

# Jordan



*Women, Business and the Law* 2024 (WBL 2024) identifies barriers for women's economic empowerment in three areas: women's legal rights, policy instruments designed to support the implementation of these rights, and how these rights are realized in practice. For that purpose, three new *Women, Business and the Law* 2.0 indexes are presented for ten indicators: (1) legal frameworks, (2) supportive frameworks, and (3) expert opinions. For the WBL 2.0 legal frameworks index, 40 questions are scored across the ten indicators for 190 economies. For the WBL 2.0 supportive frameworks index, 30 questions are scored across the ten indicators for 190 economies. Overall economy level legal and supportive frameworks scores are then calculated by taking the average of each indicator, with 100 representing the highest possible score. The WBL 2.0 expert opinions index is created for a total of 164 economies. Expert opinion scores are not available for 26 economies due to an insufficient number of responses received from those economies during data collection. Individual responses at the economy level for 15 expert opinions questions across the ten indicators are scored by taking the median value of all responses per question. The economy level expert opinions index is equal to the simple unweighted average of the ten indicator scores.

For Jordan, data refer to the legal frameworks, supportive frameworks, and expert opinions that are applicable to the main business city (Amman). The scores for Jordan are shown in the table below.

|                                   |        | Þ        |           |       | ¥.       | Ċ,         | A<br>B C  |                       |        |         |
|-----------------------------------|--------|----------|-----------|-------|----------|------------|-----------|-----------------------|--------|---------|
| WBL 2.0                           | Safety | Mobility | Workplace | Pay   | Marriage | Parenthood | Childcare | Entrepren-<br>eurship | Assets | Pension |
| Legal<br>frameworks<br>score      | 0.0    | 0.0      | 25.0      | 100.0 | 0.0      | 50.0       | 100.0     | 50.0                  | 25.0   | 75.0    |
| Supportive<br>frameworks<br>score | 75.0   | 100.0    | 33.3      | 50.0  | 66.7     | 33.3       | 75.0      | 33.3                  | 33.3   | 0.0     |
| Expert<br>opinions<br>score       | 0.0    | 50.0     | 37.5      | 37.5  | 12.5     | 100.0      | 25.0      | 62.5                  | 100.0  | 100.0   |

## Women, Business and the Law 2024 2.0 indicator scores

In summary, the **WBL 2.0 legal frameworks score** for Jordan (42.5 out of 100.0) is lower than the global average (64.2) and higher than the Middle East & North Africa regional average (38.6). When it comes to laws affecting women's pay and laws affecting childcare, Jordan obtains a perfect score (100.0 out of 100.0). As an example, one of the lowest scores for Jordan is on the indicator measuring laws affecting women's safety. To improve on the Safety indicator, Jordan may wish to consider putting in place legislation on domestic violence, introducing legislation on femicide, adopting comprehensive legislation on sexual harassment and introducing legislation on child marriage.

The **WBL 2.0 supportive frameworks score** for Jordan (50.0 out of 100.0) is higher than the global average (39.5) and higher than the Middle East & North Africa regional average (24.9). When it comes to supportive frameworks affecting freedom of movement, Jordan obtains a perfect score (100.0 out of 100.0). As an example, one of the lowest scores for Jordan is on the indicator measuring supportive frameworks affecting the size of a woman's pension. To improve on the Pension indicator, Jordan may wish to consider putting incentives in place to increase women's retirement benefits and





putting a procedure in place for pension beneficiaries to challenge the decisions of the competent authority regarding their benefits.

The **WBL 2.0 expert opinions score** for Jordan (52.5 out of 100.0) is lower than the global average (65.7) and lower than the Middle East & North Africa regional average (66.0). When it comes to expert opinions on women's work after having children, expert opinions on women's property and inheritance and expert opinions on women's pensions, Jordan obtains a perfect score (100.0 out of 100.0). As an example, one of the lowest scores for Jordan is on the indicator measuring expert opinions on women's safety.

