

Women in Economics in the US

Judy Chevalier

William S Beinecke Professor of Economics and Finance,

Yale School of Management

Chair, AEA's Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics
Profession



NEWS

Published four times annually by the American Economic Association's Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession.

2020 ISSUE I

info@
cswep.org



Yan Chen

Interview with Bell Award Winner Yan Chen

Elizabeth (Betsy) Hoffman

Dr. Yan Chen, Daniel Kahneman Collegiate Professor of Information in the School of Information at the University of Michigan, is the recipient of the 2019 Carolyn Shaw Bell Award. The award is given annually by the American Economic Association's Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession (CSWEP), to recognize and honor an individual who has furthered the status of women in the economics profession. Professor Chen is also Research Professor in the Research Center for Group Dynamics at the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan. In addition, she serves as Distinguished Visiting Professor in the School of Economics and Management at Tsinghua University, where she is Director of the Economics Science and Policy Experimental Lab. Professor Chen has held visiting positions at Stanford University, UC Berkeley, and the University

Chen spearheaded numerous changes designed to make the ESA more supportive of its many women members. The ESA is an international organization of experimental economists with about 2000 members which holds four conferences per year (one international and three regional—US, Europe, Asia Pacific). Although the ESA membership has been nearly half women, Professor Chen was only the second female president of ESA. Under Professor Chen's leadership, the ESA moved to enhance the gender balance of its journal editors, its keynote speakers, and the three ESA sessions at the annual ASSA meetings. When Professor Chen took office, she added many specific mentoring activities to the program of the annual and regional meetings. First, she developed a Junior Mentoring Program consisting of peer cohorts, modeled on the CEMENT structure. These groups met at

