Figure 18.4: Trends in GERD and researchers in West Africa

GERD as a share of GDP in West Africa, 2017 or closest year (%)

- Côte d'Ivoire (2016): 0.10
- Togo (2014): 0.27
- Mali (2017): 0.29
- Ghana (2017): 0.45
- Senegal (2015): 0.58
- Burkina Faso (2017): 0.61

The high share of students enrolled in STEM fields at public universities (32% in 2017) may explain the sharp rise in Senegalese researchers.

GERD by sector of performance in West Africa, 2017 or closest year

- Burkina Faso: 35.2% (Government), 21.6% (Higher education), 10.1% (Private non-profit)
- Côte d'Ivoire: 21.6% (Government), 45.2% (Higher education), 16.6% (Private non-profit)
- Mali: 21.7% (Government), 7.1% (Higher education), 10.3% (Private non-profit)
- Senegal: 54.1% (Government), 18.6% (Higher education), 5.6% (Private non-profit)
- Togo: 21.6% (Government), 30.9% (Higher education), 18.6% (Private non-profit)

Researchers by field of science (HC) in West Africa, 2017 or closest year (%)

- Natural sciences: 21.1% (Senegal 2015), 16.2% (Togo 2017)
- Engineering: 7.1% (Senegal 2015), 5.6% (Togo 2017)
- Medical sciences: 14.9% (Senegal 2015), 14.9% (Togo 2017)
- Agriculture & veterinary: 1.3% (Senegal 2015), 1.3% (Togo 2017)
- Social sciences: 39.2% (Senegal 2015), 25.3% (Togo 2017)
- Humanities & arts: 16.5% (Senegal 2015), 16.3% (Togo 2017)

Researchers (HC) per million inhabitants in West Africa, 2018 or closest year (%)

- Senegal (2015): 983
- Côte d'Ivoire (2016): 180
- Togo (2018): 125
- Burkina Faso (2017): 107
- Mali (2017): 39

Share of women researchers (HC) in selected West African countries, 2017 or closest year (%)

- Senegal (2015): 29.5%
- Mali: 15.1%
- Togo: 11.2%

Note: Recent data are unavailable for most West African countries.