

**Table 291. Bachelor's Degrees Earned by Field: 1980 to 2007**

[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	2005	2006	2007
<b>Total</b> <sup>1</sup>	<b>929,417</b>	<b>1,051,344</b>	<b>1,237,875</b>	<b>1,439,264</b>	<b>1,485,242</b>	<b>1,524,092</b>
Agriculture and natural resources	22,802	12,900	24,238	23,002	23,053	23,133
Architecture and related services	9,132	9,364	8,462	9,237	9,515	9,717
Area, ethnic, cultural, and gender studies	2,840	4,447	6,212	7,569	7,879	8,194
Biological and biomedical sciences	46,190	37,204	63,005	64,611	69,178	75,151
Business	186,264	248,568	256,070	311,574	318,042	327,531
Communication, journalism, and related programs <sup>2</sup>	28,616	51,572	57,058	75,238	76,936	78,420
Computer and information sciences	11,154	27,347	37,788	54,111	47,480	42,170
Education	118,038	105,112	108,034	105,451	107,238	105,641
Engineering and engineering technologies	69,387	82,480	73,419	79,743	81,610	82,072
English language and literature/letters	32,187	46,803	50,106	54,379	55,096	55,122
Family and consumer sciences/human sciences	18,411	13,514	16,321	20,074	20,775	21,400
Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics	12,480	13,133	15,886	18,386	19,410	20,275
Health professions and related clinical sciences	63,848	58,983	80,863	80,685	91,973	101,810
Legal professions and studies	683	1,632	1,969	3,161	3,302	3,596
Liberal arts and sciences, general studies, and humanities	23,196	27,985	36,104	43,751	44,898	44,255
Mathematics and statistics	11,378	14,276	11,418	14,351	14,770	14,954
Multi/interdisciplinary studies	11,457	16,557	28,561	30,243	32,012	33,792
Parks, recreation, leisure, and fitness studies	5,753	4,582	17,571	22,888	25,490	27,430
Philosophy and religious studies	7,069	7,034	8,535	11,584	11,985	11,969
Physical sciences and science technologies	23,407	16,056	18,331	18,905	20,318	21,073
Psychology	42,093	53,952	74,194	85,614	88,134	90,039
Public administration and social services	16,644	13,908	20,185	21,769	21,986	23,147
Security and protective services	15,015	15,354	24,877	30,723	35,319	39,206
Social sciences and history	103,662	118,083	127,101	156,892	161,485	164,183
Theology and religious vocations	6,170	5,185	6,789	9,284	8,548	8,696
Transportation and materials moving	213	2,387	3,395	4,904	5,349	5,657
Visual and performing arts	40,892	39,934	58,791	80,955	83,297	85,186

<sup>1</sup> Includes other fields of study not shown separately. <sup>2</sup> Includes technologies.

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