IN THIS ISSUE

Interview

2019 Carolyn Shaw Bell Award Winner Yan Chen
by Elizabeth (Betsy) Hoffman ... 1

2019 Report on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession

by Judith Chevalier & Margaret Levenstein ... 6

CSWEP Departmental Survey

Gender Composition of Economics Departments

25 years of annual surveys- 2020 taking place now

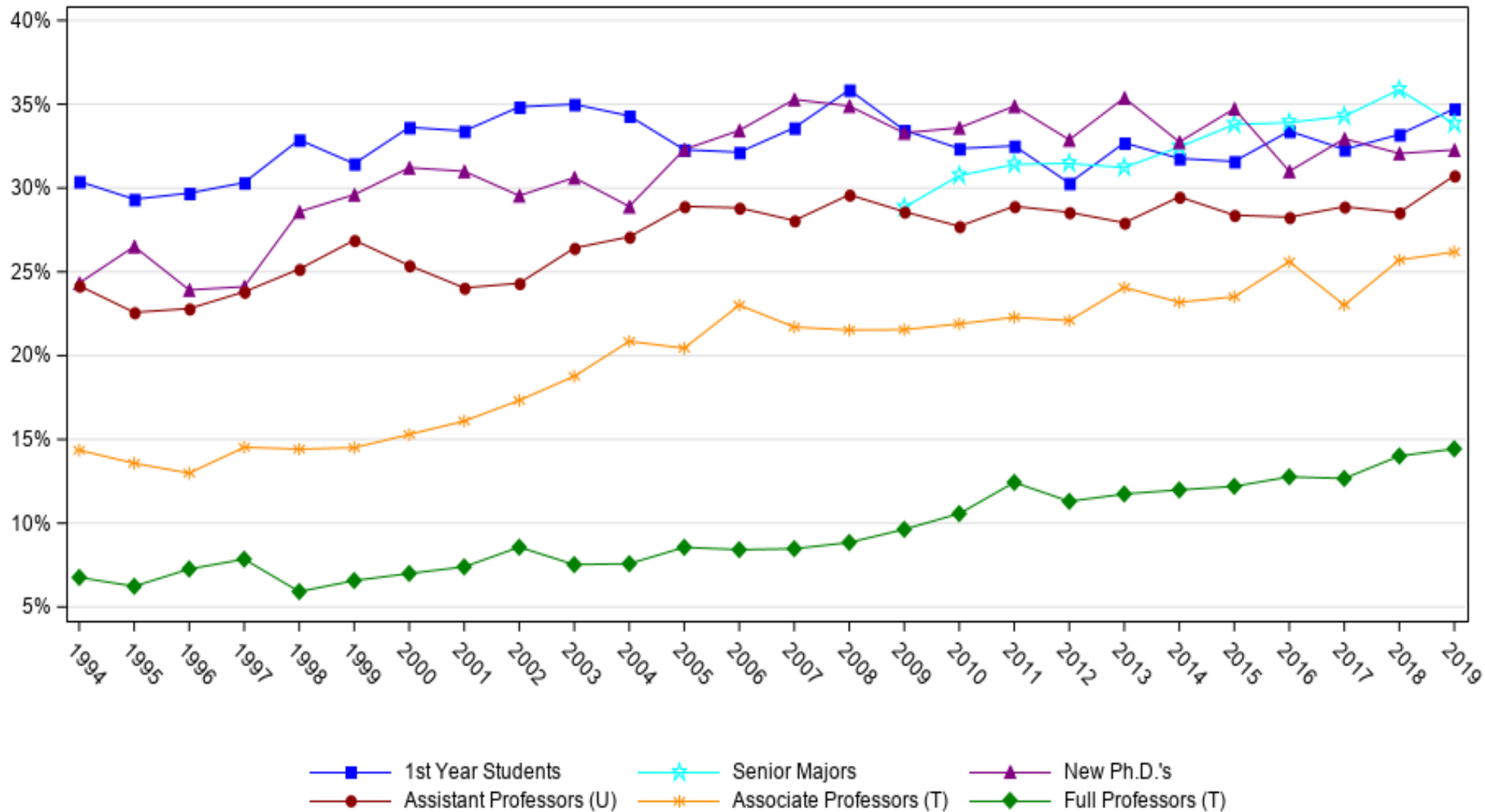
238 economics departments surveyed

100% response rate from 126 PhD-granting departments

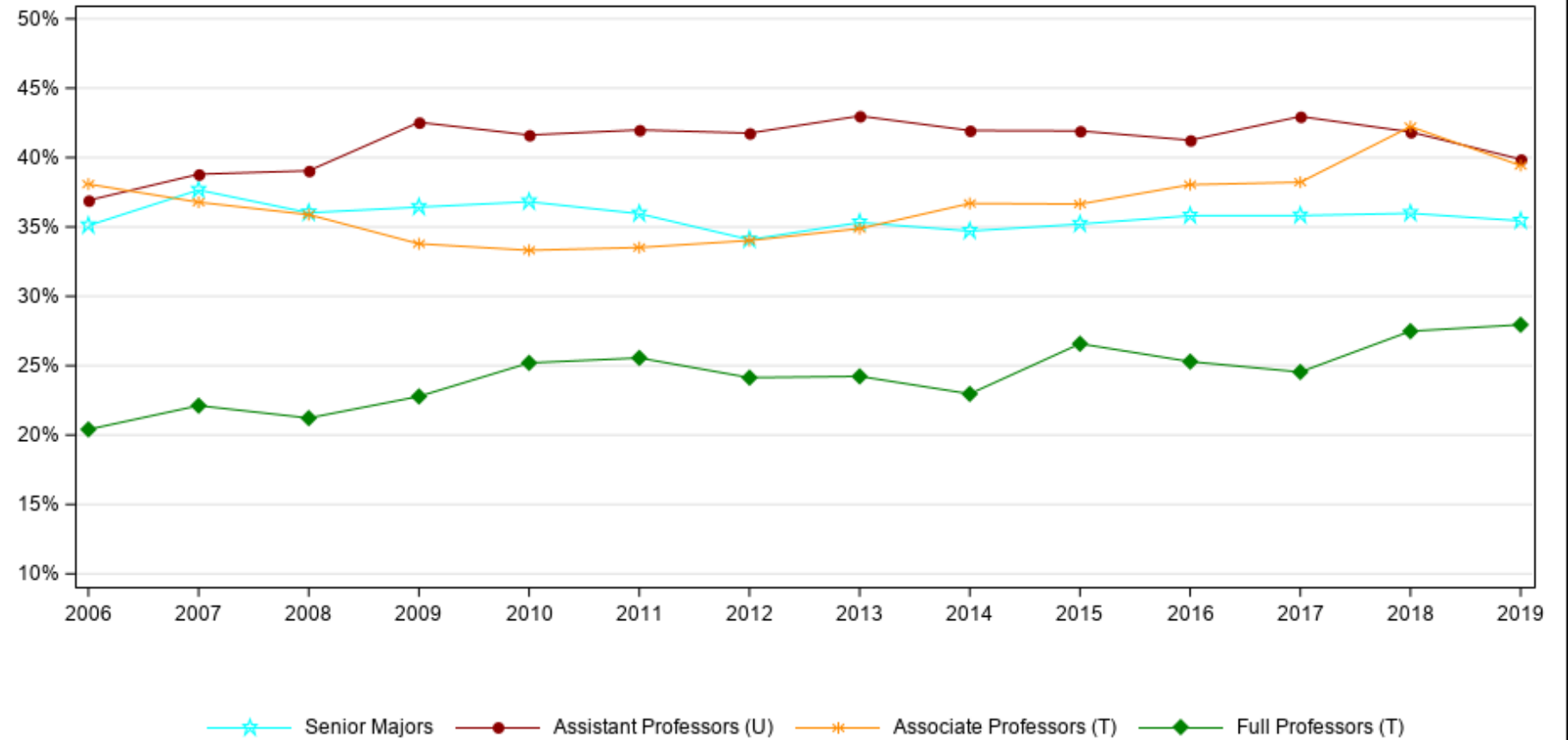
104/112 non-PhD departments response

No data for business schools, public policy schools, schools of education, public health schools, etc.

