

2006

Statistics

on **Social Work Education**
in the United States **A Summary**



Council on Social Work Education
Alexandria, Virginia

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Foreword

The Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) is committed to promoting research and providing timely data on social work education to our programs—deans, directors, faculty, and students for use in research, analysis, and in making programmatic decisions. One way CSWE has continually provided those services to the social work education community is through the Annual Survey of Social Work Programs, which has been conducted each year since CSWE began in 1952. In order to improve the collection, analysis, and reporting on social work education indicators, CSWE began a process in 2005 of intensively reviewing and revising the Annual Survey of Social Work Programs and the corresponding report, *Statistics on Social Work Education in the United States*.

This year, CSWE is proud to announce *Statistics on Social Work Education in the United States: A Summary*, a new publication for 2007 that will be disseminated annually as an accompaniment to the *Statistics on Social Work Education in the United States*. The *Summary*, as well as the 2-page 2006 *Annual Survey of Social Work Programs Research Brief* (also new in 2007), were created based on suggestions and feedback solicited from social work program administrators and faculty. Each provides an overview, the *Summary* providing more information than the *Research Brief*, of social work programs at the baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral levels. The *Research Brief* will be made available to everyone at no cost on the CSWE Web site (<http://www.csw.org>).

[org/CSWE/research/research/AnnualProgramStatistics/](http://www.csw.org/CSWE/research/research/AnnualProgramStatistics/)); the *Summary*, and for the first time, the *Statistics on Social Work Education in the United States*, will also be available online as a members-only benefit (non-members will be charged a nominal fee). CSWE wants to become increasingly responsive to the needs of the social work education community and to provide the necessary data on social work education in a timely, accurate, and interesting manner. We believe that this *Summary* is another step towards that goal.

I want to extend special thanks to the CSWE Office of Social Work Education and Research (OSWER) for conducting the Annual Survey, and particularly to Christine Tracy, who had primary responsibility for compiling and analyzing the data reflected in this *Summary*. I also would like to express my appreciation to the social work program deans, directors, faculty, and staff for their cooperation in completing the Annual Survey of Social Work Programs—your participation provides the social work education community with invaluable data. I hope that you find the data to be useful and informative.



Julia M. Watkins
Executive Director
August 13, 2007

Introduction

For more than 50 years, the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) has been conducting an Annual Survey of Social Work Programs, which collects data on key programmatic indicators including program institutions, administration, faculty, and students in social work education. The survey instrument has changed and grown significantly since 1953, in part, as a reflection of the complexity and changes in social work education as a whole. CSWE is continuing to work to further adapt the instrument to meet the current demands in the field—streamlining data collection, strengthening definitions, and promoting training opportunities. An Ad Hoc Research Task Force composed of social work deans, directors, researchers, and faculty from all program levels, has been convened by CSWE to work with the Institutional Research staff on further review and revision. This revision process is increasingly important as accurate and timely data on social work education programs, faculty, students, and graduates is needed by administration, faculty, students, and social work organizations for use in research, programmatic, and administrative decision making.

Methods In 2006, 509 institutions with 458 accredited baccalaureate programs, 181 accredited master's programs, and 69 doctoral programs (Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education, GADE members) were sent survey invitations electronically. The invitations included a Web site link, username, and password to access the survey instrument. Although CSWE does not accredit

doctoral programs, information is collected on applications, student enrollment, and graduates to assist the social work community in identifying pipeline issues within the profession. Three reminders for completion of the survey were sent in the spring and early summer of 2007 via postal and electronic mail.

The Annual Survey data is used by CSWE, not only for reporting on key indicators in social work education, but also for levying membership dues from accredited programs. All accredited social work programs are asked to report the number of graduates each year to determine the membership fees. In the past, programs that failed to report the graduates were invoiced at the last known rate (sometimes many years dated) or invoiced a minimum rate. In April 2007, the CSWE leadership determined to enforce policy mandating that all programs report the accurate number of graduates. As a result, the response rate for the Graduates section of the survey is significantly higher than previous years. The remarkable increase in the overall response rates for the survey is also reflective of this policy change.

Limitations The primary limitation of the Annual Survey of Social Work Programs is the response rate. There has not been a 100% response rate since 1982. Due to this, information reported here must be interpreted with caution. Response rates are reported for each section in the following *Summary*.

Institutional Data Overview

As mentioned in the Introduction, the Annual Survey of Social Work Programs has not had a 100% response rate since 1982. Since the implementation of the Web-based Annual Survey system in 2001, the overall response rate has stayed at approximately 80% (79.9% in 2002 to 77.1% in 2004) and likely a number of factors compounded this decreased response rate, beyond the Web-based system, such as the length of the instrument. In 2006, however, the response rate increased significantly. This increase is likely due in large part to the membership dues policy change (see Introduction).

