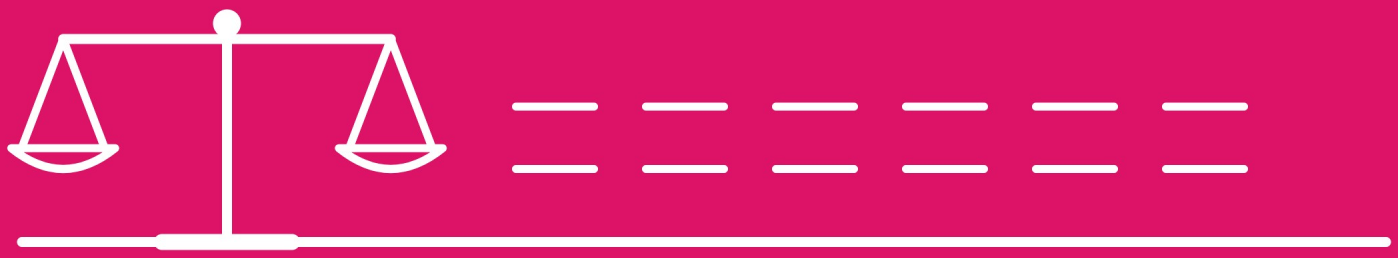
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

الحد من أوجه عدم المساواة



FINAL REPORT 2024/2025

PREPARED BY
Prof. Dr. Zainab Otiefy

REVISED BY
International Ranking Office

SDG 10 · 2024/2025

CONTENTS

10.2	First-generation students	03
10.3–10.4	International students and students with disabilities	04
10.5	Employees with disabilities	05
10.6.1–2	Non-discriminatory admissions and tracking	05
10.6.3	Recruiting underrepresented groups and Law No. 10 of 2018	07
10.6.4–5	Combating discrimination and responsible bodies	09
10.6.6	Mentoring and support programmes	12
10.6.7–10	Accessibility, support services and accommodations	14
10.6.11	Combating harassment	17

2024/2025 AT A GLANCE

52.1%
Of new students are first-generation (12,096)

2,358
International students from developing countries

1,256
Students with disabilities

876
Employees with disabilities (3.14%)

1,279
Visits to the complaints webpage

122
Activities by the Center for Students with Disabilities

400
Students given personal assistance in exams

58
Deaf students supported by a sign-language interpreter

2,946
Participants in 72 counselling courses

10.2

FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS

Assiut University is committed to equal opportunities in higher education and to access for students from diverse social and economic backgrounds, supporting social mobility and reducing inequalities in access to education. Monitoring how many students enrol for the first time, and the share of them who are first-generation students, is an important indicator of the University's contribution to widening access for groups that may face social or economic challenges. During 2024/2025, the figures were as follows:

CODE	STATEMENT	STUDENTS
10.2.1	Number of students who began a degree	23,217
10.2.2	Number of first-generation students who began a degree	12,096
10.2.3	Total number of students	105,782
	Percentage of first-generation students among students who began a degree	52.1%
	Percentage of first-year students in the total student body	21.95%
	Percentage of first-generation new students in the total student body	11.4%

FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS AMONG THOSE WHO BEGAN A DEGREE



52.1% of the 23,217 students who began a degree are first-generation (12,096)

52.1%
Of new students are first-generation

21.95%
Of all students are in their first year

11.4%
Of all students are first-generation new students

First-generation students make up more than half of those starting their university journey, reflecting the University's crucial role in providing higher education to diverse social groups and promoting equal educational opportunities, which reduces disparities linked to families' educational backgrounds. Against the total student body of 105,782, first-generation students who began their studies represent about 11.4%.

10.3

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Assiut University promotes international diversity in its academic community and offers higher education to international students from different countries, supporting cultural and scientific exchange and academic cooperation between Egypt and other countries, particularly developing countries. The International Students Care Unit coordinates with the relevant departments, prepares statistics on numbers and nationalities, and follows up admission, enrolment, and registration.

