

Degrees Conferred by Public and Private Institutions

From academic year 2000–01 to 2010–11, the number of postsecondary degrees conferred by private for-profit institutions increased by a larger percentage than the number conferred by public institutions and private nonprofit institutions; this was true for all levels of degrees.

From academic year 2000–01 to 2010–11, the number of postsecondary degrees conferred by public, private for-profit, and private nonprofit institutions increased for each level of degree. For all Title IV institutions, the total number of certificates awarded increased by 86 percent, associate’s degrees increased by 63 percent, bachelor’s degrees increased by 38 percent, master’s degrees increased by 54 percent, and doctor’s degrees increased by 37 percent. For all postsecondary degree levels, the percentage increases from 2000–01 to 2010–11 were smaller for public and private nonprofit institutions than for private for-profit institutions.

From academic year 2000–01 to 2010–11, the number of certificates awarded by public institutions increased by 68 percent (from 310,000 to 520,000 certificates), by 24 percent for private nonprofit institutions (from 29,300 to 36,500 certificates), and by 122 percent for private for-profit institutions (from 214,000 to 473,000 certificates). As a result of these changes, the share of all certificates awarded by private for-profit institutions increased from 39 percent in academic year 2000–01 to 46 percent in 2010–11 while the share conferred by public and private nonprofit institutions decreased during this period (from 56 to 50 percent and from 5 to 4 percent, respectively).

Table 1. Number of degrees conferred by Title IV institutions and percent change, by control of institution and level of degree: Academic years 2000–01 and 2010–11

Level of degree and academic year	Total	Public	Private		
			Total	Nonprofit	For-profit
Certificate					
2000–01	552,503	309,624	242,879	29,336	213,543
2010–11	1,029,557	519,670	509,887	36,513	473,374
Percent change	86.3	67.8	109.9	24.5	121.7
Associate’s					
2000–01	578,865	456,487	122,378	45,711	76,667
2010–11	942,327	696,788	245,539	51,969	193,570
Percent change	62.8	52.6	100.6	13.7	152.5
Bachelor’s					
2000–01	1,244,171	812,438	431,733	408,701	23,032
2010–11	1,715,913	1,088,297	627,616	513,106	114,510
Percent change	37.9	34.0	45.4	25.5	397.2
Master’s					
2000–01	473,502	246,054	227,448	215,815	11,633
2010–11	730,635	339,250	391,385	313,200	78,185
Percent change	54.3	37.9	72.1	45.1	572.1
Doctor’s¹					
2000–01	119,585	60,820	58,765	57,722	1,043
2010–11	163,765	81,938	81,827	76,608	5,219
Percent change	36.9	34.7	39.2	32.7	400.4

¹ Includes Ph.D., Ed.D., and comparable degrees at the doctoral level. Includes most degrees formerly classified as first-professional, such as M.D., D.D.S., and law degrees.

NOTE: Includes only postsecondary institutions that participated in Title IV federal financial aid programs.

