

The behavioral is political: Women's Representation in the Experimental Analysis of Behavior in Mexico

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28

Abstract

29 The Experimental Analysis of Behavior (EAB) has been one of the most influential scientific
30 traditions in the study of behavior, with its historical development largely shaped by
31 contributions from the United States. However, the participation of women in this field has
32 received limited attention, particularly in Latin American contexts. The present study analyzes
33 the participation and contributions of women in the EAB in Mexico, with the aim of identifying
34 patterns of involvement, areas of development, and potential gender disparities. A documentary
35 analysis was conducted using information from two of the main Mexican scientific societies
36 related to EAB (SMAC and SINCA). The analysis focused on women's participation in
37 editorial boards, authorship, and academic conferences. The study begins with a historical
38 overview of women's participation in EAB at the international level, followed by a focused
39 examination of the Mexican context. The results indicate significant progress in women's
40 involvement in the field; however, asymmetries persist in most reported metrics, but
41 particularly in leadership positions and decision-making roles. This work contributes to making
42 women's participation in Mexican behavior analysis more visible and provides a point of
43 comparison with international trends, highlighting the need for continued systematic analyses
44 aimed at promoting gender equity within the discipline.

45 *Keywords:* women, behavioral science, gender, intersectionality, EAB

The *behavioral* is political: Women's Representation in the Experimental Analysis of Behavior in Mexico

Over recent decades, critical reflections on the relationship between gender and science have demonstrated that scientific knowledge is not produced in a social vacuum, but is shaped by historical power relations, cultural norms, and institutional practices (Harding, 1991; Schiebinger, 1999). From this perspective, gender bias is understood not as an individual deviation, but as a structural feature embedded within scientific activity, influencing both the processes through which knowledge is produced and the criteria by which it is evaluated and legitimized. As a result, the presumed neutrality and objectivity of science have often functioned as mechanisms of invisibilization, contributing to the reproduction of structural inequalities that affect those who produce scientific knowledge and what is recognized as legitimate objects of inquiry (Harding, 1991; Schiebinger, 1999; ONU Mujeres, 2018).

This critique is particularly relevant to behavior analysis, a discipline grounded in the analysis of environmental contingencies (Baum, 2017; Skinner, 1953; see also DeFelice & Diller, 2019). Despite the theoretical emphasis on contextual variables, behavior analysis has not been exempt from reproducing structural practices and asymmetries, similar to those observed in other scientific disciplines (Laties, 1987). In particular, gendered patterns of participation have been documented across the field, with women being differentially represented depending on subdisciplinary focus and scientific role (Harding, 1991; Schiebinger, 1999).

Empirical evidence supports this uneven distribution of women's participation across subdisciplines within behavior analysis. Previous studies indicate that women's participation in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) often equals or exceeds that of men, whereas in conceptual and experimental domains—particularly within the Experimental Analysis of

Behavior (EAB)—women consistently represent less than half of contributors across most indicators (McSweeney et al., 2000; Nosik et al., 2019; Poling et al., 1983; Rotta et al., 2022). This pattern suggests that gender differences within behavior analysis are not homogeneous, but vary systematically as a function of subdisciplinary focus and scientific role. In this respect, EAB mirrors broader trends observed in STEM fields, where women remain underrepresented in research areas associated with higher epistemic authority and scientific prestige (Odum, 2015). Considering these patterns, it is necessary to examine how gendered participation has been documented within the historical and institutional record of the EAB.

Historical Review of the Participation of Women in the Experimental Analysis of Behavior

Women's participation in Behavior Analysis was first systematically addressed by Poling et al. (1983), who assessed gender representation within the field through analyses of authorship and professional participation. Their work provided an initial empirical response to concerns about gender imbalance by documenting patterns of representation across behavioral journals and professional outlets. Subsequent studies have extended this work by assessing editorial roles, publication trends, and disciplinary subfields (see Table A1 in Appendix A), showing consistent differential patterns of participation between applied and experimental domains.

For more than four decades, researchers have relied on manuscript indicators—such as authorship, first authorship, editorial roles, and professional participation—to assess gender representation within the field. Although these indicators have become increasingly refined over time, findings consistently document persistent asymmetries in participation, particularly in fields with higher scientific visibility and influence. Moreover, the studies show systematic differences across subfields. For instance, studies focused on applied and professional activities consistently report higher levels of women's participation than those

focused on conceptual and experimental domains. Despite these advances, relatively few analyses have examined the EAB as a distinct analytic domain, leaving important questions about participation within experimental contexts insufficiently addressed.

Historical analyses of behavior-analytic institutions and journals have consistently documented the underrepresentation of women in authorship and leadership roles, particularly within the EAB. Although participation has increased over time, these changes have not translated into parity, especially in lead authorship positions (Laties, 1987; Odum, 2015; Poling et al., 1983; Rotta et al., 2022). Analyses of conference participation extend this pattern, showing that women's representation has increased but remains lower in invited and high-prestige presentations (Kranak et al., 2023; Nosik et al., 2019; Simon et al., 2007).

However, gender should not be considered an isolated source of bias. Intersectional perspectives highlight that gender interacts with variables such as ethnicity, class, sexual orientation, and geographical location in shaping access to opportunities (Cho et al., 2013; Crenshaw, 1989; DeFelice & Diller, 2019). Among these variables, country of origin and institutional location are particularly relevant within behavior analysis, where scientific production is predominantly concentrated in the United States (Curiel & Curiel, 2023; Dymond, 1997).

Despite a strong tradition of behavior-analytic research in Latin America (e.g., Cirino et al., 2012; Elcoro et al., 2024; Gutiérrez & Landeira-Fernández, 2018; Mateos et al., 2016), research produced in the region does not always receive the international visibility it merits. Structural barriers such as language (Elcoro et al., 2024), access to international conferences, and resource constraints have been identified as contributing factors (Arroyo & Camacho, 2024; Hernández Eslava et al., 2025). In this context, Li et al. (2024) analyzed the participation of Latina women in the Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior (JEAB) and the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis (JABA) between 1997 and 2022. Their

findings showed that, although Latin American researchers are more represented in EAB than in ABA, the participation of Latina women remains lower in experimental contexts. These results suggest a compound effect of gender and geographical location on access to publication and recognition within the field (Kyonka & Subramaniam, 2023; Rotta et al., 2022).

Although most studies on women's participation in behavior analysis rely on data from journals based in the United States, these patterns highlight the need to examine participation in other national contexts to better understand how gendered patterns of participation are shaped by local institutional and cultural conditions.

Beyond the United States, studies on women's representation in behavior analysis have shown that increasing participation is not exclusive to that context. Curiel et al. (2020) provided the first systematic analysis of gender authorship patterns in the *Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis* (*MJBA* [Revista Mexicana de Análisis de la Conducta, RMAC in Spanish]), documenting long-term trends in women's participation from 1975 to 2018. Complementary analyses in the *Brazilian Journal of Behavior Analysis* (*BJBA*; Curiel et al., 2021), and the *European Journal of Behavior Analysis* (*EJOBA*; Curiel et al., 2022) similarly showed increases in women's participation over time, although patterns varied across journals.

While authorship in *EJOBA* and *BJBA* journals approached or reached parity in several periods, Curiel et al. (2020) showed that women's participation in the RMAC remained consistently below 50%, particularly in first authorship positions. This pattern is consistent with broader trends observed in behavior analysis, where journals with a stronger applied orientation tend to show higher levels of women's participation, whereas those with a stronger experimental or conceptual focus—such as the RMAC—tend to reflect lower levels of representation (Mateos et al., 2016; Rotta et al., 2022).

Together, these findings suggest that, although women's participation in behavior analysis outside the United States has increased, it continues to reflect subfield-specific asymmetries, particularly within experimentally oriented contexts.

Participation of Women in the Experimental Analysis of Behavior: The Case of México

Mexico has a long-standing tradition of experimental work in behavior analysis, with the consolidation of EAB as a distinct approach occurring during the late 1960s and early 1970s, following the establishment of key laboratories, academic programs, and institutional developments (Martínez Sánchez, 2006; Mateos Morfín & Flores Aguirre, 2019).

Although it is difficult to identify a single date marking the beginning of behavior analysis in Mexico (Mateos Morfín & Flores Aguirre, 2019), its formal institutionalization is commonly situated in 1975, with the first issue of RMAC and the founding of the Mexican Society of Behavior Analysis (*Sociedad Mexicana de Análisis de la Conducta*, SMAC). SMAC was established to support the RMAC's continuity, legal recognition, and financial sustainability. Since its creation, SMAC has played a central role in sustaining the RMAC, primarily through the organization of the Mexican Conference of Behavior Analysis (CMAC), whose resources have contributed to ensuring the journal's survival and open dissemination over time (Martínez, 2006).

Both SMAC and RMAC emerged within an academic environment strongly oriented toward experimental research. Their establishment was led by a predominantly male group of researchers trained within experimental psychology and early behavior-analytic traditions (Arroyo Hernández, 2025). This founding configuration is consistent with broader historical patterns observed internationally in the EAB, where institutional leadership and editorial structures were largely male-dominated during the formative decades of the field (e.g., Commons, 2001; Laties, 1987). Over its history, SMAC has had 18 presidents, only three of whom have been women.

Since its inception, SMAC has functioned as the primary organizational platform for the consolidation and dissemination of behavior analysis in Mexico. Its objectives include supporting the publication of the RMAC, organizing recurring academic events and conferences, fostering communication among behavior analysts, and establishing national and international collaborations (Arroyo Hernández, 2025). Furthermore, SMAC is an officially recognized ABAI chapter, thereby linking its activities to international behavior-analytic trends

Within this institutional configuration, the RMAC has functioned not only as a dissemination outlet but also as a key site of editorial authority within the field, defining standards of scientific legitimacy, visibility, and recognition in Mexican behavior analysis, particularly within experimental and conceptual domains. Although previous studies have examined authorship patterns in RMAC (Curiel et al., 2020; Flores Aguirre et al., 2025; Mateos et al., 2016) no systematic analysis has been conducted on the composition of its editorial boards over its 50 years of existence. Examining gender distribution within the RMAC editorial committees represents a necessary step toward understanding historical patterns of participation, representation, and access to editorial decision-making roles within the field of behavior analysis in Mexico.

In addition to SMAC, other spaces for the dissemination of behavior analysis have emerged in Mexico. Among them, the International Seminar on Behavior and Applications (*Seminario Internacional sobre Comportamiento y Aplicaciones*, SINCA) was founded in 2007 by four male researchers. SINCA has played a relevant role in promoting experimental research and academic exchange through biennial conferences and associated publications. Despite the absence of a formal leadership structure, decision-making processes have remained relatively stable over time, reflecting informal patterns of influence within the field.

