

Table 296. Master's and Doctoral Degrees Earned by Field: 1980 to 2005

[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	2003	2004	2005
MASTER'S DEGREES						
Total	298,081	324,301	457,056	512,645	558,940	574,618
Agriculture and natural resources	3,976	3,382	4,360	4,492	4,783	4,746
Architecture and related services	3,139	3,499	4,268	4,925	5,424	5,674
Area, ethnic, cultural, and gender studies	852	1,191	1,544	1,509	1,683	1,755
Biological and biomedical sciences	6,322	4,906	6,781	6,990	7,657	8,199
Business	55,008	76,676	111,532	127,545	139,347	142,617
Communication, journalism, and related programs ¹	3,082	4,353	5,525	6,495	6,900	7,195
Computer and information sciences	3,647	9,677	14,990	19,503	20,143	18,416
Education	101,819	84,890	123,045	147,448	162,345	167,490
Engineering and engineering technologies	16,765	25,294	26,726	30,669	35,197	35,133
English language and literature/letters	6,026	6,317	7,022	7,413	7,956	8,468
Family and consumer sciences/human sciences	2,690	1,679	1,882	1,610	1,794	1,827
Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics	3,067	3,018	3,037	3,049	3,124	3,407
Health professions and related clinical sciences	15,374	20,406	42,593	42,715	44,939	46,703
Legal professions and studies	1,817	1,888	3,750	4,126	4,243	4,170
Liberal arts and sciences, general studies, and humanities	2,646	1,999	3,256	3,312	3,697	3,680
Library science	5,374	4,341	4,577	5,314	6,015	6,213
Mathematics and statistics	2,860	3,624	3,208	3,626	4,191	4,477
Multi/interdisciplinary studies	2,494	3,182	3,487	3,780	4,047	4,252
Parks, recreation, leisure, and fitness studies	647	529	2,322	2,978	3,199	3,740
Philosophy and religious studies	1,204	1,327	1,376	1,578	1,578	1,647
Physical sciences and science technologies	5,167	5,410	4,810	5,109	5,570	5,678
Psychology	9,938	10,730	15,740	17,123	17,898	18,830
Public administration and social services	17,560	17,399	25,594	25,894	28,250	29,552
Security and protective services	1,805	1,151	2,609	2,955	3,717	3,991
Social sciences and history	12,176	11,634	14,066	14,634	16,110	16,952
Theology and religious vocations	3,872	4,941	5,534	5,099	5,486	5,815
Visual and performing arts	8,708	8,481	10,918	11,986	12,906	13,183
Other and unclassified	46	2,377	2,504	768	741	808
DOCTORAL DEGREES						
Total	32,615	38,371	44,808	46,024	48,378	52,631
Agriculture and natural resources	991	1,295	1,168	1,229	1,185	1,173
Architecture and related services	79	103	129	152	173	179
Area, ethnic, cultural, and gender studies	151	125	205	186	209	189
Biological and biomedical sciences	3,527	3,837	5,180	5,003	5,242	5,578
Business	767	1,093	1,194	1,251	1,481	1,498
Communication, journalism, and related programs ¹	193	272	357	398	426	468
Computer and information sciences	240	627	779	816	909	1,119
Education	7,314	6,503	6,409	6,835	7,088	7,681
Engineering and engineering technologies	2,546	5,030	5,421	5,333	5,981	6,601
English language and literature/letters	1,196	986	1,470	1,246	1,207	1,212
Family and consumer sciences/human sciences	192	273	327	372	329	331
Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics	857	816	1,086	1,042	1,031	1,027
Health professions and related clinical sciences	821	1,449	2,053	3,328	4,361	5,868
Legal professions and studies	40	111	74	105	119	98
Liberal arts and sciences, general studies, and humanities	192	63	83	78	95	109
Mathematics and statistics	724	917	1,075	1,007	1,060	1,176
Multi/interdisciplinary studies	318	442	792	899	876	983
Parks, recreation, leisure, and fitness studies	21	35	134	199	222	207
Philosophy and religious studies	374	445	598	662	595	586
Physical sciences and science technologies	3,044	4,116	3,963	3,858	3,815	4,114
Psychology	3,395	3,811	4,731	4,831	4,827	5,106
Public administration and social services	342	508	537	596	649	673
Security and protective services	18	38	52	72	54	94
Social sciences and history	3,230	3,010	4,095	3,850	3,811	3,819
Theology and religious vocations	1,315	1,317	1,630	1,321	1,304	1,422
Visual and performing arts	655	849	1,127	1,293	1,282	1,278
Other and unclassified	73	300	139	62	47	42

¹ Includes technologies.