

# The Condition of Education 2009

## Indicator 42

### *Degrees Conferred by Public and Private Institutions*

The indicator and corresponding tables are taken directly from *The Condition of Education 2009*. Therefore, the page numbers may not be sequential.

Additional information about the survey data and supplementary notes can be found in the full report. For a copy of *The Condition of Education 2009*, visit the NCES website (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2009081>) or contact ED PUBs at 1-877-4ED-PUBS.

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# Degrees Conferred by Public and Private Institutions

*The number of associate's, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees conferred by private for-profit institutions increased by a larger percentage than the number conferred by public and private not-for-profit institutions between 1996–97 and 2006–07.*

Between 1996–97 and 2006–07, the number of postsecondary degrees conferred by public and private institutions generally increased for each type of degree, although at varying rates. For associate's, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees, the percentage increases were larger for private for-profit institutions than for public and private not-for-profit institutions. During this period, the share of these degrees conferred by private for-profit institutions increased from 3 to 8 percent.

The number of associate's degrees conferred by private for-profit institutions more than doubled between 1996–97 and 2006–07, from 56,600 to 117,800 degrees. For public institutions, the number of associate's degrees increased by 22 percent (from 465,500 to 566,500 degrees) during this period; for private not-for-profit institutions, the number decreased by 11 percent (from 49,200 to 43,800 degrees). Due to these changes, associate's degrees awarded by private for-profit institutions made up 16 percent of all associate's degrees awarded in 2006–07, up from a 10 percent share in 1996–97 (see table A-42-1).

Between 1996–97 and 2006–07, the number of bachelor's degrees conferred by private for-profit institutions increased from 12,100 to 70,800 degrees, compared with an increase from 776,700 to 975,500 degrees for public institutions and an increase from 384,100 to 477,800 degrees for private not-for-profit institutions. During this period, the number of master's degrees conferred by private for-profit institutions increased from 5,100 to 50,900 degrees. The numbers of master's degrees awarded by public and private not-for-profit institutions also increased during this period but at slower rates, from 233,200 to 292,000 and from 181,000 to 262,000, respectively. A shift was evident in the share of master's degrees awarded by institution type: in 1996–97, public institutions awarded 56 percent of all master's degrees and private for-profit institutions awarded 1 percent; in 2006–07, public institutions awarded 48 percent of all master's degrees and private for-profit institutions awarded 8 percent. The share awarded by private not-for-profit institutions remained at 43 percent for both academic years.

The total number of first-professional degrees increased by 14 percent (from 78,700 to 90,100 degrees) between 1996–97 and 2006–07, with few changes in the proportion of degrees awarded by type of institution. In 2006–07, private not-for-profit institutions awarded 59 percent of first-professional degrees. Degrees from public institutions accounted for 41 percent, while degrees from private for-profit institutions made up less than 1 percent of all first-professional degrees. Between 1996–97 and 2006–07, the number of doctoral degrees awarded increased for public institutions from 29,800 to 36,200 degrees, for private not-for-profit institutions from 15,700 to 22,500 degrees, and for private for-profit institutions from 340 to 1,900 degrees.

The increase in the number of degrees conferred corresponded to an increase in the total number of degree-granting institutions, particularly in the number of private for-profit institutions. Between 1996–97 and 2006–07, there was a net decrease in the number of public institutions (from 1,702 to 1,688), consisting of a decrease in the number of 2-year institutions and an increase in the number of 4-year institutions (see table A-42-2). Private institutions had a net gain of 319 institutions during this period, with increases in the numbers of not-for-profit 4-year institutions and for-profit 2- and 4-year institutions. The number of for-profit institutions increased the most, as the number of 2-year institutions increased by 13 percent (from 470 to 533 institutions) and the number of 4-year institutions increased by 215 percent (from 144 to 453 institutions). Although enrollment size is not reported here, the growing number of degree-granting for-profit institutions provides context for the percentage increases in the number of degrees conferred by for-profit institutions.



