

# Feminine Geek $\Xi$ Technically Chic

When you think of a stereotypical “nerd,” what gender do you think of? If you live in America, that answer is too often “male.” Unfortunately only about one in three technology jobs are held by women today. This is in spite of the fact that women have contributed incredible computing accomplishments and technical prowess, to include complex weapons calculations during World War II as well as the invention of the computer compiler, among others.

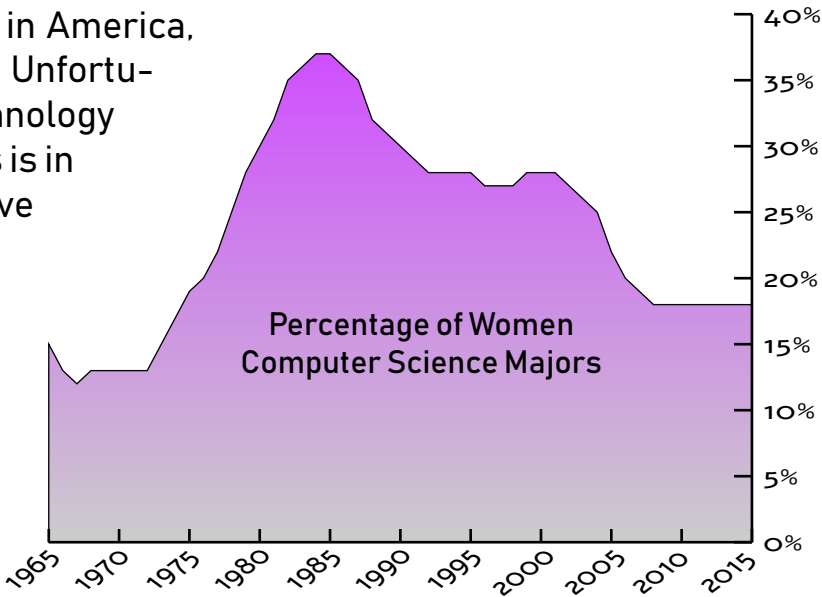
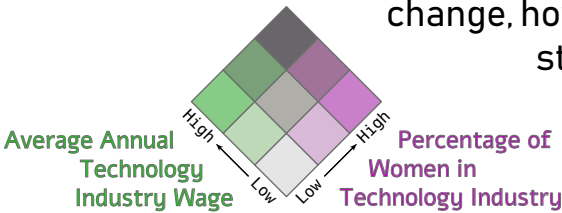


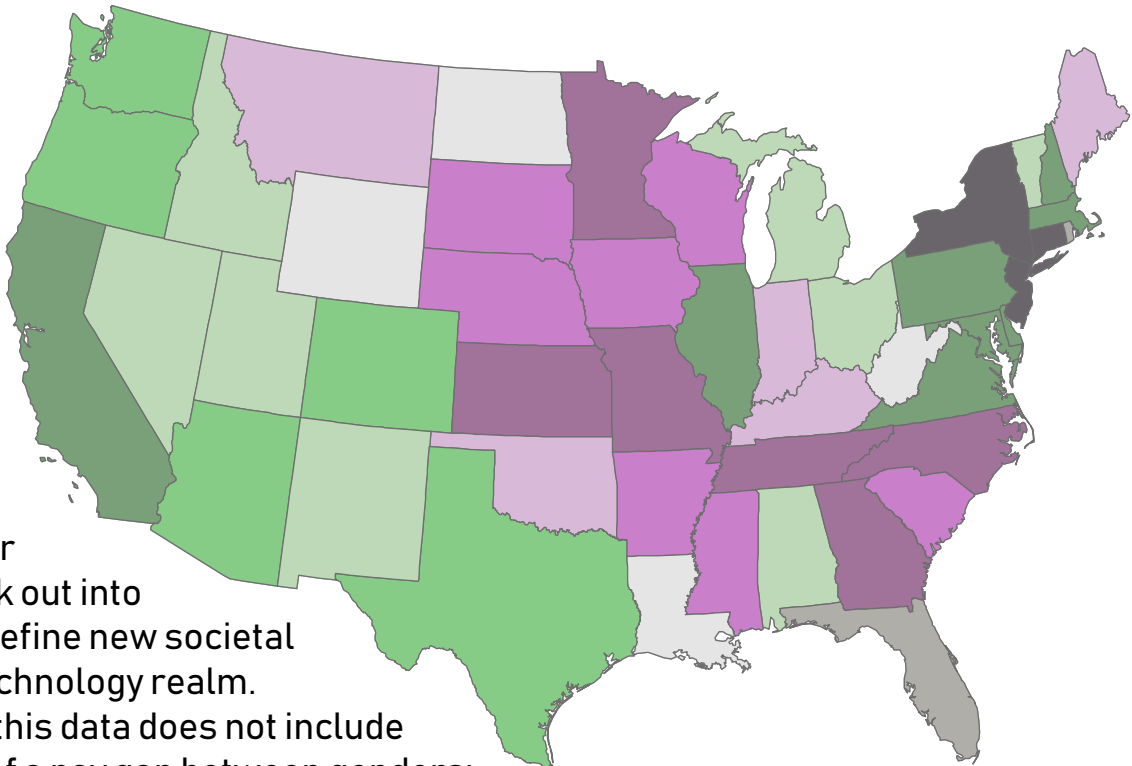
Figure 1: National Science Foundation, [www.nsf.gov](http://www.nsf.gov), 2013

Women are and will continue to fight back against corporate gender bias and societal pressure currently shaping the technology industry landscape. Opportunities and receptivity to change, however, varies state by state...

Figure 2: CompTIA cyberstates research, [www.cyberstates.org](http://www.cyberstates.org), 2017



It is evident that certain states have created an encouraging and rewarding environment for women to break out into their own and define new societal norms in the technology realm. Unfortunately, this data does not include consideration of a pay gap between genders; on average women are offered 4% less money than men for the same role in the same company, according to Hired.com. Although perhaps opportunity and availability for more technical work exists in areas where women are underrepresented, opening the door for women to make their mark in ways men haven't yet been able to?



**Insight:** States in the North East and California seem to encourage women to join technology fields, while states like North Dakota, Wyoming, and West Virginia are lagging behind.