

**Benelux Section****Claude Oestges****Section Vitality**

Elections were held at the end of 2020, using the following procedure: after notification of the section members, a minimum of two weeks days was allowed for additional nominations by petition (till December 31, 2020). After that time period, elections were to be held in case of multiple candidates for board role, otherwise the proposed board would be elected. There was no alternative proposed candidates, hence the following board was elected:

- Chair: Claude Oestges (UCLouvain)
- Vice Chair: Alex Yarovy (TU Delft)
- Secretary: Francois Rottenberg (UCLouvain)
- Treasurer: Valentijn De Smedt (KU Leuven)

The new Vice-Chair will become the next Section Chair at the end of 2022.

Section ExCom meetings were held two times per year (in 2020: May 20 and November 18, via WebEx). It was however agreed that meetings should be scheduled three times per year, roughly in February, May and October/November. Two of these could be online and one could be live. The first meeting in 2021 took place on February 23.

The IEEE Benelux Section is traditionally doing very well in retaining members as well recruit new members. The new members recruitment is mainly done via the student branches. Actively involve and engage students in IEEE activities is working well. We stimulate these activities via the Section. Note however that a significant number of activities were cancelled or postponed because of the current sanitary crisis.

**Students**

In the Benelux we are addressing the future IEEE members in the Student Branches at the various Universities. This used to work quite efficiently, but was hampered by the sanitary crisis. Four branches are active for now: KU Leuven, Ghent, UCLouvain and Eindhoven. Some others are inactive: Twente, Delft, Antwerpen, Liège. Among all active student branches, only UCLouvain and TU Eindhoven managed to successfully organize a significant numbers of online activities. All active branches reported that the current situation makes it very hard to recruit new members.

The Section is supporting the Student Branches financially and content wise as well. Students in the Benelux Section are very active in the IEEE paper contest. Recently, one Benelux student won the R8 IEEE student paper contest 2021 (SPC2021).

**Affinity Groups and Chapters**

The vitality in the Affinity Groups and Chapters is related to the number and quality of the activities: between November 2019 and November 2020, 44 events took place. However, larger physical events were mostly postponed. Some transition to online events is taking place. Stimulating to organize local activities like conferences, network opportunities, cross-chapter activities etc, is one of the actions of the Section. Chapters and affinity groups were also encouraged by the Section to see the current crisis as an opportunity as well, moving to more online events. In our ExCOMs, we invite the Chapters explicitly, let them present their activities and help them wherever we can. Of course, some Chapters are more vibrant than others, but in general we are very pleased with the local activities in the Benelux.

**Industry**

There are a couple of things we do in the Section to increase industry participation in the IEEE activities. For a start, we try to find industry partners in the Section board. We also motivate Chapters to do the same. Some Chapters in the Section are even run by volunteers from industry. Most actions were however slowed down due to covid-19.

**Activities since the last report**

Most large activities were postponed (see planned activities).

**Planned activities**

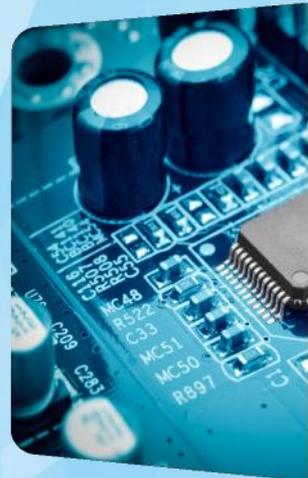
The next general assembly of the IEEE Benelux section will be organized online on May 19 from 3pm to 6pm. There will be presentations of recently appointed fellows of the Benelux section.

**How Region 8 can be of help to your Section, members, and activities**

No particular challenge, beyond those associated with the current crisis.

**Any other issues of interest**

None.



