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Titre: Not Just Google And Facebook: America's Boardrooms Are Still

Woefully Bereft Of Women.

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Résumé: The article focuses on issues related to gender diversity in U.S.

business enterprises. Topics discussed include women representation in corporate boards, less female directors in Internet services firms Google Inc. and Facebook Inc. and the release of the Gender Map, a data visualization project, according to which women represents only 10.7 percent of all board members. Also mentions less representation

of women on corporate boards.

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Boardrooms Are Still Woefully Bereft Of Women

Think Google Google and Facebook have the worst gender diversity issue? They are not alone.

On average, US company board composition is nearly 90% men. To be exact, just 10.7% of all board members are females, according to Gender Map, a data visualization project created by London-based startup Data Morphosis. Among the three major U.S. stock benchmarks, only one company -- cosmetic giant Avon Products Avon Products -- has more than 50% female board members. Eighteen S&P 500 companies -- including familiar names like Discovery Communications Discovery Communications and Chesapeake Energy Chesapeake Energy -- have no women represented on their boards.

These numbers speak to an unsettling reality: women are still poorly represented on corporate boards -- the highest level of company leadership and decision-making. Only 11.2% of board members are women among the 15,277 publicly-listed and privately-held companies from 112 countries on Gender Map. Female board members represent less than one-fifth of the total board directors among all the S&P 500 companies.

"Women are a powerful force in the economy, but yet they're not well represented on company boards," said Jan Combopiano, Chief Knowledge Officer at Catalyst, a non-profit organization which commissioned the most updated version of Gender Map in May.

For instance, while consumer goods companies have the highest proportion of female board directors compared to other industries on the S&P 500, the industry's average percentage of women on boards is merely 23.2%. "Consumer and retail goods companies have woken up to the enormous purchasing power

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of women globally, in some cases over 80 percent of customers are female," said Sam Jones, founder of Data Morphosis. "To not have women leading these companies makes little sense." Avon Products, the only S&P 500 company with more than half of women on its board, is run by Sherilyn McCoy -- one of only eight female chief executives among S&P 500 companies.

With an average of 5.7% female board members, the oil & gas industry faces the worst gender diversity issue in the corporate boardrooms. None of the Oil & Gas companies on the S&P 500 have more than 25% female board members. Four companies, such as Chesapeake Energy and Diamond Offshore Drilling Diamond Offshore Drilling, have no women on the board. "Sectors such as autos, oil and gas, lag behind dramatically in terms of female leaders, despite women being a huge force when it comes to purchasing decision," Jones said. In these industries, changes are urgently needed not just in the entire work force, but also on the highest decision-making level.

The technology industry on average has only 7.1% female board members, ranking second-to-worse among all the industries on Gender Map. Despite having female chief executives like Yahoo Yahoo's Marissa Meyer, Hewlett-Packard Hewlett-Packard's Meg Whitman, and IBM IBM's Virginia Rometty, none of these companies have 30% female board members. Google and Facebook also have less-than-ideal gender diversity on their boards despite recent talks about improving workforce diversity. Google Google has only three women represented in its 10-person board, while Facebook has only two female board members.

It is perhaps time for Sheryl Sandberg to lean in and address the gender diversity issue inside her company's boardroom.

Note: Data used in this analysis come from the most updated version of Gender Map in May. You can view the publicly available version updated in October last year here.

PHOTO (COLOR): Yahoo! Inc. has only two women on its seven-member Board of Directors.

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