## WBL 2.0 legal frameworks data

| QUESTION  | ANSWER | LEGAL BASIS  |
|---|--------|--|
| Safety  |        |  |
| Does the law address child marriage?  | No     | No applicable provisions could be located  |
| Does the law address sexual harassment?   | No     | No applicable provisions could be located  |
| Does the law address domestic violence?   | No     | No applicable provisions could be located  |
| Does the law address femicide?  | No     | No applicable provisions could be located  |
| Mobility  |        |  |
| Can a woman choose where to live in the same way as a man?  | No     | Personal Status Law No. 15/2019, Art. 72   |
| Can a woman travel internationally in the same way as a man?  | No     | Personal Status Law No. 15/2019, Art. 72   |
| Can a woman travel outside her home in the same way as a man?   | No     | Personal Status Law No. 15/2019, Art. 62   |
| Do a woman and a man have equal rights to confer citizenship<br>on their spouses and their children?              | No     | Citizenship Law No. 6 of 1954, as amended, Arts. 3(3), 8 and 9                           |
| Workplace   |        |  |
| Can a woman get a job in the same way as a man?   | No     | Personal Status Law No. 15/2019, Art. 61   |
| Does the law explicitly prohibit discrimination in recruitment based on marital status, parental status, and age? | No     | No applicable provisions could be located  |
| Does the law prohibit discrimination in employment based on gender?   | Yes    | Labor Law, Art. 69   |
| Does the law allow employees to request flexible work?  | No     | No applicable provisions could be located  |
| Рау   |        |  |
| Does the law mandate equal remuneration for work of equal value?  | Yes    | Labor Law No. 8 of 1996, Arts. 2 and 53; Amended Jordanian Labor<br>Law No. (14) of 2019 |
| 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 the law free of legal provisions that require a married woman to obey her husband?                             | No     | Personal Status Law No. 15/2019, Art. 78   |
| Can a woman be "head of household" or "head of family" in the same way as a man?                                  | No     | Civil Status Law No. 9/2001, Arts. 37, 38(b), 57, and 58(a, b)                           |
| Can a woman obtain a judgment of divorce in the same way as a man?  | No     | Personal Status Law No. 15/2019, Arts. 82, 98, 102 and 126                               |
| Does a woman have the same rights to remarry as a man?  | No     | Personal Status Law No. 15 of 2019, Arts. 98 and 145                                     |
| Parenthood  |        |  |
| Is paid leave of at least 14 weeks available to mothers?  | No     | Labor Law, Art. 70   |
| Are leave benefits for mothers paid solely by the government?   | Yes    | Social Security Law, Art. 42   |
| Is paid leave available to fathers?   | Yes    | Labor Law, Art. 66(c); Amended Jordanian Labor Law No. (14) of 2019                      |
| Is dismissal of pregnant workers prohibited?  | No     | No applicable provisions could be located  |





#### Childcare

| Childcare  |     |  |
|--|-----|--|
| Does the law establish the provision of center-based childcare services?   | Yes | Regulation No. 77 of 2018, Arts. 3, 4 and 11; Labor Law No. 8 of 1996, Art. 72   |
| Does the law establish any form of support for families for<br>childcare services?                               | Yes | Order No. 93 of 2020, Arts. 5 and 7  |
| Does the law establish any form of support for nonstate childcare providers?                                     | Yes | Official Website of the Social Security Corporation, Financial Assistance<br>Program for Nurseries; Official Website of the Vocational Training<br>Corporation |
| Does the law establish quality standards for the provision of<br>center-based childcare services?                | Yes | Instructions for Licensing Nurseries and their amendments 2019, Arts. 9, 11, 19 and 28; Regulation No. 77 of 2018, Art. 14                                     |
| Entrepreneurship   |     |  |
| Can a woman undertake entrepreneurial activities in the same way as a man?                                       | Yes | No restrictions could be located   |
| Does the law prohibit discrimination in access to credit based<br>on gender?                                     | Yes | Central Bank of Jordan Instructions No. 56/2012, as amended by Circular No. 27/1/10091, Art. 30 (h)  |
| Does the law prescribe a gender quota for corporate boards?  | No  | No applicable provisions could be located  |
| Does the law include gender-sensitive procurement provisions for public procurement processes?                   | No  | No applicable provisions could be located  |
| Assets   |     |  |
| Do a woman and a man have equal administrative power and ownership rights to immovable property, including land? | Yes | Personal Status Law No. 15 of 2019, Art. 320; Civil Law No. 43/1976, Art. 43   |
| Do sons and daughters have equal rights to inherit assets?   | No  | Personal Status Law No. 15 of 2019, Art. 292(c)  |
| Do male and female surviving spouses have equal rights to inherit assets?  | No  | Personal Status Law No. 15 of 2019, Arts. 288 and 289  |
| Does the law provide for the valuation of nonmonetary<br>contributions?  | No  | Personal Status Law No. 15 of 2019, Art. 320   |
| Pension  |     |  |
| Are the ages at which a woman and a man can retire with full pension benefits the same?                          | No  | Social Security Law, Art. 62   |
| Are the ages at which a woman and a man can retire with partial pension benefits the same?                       | Yes | Social Security Law, Art. 64 and Table 5   |
| Is the mandatory retirement age for a woman and a man the same?  | Yes | No applicable provisions could be located  |
| Are periods of absence due to childcare accounted for in<br>pension benefits?                                    | Yes | Social Security Law, Art. 45(b)  |
|  |     |  |