# IEEE Benelux ExCom

*WebEx, 23 February 2021*

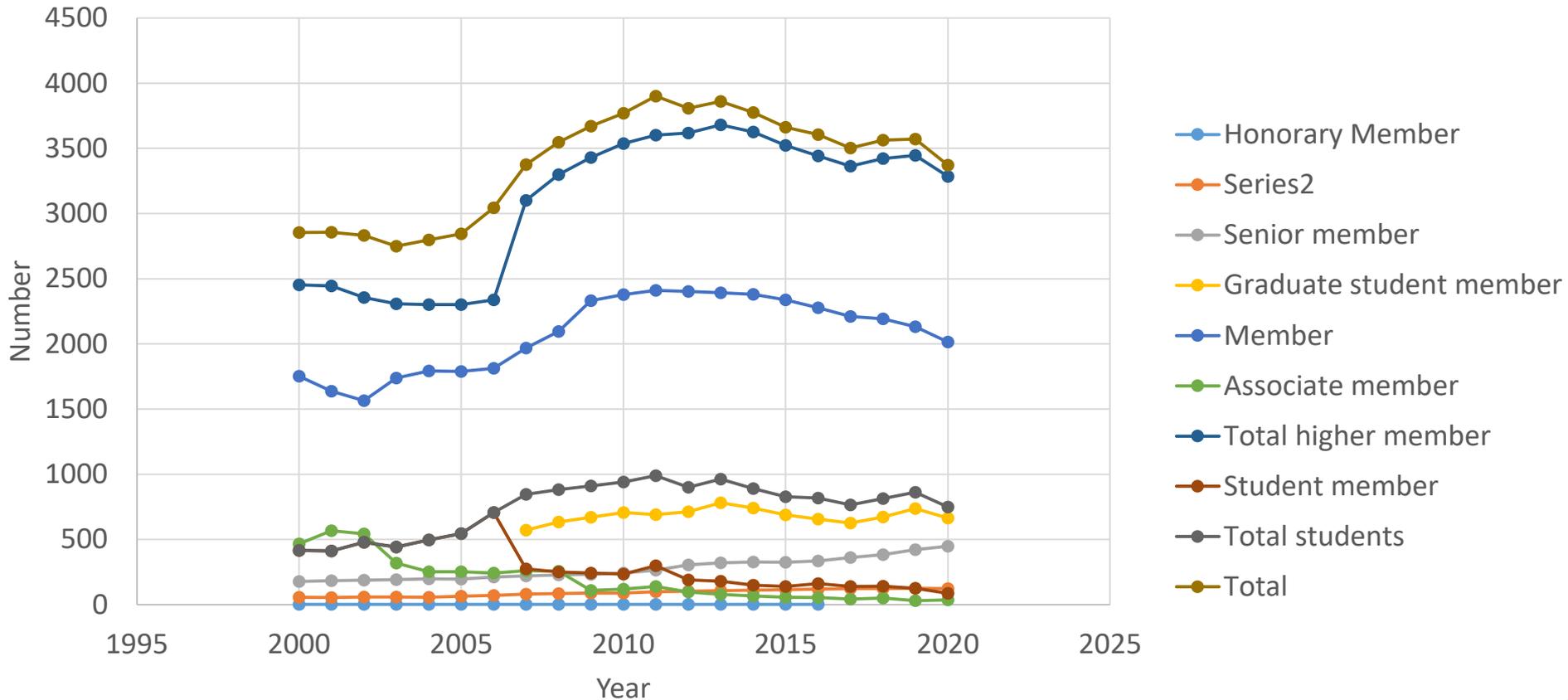
*Membership Development*

# January Membership Data

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>Y-Y</b>
<b>AM</b>	31	36	5
<b>F</b>	90	88	-2
<b>GSM</b>	784	697	-87
<b>H</b>	1	1	0
<b>LF</b>	35	39	4
<b>LM</b>	114	123	9
<b>LS</b>	44	46	2
<b>M</b>	2025	1904	-121
<b>SM</b>	377	399	22
<b>StM</b>	127	92	-35
<b>TOTAAL:</b>	<b>3628</b>	<b>3425</b>	<b>-203</b>