Institutional Auspices and Diversity Programs reported institutional auspices reflective of the total accredited social work population, that is:

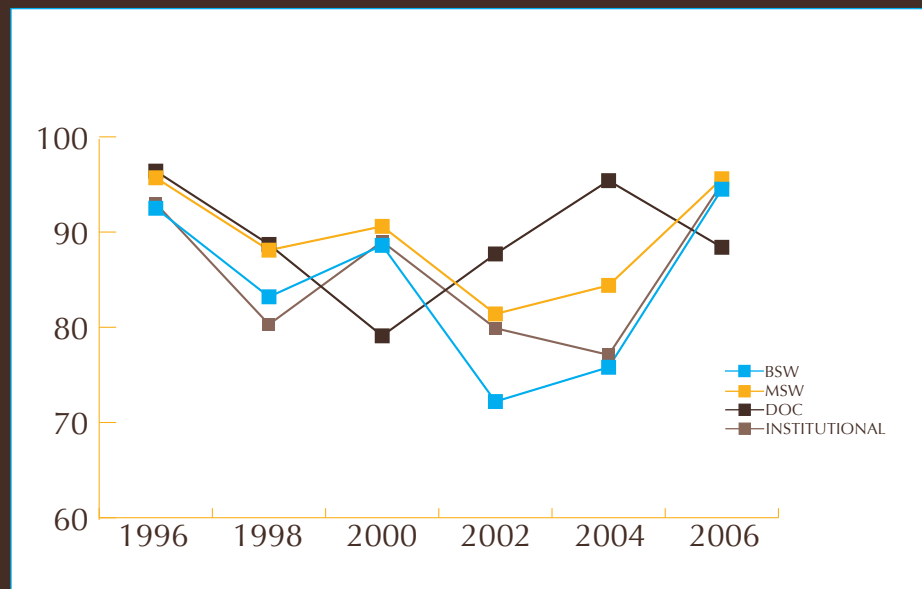
- ✦ More than half (56.2%) of respondents were **public institutions**
- ✦ Approximately one-third (31.6%) were **private, church-related**

Programs were also asked to identify whether the institution identifies with a specific diverse population. In 2006, there were 40 institutions identified as Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), with 38 baccalaureate programs and 12 master's programs. Additionally, 31 institutions identified as Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs), with 28 baccalaureate programs and 15 master's programs. The majority (84%) of respondents identified as "Non-Ethnic, Co-Educational," followed by "Black, Co-Educational Women's" (7.4%).

2006 Annual **Response Rate** by Level

	NUMBER SENT	NUMBER COMPLETED	PERCENT COMPLETED
INSTITUTIONAL	509	484	95.1%
BACCALAUREATE	458	433	94.5%
MASTER'S	181	173	95.6%
DOCTORAL	69	61	88.4%

Program and Institutional **Response Rate** by Level 1996–2006

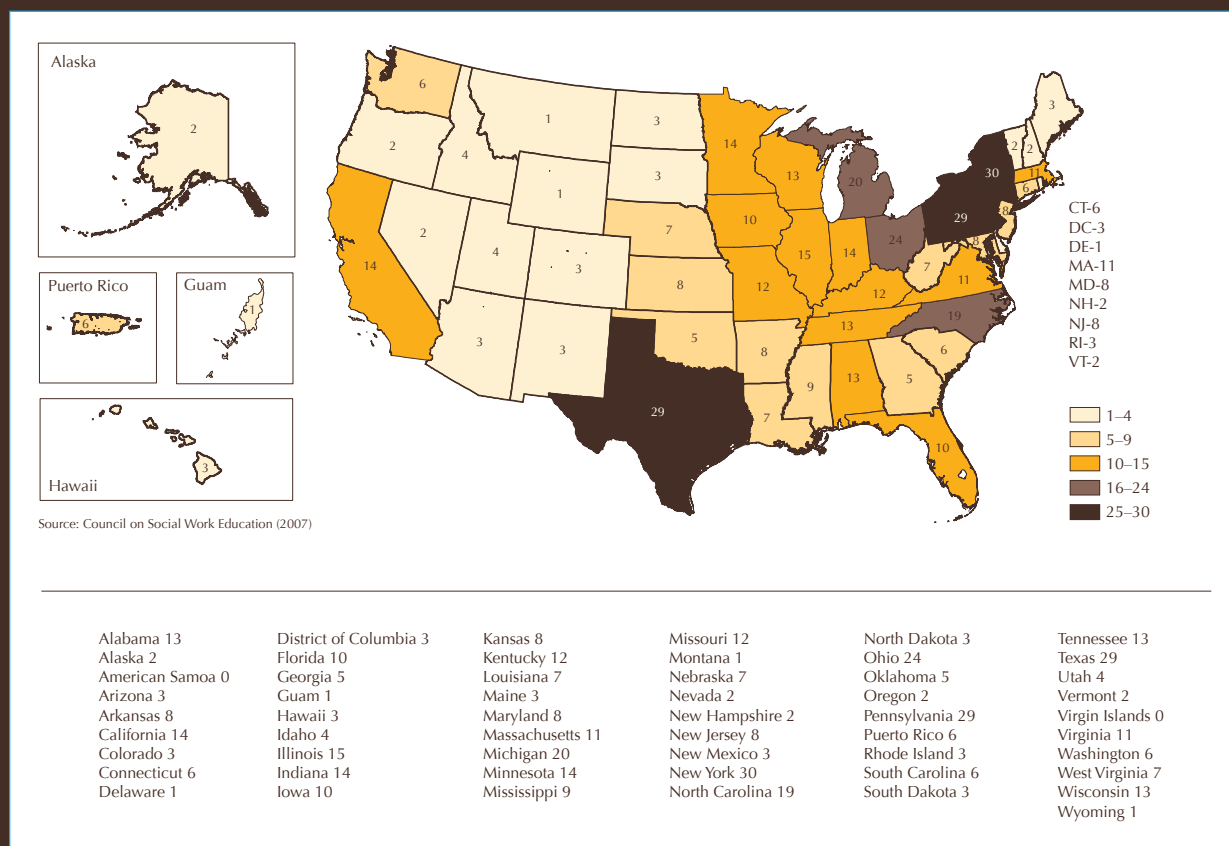


States and Regions Accredited baccalaureate social work programs are present in every state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Guam. Eight new baccalaureate programs were accredited in 2006, representing a 1.7% overall increase in baccalaureate programs from October 2005.

