

Table 212.—Enrollment in postsecondary education, by major field of study, age, and level of student: 1999–2000

Field of study	All students				Undergraduate								Graduate and first-professional
	Total, in thousands	Percentage distribution, by age			Total, in thousands	2-year institutions ¹			4-year institutions				
		Under 25	25 to 34	Over 35		Under 25	25 to 34	Over 35	Total, in thousands	Percentage distribution, by age			
										Under 25	25 to 34	Over 35	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Total	19,197 (1)	55.3 (0.6)	24.5 (0.3)	20.2 (0.4)	8,418 (7)	50.3 (1.0)	24.7 (0.6)	25.1 (0.6)	8,121 (34)	72.9 (0.3)	16.2 (0.2)	11 (0.2)	2,658 (31)
Agriculture	136 (8)	75.9 (1.9)	16.7 (2.1)	7.5 (1.1)	38 (5)	71 (5.2)	13.8 (2.5)	15.2 (4.9)	80 (6)	88.9 (2.2)	9.3 (1.6)	1.8 (1.2)	17 (2)
Architecture/city planning	98 (4)	66.2 (3.4)	25.4 (4.3)	8.4 (2.2)	27 (3)	65.9 (7.3)	22.3 (8.4)	11.7 (2.7)	57 (7)	78.2 (4.7)	15.9 (4.2)	5.8 (2.8)	14 (2)
Area studies	17 (3)	56.4 (8.3)	24.3 (6.8)	19.3 (6.2)	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	10 (2)	83.1 (5.2)	11 (3.8)	5.9 (5.1)	‡ ‡
Business	2,949 (39)	52.9 (1.1)	25.7 (0.4)	21.5 (0.9)	1,117 (32)	49.1 (2.3)	24.4 (0.7)	26.5 (2.3)	1,439 (20)	66.9 (0.7)	17.8 (0.6)	15.3 (0.7)	393 (23)
Communications/journalism	454 (28)	73.8 (1.7)	16 (0.9)	10.2 (1.3)	106 (11)	59.8 (4.5)	20 (3.3)	20.2 (3.0)	316 (21)	84.2 (1.9)	11.2 (1.3)	4.5 (0.8)	32 (2)
Computer science	1,297 (50)	44.6 (1.5)	28.4 (1.1)	27.1 (1.5)	774 (42)	38.2 (1.8)	27.9 (1.2)	33.9 (2.3)	439 (25)	61.2 (2.4)	24.2 (1.9)	14.6 (1.3)	85 (5)
Cosmology	127 (29)	53.5 (4.4)	30.3 (4.7)	16.2 (1.9)	125 (29)	53.3 (4.1)	30.7 (4.9)	16 (2.2)	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡
Education	1,646 (25)	44.4 (1.2)	27.5 (0.5)	28.2 (1.0)	406 (32)	52.9 (1.6)	20.3 (1.7)	26.8 (2.1)	674 (18)	69.2 (1.6)	17 (0.5)	13.8 (1.4)	566 (14)
Engineering	751 (21)	61.8 (1.0)	25 (1.2)	13.2 (0.8)	239 (13)	50.8 (2.2)	25.9 (2.3)	23.2 (1.9)	418 (15)	77.4 (1.3)	16.2 (1.1)	6.3 (0.6)	94 (5)
Foreign language	94 (11)	57.8 (2.3)	25.4 (2.6)	16.8 (1.8)	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	56 (4)	78.7 (5.1)	14 (4.0)	7.3 (1.8)	18 (2)
Health	1,955 (77)	50.9 (0.6)	28.3 (0.6)	20.8 (0.9)	1,047 (56)	46.4 (0.9)	29.5 (1.1)	24 (1.1)	653 (19)	66.1 (1.4)	20.6 (1.0)	13.3 (1.3)	255 (16)
Medicine/dentistry	112 (9)	38.7 (4.0)	53.8 (4.4)	7.6 (1.0)	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	97 (8)
Home economics	163 (25)	49.8 (4.0)	22 (5.9)	28.2 (3.8)	104 (21)	41.1 (4.3)	27 (7.3)	31.9 (6.1)	52 (6)	72.2 (4.6)	12.1 (4.3)	15.7 (2.8)	‡ ‡
Industrial arts	256 (28)	44.3 (2.3)	28.1 (2.2)	27.6 (1.9)	220 (27)	41.9 (2.7)	28.7 (2.7)	29.4 (2.1)	33 (3)	62.8 (3.0)	23.2 (7.1)	14.0 (5.6)	‡ ‡
Interdisciplinary science	224 (13)	58.0 (2.8)	24 (1.5)	18 (2.9)	98 (14)	55.7 (6.7)	24.6 (3.6)	19.7 (7.1)	94 (6)	73.2 (2.8)	15.6 (4.0)	11.2 (2.2)	31 (3)
