

The Condition of Education 2009

Indicator 11 *Graduate and First-Professional Enrollment*

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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Graduate and First-Professional Enrollment

Enrollment in both graduate and first-professional programs increased between 2000 and 2007. For both program types, increases in enrollment are projected to continue through 2018, with enrollment increasing at a faster rate for females than for males.

In 1976, some 1.3 million students were enrolled in graduate programs: 715,000 males and 619,000 females (see table A-11-1). Graduate enrollment fluctuated between the mid-1970s and mid-1980s but increased between 1985 and 2007 to 2.3 million. For females, enrollment increased between the mid-1970s and 2007 to nearly 1.4 million, while for males, enrollment decreased between the mid- and late 1970s and fluctuated in the early 1980s, before increasing through 2007 to 910,000.

An additional 244,000 students were enrolled in first-professional programs in 1976: 190,000 males and 54,000 females. First-professional enrollment fluctuated during the 1980s before increasing between 1990 and 2007 to 351,000. For males, enrollment decreased between the mid-1970s and the late 1980s and fluctuated through 2000; between 2001 and 2007, male enrollment increased to 178,000, the highest point since the mid-1990s. Enrollment for females increased between the mid-1970s and 2007 to 173,000.

Projections indicate that enrollment increases in graduate and first-professional programs will persist, with graduate enrollment exceeding 2.7 million and first-professional enrollment reaching 422,000 in 2018. Increases for males and females are also expected at both levels through 2018; however, female enrollment is expected to increase faster than male enrollment.

From 2000 to 2007, graduate and first-professional enrollment increased for each racial/ethnic group (see table A-11-2). Whites held the greatest share of enrollment at both levels during this period but experienced the least growth. White graduate enrollment increased by 16 percent (from 1.3 to 1.5 million students) from 2000 to 2007, and first-professional enrollment increased by 11 percent (220,000 to 245,000). In comparison, total graduate enrollment for students in all other racial/ethnic groups (Blacks, Hispanics, Asians/Pacific Islanders, and American Indians/Alaska Natives) increased by 53 percent (359,000 to 548,000), and first-professional enrollment increased by 25 percent (78,000 to 97,000) during this

period. Among these graduate students, growth was greatest for Blacks (67 percent) and least for Asians/Pacific Islanders (33 percent). At the first-professional level, among these students, Asians/Pacific Islanders saw the greatest growth (30 percent) from 2000 to 2007, and American Indians/Alaska Natives saw the least growth (13 percent). In 2007, students in all other racial/ethnic groups represented 24 percent of graduate enrollment, up from 19 percent in 2000, and 28 percent of first-professional enrollment, up from 25 percent in 2000.

Differences in enrollment patterns for males and females were also found by race/ethnicity. At the graduate level, male enrollment increased in each racial/ethnic group from 2000 to 2007. For White males, graduate enrollment increased by 11 percent (from 503,000 to 560,000) during this period. In comparison, graduate enrollment for males in all other racial/ethnic groups increased by 38 percent (from 135,000 to 186,000). Among these males at the graduate level, Blacks experienced the greatest growth (50 percent) from 2000 to 2007, while Asians/Pacific Islanders experienced the least growth (25 percent). For females at the graduate level, enrollment increases also occurred for each racial/ethnic group from 2000 to 2007, with the least growth occurring for White females (20 percent), from 756,000 to 905,000. Among females in all other racial/ethnic groups, Blacks experienced the greatest growth in graduate enrollment (74 percent) from 2000 to 2007, while Asians/Pacific Islanders experienced the least growth (41 percent). In 2007, at the graduate level, males in all other racial/ethnic groups made up 20 percent of male enrollment, up from 17 percent in 2000, and their female counterparts made up 26 percent of female enrollment, up from 21 percent in 2000. At the first-professional level, from 2000 to 2007, enrollment trends for males and females by race/ethnicity were generally similar to those at the graduate level.



