5. Education and Research Fields

Advancement Rate by Type of School
The percentage of women who advance to higher educational institutions is increasing as a whole.

Proportion of Undergraduate Students by Major
In engineering fields, 15.0% of students are women, compared to 65.3% in humanities.

Source: Data from “School Basic Survey,” the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

Note: Other Fields are including Home Economics, Arts, and Others.
Proportion of Women Full-time Teachers

While more than 60% of full-time teachers at elementary school are women, the proportion of women teachers decreases as education proceeded to lower and upper secondary schools. With regard to junior college and university, while women teachers account for more than 50% at junior colleges, their proportion is only 24.8% at universities.

Source: “School Basic Survey,” the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

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Proportion of Women Researchers and University Professors

Although the proportion of women researchers in Japan is increasing gradually, it is only 16.2% (as of 2018), which is low compared to other developed nations.


Note: The number for the United States is the proportion of employed women scientists (including some in cultural sciences and social sciences). If engineers are included, the proportion is 28.4% of the total.

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