



The University of Wisconsin System

Informational Memorandum

Degrees Conferred: 2005-06 Update

Highlights

Number of Degrees Conferred.....30,587

Number of Associate Degrees Conferred 1,272

Number of Bachelor's Degrees Conferred.....22,718

Number of Master's Degrees Conferred5,238

Number of Doctoral Degrees Conferred 746

Number of Professional Degrees Conferred.....613

Top Discipline Sub-Area for Bachelor's Degrees Business Administration

Top Discipline Sub-Area for Master's Degrees..... Business Administration

Top Discipline Sub-Areas for Doctoral Degrees Chemistry and Biochemistry/Biophysics/Molecular Biology

Percentage of Degrees Earned by Women 57.3%

Percentage of Degrees Earned by Students of Color..... 7.3%

Percentage of Degrees Earned by International Students 4.2%

The University of Wisconsin System
Office of Policy Analysis and Research
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DEGREES CONFERRED BY INSTITUTION AND LEVEL

In 2005-06, UW System institutions conferred 30,587 degrees (Table 1). Of these degrees, 1,272 were Associate degrees, 22,718 were Bachelor's degrees, 5,238 were Master's degrees, and 746 were Doctoral degrees. Professional degrees awarded to UW-Madison students in law, medicine, veterinary medicine, and pharmacy accounted for the remaining 613 degrees.

**Table 1
University of Wisconsin System
2005-06 Degrees Conferred by Level and Institution**

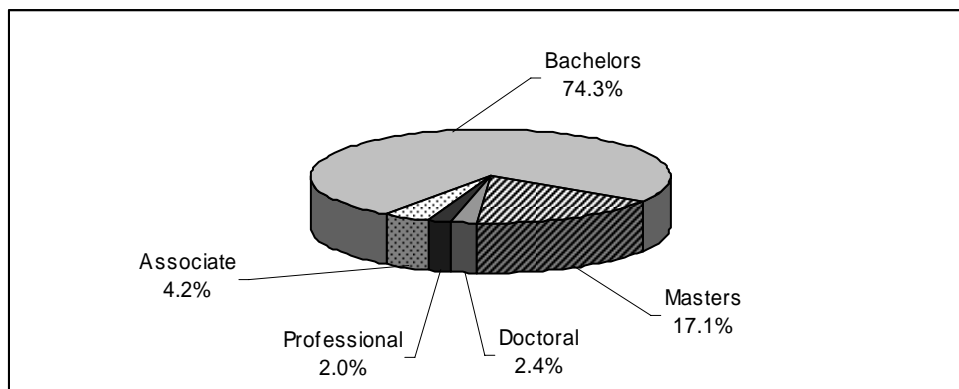
	Associate	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctoral	Profess.	Total
UW-Madison		6,383	1,789	648	613	9,433
UW-Milwaukee		3,227	1,289	98		4,614
Subtotal		9,610	3,078	746	613	14,047
UW-Eau Claire	10	1,851	130			1,991
UW-Green Bay		917	53			970
UW-La Crosse		1,456	453			1,909
UW-Oshkosh		1,700	332			2,032
UW-Parkside		580	23			603
UW-Platteville	2	890	185			1,077
UW-River Falls		939	154			1,093
UW-Stevens Point	16	1,517	151			1,684
UW-Stout		1,142	209			1,351
UW-Superior	11	408	85			504
UW-Whitewater	5	1,708	385			2,098
Subtotal	44	13,108	2,160			15,312
UW Colleges	1,228					1,228
Total	1,272	22,718	5,238	746	613	30,587

*Professional degrees include law, medicine, veterinary medicine, and pharmacy.

PROPORTION OF DEGREES CONFERRED BY LEVEL

Almost three-quarters (74.3%) of all degrees conferred by UW System institutions in 2005-06 were Bachelor's degrees (Figure 1). Master's degrees accounted for 17.1 percent of all degrees conferred while Associate degrees made up 4.2 percent and Doctoral degrees made up 2.4 percent of degrees conferred. Professional degrees awarded to UW-Madison students were 2.0 percent of all UW System degrees conferred.