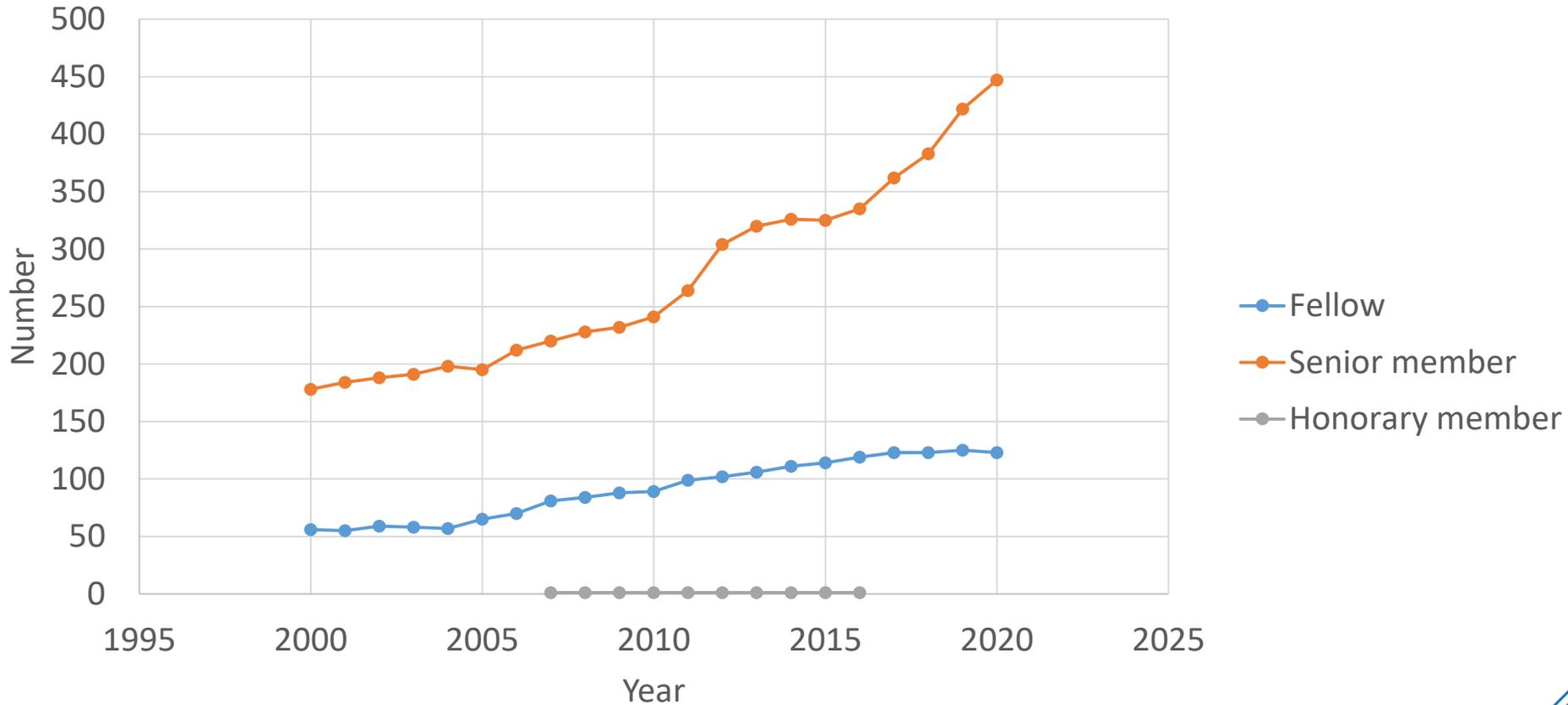
# Membership Evolution

31 December Data



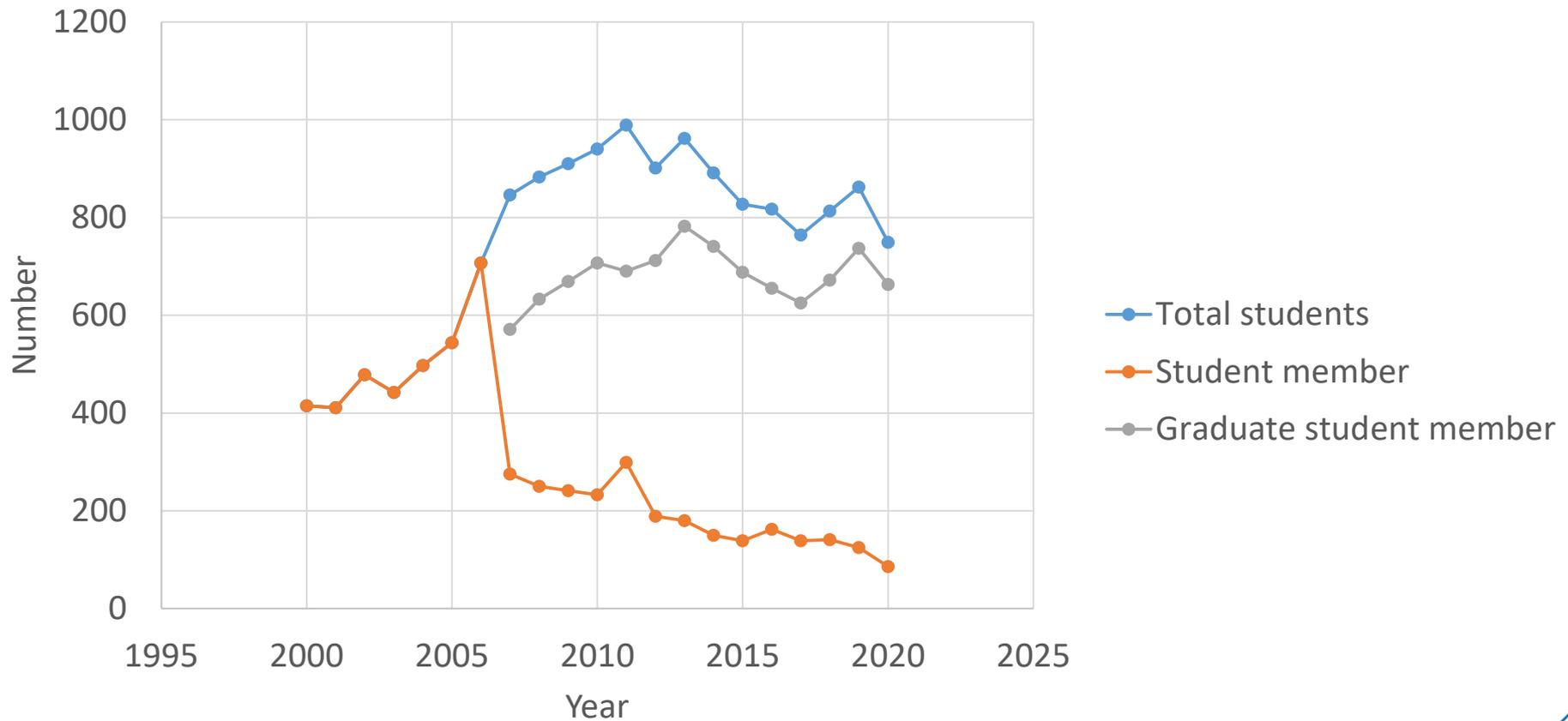
# Fellows, Senior and Honorary Members

31 December Data



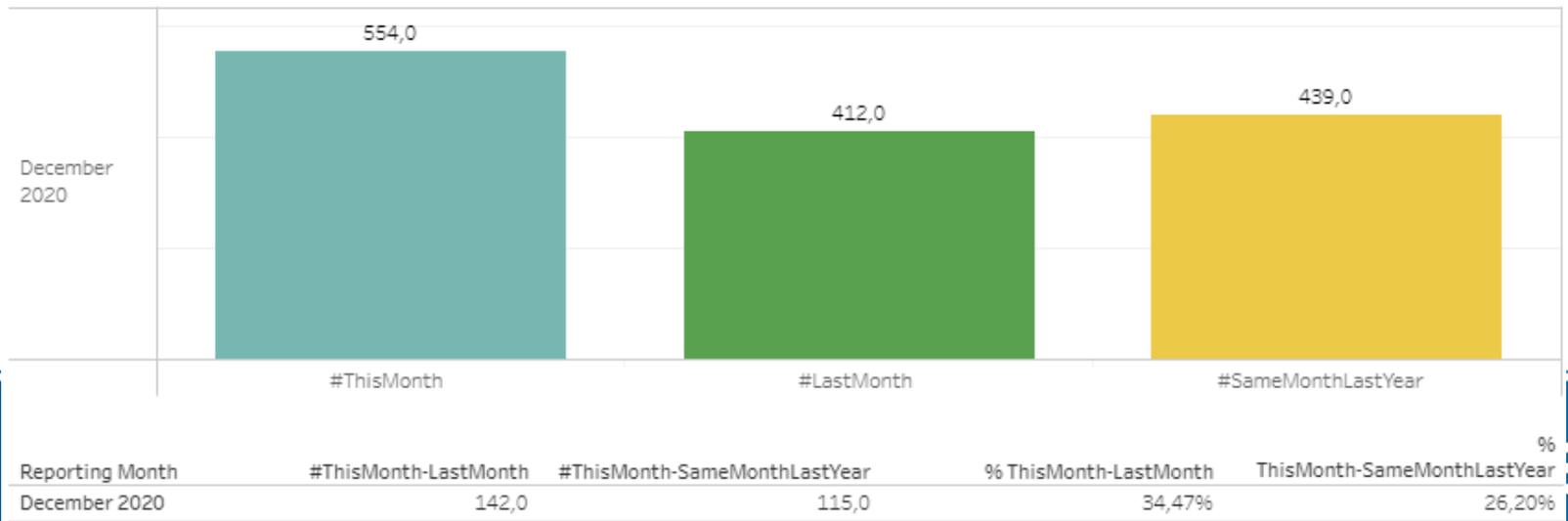
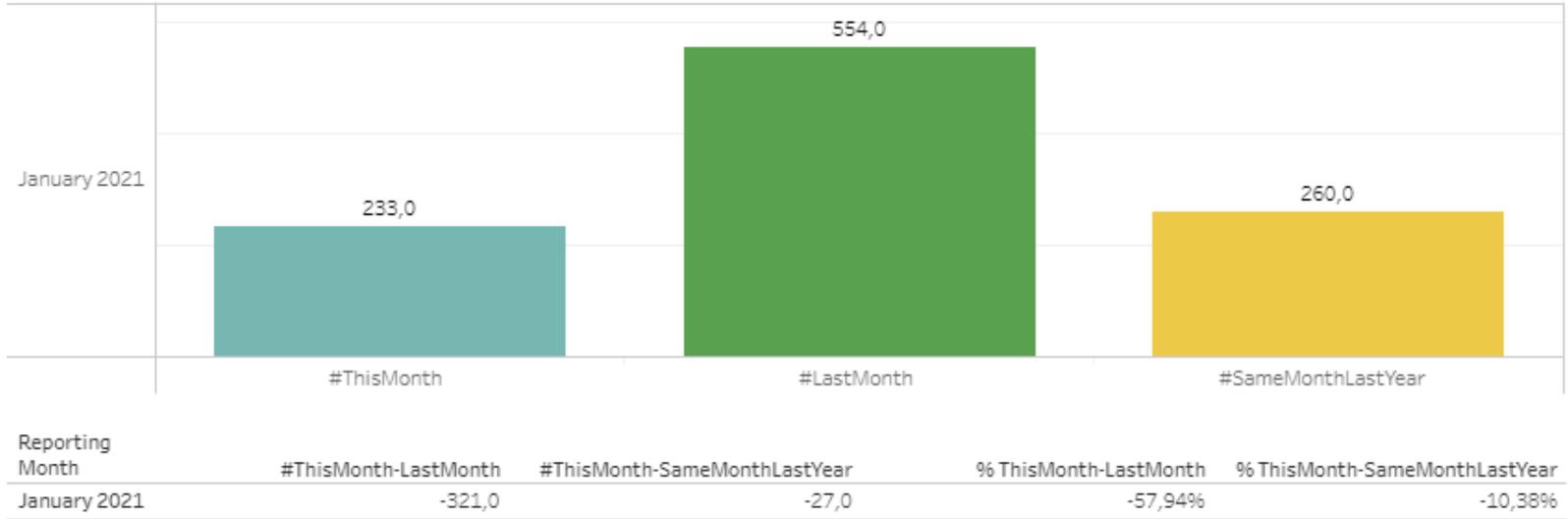
# Student Members