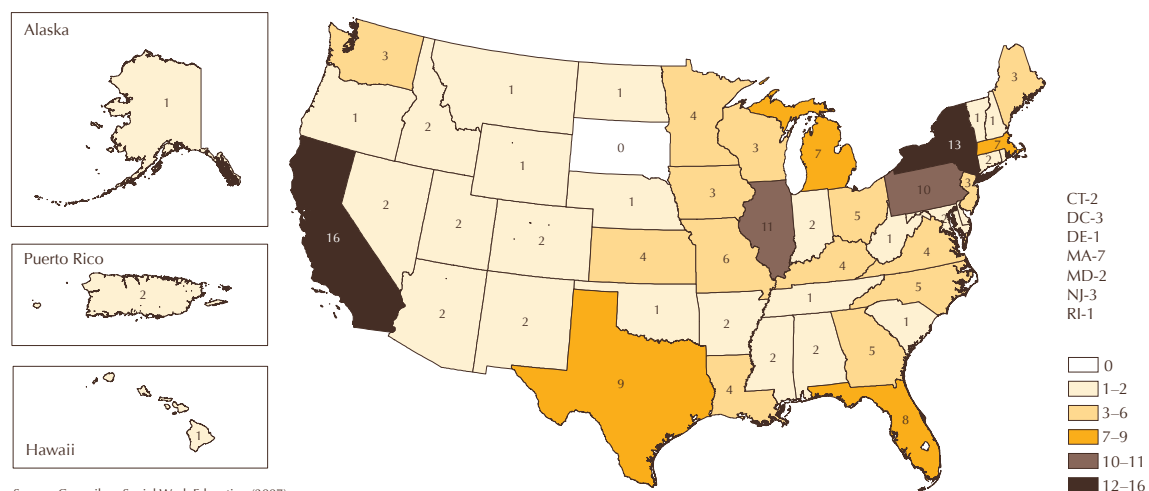
Accredited master's programs are present in the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and every state, except South Dakota. Seven new master's programs were accredited in 2006, a 4% increase in master's programs from October 2005.

At the doctoral level, 17 states lack programs; the largest pocket of doctoral programs is in New York (9).

Number of Accredited **Baccalaureate** Programs by State as of October, 2006

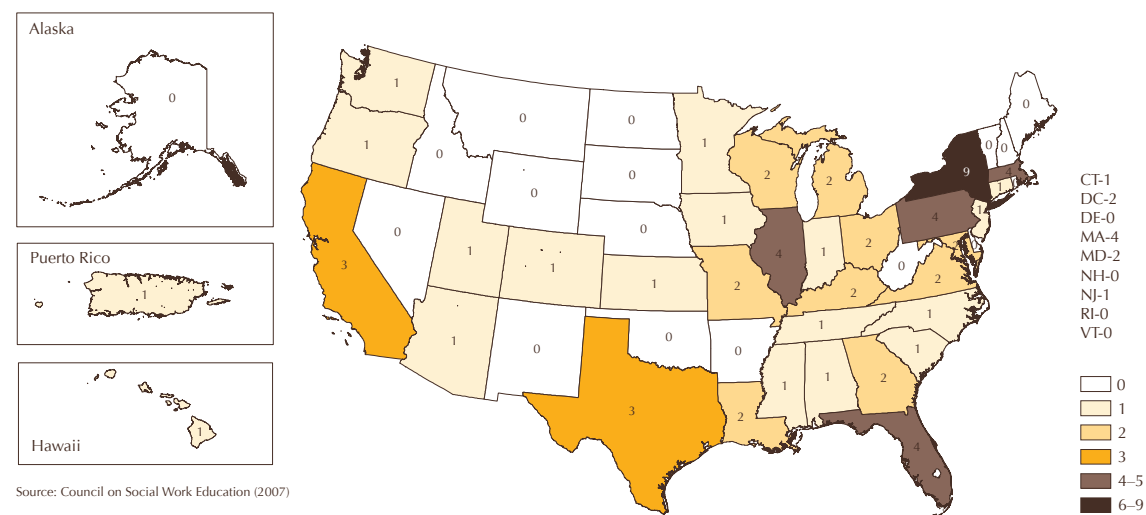


Number of Accredited **Master's** Programs by State as of October, 2006



Alabama 2	District of Columbia 3	Kansas 4	Missouri 6	North Dakota 1	Tennessee 1
Alaska 1	Florida 8	Kentucky 4	Montana 1	Ohio 5	Texas 9
American Samoa 0	Georgia 5	Louisiana 4	Nebraska 1	Oklahoma 1	Utah 2
Arizona 2	Guam 0	Maine 3	Nevada 2	Oregon 1	Vermont 1
Arkansas 2	Hawaii 1	Maryland 2	New Hampshire 1	Pennsylvania 10	Virgin Islands 0
California 16	Idaho 2	Massachusetts 7	New Jersey 3	Puerto Rico 2	Virginia 4
Colorado 2	Illinois 11	Michigan 7	New Mexico 2	Rhode Island 1	Washington 3
Connecticut 2	Indiana 2	Minnesota 4	New York 13	South Carolina 1	West Virginia 1
Delaware 1	Iowa 3	Mississippi 2	North Carolina 5	South Dakota 0	Wisconsin 3
					Wyoming 1

