

Paris Overall Score 45.4/100 | Overall Rank 12/50

Basic Facts

- 10.9 million population
- \$834 billion Gross Metro Product (2016)
- Top industries by employment are: automotive vehicle and motorcycle trade, public administration, administrative services and support activities

Notable Strengths

- Ranked in the top 15 overall, No. 13 for Markets and No. 2 in Talent, Paris can aspire to become one of the most attractive cities for women entrepreneurs in the next few years
- With a large local market (as measured by GMP) and one of the [highest percentages of women on boards of the highest capitalized, publicly traded companies in the European Union](#) (those listed on the CAC40 Index), women in Paris have significant market access
- 39 percent of all businesses in Paris had a woman involved in its creation, making the city not only a hub for businesswomen in general, but also for women entrepreneurs
- Thanks to a large number of universities, including 10 that are listed in the *U.S. News and World Report's* 2017 list of the [1000 Best Global Universities](#), the city attracts a large number of talented individuals
- Nearly 57 percent of women hold a post-secondary degree or higher, ranking it No. 4. Furthermore, women represent approximately two-fifths of enrollment among Paris' nine accredited MBA programs
- Another strength of Paris is a culture in which women are supported and protected to achieve their goals. Paris has also enacted policies to protect women who are active in the labor force
- Notably, a policy for equal remuneration for work of equal value has been in place since 1972 and a [2012 decree](#) increases sanctions on companies that don't respect it

- A [policy for nondiscrimination based on gender in hiring](#) has been in place since May 2008, and the 2014 [Gender Equality Law](#) provides incentives for men to take parental leave, encourages companies to respect gender equality principles and protects women from violence, among other things that expand the principle of gender parity
- The city also has numerous organizations and events that are dedicated to female entrepreneurs, including the "[Paris Pionnières](#)." The group provides counselling, mentors, a community of experts, leadership and empowerment training, subsidies and office space. The [Association for Female Entrepreneurs](#) organizes a network, hosts events, and publishes an e-magazine dedicated to women entrepreneurs

“Women represent 42 percent of the Cabinet and 38.4 percent of the local government.”

Areas for Improvement

- Paris ranks in the top half on every pillar and sub-category except Market Policy where it ranks No. 26 and Attitudes & Expectations (Culture) where it ranks No. 31
- Although Paris has several undeniably positive qualities, the city struggles with relatively slow growth and a lack of government goals for women-owned business procurement, to ensure equal opportunities in their supply chains, which is pulling down its rank
- Paris can also do better at highlighting women entrepreneurs and successful businesswomen in news articles and other media outlets