For more information: *Tables A-11-1 and A-11-2; Indicators 4 and 10*

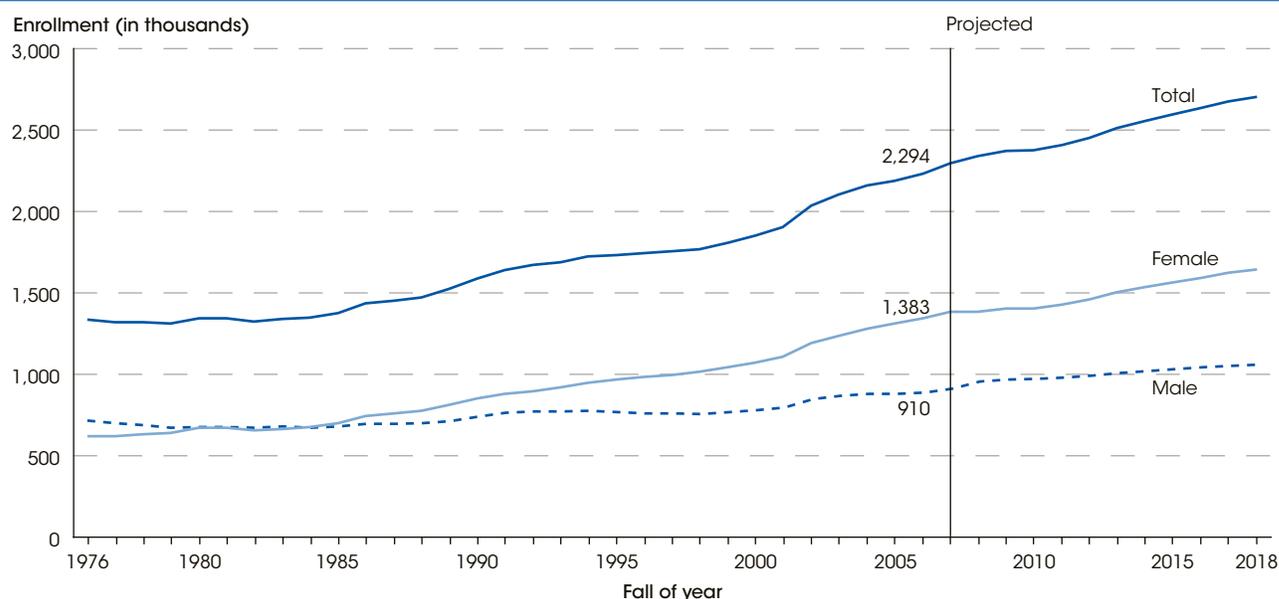
Glossary: *First-professional degree, Nonresident alien*
NCES 2009-020

Technical Notes

The most recent year of actual data is 2007, and 2018 is the last year for which projected data are available. For more information on projections, see NCES 2009-062. Because of underreporting and nonreporting of racial/ethnic data, some estimates are slightly lower than corresponding data in other published tables.

Race categories exclude persons of Hispanic ethnicity. Nonresident aliens are shown separately since information about their race/ethnicity is not available. For more information on race/ethnicity, see *supplemental note 1*. For more information on the Classification of Postsecondary Education Institutions, see *supplemental note 8*.

Figure 11-1. Actual and projected graduate enrollment in degree-granting institutions, by sex: 1976–2018



NOTE: The most recent year of actual data is 2007, and 2018 is the last year for which projected data are available. 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 (NCES). (2009). *Digest of Education Statistics, 2008* (NCES 2009-020), tables 206 and 207, and (2009). U.S. Department of Education, NCES, Higher Education General Information Survey (HEGIS), "Fall Enrollment in Colleges and Universities" surveys, 1976–1985, and Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), "Fall Enrollment Survey" (IPEDS-EF:86–99), and Spring 2001 through Spring 2008; and Enrollment in Degree-Granting Institutions Model, 1980–2007.