SINCA does not have a formally appointed board of directors, president, or other official leadership positions; instead, its conferences are organized by local committees, with the support of founding members and other participants. Nevertheless, the absence of a formal leadership structure does not imply a fully horizontal organization, as general decisions regarding the operation and continuity of SINCA have consistently been made by the same group of individuals over time. Moreover, SINCA has appointed ten distinguished researchers (most of them foreigners) as honorary presidents of the conferences. To date, only one woman has served as honorary president. Given SINCA's continuity and its central role in the recent development of EAB in Mexico, its academic programs and publications constitute a relevant source for examining participation, visibility, and recognition within the field.

Over the past five decades, behavior analysis in Mexico has expanded substantially, including the consolidation of key organizations, the development of specialized graduate programs, and a growing record of national and international scientific production (Curiel et al., 2020; Curiel & Curiel, 2022; Mateos Morfín & Flores Aguirre, 2019;). However, as in many scientific fields, this expansion has not been accompanied by full gender parity in positions of visibility and influence (Arroyo Hernández, 2019).

Although concerns regarding the lower representation of women in leadership and public roles within behavior analysis in Mexico have received increasing attention in recent years, systematic empirical analyses remain scarce (Arroyo, 2019; Arroyo & Camacho 2024; Hernández Eslava et al., 2025). To date, no study has specifically examined women's participation within the EAB in the Mexican context, particularly across roles associated with editorial authority, authorship, and invited academic participation. This gap underscores the need for the present work.

219 The present study is informed by an intersectional perspective, which suggests that
220 participation within scientific communities cannot be understood solely through broad gender
221 categories (Cho et al., 2013; Crenshaw, 1989). Intersectional analyses emphasize that broad
222 categories may obscure the experiences of groups located at specific intersections of social,
223 institutional, and disciplinary conditions (Crenshaw, 1989). In the present case, examining
224 women's participation in behavior analysis without considering subdisciplinary context may
225 mask the underrepresentation of women in EAB, particularly when broader analyses
226 emphasize women's higher representation in applied settings. Consequently, examining
227 women's participation within Mexican EAB specifically, rather than within behavior analysis
228 more broadly, allows the identification of patterns that may otherwise remain invisible when
229 women are treated as a homogeneous category.

230 In the present study, terms such as authority, prestige, legitimacy, and recognition are
231 not treated as abstract properties, but as features of specific scientific roles and practices.
232 Within the organization of scientific fields, these constructs have been conceptualized as
233 forms of symbolic capital and social recognition associated with differential access to
234 decision-making, visibility, and influence (Bourdieu, 1975; Merton, 1973). In the context of
235 behavior analysis, these constructs are operationalized through participation in activities that
236 confer such access. For instance, authorship—particularly first authorship—reflects access to
237 knowledge production; editorial roles represent participation in processes that regulate
238 publication and define standards of scientific rigor; and invited academic presentations (e.g.,
239 keynote and invited talks) reflect forms of professional recognition and prestige associated
240 with visibility in high-status scientific forums. From this perspective, gender disparities in
241 these roles can be understood as patterns of differential access to the contingencies that
242 organize scientific activity, consistent with broader analyses of gender and knowledge
243 production in science (Harding, 1991; Schiebinger, 1999).

Taken together, the long-standing presence and institutional consolidation of the EAB in Mexico raises a critical question: if EAB has been practiced, institutionalized, and publicly disseminated in the country for several decades, how well are women represented within these structures? Addressing this question requires moving beyond abstract discussions of gender bias to examine participation within the scientific roles that confer visibility, authority, and recognition in the field. Accordingly, the present study examines women's participation in Mexican EAB through documented indicators of authorship, editorial roles, and invited academic presentations associated with SMAC and SINCA. By focusing on the Mexican behavior analysis context, this study does not treat it as an isolated case, but as an example of broader dynamics within behavior analysis that can contribute to international discussions on diversity, representation and scientific participation.

Method

Design

The present study employed a documentary, historical, and descriptive design to examine women's participation in the EAB in Mexico. Consistent with prior research on gender representation in behavior analysis (e.g., Curiel et al., 2020; Li et al., 2024; Poling et al., 1983), participation was operationalized through observable and publicly available indicators, including authorship, editorial roles, and participation as invited speakers in academic events. These indicators were selected because they represent distinct dimensions of scientific participation, including access to knowledge production (authorship), decision-making authority (editorial roles), and professional visibility and recognition (invited academic participation). This approach allows for the identification of regularities and asymmetries in participation across time, institutions, and scientific roles, without relying on self-reported demographic data.

Data Sources

Data were collected from documentary records produced by the two main behavior-analytic organizations in Mexico. The sources included RMAC issues and CMAC programs from SMAC, as well as SINCA conference programs and derived books. Sources were selected a priori based on three criteria: (a) strong focus on the EAB in Mexico, (b) sufficient continuity across years to permit historical trend analyses, and (c) availability of public or recoverable documentary records identifying participants in scientific roles. Data sources were mostly in Spanish, except for some specific instances within them that were in English.

Materials from the RMAC and CMAC were obtained from different sources. RMAC's issues were consulted online when available (<https://www.revistas.unam.mx/index.php/rmac>), or on paper, obtained directly from past editors or available at the author's universities. CMAC programs were obtained from personal archives, through targeted online searches, and/or through colleagues who attended the conferences. All analyzed CMAC programs are available from the authors upon request. SINCA materials are all available online at <https://seminariosinca.com>.

Analyses were limited to the earliest and latest accessible materials for each source. The analysis covered the following periods. RMAC: From its first issue in 1975 through 2025, completing and extending previous analyses that covered only authorship trends up to 2018 (Curiel et al., 2020). CMAC: From the earliest available conference program (2009) to 2025. SINCA conferences and books: From the first SINCA conference and associated book (2008/2009) through the most recent available materials (2025), giving a total of 10 conference programs and 9 books (conference programs, book titles, and full PDFs of the books can be consulted at <https://seminariosinca.com/libros.html>). The selected time frames allow for the examination of long-term trends and recent developments in women's participation within EAB in Mexico.

Units of Analysis

The primary units of analysis were individual participants occupying specific scientific roles within EAB-related activities and publications. For the RMAC, the units included (a) individuals serving on the editorial board and (b) individuals listed as authors of journal articles. Because authorship position conveys differentiated scientific credit and visibility, authorship was examined at three levels: all authors, first authors, and single authors (when an article had a single author). Editorial participation was operationalized at the editor–year level, such that each individual serving on the journal’s editorial structure in a given year constituted a separate analytic case. For CMAC, the units of analysis were invited speakers identified as individuals listed in the program to deliver a talk (*conferencia*), keynote lecture (*conferencia magistral*), or invited talk (*conferencia invitada*). For the SINCA books, the units were individuals listed as book editors, including individuals listed as editors (*editores*) or coordinators (*coordinadores*), and chapter authors (all, first, and single authors). For SINCA conferences, the units were invited speakers listed to deliver a keynote lecture (*conferencia magistral*) or an invited talk (*conferencia invitada*).

When programs listed two individuals for a single invited presentation, coding was based on the first person listed, consistent with first-position conventions used for identifying lead contributors in documentary sources. This occurred in 6 out of 233 invited presentations at CMAC and 1 out of 97 invited presentations at SINCA conferences.

Coding

Each unit of analysis (i.e., an identifiable person in a specified role) was coded for gender and, when applicable, for the disciplinary subfield or content area of the presentation or publication. Gender was coded using a documentary inference procedure based on (a) first names (Li et al., 2024; Poling et al., 1983) and, when needed, (b) publicly available biographical information and professional profiles (Li et al., 2024). Coding categories were

woman and man, and assignments were made only when gender could be reasonably inferred from available evidence.

Most names were easily categorized by the authors as they were of Spanish or Mexican origin. However, when names were ambiguous or unfamiliar, supplementary documentary sources were consulted. These sources included institutional webpages, university faculty profiles, professional biographies, conference programs, and other professional profiles associated with the individual's scholarly activity. When available, coding decisions were based on explicit self-referential information (e.g., pronouns, gendered language in biographies, titles such as Mr./Ms./Dr. accompanied by names, or photographs presented in official professional contexts). Gender was identified for all authors.

Gender assigned was independently reviewed by two authors of this study and disagreements were resolved through discussion until consensus was reached. This procedure follows conventions used in prior documentary studies of gender representation in behavior analysis (Li et al., 2024). No assumptions were made regarding other demographic variables (e.g., sexual orientation, race/ethnicity, or social class), as these cannot be reliably inferred from documentary sources.

A previous version of the RMAC database analyzed in this study was originally constructed by one of the authors, in collaboration with a colleague, for the analyses reported in Mateos et al. (2016), covering Volume 1, No.1 (1975) to Volume 41, No.3 (2015). The same database was subsequently expanded and updated by the same author, again in collaboration with a colleague, to include volumes published between 2016 and 2024, which served as the empirical basis for a book chapter reported (Flores Aguirre et al., 2025).

For the present study, the database was updated by the author to include the most recent volume of the journal (2025) and was substantially extended through the incorporation of new gender-related authorship variables that were not part of the original database.

Specifically, the following indicators were added: (a) gender of the first author; (b) the number of women and men contributing to each article; (c) classification of author collaboration as all-women, all-men, or mixed-gender teams; and (d) dichotomous indicators identifying whether each article included at least one woman and/or at least one man among its authors. These additions enabled analyses of both individual authorship positions and the gender composition of collaborative teams, while preserving the original bibliographic structure of the dataset. This extension allowed the examination of gendered collaboration patterns in RMAC beyond the descriptive indicators available in prior datasets.

CMAC invited talks, chapters in SINCA books, and SINCA invited talks were classified according to the domains proposed by Simon et al. (2007). Each item was first assigned to one of the 12 subcategories used in the ABA conference (see Table A2 in the appendix) and subsequently grouped into one of three broader domains: experimental, applied, or conceptual.

Experimental domain included topics corresponding to Experimental Analysis of Behavior and Behavioral Pharmacology. Applied domain included Autism; Clinical, Family, and Behavioral Medicine; Community Interventions and Social/Ethical Issues; Developmental Disabilities; Education; and Organizational Behavior Management. The conceptual domain included Theoretical, Philosophical, and Conceptual Issues. When an item corresponded to areas such as Verbal Behavior, Human Development and Gerontology, or Teaching Behavior Analysis, classification was based on the primary emphasis indicated in the title and, when available, the abstract, because these areas may include experimental, applied, or conceptual content.

Invited talks were categorized based predominantly on the title of the presentation, as no additional information was consistently available across materials. Initial categorization was conducted by one author and independently double-checked by a second author. When

an item could plausibly fit more than one category, classification was based on the primary topic indicated in the title and, when available, the abstract. If ambiguity remained, coders discussed the case until consensus was reached. If consensus could not be reached, a third author provided an independent judgment. One presentation from CMAC and one from SINCA conferences were classified as uncategorized, because the titles were not included in the corresponding programs.

