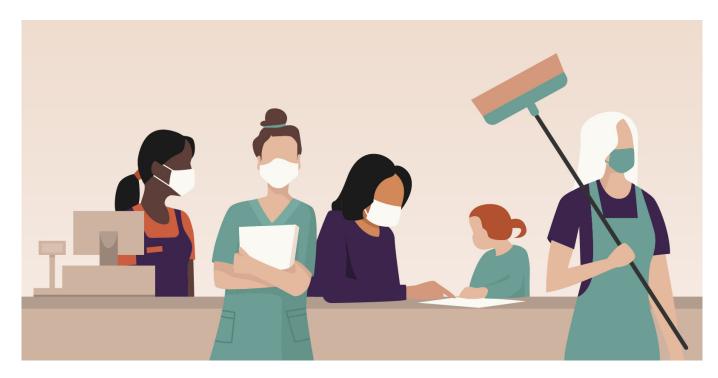# [Article – Understanding Covid-19's impact on women (infographics)](#)



A year after the coronavirus outbreak, the social and economic fallout could have a long-term impact on gender equality, threatening the progress made and potentially pushing an additional [47 million women and girls](#) below the poverty line worldwide.

Last year marked [the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the UN's Beijing Declaration](#) aimed at the advancement of women around the globe, but there is still a long way to go before gender equality is achieved. According to the European Institute for Gender Equality's Index 2020 *(based on data from 2018)*, the EU scores 67.9% on gender equality and is [at least 60 years away](#) from reaching complete equality at the current pace.

*Find out how the [European Parliament fights for gender equality](#)*

## More women on the Covid-19 frontline

Of the 49 million care workers in the EU, who have been most exposed to the virus, around [76% are women](#).

The biggest EU imbalance was in Latvia – with women making up 88% of the healthcare work force, compared to 53% in Malta).

In addition, women are over-represented in essential services ranging from sales to childcare places, which remained open during the pandemic. In the EU, women account for 82% of all cashiers and represent 95% of workers in domestic cleaning and home help fields.