Number of **Doctoral** Programs by State as of October, 2006



Alabama 1	District of Columbia 2	Kansas 1	Missouri 1	North Dakota 0	Tennessee 1
Alaska 0	Florida 4	Kentucky 2	Montana 0	Ohio 2	Texas 3
American Samoa 0	Georgia 2	Louisiana 2	Nebraska 0	Oklahoma 0	Utah 1
Arizona 1	Guam 0	Maine 0	Nevada 0	Oregon 1	Vermont 0
Arkansas 0	Hawaii 1	Maryland 2	New Hampshire 0	Pennsylvania 4	Virgin Islands 0
California 3	Idaho 0	Massachusetts 4	New Jersey 1	Puerto Rico 1	Virginia 2
Colorado 1	Illinois 4	Michigan 2	New Mexico 0	Rhode Island 0	Washington 1
Connecticut 1	Indiana 1	Minnesota 1	New York 9	South Carolina 1	West Virginia 0
Delaware 0	Iowa 1	Mississippi 2	North Carolina 1	South Dakota 0	Wisconsin 2
					Wyoming 0

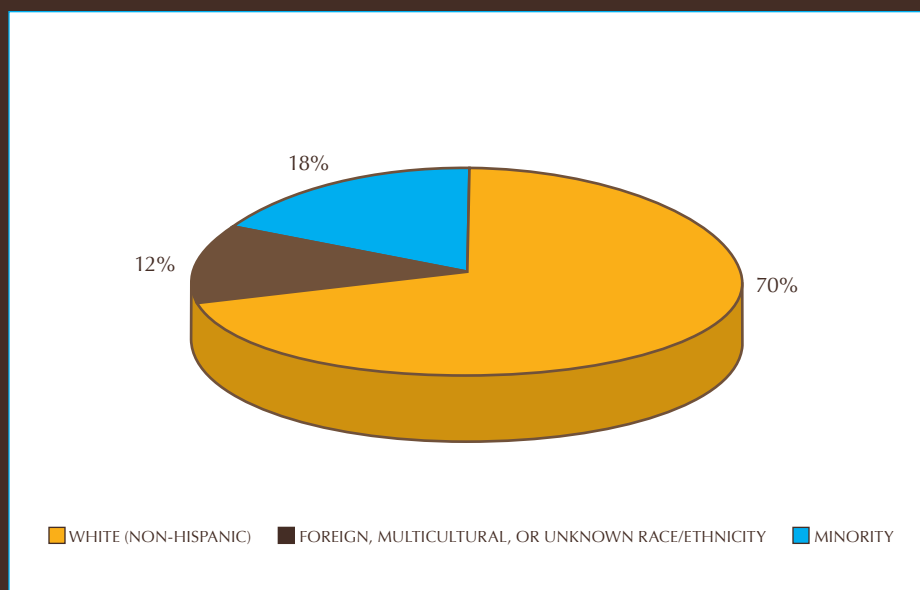
Faculty Demographics

Data on social work faculty were received from 480 of 484 programs responding, that is 99.2% of respondents or 94.3% of all social work programs. The Faculty Section of the Annual Survey asked respondents to report the percentage of a full-time equivalent (FTE) each faculty member spent in social work education and other institutional responsibilities. For the purposes of this *Summary*, “full-time” refers to those faculty members who spend 50% or more of an FTE in social work education.

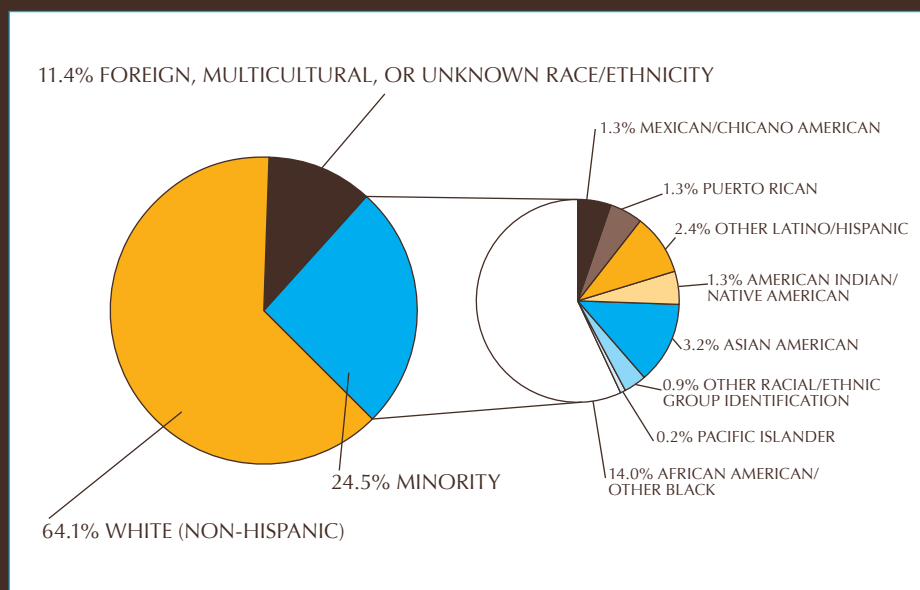
Programs reported 8,082 faculty (6,017 full-time and 2,065 part-time) having time assigned to social work. This is a 17.9% increase over the reported faculty in 2004 (6,857), due at least in part to the increased response rate (see Introduction).

