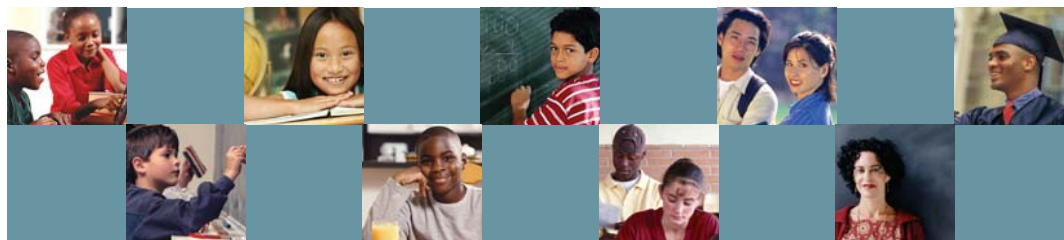


the condition of education 2006



INDICATOR 47

Distance Education by Postsecondary Faculty

The indicator and corresponding tables are taken directly from *The Condition of Education 2006*. Therefore, the page numbers may not be sequential.

Additional information about the survey data and supplementary notes can be found in the full report. For a copy of *The Condition of Education 2006*, visit the NCES website (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.sap?pubid=2006071>) or contact ED PUBs at 1-877-4ED-PUBS.

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U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. (2006). *The Condition of Education 2006*, NCES 2006-071, Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.

Learning Opportunities

Distance Education by Postsecondary Faculty

The percentage of full-time instructional faculty and staff who teach distance education courses is greater at public institutions offering primarily associate’s degrees and certificates than at other types of institutions.

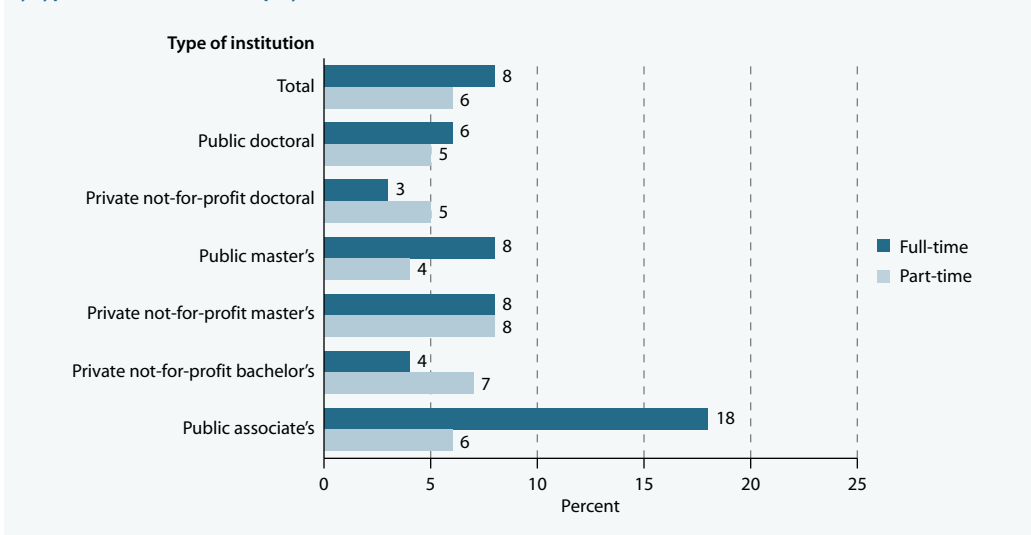
Distance education has become increasingly common in postsecondary education. In 2004–05, some 62 percent of public and private not-for-profit 2- and 4-year institutions offered distance education courses (defined as “an option for earning course credit at off-campus locations via cable television, internet, satellite classes, videotapes, correspondence courses, or other means”).¹ A greater proportion of public than private not-for-profit institutions offered distance education courses: in the public sector about 88 percent of 2-year and 86 percent of 4-year institutions offered these courses, compared with 12 percent of 2-year and 40 percent of 4-year institutions in the private not-for-profit sector.

Although a majority of institutions offer distance education, a minority of instructional faculty and staff have taught these courses, defined in the faculty survey as “classes in which students and instructors are separated either primarily or exclusively by distance or time.” Eight percent of full-time and 6 percent of part-time instructional faculty and staff reported teaching a distance education course in fall 2003.

The percentage of instructional faculty and staff who taught distance education courses was related to their employment status (full- or part-time) and the type of institution in which they taught. A larger percentage of full-time instructional faculty and staff at public institutions offering primarily associate’s degrees and certificates taught a distance education course (18 percent), compared with their part-time counterparts at the same type of institution (6 percent) or either full- or part-time instructional faculty and staff at any other type of institution (3–8 percent).

