8 Facts about Women in STEM

Women can make outstanding STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) professionals. To solve some of the highly complex challenges of the post-pandemic world, we need a more balanced representation of women in STEM areas. Here are 8 facts and stats which you might find surprising:

1.

Research shows women perform better than men on multi-step problems which require detailed calculations. Men, however, perform better on problems that need a sudden flash of insight.

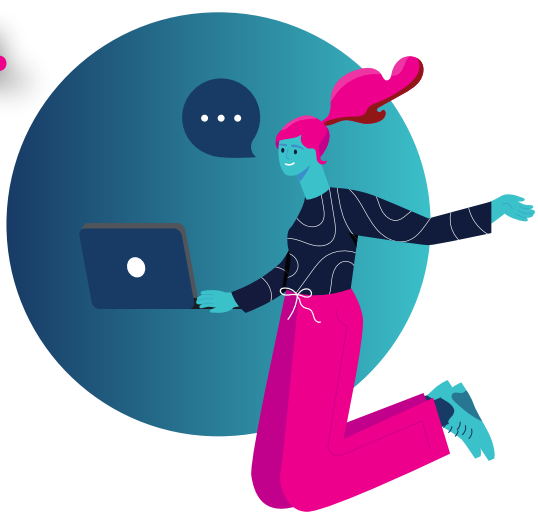
2.

The total number of girls taking GCSE exams across STEM subjects increased from 1,123,181 in 2019 to 1,159,207 in 2022. For these subjects, with the exception of Maths, Physics, Other Sciences and Statistics, girls achieved higher grades compared to boys.

3.

Based on data released in **March 2022 by Engineering UK**, there has been an increase in the number of women in Engineering roles even when the total number of people working in Engineering fell during the Covid-19 pandemic.

4.



The latest government workforce data, as of end of June 2022, shows that the number of women working in IT professional and technician roles has fallen from 21.0% to 19.9% and from 26.3% to 25.9% from 2021 to 2022.

5.

Women engineers account for 13.6% of the STEM work force. This is up from 12.5% in December 2021.

6.

Mother-friendly companies perform better on the financial markets than those who do not show **flexibility towards working mothers.**

7.

Gender bias in academia and engineering is still widespread. **Research shows** that men's performance is generally rated higher than that of women, even in controlled experiments.

8.

Famous female engineers include:

- Ailie MacAdam, the engineer behind the refurbishment of St Pancras International station in London.
- Mary Fergusson OBE, a civil engineer, who worked on the River Leven Purification Scheme.
- Dame Caroline Haslett, an electrical engineer, involved in the development of electro domestics and helping women to fulfil their aspirations (by freeing them from household chores).

Sources:

onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/ece3.4993

wisecampaign.org.uk/updated-workforce-statistics-june-2022/

Why We Need More Women in Engineering

Why we need more women in engineering

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