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## ABSTRACT

The term vertical exclusion is used to define the underrepresentation of women as the career progresses and in prestigious positions (SAITOVITCH et. al. 2015). Currently, in Brazil, women in veterinary medicine correspond to 54% of the professionals registered in regional councils and federal council of veterinary medicine (CFMV, 2022), the objective of the present research is to evaluate whether vertical exclusion also exists in the profession and raise possible explanations for the result. The evasion of women throughout their careers is an issue that should be further discussed and monitored to better identify the barriers and thus have the development of policies and strategies that seek to eliminate such barriers at all stages and sectors of the professions, contributing to a greater and more qualified presence of women.

## METODOLOGY

To obtain the information, bibliographic research and documentary research were carried out, using selection process edicts for master's and doctoral graduate programs in public universities in Brazil. Then, the data were analyzed and correlated with the context

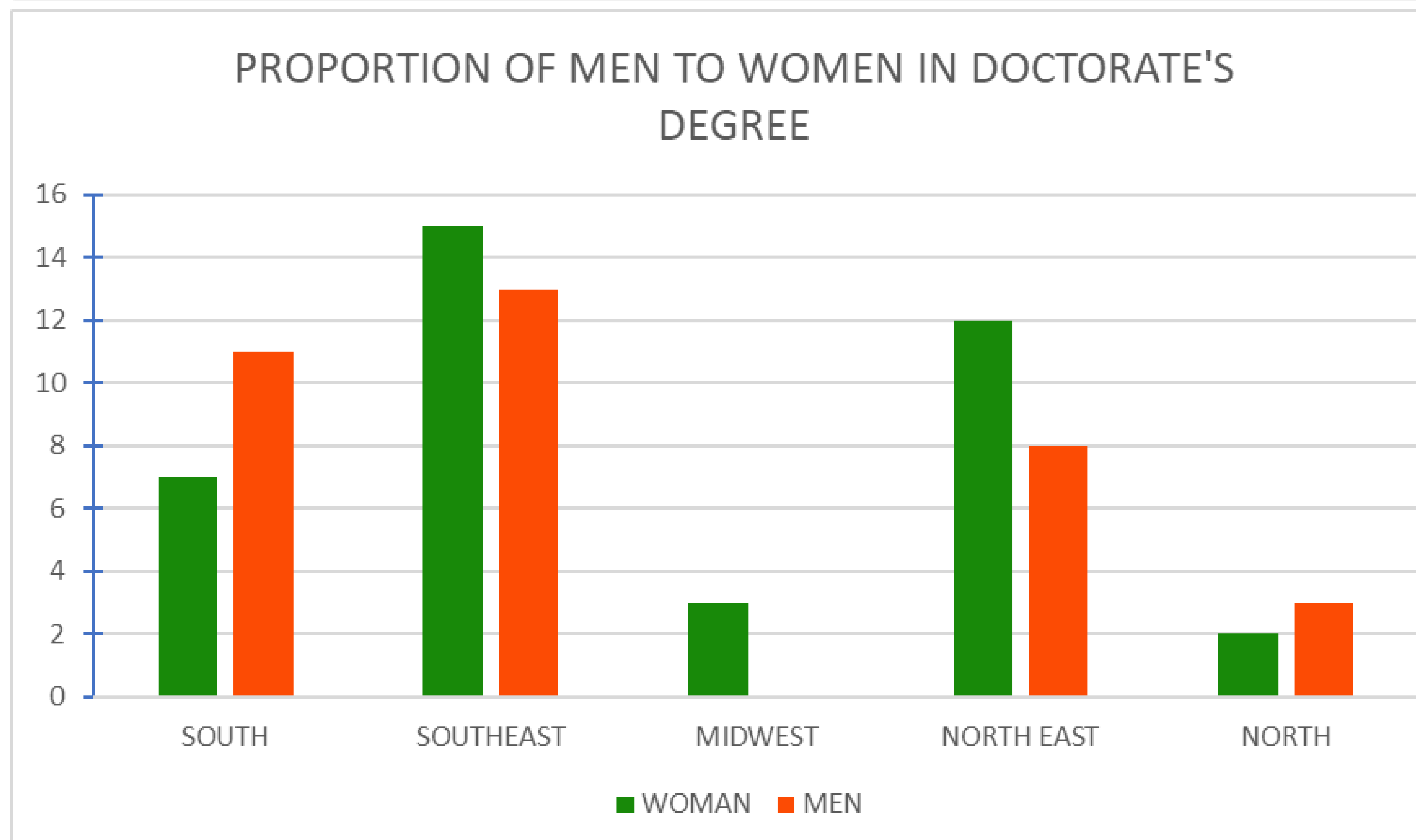
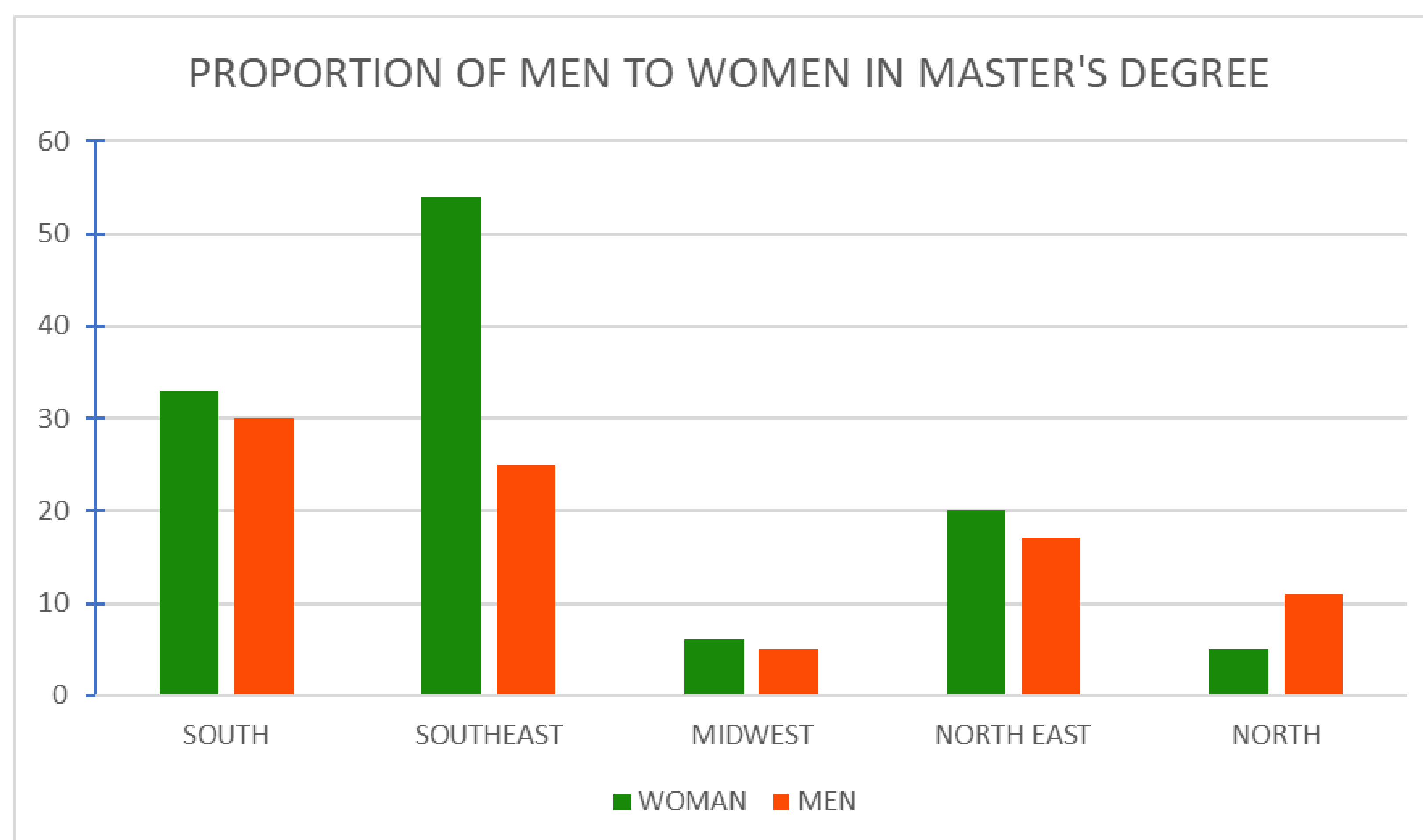
## INTRODUCTION