Table 11-1. Graduate enrollment in degree-granting institutions and percent change in enrollment, by sex and race/ethnicity: 2000 and 2007

Characteristics	[Enrollment in thousands]								
	Total			Males			Females		
	2000	2007	Percent change	2000	2007	Percent change	2000	2007	Percent change
Total	1,850	2,294	24	780	910	17	1,071	1,383	29
Race/ethnicity ¹									
White	1,259	1,465	16	503	560	11	756	905	20
Other racial/ethnic groups	359	548	53	135	186	38	224	362	61
Black	158	263	67	49	73	50	109	190	74
Hispanic	95	141	48	37	50	37	59	91	54
Asian/Pacific Islander	96	128	33	46	57	25	50	71	41
American Indian/Alaska Native	10	16	55	4	5	38	7	11	65
Nonresident alien	232	280	21	142	164	16	90	116	28

¹ Because of underreporting and nonreporting of racial/ethnic data, some figures are slightly lower than corresponding data in other published tables. Race categories exclude persons of Hispanic ethnicity. Nonresident aliens are shown separately since information about their race/ethnicity is not available. For more information on race/ethnicity, see *supplemental note 1*. For more information on the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), see *supplemental note 3*.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). (2009). *Digest of Education Statistics, 2008* (NCES 2009-020), table 216, data from U.S. Department of Education, NCES, Higher Education General Information Survey (HEGIS), "Fall Enrollment in Colleges and Universities" survey, 1976, and Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), "Fall Enrollment Survey," Spring 2008.

Graduate and First-Professional Enrollment

Table A-11-1. Total graduate and first-professional enrollment in degree-granting institutions, with projections, by sex and attendance status: 1976–2018

[In thousands]

Fall of year	Total	Graduate					First-professional				
		Total	Male	Female	Full-time	Part-time	Total	Male	Female	Full-time	Part-time
1976	1,578	1,333	715	619	464	870	244	190	54	220	24
1977	1,569	1,318	700	617	473	845	251	191	60	226	25
1978	1,576	1,319	688	631	472	846	257	192	65	233	24
1979	1,572	1,309	669	639	476	833	263	193	70	239	24
1980	1,622	1,344	675	669	485	859	278	199	78	251	26
1981	1,617	1,343	674	669	484	859	275	193	82	248	26
1982	1,601	1,322	670	653	485	838	278	191	87	252	26
1983	1,619	1,340	677	663	497	843	279	188	90	250	29
1984	1,624	1,345	672	673	501	844	279	185	94	250	29
1985	1,650	1,376	677	700	509	867	274	180	94	247	28
1986	1,706	1,435	693	742	522	913	270	174	97	246	25
1987	1,720	1,452	693	759	527	925	268	170	98	242	27
1988	1,739	1,472	697	774	553	919	267	167	100	241	26
1989	1,796	1,522	710	811	572	949	274	169	106	248	27
1990	1,860	1,586	737	849	599	987	273	167	107	246	28
1991	1,920	1,639	761	878	642	997	281	170	111	252	29
1992	1,950	1,669	772	896	666	1,003	281	169	112	252	29
1993	1,981	1,688	771	917	688	1,000	292	173	120	260	33
1994	2,016	1,721	776	946	706	1,016	295	174	121	263	31
1995	2,030	1,732	768	965	717	1,015	298	174	124	266	31
1996	2,041	1,742	759	983	737	1,005	298	173	126	267	31
1997	2,052	1,753	758	996	752	1,001	298	170	129	267	31
1998	2,070	1,768	754	1,013	754	1,014	302	169	134	271	31
1999	2,110	1,807	766	1,041	781	1,026	303	165	138	271	33
2000	2,157	1,850	780	1,071	813	1,037	307	164	143	274	33
2001	2,212	1,904	796	1,108	843	1,061	309	161	148	277	32
2002	2,355	2,036	847	1,189	926	1,109	319	163	156	286	33
2003	2,431	2,102	867	1,235	985	1,117	329	166	163	296	33
2004	2,491	2,157	879	1,278	1,024	1,133	335	168	166	302	33
2005	2,524	2,186	877	1,309	1,047	1,139	337	170	167	303	34
2006	2,575	2,231	887	1,344	1,077	1,154	343	174	170	309	34
2007	2,644	2,294	910	1,383	1,112	1,181	351	178	173	317	34
Projected¹											
2008	2,694	2,339	956	1,382	1,119	1,220	355	184	171	319	36
2009	2,733	2,369	968	1,401	1,152	1,217	364	188	176	328	36
2010	2,741	2,376	972	1,404	1,158	1,218	366	189	177	330	36
2011	2,776	2,405	980	1,425	1,176	1,229	371	190	181	335	36
2012	2,830	2,450	992	1,458	1,205	1,245	379	193	186	343	36
2013	2,899	2,509	1,006	1,502	1,244	1,265	390	197	194	353	37
2014	2,953	2,555	1,020	1,534	1,268	1,286	398	201	197	360	37
2015	3,001	2,596	1,031	1,564	1,291	1,304	405	203	201	367	38
2016	3,044	2,633	1,041	1,592	1,312	1,321	411	206	205	373	38
2017	3,091	2,674	1,051	1,622	1,335	1,338	418	208	209	379	39
2018	3,125	2,703	1,060	1,643	1,349	1,354	422	210	212	383	39

