

STEM Classroom to Career: Closing the Gap

51%

Today's STEM high school students see their STEM courses as **VERY** or **EXTREMELY** important to their future careers.

HOWEVER, there is a gap attracting and retaining **UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS** in STEM



Females are less confident than males in their STEM abilities. This gender gap persists even among those with higher GPAs and among AP STEM students.

Male students are **2.4x** more likely to aspire to a career in the STEM field than their female counterparts.



Among high-school seniors, Whites and Asians are more likely to have taken 7+ STEM courses than African-Americans, Hispanics, and Native Americans have. This pattern extends to AP STEM classes.

SOLUTIONS



Creative Learning

Students are roughly **30% MORE** confident in their STEM career abilities when creative learning is part of their classroom experience.



Extracurricular STEM Activities

Link students' in-school STEM curriculum experiences with out-of-school-time activities that spark and reinforce their interest, discovery, persistence, and creativity in STEM.



Equal Opportunities

Ensure that all students have STEM courses available to them in their high schools at the right level to prepare them for future success.

Data from a national survey sample of 7,325 high school students in STEM classes during Spring 2015.

The Research Consortium on STEM Career Pathways



For the full report:

<http://studentresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/STEM-long-report-83016.pdf>

Visit the [Student Research Foundation](#) for a related, student-focused research clearinghouse, with relevant information about career, academic, and life pathways. The Student Research Foundation collaborates with the Research Consortium on STEM Career Pathways and others to provide the community with the most current information.

