

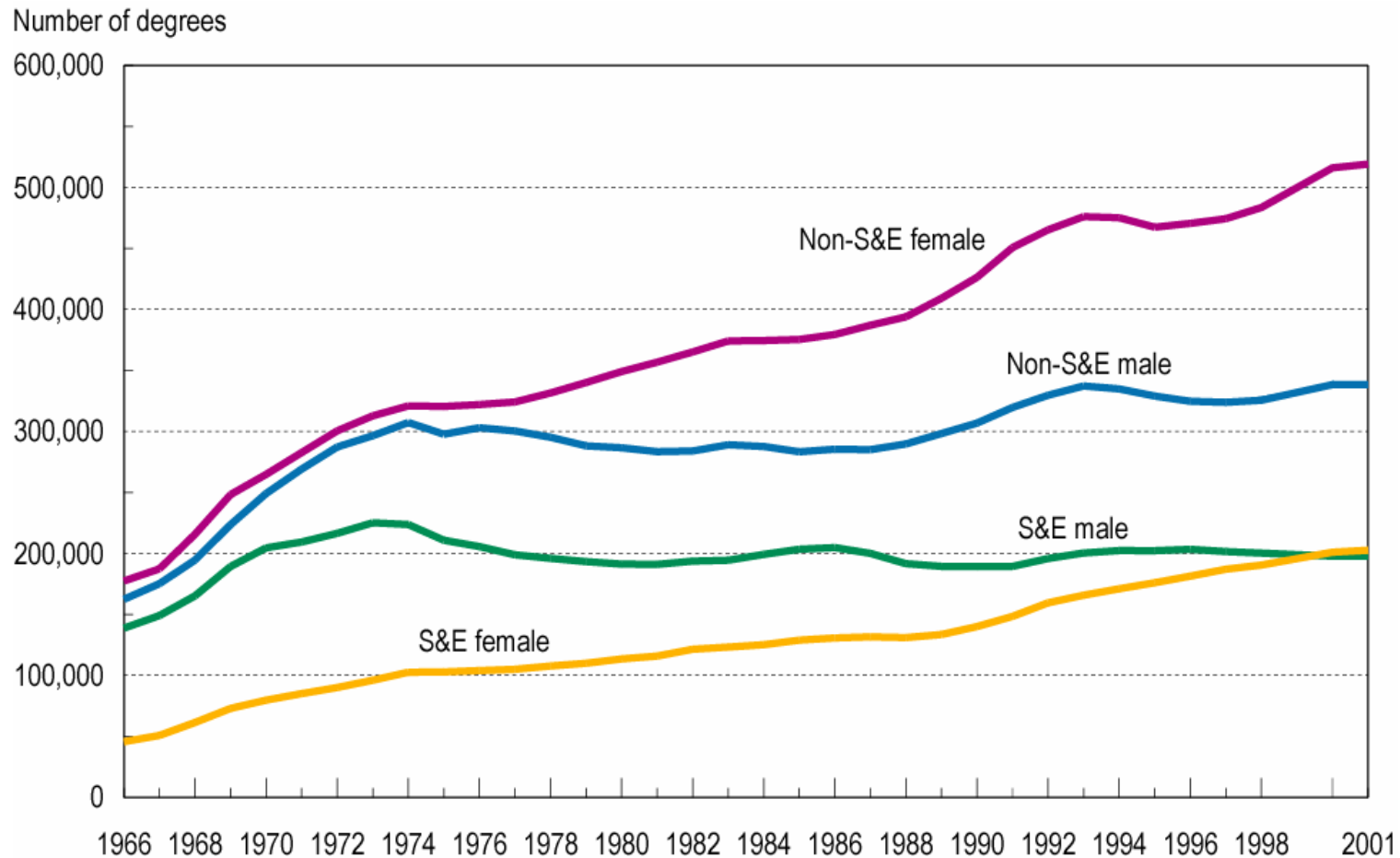
Data on Women in S&E

Committee on Women in Science and
Engineering
National Research Council

<http://www7.nationalacademies.org/cwse/>

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Bachelor's degrees awarded in S&E and non-S&E fields, by sex: 1966–2001



SOURCE: *Women, Minorities and Persons With Disabilities in Science and Engineering-2004*