# WBL 2.0 supportive frameworks data

| QUESTION  | ANSWER | SOURCE   |
|---|--------|--|
| Safety  |        |  |
| Has the government developed comprehensive mechanisms to address violence against women?  | Yes    | National Action Plan to Implement the Recommendations of the<br>"Marriage of Underage Girls" Study to Limit the Marriage of Those Under<br>the Age of 18 in Jordan (2018-2022); Guide to Combat Violence and<br>Sexual Harassment in the Workplace, Ministry of Labour; Domestic<br>Violence Protection System Services, Department of Family and Juvenile<br>Protection |
| Are special procedures in place for cases of sexual<br>harassment?  | No     | Insufficient evidence located  |
| Is a government entity responsible for monitoring and<br>implementing national services, plans and programs<br>addressing violence against women? | Yes    | The Jordanian National Commission for Women  |
| Is an annual budgetary allocation devoted to violence against women risk mitigation, prevention, and response programs?                           | Yes    | Budget of the Ministry of Social Development   |
| Mobility  |        |  |





| Are passport application processes the same for a woman and a man?   | Yes | Passport application procedures   |
|--|-----|---|
| Are the application processes for official identity documents the same for a woman and a man?  | Yes | ID application procedures   |
| Does a current policy or plan explicitly consider the specific mobility needs of women in public transportation?   | Yes | Jordan's Executive Plan for the National Strategy for Women in Jordan 2023-2025, Outcome 1.2.2                        |
| Workplace  |     |   |
| Does a specialized body receive complaints about gender discrimination in employment?  | Yes | National Human Rights Centre Law, Arts. 4(c) and 17(d)  |
| Has the government published guidelines on nondiscrimination based on gender in recruitment?   | No  | Insufficient evidence located   |
| Has the government published guidelines on flexible work<br>arrangements?  | No  | Insufficient evidence located   |
| Pay  |     |   |
| Are pay transparency measures or enforcement mechanisms in place to address the pay gap?   | No  | Insufficient evidence located   |
| Have sex-disaggregated data on employment in different industries or sectors been published?   | Yes | Department of Statistics: Jordanian Employed Persons Age 15 + Years<br>by Sex & Main Current Economic Activity - 2022 |
| Marriage   |     |   |
| Is there a fast-track process or procedure for family law disputes?  | Yes | Order No. 17 of 2013 Promulgating the System of Family Conciliation<br>Offices  |
| Are there specialized family courts?   | Yes | Law No. 19 of 1972; Law No. 31 of 1959  |
| Is legal aid available for family law disputes?  | No  | Insufficient evidence located   |
| Parenthood   | 110 |   |
| Is it possible to apply for maternity benefits through a single government application process?  | Yes | Social Security Corporation   |
| Are incentives in place to encourage fathers to take paternity leave on the birth of a child?  | No  | Insufficient evidence located   |
| Have sex-disaggregated data on unpaid care work been published?  | No  | Insufficient evidence located   |
| Childcare  |     |   |
| Is there a publicly available registry or database of childcare providers?   | Yes | Official Website of the The Social Security Corporation   |
| Is there a clearly outlined application procedure to request financial support from the government for childcare services by parents?                            | Yes | Official Website of the Social Security Corporation   |
| Is there a clearly outlined application procedure to request<br>financial support from the government for childcare services<br>by nonstate childcare providers? | Yes | Official Website of the Social Security Corporation, Financial Assistance<br>Program for Nurseries                    |
| Has the government published any reports on the quality of childcare services?   | No  | Insufficient evidence located   |
| Entrepreneurship   |     |   |
| Have sex-disaggregated data on business activities,<br>entrepreneurship, or women-owned businesses been<br>published?  | No  | Insufficient evidence located   |
| Are government-led programs supporting female<br>entrepreneurs providing access to finance and training,<br>coaching, or business development?                   | No  | Insufficient evidence located   |
| Does a current national government plan or strategy focus on women's access to financial services?   | Yes | The National Financial Inclusion Strategy (2023-2027)   |
| Assets   |     |   |
| Are mechanisms or incentives in place to encourage women<br>to register immovable property (including joint titling)?  | No  | Insufficient evidence located   |
| Are awareness measures in place to improve women's access to information about marital and inheritance rights?   | No  | Insufficient evidence located   |
| Have anonymized sex-disaggregated data on property ownership been published?   | Yes | Jordan's Department of Statistics   |
| Pension  |     |   |
|  |     |   |





