

# Where are the women CEOs?

The progress of women to the top role in the world's largest publicly listed companies has been slow since the appointment of the first woman CEO of a Fortune 500 company, in 1963. After six decades, there are still only 6% around the world.

**Only 6% of CEOs** leading some of the worlds' largest publicly listed companies **are women.**



**+1%**

And that counts for 1% increase compared to 2020. It's the highest since we started tracking in 2018.

There are significant differences among markets...

Countries with the **highest %** of women CEOs



US: **12%**



Ireland: **14%**



Singapore: **11%**

Countries with the **lowest %** of women CEOs



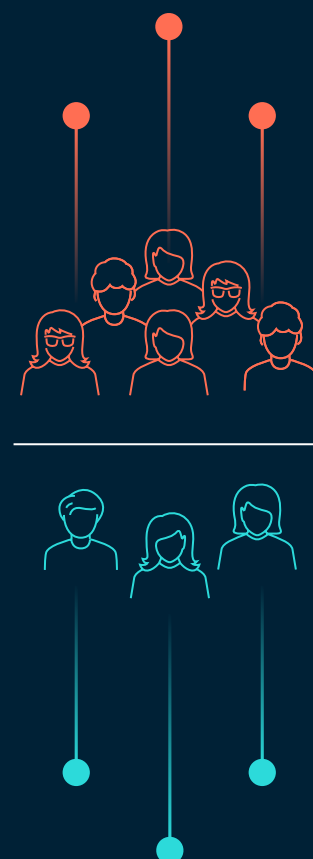
Canada, Italy, Mexico had no women CEOs

...and similar gaps among sectors

Sectors with the **highest %** of women CEOs



Sectors with the **lowest %** of women CEOs



To explore our full report on global CEOs go to [heidrick.com/routetothetop2021](https://heidrick.com/routetothetop2021)

Source: Heidrick & Struggles' Route to the Top 2021, Sample: largest publicly-listed companies in 24 markets: Australia and New Zealand, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Portugal, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States