

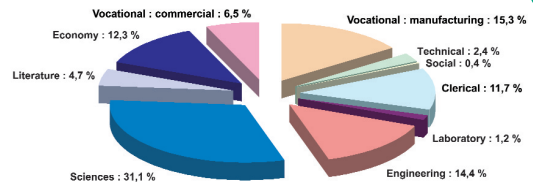
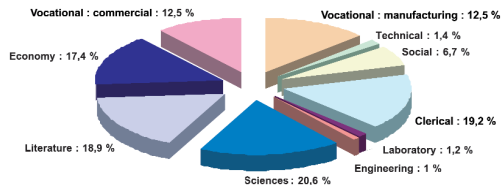
Women physicists in the French dual higher education system



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Étienne GUYON (president of the French Physical Society), Martine LUMBRERAS (university professor),
Annie RENAULT (researcher at CNRS), Monique SCHWOB (high school teacher, Union des Physiciens)

BACCALAURÉAT

(end of secondary school exam)



HIGHER EDUCATION

Engineering schools and « Écoles normales supérieures »

The admission into such schools takes place after competitive entrance examinations, prepared in two (three) years in preparatory classes : in the classes mainly based on mathematics and physics (respectively physics and chemistry), women represent 25 % (28 %). The percentage reaches 50 % for life sciences.

Mathematics and physics



25 %

Physics and chemistry

28 %

Physics and engineering

15 %



Pure physics

37 %

Life and nature sciences

50 %

Physics PhD studies

21 %

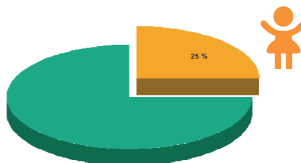


Universities

The universities are organised in « 2 years » cycles.
PhD is obtained in principle after 8 years of higher education.

ENGINEERS

In the last years of engineerings schools approximately 1/4 of engineer degrees are awarded to women.



ACADEMIA



Associated professors

26 %

Full professors

9 %



CNRS

National Center for Scientific Research

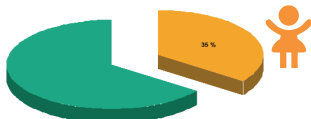
	Chargés de recherche (lower rank)	Directeurs de recherche (higher rank)
Physical and mathematical sciences	23 %	14 %
Nuclear physics	22 %	10 %
Engineering sciences	21 %	8 %
Sciences of the Universe	30 %	17 %

PECULIARITIES OF THE FRENCH SITUATION

♦ No quotas

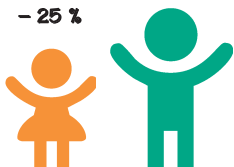
♦ The status of women reflect the general social situation

Executives



Wages

- 25 %



BUT



Infant care system (école maternelle) :
90 % of children from 2 1/2 to 6,
free of cost, all day long.



Parental leave from work.



Tax deductions for child care cost.