

Table 1.1
Women on Science Faculties, 1942 and 1946

Field	1942	1946	% Change
Biological sciences	782	2,587	+230.8
Mathematics	686	1,459 ^a	+112.7
Chemistry	485	1,585	+226.8
Physics	178	411 ^b	+130.9
Geography	157	115	-26.8
Engineering	50	53	+6.0
Geology	46	93	+102.2
Meteorology	28	16	-42.9
Miscellaneous		590	
More than one science		635	
Science with nonscience		202	
Total	2,412	7,746	+221.1

Sources: *The Outlook for Women in Science*, WB Bulletin 223-1 (Washington, D.C., 1949), 20 (tables 3, 4).

^aIncludes 44 in statistics.

^bIncludes 64 in astronomy.

How can we account for the drastic rise of women on science faculties? What disciplines saw the largest growth

Table 1.2.

Scientists on the National Roster, by Sex and Level of Education, 1941 and 1945

Level of Education	Total		Women		Women as % of Total
	N	%	N	%	
December 1941					
Doctorate	23,782	18.1	1,817	34.1	7.6
Master's	25,403	19.3	1,798	33.8	7.1
Bachelor's	64,118	49.5	1,529	28.7	2.3
Other	17,137	13.0	179	3.4	1.0
Total/average	131,440	99.9	5,323	100.0	4.0
December 1945					
Doctorate	27,210	8.4	1,958	14.6	7.2
Master's	41,074	12.7	2,930	21.9	7.1
Bachelor's	195,022	60.2	7,403	55.2	3.8
Other	60,849	18.8	1,117	8.3	1.8
Total/average	324,145	100.1	13,408	100.0	4.1

Sources: National Roster of Scientific and Specialized Personnel, *Report to the National Resources Planning Board, June 1942* (Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1943), app. D; idem, "Distribution of Roster Registrants by: 1. Professional Field, 2. Sex, 3. Age, 4. Extent of Education, December 31, 1945" (Washington, D.C., mimeographed), tables 2, 4.

**How did the percentage of women scientists
change from 1941-1945?**

Table 2.1.
Scientists and Engineers, by Field and Sex, 1946-47

Field	Total	Women	Women as Percentage of Field
Chemistry	77,000	5,400	7.0
Mathematics ^a	10,200	2,050	20.1
Bacteriology	4,000	1,000	25.0
Physics	18,450	900	4.9
Zoological sciences	7,840	610	7.8
Biology, general, other	3,200	600	18.8
Botanical sciences ^b	10,000	350	3.5
Geology	11,000	330	3.0
Geography	800	140	17.5
Astronomy	600	100	16.6
Meteorology	2,800	30	1.1
Total sciences	145,890	11,510	7.4
Engineering	317,000	950	0.3
Total	462,890	12,460	2.7

Source: *The Outlook for Women in Science*, WB Bulletin 223-1 (1949), 5.

^aDoes not include statistics.

^bIncludes forestry.

What happened to the percentage of women in various scientific disciplines during the immediate post-war years?

Table 2.2.
Scientists and Engineers, by Field and Sex, 1948

Field	Total	Women	Women as % of Total
Biology	6,915	807	11.7
Botany	(1,908)	(245)	12.8
Bacteriology	(1,690)	(238)	14.1
Zoology	(1,142)	(176)	15.4
General biology	(1,196)	(121)	10.1
Entomology	(979)	(27)	2.8
Chemistry	12,649	579	4.6
Psychology	1,892	385	20.3
Fields related to medicine ^a	3,171	269	8.5
Mathematics	1,993	196	9.8
Nutrition and foods	624	188	30.1
Medicine ^b	3,402	149	4.4
Other ^c	2,483	131	5.3
Earth sciences	2,487	108	4.3
Physics and electronics	4,094	108	2.6
Astronomy	252	25	9.9
Statistics	305	25	8.2
Agriculture	2,889	15	0.5
Engineering	5,840	8	0.1
Metallurgy	677	5	0.7
Total/average	49,673	2,998	6.0

Source: AMS, 8th ed., 1949, as calculated from data on sample of "about 84%" presented in *Employment, Education, and Earnings of American Men of Science*, BLS Bulletin 1027 (Washington, D.C., 1951), 7, 36.

