

# GENDER SCAN 2021 survey

Benchmark USA vs Developed countries – Students report



April 22

GLOBALCONTACT  
Études&Conseil

## Methodology of the Gender Scan TM 2021 survey :

The Gender Scan TM 2021 survey was conducted online (in 117 countries) from March to August 2021 on a declarative basis with 30,001 male and female respondents worldwide.

The total number of respondents for the United States is of 243 people, among which 237 women, 5 men and 7 others, which provides for a 6,3% margin of error.

The total number of respondents for developed economies is of 2925 people, among which 1904 women, 985 men and 36 others, from 26 countries, which provides for a 1,8% margin of error. The 26 developed countries from which the survey includes answers are the following : Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States.

## The student definition is based on UNESCO's ISCED 2011 and 2013 definitions.

### *It therefore includes the following ISCED's levels :*

students and graduates in higher education from ISCED levels 5 to 8 (i.e : post-baccalaureate short-cycle education, bachelors, masters and doctorate levels)

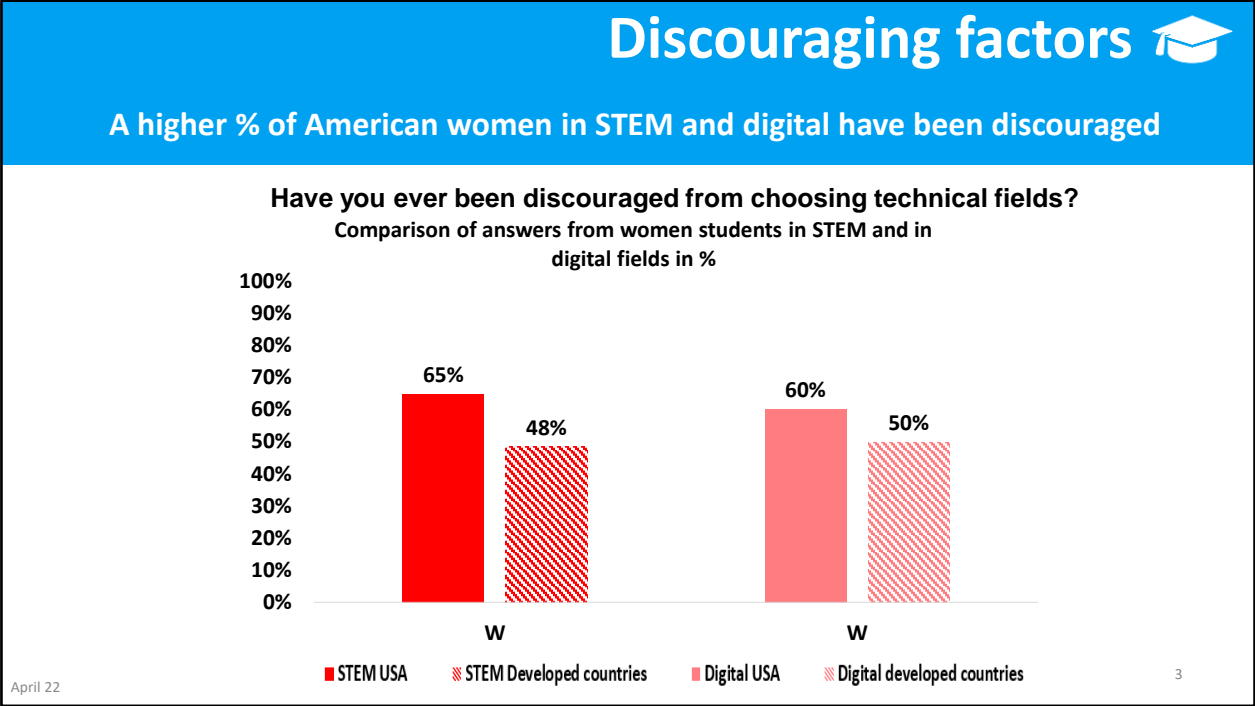
### *STEM disciplines include the following specializations:*

- Mathematics
- Physics
- Life sciences, biology, chemistry
- Computer science, digital (courses under ISCED 2013 category 6, which includes programming, programming, network creation and administration, software and application development), software and application development).
- Engineers, processing and production industry
- Environment, sustainable development, ecology
- Building, civil engineering, construction
- Agriculture, agronomy, forestry, veterinarians

