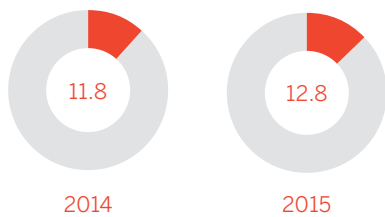


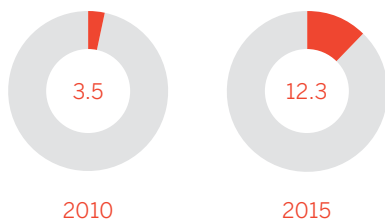


THE LEADERSHIP FOUNDRY is a non-profit effort, spearheaded by Women in Technology (WIT), to address the gender diversity chasm on corporate boards in the Washington, DC area. The program provides training to prepare women for board service. It also offers a resource to area companies by identifying graduates from our program to fill board positions and making appropriate introductions. By acting as a broker, we will ultimately grow the number of women serving on corporate boards in our region.

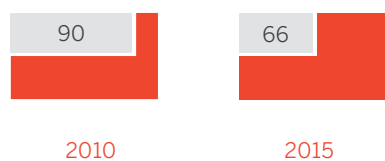
The percentage of board seats held by women at publicly traded companies in the Washington region is growing.



The percentage of those companies that had a critical mass—three or more women—on their boards has also grown.



Meanwhile, the number of area publicly held companies whose boards have no women at all is declining.



Data from a Women in Technology-commissioned report, prepared by American University Kogod School of Business in 2015, that examined the number of women board members from 211 publicly traded companies headquartered in Maryland, Virginia and Washington, DC.

THE FACTS

- Women hold 12.8% or 251 of the 1,958 board seats at the 211 publicly held companies in the Maryland, Virginia and Washington, DC region. This is a slight increase over the 11.8% of women found on board seats in this region reported by the 2014 WIT study.
- Of those companies, 12.3% or 26 had a critical mass of women (three or more) serving as board directors up from 7.4% or 15 reported by the 2014 WIT study.
- The trend from 2010 to 2015 continues to show companies within our region adding women to their boards. In 2015, 66 of the 211 publicly traded companies in the Washington, DC area had no women serving on their boards, down from 90 in 2010. This trend also shows continued movement toward critical mass.

HOW WE WORK

The Leadership Foundry provides intensive board training sessions that prepare women to serve on a board of directors. In addition, there are formal and informal networking and mentoring opportunities to assist the participants in obtaining their first corporate board seat. A group of 15–25 experienced women executives have the opportunity to be a part of the program each year.

“Boards need to balance [their organization’s] history and corporate institution[s] with understanding of contemporary issues (e.g. technology risks, cyber security). Young companies bring angel investors who are also young and may lack the experience for sustained growth. A mix of experience among board members is necessary to have a balanced board.”

—Dale Rosenthal, President of Clark Financial Services Group

For more information contact us at theleadershipfoundry.org.

