

S&E first university degrees, by selected Western or Asian country and field: Selected years, 1985–2005

Country/field	1985	1987	1989	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
China														
All fields	183,241	225,312	275,056	262,088	347,068	325,484	381,647	440,935	495,624	567,839	655,763	929,598	1,196,290	NA
S&E fields.....	115,287	138,724	175,584	181,770	193,088	235,313	281,245	322,769	359,478	337,352	384,529	533,582	672,463	NA
Physical/biological sciences	8,686	9,115	8,153	6,598	11,087	25,509	39,113	42,351	49,214	63,517	72,526	103,409	134,164	NA
Mathematics/computer sciences.....	7,764	8,974	13,079	13,847	12,520	12,520	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Agricultural sciences.....	11,907	13,850	14,531	14,542	16,994	16,365	16,559	17,453	19,154	19,005	22,462	29,758	34,078	NA
Social/behavioral sciences	13,855	19,619	27,713	32,163	31,656	32,075	50,134	67,611	78,205	35,267	37,517	48,878	61,758	NA
Engineering.....	73,075	87,166	112,108	114,620	120,831	148,844	175,439	195,354	212,905	219,563	252,024	351,537	442,463	NA
Japan														
All fields	373,302	382,655	376,688	428,079	445,774	493,277	524,512	532,436	538,683	545,512	547,711	544,894	548,897	551,016
S&E fields.....	247,258	252,688	247,643	284,617	295,743	330,210	348,897	350,535	353,465	359,019	357,282	352,088	351,299	349,015
Physical/biological sciences	9,166	9,817	9,900	10,452	10,757	12,089	13,386	13,662	13,300	14,192	19,369	19,549	19,727	19,260
Mathematics/computer sciences.....	3,532	3,572	3,395	3,765	4,221	4,884	5,103	4,906	4,941	4,965	NA	NA	NA	NA
Agricultural sciences.....	10,928	11,266	10,252	12,282	13,021	14,970	13,838	14,150	15,562	14,084	16,393	15,933	15,865	16,015
Social/behavioral sciences	151,072	150,956	147,087	170,721	179,338	200,875	213,619	214,377	216,506	221,300	217,838	215,205	217,276	215,809
Engineering.....	72,560	77,077	77,009	87,397	88,406	97,392	102,951	103,440	103,156	104,478	103,682	101,401	98,431	97,931
South Korea														
All fields	118,584	149,582	166,845	175,586	208,834	184,214	196,566	209,444	214,498	234,540	239,793	252,777	261,754	NA
S&E fields.....	45,079	53,093	58,789	73,011	78,830	84,350	91,278	94,078	96,859	111,060	113,097	115,770	119,338	NA
Physical/biological sciences	8,112	7,082	8,249	9,703	11,634	11,828	12,532	13,865	13,427	13,915	12,864	17,035	15,811	NA
Mathematics/computer sciences.....	2,888	3,149	6,274	7,547	8,502	12,351	14,151	9,847	9,299	14,510	13,591	10,131	14,287	NA
Agricultural sciences.....	4,068	6,395	8,027	6,586	7,843	7,767	6,662	5,345	5,859	5,555	5,910	2,387	3,228	NA
Social/behavioral sciences	6,472	8,867	8,098	18,483	17,808	16,955	16,624	14,195	11,766	14,764	15,790	15,717	15,638	NA
Engineering.....	23,539	27,600	28,141	30,692	33,043	35,449	41,309	50,827	56,508	62,316	64,942	70,500	70,374	NA
United States														
All fields	990,877	1,003,532	1,030,171	1,107,997	1,179,278	1,174,436	1,186,589	NA	1,253,121	1,257,648	1,305,730	1,359,843	1,407,009	1,437,200
S&E fields.....	332,273	331,526	322,821	337,675	366,035	378,148	388,482	NA	398,622	400,206	415,611	441,087	455,848	466,003
Physical/biological sciences	63,251	59,200	54,278	56,757	65,680	76,265	84,869	NA	83,531	80,220	79,768	81,653	82,905	86,971
Mathematics/computer sciences.....	54,510	56,442	46,277	40,194	39,433	38,620	38,116	NA	49,123	54,639	61,408	69,211	71,160	65,404
Agricultural sciences.....	11,907	9,524	8,582	8,432	11,632	14,580	17,361	NA	18,244	17,467	17,360	17,693	17,041	17,111
Social/behavioral sciences	125,033	131,935	146,737	170,105	186,585	185,312	185,784	NA	188,188	188,622	196,436	208,757	220,067	230,384
Engineering.....	77,572	74,425	66,947	62,187	62,705	63,371	62,352	NA	59,536	59,258	60,639	63,773	64,675	66,133
United Kingdom^a														
All fields	72,000	70,870	73,660	79,640	196,820	237,800	258,750	263,670	265,270	274,440	272,660	282,380	292,090	306,360
S&E fields.....	40,550	39,870	41,250	40,730	75,290	83,840	90,820	92,380	92,530	95,310	95,180	104,120	109,940	112,500
Physical/biological sciences	12,500	12,210	11,510	12,430	21,070	27,610	31,220	32,230	31,630	33,630	32,570	27,300	27,540	28,290
Mathematics/computer sciences.....	4,540	4,540	4,530	5,220	10,580	12,340	13,000	14,630	15,300	17,120	18,420	23,340	25,600	25,370
Agricultural sciences.....	1,450	1,370	1,340	1,210	1,650	2,300	2,800	2,860	2,340	2,910	2,970	2,710	3,070	2,920
Social/behavioral sciences	12,430	12,480	14,060	12,120	22,150	19,510	20,780	20,650	22,710	21,170	20,930	31,310	33,940	36,350
Engineering.....	9,630	9,270	9,820	9,740	19,840	22,080	23,020	22,010	20,550	20,490	20,280	19,460	19,780	19,580