SINCA book chapters were classified using both chapter titles and abstracts, following the same procedures. One chapter was not categorized because it did not fall within behavior-analytic domains.

Data Analysis

First, frequencies and percentages of men and women in each role were calculated per year, term, edition, issue, and/or area. Each appearance of an individual in a given role and year was treated as a distinct observational unit. No inferential statistical analyses were performed. Full datasets can be retrieved from: [\[link to public repository\]](#).

Results

The results presented in this section address the central question guiding this study: how women have participated in the institutional structures that organize, disseminate, and legitimize the EAB in Mexico. Specifically, the results examine women's participation across three domains: (a) authorship and editorial decision-making roles in RMAC, (b) participation as invited speakers in conferences organized by SMAC (CMAC), and (c) authorship, editorship, and invited presentations associated with SINCA. Together, and given the strong experimental focus of most sources, these indicators capture complementary dimensions of participation within EAB in Mexico.

Results are organized by institution and type of scientific role. First, analyses of the RMAC examine women's participation in editorial boards and authorship positions over

time, with particular attention to roles involving editorial authority. Next, participation patterns in academic events are presented, including invited presentations at CMAC conferences and authorship and invited participation in SINCA conferences and edited volumes. This organization allows for the identification of regularities and asymmetries across institutional contexts and forms of scientific participation.

Mexican Society of Behavior Analysis (SMAC)

Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis (RMAC)

Over its 50-year history, RMAC has had a total of 14 editors in chief, of whom only two have been women: Rocío Hernández Pozo (2008-2011) and Alicia Roca Cogordan (2012-2015). In addition, the journal has published a total of 914 articles (until 2025), including experimental, applied, conceptual, and technical contributions (Flores Aguirre et al., 2025). The following analyses examine women's participation in the journal across roles associated with editorial authority and authorship. Given the scope of the available data, results are divided in two: (a) composition of the editorial board and (b) authorship patterns in published articles.

Given that Curiel et al. (2020) previously reported gender-related authorship indicators for RMAC (MJBA, in their study) covering the period from 1975 to 2018, the present study focuses on the subsequent period (2019–2025) when reporting indicators that directly overlap with those analyses (e.g., first authorship and presence of at least one woman per article), in order to avoid redundancy. Indicators not examined in prior work—such as the gender composition of author counts by gender, and collaboration patterns—are introduced here as novel analytic contributions.

Figure 1A shows the proportion of women and men who served on the editorial board of RMAC across terms. Overall, the figure indicates that women's participation was markedly low during the early decades of the journal, with values below 10% in most periods

between 1975 and the late 1980s. During this initial phase, the proportion of women remained relatively stable with minor fluctuations and exhibited a notable decline in the 1988–1989 term. This pattern suggests that the inclusion of women on the editorial board during the journal’s early years did not follow a cumulative or progressive process.

[Insert Figure 1 about here]

However, beginning in the 1990s, a general upward trend in the proportion of women serving on the editorial board can be observed, although this trend is interrupted by fluctuations across periods (Figure 1A). In particular, the 2001–2004 term represents one of the first relative peaks in women’s participation, followed by a phase of stagnation and slight decline during the 2004–2011 period. In terms after 2012, women’s participation increased again, reaching its highest level (33%) in the 2020–2023 term. Nevertheless, even in the terms with the highest female representation, women did not reach parity with men, indicating the persistence of a gender gap in the composition of the editorial board throughout the journal’s history and to this date.

Although Figure 1A allows for the identification of changes in the percentage of representation of women over time, the analysis of the editorial roles occupied by women indicates that increases in women’s participation do not translate uniformly into access to positions of editorial power (Figure 1, Panel B). In the earliest periods analyzed, women’s presence in editorial roles with decision-making functions was limited and generally restricted to one or a few cases per period. As the proportion of women on the editorial board increased, a greater diversity of editorial roles held by women became evident, including positions such as associate editor and editorial consultant, and, in later periods, executive

editor and editor in chief. However, the percentage of women in key editorial roles has remained below 30% throughout the journal's history.

Women's participation in the RMAC was also examined through authorship indicators commonly used in previous analyses of the journal, including overall authorship, first authorship, and the presence of at least one woman author per article (Curiel et al., 2020). In addition, and following subsequent work on the BJBA (Curiel et al., 2021), the present study extends these analyses by examining patterns of collaboration by gender. Together, these indicators allow for the assessment of women's participation and prominence in the journal's scientific production.

Percentage of men and women as any authors per year (2019 to 2025) is represented in Figure 2A. The percentage of women as authors remained close to 40% from 2019 to 2022, then decreased slightly in 2023 and 2024, and surpassed 50% in 2025. In contrast, out of the 154 articles analyzed, 70 (45%) were classified as experimental, 15 (10%) as applied, and 69 (45%) as other, confirming that RMAC is a mostly experimental journal. Representation of women within each category was uneven. Women represented 39% of the authors in the experimental area, 55% in the applied area and 32% in other types of articles.

[Insert Figure 2 about here]

Figure 2B shows the percentage of first authorship by gender in the RMAC between 2019 and 2025. Across the analyzed period, women consistently appeared as first authors; however, their representation fluctuated across years and remained below parity in all of the analyzed years. In contrast, men accounted for a higher proportion of first authorship throughout the period, indicating that women's participation as leading authors has increased but remains uneven. The distribution of women and men as first authors in each area is

depicted in Figure 3. Panel A shows that, consistent with the general trend of the journal, women first-authored more papers in the experimental area in most years (except 2020 and 2025). However, men first-authored more articles in the “other” category—which includes theoretical articles, review papers, obituaries, commemorative or historical pieces, commentaries, replies, and editorials—from the year 2020 onwards.

[Insert Figure 3 about here]

Figure 2C shows the percentage of articles published in the RMAC between 2019 and 2025 that included at least one woman author. Across the analyzed period, women were present in approximately half to more than two-thirds of the published articles. This pattern indicates a substantial level of participation by women in the journal’s scientific production, even in years where women were less frequently represented as first authors. Although the presence of at least one woman author per article provides an important indicator of participation, it does not capture how women are positioned within collaborative research processes, considering that across all of the analyzed years, on average, 40% of the articles were authored exclusively by men, in contrast to the about 12% of articles that were authored exclusively by women in the same period.

To further characterize women’s involvement in the journal’s scientific production, the following analyses examine patterns of collaboration by gender, including single-authored publications and same-gender versus mixed-gender research teams (see Table 1). Women’s contributions were divided as follows, on average 10.37% (range: 0-26.67%) were made as single-authors, 10.31% (range: 0-18.75%) as all women collaborations and 80.27% (range: 60-100%) as mixed-gender collaborations. On the other hand, 28.26% (range: 12–

36.84%) of men's collaborations were made as single-authors, 16.51% (range: 5-24%) as all men collaborations, and 55.23% (range: 42.11-70%) as mixed-gender collaborations.

[Insert Table 1 about here]

Taken together, these findings suggest that gendered patterns of participation in the RMAC cannot be reduced to a simple absence of women from experimental research, but rather reflect differentiated forms of participation across authorship positions, collaboration structures, and types of scientific production.

Conferences (CMAC)

The first SMAC conference was held in April 1974 in Xalapa, Mexico. Since then, a total of 34 conferences have been organized in different regions of the country¹. As one of the Society's primary functions, efforts have been made to hold the conference on an annual basis, thereby promoting continuous academic exchange and the dissemination of research in behavior analysis (Arroyo, 2025).

Figure 4 shows the percentage of men and women invited speakers per year at CMAC during the analyzed period (2009–2025). The proportion of women remained below 30% in most years prior to 2019, with two notable peaks in 2013 (33%) and 2016 (31%). In 2019, women represented 58% of invited speakers; however, this proportion declined to 28% in 2021. An increasing trend was observed over the last five years (2021–2025), culminating in equal representation, with women comprising 50% of invited speakers at the most recent conference.

[Insert Figure 4 about here]

¹ For a full list of Conference locations, please visit: <https://smac.org.mx/cincuentenario/>

CMAC invited talks and keynotes were predominantly conceptual , as 44.4% of the presentations were categorized as conceptual, 33.62% as applied and only 21.98% as experimental. One out of 233 presentations was uncategorized. Readers should be aware that this trend might be limited to the higher-rank participations, and does not necessarily represent the focus of the conference. Moreover, gender representation was unevenly distributed per area. Although men and women each represented 50% of the invited speakers in the applied area, only 15.69% of invited speakers in the experimental area and 14.56% in the conceptual area were women.

International Seminar on Behavior and Applications (SINCA)

Books

SINCA has published nine books² since 2009: *Estudios sobre Comportamiento y Aplicaciones* (Vols 1-4); *Aproximaciones al Estudio del Comportamiento y sus Aplicaciones* (Vols. 1-3); *Aproximaciones Actuales sobre Conducta y sus Aplicaciones* (Vol 1); and *Estudios sobre Comportamiento: Ciencia Básica y sus Aplicaciones* (Vol. 1). We analyzed (a) the gender of the editors/coordinators of the books, and (b) authorship patterns of all the 133 chapters published in them.

Figure 5 shows the percentage of editors/coordinators of each gender for the nine SINCA books. Five of the nine books were edited/coordinated by only men editors, whereas the book published in 2013 was edited by 3 men and 2 women (Miriam Yerith Jiménez and Karla Fabiola Acuña). The books published in 2019, 2023 and 2025 were each edited/coordinated by 4 persons, one of which was a woman (Idania Zepeda in all four cases). When considering each person individually, regardless of how many times they have served as editors (range: 1-8 times), only three out of 16 (18.75%) were women.

²All books can be retrieved from: <https://seminariosinca.com/libros.html>

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[Insert Figure 5 about here]

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Regarding authorship patterns, the percentage of men and women authors is presented in panel A of Figure 6. Out of the 366 authors, 221 (60.38%) were men and 145 (39.62%) were women. Throughout the years, there was a higher percentage of men authors, except in the book published in 2021, where 55.77% were women. Also, in the book published in 2011 the percentage was close to 50% (54% men and 46% women authors). Moreover, the trend towards parity was also not maintained in the book published in 2023 but the percentage of women authors in 2025 was close to 50% (44.26%), and it was higher than in the first book, published in 2009 (31.82%), indicating an increasing trend in women's participation.

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The focus of the books was predominantly conceptual, with 46.97% of chapters classified as conceptual, 29.55% as applied, and 23.48% as experimental. Women's representation varied across areas. In the experimental area, 35.87% of authors were women and 64.13% were men. In the applied area, gender representation was close to parity, with slightly more women (51.52%) than men (48.48%). In the conceptual area, women accounted for 31.16% of authors, whereas men accounted for 68.84%.

