



ARGENTINA

CITIZENS CALL FOR A GENDER-EQUAL WORLD : A ROADMAP FOR ACTION¹



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WHAT DO RESPONDENTS IN ARGENTINA THINK ABOUT GENDER EQUALITY?

- ➔ **The vast majority (85 percent) of respondents in Argentina declare that gender equality is “important” to them personally.** More respondents who self-identify as left-leaning politically see gender equality as “important” (95 percent) than right-leaning respondents (81 percent).
- ➔ A large proportion of respondents in Argentina (70 percent) believe that gender equality is better in the country now than 25 years ago, regardless of gender. More respondents, aged 25 and older, believe that gender equality has improved in the past 25 years (70 percent) than younger respondents, aged 18 to 24 (57 percent).
- ➔ **Sixty-one percent of respondents want the government of Argentina to “do more” to promote gender equality.** Thirty-two percent want the government to do “a lot more” and 29 percent “a bit more.” There is a marked difference by gender: 69 percent of female respondents want greater action, compared to 52 percent of male respondents. Younger respondents are also more likely to demand action: 73 percent of those aged 18 to 24 want the government to “do more,” compared to 50 percent of respondents aged 60 and older.
- ➔ In terms of the actions that the government could take to advance equality, **“reform laws to promote equality between women and men and end discrimination against women” is supported by 49 percent of respondents in Argentina.** It is followed by “collect data to research the specific challenges and opportunities for women” (35 percent) and “implement mass media campaigns to raise awareness of the importance of gender equality issues” (35 percent).

¹ This country data sheet captures findings from a public perception survey on gender equality for Argentina. This work is co-led by Focus 2030 and Women Deliver. The survey was executed through an online poll, conducted by Deltapoll, in 17 countries. Approximately one thousand respondents in each country were surveyed in July/August 2020. Demographic data collected included: gender, age, income level, education level, last vote in national elections (where applicable), ethnicity (where applicable), migrant status, and region of residency. In Argentina, 1,002 respondents were surveyed, including 496 female respondents and 506 male respondents, and zero respondents who identified “in another way.” Of the 1,002 respondents, 175 were aged 18 to 24, 415 were aged 25 to 44, 254 were aged 45 to 59, and 158 were aged 60 and older. Please see www.focus2030.org and www.womendeliver.org for more information.

² Text in italics and quotes reflect survey response options presented to respondents.

- ➔ Regarding the “main reasons why women may not be equal to men in Argentina,” **“because women and men have different employment opportunities” is the most popular explanation** (49 percent of respondents). Also widely believed as important are “because unpaid care, domestic work, and parental responsibilities are not shared equally between women and men” (42 percent) and “because of religion and culture that do not treat women and men as equals” (42 percent). More female respondents (49 percent) indicated that an uneven distribution of unpaid care was a reason for inequality than male respondents (33 percent).



GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

- ➔ **Ending gender-based violence is ranked by respondents as the top issue the government of Argentina should focus on to improve equality between women and men in the country**, with 39 percent choosing “end violence against women” as their first priority. Seventy-six percent choose this as a top-three priority.
- ➔ **There is strong support (73 percent of respondents) in Argentina for government action to “increase accountability for physical and sexual crimes against women.”** Eighty percent of female respondents want to see this sort of increased accountability, compared to 65 percent of male respondents. A majority (52 percent) also support action to “fund programs to support women who have experienced violence.”
- ➔ Eighty-three percent of respondents in Argentina believe it is “unacceptable” “for women to always obey their partner,” and 69 percent think it is “acceptable” “for women to refuse sexual intercourse with their partner.” Eighty-seven percent consider it “unacceptable” “to whistle at a woman in the street or to touch a woman without her consent,” while 59 percent think “telling or sharing sexist jokes” is “unacceptable.”
- ➔ **Eighty-three percent of respondents in Argentina feel at risk, or know someone who feels at risk, of assault or harassment** in some place or another. Female respondents are more likely than male respondents to feel at risk, or know someone who feels at risk, in public places (69 percent, compared to 56 percent of male respondents). Notably, **82 percent of female respondents aged 18 to 24 report feeling at risk, or know someone who feels at risk, of assault or harassment in public spaces.**
- ➔ **Twenty-four percent have had their “freedom of movement restricted against their will by family members or a partner.”**