Law	318 (18)	47.7 (2.4)	34.6 (1.5)	17.7 (1.4)	123 (8)	50.1 (5.8)	23.2 (3.4)	26.7 (3.7)	63 (4)	66 (2.9)	22 (3.0)	12.0 (2.0)	132 (11)
Letters/liberal studies	1,291 (41)	60.0 (2.5)	21.2 (1.4)	18.8 (1.5)	845 (43)	56.9 (3.3)	22.7 (1.9)	20.4 (2.0)	387 (17)	73.5 (1.7)	13.8 (1.1)	12.7 (1.0)	59 (4)
Library science	29 (2)	3.0 (2.2)	38.2 (3.9)	58.8 (5.5)	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	‡ ‡	21 (3)
Life sciences	538 (11)	75.6 (0.8)	18.3 (0.8)	6.1 (0.7)	92 (12)	68.6 (2.4)	23.3 (2.4)	8.1 (1.7)	381 (7)	85.6 (1.1)	10.5 (0.6)	3.9 (0.9)	64 (6)
Mathematics	132 (7)	60.7 (3.8)	23.2 (1.5)	16.1 (4.0)	43 (3)	45.1 (10.8)	28.6 (3.4)	26.4 (10.3)	64 (4)	85.6 (3.1)	11 (3.3)	3.4 (1.1)	25 (2)
Mechanics/transportation	258 (20)	47.6 (2.4)	26.6 (1.9)	25.8 (2.3)	214 (21)	45.4 (2.8)	26.3 (2.1)	28.3 (2.5)	39 (6)	63.7 (3.2)	23.9 (2.7)	12.4 (2.9)	‡ ‡
Philosophy and religion	272 (32)	42.5 (1.5)	29.9 (3.7)	27.6 (3.7)	60 (9)	43.5 (5.2)	33.6 (9.2)	22.8 (10.4)	116 (16)	70.3 (3.6)	17.2 (2.8)	12.6 (2.9)	96 (14)
Physical science	211 (10)	63.5 (1.5)	26.9 (1.6)	9.6 (1.4)	45 (5)	60.6 (3.3)	29.4 (4.6)	10 (4.4)	120 (9)	79.6 (2.3)	13.6 (1.7)	6.9 (1.7)	45 (2)
Protective Services	332 (19)	61.3 (1.9)	24 (1.4)	14.7 (1.6)	208 (12)	55.9 (2.7)	26.1 (2.3)	18.1 (2.5)	120 (12)	72.5 (1.9)	18.4 (1.9)	9.1 (1.8)	‡ ‡
Psychology	522 (19)	69.5 (1.6)	19.5 (1.1)	11 (0.9)	100 (8)	76.5 (4.0)	13.6 (3.1)	10 (1.6)	349 (9)	78.4 (1.3)	13.3 (1.5)	8.2 (0.6)	74 (12)
Public administration/social work	248 (16)	45.9 (3.7)	23.7 (1.9)	30.4 (2.4)	91 (13)	42.8 (9.1)	19.7 (6.9)	37.5 (3.5)	105 (6)	62.1 (2.0)	18.6 (2.2)	19.3 (3.1)	51 (4)
Social sciences	744 (18)	70.5 (0.9)	18.9 (0.5)	10.7 (0.7)	103 (11)	61.5 (5.1)	25 (2.4)	13.6 (3.8)	549 (14)	81.4 (0.7)	11.8 (0.6)	6.8 (0.5)	92 (5)
Visual and performing arts	1,036 (34)	67.8 (0.9)	19 (0.9)	13.2 (0.6)	478 (39)	61.3 (1.5)	19.1 (1.5)	19.6 (1.1)	491 (38)	80.5 (2.3)	14.4 (1.7)	5.1 (0.8)	66 (11)
Undeclared	1,889 (83)	54.7 (1.1)	20.8 (0.9)	24.5 (0.7)	1,140 (83)	50 (1.1)	22.1 (1.2)	27.9 (1.0)	596 (18)	73.2 (1.8)	14.9 (1.0)	11.9 (1.1)	153 (7)
Other	158 (13)	51.6 (1.8)	27.4 (1.6)	21 (1.4)	46 (9)	42.5 (4.2)	34.1 (3.9)	23.4 (3.1)	68 (4)	82.9 (2.3)	8.5 (1.8)	8.7 (2.3)	45 (7)
Missing	943 (76)	50.7 (2.4)	25.2 (0.9)	24.1 (1.9)	493 (69)	47.4 (3.1)	25.3 (1.7)	27.3 (2.0)	342 (31)	66.5 (2.0)	19 (1.0)	14.6 (2.1)	108 (6)

‡ Did not meet reporting standard.

¹ Includes less-than-2-year schools and schools not identified by level.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, "The 1999–2000 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study," unpublished data. (This table was prepared August 2002).

NOTE: Because of different survey editing and processing procedures, enrollment data in this table may differ from those appearing in other tables. Includes students who enrolled at any time during the 1999–2000 academic year. Standard errors appear in parentheses. Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding.