

Progress Toward Gender Equality in Research & Innovation — 2024 Review

An in-depth analysis of research participation, career progression and research contributions across the globe.

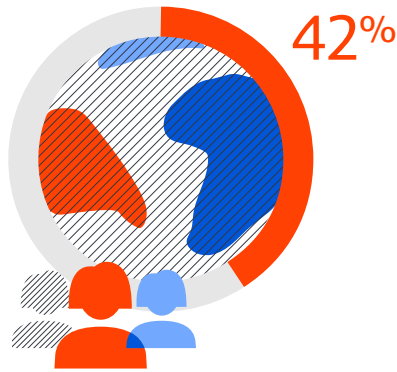
Elsevier's comprehensive analytics report provides a significant new evidence base exploring the contributions made by women researchers across two decades and 20 countries and regions.

FOCUS ON THE 27 EU COUNTRIES

Representation

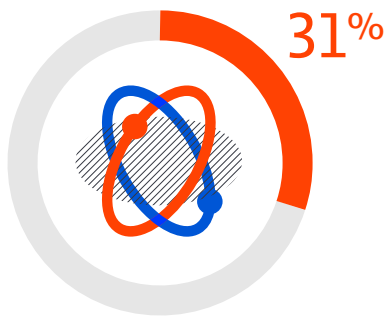
Women's research participation is on the rise

Women make up 42% of all active researchers in the EU.



Physical Sciences

Representation of women is 31%.



Varying across disciplines

Early-career women researchers participate to an almost equal extent to men when looking at all disciplines of research, but this declines when looking at senior cohorts and STEM subjects.

STEM disciplines

In STEM disciplines, women's representation in the early-career cohorts is 42%. However it falls to 28% for advanced-career. In both cases the percentages are above the World average for STEM disciplines.



EARLY-CAREER — 42%



ADVANCED-CAREER — 28%

Progress towards parity

In STEM fields, women's representation is still well below parity.

ENERGY

26%

COMPUTER SCIENCE

25%

ENGINEERING

23%

PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY

23%

MATHEMATICS

21%

Citation

Women more likely to be quoted outside of the academic world

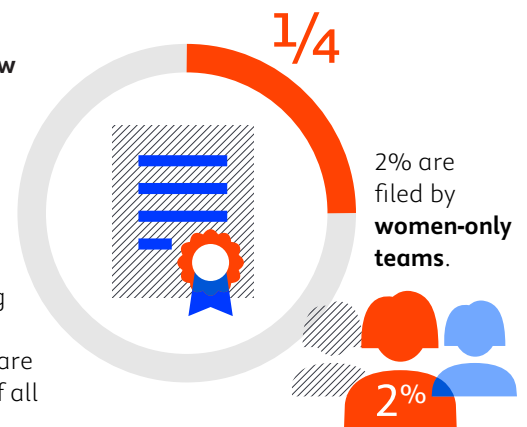
Women's progress is especially marked when assessed using indicators around societal impact, with their research more likely than men's to be cited in policy documents and media.



Patents

Patents remain low for women

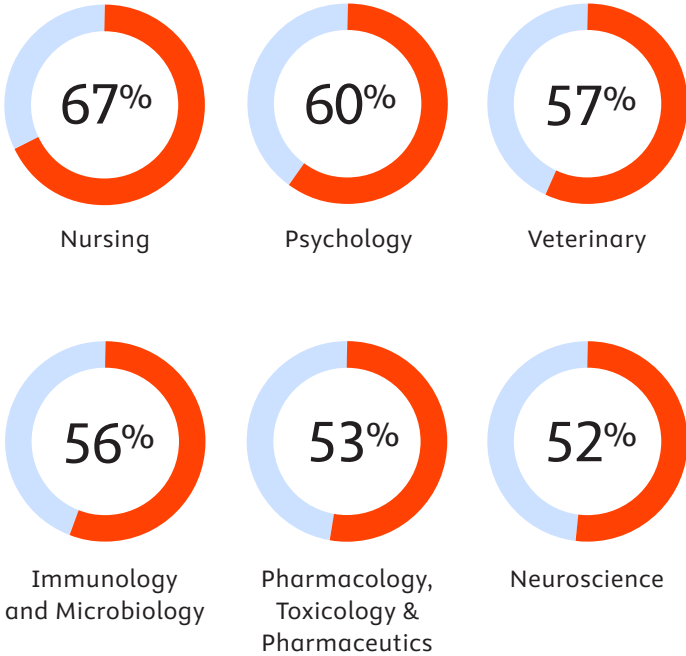
Translation of research into innovation is lower for women, with 3/4 of patent applications being filed by men-only teams — women are involved in 24% of all patent filings.