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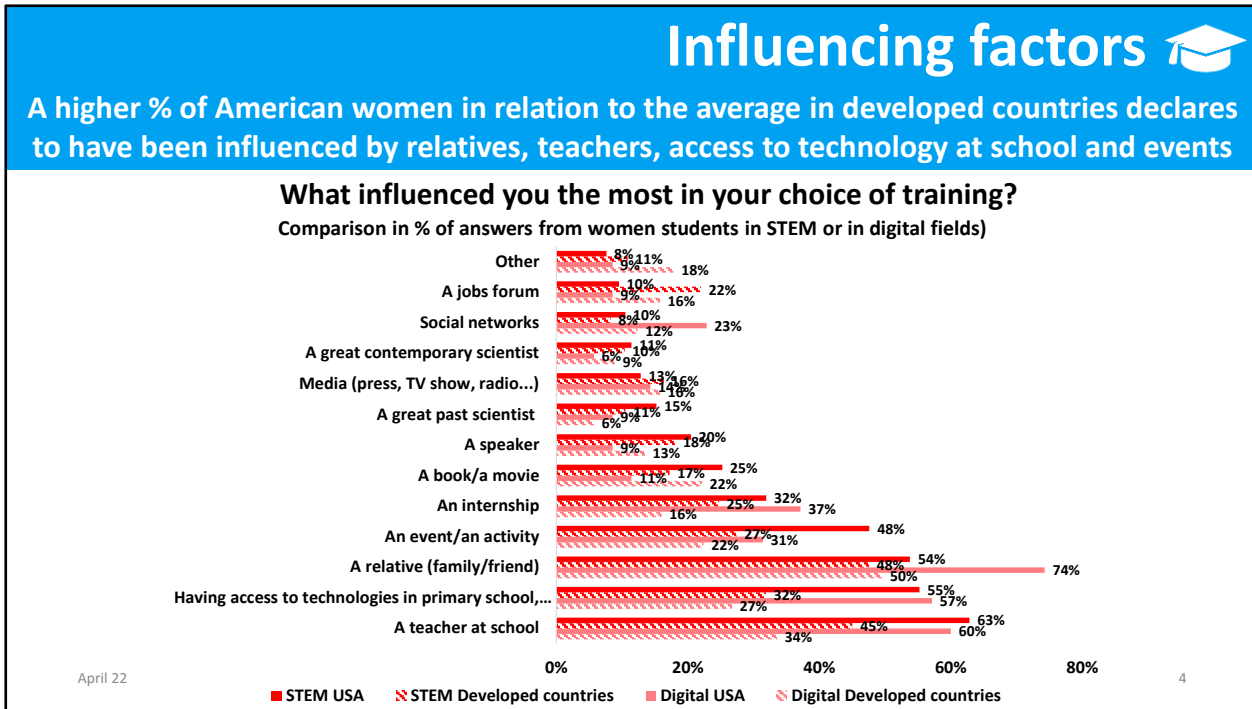
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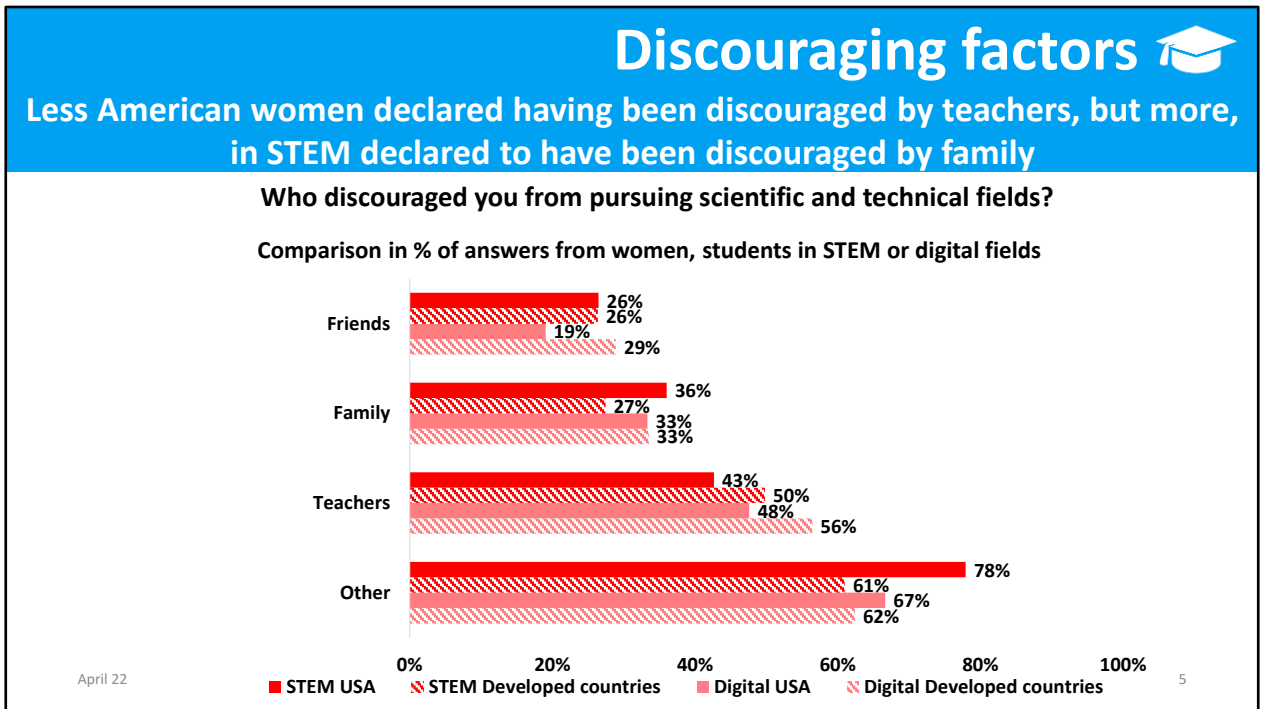
+17% American women in STEM discouraged compared to those in developed countries. (65% vs 48%)

+10% American women in digital discouraged compared to those in developed countries. (60% vs 50%)