| Are incentives in place to increase women's retirement<br>benefits?   | No | Insufficient evidence located |
|---|----|-------------------------------|
| Is a procedure in place for pension beneficiaries to challenge<br>the decisions of the competent authority regarding their<br>benefits? |    | Insufficient evidence located |
|   |    |                               |





# WBL 2.0 distribution of expert opinion responses

|                  | Almost no women Some women About half of all women                                     | ■ Most women ■ Almost all women ■ (No Response) |                   |       |       |       | onse) |  |
|------------------|--|---|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|
|                  | 0  | %   |                   | 50%   |       |       | 100%  |  |
| Safety           | In practice, are women free from gender-based violence?                                |   | 71.4%             |       |       | 14.3% | 14.3% |  |
| Mobility         | In practice, do women enjoy the same freedom of movement as men?                       | 42.9%   |                   | 14.3% | 28.   | 6%    | 14.3% |  |
| Workplace        | In practice, do women enjoy the same opportunities to enter the workplace as men?      | 14.3% 28  | .6%               | 14.3% | 14.3% | 28.   | 6%    |  |
| Work             | In practice, do women enjoy the same opportunities to remain in the workplace as men?  | 28.6% 28.6%                                     |                   | 5%    | 14.3% |       | 28.6% |  |
| Pay              | In practice, do women and men enjoy equal remuneration for work of equal value?        | 42.9%   |                   |       | 28.   | 6%    | 14.3% |  |
| ä                | In practice, do women and men have equal access to high paying jobs?                   |   | 71.4%             |       |       | 14.3% | 14.3% |  |
| Marriage         | In practice, do women and men enjoy equal rights during marriage?                      | 42.9%   | 42.9% 28.6% 14.3% |       |       | 14.3% |       |  |
| Mar              | In practice, do women and men enjoy equal rights when getting a divorce?               | 57.1%   |                   |       | 42.9% |       |       |  |
| Parenthood       | In practice, do women have access to paid leave for the birth of a child?              | 14.3% 14.3%                                     |                   |       | 71.4% |       |       |  |
| Paren            | In practice, do men have access to paid leave for the birth of a child?*               | 28.6%   |                   |       | 71.4% |       |       |  |
| Child-<br>care   | In practice, do women have access to affordable and quality childcare services?        |   | 71.4%             |       |       | 14.3% | 14.3% |  |
| neurship         | In practice, do women enjoy the same opportunities to start and run a business as men? | 42.9%   |                   |       | 14.3% | 28.   | 6%    |  |
| Entrepreneurship | In practice, do women and men have equal access to credit?                             | 14.3% 28  | .6%               | 14.3% |       | 42.9% |       |  |
| Pension Assets   | In practice, do women and men enjoy equal rights to immovable property?                | 14.3% 14.3%                                     | 14.3%             |       | 57.   | 1%    |       |  |
| Pension          | In practice, do women and men enjoy equal pension benefits after retirement?           | 14.3% 14.3%                                     | 14.3%             |       | 57.   | 1%    |       |  |

\*Note: The response options for the second Parenthood question above are formatted as almost no men, some men, about half of all men, most men, almost all men.

