## Women in Physics

Girls as a Percentage of High School Physics Students


Year

Percent of Bachelor's Degrees Earned by Women in Selected Fields, 1966-2004


Source: National Cener tor Education Statasicis. Datat tor Acaiemicic Year 1999

ACT Composite Score Difference Between Men and Women Performance


Available data demonstrates that the disparity in the representation of women in physics at higher levels does not seem to be a reflection of innate ability. This is made evident by the lack of gender gap in the numbers of high school physics students and standardized test scores as well as the ever-rising proportion of women receiving science bachelor's degrees. One example is the data on the relative performance of higher on average. From 2002, all students took the test and the "gender gap" disappeared. This illustrates the perils of drawing general conclusions about academic aptitude from data on select segments of the populations.

Percent of Doctorate Degrees in Physics Earned by Women



Percent of Faculty Positions in Physics Held by Women

|  | 1994 | 1996 | 2002 | 2006 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Academic Rank |  |  |  |  |
| Full Professor | 3 | 3 | 5 | 6 |
| Associate Professor | 8 | 10 | 11 | 14 |
| Assistant Professor | 12 | 17 | 16 | 17 |
| Instructor/Adjunct | N/A | N/A | 16 | 19 |
| Other Rank | 8 | 13 | 15 | 12 |
| Type By Department |  |  |  |  |
| Doctoral | 5 | 6 | 7 | 10 |
| Master's | 7 | 9 | 13 | 16 |
| Bachelor's | 7 | 11 | 14 | 19 |
| Overall | $\mathbf{6}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ | 10 | 13 |

Percent of Tenured/Tenure Track Faculty at 50 Top Physics Departments


Thanks! Some of this is political, so I do not have as much flexibility here, but this is what I changed it to: Much progress has been made to increase the number of women and minorities in physics and applied physics but much remains to be done. Working collaboratively and collectively including men, women, minorities, University Department Chairs, Deans, Provost, University Presidents and National Laboratory Managers, we can significantly increase the percentage of women and minorities in physics worldwide. To achieve the goal of doubling the percentage of women in physics in the next 15 years worldwide, target set developing objectives and strategies as well as implementing and evaluating reformative and programmatic changes at all levels of academic ladder, we aim to make a significant impact on increasing representation developing abjectives and strategies as well as
of women
[1] APS, CSWP report on "Gender equity: strengthening the physics enterprise in physics department and national laboratories" available at http://www.aps.org/programs/women/workshops/gender-equity/index.cfm.

Number of Physics Bachelor's Degrees Earned by Hispanic and African-American Women


Number of Physics PhD Degrees Earned by African-American Men and Women


[^0]Number of Physics PhD Degrees Earned by Hispanic-American Men and Women


Source: APP S
Foundation

Women of color continue to be under-represented in physics. In the last decade, little progress has been made in recruiting or retaining them. People of color will form the majority of the U.S. population by the year 2050 [2]. Unless significant improvement is effected in the rate at which women of color participate in physics, women's overall representation in the field will be women's overall representation in the field will make little progress in the next 40 years. Additionally, due to their small numbers, women of color are in demand as role models and as committee members. This service, while worthy in itself, takes time and does not lead to promotion or career advancement [3].
[2] (a) G. Sonnert and G.J. Holton, Gender Differences in Science Careers: The Project Access Study, New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1995, pp.138; (b) K.A. Rockquemore and T. Laszloffy, The Black Academic's Guide to Winning Tenure-Without Losing Your Soul, Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2008.
[3] U.S. Census Bureau, National Population Projections I. Summary Files. Total Population by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin, http://wuw.census.gov/population/www/projections/natsum-T3.html. Accessed August 2008.


[^0]:    | Source: AP |
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