

**Table 292. Master's and Doctoral Degrees Earned by Field: 1980 to 2006**

[The new Classification of Instructional Programs was introduced in 2002–03. Data for previous years has been reclassified where necessary to conform to the new classifications. Based on survey; see Appendix III]

Field of study	1980	1990	2000	2004	2005	2006
<b>MASTER'S DEGREES</b>						
<b>Total</b> . . . . .	<b>298,081</b>	<b>324,301</b>	<b>457,056</b>	<b>558,940</b>	<b>574,618</b>	<b>594,065</b>
Agriculture and natural resources . . . . .	3,976	3,382	4,360	4,783	4,746	4,640
Architecture and related services . . . . .	3,139	3,499	4,268	5,424	5,674	5,743
Area, ethnic, cultural, and gender studies . . . . .	852	1,191	1,544	1,683	1,755	2,080
Biological and biomedical sciences . . . . .	6,322	4,906	6,781	7,657	8,199	8,681
Business . . . . .	55,008	76,676	111,532	139,347	142,617	146,406
Communication, journalism, and related programs <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	3,082	4,353	5,525	6,900	7,195	7,745
Computer and information sciences . . . . .	3,647	9,677	14,990	20,143	18,416	17,055
Education . . . . .	101,819	84,890	123,045	162,345	167,490	174,620
Engineering and engineering technologies . . . . .	16,765	25,294	26,726	35,197	35,133	33,530
English language and literature/letters . . . . .	6,026	6,317	7,022	7,956	8,468	8,845
Family and consumer sciences/human sciences . . . . .	2,690	1,679	1,882	1,794	1,827	1,983
Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics . . . . .	3,067	3,018	3,037	3,124	3,407	3,539
Health professions and related clinical sciences . . . . .	15,374	20,406	42,593	44,939	46,703	51,380
Legal professions and studies . . . . .	1,817	1,888	3,750	4,243	4,170	4,453
Liberal arts and sciences, general studies, and humanities . . . . .	2,646	1,999	3,256	3,697	3,680	3,702
Library science . . . . .	5,374	4,341	4,577	6,015	6,213	6,448
Mathematics and statistics . . . . .	2,860	3,624	3,208	4,191	4,477	4,730
Multi/interdisciplinary studies . . . . .	2,494	3,182	3,487	4,047	4,252	4,491
Parks, recreation, leisure, and fitness studies . . . . .	647	529	2,322	3,199	3,740	3,992
Philosophy and religious studies . . . . .	1,204	1,327	1,376	1,578	1,647	1,739
Physical sciences and science technologies . . . . .	5,167	5,410	4,810	5,570	5,678	5,922
Psychology . . . . .	9,938	10,730	15,740	17,898	18,830	19,770
Public administration and social services . . . . .	17,560	17,399	25,594	28,250	29,552	30,510
Security and protective services . . . . .	1,805	1,151	2,609	3,717	3,991	4,277
Social sciences and history . . . . .	12,176	11,634	14,066	16,110	16,952	17,369
Theology and religious vocations . . . . .	3,872	4,941	5,534	5,486	5,815	6,092
Visual and performing arts . . . . .	8,708	8,481	10,918	12,906	13,183	13,530
<b>DOCTORAL DEGREES</b>						
<b>Total</b> . . . . .	<b>32,615</b>	<b>38,371</b>	<b>44,808</b>	<b>48,378</b>	<b>52,631</b>	<b>56,067</b>
Agriculture and natural resources . . . . .	991	1,295	1,168	1,185	1,173	1,194
Architecture and related services . . . . .	79	103	129	173	179	201
Area, ethnic, cultural, and gender studies . . . . .	151	125	205	209	189	226
Biological and biomedical sciences . . . . .	3,527	3,837	5,180	5,242	5,578	5,775
Business . . . . .	767	1,093	1,194	1,481	1,498	1,711
Communication, journalism, and related programs <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	193	272	357	426	468	464
Computer and information sciences . . . . .	240	627	779	909	1,119	1,416
Education . . . . .	7,314	6,503	6,409	7,088	7,681	7,584
Engineering and engineering technologies . . . . .	2,546	5,030	5,421	5,981	6,601	7,471
English language and literature/letters . . . . .	1,196	986	1,470	1,207	1,212	1,254
Family and consumer sciences/human sciences . . . . .	192	273	327	329	331	340
Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics . . . . .	857	816	1,086	1,031	1,027	1,074
Health professions and related clinical sciences . . . . .	821	1,449	2,053	4,361	5,868	7,128
Legal professions and studies . . . . .	40	111	74	119	98	129
Liberal arts and sciences, general studies, and humanities . . . . .	192	63	83	95	109	84
Mathematics and statistics . . . . .	724	917	1,075	1,060	1,176	1,293
Multi/interdisciplinary studies . . . . .	318	442	792	876	983	987
Parks, recreation, leisure, and fitness studies . . . . .	21	35	134	222	207	194
Philosophy and religious studies . . . . .	374	445	598	595	586	578
Physical sciences and science technologies . . . . .	3,044	4,116	3,963	3,815	4,114	4,489
Psychology . . . . .	3,395	3,811	4,731	4,827	5,106	4,921
Public administration and social services . . . . .	342	508	537	649	673	704
Security and protective services . . . . .	18	38	52	54	94	80
Social sciences and history . . . . .	3,230	3,010	4,095	3,811	3,819	3,914
Theology and religious vocations . . . . .	1,315	1,317	1,630	1,304	1,422	1,429
Visual and performing arts . . . . .	655	849	1,127	1,282	1,278	1,383

<sup>1</sup> Includes technologies.