**For more information:** *Tables A-42-1 and A-42-2; Indicator 24*

**Glossary:** *Doctoral degree, First-professional degree*  
NCES 2009-020

## Technical Notes

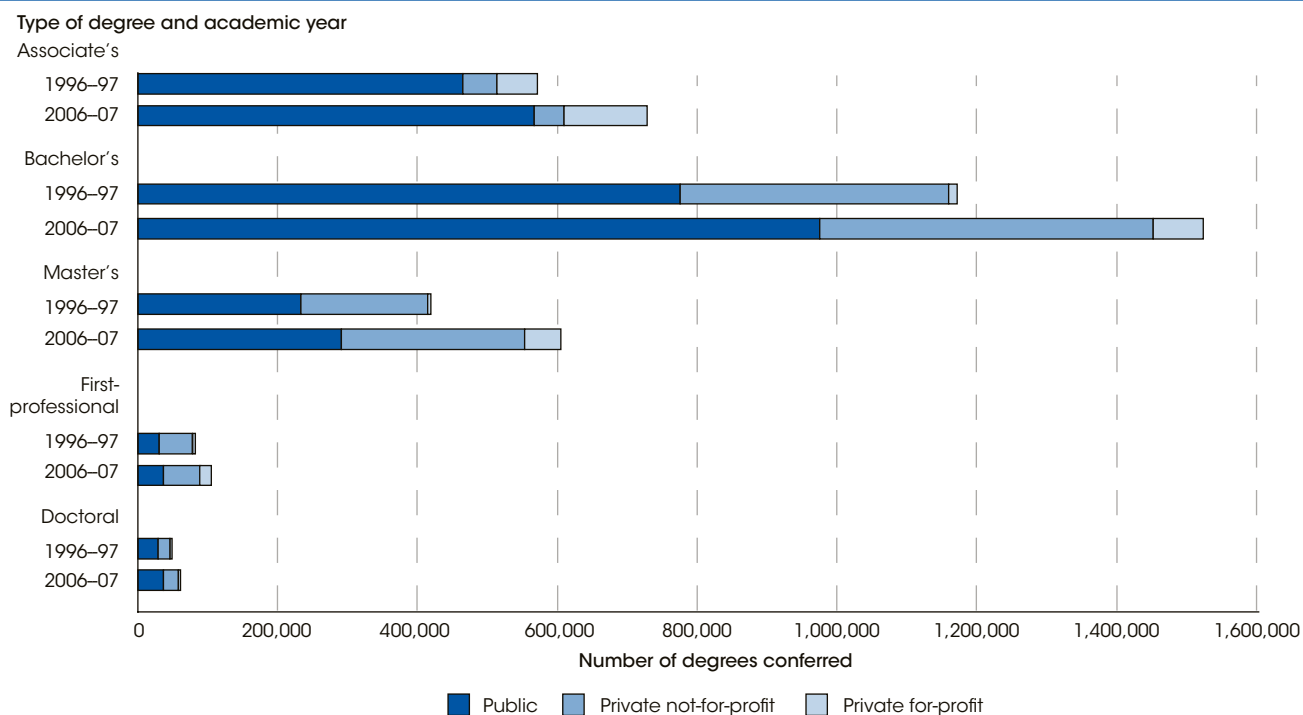
Includes degree-granting institutions that participated in Title IV federal financial aid programs. For more information on the Integrated Postsecondary Education

Data System (IPEDS) and IPEDS classification of institutions, see *supplemental notes 3* and *8*, respectively.