31 December Data



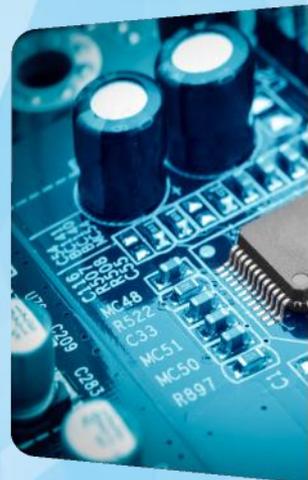
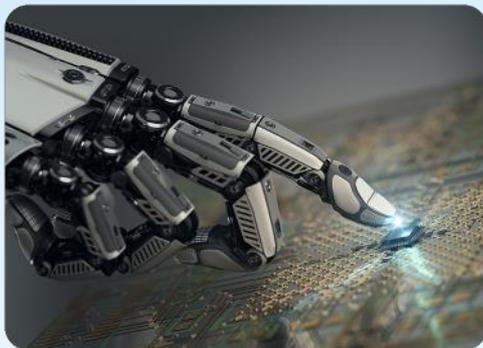
# Renewals

## January 2021



# Conclusions

- ▶ Membership is decreasing again (Covid 19?)
  - Benelux - 5.60 % (nov 2020: - 6.25 %)
  - IEEE - 4.41% (nov 2020: - 6.91 %)
- ▶ Students strongly affected
- ▶ Increase in Higher Grade 'non-normal'



# Membership data Nov. 2020

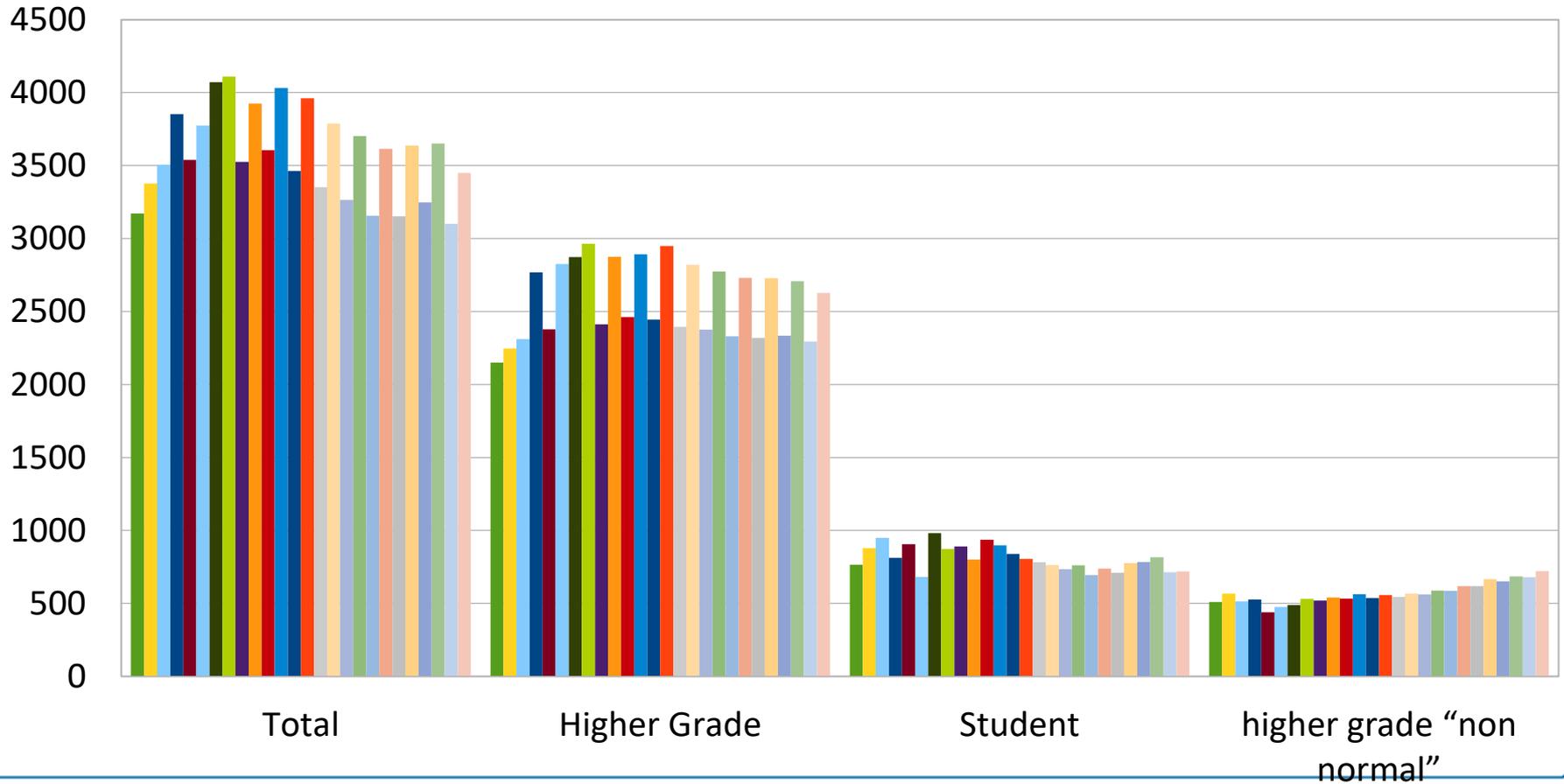
## *Membership Development*

# Current Membership

	mei, 2019	nov, 2019	mei, 2020	nov, 2020	Y-over-Y
<b>Associate Member</b>	28	33	31	37	4
<b>Affiliate</b>	129	126	95	102	-24
<b>Fellow</b>	96	88	90	84	-4
<b>Honorary Member</b>	1	1	1	1	0
<b>Life Fellow</b>	31	36	32	39	3
<b>Life Member</b>	105	114	110	119	5
<b>Life Senior</b>	42	44	42	47	3
<b>Senior Member</b>	348	370	373	395	25
<b>Member</b>	1684	2022	1615	1906	-116
<b>Student</b>	131	122	84	85	-37
<b>Graduate Student Member</b>	653	695	629	634	-61
<b>Total:</b>	<b>3248</b>	<b>3651</b>	<b>3102</b>	<b>3449</b>	<b>-202 (-5.53 %)</b>

