

Table 303. Master's and Doctoral Degrees Earned by Field: 1980 to 2009

[The new Classification of Instructional Programs was introduced in 2002–2003. 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	2008	2009
MASTER'S DEGREES						
Total ¹	298,081	324,301	457,056	574,618	625,023	656,784
Agriculture and natural resources	3,976	3,382	4,360	4,746	4,684	4,877
Architecture and related services	3,139	3,499	4,268	5,674	6,065	6,587
Area, ethnic, cultural, and gender studies	852	1,191	1,544	1,755	1,778	1,779
Biological and biomedical sciences	6,322	4,906	6,781	8,199	9,565	9,898
Business	55,008	76,676	111,532	142,617	155,637	168,375
Communication, journalism, and related programs ²	3,082	4,353	5,525	7,195	7,546	7,567
Computer and information sciences	3,647	9,677	14,990	18,416	17,087	17,907
Education	101,819	84,890	123,045	167,490	175,880	178,564
Engineering and engineering technologies	16,765	25,294	26,726	35,133	34,592	38,205
English language and literature/letters	6,026	6,317	7,022	8,468	9,161	9,261
Family and consumer sciences/human sciences	2,690	1,679	1,882	1,827	2,199	2,453
Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics	3,067	3,018	3,037	3,407	3,565	3,592
Health professions and related clinical sciences	15,374	20,406	42,593	46,703	58,120	62,620
Legal professions and studies	1,817	1,888	3,750	4,170	4,754	5,150
Liberal arts and sciences, general studies, and humanities	2,646	1,999	3,256	3,680	3,797	3,728
Library science	5,374	4,341	4,577	6,213	7,162	7,091
Mathematics and statistics	2,860	3,624	3,208	4,477	4,980	5,211
Multi/interdisciplinary studies	2,494	3,182	3,487	4,252	5,289	5,344
Parks, recreation, leisure, and fitness studies	647	529	2,322	3,740	4,440	4,822
Philosophy and religious studies	1,204	1,327	1,376	1,647	1,879	1,859
Physical sciences and science technologies	5,167	5,410	4,810	5,678	5,899	5,658
Psychology	9,938	10,730	15,740	18,830	21,431	23,415
Public administration and social services	17,560	17,399	25,594	29,552	33,029	33,933
Security and protective services	1,805	1,151	2,609	3,991	5,760	6,128
Social sciences and history	12,176	11,634	14,066	16,952	18,495	19,240
Theology and religious vocations	3,872	4,941	5,534	5,815	6,996	7,541
Visual and performing arts	8,708	8,481	10,918	13,183	14,164	14,918
DOCTORAL DEGREES						
Total ¹	32,615	38,371	44,808	52,631	63,712	67,716
Agriculture and natural resources	991	1,295	1,168	1,173	1,257	1,328
Architecture and related services	79	103	129	179	199	212
Area, ethnic, cultural, and gender studies	151	125	205	189	270	239
Biological and biomedical sciences	3,527	3,837	5,180	5,578	6,918	6,957
Business	767	1,093	1,194	1,498	2,084	2,123
Communication, journalism, and related programs ²	193	272	357	468	496	533
Computer and information sciences	240	627	779	1,119	1,698	1,580
Education	7,314	6,503	6,409	7,681	8,491	9,028
Engineering and engineering technologies	2,546	5,030	5,421	6,601	8,167	7,990
English language and literature/letters	1,196	986	1,470	1,212	1,262	1,271
Family and consumer sciences/human sciences	192	273	327	331	323	333
Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics	857	816	1,086	1,027	1,078	1,111
Health professions and related clinical sciences	821	1,449	2,053	5,868	9,886	12,112
Legal professions and studies	40	111	74	98	172	259
Liberal arts and sciences, general studies, and humanities	192	63	83	109	76	67
Mathematics and statistics	724	917	1,075	1,176	1,360	1,535
Multi/interdisciplinary studies	318	442	792	983	1,142	1,273
Parks, recreation, leisure, and fitness studies	21	35	134	207	228	285
Philosophy and religious studies	374	445	598	586	635	686
Physical sciences and science technologies	3,044	4,116	3,963	4,114	4,804	5,048
Psychology	3,395	3,811	4,731	5,106	5,296	5,477
Public administration and social services	342	508	537	673	760	812
Security and protective services	18	38	52	94	88	97
Social sciences and history	3,230	3,010	4,095	3,819	4,059	4,234
Theology and religious vocations	1,315	1,317	1,630	1,422	1,446	1,520
Visual and performing arts	655	849	1,127	1,278	1,453	1,569

¹ Includes other fields of study, not shown separately. ² Includes technologies.

Source: U.S. National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics*, annual and unpublished data. See also <<http://www.nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/>>.