**Table 42-1. Number and percentage change of degrees conferred by degree-granting institutions, by control of institution and type of degree: Academic years 1996-97 and 2006-07**

Type of degree and academic year	Total	Public	Private		
			Total	Not-for-profit	For-profit
<b>Associate's</b>					
1996-97	571,226	465,494	105,732	49,168	56,564
2006-07	728,114	566,535	161,579	43,829	117,750
Percent change	27.5	21.7	52.8	-10.9	108.2
<b>Bachelor's</b>					
1996-97	1,172,879	776,677	396,202	384,086	12,116
2006-07	1,524,092	975,513	548,579	477,805	70,774
Percent change	29.9	25.6	38.5	24.4	484.1
<b>Master's</b>					
1996-97	419,401	233,237	186,164	181,104	5,060
2006-07	604,607	291,971	312,636	261,700	50,936
Percent change	44.2	25.2	67.9	44.5	906.6
<b>First professional</b>					
1996-97	78,730	31,243	47,487	47,029	458
2006-07	90,064	36,855	53,209	52,746	463
Percent change	14.4	18.0	12.0	12.2	1.1
<b>Doctoral</b>					
1996-97	45,876	29,838	16,038	15,694	344
2006-07	60,616	36,230	24,386	22,483	1,903
Percent change	32.1	21.4	52.1	43.3	453.2

NOTE: Includes institutions that participated in Title IV federal financial aid programs. For more information on the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), see *supplemental note 3*. See the glossary for definitions of first-professional and doctoral degrees.  
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1996-97 and 2006-07 IPEDS, "Completions Survey" (IPEDS-C:97) and Fall 2007.

**Figure 42-1. Number of degrees conferred by degree-granting institutions, by type of degree and control of institution: Academic years 1996-97 and 2006-07**

NOTE: Includes institutions that participated in Title IV federal financial aid programs. For more information on the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), see *supplemental note 3*. See the glossary for definitions of first-professional and doctoral degrees.  
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1996-97 and 2006-07 IPEDS, "Completions Survey" (IPEDS-C:97) and Fall 2007.

## Degrees Conferred by Public and Private Institutions

Table A-42-1. Number and percentage distribution of degrees conferred by degree-granting institutions, by control of institution and type of degree: Academic years 1996-97 through 2006-07