TOTAL FACULTY: 8,082	FULL-TIME 74.4% (6,017)	PART-TIME 25.5% (2,065)
RANK		
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	23.0% (1,410)	3.6% (75)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	22.5% (1,355)	2.6% (54)
PROFESSOR	16.9% (1,015)	1.5% (32)
LECTURER	8.5% (513)	38.3% (791)
INSTRUCTOR	10.4% (627)	30.7% (634)
OTHER	9.0% (539)	17.0% (352)
TENURE	37.8% (2,277)	3.1% (64)
GENDER		
FEMALE	63.9% (3,847)	67.3% (1,390)
MALE	30.9% (1,859)	29.0% (598)
HIGHEST EARNED DEGREE		
MSW	39.5% (2,375)	74.4% (1,536)
PHD/DSW	41.7% (2,507)	9.8% (202)
HAVE MSW	92.2% (5,546)	88.7% (1,832)

Part-Time Faculty by Racial/Ethnic Group Identification



Full-Time Faculty by Racial/Ethnic Group Identification



Faculty Salaries

Faculty salary (below) is reported only for full-time professors, associate professors, and assistant professors that reported no administrative title. Only 84.2% ($n=2,126$) of faculty meeting the above criteria reported salary information. This is an increase compared to 2004 data, which indicated 78.2% (1,669) of faculty meeting the above criteria reported salary information. Most noteworthy is the 16% gain in median salary of full professors working in graduate only programs between 2004 and 2006 (\$101,313 in 2006 up from \$87,324 in 2004).

Baccalaureate Only Program Full-Time Faculty Salary

RANK	MEDIAN SALARY (\$)	MIDDLE 50 RANGE (\$)
FULL PROFESSOR ($n=60$)	74,100	62,506–84,750
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR ($n=144$)	58,000	52,000–62,979
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR ($n=252$)	48,500	43,318–52,705

Master's Only Program Full-Time Faculty Salary

RANK	MEDIAN SALARY (\$)	MIDDLE 50 RANGE (\$)
FULL PROFESSOR ($n=150$)	101,313	82,695–116,557
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR ($n=170$)	71,540	60,724–81,336
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR ($n=171$)	60,000	54,000–66,292

Baccalaureate and Master's (Combined) Program Full-Time Faculty Salary

RANK	MEDIAN SALARY (\$)	MIDDLE 50 RANGE (\$)
FULL PROFESSOR ($n=288$)	82,369	69,540–95,186
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR ($n=413$)	63,084	57,994–71,350
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR ($n=478$)	54,267	48,897–59,989

Baccalaureate Programs: Enrollment

In 2006, 433 of 458 baccalaureate programs (94.5%) responded to the Annual Survey of Social Work Programs. Programs were asked to report student enrollment as of November 1, 2006. A total of 27,408 full-time students and 5,049 part-time students were enrolled as of November 1st in the 2006–2007 academic year. Social work programs reported full-time and part-time enrollment based on their own institutional definitions.

Please note that only Juniors and Seniors are included in this *Summary*.

As reflected elsewhere, the reported numbers for each question have increased for 2006, including those for “applications received” (14,080 in 2004). However, the acceptance rate for baccalaureate programs has decreased from 80.2% in 2004 to 78.7% in 2006.

- ✦ 18,745 Applications Received
- ✦ 14,743 Students Accepted
- ✦ 27,408 Full-Time Juniors and Seniors Enrolled

Student Demographics Gender distribution for full-time and part-time students is comparable, with a slightly higher percentage of males in part-time (15% part-time; 12% full-time). Full-time students are generally younger (61.5% Age 25 or Younger) than part-time (22.8% Age 41 or Older). Baccalaureate programs also lead the way in minority enrollment, which represents more than a third (35.6%) of full-time students.

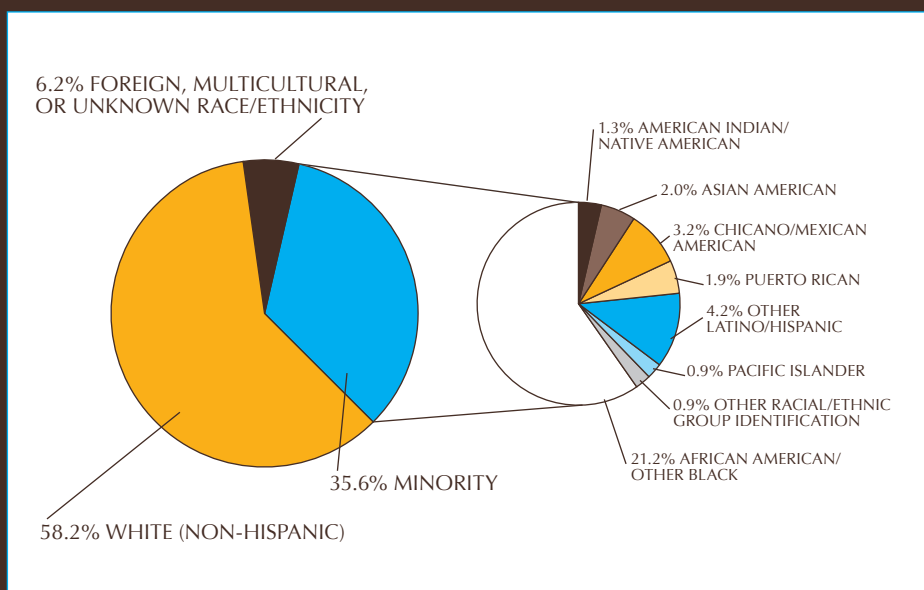
Programs were asked to report on the areas of practice for baccalaureate students in a field placement; the highest concentration of students was in Child Welfare (19.0%), followed by Family Services (12.9%), and School Social Work (9.0%).