^aIncludes clinical medicine, neuropsychiatry, obstetrics, ophthalmology, pediatrics, public health, and radiology.

^bIncludes anatomy, dental medicine, pathology, physiology, pharmacy, and veterinary medicine.

^cIncludes architecture, military applications of science, manpower resources, and all other.

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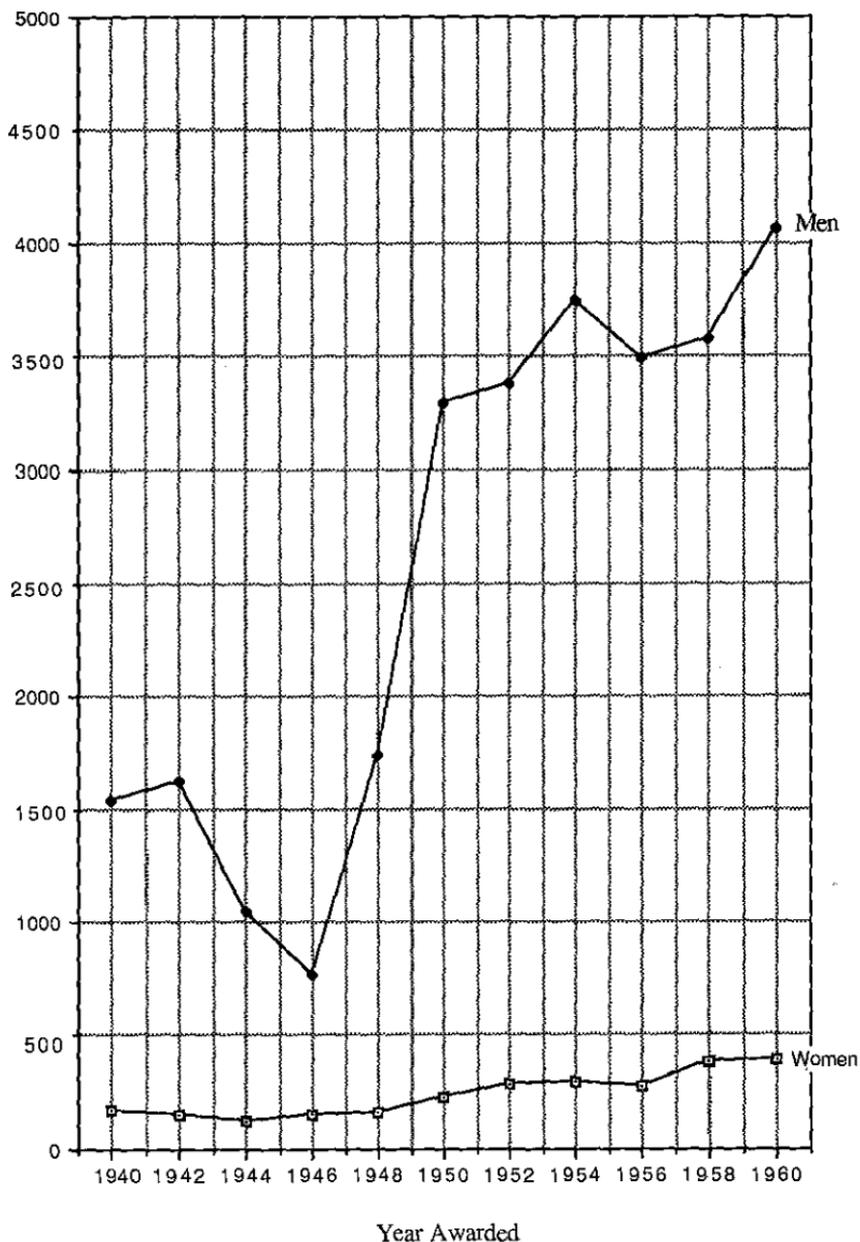


Fig. 1. Number of science doctorates awarded per year, by sex, 1940-1960. Data presented here include engineering, psychology, and anthropology. Based on Lindsay R. Harmon and Herbert Soldz, comps., *Doctorate Production in United States Universities, 1920-1962*, NAS Publication No. 1142 (Washington, D.C., 1963), 50-53.

Compare the rates of women and men earning degrees, and explain what this reveals. Also, how can we account for sudden or rapid increases or decreases in the numbers of degrees earned?