcial del Código Civil, Art. 7
Assets	Can a woman open a bank account in the same way as a man?	Yes	No restrictions could be located
	Do men and women have equal ownership rights to immovable property?	Yes	Ley de Reforma Parcial del Código Civil, Arts. 1, 40 y 42
	Do sons and daughters have equal rights to inherit assets from their parents?	Yes	Código Civil, Art. 2583
	Do female and male surviving spouses have equal rights to inherit assets?	Yes	Código Civil, Art. 2586
	Does the law grant spouses equal administrative authority over assets during marriage?	Yes	Ley de Reforma Parcial del Código Civil, Arts. 40 y 42
	Does the law provide for the valuation of nonmonetary contributions?	Yes	Ley de Reforma Parcial del Código Civil, Arts. 24, 30-33 y 56
Pension	Is the age at which men and women can retire with full pension benefits the same?	Yes	Women: Ley Núm. 98/92, Art. 60. Men: Ley Núm. 98/92, Art. 60
	Is the age at which men and women can retire with partial pension benefits the same?	Yes	Women: Ley Núm. 98/92, Art. 60. Men: Ley Núm. 98/92, Art. 60
	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 childcare accounted for in pension benefits?	No	No applicable provisions could be located