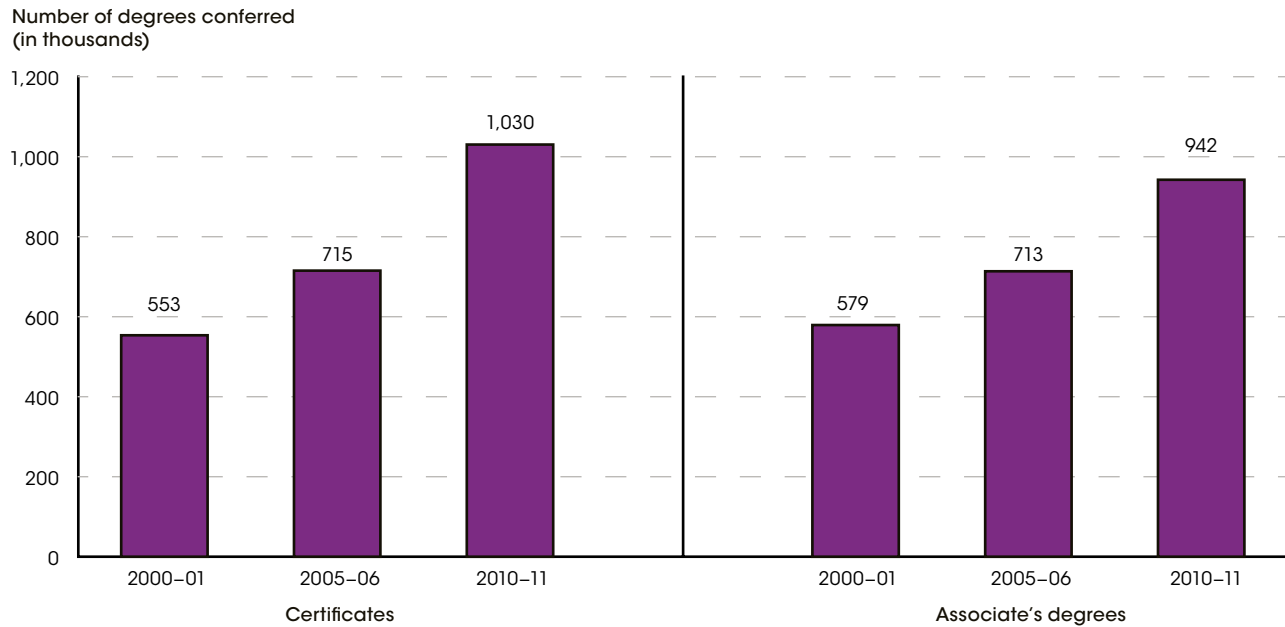
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), Fall 2001 and Fall 2011, Completions component. See *Digest of Education Statistics 2002*, table 170 and *Digest of Education Statistics 2012*, tables 318 and 323.

The number of associate’s degrees awarded from academic year 2000–01 to 2010–11 increased by 53 percent for public institutions (from 456,000 to 697,000 degrees), by 14 percent for private nonprofit institutions (from 45,700 to 52,000 degrees), and by 152 percent for private for-profit institutions (from 76,700 to 194,000

degrees). Due to these changes, the share of all associate’s degrees conferred by private for-profit institutions increased from 13 percent in 2000–01 to 21 percent in 2010–11, while the share conferred by public and private nonprofit institutions decreased during this period (from 79 to 74 percent and from 8 to 6 percent, respectively).

For more information, see the Reader’s Guide and the Guide to Sources.

Figure 1. Number of certificates and associate's degrees conferred by Title IV institutions: Academic years 2000-01, 2005-06, and 2010-11