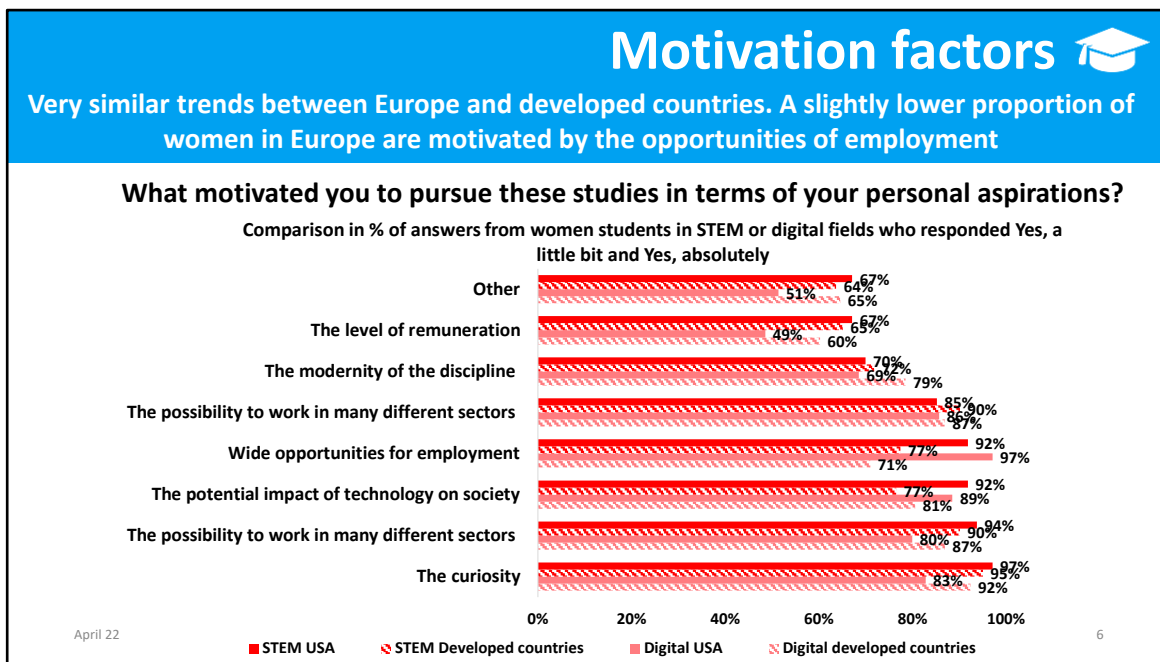
Main differences between American women and those from developed countries having responded the survey concern:

- 18% more American women in STEM and 26% more American women in digital mentioned teachers at school (STEM: 63% vs 45%; digital: 60% vs 34%)
- 23% more American women in STEM and 30% more American women in digital mentioned access to technology at school (STEM: 55% vs 32%; digital: 57% vs 27%)
- 8% more American women in STEM and 24% more American women in digital mentioned a relative (STEM: 54% vs 48%; digital: 74% vs 50%)
- 21% more American women in STEM and 9% more American women in digital mentioned an event/an activity (STEM: 54% vs 48%; digital: 31% vs 22%)



Main differences between American women and those from developed countries having responded the survey concern:

- 10% less American women in digital declared to have been discouraged by friends (19% vs 29%)
- 9% more American women in STEM declared to have been discouraged by family (36 vs 27%)
- 17% more American women in STEM declared to have been discouraged by others (78% vs 61%)
- 7% less American women in STEM and 8% less American women in digital declared to have been discouraged by teachers (STEM: 43% vs 50%, digital: 48% vs 56%)



Very similar trends between European women and men and those from developed countries. Main differences concern:

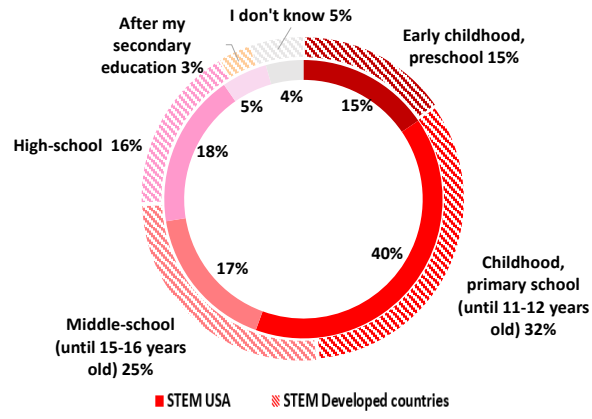
- 15% more American women in STEM and 8% more American women in digital declared they were motivated by the potential impact of technology on society (STEM: 92% vs 77%; digital: 89% vs 81%)
- 15% more American women in STEM and 26% more American women in digital declared they were motivated by the wide range of opportunities of employment (STEM: 92% vs 77%; digital: 97% vs 71%)
- 9% less American women in digital declared they were motivated by the curiosity (digital: 83% vs 92%)
- 11% less American women in digital declared they were motivated by the level of remuneration (digital: 49% vs 60%)

# Interest in science & tech: when - STEM

A higher proportion of female respondents in the US first got interested in S&T during primary school

Since when have you been interested in science and technology?

