

**Table 293. First Professional Degrees Earned in Selected Professions:
1970 to 2006**

[First professional degrees include degrees which require at least 6 years of college work for completion (including at least 2 years of preprofessional training). Based on survey; see Appendix III]

Type of degree and sex of recipient	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2004	2005	2006
Medicine (M.D.):										
Institutions conferring degrees	86	104	112	120	124	119	118	118	120	119
Degrees conferred, total	8,314	12,447	14,902	16,041	15,075	15,537	15,286	15,442	15,461	15,455
Percent to women	8.4	13.1	23.4	30.4	34.2	38.8	42.7	46.4	47.3	48.9
Dentistry (D.D.S. or D.M.D.):										
Institutions conferring degrees	48	52	58	59	57	53	54	53	53	54
Degrees conferred, total	3,718	4,773	5,258	5,339	4,100	3,897	4,250	4,335	4,454	4,389
Percent to women	0.9	3.1	13.3	20.7	30.9	36.4	40.1	41.6	43.8	44.5
Law (LL.B. or J.D.):										
Institutions conferring degrees	145	154	179	181	182	183	190	195	198	197
Degrees conferred, total	14,916	29,296	35,647	37,491	36,485	39,349	38,152	40,209	43,423	43,440
Percent to women	5.4	15.1	30.2	38.5	42.2	42.6	45.9	49.4	48.7	48.0
Theological (B.D., M.Div., M.H.L.):										
Institutions conferring degrees	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	192	198	200	(NA)	(NA)
Degrees conferred, total	5,298	5,095	7,115	7,221	5,851	5,978	6,129	5,332	5,533	5,666
Percent to women	2.3	6.8	13.8	18.5	24.8	25.7	29.2	34.2	35.6	33.6

NA Not available.

Source: U.S. National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics*, annual.