

American Community Survey

Population: Question on Field of Degree

Question as it appears in the questionnaire.

12 This question focuses on this person's **BACHELOR'S DEGREE**. Please print below the specific major(s) of any **BACHELOR'S DEGREES** this person has received. (For example: chemical engineering, elementary teacher education, organizational psychology)

Source: ACS-1(2009)KFI

MEETING FEDERAL NEEDS

Field of Degree (FOD) data are needed for use in assessing the qualifications of the U.S. college-educated workforce. Government agencies will use these data to examine the supply of highly-skilled workers in a variety of fields, the need to encourage greater participation in certain fields, and the representation of different demographic groups in various fields of study.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Education

College administrators, educators, students, parents and professional societies use these data to assess how graduates in various fields are faring in the job market as well as informing them about the kinds of training graduates should be receiving to be prepared for the jobs that are likely to be available. It provides timely information for prospective students and their parents about employment possibilities for those majoring in a particular field in college.

Government

The National Science Foundation (NSF) uses these data to draw a sample for a large workforce survey, the National Survey of College Graduates, which gathers important information about the education, employment and characteristics of scientists and engineers. NSF and other agencies use the data to analyze the types of jobs that graduates in a particular field hold, their earnings and how these outcomes vary within and across fields by race/ethnicity, gender, and citizenship.

Employment

Employers use information about the field of degree of college graduates to assess the supply of potential employees, nationally and in specific areas.

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