



THE ROAD TO GENDER EQUITY IN BRAZIL: SMALL ADVANCES AND MAJOR SETBACKS



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Introduction

Over the past seven years, Brazil has experienced a systematic reduction of scientific and technology investments. In 2020, the budget for this sector was approximately US \$516 million, around 32.5% less than the previous year, being the smallest in seventeen years. As most Brazilian research is developed inside universities with public funding, this scenario has taken a toll on the country's scientific production.

However, despite this situation experienced by all scientists, it is possible to account for some of the victories of women in the last four years arising from struggles prior to this period, most of them conquered by non-governmental organizations, organized groups, collectives, and class associations. In this work, we summarize some of these achievements and other issues to overcome.

Prize for Young Physicists



Created by the Brazilian Physical Society with the support of its Working Group on Gender Issues (GTG) the Carolina Nemes Award will be awarded to female physicists at the beginning of their careers whose research work has significantly contributed to the advancement of physics or the teaching of physics in the country.

Girls in Science Projects



In 2018, the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq) and the Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovations and Communications (MCTIC) held a public call to support projects aimed for contributing significantly to the country's scientific and technological development and innovation, by encouraging the participation and training of girls and women for careers in exact sciences, engineering and computing.

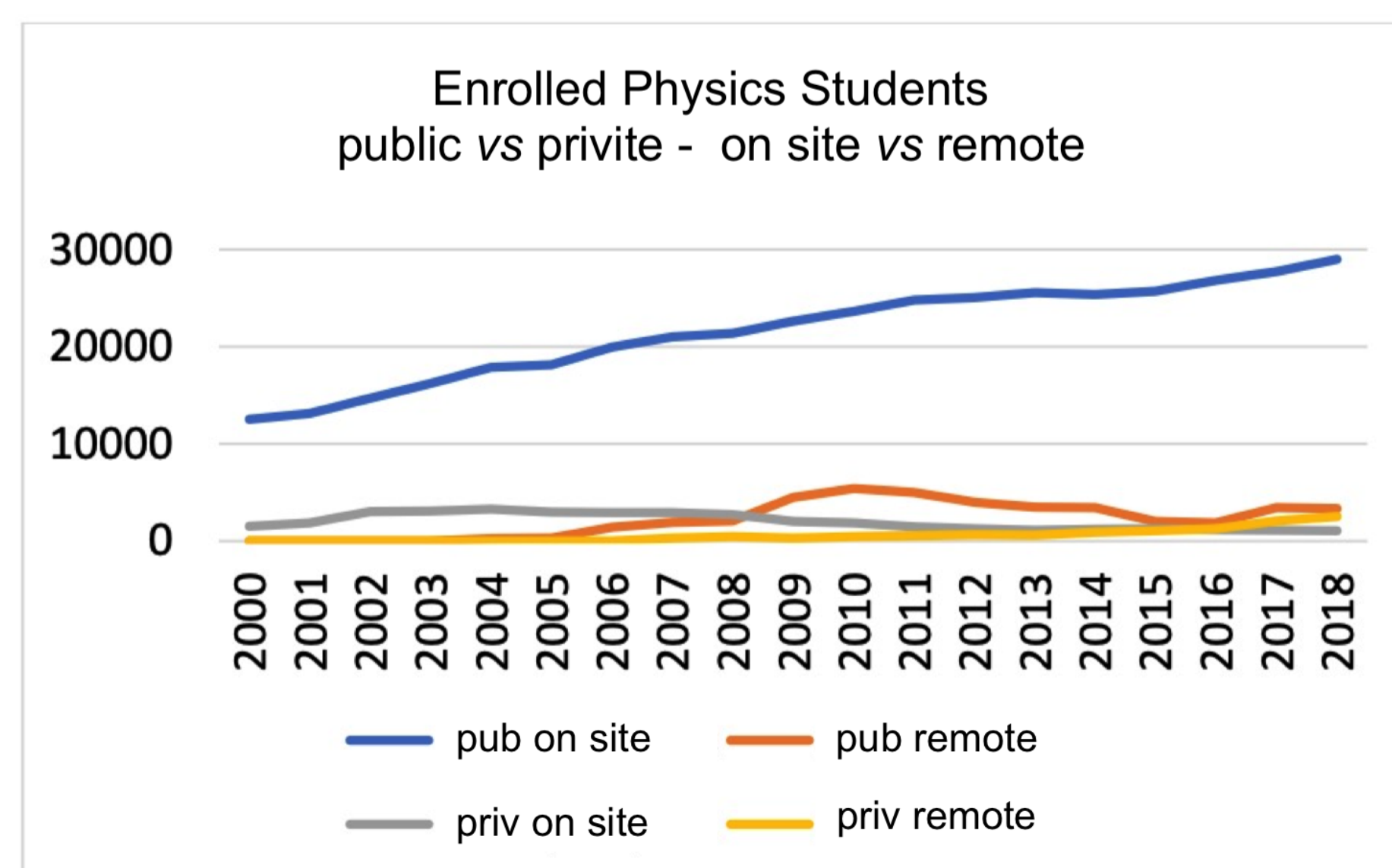
LBsTem Project



In the ambit of lesbian, bisexual and trans (LBT) women, in 2019, a pioneering (and still unique) project was started in Brazil: the LBsTem. The goal is to support lesbian, bisexual and trans women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields by creating a support network and developing educational materials on LGBT rights and materials that contribute to the visibility of the contributions of LBT people in these fields. In addition, the goal is to encouraging a welcoming environment for LBT people in STEM, ensuring their full participation in society. In 2020 and 2021, the I and II National Meetings of LBT Women in STEM took place, in which it was possible to meet some of these women and their work in these areas and establish connections and partnerships for the project's work and theirs individually. As a result, the LBsTem has already gathered more than 60 students and professionals in these areas from all over Brazil. Due to the importance of the subject, the project has been supported and sponsored by Fundo Elas, Google and SINASEFE.