Type of degree and academic year	Number of degrees conferred					Percentage distribution of degrees conferred				
	Public		Private			Public		Private		
	Total		Total	Not-for-profit	For-profit	Total		Total	Not-for-profit	For-profit
<b>Associate's</b>										
1996-97	571,226	465,494	105,732	49,168	56,564	100.0	81.5	18.5	8.6	9.9
1997-98	558,555	455,084	103,471	47,625	55,846	100.0	81.5	18.5	8.5	10.0
1998-99	559,954	448,334	111,620	47,611	64,009	100.0	80.1	19.9	8.5	11.4
1999-2000	564,933	448,446	116,487	46,337	70,150	100.0	79.4	20.6	8.2	12.4
2000-01	578,865	456,487	122,378	45,711	76,667	100.0	78.9	21.1	7.9	13.2
2001-02	595,133	471,660	123,473	45,761	77,712	100.0	79.3	20.7	7.7	13.1
2002-03	634,016	498,279	135,737	46,183	89,554	100.0	78.6	21.4	7.3	14.1
2003-04	665,301	524,875	140,426	45,759	94,667	100.0	78.9	21.1	6.9	14.2
2004-05	696,660	547,519	149,141	45,344	103,797	100.0	78.6	21.4	6.5	14.9
2005-06	713,066	557,134	155,932	46,442	109,490	100.0	78.1	21.9	6.5	15.4
2006-07	728,114	566,535	161,579	43,829	117,750	100.0	77.8	22.2	6.0	16.2
<b>Bachelor's</b>										
1996-97	1,172,879	776,677	396,202	384,086	12,116	100.0	66.2	33.8	32.7	1.0
1997-98	1,184,406	784,296	400,110	386,455	13,655	100.0	66.2	33.8	32.6	1.2
1998-99	1,200,303	790,287	410,016	393,680	16,336	100.0	65.8	34.2	32.8	1.4
1999-2000	1,237,875	810,855	427,020	406,958	20,062	100.0	65.5	34.5	32.9	1.6
2000-01	1,244,171	812,438	431,733	408,701	23,032	100.0	65.3	34.7	32.8	1.9
2001-02	1,291,900	841,180	450,720	424,322	26,398	100.0	65.1	34.9	32.8	2.0
2002-03	1,348,811	875,596	473,215	442,060	31,155	100.0	64.9	35.1	32.8	2.3
2003-04	1,399,542	905,718	493,824	451,518	42,306	100.0	64.7	35.3	32.3	3.0
2004-05	1,439,264	932,443	506,821	457,963	48,858	100.0	64.8	35.2	31.8	3.4
2005-06	1,485,242	955,369	529,873	467,836	62,037	100.0	64.3	35.7	31.5	4.2
2006-07	1,524,092	975,513	548,579	477,805	70,774	100.0	64.0	36.0	31.4	4.6
<b>Master's</b>										
1996-97	419,401	233,237	186,164	181,104	5,060	100.0	55.6	44.4	43.2	1.2
1997-98	430,164	235,922	194,242	188,175	6,067	100.0	54.8	45.2	43.7	1.4
1998-99	439,986	238,501	201,485	192,152	9,333	100.0	54.2	45.8	43.7	2.1
1999-2000	457,056	243,157	213,899	203,591	10,308	100.0	53.2	46.8	44.5	2.3
2000-01	468,476	246,054	222,422	210,789	11,633	100.0	52.5	47.5	45.0	2.5
2001-02	482,118	249,820	232,298	218,034	14,264	100.0	51.8	48.2	45.2	3.0
2002-03	513,339	265,643	247,696	232,709	14,987	100.0	51.7	48.3	45.3	2.9
2003-04	558,940	285,138	273,802	245,562	28,240	100.0	51.0	49.0	43.9	5.1
2004-05	574,618	291,505	283,113	248,031	35,082	100.0	50.7	49.3	43.2	6.1
2005-06	594,065	293,517	300,548	255,424	45,124	100.0	49.4	50.6	43.0	7.6
2006-07	604,607	291,971	312,636	261,700	50,936	100.0	48.3	51.7	43.3	8.4
<b>First-professional<sup>1</sup></b>										
1996-97	78,730	31,243	47,487	47,029	458	100.0	39.7	60.3	59.7	0.6
1997-98	78,598	31,233	47,365	47,018	347	100.0	39.7	60.3	59.8	0.4
1998-99	78,439	31,693	46,746	46,315	431	100.0	40.4	59.6	59.0	0.5
1999-2000	80,057	32,247	47,810	47,301	509	100.0	40.3	59.7	59.1	0.6
2000-01	79,707	32,633	47,074	46,828	246	100.0	40.9	59.1	58.8	0.3
2001-02	80,698	33,439	47,259	47,020	239	100.0	41.4	58.6	58.3	0.3
2002-03	80,897	33,549	47,348	47,116	232	100.0	41.5	58.5	58.2	0.3
2003-04	83,041	34,499	48,542	48,278	264	100.0	41.5	58.5	58.1	0.3
2004-05	87,289	35,768	51,521	51,259	262	100.0	41.0	59.0	58.7	0.3
2005-06	87,655	36,269	51,386	50,902	484	100.0	41.4	58.6	58.1	0.6
2006-07	90,064	36,855	53,209	52,746	463	100.0	40.9	59.1	58.6	0.5

See notes at end of table.

**Table A-42-1. Number and percentage distribution of degrees conferred by degree-granting institutions, by control of institution and type of degree: Academic years 1996-97 through 2006-07—Continued**