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[Insert Figure 6 about here]

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When considering first authorship, 89 of the 133 chapters (66.92%) were first-authored by men, whereas 44 (33.08%) were first-authored by women. Figure 6B shows the percentage of men and women first-authors per year. Most years had a higher percentage of men first-authors, except for 2021, when 9 of the 17 chapters (52.94%) were first-authored by a woman. In the book published in 2011, the percentage of men and women first-authors was

also close to 50% (53.33% men and 46.67% women). The apparent trend towards parity before 2021 was not maintained in the years 2023 and 2025, although the percentage of women first-authors was higher in 2025 (38.89%) than in 2009 (28.57%).

[Insert Figure 7 about here]

In addition to overall gender differences in first-authorship, the distribution of women and men varied across areas and years and is depicted in Figure 7. Panel A shows that women appeared exclusively as first authors of applied chapters in 2013 and of experimental chapters in 2015. In contrast, in 2009, 2017, and 2023, women first-authored the same number of chapters in the applied and experimental areas. Women first-authored more chapters in the conceptual domain, compared to the other areas, in 2021 and 2025. Men's distribution as first authors was more consistent. Men first-authored a greater number of conceptual chapters in 2009, 2013, and from 2017 onward. In 2011, men were listed as first authors of more applied than experimental chapters, whereas in 2015 they first-authored more experimental chapters than applied or conceptual ones.

Chapters with at least one woman author or at least one man author were also identified and are shown in Figure 6C. All chapters published in 2009, 2013, and 2015 included at least one man author, and in 2017, 2023, and 2025 more than 90% of chapters had at least one man author. In contrast, the proportion of chapters with at least one woman author remained below 50% in 2009, 2013, 2015, and 2017. In 2021—the only year in which women authors outnumbered men—94.12% of chapters included at least one woman author.

Additional patterns of collaboration in the SINCA books were also analyzed (Table 2). Considering all chapters in which at least one woman participated, the following annual distribution was observed: on average, 11.97% (range: 0-33.33%) were made as single-

authors, only 1.49% (range:0-7.14%; this number was different than zero only in 2021 and 2025) were made as all women collaborations, and 86.54% (range: 66.67-100%) as mixed-gender collaborations. In contrast, men's collaboration patterns were as follows: on average, 19.16% (range: 0-43.75%) were made as single-authors, 23.58% (range: 7.69-50%) as all men collaborations, and 56.99% (range: 28.57-92.31%) as mixed-gender collaborations.

[Insert Table 2 about here]

Conferences

SINCA has hosted 10 conferences since 2008. The second conference was in 2009, and from then on, the remaining conferences have been organized every two years. The conferences are hosted at Mexican universities³, except in 2021, when it was hosted by Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED), a Spanish public university that has a campus/unit in México City (UNED-México). The 2021 conference was hosted online due to the post-pandemic travel restrictions.

SINCA conferences have an experimental approach, as supported by the distribution of presentations in the three areas: experimental, applied, or conceptual. Approximately half of the presentations (49.48%) were categorized as experimental, whereas the other half was similarly divided between applied (23.71%) and conceptual (25.77%). One presentation was excluded from the calculation as the title was not included. Gender distribution was then examined within each category. In the experimental area, 70.83% of invited speakers were men and 29.17% were women. In the applied area, 69.57% were men and 30.43% were women, whereas in the conceptual area, 88% were men and 12% were women.

³ For a full list of locations, please visit: <https://seminariosinca.com/index.html>

Each conference included 8-12 invited talks (98 total). Overall, 75.26% (74) of the invited speakers were men, and 24.74% (24) were women. Figure 8 shows the percentage of men and women invited speakers at each conference. All invited speakers were men in 2009 and 2015. The highest percentage of women invited speakers was observed in 2021, when women and men were equally represented (50% each). From 2017 to 2021 there was a trend to increase the participation of women as invited speakers; however, the percentage of women declined to 41.67% (5 women) in 2024 and 30% (3 women) in 2025. It should be noted that the representation of women has never exceeded 50%, and the only year in which it occurred, the conference was organized by a Spanish institution and hosted online.

[Insert Figure 8 about here]

Discussion

The present study examined women's participation in the EAB in Mexico through a longitudinal analysis of multiple academic spaces, including authorship patterns, collaboration structures, editorial roles, and participation in scientific events. By focusing on materials generated by the two main behavior analytic organizations in Mexico, SMAC and SINCA, this study contributes empirical evidence to a body of literature that has predominantly relied on data from the United States and journal-based indicators. The results provide a comprehensive account of how women's participation has evolved over time within the Mexican context, highlighting both quantitative growth and persistent structural asymmetries.

In this sense, the political dimension of the present findings refers to the institutional contingencies that influence who has access to visibility, authority, and recognition within scientific communities. Authorship, editorial positions, and invited academic presentations

are not neutral descriptors of participation; they are roles embedded in systems of selection, evaluation, and recognition that shape who is positioned to produce knowledge, regulate scientific standards, and represent the field publicly. From this perspective, documenting gender disparities in these roles allows the behavioral field to analyze its own cultural contingencies and the ways in which they may reproduce or disrupt broader patterns of gendered participation in science.

One of the central findings of this study is the clear distinction between numerical representation and access to positions of academic authority. Although the proportion of women participating as authors, collaborators, and members of editorial boards has increased over time, this growth has not translated uniformly into greater access to roles involving decision-making power. Editorial positions with higher hierarchical status—such as editor in chief or executive editor—as well as invited speaker roles in high-prestige academic spaces, remain disproportionately occupied by men across most periods analyzed, even during phases in which women’s overall participation increased substantially. This distinction between presence and power has been previously documented in international analyses of behavior-analytic journals and professional organizations (Laties, 1987; Odum, 2015; Ryan et al., 2025), and data presented here indicates that the Mexican context reproduces similar structural patterns.

Furthermore, the diversification of roles coexists with a persistent concentration of women in consultative or intermediate positions, while higher-ranking editorial roles continue to display an uneven distribution across editorial periods. Specifically, findings from the RMAC editorial board suggest that increases in the representation of women on the editorial board occur alongside patterns of internal hierarchization, as women never exceeded one third of the positions associated with highest editorial authority. These findings are consistent with broader literature suggesting that women are more likely to occupy or be

assigned roles that contribute to institutional functioning but do not necessarily confer the same level of visibility, recognition, or career advancement as higher-status leadership positions (Babcock et al., 2017; Järvinen & Mik-Meyer, 2024). Although the present data does not allow to determine the processes through which women came to occupy particular editorial roles, the pattern observed in RMAC suggests that increases in numerical representation may coexist with internal hierarchies in which access to the most influential positions remains unevenly distributed.

This pattern is also consistent with the concept of vertical segregation, widely documented in the literature on gender and science, whereby women progressively gain access to academic spaces while remaining underrepresented at higher hierarchical levels (Harding, 1991; Schiebinger, 1999). In this sense, the institutional history of EAB in Mexico does not constitute an exception, but rather reflects a hierarchical organization of scientific labor in which editorial and symbolic authority continues to be disproportionately concentrated among men, even during periods of substantial growth in women's participation.

Analysis of authorship patterns in RMAC further reinforces this distinction between participation and leadership. Although women consistently appear as authors in proportions close to—and in some years exceeding—40%, their representation as first authors remains below parity across all years analyzed. This pattern is consistent with previous findings from experimental journals internationally, where women tend to be more frequently represented as coauthors than as primary or last authors—positions traditionally associated with intellectual leadership and control over research projects (McSweeney & Swindell, 1998; Rotta et al., 2022). These results suggest that increases in women's scientific output do not necessarily entail an equivalent redistribution of academic recognition, but rather reflect differentiated access to positions of prominence within publication practices.

A particularly relevant finding of the present study is the marked gender difference in patterns of collaboration. Women predominantly participate in mixed-gender authorship teams, whereas men show a higher proportion of single-authored publications and all-male collaborations. This pattern has been previously documented in the BJBA and the EJOBA (Curiel et al., 2021; Curiel et al., 2022), as well as in broader reviews of gendered patterns of scientific production (Rotta et al., 2022). Importantly, these patterns should not be interpreted as individual preferences or deficits. Rather, this disparity can be attributed to two different patterns in science: women engage in more egalitarian scientific collaborations (Abramo et al., 2013; Araújo et al., 2017) and are less likely to receive recognition for equivalent contributions within research teams (Ross et al., 2022).

Moreover, these differences in collaboration patterns can be understood as the outcome of institutional and cultural contingencies that structure scientific practice (Baires & Koch, 2020), including differential access to resources, mentoring, and recognition. From this perspective, collaboration may function as an adaptive strategy within a historically masculinized experimental environment, particularly when sole authorship or leadership roles carry higher professional risk for women (Harding, 1991; Schiebinger, 1999).

Data derived from CMAC and the SINCA conferences further support the notion that women's academic visibility in EAB is unevenly distributed depending on the type of venue and the prestige associated with participation. Although recent years show a trend toward increased inclusion of women as invited speakers, their participation remains substantially lower in presentations classified as experimental, both at CMAC and SINCA. Similar results have been reported in analyses of international conferences, where women remain underrepresented in keynote lectures, plenary invitations, and other formats associated with high symbolic capital (Kranak et al., 2023; Nosik et al., 2019; Simon et al., 2007). This finding suggests that organizational contingencies—such as local organizing committees,

informal invitation networks, and logistical barriers—play a central role in the reproduction of gender inequalities.

Recent studies have emphasized that invitation processes for academic events often rely on preexisting networks of prestige and familiarity, which tend to favor male researchers with established academic trajectories (Kyonka & Subramaniam, 2024; Ryan et al., 2025). Notably, the only SINCA event in which gender parity among invited speakers was achieved was organized by a foreign institution in which gender balance is regulated by formal policies, and held in an online format, which is more compatible with family and caring responsibilities (Walton et al., 2024) that are often disproportionately carried out by women (Del Río-Lozano et al., 2022).

An intersectional reading of these findings also helps clarify why broad claims about women's participation in behavior analysis may be insufficient. As Crenshaw (1989) argued, single-axis frameworks can obscure the experiences of groups located at the intersection of multiple systems of organization and inequality. In the present case, analyzing “women in behavior analysis” as a general category may conceal important differences associated with subfield, geographical location, language, and institutional history. The patterns documented here suggest that women's participation in Mexican EAB cannot be fully understood by extrapolating from broader trends in ABA or from journals and organizations based in the United States. Instead, women's representation must be examined within the specific institutional contexts in which scientific authority, visibility, and recognition are distributed.