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S&E first university degrees, by selected Western or Asian country and field: Selected years, 1985–2005

Country/field	1985	1987	1989	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Germany														
All first university degrees														
All fields	131,969	138,955	145,087	152,919	180,973	201,667	212,970	197,151	190,076	182,427	184,768	195,103	207,802	226,530
S&E fields	71,542	78,233	85,961	92,324	98,304	104,789	111,923	99,079	94,535	89,990	92,829	98,860	108,733	121,356
Physical/biological sciences	10,312	10,611	12,473	13,803	14,116	14,507	14,909	12,390	11,467	10,543	10,977	10,938	11,477	12,728
Mathematics/computer sciences.....	4,272	4,729	5,306	6,828	7,718	9,463	11,603	10,541	9,864	9,187	9,570	11,036	14,185	17,698
Agricultural sciences.....	4,390	4,644	4,894	4,953	4,823	4,839	4,855	4,992	4,935	4,878	4,698	5,214	5,588	5,864
Social/behavioral sciences	29,236	34,006	37,038	37,552	44,223	48,563	52,855	46,013	43,318	40,622	41,356	44,818	49,821	55,014
Engineering.....	23,332	24,243	26,250	29,188	27,424	27,416	27,701	25,143	24,952	24,760	26,228	26,854	27,662	30,052
Short degree (3–5 yr)														
All fields	48,003	52,753	54,631	58,855	63,337	69,216	75,641	70,126	68,139	66,151	66,914	74,722	82,149	91,331
S&E fields	34,074	39,080	40,880	40,922	43,618	43,565	43,807	41,092	40,351	39,609	40,977	44,779	51,003	56,739
Physical/biological sciences	549	599	689	678	777	710	649	615	539	463	499	681	1,024	1,515
Mathematics/computer sciences.....	1,009	1,336	1,603	2,186	2,488	2,812	3,177	2,881	2,960	3,038	3,537	4,730	6,713	8,504
Agricultural sciences.....	1,474	1,565	2,081	2,230	2,242	2,342	2,447	2,472	2,526	2,580	2,481	2,709	3,138	3,284
Social/behavioral sciences	15,061	19,031	20,095	19,034	22,254	23,500	24,815	21,322	19,654	17,985	17,044	19,171	22,158	24,056
Engineering.....	15,981	16,549	16,412	16,794	15,856	14,201	12,719	13,802	14,673	15,543	17,416	17,488	17,970	19,380
Long degree (6–7 yr)														
All fields	83,966	86,202	90,456	94,064	117,636	132,451	137,329	127,025	121,937	116,276	117,854	120,381	125,653	135,199
S&E fields	37,468	39,153	45,081	51,402	54,686	61,223	68,116	57,987	54,184	50,381	51,852	54,081	57,730	64,617
Physical/biological sciences	9,763	10,012	11,784	13,125	13,339	13,797	14,260	11,775	10,928	10,080	10,478	10,257	10,453	11,213
Mathematics/computer sciences.....	3,263	3,393	3,703	4,642	5,229	6,651	8,426	7,660	6,905	6,149	6,033	6,306	7,472	9,194
Agricultural sciences.....	2,916	3,079	2,813	2,723	2,581	2,496	2,408	2,520	2,409	2,298	2,217	2,505	2,450	2,580
Social/behavioral sciences	14,175	14,975	16,943	18,518	21,969	25,064	28,040	24,691	23,664	22,637	24,312	25,647	27,663	30,958
Engineering.....	7,351	7,694	9,838	12,394	11,567	13,215	14,982	11,341	10,279	9,217	8,812	9,366	9,692	10,672

NA = not available

*Beginning in 1992, data include degrees from colleges and polytechnics.

NOTES: Physical/biological sciences include physical, biological, earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences. Data for first university degrees use International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 97), level 5A.

SOURCES: China—National Bureau of Statistics of China, *China Statistical Yearbook*, annual series (Beijing) (various years); Japan—Government of Japan, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Monbusho Survey of Education (annual series; various years); South Korea—Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Education Online Database, <http://www.oecd.org/education/database/>; Taiwan—Ministry of Education, Educational Statistics of the Republic of China (annual series; various years); Germany—Federal Statistical Office, Prüfungen an Hochschulen (annual series; various years); United Kingdom—Higher Education Statistics Agency, special tabulations (various years); and United States—National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Completions Survey; and National Science Foundation, Division of Science Resources Statistics, Integrated Science and Engineering Resources Data System (WebCASPAR), <http://webcaspar.nsf.gov>.

Science and Engineering Indicators 2008