**Figure 1. Pipeline for Departments with Doctoral Programs:
Percent of Doctoral Students and Faculty who are Women, 1994-2019**



**Figure 2. Pipeline for Departments without Doctoral Programs:
Percent of Students and Faculty who are Women, 2006-2019**



More Findings

Women are in the minority at every level

Higher the rank, the lower the representation of women

In top 20 departments, almost half of women on faculty are in non-TT positions

Gender and Racial Diversity of Federal Government Economists

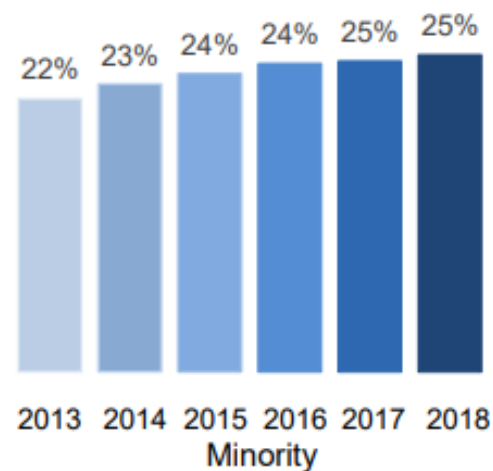
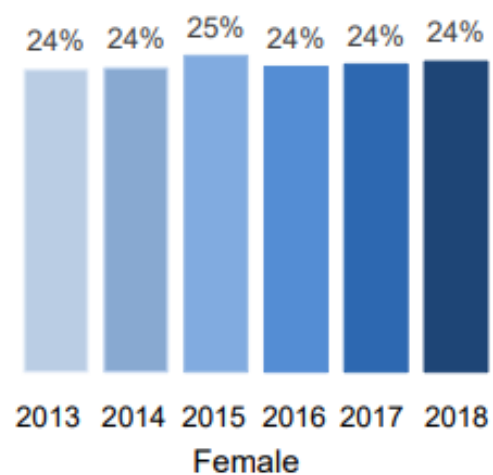
David Wessel