A central question emerging from the results of this study concerns the differential trajectories of women's participation in ABA and the EAB, an issue already raised in the introduction. Across the academic spaces analyzed, women's representation has progressed more rapidly and consistently in applied contexts than in experimental ones. Previous research suggests that ABA offers more stable professional pathways, clearer institutional

insertion, and a labor market less dependent on traditional academic prestige, factors that may facilitate women's retention and advancement (McSweeney et al., 2000; Rotta et al., 2022).

In contrast, EAB remains strongly tied to highly competitive academic careers, where access to laboratories, research funding, and international experimental networks plays a central role (Odum, 2015). These conditions may amplify cumulative disadvantage processes, particularly for women, by increasing the costs associated with career interruptions, delayed productivity, or limited access to mentorship and material resources. From this perspective, the differences observed between ABA and EAB do not reflect lower interest or ability among women in experimental research, but rather structural contingencies that differentially regulate access to opportunity, recognition, and long-term career stability across subfields.

Taken together, the findings support the view that the EAB functions as a microcosm of broader structural biases present in science. The apparent methodological and experimental neutrality of the field does not exempt it from reproducing gender inequalities, which operate as cultural contingencies shaping who conducts research, who publishes, who makes decisions, and who receives recognition (Harding, 1991; Simon et al., 2007). Acknowledging these contingencies does not weaken the validity of the knowledge produced by EAB; rather, it strengthens its scientific rigor, ethical foundations, and epistemic diversity (DeFelice & Diller, 2019; Kyonka & Subramaniam, 2024).

Importantly, the patterns documented in this study do not exist in a vacuum, nor have they gone unnoticed within the field. In recent years, several initiatives led by women behavior analysts have explicitly sought to address gender-based disparities in participation, visibility, and professional development. These efforts include the creation of the Special Interest Group for Women in Behavior Analysis (Grupo Especial de Mujeres en el Análisis de la Conducta, GEMAC; Arroyo Hernández, 2019), as well as the implementation of structured mentorship programs aimed at supporting and empowering women within the

discipline (Arroyo & Camacho, 2024). In addition, biographical, historical, and narrative contributions have begun to make visible the professional trajectories of women in behavior analysis, challenging traditional accounts that have often rendered their contributions invisible (e.g., Arroyo Hernández & Anaya Lima, 2023; Díaz Reséndiz, 2025; Hernández Eslava et al., 2025).

Limitations and future directions

The patterns identified in the present study likely represent only a partial account of the contingencies that regulate women's participation in the Experimental Analysis of Behavior. For example, even though there is no evidence that manuscripts authored by women have lower acceptance rates than those authored by men (Odum, 2000; Rotta et al., 2022; Squazzoni et al., 2021), there are key aspects about the publication process that remain invisible and that deeply affect women, such as longer review times for women-authored papers (Alvarez-Ponce et al., 2026) and a lower interest for women-related subjects to be published (Key & Sumner, 2019; Kim et al., 2022), highlighting the need to increase transparency in submission, review, and decision-making processes.

A further limitation concerns the absence of a clear population baseline against which representation could be evaluated. The present analyses document the gender distribution of authors, editors, book contributors, and invited speakers within formal institutional records; however, they do not establish the proportion of women in the broader population of Mexican researchers, students, practitioners, or society members who could have potentially occupied these roles during each period. Therefore, the percentages reported here should not be interpreted as direct measures of representation relative to the total eligible population of women in Mexican EAB. Rather, they describe the distribution of women and men within documented positions of authorship, editorial participation, and invited academic visibility. Future studies should seek to compare these indicators with membership records, graduate

787 program cohorts, laboratory personnel, conference attendance, and other estimates of the
788 available pool of researchers in order to more precisely evaluate whether women's
789 participation in high-visibility roles is proportional to their presence in the field.

790 Additionally, documentary analyses do not make visible forms of academic labor that
791 are central to the everyday functioning of scientific activity but typically remain outside
792 formal records. This includes, for example, women who contribute from other institutional
793 positions—such as editorial assistants who provide essential support to editors-in-chief and
794 editorial teams—as well as women who play a substantive role in the implementation of
795 experiments that are ultimately published, but who are not always recognized through
796 authorship.

797 Similarly, these analyses do not capture the experiences of students and early-career
798 researchers who develop within experimental contexts perceived as hostile, where they may
799 encounter microaggressions, implicit performance expectations, or unspoken norms regarding
800 what is considered legitimate behavior or practice within an EAB laboratory (see Spoon et
801 al., 2023 for empirical evidence outside behavior analysis). In this sense, many of the biases
802 operating in the field do not typically manifest as explicit acts of discrimination, but rather as
803 normalized practices that are reproduced inadvertently and, precisely because of their implicit
804 and routine nature, are difficult to identify, problematize, and challenge through formal
805 indicators of scientific participation (Baires & Koch, 2020).

806 Likewise, this study does not address forms of bias that operate outside formal
807 institutional records, including informal mentoring practices, exclusion from professional
808 networks, differential expectations regarding academic labor, or subtle discouragement
809 processes that may influence career trajectories over time. These forms of bias have been
810 widely discussed in the literature on gender and science (Harding, 1991; Odum, 2015;

Schiebinger, 1999), but remain largely unexplored within behavior analysis using systematic empirical approaches.

Additionally, future research could broaden the scope of analysis by incorporating intersectional variables beyond gender, such as geographical location, institutional affiliation, and career stage, as well as by conducting systematic comparisons between experimental and applied subfields across different national contexts. Beyond these variables, there is a need to develop empirical approaches that explicitly identify different types of bias operating within the EAB, including epistemological–methodological, institutional, interactional, and editorial and scientific validation biases. Such efforts would allow for a more comprehensive understanding of the cultural contingencies that regulate participation in the field, by making visible not only documented patterns of representation but also the practices, norms, and evaluative processes that contribute to their reproduction. In turn, this approach would provide a stronger foundation for the design of strategies aimed at promoting greater equity, retention, and diversity within the EAB.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this study provides strong evidence of uneven representation of women and men within behavior analysis in Mexico, particularly in the experimental area. These findings are consistent with patterns observed in other national contexts, suggesting that gendered asymmetries in EAB may reflect broader organizational mechanisms within behavior analysis, rather than a context-specific cultural effect. Women were underrepresented across most examined indicators, especially in positions associated with greater visibility and decision-making power. As evidence accumulates, a logical next step is to examine the factors that contribute to these patterns and to design strategies that increase women's access to positions of authority, recognition, and long-term participation in the field. Understanding gender bias within our science can help illuminate women's experiences

836 in the field and support the development of effective strategies for retention. Behavioral
837 science, like all science, is—and should be—political.

838 **Ethical Approval and Consent to participate**

839 This study used publicly available published data and did not involve human participants or
840 animal subjects. Ethical approval and consent to participate were therefore not required.

841 **Consent for publication**

842 Not applicable.

843 **Availability of data and material**

844 Data and materials are publicly available at a repository.

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1013

Appendix

1014 **Table A1**1015 *Empirical and Historical Studies on Women's Participation in Behavior Analysis*

Study	Data sources	Time period analyzed	Indicators of participation	Subfield differentiation
Poling et al. (1983)	JEAB and JABA	Journal inception – 1981	Total authorship; first authorship	Experimental and Applied
Iwata & Lent (1984)	JABA manuscript submissions	Early 1980s	Manuscripts submitted by gender	Applied
Laties (1987)	Archival records of SEAB; institutional documents	1957–1987	Institutional leadership; organizational history	Experimental
Myers (1993)	Behavior-analytic journals	Up to 1992	Authorship by gender	Applied, Conceptual and Experimental
McSweeney & Swindell (1998)	JEAB	1978–1997	First authorship; total authorship	Experimental
McSweeney et al. (2000)	JABA + comparison journals	1978–1997	Total authorship; first authorship; editorial boards	Applied
Simon et al. (2007)	ABAI conference programs	1975–2005	Conference participation; presentations	Applied (several divisions), Conceptual and Experimental
Li et al. (2018)	Multiple BA journals	2014–2017	First authorship; total authorship	Applied and Experimental
Curiel et al. (2020)	Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis (RMAC/MJBA)	1975–2018	Total authorship; first authorship; presence of ≥ 1 woman/man	Mixed
Li et al. (2024)	Multiple journals	1997–2022	Authorship of Latina women	Applied, Conceptual and Experimental
Ryan et al. (2025)	JEAB, JABA, and PoBS	2000–2023	Editorial boards by gender and geographical location	Applied, Conceptual and Experimental

1016 *Note.* This table summarizes selected empirical and historical studies on women's
1017 participation in Behavior Analysis that met predefined inclusion criteria (empirical or
1018 archival analysis and use of participation indicators). Subfield differentiation was based on
1019 authors' descriptions or inferred from primary sources (e.g., if the source of the data was
1020 JEAB, the subfield was categorized as Experimental). Journals: JEAB: *Journal of the*
1021 *Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, ; JABA: *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*; SEAB:
1022 *The Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*; ABAI: *Association for Behavior*

1023 *Analysis International; PoBS: Perspectives on Behavioral Science.* The table is not intended
1024 as an exhaustive review.