Full-time instructional faculty and staff were more likely than their part-time counterparts to have taught a distance education course (8 vs. 6 percent; see supplemental table 47-1). Among full- and part-time instructional faculty and staff, those who did not teach distance education carried a lighter courseload than their peers who taught distance education. Instructional faculty and staff who did not teach a distance education course taught an average of two classes in fall 2003, compared with four classes taught by their peers with courseloads that included a distance education course.

DISTANCE EDUCATION INSTRUCTION: Percentage of instructional faculty and staff who taught distance education courses, by type of institution and employment status: Fall 2003



¹ U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2004 Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), previously unpublished tabulation (February 2006).

NOTE: Included are faculty and instructional staff at public and private not-for-profit institutions who had instructional duties for which students earned credit in fall 2003. Distance education includes classes in which students and instructors are separated either primarily or exclusively by distance or time.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2004 National Study of Postsecondary Faculty (NSOPF:04), previously unpublished tabulation (November 2005).

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
 Supplemental Notes 3, 9
 Supplemental Table 47-1
 NCES 2001-072



Distance Education by Postsecondary Faculty

Table 47-1. Percentage of full- and part-time instructional faculty and staff who taught distance education courses and average number of courses taught, by employment and distance education status, rank, and type of institution: Fall 2003

Faculty rank and type of institution	Percentage who taught distance education course		Average number of credit and noncredit courses taught	
	Full-time	Part-time	Did not teach distance education	Taught distance education
Total¹	8.3	5.9	2.3	3.7
Full or associate professor	8.3	7.6	2.5	4.1
Public doctoral	6.5	4.5	2.0	3.2
Private not-for-profit doctoral	2.9	2.5	2.0	3.7
Public master's	9.6	10.4	3.0	3.7
Private not-for-profit master's	7.3	15.1	2.9	3.4
Private not-for-profit bachelor's	4.0	5.3	3.0	3.9
Public associate's	22.4	9.2	3.7	5.3
Assistant professor, instructor, or lecturer	8.0	5.0	2.5	3.9
Public doctoral	5.2	5.5	2.0	3.2
Private not-for-profit doctoral	2.9	3.1	1.8	2.6
Public master's	7.1	2.5	2.8	3.7
Private not-for-profit master's	8.5	7.3	2.5	3.8
Private not-for-profit bachelor's	2.8	7.2	2.6	3.0
Public associate's	15.2	5.1	2.9	4.4

¹ Faculty who had some other title or no rank were included in the total but not shown separately.

NOTE: Included are faculty and instructional staff at public and private not-for-profit institutions who had instructional duties for which students earned credit in fall 2003. Distance education includes classes in which students and instructors are separated either primarily or exclusively by distance or time.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2004 National Study of Postsecondary Faculty (NSOPF:04), previously unpublished tabulation (November 2005).

Distance Education by Postsecondary Faculty

Table S47. Standard errors for the percentage of instructional faculty and staff who taught distance education courses, by type of institution and employment status: Fall 2003

Type of institution	Full-time	Part-time
Total	0.3	0.4
Public doctoral	0.3	0.8
Private not-for-profit doctoral	0.4	1.0
Public master's	0.9	1.1
Private not-for-profit master's	1.1	1.5
Private not-for-profit bachelor's	0.8	1.5
Public associate's	1.2	0.7

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2004 National Study of Postsecondary Faculty (NSOPF:04), previously unpublished tabulation (November 2005).

Distance Education by Postsecondary Faculty

Table S47-1. Standard errors for the percentage of full- and part-time instructional faculty and staff who taught distance education courses and average number of courses taught, by employment and distance education status, rank, and type of institution: Fall 2003

Faculty rank and type of institution	Percentage who taught distance education course		Average number of credit and noncredit courses taught	
	Full-time	Part-time	Did not teach distance education	Taught distance education
Total	0.25	0.39	0.02	0.08
Full or associate professor	0.37	1.59	0.03	0.10
Public doctoral	0.51	2.47	0.04	0.17
Private not-for-profit doctoral	0.54	1.75	0.08	0.55
Public master's	1.15	6.19	0.05	0.25
Private not-for-profit master's	1.03	6.89	0.09	0.19
Private not-for-profit bachelor's	0.89	5.06	0.08	0.17
Public associate's	2.38	3.70	0.10	0.21
Assistant professor, instructor, or lecturer	0.42	0.50	0.03	0.14
Public doctoral	0.57	1.13	0.04	0.22
Private not-for-profit doctoral	0.66	1.31	0.08	0.45
Public master's	1.24	1.07	0.05	0.22
Private not-for-profit master's	2.07	1.60	0.08	0.84
Private not-for-profit bachelor's	1.27	1.79	0.08	0.53
Public associate's	1.33	0.75	0.06	0.16

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2004 National Study of Postsecondary Faculty (NSOPF:04), previously unpublished tabulation (November 2005).