



CSQ Report 2021 – Women ARE An Increasing Presence on Construction Sites

Construction Skills Queensland's 2018 *Women in Construction* report revealed a pattern of severe female under-representation in the construction trades. The 2021 review however, suggests that the tide is finally turning.

Here are some excerpts from the review.

The gender gap is narrowing

Attracting women to the industry has always been a challenge for construction, but recent trends suggest the mould may have finally been broken. The last five years have been particularly encouraging, with women increasing their trade participation to almost 5%. By 2020, we had just over 13,500 women working in construction trades, more than double the amount in 2000 (5,300). Men in these roles also increased over this period but at a slower rate.

Positive signs from the construction training pipeline – but more growth needed

Trade training is the gateway to the construction industry. This means boosting female participation in trade training will underpin any long-term shift in the industry's gender profile. This will take time, but an upward trend has clearly begun. Female construction apprentices almost doubled over the last decade, a time that saw male apprentice numbers stagnate and fall.

Women appear to be increasingly attracted to training in high-skill trades that offer excellent employment and wage prospects. Popular apprenticeships for women include electricians, plant operators and carpentry. All of which have grown strongly since 2010.

To read the full report please click here. <https://www.csq.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Women-in-Construction-2021.pdf>