

Summary

Essity UK Ltd is required by law to publish an annual gender pay gap report. The data is based on a snapshot as of 5th April 2024. **The results show a negative gender pay gap meaning that on average women's gross hourly earnings are higher than those of men. This is due to the demographics of the workforce, with a high proportion of women in senior management and professional roles.**

The report that follows shows the difference between the average earnings of men and women, expressed relative to men's earnings. There are six different measures to report on, based on a snapshot of pay data on a set date (5 April 2024) set out by the Government Equalities office:

- **Median gender pay gap:** the difference between the *median hourly rate* of pay of male full pay relevant employees and that of female full-pay relevant employees
- **Mean gender pay gap:** the difference between the *mean hourly rate* of pay of male full-pay relevant employees and that of female full-pay relevant employees
- **Median bonus gap:** the difference between the *median bonus pay* paid to male employees and that paid to female relevant employees
- **Mean bonus gap:** the difference between the mean bonus pay paid to male employees and that paid to female relevant employees
- **Bonus proportions:** the proportions of male and female relevant employees who were paid bonus pay during the relevant period
- **Quartile pay bands:** the proportions of male and female full-pay relevant employees in the lower, lower-middle, upper-middle and upper quartile pay bands.
- **Calculating the mean:** If we add together all the hourly pay rates that women earn, divided by the number of women in Essity UK Ltd, and then compare that with the same calculation for men, we get the mean gender pay gap.
- **Calculating the median:** If we rank all of our employees by their hourly pay rate, and then compare what the woman in the middle of the female pay range received with what the man in the middle of the male pay range received, we get the median gender pay gap.

Essity UK Ltd is committed to the principles of equal opportunity and treatment for all employees and has clear policies on this matter, including Essity's Code of Conduct. Various audits are undertaken and we are confident that the gender pay gaps do not stem from paying men and women differently for the same or equivalent work.

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This is Essity UK Ltd.'s report for the snapshot date of 5 April 2024:

Gender Hourly Rate

	Men	Women	% Difference
Mean	£ 24.62	£ 29.23	-18.7%
Median	£ 20.39	£ 24.45	-19.9%

Gender Bonus Gap

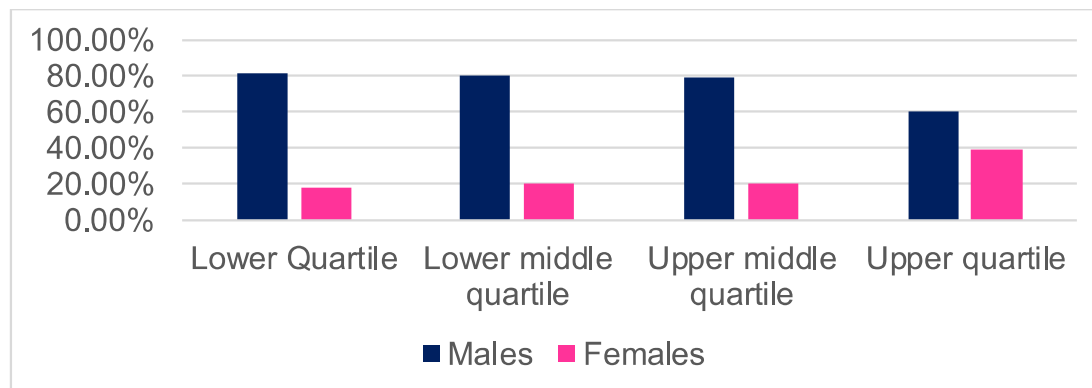
	Men	Women	% Difference
Mean	£3,182.57	£5,046.88	-58.6%
Median	£977.50	£1,694.01	-73.3%

Bonus Proportions

	Men	Women
Number receiving bonus	912	294
Proportion receiving bonus	97%	96%

Proportion of Men and Women Pay quartile pay bands

	Lower	Lower Middle	Upper Middle	Upper	Head Count Total
	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	
Men	250 82%	242 80%	238 79%	183 61%	947 75%
Women	53 18%	61 20%	64 21%	119 39%	319 25%



The figures set out above have been calculated using the standard methodologies used in the Equality Act 2010 (Gender Pay Gap Information) Regulations 2017. The results show a negative gender pay gap meaning that on average women's gross hourly earnings are higher than those of men.

What are the underlying causes of Essity UK Ltd.'s gender pay gap?

Essity UK Ltd is committed to the principle of equal opportunities and equal treatment for all employees, regardless of sex, race, religion or belief, age, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy/maternity, sexual orientation, gender reassignment or disability. Essity has a Code of Conduct that includes a policy of paying employees equally for the same or equivalent work, regardless of their gender (or any other characteristic set out above). As such, it:

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- carries out pay and benefits audits annually;
- evaluates job roles and pay grades as necessary to ensure a fair structure;
- gives specific commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion in the workplace

Essity UK Ltd is therefore confident that its gender pay gap does not stem from paying men and women differently for the same or equivalent work. Rather its gender pay gap is the result of the roles in which men and women work within the organisation and the salaries that these roles attract.