Louise Sheiner

Michael Ng

HUTCHINS CENTER ON FISCAL AND MONETARY POLICY
BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

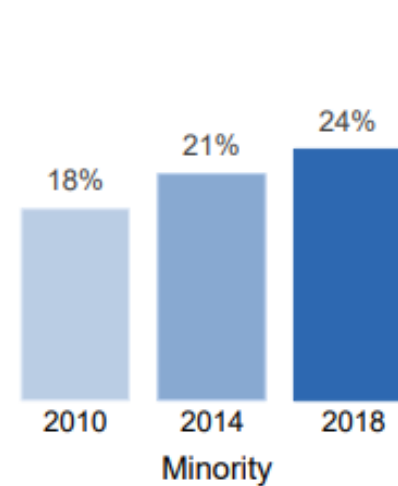
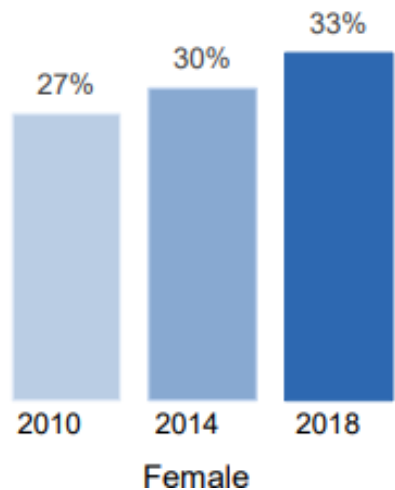
Share of Ph.D. economists in Federal Reserve System who are female or minority



Source: Federal Reserve System



Share of Ph.D. economists in federal agencies (outside the Federal Reserve) who are female or minority*



From:

American Economic Association

Committee on Equity, Diversity and Professional Conduct (Sam Allgood, Lee Badgett, Amanda Bayer, Marianne Bertrand, Sandra E. Black, Nick Bloom and Lisa D. Cook)

AEA Professional Climate Survey: Final Report

September 15, 2019

Introduction

In April 2018, the Ad Hoc Committee on the Professional Climate in Economics recommended that the AEA conduct a professional climate survey to assess the status quo in the profession, and repeat this survey at regular intervals to monitor changes over time. The AEA charged a new standing committee, the Committee on Equity, Diversity and Professional Conduct, to carry out this work.

A survey was designed to gather critical information about the professional climate in economics, with particular focus on aspects that limit inclusiveness, demean and/or harass individuals, or otherwise engender incivility in work environments. The survey was sent to all current members of the AEA (as of December 2018) as well as all individuals who had been AEA members at any point in the prior 9 years.

Table 2: General Climate

Sample:	All	Male	Female
I am satisfied with the overall climate within the field of economics	0.34	0.40	0.20
I am satisfied with the overall climate at my institution/place of employment	0.56	0.61	0.46
I feel valued within the field of economics	0.40	0.46	0.25
I feel valued at my institution/place of employment	0.63	0.67	0.54
I always feel included socially within the field of economics	0.37	0.43	0.21
I always feel included socially at my institution/place of employment	0.63	0.67	0.52
I always feel included intellectually within the field of economics	0.42	0.48	0.27
I always feel included intellectually at my institution/place of employment	0.64	0.69	0.53
I feel I have been discriminated against within the field of economics	0.18	0.13	0.30
I feel I have been discriminated against at my institution/place of employment	0.12	0.09	0.20
The work that I do is valued within the field of economics	0.40	0.43	0.33
The work that I do is valued at my institution/place of employment	0.63	0.65	0.56
I think I have a great deal of power within the field of economics	0.07	0.08	0.05
I think I have a great deal of power at my institution/place of employment	0.24	0.25	0.20
My ideas and opinions are often ignored within the field of economics	0.21	0.20	0.23
My ideas and opinions are often ignored at my institution/place of employment	0.13	0.12	0.14

Reported in each cell is the share of respondents that agree or strongly agree with each statement.