1025

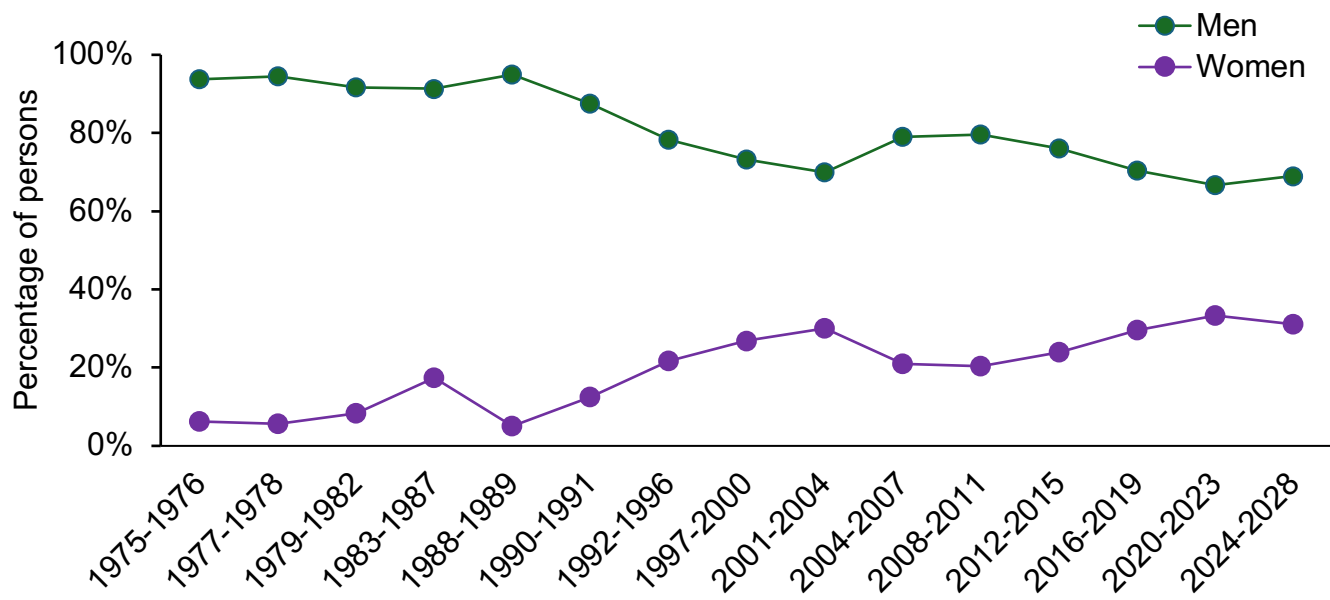
1026 **Table A2**

1027 *Areas and Subcategories of the Works Presented at Conferences*

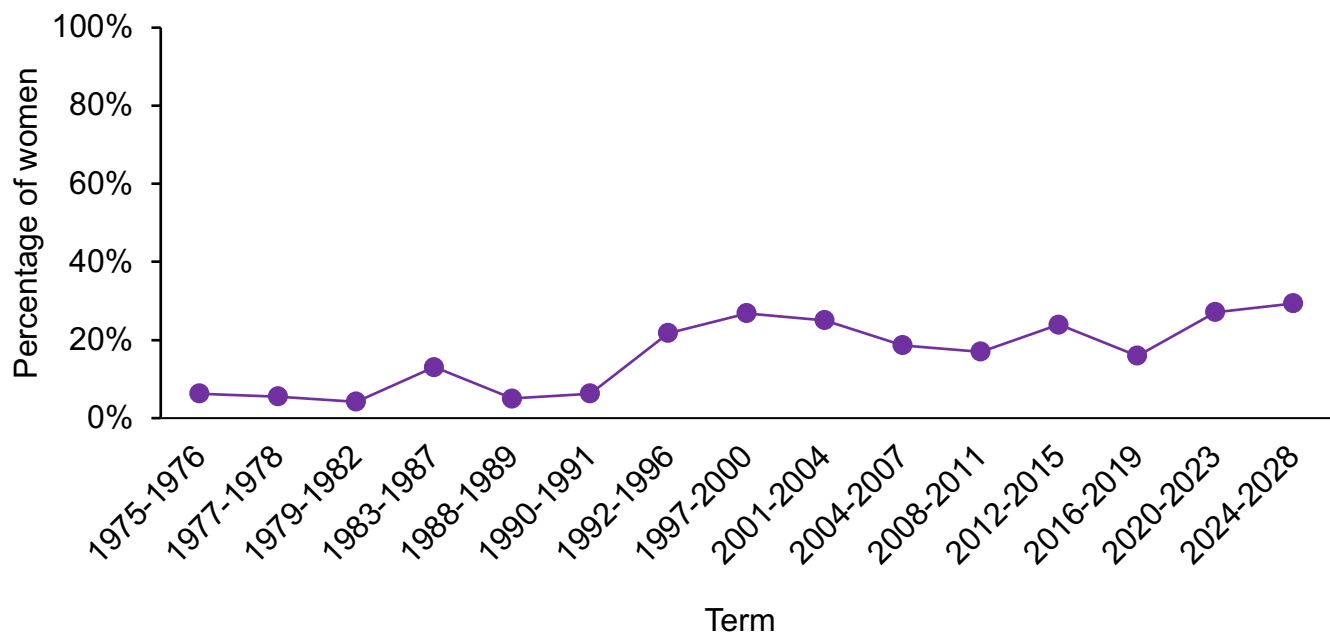
Area	Subcategories
Experimental	Experimental Analysis of Behavior
	Behavioral Pharmacology
Applied	Autism
	Clinical, Family, and Behavioral Medicine
	Community interventions and Social and Ethical Issues
	Developmental Disabilities
	Education
	Human Development; Gerontology
	Organizational Behavior Management
	Teaching Behavior Analysis
	Verbal Behavior
Conceptual	Theoretical, Philosophical, and Conceptual Issues

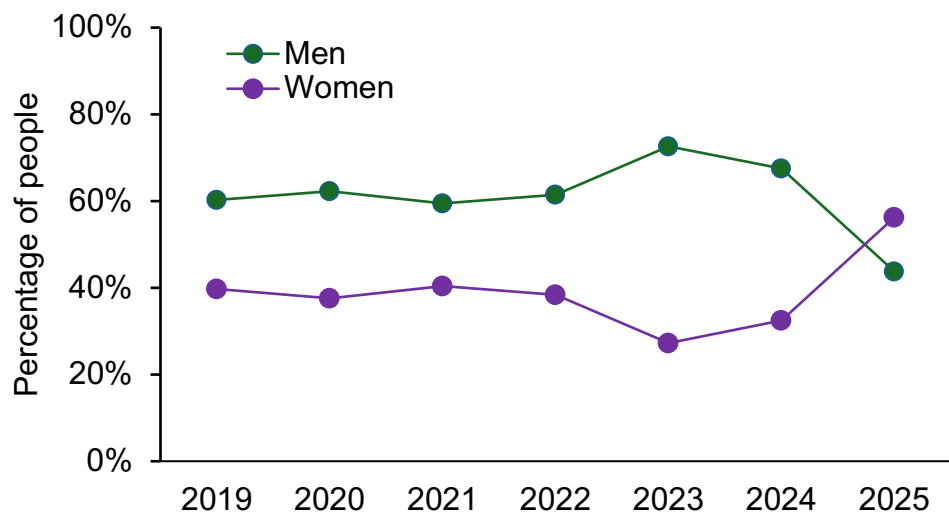
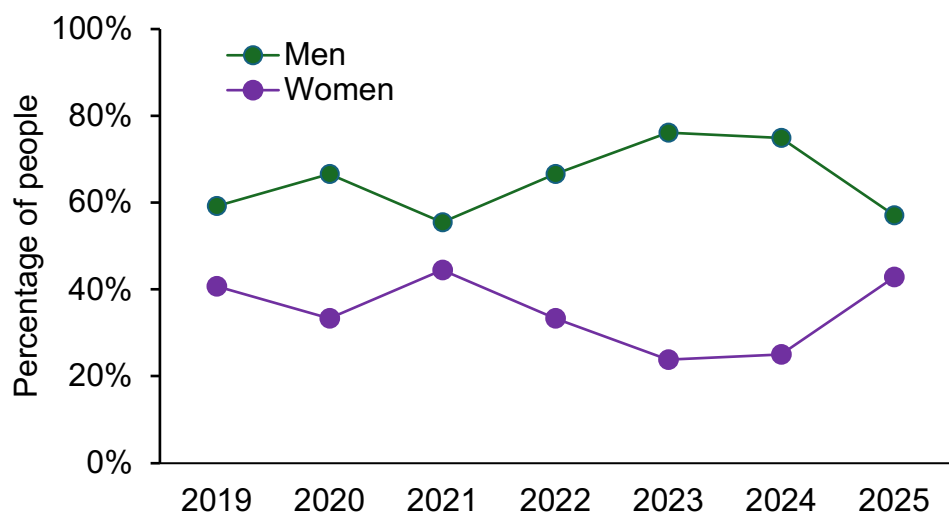
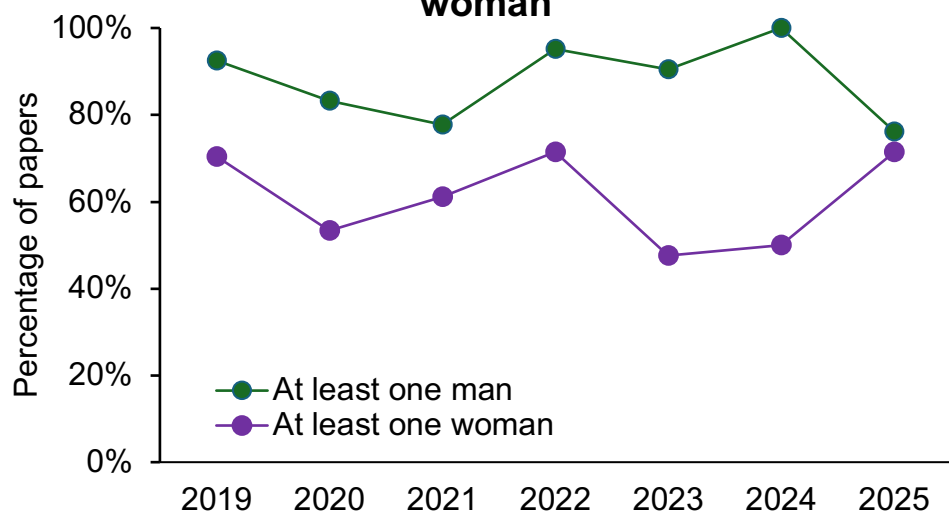
1028 *Note.* Based on classification used in ABA conferences, as used by Simon et al. (2017).

Editorial board

A

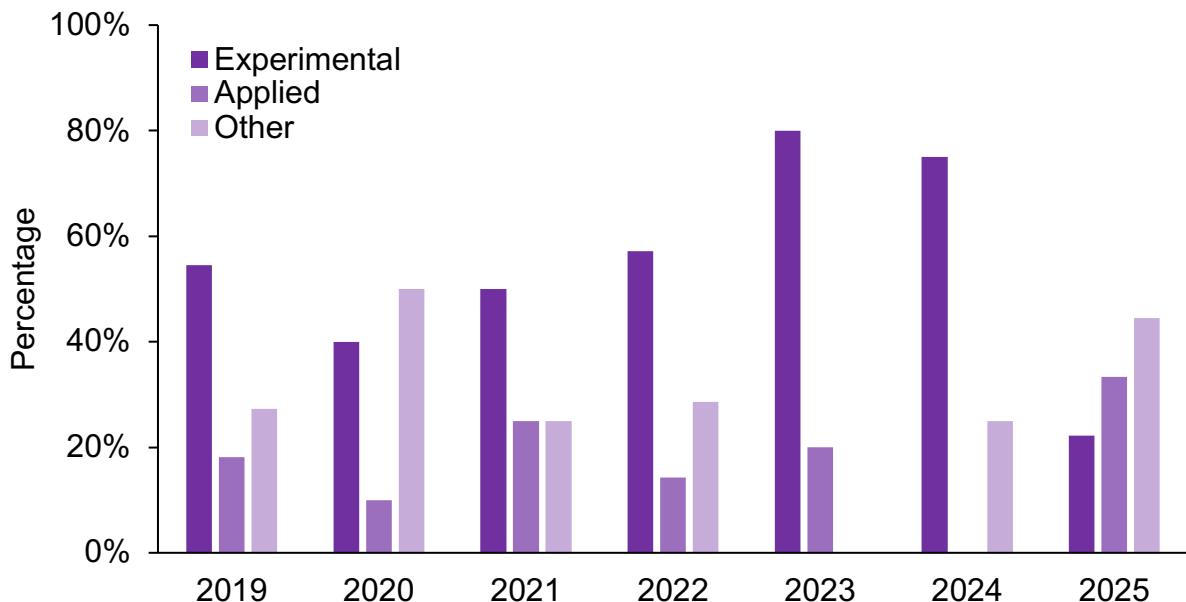
Women in key editorial roles

B

All authors**A****First author****B****Papers with at least one man/ one woman****C**