WOMEN’S ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND RIGHTS

- ➔ **Promoting women’s economic justice and rights is respondents’ second highest priority**, with 22 percent ranking “access to well paid jobs, equal pay, financial independence, and property rights” as the top priority for government action. Seventy-two percent choose this as a top-three priority.
- ➔ **The most supported action to improve women’s economic opportunities in Argentina is to “prevent violence and sexual harassment in the workplace” (58 percent of respondents).** Female respondents (62 percent) show stronger support for this action than male respondents (53 percent). The other two actions that reached over 40 percent support are “achieving equal pay for women and men” (48 percent) and

“guaranteeing social protection and working conditions for low-paid women”
(44 percent).

- ➔ **Twenty-seven percent of female respondents in Argentina report “not having the same access to promotion opportunities at work compared to male peers.”** Eighteen percent say they are *“not paid as much as male counterparts,”* and 10 percent have *“found it more difficult to access education and training than male peers.”*
- ➔ **Both male and female respondents in Argentina think it is “unacceptable” that “women earn less than men for the same work” (90 percent),** to *“let women do the majority of household, childcare, and elderly care”* (66 percent), or *“to ask a woman during a job interview whether she has, or would like to have, children”* (53 percent). In general, female respondents feel more strongly that these scenarios are *“unacceptable”* compared to male respondents.
- ➔ During the Covid-19 pandemic, 61 percent of female respondents in Argentina have spent more *“time doing household work”* than usual (56 percent of men declare the same). Thirty-two percent of female and male respondents have *“faced unexpected financial hardship”* during this time. Twenty-eight percent of female respondents report they *“could not do as many hours of work as they normally would”* (37 percent of men report the same).



BODILY AUTONOMY AND SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

- ➔ **Bodily autonomy and sexual and reproductive health and rights is ranked third,** with 15 percent of respondents ranking *“access to contraception and family planning, good maternal health, and sex education in schools”* as the top priority for government action. Fifty percent choose this as a top-three priority.
- ➔ **The most popular measures to improve women’s sexual and reproductive health and rights are to “increase access to accurate sexual education information including in schools” (58 percent) and “increase access to sexual health services” (46 percent).** These priorities are similarly supported by both female and male respondents in Argentina. Forty-one percent of respondents in Argentina also support *“increased access to contraception and family planning options.”*
- ➔ There is scope for improving women’s sexual and reproductive health in Argentina, as **17 percent of female respondents in Argentina have ever “had difficulty accessing their chosen method of contraception.”** This rises to **30 percent among female respondents aged 18 to 24.** Furthermore, seven percent have ever *“had difficulty accessing abortion or post-abortion care.”*
- ➔ **During the Covid-19 pandemic, seven percent of female respondents and three percent of male respondents in Argentina have “had difficulties accessing contraception and other sexual health services.”**



FEMINIST MOVEMENTS AND LEADERSHIP

- ➔ **Feminist movements and leadership is respondents' fourth priority overall**, with five percent ranking *"improve women's participation and leadership in politics, and cultural and social movements"* as the top priority. Thirty-one percent choose this as a top-three priority.
- ➔ Forty-one percent of respondents in Argentina want the government to *"achieve equal representation of women in politics,"* 38 percent want the government to *"support women's political leadership and participation,"* and the same proportion want the government to *"support women's participation in peace processes and as human rights defenders."*
- ➔ Thinking about gender quotas, **55 percent of respondents in Argentina "agree" that "having a proportion of seats for women in all political decision-making bodies is a good way to advance gender equality in Argentina."** Sixty-one percent of female respondents agree, compared to 50 percent of male respondents. Only 21 percent of respondents *"disagree"* that gender quotas are a good means to promote equality, while 21 percent *"neither agree nor disagree."*



TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FOR GENDER EQUALITY

- ➔ **Technology and innovation for gender equality is ranked fifth**, with five percent of respondents ranking *"invest in technology to improve women's access to health services, education, and economic opportunities"* as the top priority. Twenty-seven choose this as a top-three priority.
- ➔ Fifty-five percent of respondents in Argentina want the government to ***"increase the safety of digital spaces for girls and women (for example, preventing harassment or abuse online)."***
- ➔ Fifty-three percent want the government to take action to *"provide equal opportunities for girls and women to study and work in STEM."* Fifty-eight percent of female respondents in Argentina support this action, compared to 48 percent of male respondents.
- ➔ Only five percent of respondents in Argentina *"do not want their government to promote the use of technology and innovation for gender equality."*



FEMINIST ACTION FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

- ➔ **Feminist action for climate justice is the sixth most prioritized area** by respondents in Argentina, with four percent ranking *"promote women's participation in climate change action"* as the top priority. Sixteen percent choose this as a top-three priority.
- ➔ When asked which actions the Argentine government should take to promote women's efforts to respond to climate change, **53 percent of respondents in Argentina support policies to "promote the training and hiring of women in jobs related to climate change."** Forty-three percent want the government to *"increase girls' and women's*

participation in the development of solutions to tackle climate change,” and 41 percent support “increased funding for women-led organization that are working to fight climate change.”

- ➔ Only eight percent of respondents in Argentina “do not want their government to promote women’s efforts in response to climate change.”



FINANCING FOR GENDER EQUALITY

- ➔ There is support in Argentina for the government to increase its funding for gender equality. **Sixty-three percent of respondents “agree” that the government should increase its funding for gender equality in Argentina**, while ten percent “disagree.” Increased funding is supported by both female (68 percent) and male (58 percent) respondents.
- ➔ Moreover, **54 percent of respondents “agree” that the government should increase its funding for international projects and organizations fighting for gender equality around the world**. Female respondents support this more than male respondents (61 percent and 49 percent, respectively).
- ➔ Support for increased governmental funding for gender equality, both domestically and abroad, is higher among younger respondents, especially regarding international funding (60 percent of respondents aged 18 to 24, compared to 46 percent of those aged 60 and older).
- ➔ Many respondents in Argentina believe that gender equality is important in relation to solving poverty. **Forty-six percent of respondents in Argentina think that achieving gender equality is essential to end poverty** in all countries, compared to 21 percent who “disagree” with the statement.



WHAT ACTIONS ARE RESPONDENTS IN ARGENTINA WILLING TO TAKE?

- ➔ Many respondents in Argentina would be willing to take some sort of action to encourage policymakers to tackle gender equality around the world.
- ➔ Fifty-four percent of respondents in Argentina would be willing to “promote gender equality in conversations and interactions,” and 49 percent would “share information about gender equality on social media.”
- ➔ **Forty-one percent indicate that they would “vote in an election for a candidate supporting gender equality”** to encourage policymakers to tackle the issue.
- ➔ Furthermore, 19 percent would “take part in a demonstration” or “join a movement.” In particular, 41 percent of female respondents aged 18 to 24 in Argentina would be willing to promote gender equality in this way.



IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- ➡ In terms of the impact of Covid-19, female respondents in Argentina have been particularly affected in terms of both mental health and access to medicine. **Thirty-nine percent of female respondents say that they “have experienced emotional stress or mental health issues”** during this time (26 percent of male respondents). This experience is particularly concentrated among younger female respondents, as 48 percent of female respondents aged 18 to 24 and 45 percent of female respondents aged 25 to 44 report being impacted by Covid-19 in this way.
- ➡ Additionally, **35 percent of female respondents in Argentina report having “had difficulties accessing medical treatments, medicines, or health and hygiene supplies”** during this time.
- ➡ A large proportion of respondents in Argentina (71 percent) “agree” that the government’s response to support people through the pandemic has met the needs of women and men equally. **The majority of respondents (86 percent) also “agree” that women should be involved in all aspects of the recovery efforts to combat Covid-19.** And 21 percent expect to see inequality between women and men rise as a result of the pandemic.

This country data sheet is a supplement to Citizens Call for a Gender-Equal World: A Roadmap for Action, a global report on the findings from a 17-country public perception survey on gender equality. For the full report and all country data sheets, please visit: www.focus2030.org and <http://womendeliver.org/citizens-call-for-a-gender-equal-world/>.