Number of **Baccalaureate** Programs by Size of Full-Time Junior and Senior Enrollment

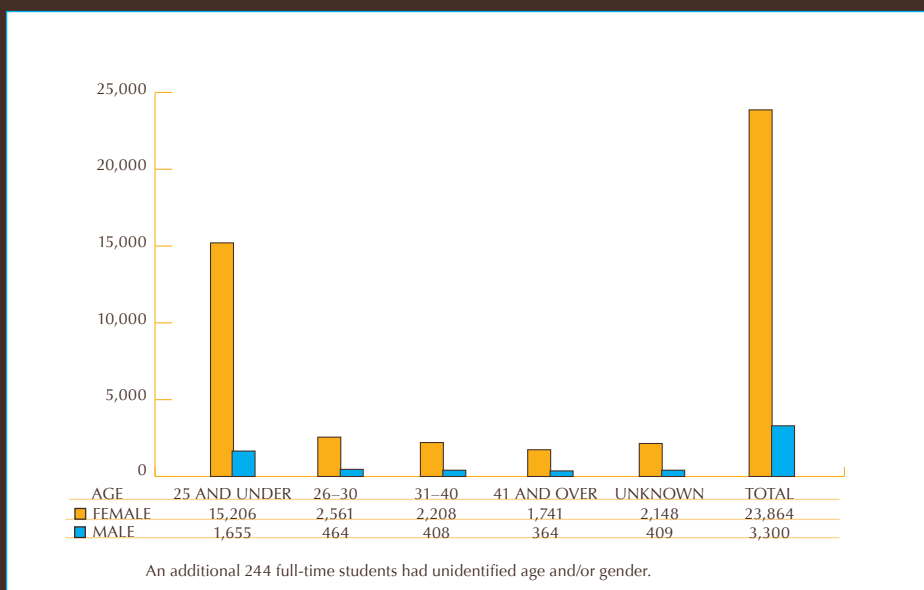
FULL-TIME JUNIOR AND SENIOR ENROLLMENT	NUMBER OF PROGRAMS	PERCENTAGE OF PROGRAMS
1–24	88	20.3%
25–49	126	29.1%
50–74	79	18.2%
75–99	59	13.6%
100–149	52	12.0%
150 AND OVER	26	6.0%
MISSING	3	0.7%
TOTAL	433	99.9%*

*Due to rounding, totals may not equal 100%.

Full-Time Baccalaureate Juniors and Seniors by **Racial/Ethnic** Group Identification



Full-Time Baccalaureate Juniors and Seniors by **Age and Gender**



Baccalaureate Programs: Degrees Awarded

Programs were asked to report the number of degrees awarded for the previous academic year (i.e., 2005–2006). During the 2005–2006 academic year, 12,845 baccalaureate of social work degrees were awarded from 432 member programs. The majority of baccalaureate programs had between 10 and 79 graduates for 2005–2006. Baccalaureate programs reported (55% responding) that 80% of graduates had loan debt at graduation with a median debt amount of \$18,271.

Graduate Demographics Distribution of gender for graduates is comparable to the distribution for student enrollment, with the majority being female (86.6% graduates are female; 87.1% enrolled are female).

- ✦ Female 86.6% (11,124)
- ✦ Male 11.3% (1,453)
- ✦ Unknown Gender 2.1% (265)

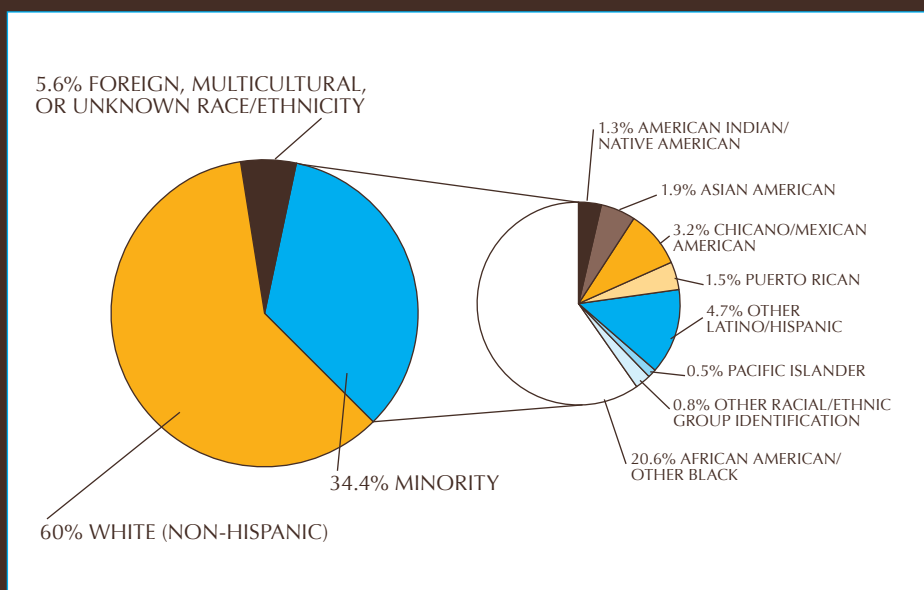
The racial/ethnic identification of baccalaureate graduates showed a slight increase in the percentage of graduates reported as “Foreign, Multicultural, or Unknown Race/Ethnicity” (5.6% in 2006 up from 2.8% in 2004).