**Figure 1
University of Wisconsin System
Proportion of 2005-06 Degrees Conferred by Degree Level**



DEGREES CONFERRED BY DISCIPLINE AREA AND LEVEL

Table 2 shows discipline categorizations according to the U.S. Department of Education's Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) and the 2005-06 degrees associated with these discipline areas. Degrees in Business (CIP 52) accounted for 16.6 percent of all degrees, while degrees in Education (CIP 13) made up 11.1 percent of all degrees conferred. Other program areas in which one thousand or more degrees were conferred included Social Sciences (2,379), Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences (2,161), Biological and Biomedical Sciences (1,864), Communications, Journalism, and Related Programs (1,695), Engineering (1,511), Psychology (1,508), Visual and Performing Arts (1,451), and Liberal Arts and Sciences (1,423).

**Table 2
University of Wisconsin System
2005-06 Degrees Conferred by Discipline Area and Level**

CIP	Discipline Area	Assoc.	Bach.	Mast.	Doct.	Prof.	Total	% Total
52	Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support Services		4,073	996	17		5,086	16.6%
13	Education		2,074	1,260	73		3,407	11.1%
45	Social Sciences		2,118	195	66		2,379	7.8%
51	Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences		1,386	422	32	321	2,161	7.1%
26	Biological and Biomedical Sciences		1,601	134	129		1,864	6.1%
09	Communication, Journalism, and Related Programs		1,606	77	12		1,695	5.5%
14	Engineering		1,004	400	107		1,511	4.9%
42	Psychology		1,206	277	25		1,508	4.9%
50	Visual and Performing Arts		1,265	165	21		1,451	4.7%
24	Liberal Arts and Sciences	1,272	143	8			1,423	4.7%
23	English Language and Literature		748	55	24		827	2.7%
44	Public Administration and Social Service Professions		488	203	6		697	2.3%
16	Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics		566	99	22		687	2.2%
54	History		584	46	24		654	2.1%
31	Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies		450	105	1		556	1.8%
40	Physical Sciences		332	75	92		499	1.6%
11	Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services		400	66	10		476	1.6%
22	Legal Professions and Studies		111	35		292	438	1.4%
43	Security and Protective Services		386	32			418	1.4%
01	Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, and Related Sciences		351	52	13		416	1.4%
03	Natural Resources and Conservation		298	71	10		379	1.2%
19	Family and Consumer Sciences/Human Sciences		339	31	8		378	1.2%
27	Mathematics and Statistics		258	47	32		337	1.1%
30	Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies		285	6	13		304	1.0%
25	Library Science			220	1		221	0.7%
38	Philosophy and Religious Studies		188	17	3		208	0.7%
04	Architecture and Related Services		92	107	3		202	0.7%
15	Engineering Technologies		169	14			183	0.6%
05	Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies		133	23	2		158	0.5%
10	Communications Technologies		55				55	0.2%
41	Science Technologies/Technicians		9				9	0.0%
		1,272	22,718	5,238	746	613	30,587	100.0%

TRENDS IN DEGREES CONFERRED BY DISCIPLINE AREA

Tables 3, 4, and 5 show the number of degrees conferred by UW System institutions by CIP sub-area, a more specific categorization than the CIP area shown in Table 2. The specific degree programs shown represent common programs, those in which 2.5 percent or more of the total degrees for that level and year are conferred. Discipline sub-areas in which at least 2.5 percent of all Bachelor's degrees were conferred in 2005-06, that were also represented in 2000-01 (five years ago) and 1995-96 (ten years ago), include: Business Administration, Psychology, Elementary Education, Communication and Media Studies, English Language and Literature, Biology, Nursing, Marketing, and Secondary Education (see Table 3). Sociology was popular ten years ago, though not five years ago. Finance and Fine Arts were common sub-areas in 2005-06 and five years ago, but not ten years ago. Accounting was a common discipline sub-area ten years ago but not in 2000-01 or 2005-06. History and Political Science recently emerged as more common Bachelor's-level disciplines.

