



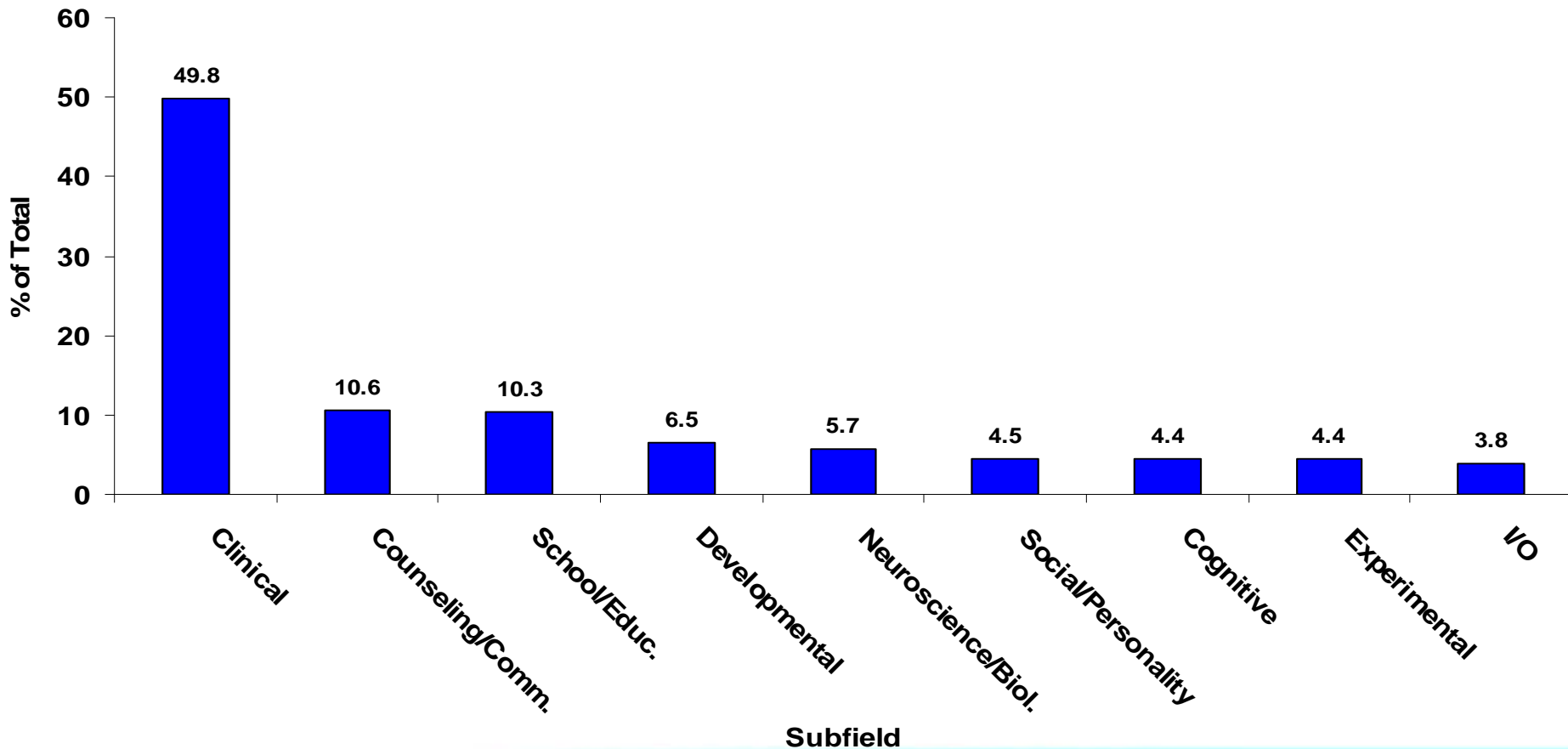
Psychology is Science

Opportunities for Graduate Study



Psychology Subfields

Figure 2: Doctoral Degrees Awarded by Selected Psychology Subfield
(2006-2007)
N = 4,986



All Psychology is Science

All Psychology Subfields are Scientific

- **Clinical Psychology**
 - **Practice** – see clients & engage in treatment.
 - **Research** – conduct research on same problem area.
 - **Example: Alzheimer's disease**
 - See clients & assess behavioral abilities.
 - Research effectiveness of different treatment options.

All Psychology is Science

All Psychology Subfields are Scientific

- **Psychology – new view.**
 - Traditional subfields are being replaced.
- **Psychology organized around problem areas.**
 - Most problem areas include opportunities for both clinical & research activity.

All Psychology is Science

All Psychology Subfields are Scientific

- **Examples:**
 - **Clinical Psychology:**
 - **Clinical conditions, i.e. schizophrenia, depression.**
 - **Developmental Psychology:**
 - **Period of lifespan?**
 - **Compare age groups.**
 - **Concentrate on one age group.**

General Scientific Approaches

- **Neuroscience**
 - Understand brain and CNS mechanisms underlying behavior.
- **Genetics**
 - Understand principles & methodologies of behavioral genetics.
- **Quantitative**
 - Understand statistical & mathematical approaches to data & modeling.

Emerging Scientific Settings

- **Interdisciplinary centers & institutes.**
 - Different backgrounds working on one problem.
- **International networks.**
 - Sharing expertise of individuals in several countries.
- **Integrative approach.**
 - Teams integrating basic research with practical applications.

Emerging Educational Trends

- **Multiple perspectives.**
 - May be based on obtaining more than one advanced degree.
- **International perspective.**
 - May require living/studying in another country.
- **Awareness of paradigm change with emergence of new knowledge.**

Summary

- **Think in terms of problem of interest rather than traditional psychology subfield.**
 - Language development in children vs. developmental psychology.
- **Consider the approach to the problem that interests you.**
 - Neuroscience.
 - Genetic.
 - Quantitative.
- **Look for educational experiences that advance these interests.**
 - Interdisciplinary institute, international experience as part of your graduate education.