

GM4WOMEN2028: EDUCATION BRIEF

2019 Scorecard:

- 18% of 1st year engineering and technology undergraduates at a GM university are women. (HESA 2017/18)
- 1% of under-19yr old apprentices in 'Construction and the Built Environment' in GM are women (DoE, 2018/19)

2020 Scorecard:

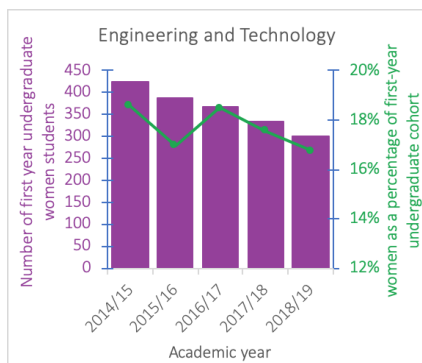
- 17% of 1st year engineering and technology undergraduates at a GM university are women. (HESA 2018/19)
- 2% of under-19yr old apprentices in 'Construction and the Built Environment' in GM are women (DoE, 2018/19)

Undergraduate degree subject choices:

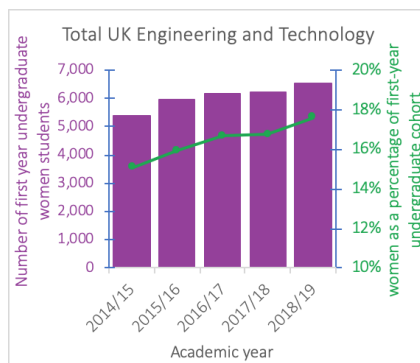
The scorecard has historically looked at undergraduates studying 'engineering and technology' at a Greater Manchester (GM) university; we find the proportion of women in this cohort is steadily decreasing, as is their absolute numbers (chart 1, showing 5-year trend).

The percentage of women studying engineering and technology in GM universities (17%) is just under the percentage seen nationally (18%)

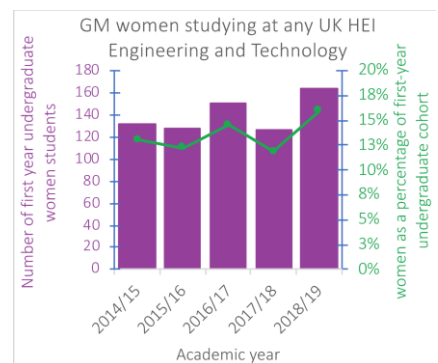
Just 5 years earlier women represented 35% of GM students and 15% nationally. The 5-year trend in GM is not in line with that observed across all HEIs (chart 2) and is also not indicative of the representation of GM women choosing to study 'engineering and technology' at degree level (chart 3). It is concerning that, despite Greater Manchester HEIs being at the forefront of engineering and technology research and the development of the 'Northern Powerhouse', GM is being overtaken as a location of choice for women choosing to study these subjects.



1. E&T students studying at a GM university



2. All E&T students at any UK



3. All E&T students from the GM area studying at any UK HEI

An analysis of other traditionally male-dominated subjects, shows promising improvements.

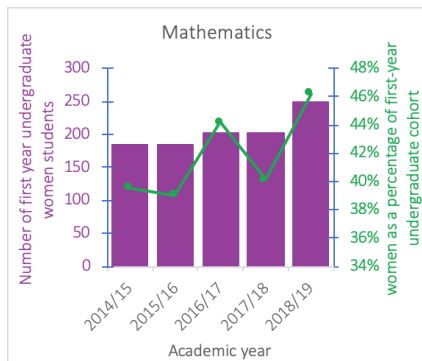
Across GM, there has been an upwards trend in both number and percentage of women studying Mathematics, Computer Science and Physical Sciences (charts 4, 5 and 6)



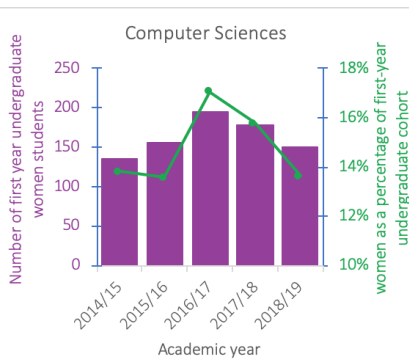
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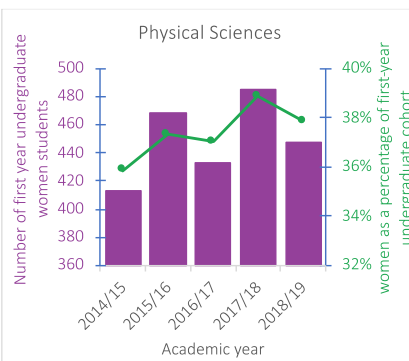
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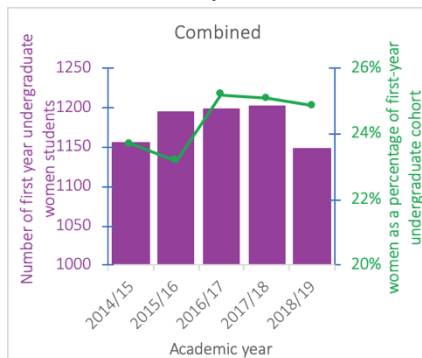
4. Mathematics students studying at a GM university



5. Computer Science students studying at a GM university



6. Physical Sciences students studying at a GM university



Overall, this shows a positive, yet modest, increase in the percentage of women choosing to study either engineering and technology, mathematics, computer sciences or physical sciences at a GM university over the full five years (Chart 7). However, in the last three years covered by the scorecard, the percentage has dropped. GM4Women will be monitoring these as future key indicators of gender equality in science and engineering.

7. All students studying Engineering & Technology, Mathematics, Computer Sciences or Physical Sciences at a GM university

Apprenticeships subject choices:

Region		Percentage women in Apprenticeship Sector Subject Area (2019/2020)		
		Construction and the built environment	Engineering and manufacturing technologies	Information and communication technology
Under 19 years old	GM	2%	4%	22%
	UK total	4%	5%	19%
All ages	GM	7%	8%	22%
	UK total	8%	9%	23%

Table 1. Percentage of women undertaking apprenticeships in traditionally male-dominated sector subject areas (data source <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/fe-data-library-apprenticeships>)

Our annual scorecard measures the percentage of women undertaking apprenticeships in ‘Construction and the Built Environment’ which has shown very little movement over the last three years (fluctuating between 1-2%). Greater Manchester numbers lie just below those seen nationally. Whilst the representation of women across the apprentice sector subject areas displayed in Table 1 is in the minority, there is a significant proportion of women taking up ‘Information and Communication Technology’. Indeed Greater Manchester women are 3 percentage points above the national data in a rapidly growing industry.

GM4Women2028 ask for uniform access to career guidance, insight and training available to all schools, with specific consideration to gender influences and perceived barriers. We ask local industries to identify ways of offering opportunities for women to see GM as a gender-positive environment in which to develop their careers in science, technology, engineering, computer science and maths.

To receive updates from the Education Group, please contact Sarah Mohammad-Qureshi at: GM4Women2028@gmail.com



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