CSWEP ACTIVITIES TO Support the professional development of junior And Midcareer Women

- ❖ CSWEP CeMENT workshops for junior women.
 - ❖ These two-day intense workshops have been shown in an RCT to improve publications and probability of tenure. Include sessions with intense feedback on the mentee's work.
 - ❖ Both the workshops for junior women in doctoral programs and the workshop for junior women in non-doctoral programs received record applications, were expanded in size this year, and kick off right after the ASSA.
- ❖ CSWEP ASSA breakfasts for junior women and CSWEP ASSA breakfasts for midcareer women.
- ❖ CSWEP mentoring activities at the four regional economic association meetings.



CSWEP Mentoring Workshops



ACTIVITIES TO Support the professional development of junior And Midcareer Women continued...

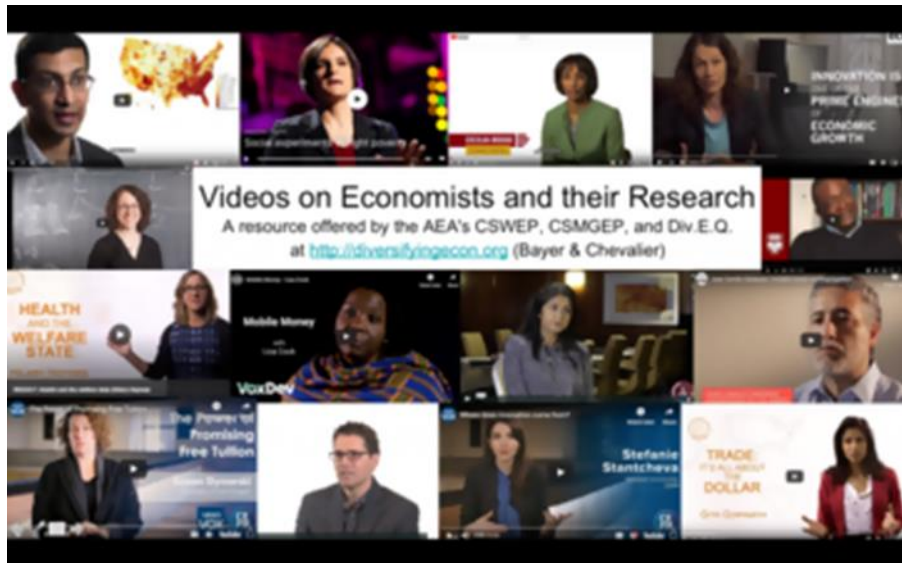
- ❖ CSWEP research paper sessions at the ASSA meetings and at the 4 regional meetings. (Look out for our calls for papers!)
- ❖ The Elaine Bennett research prize will be awarded next year.
- ❖ Summer fellows program in coordination with CSMGEP and the AEA



Professional Development Resources on our Website

❖ There are resources on the CSWEP website for new economists but also for departmental leaders seeking to create a more inclusive department.

❖ CSWEP attempts to keep a complete running list of non-CSWEP mentoring and professional development opportunities



<https://www.aeaweb.org/about-aea/committees/cswep/programs/resources>

Resources to help undergraduate enthusiasm in economics



AEA student website

Should I major in economics?

Home

[Earnings](#)

[Careers](#)

[Classes](#)

[Videos](#)

[Next steps](#)



[Earnings](#)



[Careers](#)



[Classes](#)



[Videos](#)

[I might be interested. What should I do next?](#)