INDICATOR	DESCRIPTION	NUMBER
10.3.1 Total number of students	Students enrolled at Assiut University in 2024/2025	105,782
10.3.2 International students from developing countries	International students from countries classified as developing under the adopted reference framework	2,358

2.23% of all students are international students from developing countries 2,358 of 105,782

RELATED LINKS

→ International Students Care Unit

10.4

PROPORTION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Assiut University is committed to equal opportunities and an inclusive learning environment that enables students with disabilities to access higher education, continue their studies, and take part in academic and student activities.

INDICATOR	DESCRIPTION	NUMBER
10.4.1 Total number of students	Students enrolled at Assiut University in 2024/2025	105,782
10.4.2 Number of students with disabilities	Students with disabilities enrolled in 2024/2025	1,256

1.19% of all students are students with disabilities 1,256 of 105,782

10.5

PROPORTION OF EMPLOYEES WITH DISABILITIES

Assiut University promotes equal opportunities and non-discrimination at work, supporting the employment and inclusion of persons with disabilities across its administrative, academic, and service sectors. Monitoring the number of employees with disabilities helps track workforce diversity, identify accessibility needs, and provide accommodations that let employees do their jobs and take part fully in institutional life.

27,860	876	3.14%
10.5.1 · Total number of employees	10.5.2 · Employees with disabilities	Of the workforce

3.14% of the University's workforce are employees with disabilities 876 of 27,860

10.6

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION MEASURES

10.6.1 NON-DISCRIMINATORY ADMISSIONS POLICY

Assiut University applies admission rules according to approved academic criteria and regulations, limiting unjustified discrimination between applicants and ensuring that educational opportunities rest on objective, publicly stated grounds. It has published its Policies on Safeguarding Student Rights and Preventing Discrimination on its website, covering the protection of students' rights, equality and non-discrimination, and fair admission and access to educational services. They also set out how the University supports students with disabilities and provides appropriate accommodations, and a separate published document covers policies for students with disabilities and special needs.

RELATED LINKS

→ Policies on Safeguarding Student Rights and Preventing Discrimination

→ Policies relating to students with disabilities and special needs

10.6.2 MEASURING AND TRACKING APPLICATIONS AND UNDERREPRESENTED STUDENT GROUPS

Data on applicants and admitted students are monitored through administrative records and statistics prepared by the departments responsible for education and student affairs, making it possible to track enrolment across faculties and programmes.

WHERE THE DATA COME FROM

- **Education and Student Affairs Sector**
- **Faculty student-affairs administrations**
- **General Administration for Student Welfare**
- **Center for Students with Disabilities**

These data support students with disabilities, social assistance, and equal opportunities, and help identify the needs of particular groups and the right forms of support. To strengthen equal access, the numbers of applicants, admitted students, and enrolled students are compared for groups that may face barriers to higher education:

Low income
Students from low-income backgrounds

Disability
Students with disabilities

Women
Female students

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Several entities support and care for students with disabilities, led by the Center for Students with Disabilities, working with the General Administration for Student Welfare, the Education and Student Affairs Sector, the faculties, and the social-welfare departments and university cities. Together they provide academic, social, and health support, develop students' skills, open up student activities, and promote inclusion, helping to create a more inclusive university environment.

RELATED LINKS

→ Center for Students with Disabilities

10.6.3 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR RECRUITING UNDERREPRESENTED STUDENTS, EMPLOYEES, AND FACULTY MEMBERS

Assiut University adopts the principles of equal opportunity, equality, and non-discrimination and implements Law No. 10 of 2018 on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. These commitments are reflected in its Policies on Safeguarding Student Rights and Preventing Discrimination: fair admission rules, the accommodations required by students with disabilities, and an active Equal Opportunities Unit that combats discrimination and unequal treatment on the basis of sex, race, religion, nationality, disability, and other factors. Recruitment follows the approved rules and standards.