Comparison in % of answers from women, students in STEM

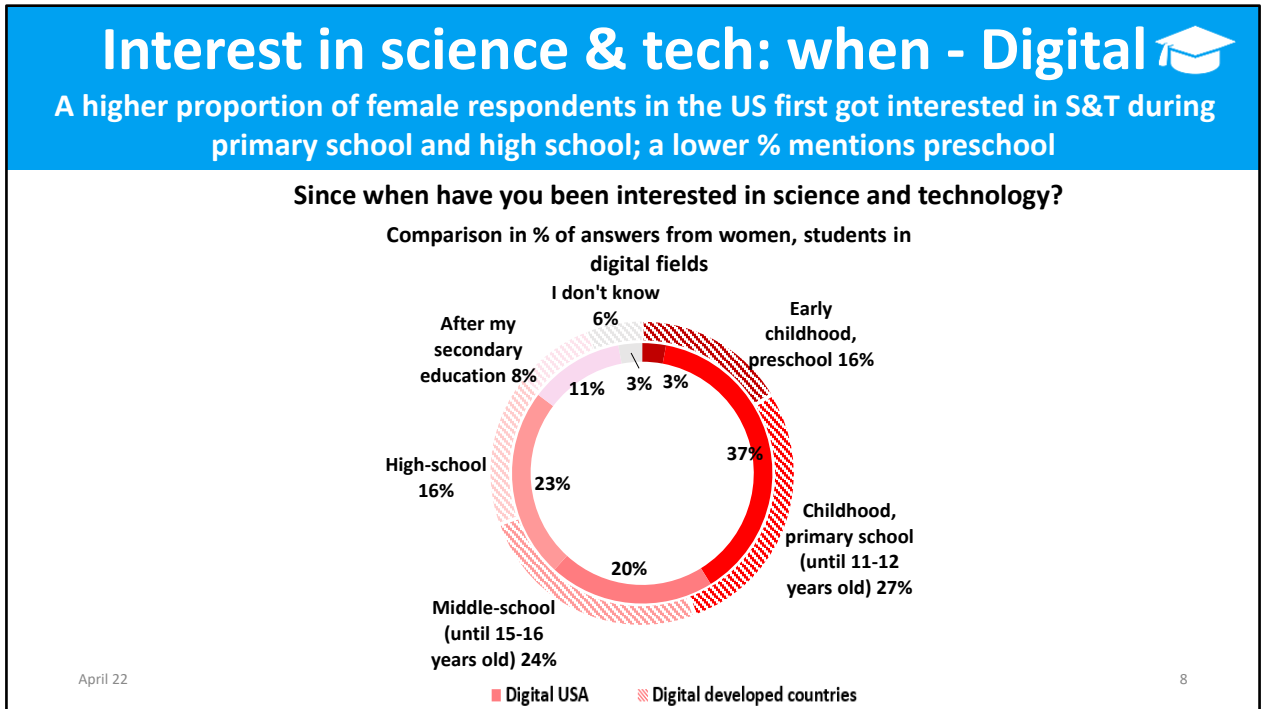


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Some notable differences regarding the moment women in STEM in the USA and developed countries first got interested in science and technology:

- 8% more women in the US cite early primary school (40% vs 32%).
- 8% less women in the US cite middle school (17% vs 25%).



Some remarkable differences regarding the moment women in digital studies in the USA and developed countries first got interested in science and technology:

- 13% less women in the US cite early childhood, preschool (3% vs 16%).
- 10% more women in the US cite primary school (37% vs 27%).
- 4% less in the USA cite middle school (20% vs 24%).
- 7% more in the USA cite high school (23% vs 16%).

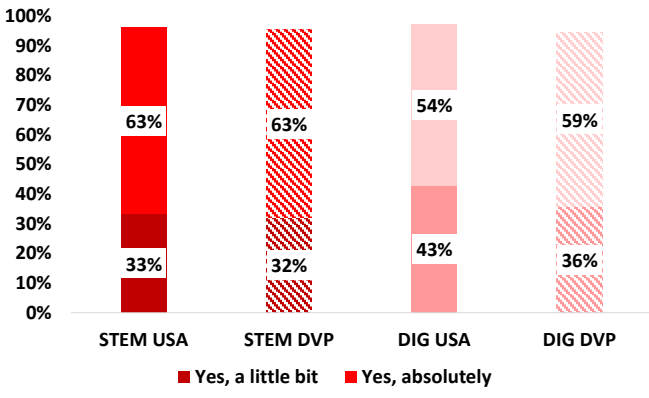


# Satisfaction

No significant differences in STEM and digital studies between the US and developed countries

## Are you satisfied with your choice of specialization of study?

Comparison of answers from women students in STEM and in digital fields in %



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Overall very similar levels of satisfaction across STEM and digital disciplines and genders in the USA and developed countries.

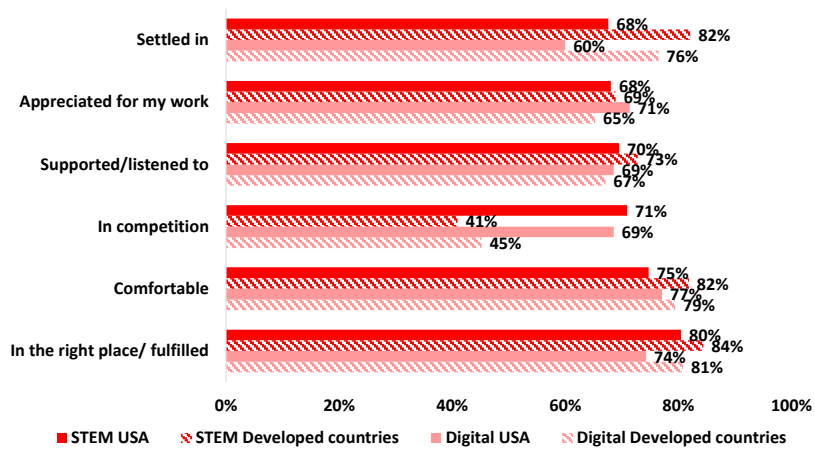
The only difference regards the fact the 5% less American women in digital having responded feel absolutely satisfied (54% vs 59% in developed countries).

# Satisfaction

A slightly higher % of students in the US feel in competition, a lower % feels settled in

