

**Table 293. First Professional Degrees Earned in Selected Professions:  
1970 to 2007**

[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	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>Medicine (M.D.):</b>										
Institutions conferring degrees . . . . .	86	112	120	124	119	118	118	120	119	120
Degrees conferred, total . . . . .	8,314	14,902	16,041	15,075	15,537	15,286	15,442	15,461	15,455	15,730
Percent to women . . . . .	8.4	23.4	30.4	34.2	38.8	42.7	46.4	47.3	48.9	49.2
<b>Dentistry (D.D.S. or D.M.D.):</b>										
Institutions conferring degrees . . . . .	48	58	59	57	53	54	53	53	54	55
Degrees conferred, total . . . . .	3,718	5,258	5,339	4,100	3,897	4,250	4,335	4,454	4,389	4,596
Percent to women . . . . .	0.9	13.3	20.7	30.9	36.4	40.1	41.6	43.8	44.5	44.6
<b>Law (LL.B. or J.D.):</b>										
Institutions conferring degrees . . . . .	145	179	181	182	183	190	195	198	197	200
Degrees conferred, total . . . . .	14,916	35,647	37,491	36,485	39,349	38,152	40,209	43,423	43,440	43,486
Percent to women . . . . .	5.4	30.2	38.5	42.2	42.6	45.9	49.4	48.7	48.0	47.6
<b>Theological (B.D., M.Div., M.H.L.):</b>										
Institutions conferring degrees . . . . .	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	192	198	200	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Degrees conferred, total . . . . .	5,298	7,115	7,221	5,851	5,978	6,129	5,332	5,533	5,666	5,990
Percent to women . . . . .	2.3	13.8	18.5	24.8	25.7	29.2	34.2	35.6	33.6	33.2

NA Not available.

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