School of Basic Sciences (SB)
GENDER MONITORING
EPFL 2017-2018
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The graph below gathers data from SB School for the years 2008 and 2017, allowing to see the evolution of the percentages of men and women at the different levels of the academic trajectory. The detailed evolution is indicated by the graphs on the following pages.

The percentage of women and men among Bachelor students has changed little. From 27% in 2008 to 29% in 2017. At Master level, the percentage of women has decreased from 30% in 2017 to 26% in 2017. The share of women among SB PhD students has also fallen, from 27% in 2008 to 25% in 2017. The changes in percentages from year to year are highlighted in the following pages.

The percentage of women among scientific collaborators (without assistants) has risen from 17% in 2008 to 20% in 2017.

The percentage of women among the MER has decreased from 17% in 2008 to 7% in 2017.

The PATT category shows an increase in the percentage of women from 6% (1/16.5 FTE) in 2007 to 28% (5/18) in 2017.

The percentage of women in the PA category decreased from 25% (2/8 FTE) in 2008 to 15% (2/13) in 2017.

Among the PO, the percentage of women increased from 2% (1/44.6 FTE) in 2008 to 4% (2/46.4 FTE) in 2017.

Leaky Pipeline, EPFL, School of Basic Sciences, 2008 and 2017

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The number of Bachelor students in SB increased from 672 in 2008 to 1051 students in 2017 (increase by a factor of 1.6). The number of female students increased from 184 in 2008 to 309 in 2017 (increase by a factor of 1.7). The percentage of female students increased from 27% in 2008 to 29% in 2017. Since the last Gender Monitoring based on 2015 data, the increase was 1%, from 28% to 29%.

In Mathematics (MA), the number of Bachelor students increased by a factor of 1.85 between 2008 (56 students) and 2017 (95 students). The number of male students increased more (factor 2.1) than the number of female students (factor 1.6). The percentage of female students decreases between 2008 and 2017 from 31% to 28%. Since the 2015 Gender Monitoring, the increase in the number of female Bachelor students in MA was slightly higher than that of male students. The percentage of female Bachelor students in MA rose from 26% in 2015 to 28% in 2017.

The number of Bachelor students in Physics (PH) has risen from 253 in 2008 to 493 in 2017. The increase was higher among female students (factor 2.8) than among male students (factor 1.8), so that the percentage of female Bachelor students in physics rose from 16% in 2008 to 24% in 2017.

In Chemistry (CH), the number of Bachelor students has gone from 236 in 2008 to 219 in 2017 (evolution of a factor of 0.9). The change in the number of female students between 2008 and 2017 (an increase of a factor of 1.1) was greater than that of male students (a factor of 0.8). The percentage of female Bachelor students in Chemistry rose from 37% in 2008 (87/236 students) to 45% in 2017 (98/219 students).

The number of SB Bachelor students schooled abroad increased from 147 in 2008 to 517 in 2017, with an increase of a factor of 4.0 for male and of 2.8 for female students. The number of Swiss students or students schooled in Switzerland remained stable (increase of a factor 1.0 among male students and of a factor 1.1 among female students). The percentage of women among foreign students fell from 43% in 2008 to 35% in 2017. The proportion of women among Swiss students remained stable (23% in 2008 and 24% in 2017).

Since 2015, when the last Gender Monitoring took place, there has been a decrease in the number of Swiss students and an increase in the number of students schooled abroad, in almost identical proportions for women and men.
The number of Master students in SB increased from 306 in 2008 to 481 in 2017 (increase by a factor of 1.6). The number of female students increased from 91 in 2008 to 124 in 2017 (factor of 1.4). The percentage of female students went from 31% in 2008 (91/306) to 39% in 2017 (124/481). Compared to the 45% (138/478 Master students) measured during the 2015 Gender Monitoring, the decrease is 6%.

In Mathematics, the number of Master students increased by a factor of 2.5, from 63 students in 2008 to 157 students in 2017. With a factor of 1.3, the increase in the number of female Master students in Mathematics is lower than the overall increase. Among all Master students in Mathematics, the percentage of women dropped from 31% in 2008 to 28% in 2017.

In Physics, the evolution in the number of Master students between 2008 and 2017 was slightly more marked for women (factor 1.2) than for men (factor 1.1). The percentage of female students rose from 20% in 2008 to 21% in 2017.

In Chemistry, the number of male Master students increased by a factor of 1.8, from 90 students in 2008 to 154 in 2017. The progression is weaker for female Master students in Chemistry, which evolves by a factor of 1.5, from 39 students in 2008 to 60 students in 2017. The percentage of female Master's students in Chemistry therefore fell from 43% in 2008 to 32% in 2017. In 2015, the percentage of female Master students was 45% (75/165 students).