## In your training, you generally feel:

Comparison in % of women by specialization who responded yes and yes, absolutely

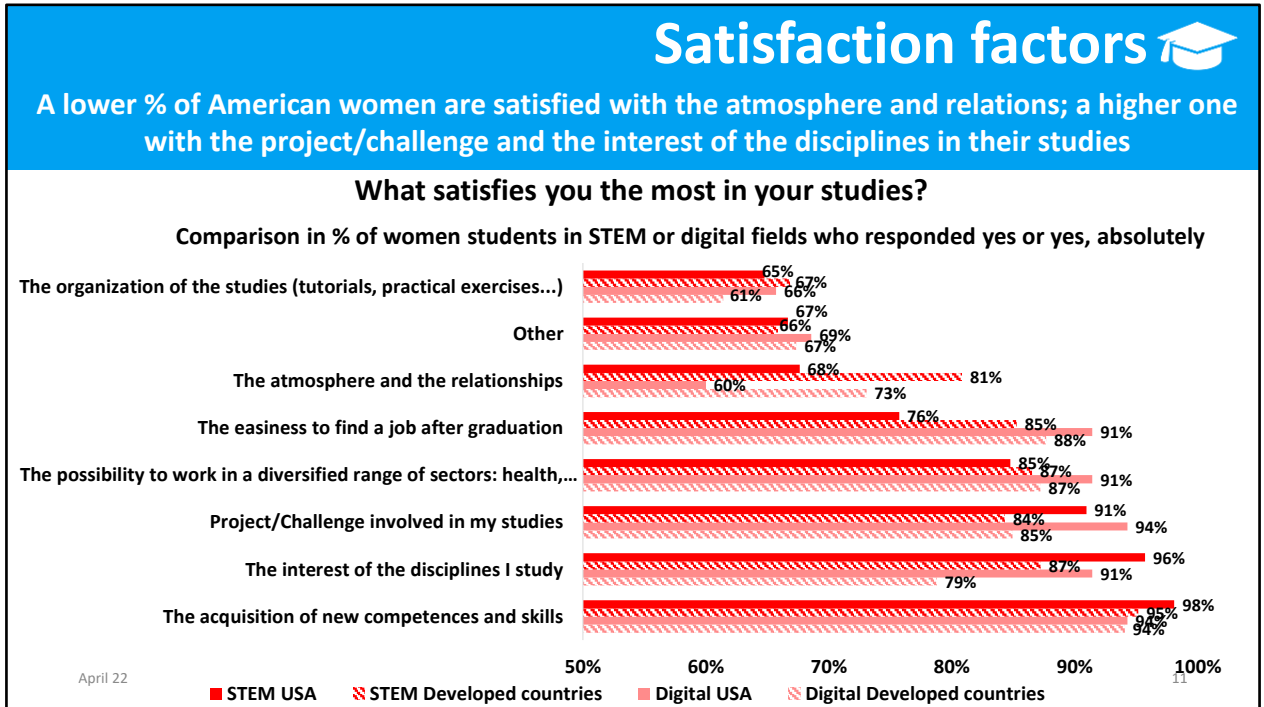


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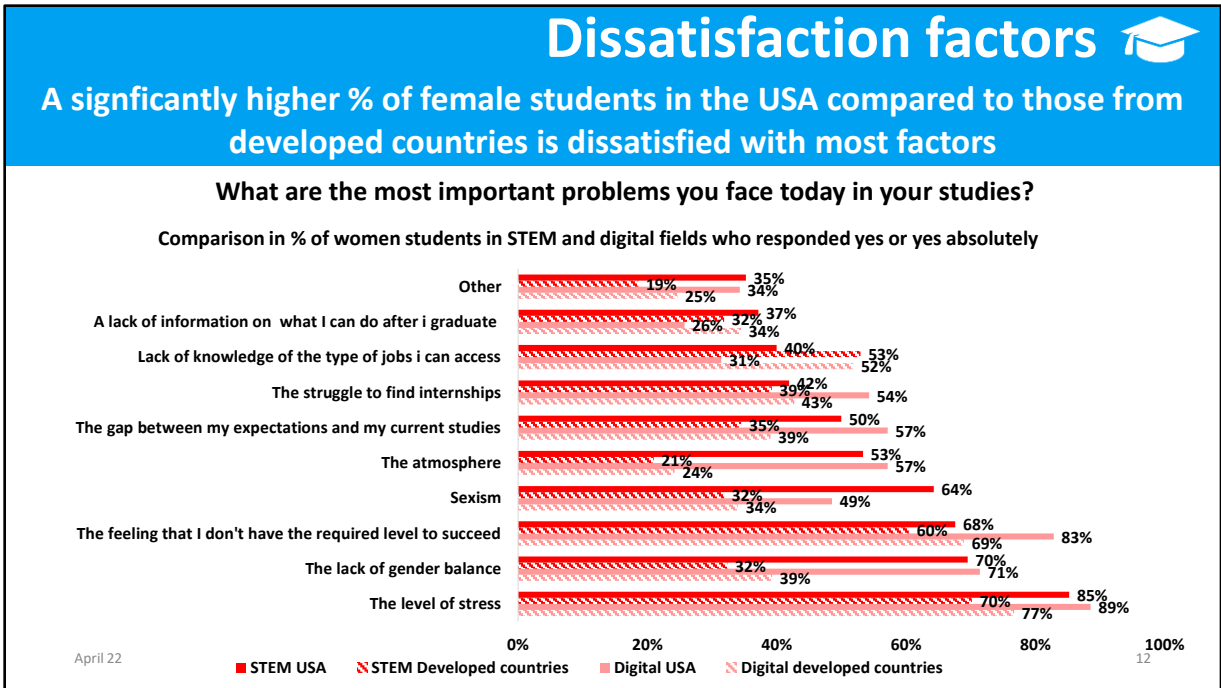
A more negative perception of studies from female students in the United States than in developed countries in that:

- 30% more women in the US in STEM and 24% more in digital say they feel in competition (STEM: 71% vs 41%; digital: 69% vs 45%)
- 14% less women in the US in STEM and 16% less digital say they feel settled in (STEM: 68% vs 82%; digital: 60% vs 76%)