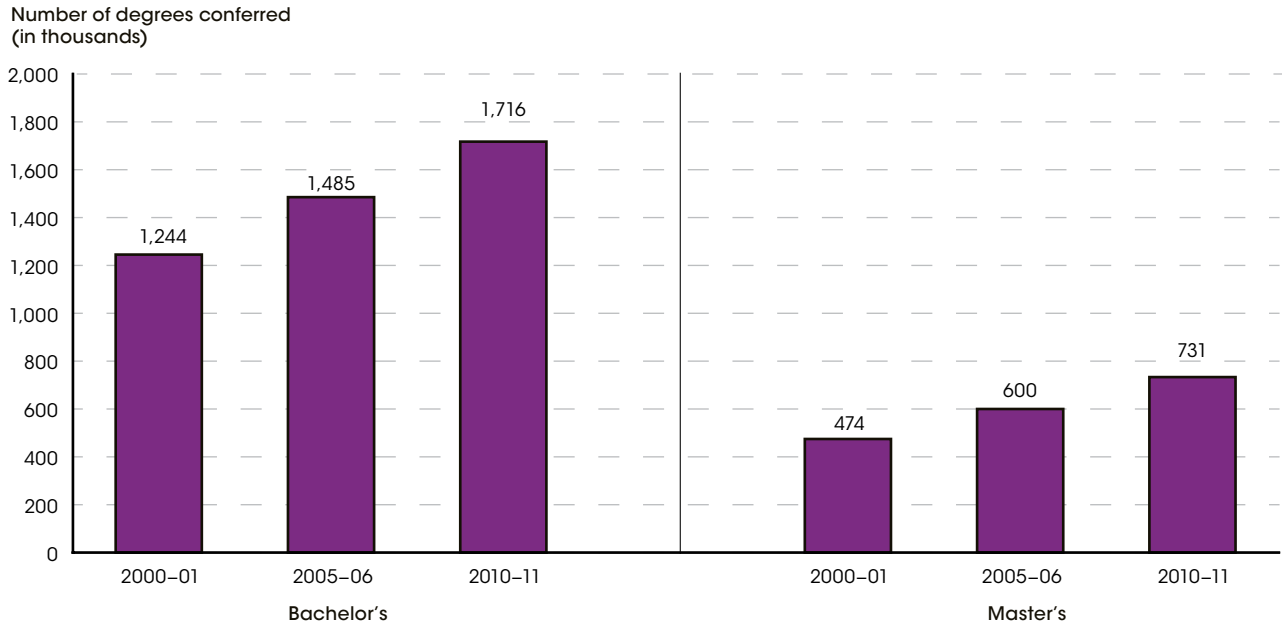
NOTE: Includes only postsecondary institutions that participated in Title IV federal financial aid programs.
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), Fall 2001, Fall 2006, and Fall 2011, Completions component. See *Digest of Education Statistics 2012*, tables 318 and 323.

From academic year 2000–01 to 2010–11, the number of bachelor’s degrees awarded by public institutions increased by 34 percent (from 812,000 to 1.1 million degrees), the number awarded by private nonprofit institutions increased by 26 percent (from 409,000 to 513,000 degrees), and the number awarded by private for-profit institutions increased by 397 percent (from 23,000 to 115,000 degrees). Despite the gain made by private for-profit institutions, they awarded 7 percent of all bachelor’s degrees conferred in 2010–11, while public institutions awarded 63 percent and private nonprofit institutions awarded 30 percent.

The number of master’s degrees awarded by public institutions increased 38 percent (from 246,000 to

339,000 degrees) from academic year 2000–01 to 2010–11, yet the percentage of all master’s degrees conferred by these institutions declined from 52 to 46 percent. The number of master’s degrees conferred by private nonprofit institutions increased 45 percent (from 216,000 to 313,000 degrees) from 2000–01 to 2010–11, resulting in a decrease in their share of all master’s degrees (from 46 to 43 percent). In contrast, the number of master’s degrees conferred by private for-profit institutions increased by 572 percent (from 11,600 to 78,200 degrees) from 2000–01 to 2010–11, resulting in an increase in their share of total master’s degrees conferred. The percentage of all master’s degrees conferred by private for-profit colleges increased from 2 percent to 11 percent between 2000–01 and 2010–11.

Figure 2. Number of bachelor's and master's degrees conferred by Title IV institutions, by level of degree: Academic years 2000–01, 2005–06, and 2010–11



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), Fall 2001, Fall 2006, and Fall 2011, Completions component. See *Digest of Education Statistics 2012*, table 318.

From academic year 2000–01 to 2010–11, the number of doctor's degrees conferred increased by 35 percent at public institutions (from 60,800 to 81,900 degrees), by 33 percent at private nonprofit institutions (from 57,700 to 76,600 degrees), and by 400 percent at private for-profit

institutions (from 1,000 to 5,200 degrees). In 2010–11, public institutions awarded 50 percent of all doctor's degrees, private nonprofit institutions awarded 47 percent, and private for-profit institutions awarded 3 percent.

Reference tables: *Digest of Education Statistics 2012*, tables 219, 318, 323; and *Digest of Education Statistics 2002*, table 170

Glossary: Associate's degree, Bachelor's degree, Doctor's degree, Master's degree, Private institution, Public institution