



Women in Physics in Aotearoa New Zealand: update for 2023

Shepherd, Jami^{1,2,3}, Pahl, Elke^{1,2,3}, Jack, Michael⁴, Housden, Helen⁵, Housden, David^{6,5}, Ruck, Ben^{7,3}, Adam, Ludmila^{8,2}, Seppala, Annika⁴, Adams, Jenni⁹, O'Neale, Dion^{1,10}, Vanholsbeeck, Frederique^{1,2}

¹ Department of Physics, University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand

² Dodd-Walls Centre for Photonic and Quantum Technologies, New Zealand

³ The MacDiarmid Institute, New Zealand ⁴ Department of Physics, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand ⁵ New Zealand Institute of Physics, New Zealand ⁶ Saint Bernard's College, Lower Hutt, Wellington, New Zealand ⁷ School of Chemical and Physical Sciences, Victoria University of Wellington, Wellington, New Zealand ⁸ School of Environment, University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand ⁹ School of Chemical and Physical Sciences, University of Canterbury, Dunedin, New Zealand ¹⁰ Te Pūnaha Matatini, New Zealand

We will summarise the situation for female physicists in Aotearoa New Zealand in 2023 and identify some of the issues that directly or indirectly impact women in physics. In particular, we will identify the point in the educational timeline where the discrepancy in male / female participation in physics begins, and follow the “leaky pipeline” through to the gender imbalance at the faculty level throughout Universities in Aotearoa New Zealand. We will discuss possible reasons for the disparity and propose actions to improve female participation in physics.