Baccalaureate Degrees Awarded by Academic Year 1976–1977 to 2005–2006

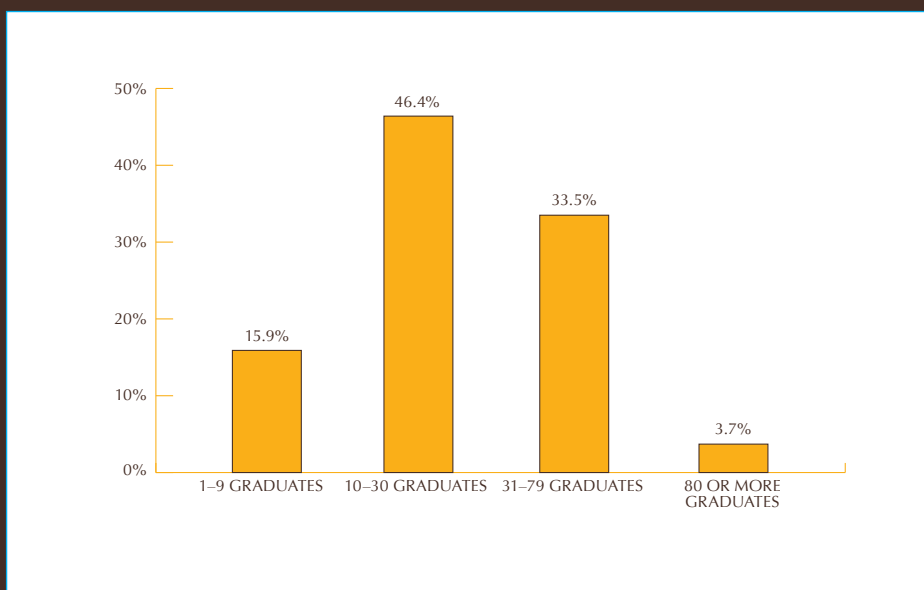
ACADEMIC YEAR	BACCA-LAUREATE DEGREE	ACADEMIC YEAR	BACCA-LAUREATE DEGREE
1976–1977	8,629	1991–1992	9,510*
1977–1978	9,277	1992–1993	10,288*
1978–1979	8,132	1993–1994	10,511*
1979–1980	7,791	1994–1995	10,305*
1980–1981	8,342	1995–1996	12,356*
1981–1982	7,802*	1996–1997	12,949*
1982–1983	6,870*	1997–1998	11,435*
1983–1984	6,392*	1998–1999	12,798*
1984–1985	6,347*	1999–2000	11,773*
1985–1986	5,714*	2000–2001	10,009*
1986–1987	6,908*	2001–2002	9,363*
1987–1988	6,922*	2002–2003	11,159*
1988–1989	7,230*	2003–2004	9,889*
1989–1990	7,250*	2004–2005	9,456*
1990–1991	8,778*	2005–2006	12,845*

*Indicates less than 100% response rate.

Baccalaureate Graduates by Racial/Ethnic Group Identification



Percentage of Baccalaureate Programs by Graduate Ranges



Master's Programs: Enrollment

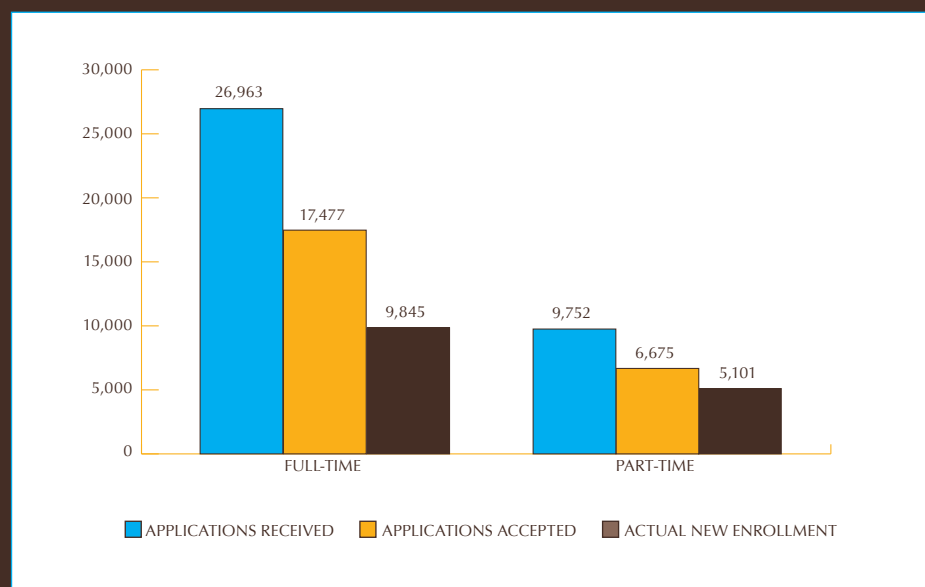
In 2006, 173 of 181 master's programs (95.6%) responded to the Annual Survey of Social Work Programs. Programs were asked to report student enrollment as of November 1, 2006. A total of 24,910 full-time students and 14,656 part-time students were enrolled as of November 1st of the 2006–2007 academic year.