¹ Projections based on reported data through 2007 and middle alternative assumptions concerning the economy. The most recent year of actual data is 2007, and 2018 is the last year for which projected data are available. For more information on projections, see NCES 2009-062.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding. For more information on the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), see *supplemental note 3*. For more information on the Classification of Postsecondary Education Institutions, see *supplemental note 8*. See the glossary for definitions of first-professional degree, full-time enrollment, and part-time enrollment.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). (2009). *Digest of Education Statistics, 2008* (NCES 2009-020), tables 206 and 207, and (2009). U.S. Department of Education, NCES, Higher Education General Information Survey (HEGIS), "Fall Enrollment in Colleges and Universities" surveys, 1976–1985, and Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), "Fall Enrollment Survey" (IPEDS-EF:86–99), and Spring 2001 through Spring 2008; and Enrollment in Degree-Granting Institutions Model, 1980–2007.

Graduate and First-Professional Enrollment

Table A-11-2. Total graduate and first-professional enrollment of students in degree-granting institutions, by race/ethnicity and sex: Selected years, 1976–2007

Level of student, race/ethnicity, and sex	Enrollment (in thousands)					Percentage distribution of students				
	1976	1980	1990	2000	2007	1976	1980	1990	2000	2007
Graduate total	1,323	1,341	1,586	1,850	2,294	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Race/ethnicity										
White	1,116	1,105	1,228	1,259	1,465	84.4	82.4	77.4	68.0	63.9
Other racial/ethnic groups	134	144	190	359	548	10.2	10.7	12.0	19.4	23.9
Black	78	75	84	158	263	5.9	5.6	5.3	8.5	11.5
Hispanic	26	32	47	95	141	2.0	2.4	3.0	5.2	6.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	25	32	53	96	128	1.9	2.4	3.4	5.2	5.6
American Indian/Alaska Native	5	5	6	10	16	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.7
Nonresident alien	72	92	167	232	280	5.5	6.9	10.5	12.6	12.2
Sex and race/ethnicity										
Male	708	672	737	780	910	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	589	539	539	503	560	83.2	80.1	73.1	64.5	61.5
Other racial/ethnic groups	64	65	82	135	186	9.0	9.7	11.1	17.3	20.5
Black	32	28	29	49	73	4.5	4.2	4.0	6.3	8.1
Hispanic	15	16	21	37	50	2.1	2.3	2.8	4.7	5.5
Asian/Pacific Islander	14	19	30	46	57	2.0	2.8	4.0	5.9	6.3
American Indian/Alaska Native	3	2	3	4	5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.6
Nonresident alien	55	69	116	142	164	7.8	10.2	15.8	18.2	18.1
Female	615	669	849	1,071	1,383	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	527	566	690	756	905	85.7	84.7	81.2	70.6	65.4
Other racial/ethnic groups	71	79	108	224	362	11.5	11.8	12.8	21.0	26.2
Black	47	47	55	109	190	7.6	7.0	6.4	10.2	13.7
Hispanic	12	16	27	59	91	1.9	2.4	3.1	5.5	6.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	10	13	24	50	71	1.6	1.9	2.8	4.7	5.1
American Indian/Alaska Native	2	3	4	7	11	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.8
Nonresident alien	17	24	51	90	116	2.8	3.5	6.0	8.4	8.4

