

**Table 293. Degrees Earned by Level and Race/Ethnicity: 1981 to 2005**

[For school year ending in year shown. Based on survey; see Appendix III]

Level of degree and race/ethnicity	Total						Percent distribution	
	1981 <sup>1</sup>	1985 <sup>1</sup>	1990	1995	2000 <sup>2</sup>	2005 <sup>2</sup>	1981	2005 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Associate's degrees, total</b> . . . . .	<b>410,174</b>	<b>429,815</b>	<b>455,102</b>	<b>539,691</b>	<b>564,933</b>	<b>696,660</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
White, non-Hispanic . . . . .	339,167	355,343	376,816	420,656	408,722	475,513	82.7	68.3
Black, non-Hispanic . . . . .	35,330	35,791	34,326	47,067	60,221	86,402	8.6	12.4
Hispanic . . . . .	17,800	19,407	21,504	35,962	51,573	78,557	4.3	11.3
Asian or Pacific Islander . . . . .	8,650	9,914	13,066	20,677	27,782	33,669	2.1	4.8
American Indian/Alaska Native . . . . .	2,584	2,953	3,430	5,482	6,497	8,435	0.6	1.2
Nonresident alien . . . . .	6,643	6,407	5,960	9,847	10,088	14,084	1.6	2.0
<b>Bachelor's degrees, total</b> . . . . .	<b>934,800</b>	<b>968,311</b>	<b>1,051,344</b>	<b>1,160,134</b>	<b>1,237,875</b>	<b>1,439,264</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
White, non-Hispanic . . . . .	807,319	826,106	887,151	914,610	929,106	1,049,141	86.4	72.9
Black, non-Hispanic . . . . .	60,673	57,473	61,046	87,236	108,013	136,122	6.5	9.5
Hispanic . . . . .	21,832	25,874	32,829	54,239	75,059	101,124	2.3	7.0
Asian or Pacific Islander . . . . .	18,794	25,395	39,230	60,502	77,912	97,209	2.0	6.8
American Indian/Alaska Native . . . . .	3,593	4,246	4,390	6,610	8,719	10,307	0.4	0.7
Nonresident alien . . . . .	22,589	29,217	26,698	36,946	39,066	45,361	2.4	3.2
<b>Master's degrees, total</b> . . . . .	<b>294,183</b>	<b>280,421</b>	<b>324,301</b>	<b>397,629</b>	<b>457,056</b>	<b>574,618</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
White, non-Hispanic . . . . .	241,216	223,628	254,299	293,345	320,485	379,350	82.0	66.0
Black, non-Hispanic . . . . .	17,133	13,939	15,336	24,166	35,874	54,482	5.8	9.5
Hispanic . . . . .	6,461	6,864	7,892	12,905	19,253	31,485	2.2	5.5
Asian or Pacific Islander . . . . .	6,282	7,782	10,439	16,847	23,218	32,783	2.1	5.7
American Indian/Alaska Native . . . . .	1,034	1,256	1,090	1,621	2,246	3,295	0.4	0.6
Nonresident alien . . . . .	22,057	26,952	35,245	48,745	55,980	73,223	7.5	12.7
<b>Doctor's degrees, total</b> . . . . .	<b>32,839</b>	<b>32,307</b>	<b>38,371</b>	<b>44,446</b>	<b>44,808</b>	<b>52,631</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
White, non-Hispanic . . . . .	25,908	23,934	26,221	27,846	27,843	30,261	78.9	57.5
Black, non-Hispanic . . . . .	1,265	1,154	1,149	1,667	2,246	3,056	3.9	5.8
Hispanic . . . . .	456	677	780	984	1,305	1,824	1.4	3.5
Asian or Pacific Islander . . . . .	877	1,106	1,225	2,689	2,420	2,911	2.7	5.5
American Indian/Alaska Native . . . . .	130	119	98	130	160	237	0.4	0.5
Nonresident alien . . . . .	4,203	5,317	8,898	11,130	10,834	14,342	12.8	27.3
<b>First-professional degrees, total</b> . . . . .	<b>71,340</b>	<b>71,057</b>	<b>70,988</b>	<b>75,800</b>	<b>80,057</b>	<b>87,289</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
White, non-Hispanic . . . . .	64,551	63,219	60,487	59,402	59,637	63,429	90.5	72.7
Black, non-Hispanic . . . . .	2,931	3,029	3,409	4,747	5,555	6,313	4.1	7.2
Hispanic . . . . .	1,541	1,884	2,425	3,231	3,865	4,445	2.2	5.1
Asian or Pacific Islander . . . . .	1,456	1,816	3,362	6,396	8,584	10,501	2.0	12.0
American Indian/Alaska Native . . . . .	192	248	257	413	564	564	0.3	0.6
Nonresident alien . . . . .	669	861	1,048	1,611	1,852	2,037	0.9	2.3

<sup>1</sup> Excludes some persons whose race/ethnicity was unknown and are slight undercounts of degrees awarded. <sup>2</sup> In this table, data beginning in 2000 reflect the new classification of institutions. See footnote 1, Table 271.