

**Table 256.—Doctor's degrees conferred by degree-granting institutions, by discipline division: 1970–71 to 1997–98**

| Discipline division  | 1970–71       | 1975–76       | 1980–81       | 1985–86       | 1986–87       | 1987–88       | 1988–89       | 1989–90       | 1990–91       | 1991–92       | 1992–93       | 1993–94       | 1994–95       | 1995–96       | 1996–97       | 1997–98       |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1  | 2             | 3             | 4             | 5             | 6             | 7             | 8             | 9             | 10            | 11            | 12            | 13            | 14            | 15            | 16            | 17            |
| <b>Total</b> .....   | <b>32,107</b> | <b>34,064</b> | <b>32,958</b> | <b>33,653</b> | <b>34,041</b> | <b>34,870</b> | <b>35,720</b> | <b>38,371</b> | <b>39,294</b> | <b>40,659</b> | <b>42,132</b> | <b>43,185</b> | <b>44,446</b> | <b>44,652</b> | <b>45,876</b> | <b>46,010</b> |
| Agriculture and natural resources .....                          | 1,086         | 928           | 1,067         | 1,158         | 1,049         | 1,142         | 1,183         | 1,295         | 1,185         | 1,214         | 1,173         | 1,278         | 1,264         | 1,271         | 1,217         | 1,302         |
| Architecture and related programs .....                          | 36            | 82            | 93            | 73            | 92            | 98            | 86            | 103           | 135           | 132           | 148           | 161           | 141           | 141           | 135           | 131           |
| Area, ethnic and cultural studies .....                          | 144           | 188           | 162           | 159           | 134           | 142           | 114           | 131           | 167           | 155           | 178           | 155           | 186           | 184           | 182           | 181           |
| Biological sciences/life sciences .....                          | 3,645         | 3,392         | 3,718         | 3,358         | 3,419         | 3,629         | 3,520         | 3,844         | 4,093         | 4,243         | 4,435         | 4,534         | 4,645         | 4,780         | 4,812         | 4,961         |
| Business .....   | 757           | 900           | 795           | 934           | 1,062         | 1,063         | 1,100         | 1,093         | 1,185         | 1,242         | 1,346         | 1,364         | 1,394         | 1,368         | 1,336         | 1,290         |
| Communications .....   | 145           | 196           | 171           | 212           | 273           | 230           | 247           | 267           | 259           | 252           | 293           | 337           | 320           | 338           | 296           | 354           |
| Communications technologies .....                                | 0             | 8             | 11            | 11            | 2             | 4             | 6             | 6             | 15            | 3             | 8             | 8             | 1             | 7             | 4             | 5             |
| Computer and information sciences .....                          | 128           | 244           | 252           | 344           | 374           | 428           | 551           | 627           | 676           | 772           | 805           | 810           | 884           | 867           | 857           | 858           |
| Education .....  | 6,041         | 7,202         | 7,279         | 6,605         | 6,407         | 6,060         | 6,337         | 6,502         | 6,187         | 6,864         | 7,030         | 6,908         | 6,905         | 6,676         | 6,751         | 6,729         |
| Engineering .....  | 3,637         | 2,819         | 2,551         | 3,398         | 3,801         | 4,174         | 4,506         | 4,967         | 5,258         | 5,488         | 5,823         | 5,963         | 6,110         | 6,369         | 6,201         | 5,980         |
| Engineering-related technologies .....                           | 1             | 2             | 10            | 12            | 17            | 17            | 17            | 14            | 14            | 11            | 20            | 16            | 18            | 11            | 9             | 14            |
| English language and literature/letters .....                    | 1,650         | 1,672         | 1,164         | 991           | 961           | 981           | 1,022         | 1,078         | 1,184         | 1,273         | 1,341         | 1,344         | 1,561         | 1,535         | 1,575         | 1,639         |
| Foreign languages and literatures .....                          | 988           | 1,076         | 804           | 672           | 661           | 602           | 632           | 724           | 758           | 850           | 830           | 886           | 905           | 876           | 915           | 959           |
| Health professions and related sciences .....                    | 466           | 577           | 842           | 1,241         | 1,213         | 1,261         | 1,437         | 1,536         | 1,613         | 1,661         | 1,767         | 1,902         | 2,069         | 2,119         | 2,672         | 2,484         |
| Home economics and vocational home economics .....               | 123           | 178           | 247           | 311           | 296           | 307           | 264           | 301           | 253           | 293           | 345           | 365           | 388           | 414           | 382           | 424           |
| Law and legal studies .....                                      | 20            | 76            | 60            | 54            | 120           | 89            | 76            | 111           | 90            | 68            | 86            | 79            | 88            | 91            | 81            | 66            |