Bachelor's Degrees Awarded

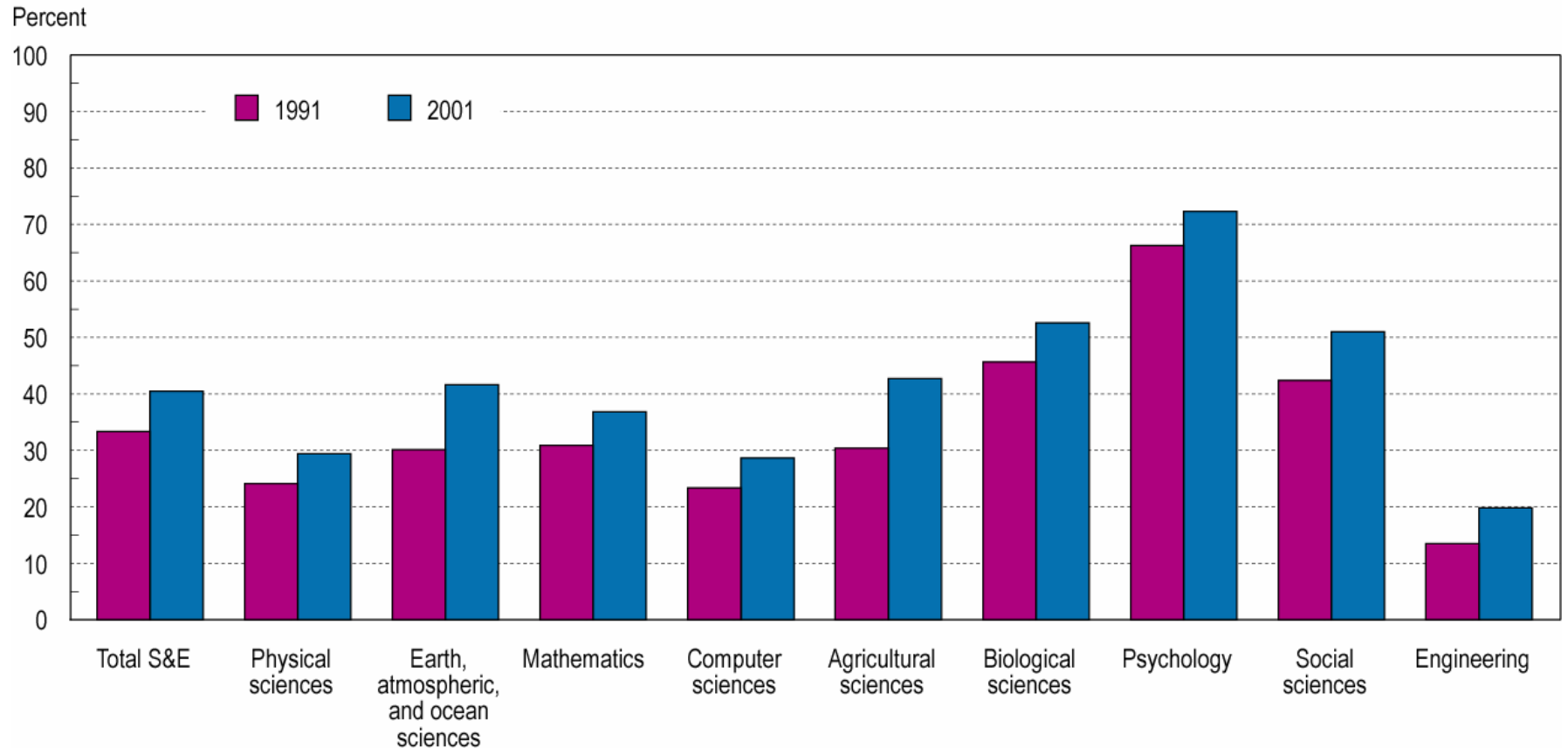
Females now account for half of all S&E bachelor's degree awards.

- The number of S&E bachelor's degrees awarded to females has increased every year since 1966 (excluding 1988), reaching 202,583 in 2001.
- The number of bachelor's degrees in S&E awarded to males has fluctuated around 200,000 since 1976.
- Females earn more bachelor's degrees in non-S&E fields than males.

