HRK Hochschulrektorenkonferenz

Die Stimme der Hochschulen

10.11.2025

Author

GOMEZ SOLER, Silvia C. (ABADIA ALVARADO, Luz Karime; BERNAL NISPERUZA, Gloria Lucia)

Title

Women in STEM : does college boost their performance? / Silvia C. Gomez Soler ; Luz Karime

Abadía Alvarado; Gloria Lucia Bernal Nisperuza

Publication year

2020

Source/Footnote

In: Higher education. - 79 (2020) 5, S. 849 - 866

Inventory number

49446

Keywords

Frauenstudium; Frauen in der Wissenschaft; Wissenschaft: Ingenieurwissenschaften; Wissenschaft: Mathematik

Abstract

This article uses an added value measure to assess the gender-specific impact of attending a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) program. Using the results of the mandatory Colombian national exit exams, we compare the math and reading scores at the end of high school and at the end of college by gender. A difference-in-differences technique combined with propensity score matching is used to address selection bias. We find that the gender-related achievement gap in math and reading scores increases after college affecting women. The gap is larger for those individuals studying a STEM major in comparison with a non-STEM major. Moreover, we find that the gender gap is higher in public and accredited universities. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)