LAW NO. 10 OF 2018 ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

ARTICLE 10 · THE RIGHT TO INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

The ministries responsible for education, technical education, higher education, scientific research, Al-Azhar education, and other sectors must ensure that persons with disabilities, and their children without disabilities, have access to inclusive education in schools, classes, universities, and institutes near where they live, taking account of the type and degree of disability and meeting quality, safety, security, and protection standards.

ARTICLE 11 · EQUALITY AND EDUCATIONAL INCLUSION

Public and private educational institutions must apply equality between persons with disabilities and others, follow inclusion policies, and provide fair educational opportunities suited to each type and degree of disability. Disability concepts, rights, and needs are to be built into curricula, and no one may be denied education or admission because of disability.

ARTICLE 12 · ADMISSION QUOTA IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Admission of persons with disabilities must be at least 5% of those admitted to public and private educational institutions when applicants with disabilities exceed that share; the Executive Regulations set the conditions and procedures.

RELATED LINKS

→ Law No. 10 of 2018 on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
→ Policies on Safeguarding Student Rights and Preventing Discrimination
→ Equal Opportunities Unit

10.6.3

LAW NO. 10 OF 2018 (CONTINUED) AND EMPLOYMENT PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 15 · HIGHER EDUCATION AND UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION

The Ministry of Higher Education and its institutions must guarantee the right of persons with disabilities to higher and postgraduate education and allocate at least 10% of university accommodation to them when applicants with disabilities exceed that share. Reasonable accommodation, including distance learning, is required, and rules that obstruct these rights are prohibited.

ARTICLE 16 · ACCESS TO UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

The Ministry must plan programmes enabling persons with disabilities to enrol in universities, faculties, departments, and institutes open to others, with equal opportunities in public and private institutions, removal of barriers, suitable communication tools and technologies, and support programmes for different disabilities, in line with accessible building codes.

ARTICLE 17 · COORDINATION FOR IMPLEMENTATION

A higher committee within the Ministry of Higher Education, including government bodies, persons with disabilities, experts, and civil-society organisations, coordinates implementation of the Law across government.

EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

5%

Minimum share of persons with disabilities in the workforce, Law No. 10 of 2018, Article 22

Article 5

Labour Law No. 14 of 2025: no discrimination on the basis of disability in training, job advertisements, recruitment, or employment conditions

Article 22 applies to governmental and non-governmental entities and employers with 20 or more employees. Article 5 of Labour Law No. 14 of 2025 also calls for policies and plans to integrate persons with disabilities into the labour market.

10.6.4 INSTITUTIONAL POLICY TO COMBAT DISCRIMINATION AT THE UNIVERSITY

Assiut University adopts institutional policies and procedures to combat discrimination and promote equality and equal opportunities across the university community. These are supported by its Policies on Safeguarding Student Rights and Preventing Discrimination, the Equal Opportunities Unit within the Quality and Excellence Administration, and mechanisms for receiving discrimination or rights complaints and handling them fairly.

Policies on safeguarding student rights

Published rules on equality, non-discrimination and fair access.

Equal Opportunities Unit

Within the Quality and Excellence Administration.

Electronic complaints mechanism

Complaints submitted online, with status enquiries on the website.

Awareness and inclusion

Human-rights awareness and support for students with disabilities.

1,279 Visits to the complaints webpage during the 2024/2025 academic year.

The University's efforts also include raising awareness of human rights and equality, supporting the participation of students with disabilities, and promoting a university environment based on justice and respect for rights.

RELATED LINKS

→ Policies on Safeguarding Student Rights and Preventing Discrimination
→ Equal Opportunities Unit
→ Electronic complaints mechanism

10.6.5 INSTITUTIONAL BODIES RESPONSIBLE FOR DIVERSITY, EQUALITY, EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES, INCLUSION, AND HUMAN RIGHTS

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES UNIT

The Equal Opportunities Unit, part of the Quality and Excellence Administration, promotes diversity, equality, and inclusion and builds a culture of equal opportunity and non-discrimination. It raises awareness of human rights and equality, supports the empowerment of women and persons with disabilities, helps develop policies and procedures that promote justice and non-discrimination, and provides mechanisms for receiving complaints about violations of equal opportunities and supporting those affected.