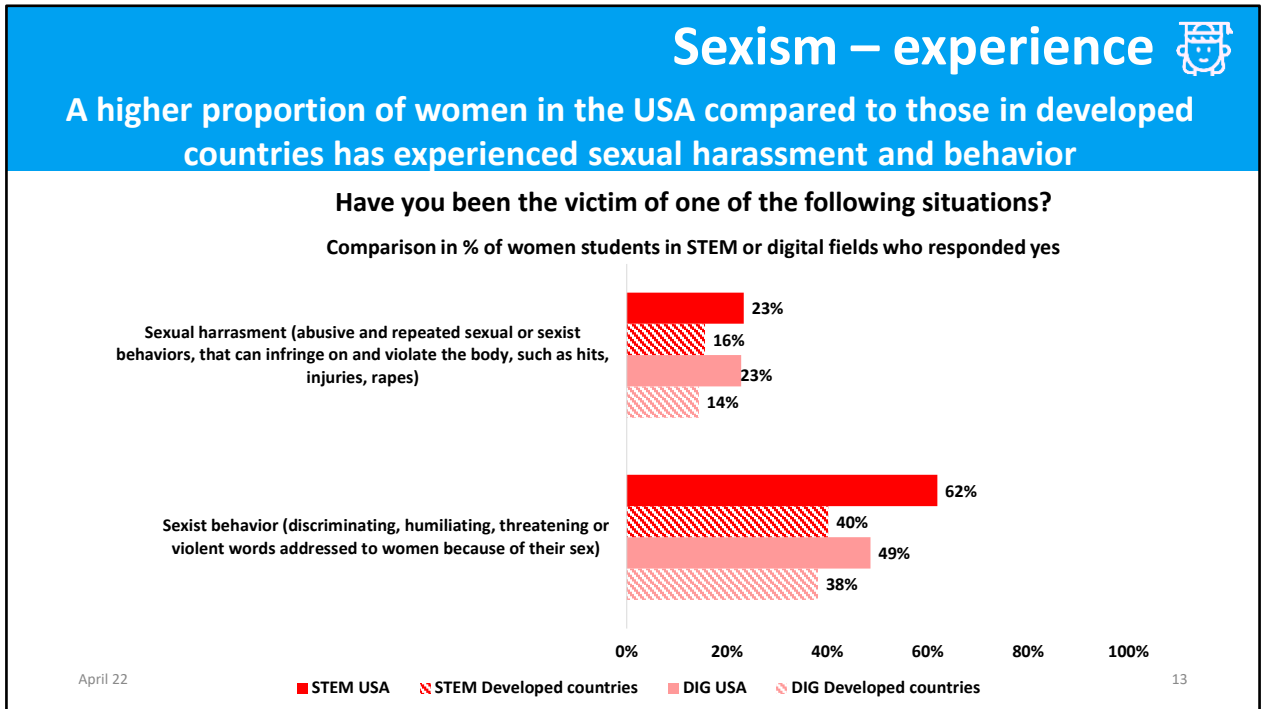
A high proportion of women satisfied with many aspects of their studies in America and developed students. More significant differences concern:

- **13%** less American women in STEM and in digital are satisfied with the atmosphere and relations (STEM: 68% vs 81%; digital: 60% vs 73%)
- **7%** more American women in STEM and 9% more in digital are satisfied with the project/challenge involved in their studies (STEM: 91% vs 84%; digital: 94% vs 85%)
- **9%** more American women in STEM and 12% more in digital are satisfied with the interest of the disciplines they study (STEM: 96% vs 87%; digital: 91% vs 79%)

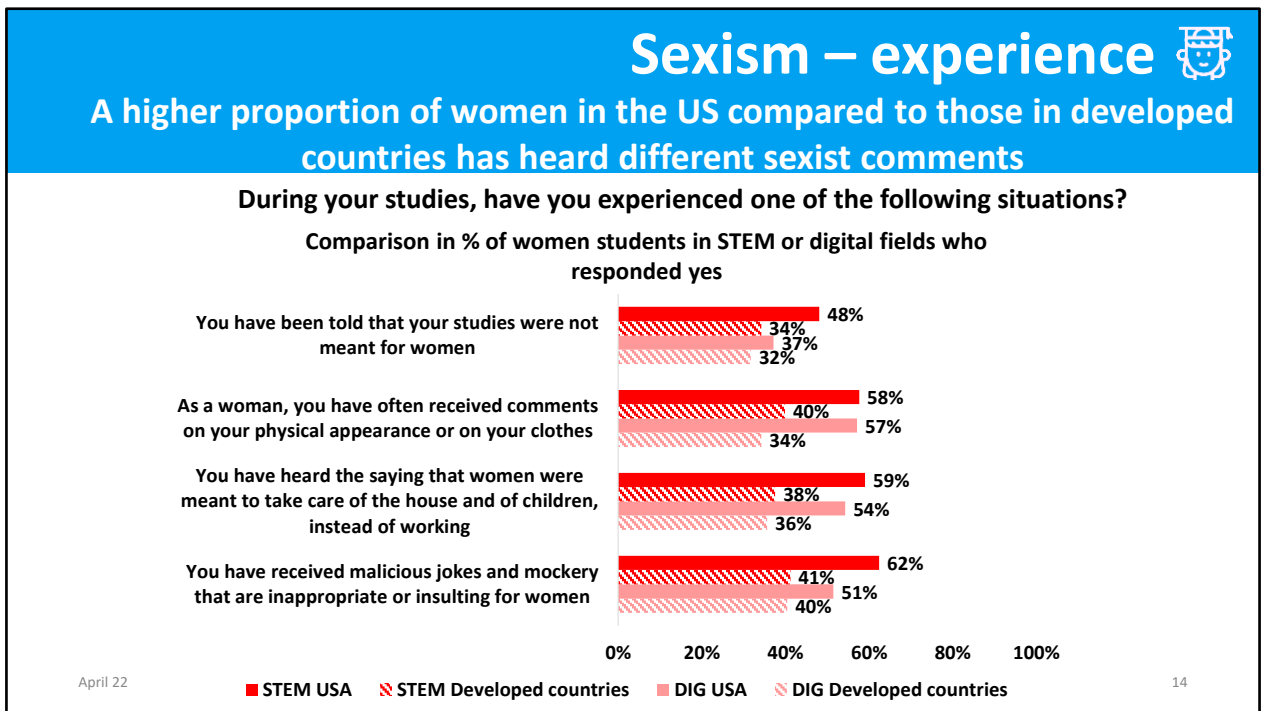


**Main differences regard:**

- 37% more American women in STEM and 33% more women in digital are dissatisfied with the atmosphere (STEM: 53% vs 21%, digital: 57% vs 24%)
- 38% more American women in STEM and 32% more women in digital are dissatisfied with the lack of gender balance (STEM: 70 vs 32%; digital: 71% vs 39%)
- 32% more American women in STEM and 15% more women in digital are dissatisfied with sexism (STEM: 64% vs 32%; digital: 49% vs 34%),
- 15% more American women in STEM and 18% more women in digital are dissatisfied with the gap between expectations and studies (STEM: 50% vs 35%, digital: 57% vs 39%)
- 15% more American women in STEM and 12% more women in digital are dissatisfied with the level of stress (STEM: 85% vs 70%, digital: 89% vs 77%)

