



Research Brief

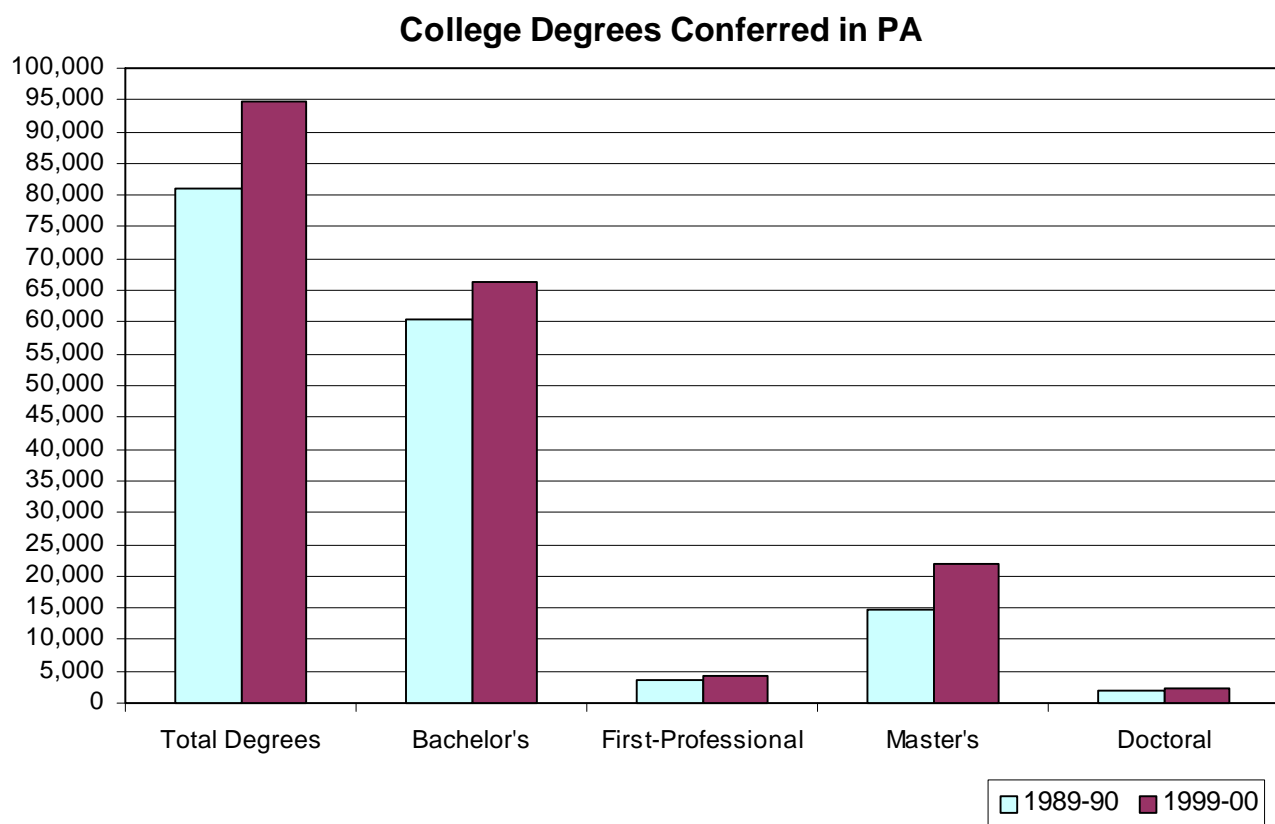
* THE COMMONWEALTH'S OFFICIAL SOURCE OF POPULATION AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS *

June 7, 2001

Number of College Degrees Conferred in Pennsylvania Increased 17.2 Percent Over Ten Years

MIDDLETOWN, Pa - The Pennsylvania State Data Center at Penn State Harrisburg reports that the number of bachelor degrees, first-professional degrees, master's degrees and doctoral degrees conferred at institutions of higher education in Pennsylvania increased 17.2 percent from 1989-90 to 1999-00, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (see Chart 1).

Chart 1



The total degrees conferred increased from 80,914 in 1989-90 to 94,812 in 1999-00. In sheer numbers, bachelor's degrees were the most conferred (66,276), but master's degrees showed the largest increase from 14,843 to 22,024 or 48.4 percent (see Table 1).

Table 1

College Degrees Conferred in Pennsylvania			
	1989-90	1999-00	% Change 89-90 to 99-00
Total Degrees	80,914	94,812	17.2
Bachelor's Degrees	60,527	66,276	9.5
First-Professional Degrees	3,497	4,273	22.2
Master's Degrees	14,843	22,024	48.4
Doctoral Degrees	2,047	2,239	9.4

Women outdistanced men over the last ten years in both the total number of college degrees conferred and the percent increase. The number of bachelor, first-professional, master's and doctoral degrees conferred to women grew from 40,952 in 1989-99 to 52,916 in 1999-00. This represents a 29.2 percent increase. The same categories of degrees for men increased from 39,962 in 1989-99 to 41,896 in 1999-00, a 4.8 percent increase (see Table 2).

Table 2

College Degrees Conferred in Pennsylvania by Gender						
	1989-90 Male	1999-00 Male	% Change 89-90 to 99-00	1989-90 Female	1999-00 Female	% Change 89-90 to 99-00
Total Degrees	39,962	41,896	4.8	40,952	52,916	29.2
Bachelor's	28,774	28,695	-0.3	31,753	37,581	18.4
First-Professional	2,250	2,317	3.0	1,247	1,956	56.9
Master's	7,604	9,666	27.1	7,239	12,358	70.7
Doctoral	1,334	1,218	-8.7	713	1,021	43.2

The Pennsylvania State Data Center is the Commonwealth's official source of population and economic statistics and services. It is based at Penn State Harrisburg's Institute of State and Regional Affairs. The Pennsylvania State Data Center is part of the U.S. Census Bureau's national State Data Center Program.

Editors: For additional data, contact the Data Center's State Capital Office at (717) 772-2710, or for faculty comment on this topic contact Penn State Harrisburg's Public Information Office, (717) 948-6029.

Source of Information: Pennsylvania Department of Education, Division of Data Services

PENNSTATE



Harrisburg

Institute of State and Regional Affairs