See notes at end of table.

Table A-11-2. Total graduate and first-professional enrollment of students in degree-granting institutions, by race/ethnicity and sex: Selected years, 1976–2007—Continued

Level of student, race/ethnicity, and sex	Enrollment (in thousands)					Percentage distribution of students				
	1976	1980	1990	2000	2007	1976	1980	1990	2000	2007
First-professional total	244	277	273	307	351	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Race/ethnicity										
White	220	248	221	220	245	90.1	89.5	81.0	71.8	69.8
Other racial/ethnic groups	21	26	47	78	97	8.6	9.5	17.0	25.5	27.7
Black	11	13	16	24	27	4.6	4.6	5.8	7.7	7.8
Hispanic	5	7	11	15	19	1.9	2.4	3.9	5.0	5.5
Asian/Pacific Islander	4	6	19	37	48	1.7	2.2	6.8	12.0	13.7
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	1	1	2	3	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.7
Nonresident alien	3	3	5	8	9	1.3	1.0	2.0	2.7	2.5
Sex and race/ethnicity										
Male	190	198	167	164	178	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	172	180	138	122	131	90.9	90.5	82.6	74.4	73.3
Other racial/ethnic groups	15	17	25	37	43	7.7	8.4	15.1	22.4	24.1
Black	7	7	7	9	11	3.8	3.7	4.4	5.8	5.9
Hispanic	3	5	6	8	9	1.8	2.3	3.8	4.9	5.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	4	11	18	22	1.5	2.1	6.5	11.1	12.2
American Indian/Alaska Native	1	1	1	1	1	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.7
Nonresident alien	3	2	4	5	5	1.3	1.1	2.3	3.1	2.6
Female	54	78	107	143	173	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	48	68	84	98	114	87.3	86.9	78.5	68.7	66.1
Other racial/ethnic groups	6	10	21	41	54	11.7	12.3	20.0	28.9	31.5
Black	4	5	9	14	17	7.2	7.0	8.0	9.8	9.7
Hispanic	1	2	4	7	10	1.9	2.4	4.0	5.2	5.8
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	2	8	19	26	2.1	2.6	7.4	13.1	15.3
American Indian/Alaska Native	#	#	1	1	1	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.8
Nonresident alien	1	1	2	3	4	1.0	0.8	1.5	2.3	2.4

Rounds to zero.

NOTE: Because of underreporting and nonreporting of racial/ethnic data, some estimates are slightly lower than corresponding data in other published tables. Race categories exclude persons of Hispanic ethnicity. Nonresident aliens are shown separately since information about their race/ethnicity is not available. For more information on race/ethnicity, see *supplemental note 1*. For more information on the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), see *supplemental note 3*. For more information on the Classification of Postsecondary Education Institutions, see *supplemental note 8*. See the glossary for definitions of nonresident alien and first-professional degree. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). (2009). *Digest of Education Statistics, 2008* (NCES 2009-020), table 216, data from U.S. Department of Education, NCES, Higher Education General Information Survey (HEGIS), "Fall Enrollment in Colleges and Universities" surveys, 1976 and 1980, and Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), "Fall Enrollment Survey" (IPEDS-EF:90), and Spring 2001 through Spring 2008.