# Membership Comparison

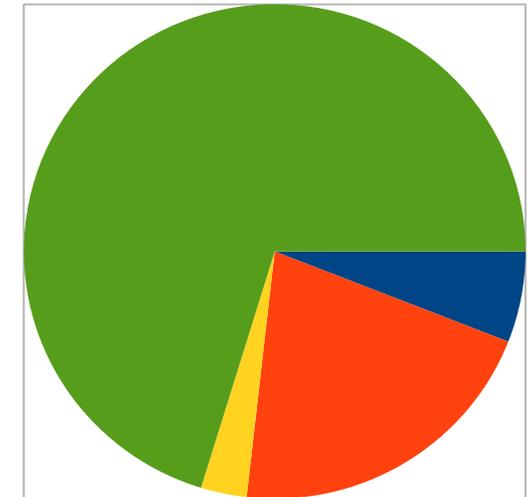
## *Member and Student Membership*



# Membership Evolution

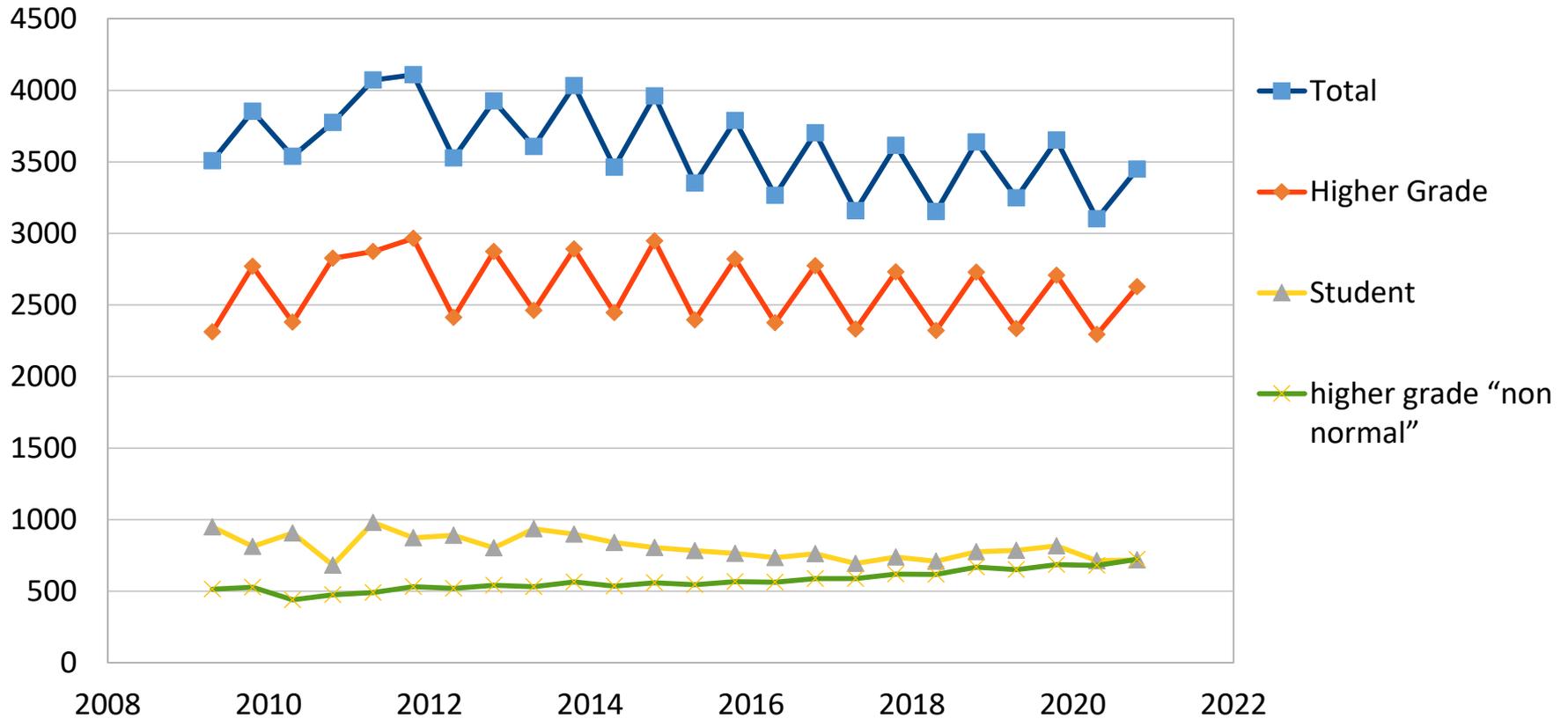
	May '20	Nov '20
Total	-4,50%	-5,53%
Higher Grade	-1,76%	-2,95%
Student	-9,06%	-12,00%
Higher Grade 'non normal'	4,30%	5,25%

	Nov '19	May '20	Nov '20
Life members	194	184	205
Graduate and student	817	713	719
Affiliate members	126	95	102
Others	2514	2110	2423