Seminar on the National Human Rights Strategy 2021–2026 · 27 December 2024

Held with the Human Rights and Equal Opportunities Unit at the Ministry of Finance and the National Council for Human Rights. It covered fundamental rights and how to protect the groups most vulnerable to marginalisation, strengthening awareness of human rights, equality, and inclusion.

CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS STUDIES AND RESEARCH

The Center conducts specialised studies and research in human rights, focusing on the rights of women and children, and field research with government bodies and University research centres. It designs and delivers human-rights training for university employees, government bodies, and students, organises seminars and conferences, and contributes to related curricula. In 2024/2025, its key activities included:

- The initiative “Towards More Supportive Attitudes toward Women”.
- “Five Minutes to Promote a Culture of Human Rights”.
- Awareness-raising activities on the rights of women and persons with disabilities.

Beneficiaries included students from different faculties, administrative employees, financial and accounting staff at the University and its hospitals, and participants from outside institutions. The total number of beneficiaries was not specified in the available text.

RELATED LINKS

→ Equal Opportunities Unit
→ National Human Rights Strategy seminar (news)
→ Center for Human Rights Studies and Research

10.6.5

RESPONSIBLE BODIES (CONTINUED)

ANTI-VIOLENCE AND ANTI-DISCRIMINATION UNIT

The Unit helps prevent all forms of violence, harassment, and discrimination against women in the university community by raising awareness of rights and protection mechanisms, providing safe channels for complaints, offering legal, psychological, and social support, and promoting a safe environment based on equality, dignity, and equal opportunities. It worked with the National Council for Women, the United Nations Population Fund, USAID, and the University's Social Solidarity Unit. Key activities:

1. The annual meeting of university units combating violence and discrimination against women in Egyptian universities.
2. Workshops on activating units combating violence against women in light of the National Strategy for the Empowerment of Women 2030.
3. Seminars and awareness-raising visits under the initiative “Towards More Supportive Attitudes toward Women”.
4. An introductory day on the Women's Economic and Social Empowerment Program during the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.

CENTER FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

122
Activities, October 2024 to April 2025

During 2024/2025, the Center ran awareness-raising and training activities to promote the rights of persons with disabilities, encourage acceptance of differences, reduce discriminatory practices, and support inclusion within the university community.

RELATED LINKS

→ The Anti-Violence and Anti-Discrimination Unit
→ Center for Students with Disabilities

10.6.6 MENTORING, GUIDANCE, PSYCHOLOGICAL, SOCIAL, AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT PROGRAMMES FOR UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS

Assiut University provides mentoring, guidance, psychological, social, and academic support through specialised units and centres: psychological consultations, help with academic and social pressures, monitoring of academic achievement, and inclusion of students with disabilities in university life.

Student Research and Social and Psychological Care Unit

Organises awareness activities on psychological and social challenges. In May 2025 it held a seminar, "A Psychopedagogical Perspective on Methods of Dealing with Secondary-School Students", to support young people's mental health and develop the skills of psychological specialists.

Center for Students with Disabilities

Supports inclusion through training, life skills, sports, arts, and education. In November 2024 it reported 99 activities in 2024/2025: sports, arts, theatre, visual arts, English, Photoshop, graphic design, life skills, and orientation and mobility training for students with visual impairments. On 7 December 2024 it held a sports day under the "Empowerment" initiative and prepared for the Egyptian Universities Paralympics. A report on 16 April 2025 counted about 122 activities since October 2024, including digital-transformation programmes for students with visual impairments, the "Digital Footprint" initiative, and sports and arts competitions.