Type of degree and academic year	Number of degrees conferred					Percentage distribution of degrees conferred					
	Public		Private			Public		Private			
	Total		Total	Not-for-profit	For-profit	Total		Total	Not-for-profit	For-profit	
<b>Doctoral<sup>1</sup></b>											
1996-97	45,876	29,838	16,038	15,694	344	100.0	65.0	35.0	34.2	0.7	
1997-98	46,010	29,715	16,295	15,944	351	100.0	64.6	35.4	34.7	0.8	
1998-99	44,077	28,134	15,943	15,501	442	100.0	63.8	36.2	35.2	1.0	
1999-2000	44,808	28,408	16,400	15,800	600	100.0	63.4	36.6	35.3	1.3	
2000-01	44,904	28,187	16,717	15,920	797	100.0	62.8	37.2	35.5	1.8	
2001-02	44,160	27,622	16,538	15,882	656	100.0	62.5	37.5	36.0	1.5	
2002-03	46,042	28,062	17,980	17,138	842	100.0	60.9	39.1	37.2	1.8	
2003-04	48,378	29,706	18,672	17,501	1,171	100.0	61.4	38.6	36.2	2.4	
2004-05	52,631	31,743	20,888	19,552	1,336	100.0	60.3	39.7	37.1	2.5	
2005-06	56,067	33,767	22,300	20,830	1,470	100.0	60.2	39.8	37.2	2.6	
2006-07	60,616	36,230	24,386	22,483	1,903	100.0	59.8	40.2	37.1	3.1	

<sup>1</sup> An award that requires completion of a degree program that meets all of the following criteria: (1) completion of the academic requirements to begin practice in the profession, (2) at least 2 years of college work before entering the degree program, and (3) a total of at least 6 academic years of college work to complete the degree program, including previously required college work plus the work required in the professional program itself. Includes first-professional degrees such as M.D., D.D.S., and law degrees. See glossary for a definition of first-professional degree.

<sup>2</sup> Includes Ph.D., Ed.D., and comparable degrees at the doctoral level. See glossary for a definition of doctoral degree.

NOTE: Includes institutions that participated in Title IV federal financial aid programs. For more information on the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), see *supplemental note 3*. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1996-97 through 2006-07 IPEDS, "Completions Survey" (IPEDS-C:97-99), and Fall 2000 through Fall 2007.

**Table A-42-2. Number of degree-granting institutions, by control and type of institution: Academic years 1996-97 through 2006-07**

Academic year	All institutions			Public			Private								
	2-year		4-year	2-year		4-year	Not-for-profit			For-profit					
	Total			Total			Total	2-year	4-year	Total	2-year	4-year			
1996-97	4,009	1,742	2,267	1,702	1,088	614	2,307	654	1,653	1,693	184	1,509	614	470	144
1997-98	4,064	1,755	2,309	1,707	1,092	615	2,357	663	1,694	1,707	179	1,528	650	484	166
1998-99	4,048	1,713	2,335	1,681	1,069	612	2,367	644	1,723	1,695	164	1,531	672	480	192
1999-2000	4,084	1,721	2,363	1,682	1,068	614	2,402	653	1,749	1,681	150	1,531	721	503	218
2000-01	4,182	1,732	2,450	1,698	1,076	622	2,484	656	1,828	1,695	144	1,551	789	512	277
2001-02	4,197	1,710	2,487	1,713	1,085	628	2,484	625	1,859	1,676	135	1,541	808	490	318
2002-03	4,168	1,702	2,466	1,712	1,081	631	2,456	621	1,835	1,665	127	1,538	791	494	297
2003-04	4,236	1,706	2,530	1,720	1,086	634	2,516	620	1,896	1,664	118	1,546	852	502	350
2004-05	4,216	1,683	2,533	1,700	1,061	639	2,516	622	1,894	1,637	112	1,525	879	510	369
2005-06	4,276	1,694	2,582	1,693	1,053	640	2,583	641	1,942	1,647	113	1,534	936	528	408
2006-07	4,314	1,685	2,629	1,688	1,045	643	2,626	640	1,986	1,640	107	1,533	986	533	453

NOTE: Includes institutions that participate in Title IV federal financial aid programs. Changes in counts of institutions over time are partly affected by increasing or decreasing numbers of institutions submitting separate data for branch campuses. For more information on the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), see *supplemental note 3*.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 1996-97 through 2006-07 IPEDS, "Institutional Characteristics Survey" (IPEDS-IC:96-99), and Fall 2000 through Fall 2006.