The number of Master students in SB of foreign origin increased from 96 in 2008 to 246 in 2017 (factor 2.6). The number of Swiss students or those schooled in Switzerland rose from 210 in 2008 to 235 in 2017.

The increase in the number of Master students of foreign and Swiss origin is lower among female students than among male students. The percentage of female Master students declined between 2008 and 2017 among foreign students (from 34% to 32%) and Swiss students (from 28% to 19%).
The number of SB PhD students rose from 422 in 2008 to 558 in 2017 (an increase by a factor of 1.3). The percentage of female doctoral students shows a decrease from 27% in 2008 to 25% in 2017.

In Mathematics, the percentage of female PhD students has gone from 27% (35/73) in 2008 to 21% (28/78) in 2017.

In Physics, the percentage of female PhD students rose from 23% (52/226) in 2008 to 20% (44/220) in 2017.

From 36% in 2008 (44/123 doctoral students), the percentage of female PhD students in Chemistry fell to 30% in 2017 (78/260), the same rate as in 2015 (63/210).

Both the number of female PhD students and the number of male PhD students in SB of Swiss origin or schooled in Switzerland decreased between 2008 and 2017. On the other hand, the number of PhD students from abroad has increased. This increase was greater among male PhD students (increase of a factor of 1.6) than among female PhD students (factor 1.3).

The percentage of women among PhD students of Swiss origin fell from 27% in 2008 to 25% in 2017, a percentage equal to that recorded during the last Gender Monitoring (2015). Among PhD students from abroad, the proportion of women went from 34% in 2008 to 28% in 2018, a percentage equal to that recorded during the last Gender Monitoring (2015).
The percentage of scientific staff positions (FTE) held by women rose from 17% in 2008 (46.2/278) to 20% in 2017 (82/408). This rate is down from the 23% (91.8/402.1) recorded in 2015 (last Gender Monitoring).

The percentage of MER positions (FTE) held by women decreased from 17% in 2008 (4.4/25.2) to 7% (1.8/27.6) in 2017.
The percentage of PATT occupied by women rose from 6% in 2008 (1/16.5) to 28% in 2017 (5/18). The rate of women is down from the 36% (5/14 FTE) recorded in 2015, during the last gender monitoring.

The percentage of FTE of PO and PA in SB occupied by women increased from 6% in 2008 (3/52.6 PO and PA posts) to 7% in 2017 (4/59.4 positions).

The percentage of women among adjunct professors fell from 20% in 2008 (3 FTE/15) to 18% in 2017 (3 FTE/17). The percentage of women and PTit's workforce in 2017 has not changed since the last gender monitoring report in 2015.

The percentage of women among non tenure track assistant professors (PB FN) in SB is identical in 2008 (0/3 FTE), in 2015 (0/2 FTE) and in 2017 (0/4 FTE), at 0%.

The percentage of women among the PATT increases from 6% in 2008 (1 FTE/16.5) to 28% in 2017 (5 FTE/18). The rate of women shows a decrease compared to the 36% (5/14) recorded in 2015.

The percentage of women among PA in SB declined from 25% in 2008 (2 FTE/8) to 15% in 2017 (2 FTE/13). In 2015 (last gender monitoring report), female PA represented 14% (2/14).

The percentage of women among PO in SB has increased by 2% in 10 years. There are 4% (2 FTE/46.4) in 2017, against 2% (1 FTE/46.6) in 2008. The percentage has been unchanged since 2015.
Data

Apart from data on apprentices and managers, data has been provided by the Budget and Planning Officer attached to the Finance Vice-President. Most data are available online under: https://information.epfl.ch/facts

Students

Data on students are established approximately seven weeks after the start of the fall semester.

BSc - Bachelor of Science
MSc - Master of Science
PhD - EPFL PhD students
Place of education - refers to the distinction from the Federal Office of Statistics between Swiss students and citizens of another nationality who have been schooled in Switzerland, and foreign students who have been schooled abroad
CH + residents - Swiss students and foreign citizens living in Switzerland and who have been schooled in Switzerland
Non-resident - Foreign students who have been educated abroad

Staff

Staff data are established at the end of the calendar year, on December 31.

FTE - Full time equivalent
PO - Full professors
PA - Associate professors
PATT - Tenure Track Assistant Professors
PB FN - Swiss National Science Foundation-funded Professors.
PTit - Adjunct professors
MER - Senior scientists
Scientific collaborators - Persons hired by EPFL after a PhD or equivalent professional experience, assuming training and research missions.
Technical staff - employees of a unit responsible of technical tasks.
Administrative staff - employees of a unit responsible of administrative task

Schools

SB - Basic Sciences

MA – Mathematics section
PH – Physics section
CH – Chemistry section