Psychological and Educational Counseling Center, Faculty of Education

Provides psychological, educational, and social counselling, family and youth counselling, career guidance, and training for psychological and social specialists, teachers, and researchers.

99
Activities reported in November 2024

122
Activities, October 2024 to April 2025

72 · 2,946
Counselling Center courses and participants

RELATED LINKS

→ Psychopedagogical seminar (news)
→ Center for Students with Disabilities
→ Psychological and Educational Counseling Center, Faculty of Education

10.6.6

ACADEMIC ADVISING IN UNIVERSITY FACULTIES

Faculties assign academic advisers who explain study regulations and systems, help with course selection and graduation planning, monitor progress, identify difficulties, and guide students to improve, while supporting high achievers and referring students to specialised services when needed. Academic advising generally follows these steps:

1. **Assigning students to academic advisers**
   Each faculty assigns an adviser to an individual student or group of students and publishes advisers' names and contact details.

2. **Introducing students to the study system**
   New students receive information about academic regulations, examination systems, graduation requirements, and faculty services.

3. **Monitoring registration and study plans**
   Advisers help students select and register for courses and check that choices fit the study plan and graduation requirements.

4. **Regularly monitoring academic performance**
   Advisers review achievement and results, discuss difficulties, and recommend steps to improve performance.

5. **Supporting struggling and high-achieving students**
   Advisers help students with academic difficulties and follow their progress, while encouraging high-achieving and talented students.

6. **Referring students to specialised support**
   When needed, students are referred to psychological or social support units or to disability-support services.

7. **Documentation and evaluation**
   In faculties that apply these procedures, meetings, recommendations, and follow-up are documented, with periodic reports on advising and student performance.

Faculties also publish academic-advising guides on their official websites.

RELATED LINKS

→ Academic-advising guide (Faculty of Agriculture example)

10.6.7 ACCESSIBILITY OF FACILITIES, SERVICES, AND EQUIPMENT FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Assiut University provides support services and equipment to help students with disabilities reach educational and university services: assistive technologies for students with hearing and physical disabilities, text-to-speech devices and software, recording and communication equipment, and accessibility features in university accommodation. The Center for Students with Disabilities works with faculties to identify needs, assess building accessibility, and provide tools such as screen readers, Braille learning materials, and text converted to audio. Ramps and suitable passageways help wheelchair users and people with mobility disabilities reach buildings across the faculties.

Assistive equipment from AMIDEAST · 15 December 2024

The Center received about 26 devices and 7 software programs, expected to benefit about 70 students. The disability accommodation wing in the University Cities was also developed, with a sloped access path and suitable facilities.

26
Assistive devices

7
Software programs

~70
Students benefiting

RELATED LINKS

→ Assistive equipment from AMIDEAST (news)

10.6.8 SUPPORT SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, INCLUDING PERSONAL ASSISTANTS AND SIGN-LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS

Through the Center for Students with Disabilities, the University provides personal assistance during coursework and examinations according to each student's needs and disability, helping students overcome difficulties and access education on an equal basis. It also provides sign-language interpretation so that students with hearing disabilities can communicate and take part in university activities and services.

350
Undergraduates with personal assistance

50
Postgraduates with personal assistance

58
Deaf students with a sign-language interpreter, 2024 presidential elections

RELATED LINKS

→ Personal assistance and sign-language support (news)

10.6.9 INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMMES AND MEASURES TO FACILITATE ACCESS TO UNIVERSITY EDUCATION AND SERVICES

Assiut University facilitates access to education and services for students with disabilities through policies that support equal opportunities and through the Center for Students with Disabilities, which coordinates educational accommodations and support with faculties and departments. The principal measures are:

Admission and enrolment

The policy on safeguarding student rights and preventing discrimination facilitates the admission and enrolment of students with disabilities and prevents their exclusion, with accommodations during application and examinations, in line with Law No. 10 of 2018.

Educational accommodations

The Center works with faculties on accommodations for teaching and exams and provides Braille materials, screen-reader software, text-to-audio conversion, magnifiers, and recording devices.

