



## SDG 5.3.4

### Women's application in underrepresented subjects

The University of Sharjah demonstrates strong and balanced female participation across most colleges, with an overall 62% of newly enrolled students in 2023/2024 being female. This data reflects a broad institutional commitment to gender equity and inclusive access to higher education.

Female enrollment is notably high in traditionally health- and science-focused disciplines such as Health Sciences (659 female students), Pharmacy (371), and Sciences (190). However, the data also highlight the University's progress in encouraging women's participation in fields where they have historically been underrepresented. In Engineering, women constitute 334 out of 658 students, achieving near gender parity, while in Computing and Informatics, women represent 380 out of 823 students, or approximately 46%. These figures confirm that women are actively enrolling in technical and STEM-related programs at the University.

| College                        | Female<br>(Fall) | Male<br>(Fall) | Total<br>(Fall) | Female<br>(Spring) | Male<br>(Spring) | Total<br>(Spring) | Totals<br>Female | Totals<br>Male | Totals<br>Total |
|--------------------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Shari'a & Islamic Studies      | 25               | 19             | 44              | 4                  | 15               | 19                | 29               | 34             | 63              |
| Arts, Humanities & Social Sci. | 206              | 80             | 286             | 56                 | 63               | 119               | 262              | 143            | 405             |
| Business Administration        | 282              | 177            | 459             | 72                 | 76               | 148               | 354              | 253            | 607             |
| Engineering                    | 285              | 240            | 525             | 49                 | 84               | 133               | 334              | 324            | 658             |
| Health Sciences                | 607              | 150            | 757             | 52                 | 29               | 81                | 659              | 179            | 838             |
| Law                            | 107              | 132            | 239             | 13                 | 20               | 33                | 120              | 152            | 272             |
| Fine Arts & Design             | 105              | 3              | 108             | 16                 | 6                | 22                | 121              | 9              | 130             |
| Communication                  | 134              | 88             | 222             | 19                 | 38               | 57                | 153              | 107            | 260             |
| Medicine                       | 324              | 157            | 481             | 0                  | 0                | 0                 | 324              | 157            | 481             |
| Dental Medicine                | 87               | 38             | 125             | 0                  | 0                | 0                 | 87               | 38             | 125             |
| Pharmacy                       | 315              | 64             | 379             | 56                 | 22               | 78                | 371              | 86             | 457             |
| Sciences                       | 166              | 27             | 193             | 24                 | 12               | 36                | 190              | 39             | 229             |

This pattern is the result of the University's gender-neutral admissions framework, which evaluates applicants solely on academic merit, and of institutional initiatives that support female participation across all fields. The Deanship of Student Affairs (Women's Section) and various academic units conduct mentoring, awareness campaigns, and engagement programs that encourage women to pursue diverse areas of study.

Through these efforts, the University of Sharjah continues to expand women's access to underrepresented disciplines while maintaining balanced participation across all colleges. The data demonstrate tangible progress toward gender equality in education and align with the University's commitment to gender equality.