**Table 3
University of Wisconsin System
Bachelor's Degrees Conferred
by Discipline Sub-Area and Year**

Year	Degrees	CIP Sub-Area and Description	
2005-06	1,430	52.02	Business Administration, Management and Operations
	1,142	42.01	Psychology, General
	1,097	26.01	Biology, General
	1,092	09.01	Communication and Media Studies
	993	13.12	Elementary Education
	768	52.14	Marketing
	739	23.01	English Language and Literature, General
	725	51.16	Nursing
	670	45.10	Political Science and Government
	628	45.11	Sociology
	616	50.07	Fine and Studio Art
	593	52.08	Finance and Financial Management Services
	584	54.01	History
579	13.13	Secondary Education	
2000-01	1,291	52.02	Business Administration, Management and Operations
	977	42.01	Psychology, General
	939	09.01	Communication and Media Studies
	929	13.12	Elementary Education
	768	52.14	Marketing
	757	26.01	Biology, General
	661	23.01	English Language and Literature, General
	611	13.13	Secondary Education
	583	52.08	Finance and Financial Management Services
	555	50.07	Fine and Studio Art
	534	51.16	Nursing
1995-96	1,110	52.02	Business Administration, Management and Operations
	996	42.01	Psychology, General
	897	13.12	Elementary Education
	854	09.01	Communication and Media Studies
	682	52.03	Accounting and Related Services
	682	23.01	English Language and Literature, General
	651	26.01	Biology, General
	564	51.16	Nursing
	562	52.14	Marketing
	524	13.13	Secondary Education
	493	45.11	Sociology

Master's degree sub-areas show great stability over the last decade. Of the discipline sub-areas in which at least 2.5 percent of Master's degrees were conferred in 2005-06, all but four sub-areas are present in all three years. General Business/Commerce, Education, and Accounting are common sub-areas in 2005-06, but not in 2000-01 or 1995-96. Rehabilitation and Therapeutic Professions was common in 2005-06 and 2000-01, but was not present ten years ago in 1995-96.

Table 4
University of Wisconsin System
Master's Degrees Conferred
by Discipline Sub-Area and Year

Year	Degrees	CIP Sub-Area and Description	
2005-06	531	52.02	Business Administration, Management and Operations
	348	13.12	Elementary Education
	220	25.01	Library Science
	201	13.11	Student Counseling and Personnel Services
	177	13.03	Curriculum and Instruction
	171	52.01	Business/Commerce, General
	162	13.01	Education
	147	44.07	Social Work
	145	51.23	Rehabilitation and Therapeutic Professions
	137	13.13	Secondary Education
	132	52.03	Accounting and Related Services
	2000-01	422	52.02
365		13.12	Elementary Education
216		44.07	Social Work
194		13.11	Student Counseling and Personnel Services
180		13.03	Curriculum and Instruction
171		13.13	Secondary Education
163		42.18	Educational Psychology
153		25.01	Library Science
150		51.02	Communication Disorders Sciences and Services
137		13.04	Educational Administration and Supervision
134		51.23	Rehabilitation and Therapeutic Professions
128		42.17	School Psychology
1995-96	359	52.02	Business Administration, Management and Operations
	275	13.11	Student Counseling and Personnel Services
	265	13.12	Elementary Education
	249	44.07	Social Work
	190	25.01	Library Science
	187	13.03	Curriculum and Instruction
	177	13.13	Secondary Education
	168	51.16	Nursing
	128	51.02	Communication Disorders Sciences and Services

Chemistry, Biochemistry/Biophysics/Molecular Biology, Educational Administration and Supervision, English Language and Literature, and History are all CIP sub-areas in which 2.5 percent of Doctoral degrees were awarded in 2005-06, 2000-01, and 1995-96. Economics is a common sub-area in 2005-06 and 2000-01, but not in 1995-96. Physics, Mathematics, and Electrical Engineering are present in 2005-06 and ten years earlier in 1995-96 as a common Doctoral degree conferred. Pharmacology and Psychology each emerged as common CIP sub-areas in 2005-06.

Table 5
University of Wisconsin System
Doctoral Degrees Conferred
By Discipline Sub-Area and Year

Year	Degrees	CIP Sub-Area and Description	
2005-06	45	40.05	Chemistry
	45	26.02	Biochemistry, Biophysics and Molecular Biology
	38	13.04	Educational Administration and Supervision
	29	40.08	Physics
	24	23.01	English Language and Literature, General
	24	54.01	History
	23	27.01	Mathematics
	22	45.06	Economics
	21	14.10	Electrical, Electronics and Communications Engineering
	21	26.10	Pharmacology and Toxicology
	20	42.01	Psychology, General
2000-01	37	40.05	Chemistry
	36	13.04	Educational Administration and Supervision
	33	26.02	Biochemistry, Biophysics and Molecular Biology
	30	45.06	Economics
	29	23.01	English Language and Literature, General
	27	54.01	History
	23	45.11	Sociology
	21	13.03	Curriculum and Instruction
	20	14.19	Mechanical Engineering
	19	09.01	Communication and Media Studies
	19	16.09	Romance Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics
1995-96	52	13.04	Educational Administration and Supervision
	41	40.05	Chemistry
	36	54.01	History
	34	26.02	Biochemistry, Biophysics and Molecular Biology
	32	13.03	Curriculum and Instruction
	30	40.08	Physics
	25	14.10	Electrical, Electronics and Communications Engineering
	21	13.12	Elementary Education
	21	23.01	English Language and Literature, General
	21	27.01	Mathematics