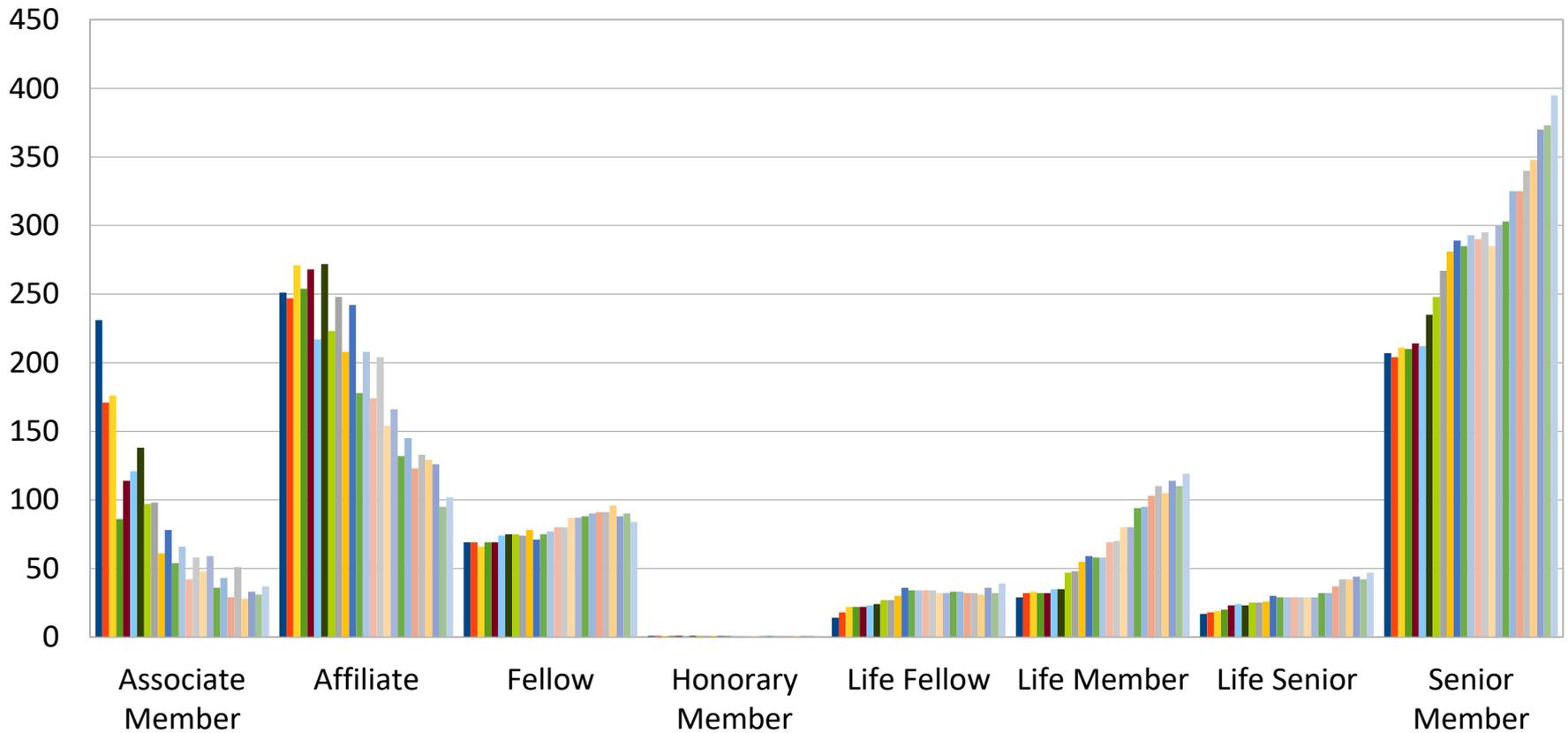
- Life members
- Graduate and normal student members
- Affiliate members
- Others