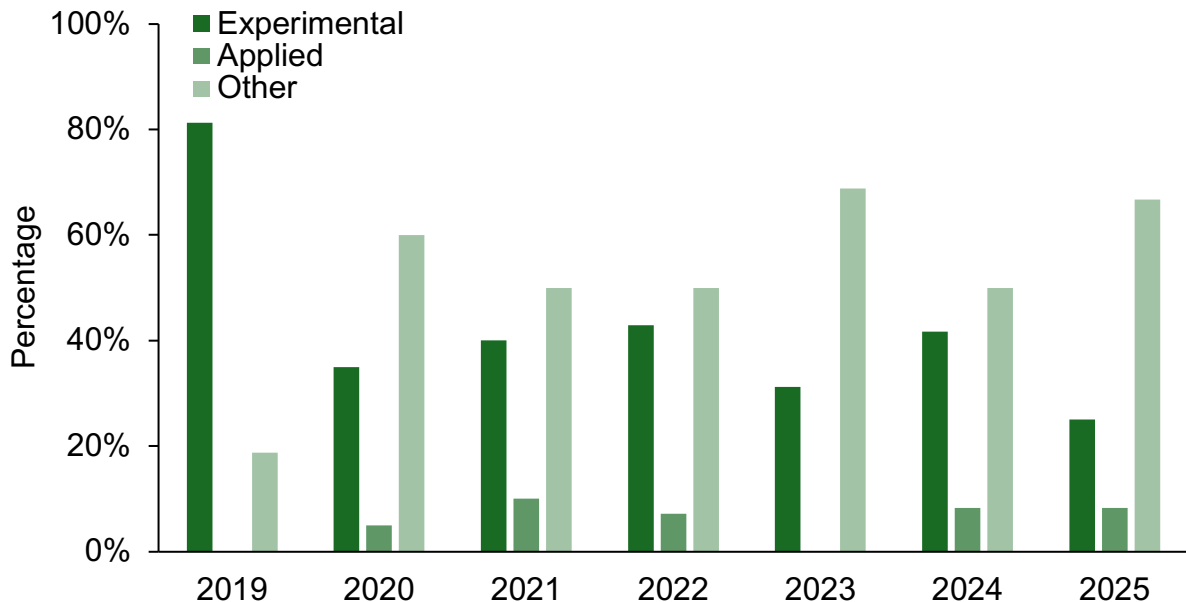
First authorship of women by area

A



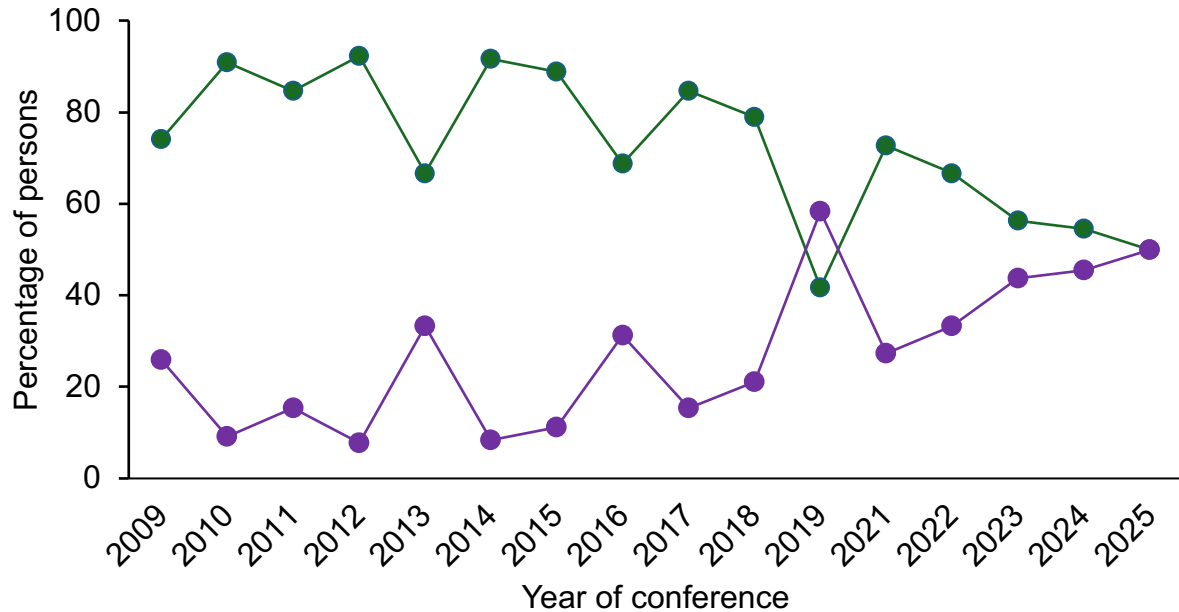
First authorship of men by area

B

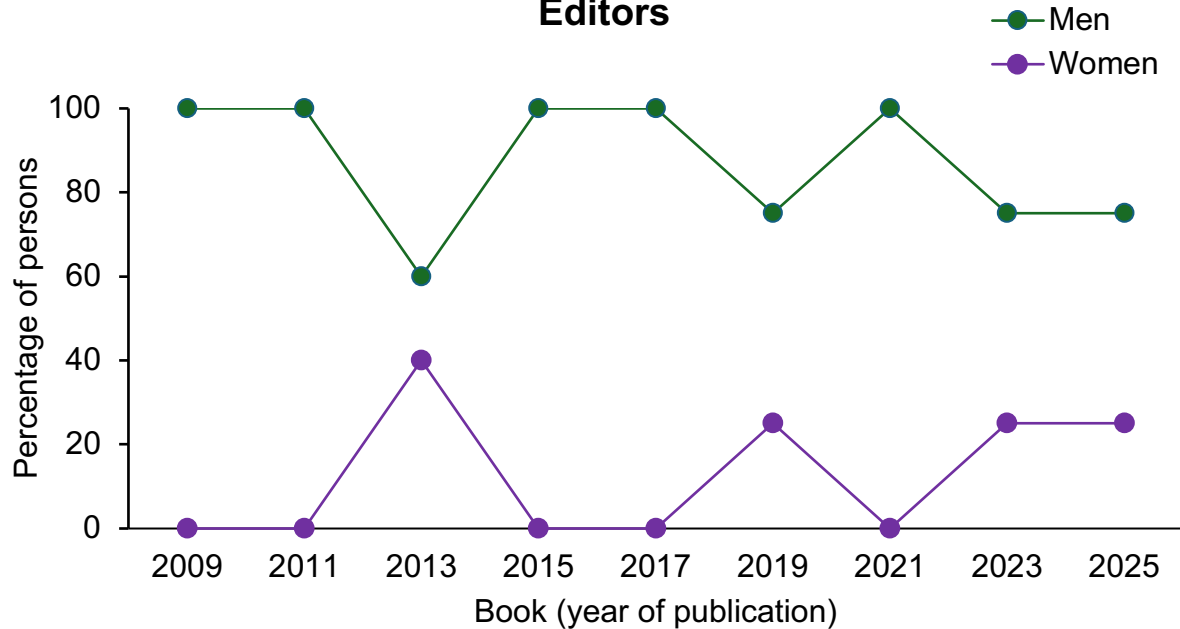


Invited speakers

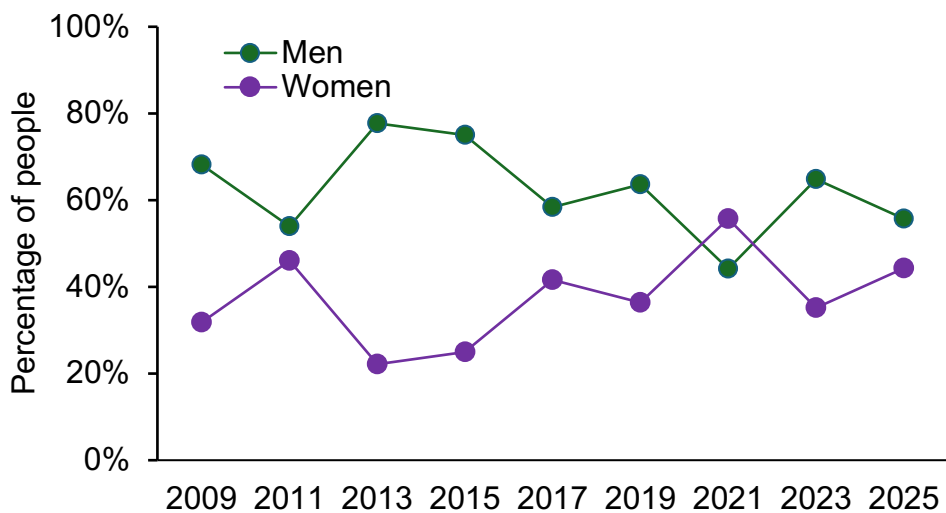
Men
Women



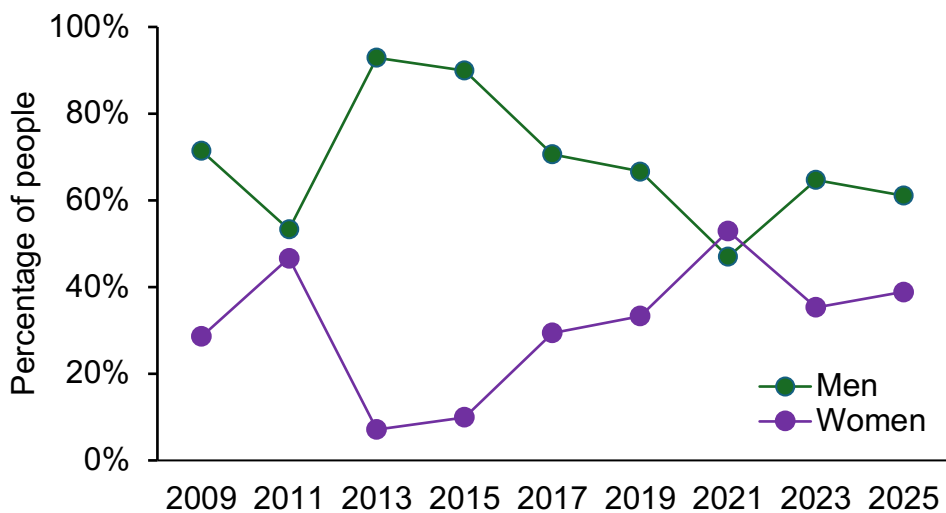
Editors



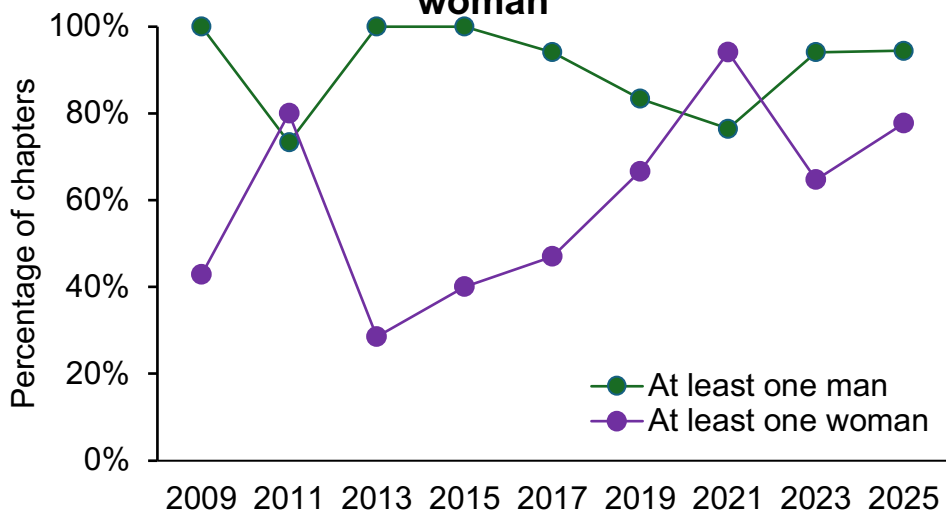
All authors

A

First author

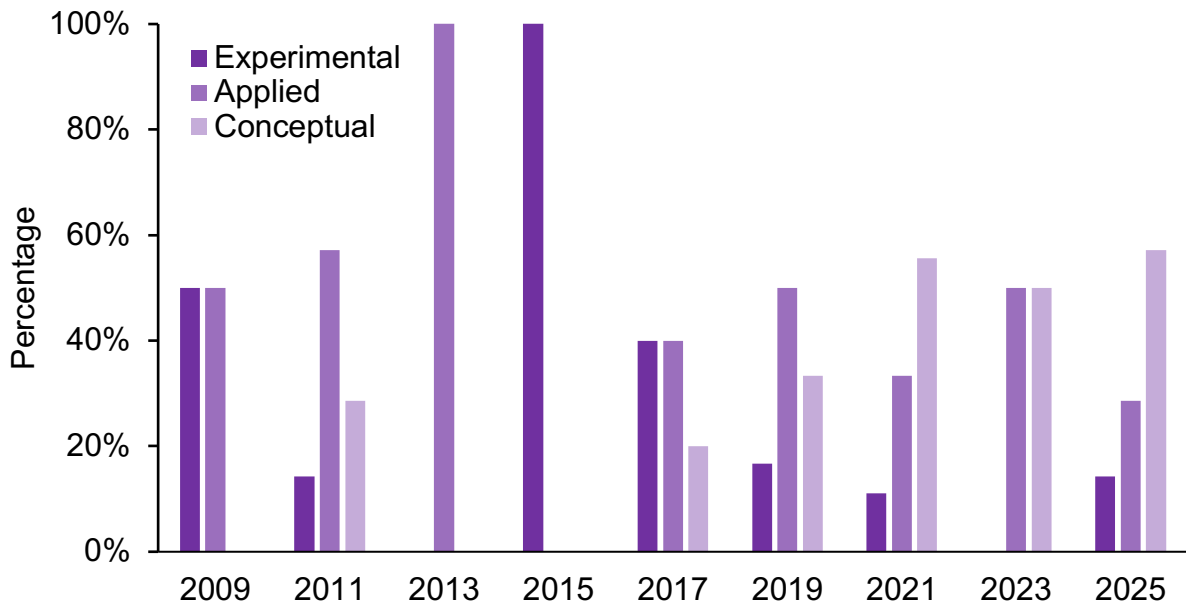
B

Chapters with at least one man/ one woman

C

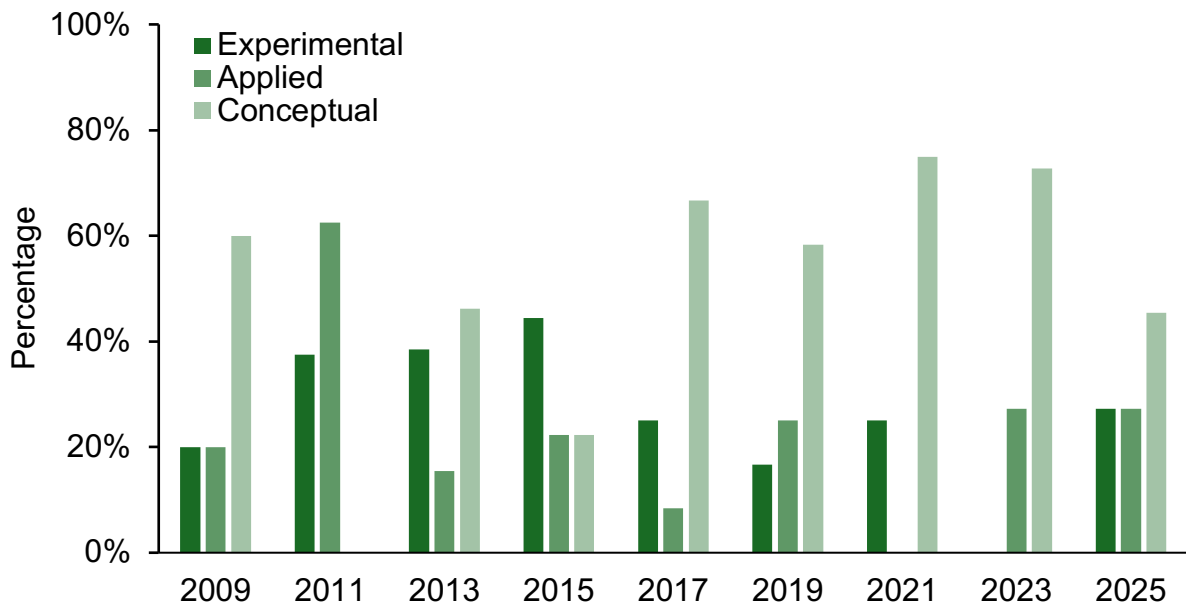
First authorship of women by area

A



First authorship of men by area

B



Invited speakers

Men
Women

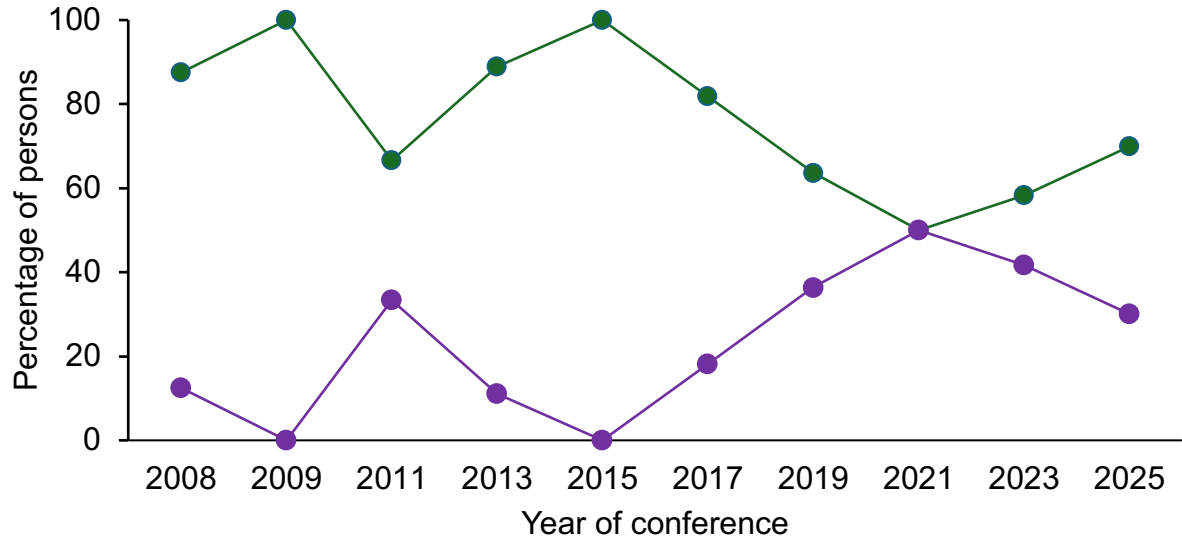


Table 1*Percentage of Type of Collaboration by Gender and Year in RMAC*

Year	Single-author		Collaboration only		Mixed collaboration	
	W	M	W	M	W	M
2019	5.26	12.00	5.26	20.00	89.47	68.00
2020	12.50	32.00	18.75	24.00	68.75	44.00
2021	18.18	35.71	18.18	14.29	63.64	50.00
2022	0.00	25.00	6.67	5.00	93.33	70.00
2023	10.00	36.84	10.00	21.05	80.00	42.11
2024	0.00	31.25	0.00	18.75	100.00	50.00