DEGREES CONFERRED BY GENDER

Women earned 57.3 percent of all degrees conferred in the UW System in 2005-06 (Table 6). The proportion of degrees conferred to women remained relatively steady from 2001-02 through 2005-06. At the Associate level, 57.9 percent of degrees conferred in 2005-06 were earned by women. At the Bachelor's level, 57.0 percent of degrees conferred were earned by women, while 60.2 percent of Master's degrees conferred were earned by women. The Doctoral level continues to be the only level where women do not comprise the majority of degree recipients. In 2005-06, 56.8 percent of Doctoral degrees were earned by men and 43.2 percent were earned by women. At the Professional level, 57.6 percent of degrees conferred were earned by women. This is a 3.6 percentage point increase over the proportion of Professional degrees conferred to women in 2004-05.

Table 6
University of Wisconsin System
Trends in Degrees Conferred by Gender and Degree Level
2001-02 to 2005-06

		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Associate	Women	713	61.3%	764	61.9%	882	59.3%	730	58.1%	736	57.9%
	Men	451	38.7%	471	38.1%	605	40.7%	527	41.9%	536	42.1%
	Total	1,164		1,235		1,487		1,257		1,272	
Bachelor's	Women	12,081	56.7%	12,260	57.2%	13,462	57.5%	13,102	57.6%	12,957	57.0%
	Men	9,223	43.3%	9,166	42.8%	9,939	42.5%	9,640	42.4%	9,761	43.0%
	Total	21,304		21,426		23,401		22,742		22,718	
Master's	Women	3,057	60.1%	2,988	58.0%	3,504	59.9%	3,237	59.5%	3,152	60.2%
	Men	2,026	39.9%	2,160	42.0%	2,341	40.1%	2,202	40.5%	2,086	39.8%
	Total	5,083		5,148		5,845		5,439		5,238	
Doctoral	Women	317	43.1%	296	40.8%	285	40.5%	327	43.3%	322	43.2%
	Men	419	56.9%	430	59.2%	418	59.5%	429	56.7%	424	56.8%
	Total	736		726		703		756		746	
Professional	Women	326	53.7%	354	57.3%	317	54.2%	350	54.0%	353	57.6%
	Men	281	46.3%	264	42.7%	268	45.8%	298	46.0%	260	42.4%
	Total	607		618		585		648		613	
Total	Women	16,494	57.1%	16,662	57.2%	18,450	57.6%	17,746	57.5%	17,520	57.3%
	Men	12,400	42.9%	12,491	42.8%	13,571	42.4%	13,096	42.5%	13,067	42.7%
	Total	28,894		29,153		32,021		30,842		30,587	

DEGREES CONFERRED BY RACE/ETHNICITY

Students of color earned 7.3 percent of all degrees conferred in 2005-06 (Table 7). White students (including students whose race/ethnicity is unknown) earned 88.4 percent of all degrees conferred during the same time period. The remaining 4.2 percent of degrees conferred were earned by international students. Compared to 2001-02, the number of degrees conferred to students of color in 2005-06 increased by 324 and the proportion of degrees awarded to minority students increased from 6.6 percent to 7.3 percent. The proportion of degrees at each degree level earned by students of color in 2005-06 ranged from 6.0 percent at the Associate level to 14.8 percent at the Professional level. The proportion of degrees at each level earned by international students ranged from 1.0 percent at the Associate level to 34.0 percent at the Doctoral level.

Table 7
University of Wisconsin System
Trends in Degrees Conferred by Race and Degree Level
2001-02 to 2005-06