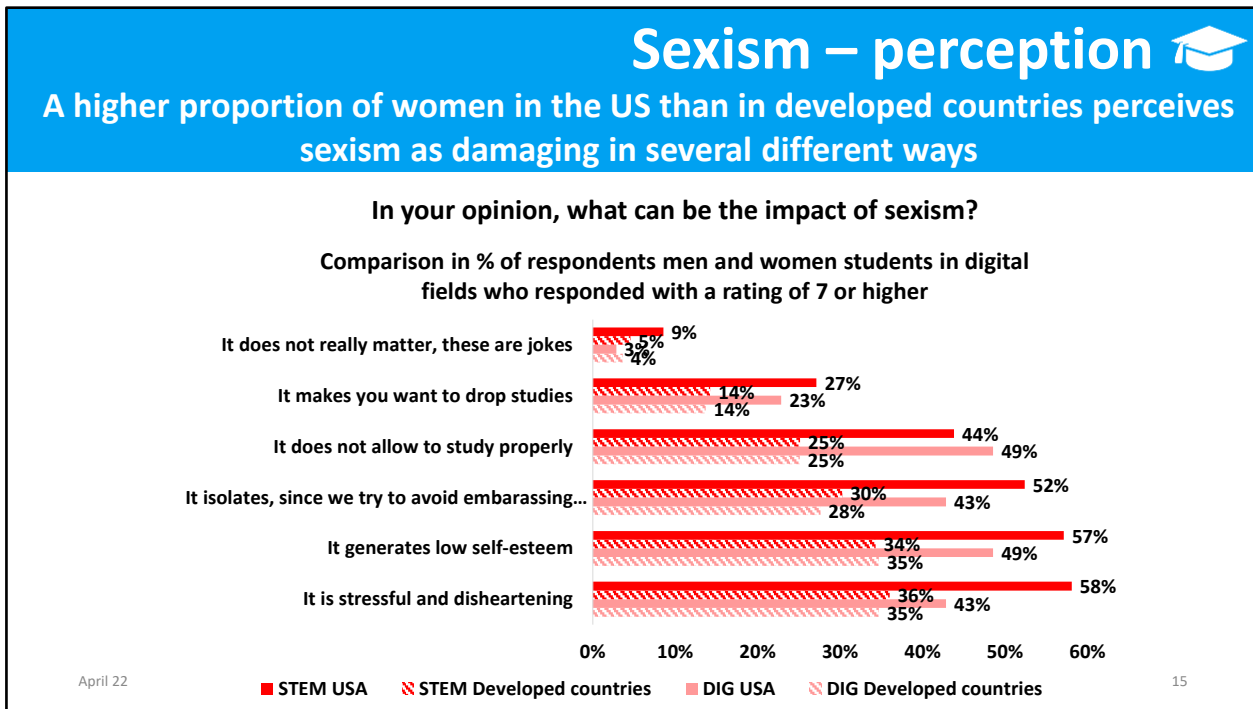


- 7% more American women in STEM and 9% more in digital have experienced sexual harassment (STEM: 23% vs 16%, digital: 23% vs 14%)
- 22% more American women in STEM and 11% more in digital have experienced sexist behaviors (STEM: 62% vs 40%, digital: 49% vs 38%)



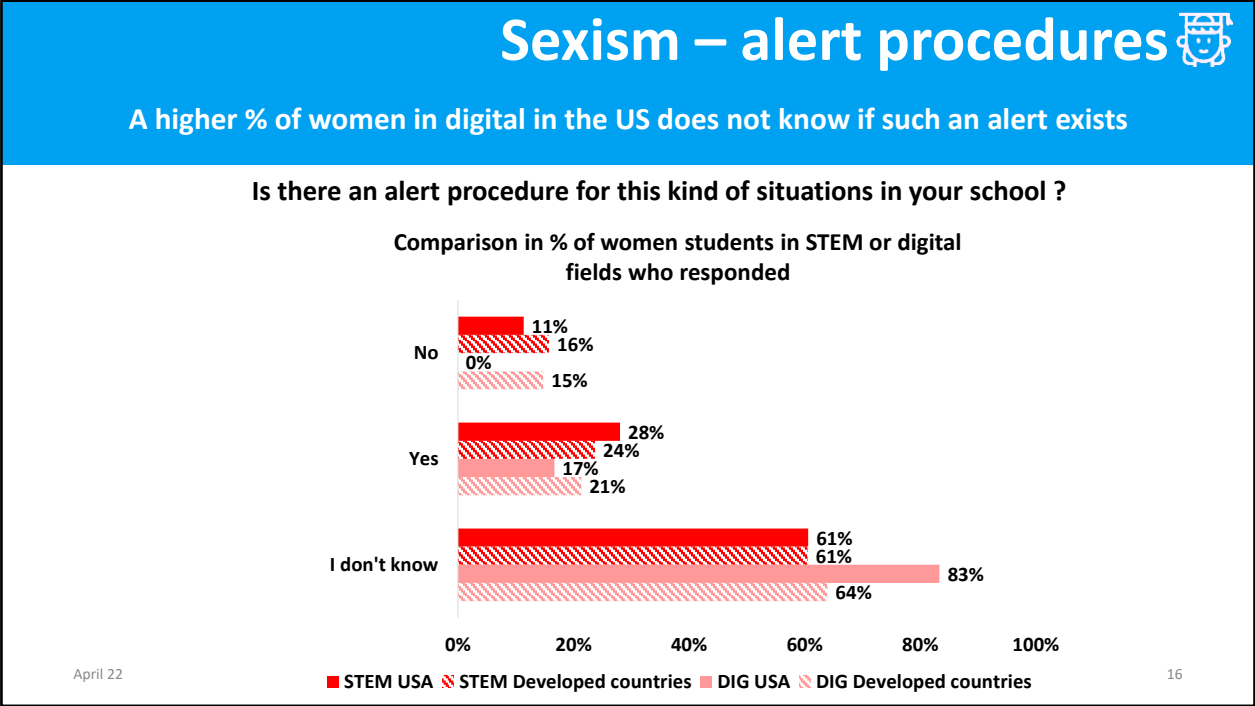
Women in the US are more numerous to have heard different sexist comments. Main differences concern:

- 21% more American women in STEM and 11% more in digital have heard mockery or malicious jokes (STEM: 62% vs 41%; digital: 51% vs 40%)
- 19% more American women in STEM and 18% more in digital have heard that women are made to take care of children and not to work (STEM: 59% vs 40%; digital: 54% vs 36%)
- 18% more American women in STEM and 23% more in digital have heard remarks on physical appearance or clothing (STEM: 58% vs 40%, digital: 57% vs 34%)



Significant differences between the evaluations of the impact of sexism from women in the US and developed countries. Namely, they involve:

- 22% more American women in STEM and 8% more in digital perceive sexism as disheartening and stressful: (STEM: 58% vs 26%, digital: 43% vs 35%)
- 23% more American women in STEM and 14% more in digital perceive sexism as a cause of low self-esteem: (STEM: 57% vs 34%, digital: 49% vs 35%)
- 22% more American women in STEM and 15% more in digital perceive sexism as a factor that isolates from others: (STEM: 52% vs 30%, digital: 43% vs 28%)
- 19% more American women in STEM and 24% more in digital perceive sexism as a factor that isolates from others: (STEM: 44% vs 25%, digital: 49% vs 25%)



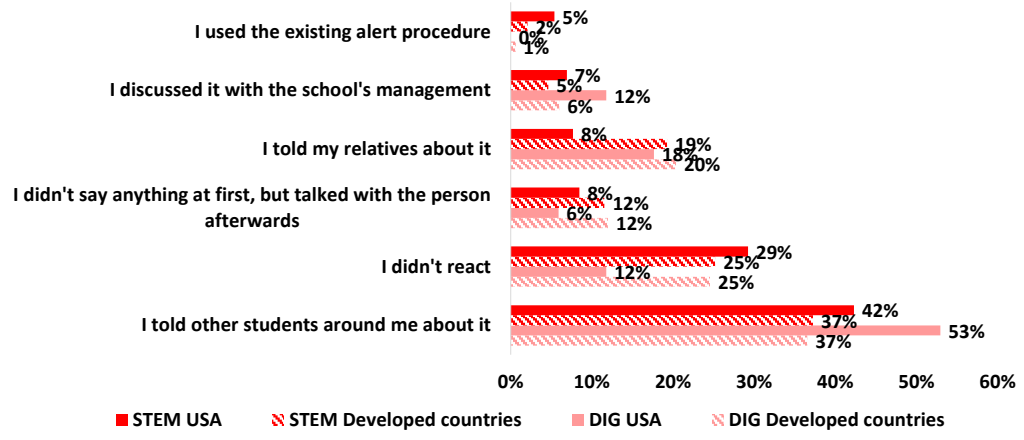
The majority of students do not know if their school or university has an alert mechanism against sexism.



# Sexism – reaction

A higher proportion of American women tell their peers about the sexist episode

**What was your reaction? (to Sexist Behavior)**  
Comparison in % of women students in STEM or digital fields who responded



5% more American women in STEM and 16% more in digital tell their fellow students about it (STEM: 42% vs 37%, digital: 53% vs 37%).

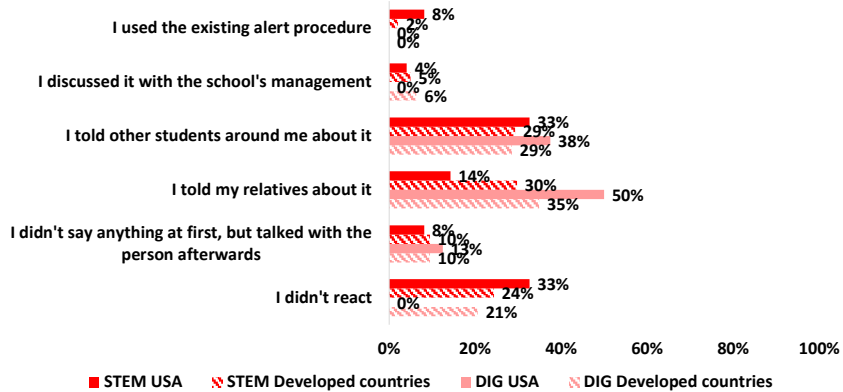
Half the proportion of American women studying digital fields, in comparison to the average in developed countries, do not react (12% vs 25%)

# Sexism – reaction

A higher proportion of American women tell their peers about it, and diverging trends between STEM and digital students in the US in comparison to developed countries

## What was your reaction? (to sexual harassment)

Comparison in % of women students in STEM or digital fields who responded



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4% more American women in STEM and 9% more in digital tell their fellow students about it (STEM: 33% vs 29%, digital: 38% vs 29%).

Half the proportion of American women studying STEM, in comparison to the average in developed countries, tell their relatives(14% vs 30%) and 15% more in digital do so in America than in developed countries (50% vs 35%).