

# BOARD DIVERSITY



## **PRESENTER**

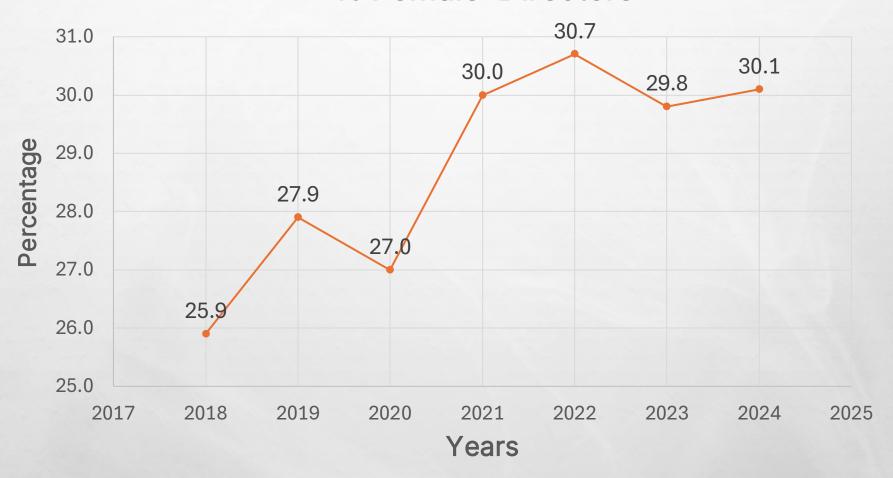


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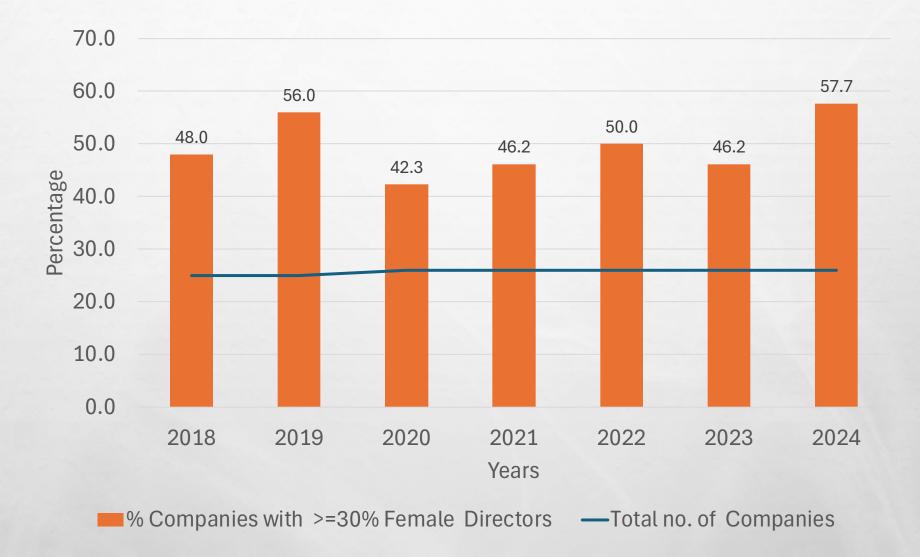
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#### % Female Directors



#### **TRINIDAD & TOBAGO 2018-2024**





## 30% THRESHOLD (T&T)



### HOW DO WE COMPARE

- Gender diversity: steady gains, stubborn gaps
- Women at 23.3% of board seats worldwide, but only 8.4% of chairs and 6% of CEOs
- Percentage of women in top executive posts stalled or fell in 2024
- Trinidad & Tobago (T&T) listed companies (2024) – female directors 30.1%, chairs 15.4%, and CEOs 20%
- 30% threshold: international stats, 46.2% of companies; T&T 58%

# DIVERSITY Why it matters



Sharper decisions and less groupthink



Stronger governance and risk control



Correlation to value creation



Meets stakeholder /regulatory expectations



Talent magnet and healthier culture

#### QUOTAS VS VOLUNTARY APPROACH

 Quotas / hard rules: legal or listing-rule minimums (e.g., EU 40% NED / 33% total NEDS & direct reports

e.g. EU directive; HKEX single-gender board ban

#### or

 Voluntary / comply-or-explain: public targets + standardized metrics, disclosure template

e.g. UK targets + Governance templates

#### WHY PROGRESS IS SLOW

- Pipeline to the board: too few women in revenue critical roles & direct reports
- Low rates of board refreshment: few vacancies; long tenure; limited board turnover
- Search habits: narrow person specifications; over-emphasis on 'prior CEO and finance' experience vs Board skills matrix
- Limited disclosure and reporting requirements

#### WAY FORWARD - MARKET LEVEL



Set clear targets + require the publication of metrics related to board & exec and diversity matrix (annual)



Adopt at least one floor (e.g., No single-gender boards) with a transition period



Standardize
disclosure templates
to enable investor
and stakeholder
comparisons



Insist on refreshment levers (tenure and independence) to open seats

#### WAY FORWARD - COMPANY LEVEL

1

**Build** the pipeline to power: rotations into revenue critical, finance, and tech roles; sponsoring not just mentoring 2

**Require** diverse longlists and skills-based matrices for every board vacancy

3

Measure % women in revenue critical, finance, and tech roles; in direct reports; and promotions 4

Welcome1st-tim e directors with relevant skills; invest in early chair/com. chair development

#### **KEY TAKEAWAYS**



Diversity is a decision-quality and risk-oversight asset



Representation has improved; the pipeline is a decisive battleground



Combine targets
+ disclosure +
board
refreshment +
pipeline
investment to
sustain and
improve gains.

## THANK YOU