		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Associate	African American	15	1.3%	9	0.7%	15	1.0%	11	0.9%	9	0.7%
	Hispanic/Latino	17	1.5%	9	0.7%	31	2.1%	15	1.2%	24	1.9%
	American Indian	3	0.3%	6	0.5%	6	0.4%	7	0.6%	14	1.1%
	Asian American	13	1.1%	25	2.0%	43	2.9%	34	2.7%	29	2.3%
	Sub-total: Students of Color	48	4.1%	49	4.0%	95	6.4%	67	5.3%	76	6.0%
	International	8	0.7%	12	1.0%	11	0.7%	9	0.7%	13	1.0%
	White/Unknown	1,108	95.2%	1,174	95.1%	1,381	92.9%	1,181	94.0%	1,183	93.0%
	Total	1,164		1,235		1,487		1,257		1,272	
Bachelor's	African American	386	1.8%	404	1.9%	476	2.0%	430	1.9%	496	2.2%
	Hispanic/Latino	310	1.5%	332	1.5%	418	1.8%	415	1.8%	384	1.7%
	American Indian	104	0.5%	120	0.6%	134	0.6%	100	0.4%	131	0.6%
	Asian American	490	2.3%	507	2.4%	576	2.5%	598	2.6%	630	2.8%
	Sub-total: Students of Color	1,290	6.1%	1,363	6.4%	1,604	6.9%	1,543	6.8%	1,641	7.2%
	International	474	2.2%	445	2.1%	468	2.0%	455	2.0%	390	1.7%
	White/Unknown	19,540	91.7%	19,618	91.6%	21,329	91.1%	20,744	91.2%	20,687	91.1%
	Total	21,304		21,426		23,401		22,742		22,718	
Master's	African American	159	3.1%	142	2.8%	175	3.0%	152	2.8%	130	2.5%
	Hispanic/Latino	109	2.1%	90	1.7%	125	2.1%	110	2.0%	103	2.0%
	American Indian	38	0.7%	22	0.4%	40	0.7%	37	0.7%	22	0.4%
	Asian American	112	2.2%	112	2.2%	127	2.2%	129	2.4%	121	2.3%
	Sub-total: Students of Color	418	8.2%	366	7.1%	467	8.0%	428	7.9%	376	7.2%
	International	539	10.6%	690	13.4%	731	12.5%	655	12.0%	629	12.0%
	White/Unknown	4,126	81.2%	4,092	79.5%	4,647	79.5%	4,356	80.1%	4,233	80.8%
	Total	5,083		5,148		5,845		5,439		5,238	
Doctoral	African American	16	2.2%	24	3.3%	12	1.7%	12	1.6%	17	2.3%
	Hispanic/Latino	25	3.4%	11	1.5%	19	2.7%	19	2.5%	16	2.1%
	American Indian	1	0.1%	5	0.7%	2	0.3%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%
	Asian American	21	2.9%	21	2.9%	21	3.0%	24	3.2%	23	3.1%
	Sub-total: Students of Color	63	8.6%	61	8.4%	54	7.7%	55	7.3%	57	7.6%
	International	237	32.2%	236	32.5%	212	30.2%	251	33.2%	247	33.1%
	White/Unknown	436	59.2%	429	59.1%	437	62.2%	450	59.5%	442	59.2%
	Total	736		726		703		756		746	
Professional	African American	28	4.6%	19	3.1%	15	2.6%	27	4.2%	27	4.4%
	Hispanic/Latino	27	4.4%	16	2.6%	22	3.8%	35	5.4%	27	4.4%
	American Indian	10	1.6%	6	1.0%	11	1.9%	8	1.2%	5	0.8%
	Asian American	33	5.4%	43	7.0%	40	6.8%	33	5.1%	32	5.2%
	Sub-total: Students of Color	98	16.1%	84	13.6%	88	15.0%	103	15.9%	91	14.8%
	International	14	2.3%	15	2.4%	15	2.6%	13	2.0%	18	2.9%
	White/Unknown	495	81.5%	519	84.0%	482	82.4%	532	82.1%	504	82.2%
	Total	607		618		585		648		613	
Total	African American	604	2.1%	598	2.1%	693	2.2%	632	2.0%	679	2.2%
	Hispanic/Latino	488	1.7%	458	1.6%	615	1.9%	594	1.9%	554	1.8%
	American Indian	156	0.5%	159	0.5%	193	0.6%	152	0.5%	173	0.6%
	Asian American	669	2.3%	708	2.4%	807	2.5%	818	2.7%	835	2.7%
	Sub-total: Students of Color	1,917	6.6%	1,923	6.6%	2,308	7.2%	2,196	7.1%	2,241	7.3%
	International	1,272	4.4%	1,398	4.8%	1,437	4.5%	1,383	4.5%	1,297	4.2%
	White/Unknown	25,705	89.0%	25,832	88.6%	28,276	88.3%	27,263	88.4%	27,049	88.4%
	Total	28,894		29,153		32,021		30,842		30,587	

*International students are students who are not U.S. citizens, permanent residents, or refugees.