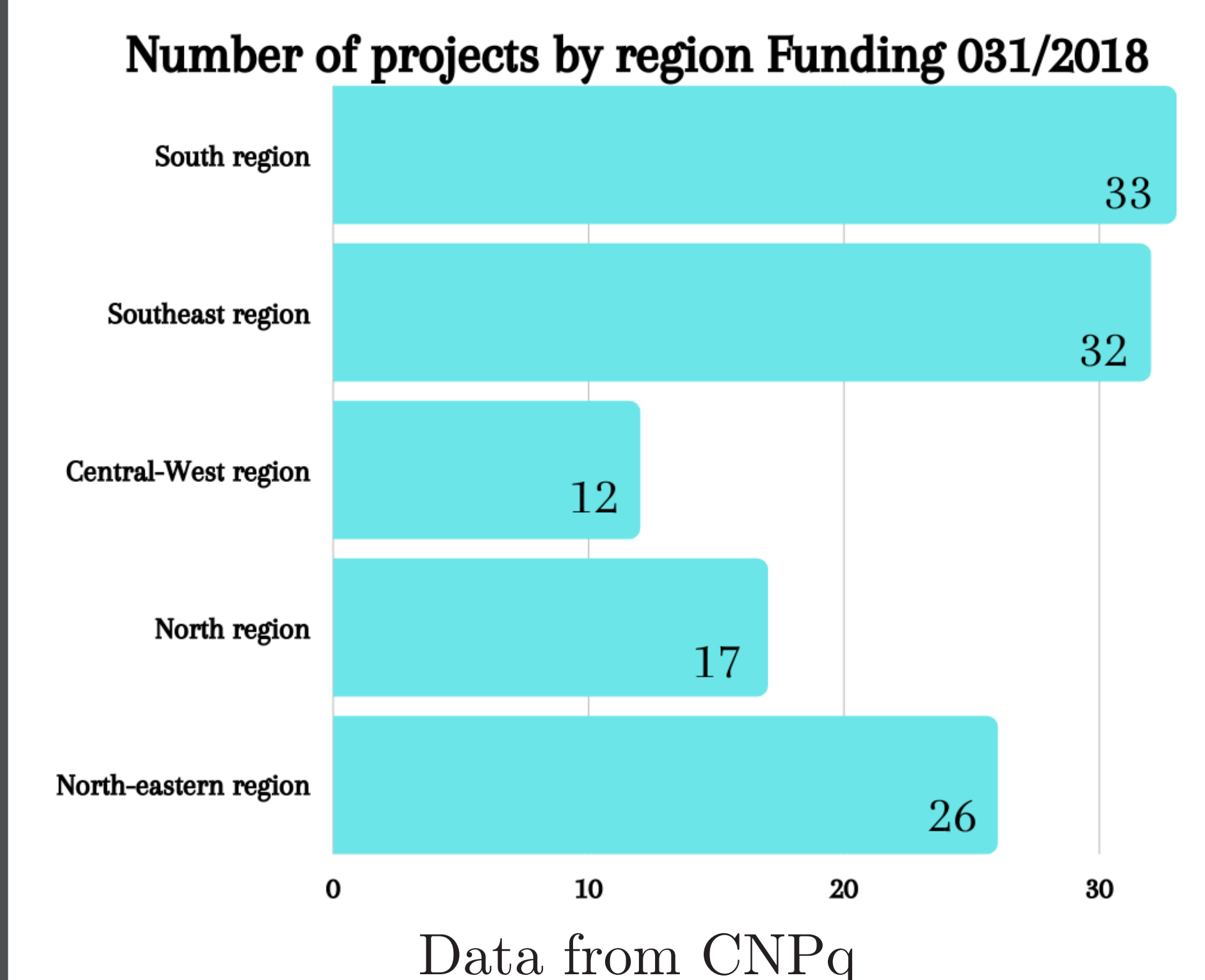
<https://www.instagram.com/lbstem/>

Enrolled Physics Students

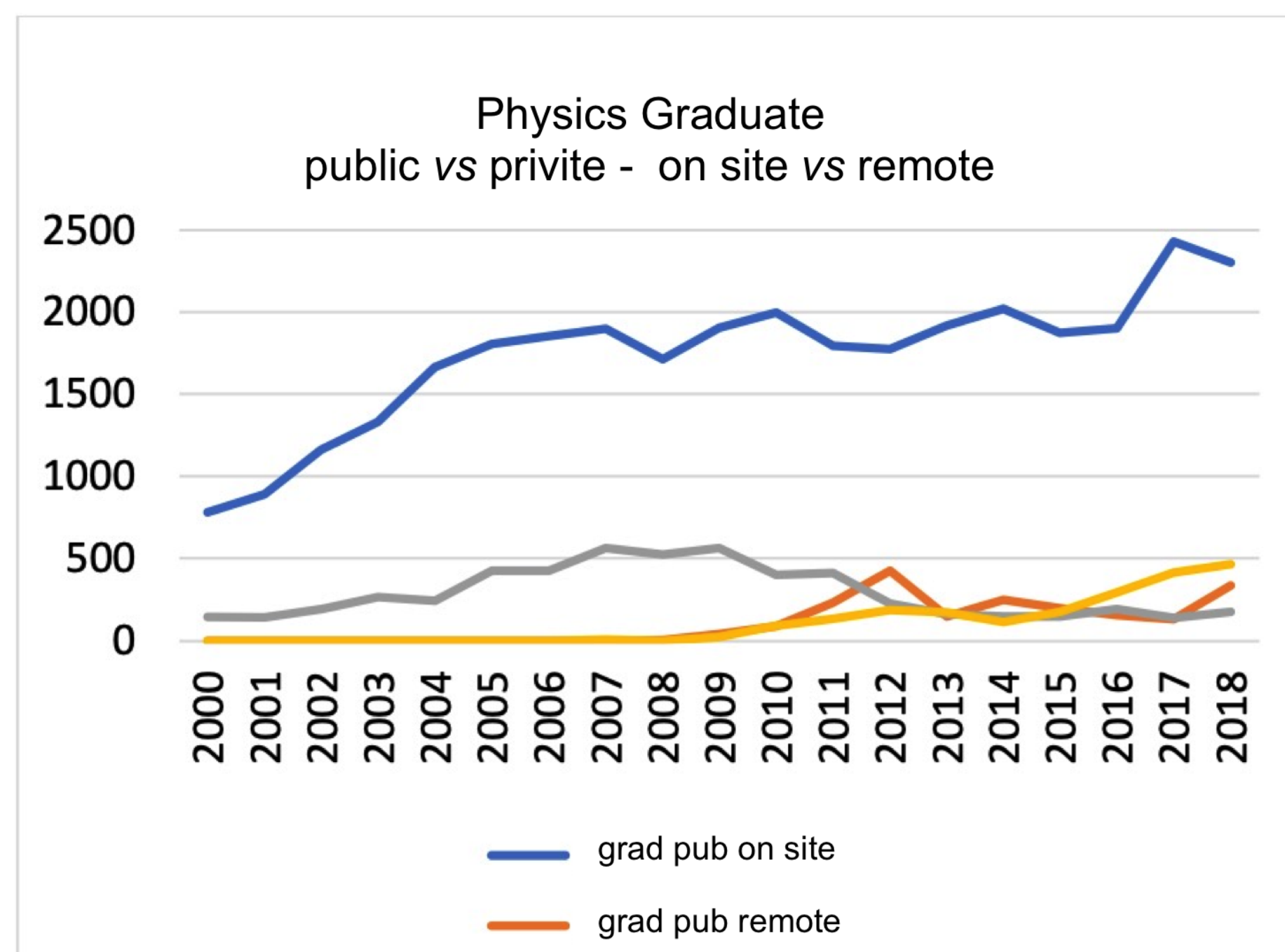


<http://www.sbfisica.org.br/arquivos/Numeros-da-Fisica-Brasil-2020.pdf>

Girls in Science by Region



Physics Graduate

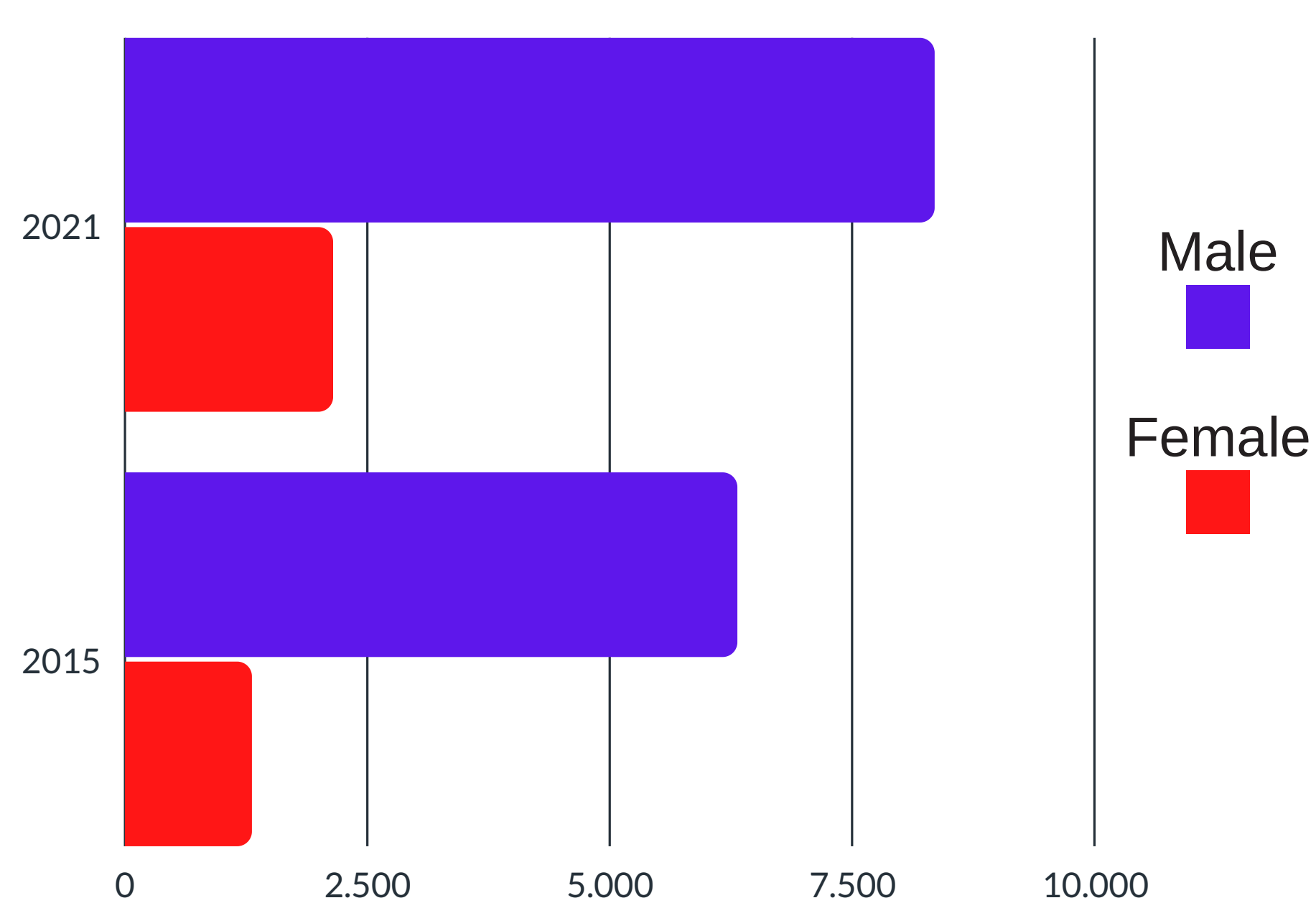


<http://www.sbfisica.org.br/arquivos/Numeros-da-Fisica-Brasil-2020.pdf>

Girls in Science Video



Physics Graduate by Gender



Data from Brazilian Physical Society

Motherhood Achievements

In June 2021, at least fourteen scientific committees included specific criteria for the productivity evaluation of scientists who became mothers during the period considered in the call, extending this evaluation period by one or two years for each child.

<https://www.parentinscience.com/english>

Acknowledgments

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