The expression "horizontal exclusion" means the underrepresentation of women in some areas of knowledge, such as exact sciences and engineering. The term vertical exclusion has been used to define the underrepresentation of women as they advance in their careers and in prestigious positions (SAITOVITCH et. al. 2015). In 2002, a research was conducted in Paris at the First IUPAP International Conference on Women in Physics (IUPAP CONFERENCE-I, 2002, BARBOSA, 2003) and demonstrated the reduction in female participation as the career in physics progresses. However, the question arises whether the vertical exclusion continues to occur in professions with a higher or equal percentage of men and women in the labor market, as is the case of veterinary medicine.

According to Dr. Vanete Soccol, Head of the Department of Basic Pathology - Biological Sciences Sector at UFPR, currently, more than 70% of students enrolled in the Veterinary Medicine Course at the Federal University of Paraná, Curitiba Campus, are women. Moreover, data released in 2022 show that Brazil has 168 thousand practicing veterinarians and zootechnicians. Of this total, 90 thousand are women. They correspond to 54% of the professionals enrolled in the System of Federal and Regional Councils of Veterinary Medicine (CFMV/CRMVs), which corroborates the thesis that there is no horizontal exclusion in veterinary medicine. But the question that the present research sought to answer is whether the prevalence of women in veterinary medicine persists throughout the levels of graduation.

## RESULTS

The research was conducted in master's and doctoral programs from more than 30 public universities in Brazil and the data are from 2021, 2022, and 2023. To facilitate understanding, the results were analyzed, counted, and grouped by region and gender. The graph shows that only the northern region had more men than women in master's degrees, and that the southeastern region has the biggest difference, with a lower number of men in relation to the number of women. As for the doctorate, the numbers are starting to even out in all the states



## CONCLUSION

With the present research it is possible to conclude that women continue to have greater representation as the career advances, while the percentage of men increases and the percentage of women decreases. For Irvine and Vermilya (2010) the increase of women in veterinary medicine is due to feminist advances in society and changes at the core of veterinary medicine itself, such as the rise of concern for animal welfare. With this, attributes considered feminine, such as affection, attention, care and sensitivity have been valued, increasing the number of women in the profession, but leading them mainly to work with small animals. With the present research, it is concluded that there is no vertical exclusion in veterinary medicine, corroborating that the main issue is to attract women to professions of lower prevalence, because after they are inserted, such as in veterinary medicine, the tendency is for the prevalence to be maintained and the vertical exclusion to decrease.

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