Financial and social support

Students with disabilities are exempted from tuition, university accommodation, and sports activity fees, according to the University's report for the first semester of 2024/2025.

Assistive equipment and accessibility

Mobility aids, help during coursework and exams, and coordination with faculties to improve access to buildings and facilities.

Training and extracurricular activities

Events and sports days, arts and music, singing, theatre and visual arts, and digital, professional, and life-skills training, including English, Photoshop, graphic design, and orientation and mobility for students with visual impairments: about 122 activities in the year.

These efforts reflect the University's commitment to a supportive environment that develops the capabilities of students with disabilities and promotes their academic and social inclusion.

RELATED LINKS

→ Report on support for students with disabilities, first semester 2024/2025 (news)

→ Policy on safeguarding student rights and preventing discrimination

10.6.10 POLICY AND STRATEGY FOR REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS AND THE NECESSARY FINANCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES

Assiut University's policies and procedures safeguard the rights of students with disabilities and provide accommodations that let them enrol and benefit from educational and student services on the basis of equal opportunity and non-discrimination. This is reflected in the policy on safeguarding student rights and preventing discrimination, and in the Center for Students with Disabilities' role in coordinating services and accommodations with faculties and administrative departments.

WHAT THE UNIVERSITY PROVIDES

- **Assistive technologies and devices**
- **Accessible educational materials**
- **Examination accommodations**
- **Training programmes**
- **Sports, arts and cultural activities**
- **Social-support services**

The equipment and programmes provided by the Center show that implementation mechanisms and material and human resources are in place to support students with disabilities and their participation in university life.

Financial resources: sustaining these efforts requires appropriate budget allocations to meet students' needs, develop equipment and accessibility tools, and run support and training programmes. Financial support is reflected in the budget, as documented in the detailed report of the Ministry of Higher Education.

RELATED LINKS

→ Policy on safeguarding student rights and preventing discrimination
→ The Center for Students with Disabilities

10.6.11 INSTITUTIONAL POLICY TO COMBAT HARASSMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY

Assiut University provides a safe environment based on respect, equality, and the dignity of all members of the university community. It established an Anti-Harassment Unit, now the Anti-Violence and Anti-Discrimination Unit within the Center for Human Rights Studies and Research, as a specialised mechanism for receiving and addressing complaints, raising awareness of rights, and preventing harassment, violence, and discrimination. Its work rests on two complementary approaches:

Prevention and awareness-raising

Seminars, workshops, and educational programmes for students and employees promote mutual respect, explain the risks and consequences of harassment, and show how to prevent and address it.

Receiving and addressing complaints

Formal and informal mechanisms handle complaints with confidentiality and privacy. Legal, psychological, and medical advice and support may be provided, and action is taken under the applicable legal and administrative regulations.

ACTIVITIES IN 2024/2025

With the Center for Human Rights Studies and Research, the Anti-Violence and Anti-Discrimination Unit, and the Social Solidarity Unit, the University ran awareness activities against harassment, violence, and discrimination against women and on women's rights and protection mechanisms:

- An introductory event at the Faculty of Agriculture during the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, covering bullying, cyberviolence, family violence, and domestic violence, alongside awareness, cultural, and sports activities.
- Seminars and awareness visits on campus under “Towards More Supportive Attitudes toward Women”, held with the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and the 16 Days of Activism campaign.

These activities raise awareness of the risks of harassment and violence, explain prevention and how to seek help, and promote a safe environment based on mutual respect and non-discrimination.

RELATED LINKS

→ Receiving and addressing complaints

10

REDUCED INEQUALITIES

الحد من أوجه عدم المساواة



International Ranking Office, Assiut University
Administrative Building, First Floor, Suite (B) · Postal code 71515
Internal tel. 5345 · auiro@aun.edu.eg
جامعة أسيوط – المبنى الإداري – الطابق الأول – جناح (ب)