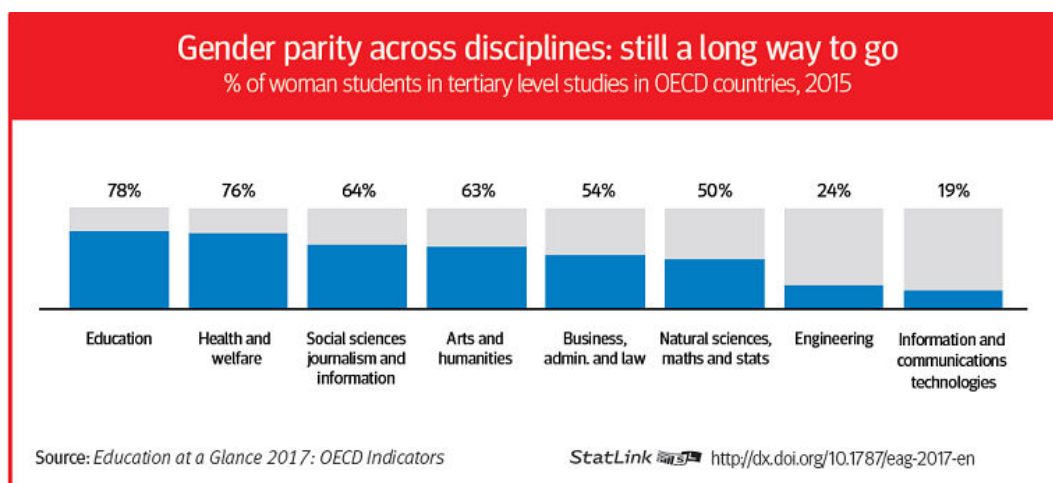


Gender engineering

Last update: 23 January 2020



Gender engineering | Graph - Gender parity across disciplines: Still a long way to go

More women are going into postsecondary education than men: women’s enrolment rates are 11 percentage points higher on average than that of men.

But look closer: there are noticeable differences between the disciplines women are choosing to pursue and those of their male counterparts. In fact, women make up 78% of students in education and 76% of students in health and welfare. Women are over-represented in these areas, as they are in the arts and humanities, social sciences, journalism and information.

Meanwhile, only 24% and 19% of students in engineering, and information and communications technologies (ICT), respectively, are women. Men and women are equally represented at 50% in the natural sciences, maths and statistics, as well as business administration and law at 54%. In 2015, an average of 27% of new entrants in OECD countries selected a field of study in science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM) with most going into engineering, manufacturing and construction—only 24% of the latter were women. Encouraging more women to take up careers in these areas is a policy concern in the OECD area.

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References

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