

Women, Business and the Law (WBL) is a World Bank Group flagship project designed to improve women’s labor force participation and entrepreneurship, driving job creation, productivity, and economic growth. By publishing data on laws and policy mechanisms in 190 economies, WBL identifies barriers and enablers to women’s economic opportunities, guiding reforms and paving the way for more dynamic and resilient economies around the world.

10 Indicators measuring women’s **economic opportunity**

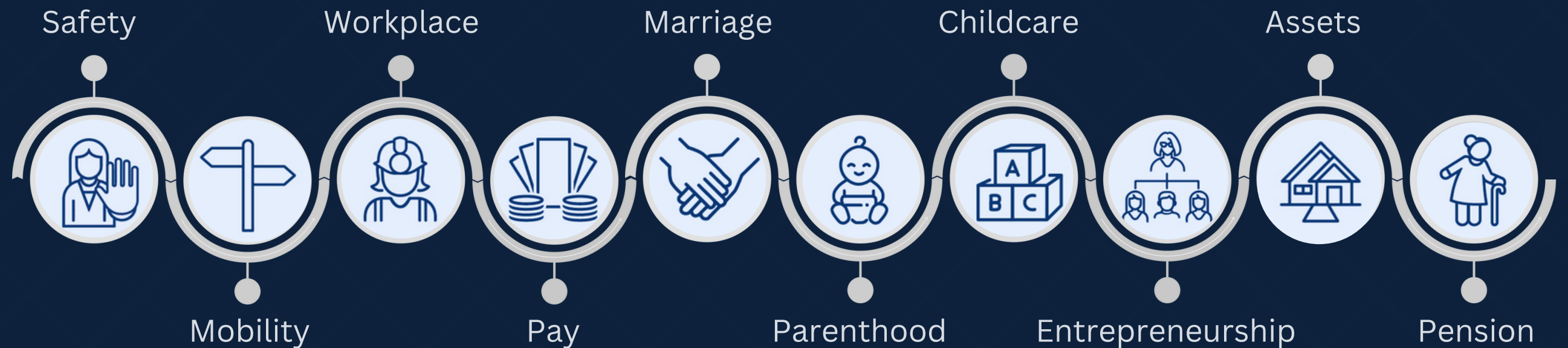
+2,000 Legal reforms recorded since **1970**

190 Economies

Download the 2024 report



Download Economy Snapshots



Globally, women have just **two thirds** of the **legal rights** afforded to men.

3.9 billion women worldwide face legal barriers to their economic participation.

Less than **40% of mechanisms** are in place to **support the implementation** of laws.

All economies can improve in **bridging the gap** between laws and their implementation.

Experts perceive **better outcomes for women** on the ground when countries’ legal frameworks are **more gender-equal**.



Regional Profiles

Coming Soon

East Asia and Pacific

Middle East and North Africa

Europe and Central Asia

South Asia

OECD high income

Africa Western and Central

Latin America and Caribbean

Africa Eastern and Southern

Innovative Research

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Social Norms



Climate



Entrepreneurship



Trade



Subnational WBL



De facto data on outcomes



Women's Health



Tax and Budgeting

Resources



Reforms Database
covering 53 years

WBL 2024 Dataset
including legal and supportive frameworks and expert opinions

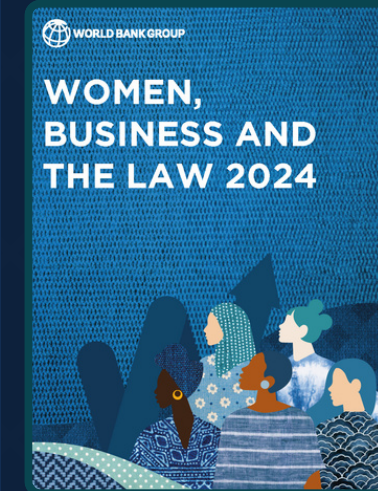
Historical Dataset
WBL 1.0 annual data from 1970 to 2023

Country Deep Dives
Detailed analysis of the data and priority areas for legal reform



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worldwide in 2024

100+ international
events in 2024

130,000+ people
reached through events

10+ WBG operations
informed by WBL data

111,000+
website visits

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