| Liberal arts and sciences, general studies, and humanities ..... | 32            | 162           | 121           | 90            | 56            | 66            | 72            | 63            | 70            | 67            | 81            | 80            | 90            | 75            | 77            | 87            |
| Library science .....  | 39            | 71            | 71            | 62            | 57            | 46            | 61            | 42            | 56            | 50            | 77            | 45            | 55            | 53            | 46            | 48            |
| Mathematics .....  | 1,249         | 909           | 775           | 777           | 759           | 796           | 915           | 966           | 1,036         | 1,082         | 1,189         | 1,157         | 1,226         | 1,209         | 1,174         | 1,259         |
| Multi/interdisciplinary studies .....                            | 59            | 111           | 158           | 263           | 247           | 224           | 212           | 272           | 220           | 231           | 196           | 227           | 238           | 441           | 451           | 508           |
| Parks, recreation, leisure and fitness studies .....             | 2             | 15            | 42            | 39            | 32            | 29            | 35            | 35            | 28            | 61            | 108           | 116           | 149           | 104           | 108           | 129           |
| Philosophy and religion .....                                    | 554           | 554           | 410           | 477           | 421           | 405           | 465           | 439           | 456           | 475           | 448           | 528           | 507           | 549           | 593           | 585           |
| Physical sciences and science technologies .....                 | 4,390         | 3,431         | 3,141         | 3,551         | 3,673         | 3,809         | 3,858         | 4,164         | 4,290         | 4,391         | 4,393         | 4,650         | 4,483         | 4,571         | 4,474         | 4,571         |
| Precision production trades .....                                | —             | —             | —             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |
| Protective services .....  | 1             | 9             | 21            | 21            | 18            | 32            | 26            | 38            | 28            | 24            | 32            | 25            | 26            | 38            | 31            | 39            |
| Psychology .....   | 2,144         | 3,157         | 3,576         | 3,593         | 3,560         | 3,480         | 3,685         | 3,811         | 3,932         | 3,373         | 3,651         | 3,563         | 3,822         | 3,711         | 4,053         | 4,073         |
| Public administration and services .....                         | 174           | 292           | 362           | 382           | 398           | 470           | 428           | 508           | 430           | 432           | 459           | 519           | 556           | 499           | 518           | 499           |
| R.O.T.C. and military technologies .....                         | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |
| Social sciences and history .....                                | 3,660         | 4,157         | 3,122         | 2,955         | 2,916         | 2,781         | 2,885         | 3,010         | 3,012         | 3,218         | 3,460         | 3,627         | 3,725         | 3,760         | 3,989         | 4,127         |
| Theological studies/religious vocations .....                    | 312           | 1,033         | 1,276         | 1,185         | 1,230         | 1,199         | 1,166         | 1,317         | 1,079         | 1,259         | 1,417         | 1,448         | 1,591         | 1,521         | 1,395         | 1,460         |
| Transportation and material moving workers .....                 | 3             | 3             | 3             | 3             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             |
| Visual and performing arts .....                                 | 621           | 620           | 654           | 722           | 793           | 727           | 753           | 849           | 838           | 906           | 882           | 1,054         | 1,080         | 1,067         | 1,060         | 1,163         |
| Not classified by field of study .....                           | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 0             | 579           | 61            | 258           | 747           | 569           | 111           | 36            | 19            | 7             | 482           | 85            |

—Not available.

NOTE: Includes Ph.D., Ed.D., and comparable degrees at the doctoral level. Excludes first-professional degrees, such as M.D., D.D.S., and law degrees. The new Classification of Instructional Programs was initiated in 1991–92. The figures for earlier years have been reclassified when necessary to make them conform to the new taxonomy. To facilitate trend comparisons, certain aggregations have been made of the degree fields as reported in the IPEDS "Completions" survey: "Agriculture and natural resources" includes Agricultural business and production, Agricultural

sciences, and Conservation and renewable natural resources; "Business" includes Business management and administrative services, Marketing operations/marketing and distribution, and Consumer and personal services; and "Engineering-related technologies" includes Engineering-related technologies, Mechanics and repairers, and Construction trades.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Higher Education General Information Survey (HEGIS), "Degrees and Other Formal Awards Conferred" surveys, and Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), "Completions" surveys. (This table was prepared June 2000.)