Research Fields

Women strong in health disciplines

Women very well represented across Health Sciences.



“I believe this report could be a valuable tool in driving change, promoting gender equity in research, and ensuring that diverse perspectives are included in innovation systems.”

— Elizabeth Pollitzer PhD
Co-founder and Director of Portia,
founder of the Gender Summits

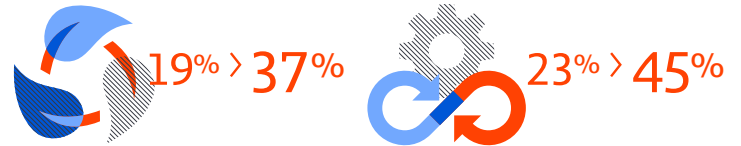
UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Women’s research impact strong in UN SDG areas

Women comprise the majority of active researchers working on some United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, including Good Health (SDG 3), Education (SDG 4), Gender Equality (SDG 5), Reduce Inequalities (SDG 10) and Peace and Justice (SDG 16).

For SDG 13 (Climate Action) the participation of women almost doubled from 2002 to 2022, rising from 19% to 37%.

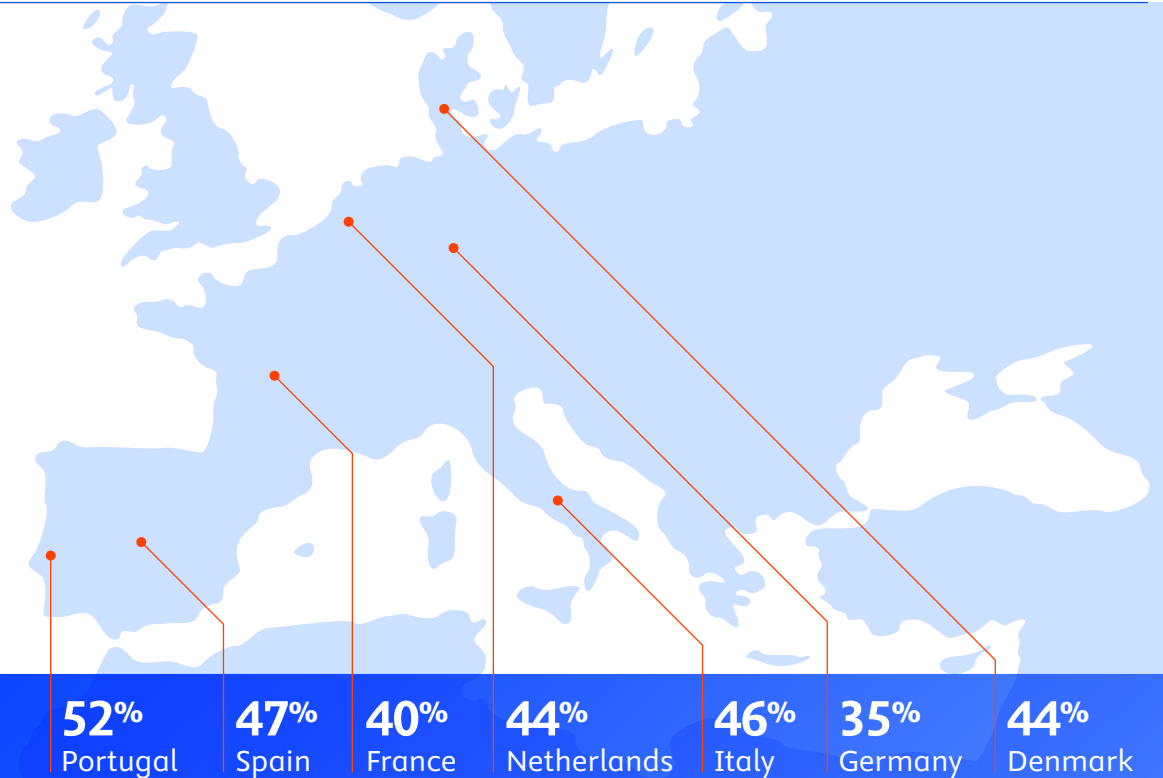
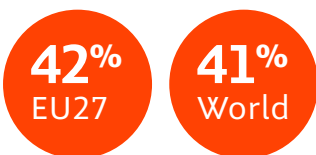
For SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), participation also almost doubled, from 23% to 45%.



Participation

Participation varies between regions

Percentage of active researchers that are women.



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