# Evolution over Years



# Evolution of Higher Grade

*Non-normal members*



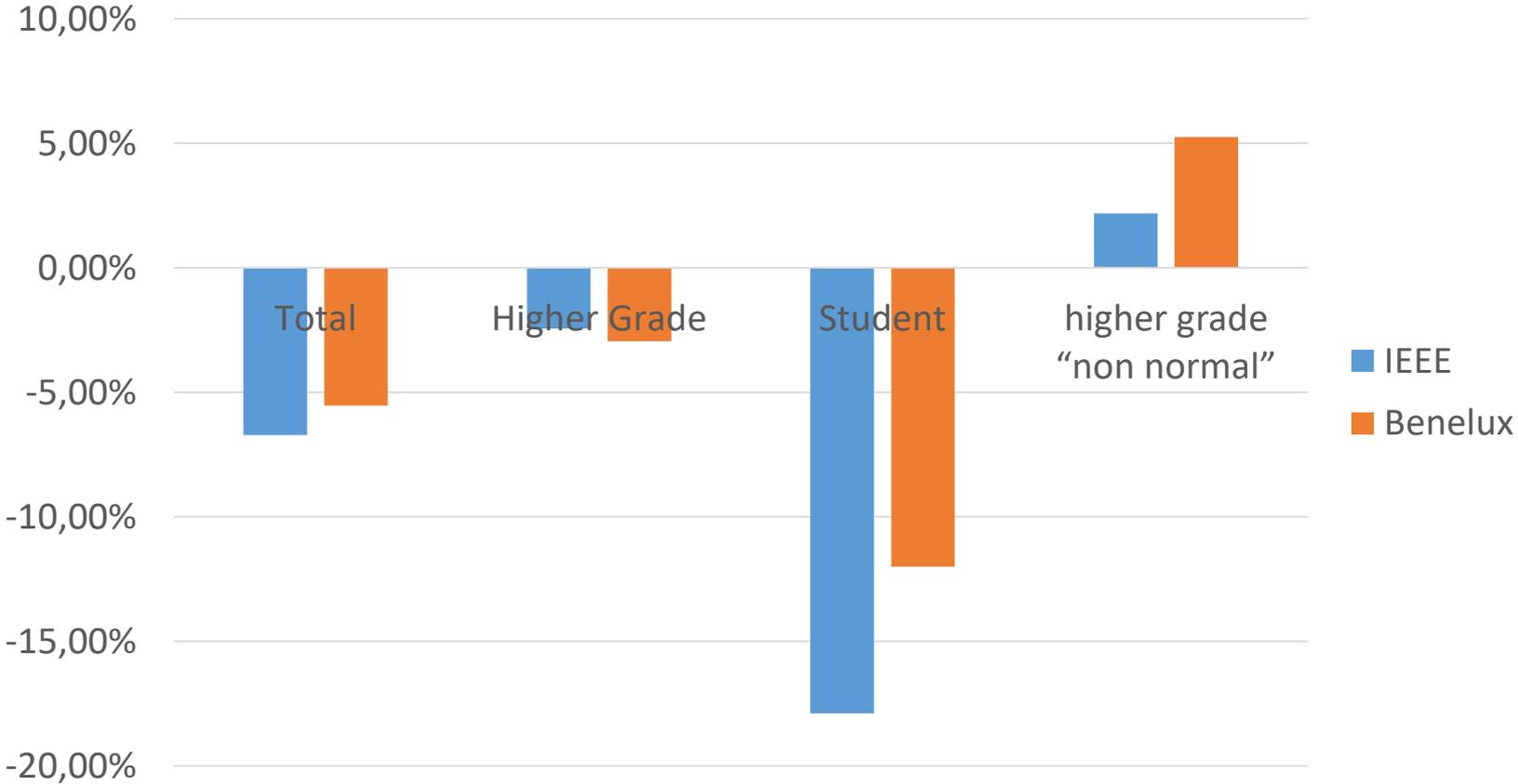
# Comparison to the IEEE

Membership Evolution 2019-2020



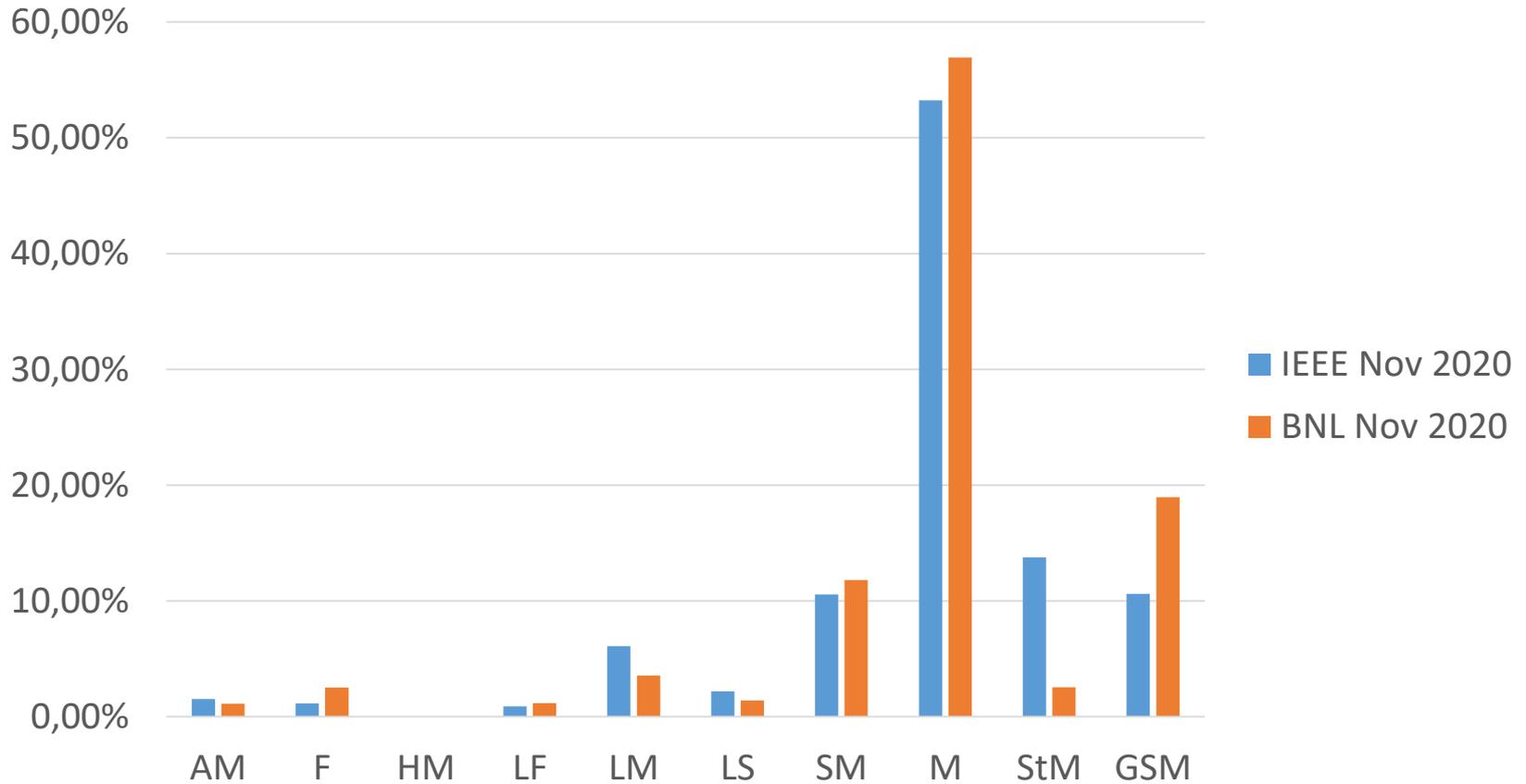
# Comparison to the IEEE

Membership Evolution 2019-2020



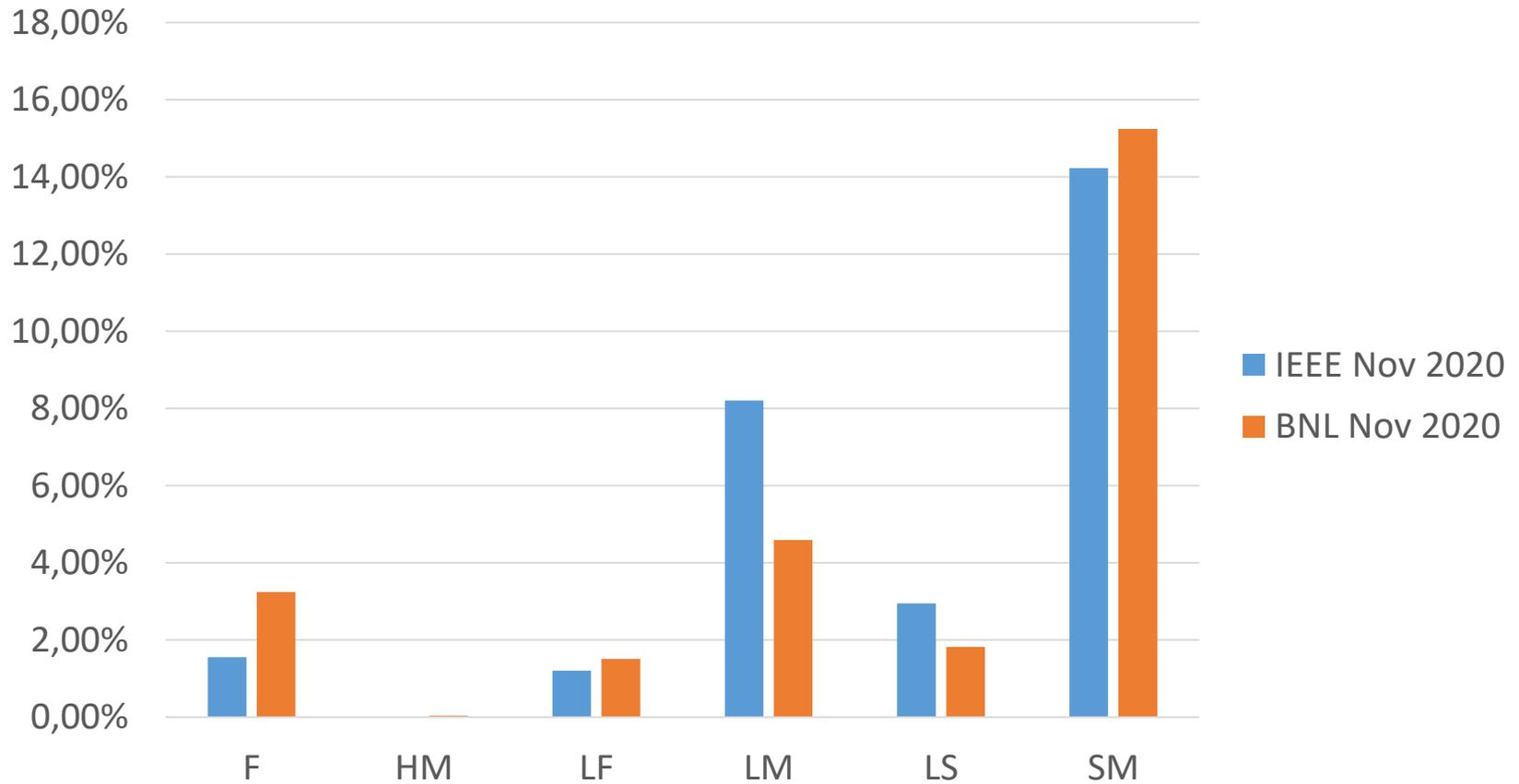
# Comparison to the IEEE

Membership Distribution

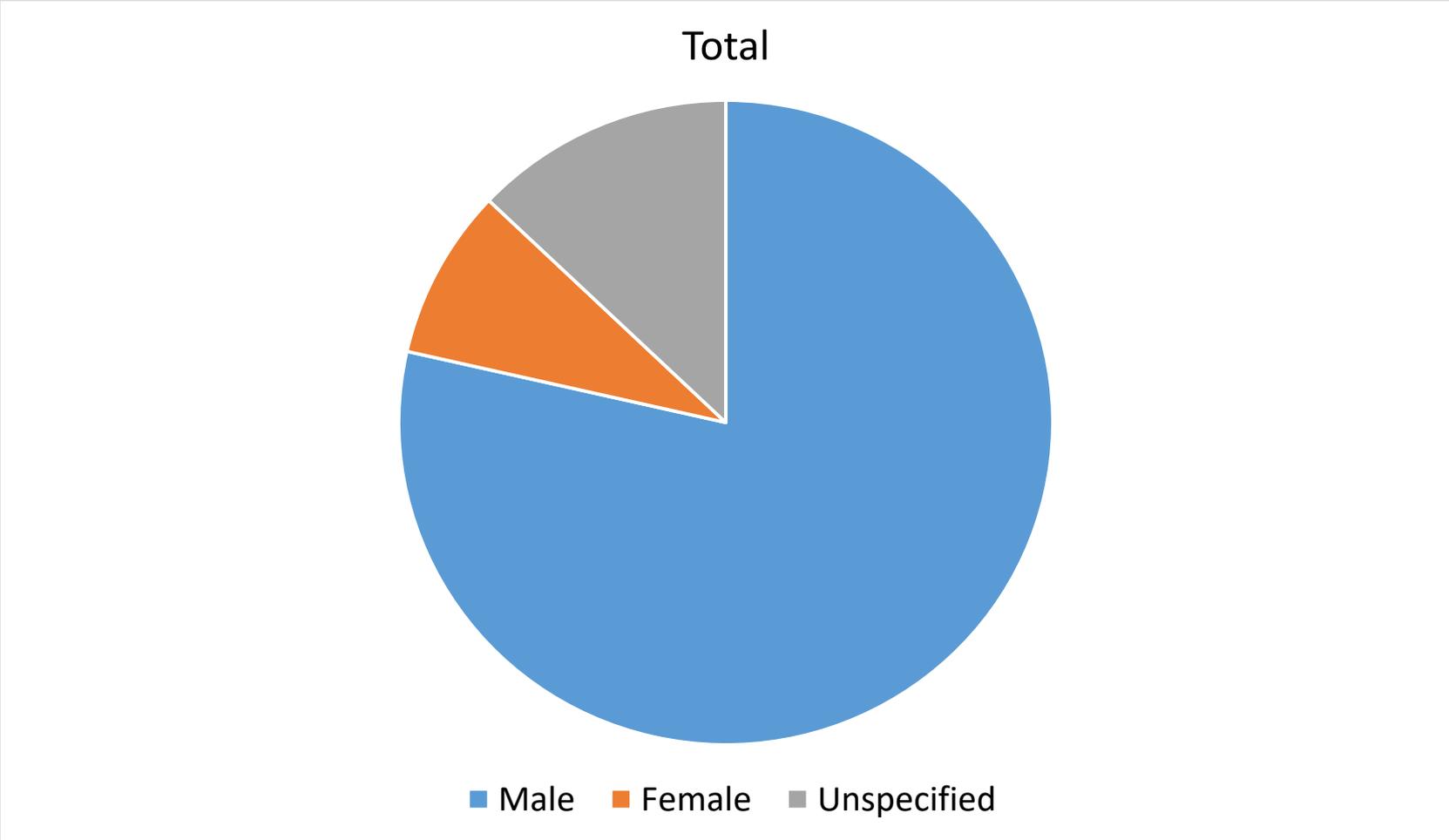


# Comparison to the IEEE

Membership Distribution (non-student)

