

**Table 291. Bachelor's 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>Total</b> . . . . .	<b>929,417</b>	<b>1,051,344</b>	<b>1,237,875</b>	<b>1,399,542</b>	<b>1,439,264</b>	<b>1,485,242</b>
Agriculture and natural resources . . . . .	22,802	12,900	24,238	22,835	23,002	23,053
Architecture and related services . . . . .	9,132	9,364	8,462	8,838	9,237	9,515
Area, ethnic, cultural, and gender studies . . . . .	2,840	4,447	6,212	7,181	7,569	7,879
Biological and biomedical sciences . . . . .	46,190	37,204	63,005	61,509	64,611	69,178
Business . . . . .	186,264	248,568	256,070	307,149	311,574	318,042
Communication, journalism, and related programs <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	28,616	51,572	57,058	73,002	75,238	76,936
Computer and information sciences . . . . .	11,154	27,347	37,788	59,488	54,111	47,480
Education . . . . .	118,038	105,112	108,034	106,278	105,451	107,238
Engineering and engineering technologies . . . . .	69,387	82,480	73,419	78,227	79,743	81,223
English language and literature/letters . . . . .	32,187	46,803	50,106	53,984	54,379	55,096
Family and consumer sciences/human sciences . . . . .	18,411	13,514	16,321	19,172	20,074	20,775
Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics . . . . .	12,480	13,133	15,886	17,754	18,386	19,410
Health professions and related clinical sciences . . . . .	63,848	58,983	80,863	73,934	80,685	91,973
Legal professions and studies . . . . .	683	1,632	1,969	2,841	3,161	3,302
Liberal arts and sciences, general studies, and humanities . . . . .	23,196	27,985	36,104	42,106	43,751	44,898
Mathematics and statistics . . . . .	11,378	14,276	11,418	13,327	14,351	14,770
Multi/interdisciplinary studies . . . . .	11,457	16,557	28,561	29,162	30,243	32,012
Parks, recreation, leisure, and fitness studies . . . . .	5,753	4,582	17,571	22,164	22,888	25,490
Philosophy and religious studies . . . . .	7,069	7,034	8,535	11,152	11,584	11,985
Physical sciences and science technologies . . . . .	23,407	16,056	18,331	17,983	18,905	20,318
Psychology . . . . .	42,093	53,952	74,194	82,098	85,614	88,134
Public administration and social services . . . . .	16,644	13,908	20,185	20,552	21,769	21,986
Security and protective services . . . . .	15,015	15,354	24,877	28,175	30,723	35,319
Social sciences and history . . . . .	103,662	118,083	127,101	150,357	156,892	161,485
Theology and religious vocations . . . . .	6,170	5,185	6,789	8,126	9,284	8,548
Transportation and materials moving . . . . .	213	2,387	3,395	4,824	4,904	5,349
Visual and performing arts . . . . .	40,892	39,934	58,791	77,181	80,955	83,297
Other and unclassified . . . . .	436	2,992	2,592	143	180	164

<sup>1</sup> Includes technologies.

Source: U.S. National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics*, annual; and unpublished data.