SOURCE: *Women, Minorities and Persons With Disabilities in Science and Engineering-2004*



Female share of S&E graduate students, by field: 1991 and 2001



SOURCE: *Women, Minorities and Persons With Disabilities in Science and Engineering-2004*

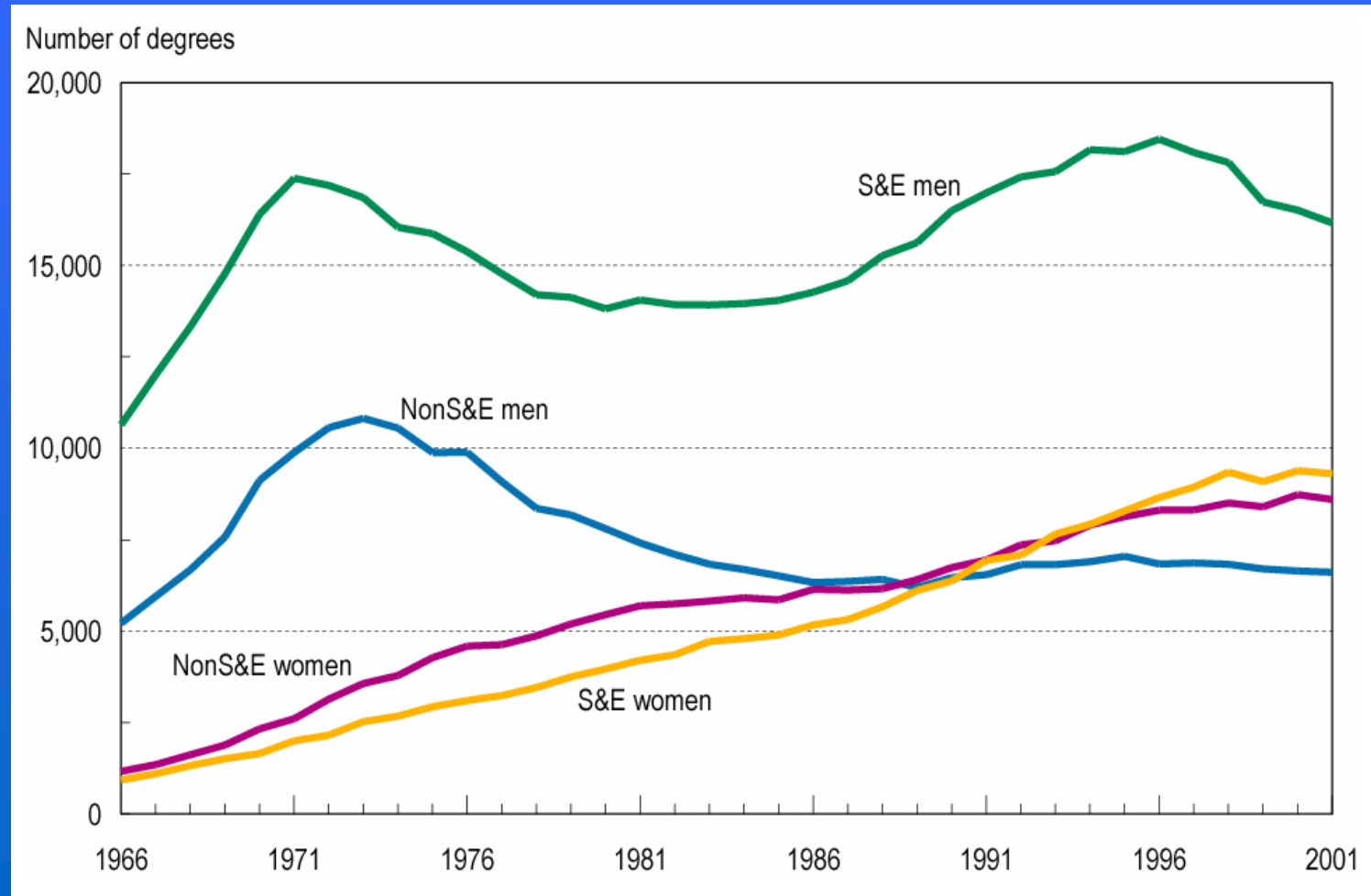


Female Share of S&E Graduate Students

- Females constituted a greater percentage of graduate students in S&E in 2001 (41 percent) than in 1991 (34 percent).
- Females accounted for more than half of all graduate students in some science fields: in 2001, for example, females made up 74 percent of the graduate students in psychology, 54 percent in biological sciences, and 52 percent in social sciences.
- Roughly 30–40 percent of the graduate students in most other science fields were female.
- Females accounted for 20 percent of graduate students in engineering and 30 percent of graduate students in computer sciences in 2001.



Doctoral degrees awarded in S&E and non-S&E fields, by sex: 1966–2001



SOURCE: *Women, Minorities and Persons With Disabilities in Science and Engineering-2004*

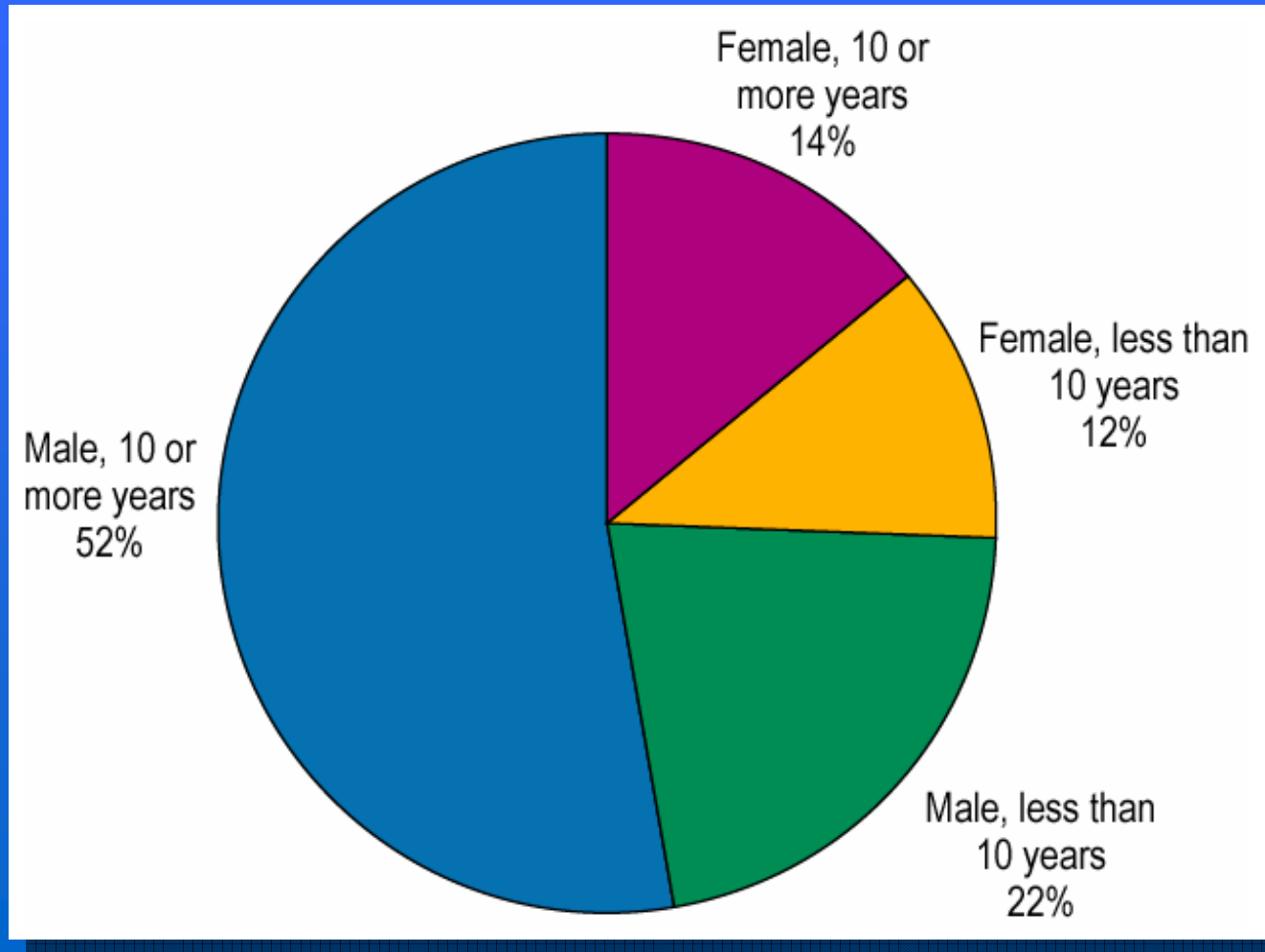


Doctoral Degrees Awarded

- Both the number of females earning doctoral degrees and their percentage of total awards in S&E and non-S&E fields rose between 1966 and 2001.
- By 2001, females earned 37 percent of S&E and 57 percent of non-S&E doctoral degrees, up from 8 and 18 percent, respectively, in 1966.
- The number of males earning S&E doctoral degrees dropped between 1996 and 2001.



Employed S&E doctorate holders, by sex and years since doctorate: 2001



SOURCE: *Women, Minorities and Persons With Disabilities in Science and Engineering-2004*

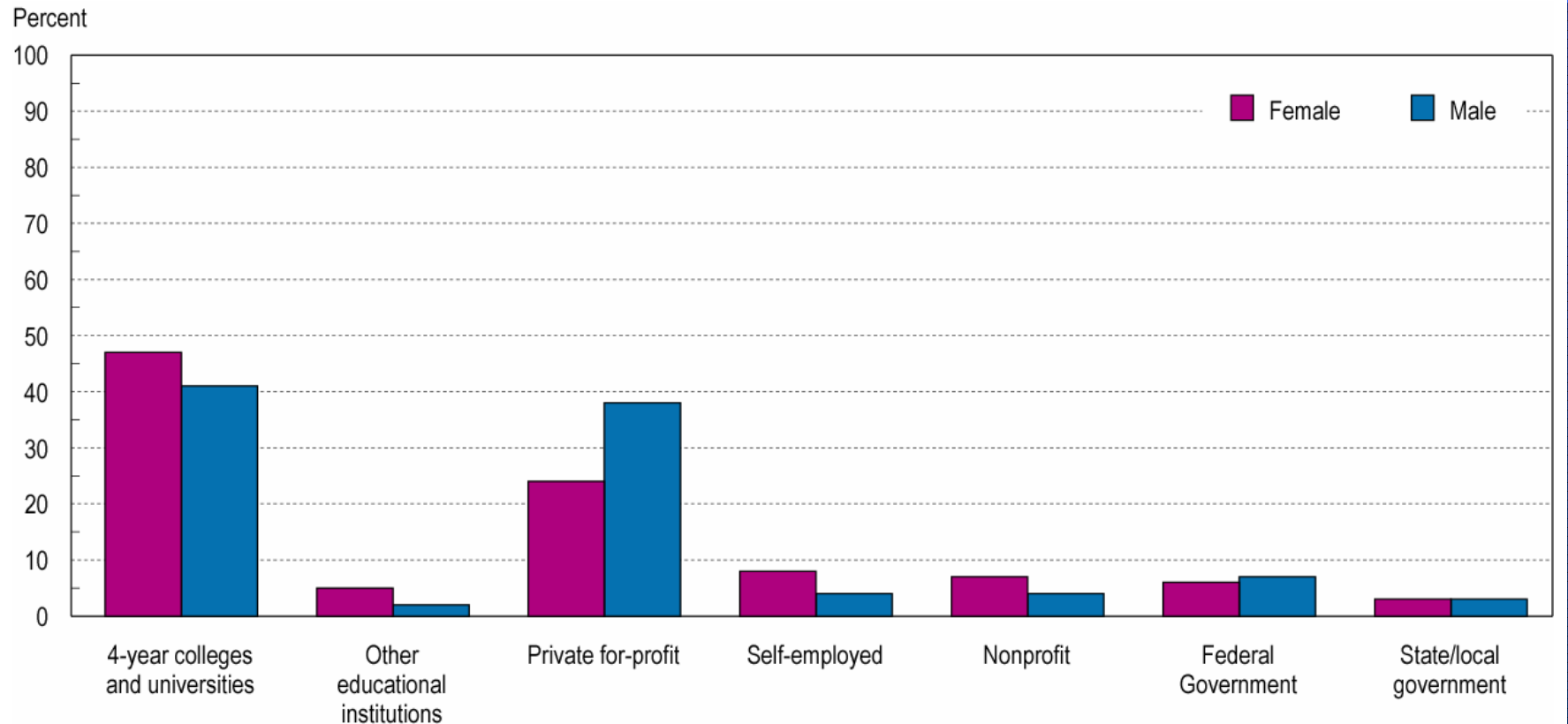


Employment Status

- Females made up about 26 percent of employed S&E doctorate holders in 2001.
- More than half of employed S&E doctorate holders in 2001 were males who had earned their doctorates 10 or more years earlier.
- Females constituted a larger share of recent S&E doctorate holders (i.e., those who had earned doctorates less than 10 years earlier) than they did of S&E doctorate holders who earned doctorates more than 10 years earlier.



Employed S&E doctorate holders, by employment sector and sex: 2001



SOURCE: *Women, Minorities and Persons With Disabilities in Science and Engineering-2004*



Employment Status

- Male and female employed doctorate holders differ in the sectors in which they are employed.
- Females were less likely than males to be employed in business or industry and more likely to be employed in educational institutions in 2001.
- Variations by sector primarily stem from differences in occupation. Females were less likely than males to be engineers or physical scientists, occupations that tend to be employed in business or industry.