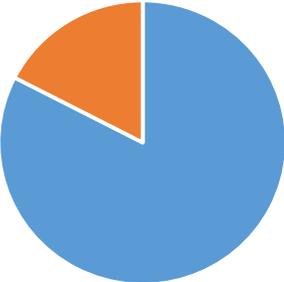


# Gender (in)equality



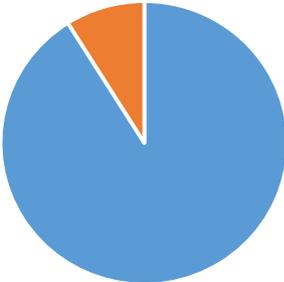
# Gender (in)equality

Student



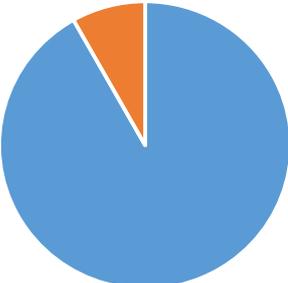
■ Male ■ Female

Member



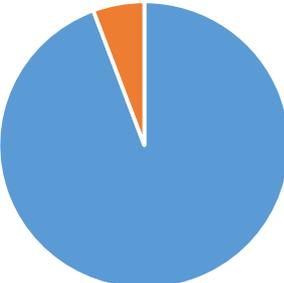
■ Male ■ Female

Senior Member



■ Male ■ Female

Fellow



■ Male ■ Female

# Conclusions

- ▶ Membership is decreasing again (Covid 19?)
  - Benelux - 5.53 % (last time: - 4.50 %)
  - IEEE - 6.71% (last time: - 8.37 %)
  
- ▶ Increase in Higher Grade 'non-normal'