Across the UK economy, men are more likely to be in senior roles, while women are more likely to be in administrative front-line roles at the lower end of the organisation. In addition, men are more likely to be in technical and IT-related roles, which attract higher rates of pay than other roles at similar levels of seniority. Women are also more likely than men to have had breaks from work that have affected their career progression, for example to bring up children. They are also more likely to work part time.

Unlike the UK economy, the make-up of Essity UK's workforce has mainly men in operative roles within the manufacturing operation which dominate the lower pay quartiles, while a high proportion of women are in senior management and professional roles.

This can be seen above in the table depicting pay quartiles by gender. This shows Essity UK Ltd.'s workforce divided into four equal-sized groups based on hourly pay rates, with Band A including the lowest paid 25% of employees (the lower quartile) and Band D covering the highest paid 25% (the upper quartile). For there to be no gender pay gap, there would need to be an equal ratio of men to women in each Band. Within Essity UK Ltd, whilst men are the majority, they are more evenly spread across the quartiles. However, most women (39%) fall into the highest paid quartile and the trend continues to follow increase in the upper quartile roles and a decrease in women in lower quartile roles. By comparison, we have seen a decrease in numbers of males in upper middle and upper quartile roles and an increase in numbers into the lower quartile roles.

Post Covid, centralised roles that would have been based in European Head Offices can now be undertaken remotely therefore Essity has seen an increase in the number of these positions in the UK. Similarly given Essity's global approach to efficient ways of working and the increase in Cyber Security, IT roles within this job family have increased in the last 12 months. **How does Essity UK Ltd.'s gender pay gap compare with other organisations?**

The vast majority of organisations have a gender pay gap and it is possible for an organisation to have a negative gender pay gap, meaning that women earn more than men on average, but this is not common. In the manufacturing industry for example, where fewer women are employed, a small number of highly paid women among a majority male workforce produces a negative gender pay gap. This is also the case in some construction and mining companies.

The mean gender pay gap for all employees across the whole economy (according to the April 2024 Office for National Statistics (ONS) Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) figures) is 7.7%, the mean gender pay gap within manufacturing is currently 15.9%. At -13.83%, Essity UK Ltd.'s mean gender pay gap is significantly lower than the whole economy.

The median gender pay gap for all employees across the whole economy (according to the April 2024 ONS ASHE figures) is 14.3%, while in the manufacturing sector it is 16.7%. At -20.71%, Essity UK Ltd.'s median gender pay gap shows that the average hourly rate for women is higher as a proportion of the hourly rate for men.

	Essity UK Ltd	2024 ONS ASHE all employees	2024 ONS ASHE Manufacturing sector
Mean Gender Pay Gap	-13.83%	7.7%	15.9%
Median Gender Pay Gap	-20.71%	14.3%	16.7%

The mean gender bonus gap for Essity UK Ltd is 31.6%. All employees are eligible to participate in a bonus scheme. The bonus scheme runs January – December and to qualify employees must be employed before 1st October and remain employed until 31st December. Bonus scheme frameworks are driven at a global level, while they will differ across business areas but are consistent for all employees. What differs with seniority is the percentage of base salary that can be achieved. For goal achievement 2022, with payout in April 2024, the outcome varied across business areas, which also reflects in the gender bonus pay gap.

The proportion of men at Essity UK Ltd who received a bonus in the twelve months up to 5 April 2024 was 96% while for women this was 92%.

What is Essity UK Ltd doing to address its gender pay gap?

Recruitment

Essity UK Ltd.'s gender pay gap compares favorably with that of organisations both across the whole UK economy and within manufacturing sector. Essity UK Ltd remains committed to reduce the negative gap. However, we also recognise that its scope to act is limited in some areas, for example, encouraging women to Manufacturing/Engineering is a challenge throughout the industry. Essity has an Apprenticeship scheme that encourages applications from female students, as well as a Graduate programme. Essity UK Ltd continues to work with schools and colleges supporting females wishing to pursue a career within the industry.

33% of Essity UK Ltd.'s Country Management Team is female, this has increased from 25% in 2021. Coupled with women in senior professional positions, this has skewed the figures into a negative gap. This could be considered a positive picture in comparison to the UK economy. For Essity UK Ltd to achieve a balanced outcome and for comparable average pay, women need to be encouraged into the manufacturing environment and further senior leadership positions.

Culture

We want to build an inclusive culture at Essity, where employees feel valued and supported.

- Our learning and development portal is accessible to all our employees, ensuring that investment in progression is available to all and allows people to make time for training when it suits them best.
- We have several groups in place to maintain momentum towards our gender equity commitments, including our Diversity Equity & Inclusion Advisory Group
- Essity UK has introduced a Carer's policy since the last Gender Pay Gap report, enabling employees with caring responsibilities to take extended paid leave.
- Essity are committed to promoting agile and flexible working, giving employees more control and flexibility to create a tailored work balance which works for them.
- Essity continues to benchmark all roles both internally and externally to remain competitive within the market.

Essity UK Ltd continues its commitment to reporting on an annual basis on what it is doing to reduce the gender pay gap and on progress made.

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I, Louisa Oliveira, HR Director UK & Republic of Ireland confirm that the information in this statement is accurate.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Louisa Oliveira'.

Date: 1st April 2024