Global Business Schools Report 2019

We believe business schools are a key lever in the ability of companies to gender balance. Almost a third of the CEOs of the world’s largest listed companies has an MBA. The gender balance of MBAs and faculty affect the mindsets and models that graduates bring to business. Here we report on the world’s Top 20 business schools.

Key Findings

MBAs: A Fragile Balance

SAME BUT DIFFERENT: 12 of the Top 20 schools have balanced their MBA students, defined as a 60% maximum of either gender. While this is the same number as in 2018, London Business School and Duke University: Fuqua have joined the Balanced schools since last year and Columbia Business School and University of Oxford: Said have both dropped from Balanced to Progressing.

A WORRYING DECLINE: Of the remaining 8 schools, 7 are ranked as Progressing with over 30% female students. Along with Columbia and Oxford, all but 2 of these 7 schools have decreased their percentage of female students since 2018.

TOP OF THE CLASS: Duke University: Fuqua is the biggest improver with an 8% increase in female students and its entry into the Balanced zone.

BOTTOM OF THE CLASS: Yale School of Management drops the furthest with a 4% decrease on 2018, back into the Starting zone.

Faculty: The Pressing Challenge

NO BALANCE YET: As with last year, none of the Top 20 business schools have managed to break 30% female faculty. 15 of the schools are ranked as Asleep with fewer than 20% female faculty.

NO OVERALL CHANGE: 7 schools have increased their faculty gender balance, 7 schools have decreased their balance and 6 schools have the same faculty percentages as last year – with a special mention for University of Chicago: Booth - still Asleep with just 16% female faculty members, as in 2018.

TOP OF THE CLASS: University of Oxford: Said gets the gold star with a 5% increase in female faculty, although it should be noted this is from a low base of just 18% in 2018.

BOTTOM OF THE CLASS: Yale School of Management drops the furthest with a 4% decrease on 2018, dropping Yale back into the Starting zone.

A DUO OF DEANS: Only University of California at Berkeley: Haas and Northwestern University: Kellogg have female deans. Kathleen Hagerty, interim dean at Kellogg, is due to step down this year but will be replaced by another woman, Francesca Cornelli.

Our Rankings

- **Asleep.** Fewer than 20% female students or female faculty.
- **Starting.** 20 to 29% female students or female faculty.
- **Progressing.** 30 to 39% female students or female faculty.
- **Balanced.** A 60% maximum of either gender.

Research Methodology

The data for this survey is based on publicly available data provided by the Financial Times Global MBA 2019 ranking. Comparable data for 2018 is based on the Financial Times Global MBA 2018 ranking.
Who we are

20-first is one of the world’s leading global consultancies focused on gender balance as a business and economic opportunity.

We work with many of the best known global companies that seek to move from 20th century mindsets, management styles and marketing approaches into more progressive 21st century forms – and to stay first at the game.

Hence our name. It underlies our purpose, and those of the clients we serve.

What makes us different

- The business imperative
  We help companies to unlock 21st century Market and Talent opportunities

- Focus on gender bilingual leaders
  We equip leaders with a strategic understanding and management competencies to work across genders

- Global perspectives
  We are experienced working with global companies across all regions and cultures of the world