2025	26.67	25.00	13.33	12.50	60.00	56.25
Mean	10.37	28.26	10.31	16.51	80.27	55.23

Note. Percentages were calculated separately for each gender. Collaboration only refers to articles with only women (W) or only men (M) as authors. Mixed collaboration refers to articles with at least one woman and one man.

Table 2*Percentage of Type of Collaboration by Gender and Year in SINCA Books*

Year	Single-author		Collaboration only		Mixed collaboration	
	W	M	W	M	W	M
2009	0.00	28.57	0.00	28.57	100.00	42.85
2011	33.33	18.18	0.00	9.09	66.67	72.73
2013	0.00	21.43	0.00	50.00	100.00	28.57
2015	0.00	10.00	0.00	50.00	100.00	40.00
2017	12.50	43.75	0.00	12.50	87.50	43.75
2019	25.00	20.00	0.00	20.00	75.00	60.00
2021	18.75	0.00	6.25	7.69	75.00	92.31
2023	18.18	18.75	0.00	25.00	81.82	56.25
2025	0.00	11.76	7.14	11.76	92.86	76.47
Mean	11.97	19.16	1.49	23.58	86.54	56.99

Note. Percentages were calculated separately for each gender. Collaboration only refers to chapters with only women (W) or only men (M) as authors. Mixed collaboration refers to chapters with at least one woman and one man.