As reflected elsewhere, the reported numbers for each question have increased for 2006, including those for “applications received” (26,963 up from 24,078 for full-time in 2004). The acceptance rate for master's programs has also decreased slightly from 65.6% in 2004 to 64.8% in 2006. Please note

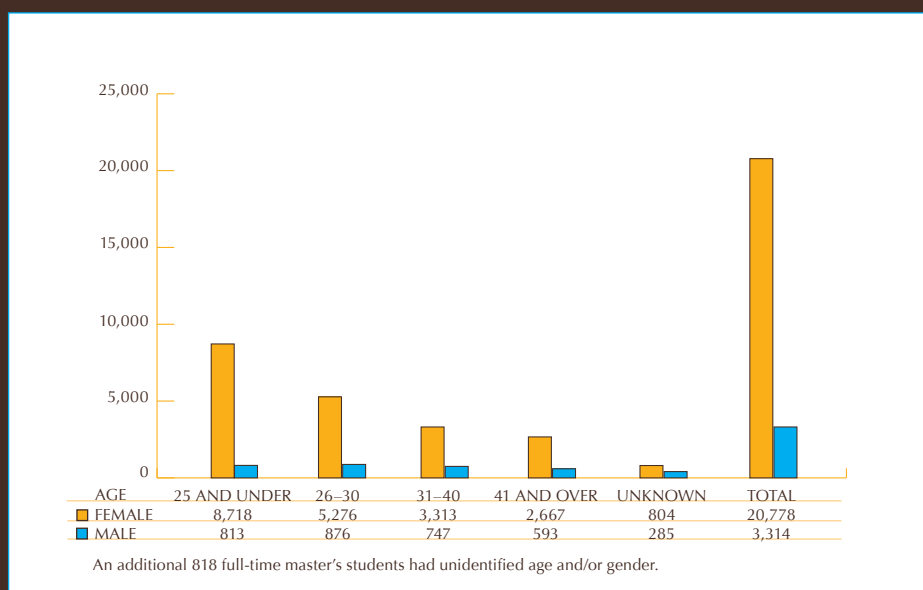
that there is no way for CSWE to produce a count of “unduplicated applications,” because students apply to multiple programs at a time. Therefore, the actual number of people interested in enrolling in social work programs is likely inflated if the number of applications is used as an indicator.

Student Demographics Gender distribution for full-time and part-time students in master's programs is comparable and similar to the distribution in baccalaureate programs (See Baccalaureate Programs: Enrollment), with a slightly higher percentage of males in part-time (15.5% part-time; 13.3% full-time). Full-time students are generally younger

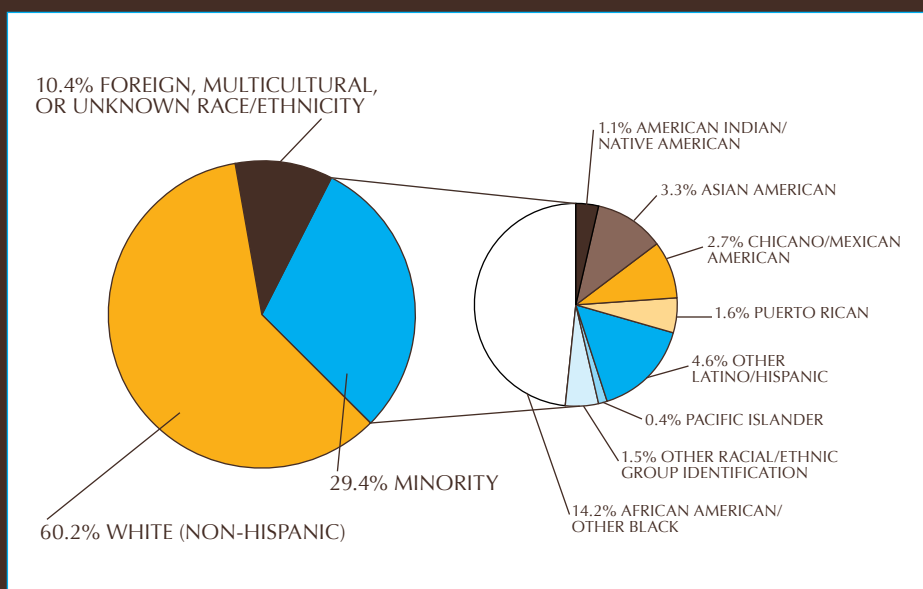
Master's Program **Applications, Acceptances, and Enrollment** by Full-Time or Part-Time



Full-Time Master's Enrollment by Gender and Age Range



Full-Time Master's Enrollment by Racial/Ethnic Identification



(38.3% Age 25 or Younger) than part-time (24.3% Age 41 or Older). The racial/ethnic identification of master's full-time enrollment showed a slight increase in the percentage of students reported as "Foreign, Multicultural, or Unknown Race/Ethnicity" (10.4% in 2006 up from 7.3% in 2004).

Concentrations In 2006, master's programs reported 23,835 students with declared concentrations. Mental Health/Community Mental Health had the highest percentage of students declared (18.6%), followed by Child Welfare (14.3%), Family Services (12.8%), and "Other" (12.5%). School Social Work (7.2%), Health (7.0%), and Aging/Gerontology (7.0%), were also popular concentrations among students.

Master's Programs: Degrees Awarded

Programs were asked to report the number of degrees awarded for the previous academic year. During the 2005–2006 academic year, 17,209 master's of social work degrees were awarded from 173 member programs. Master's programs reported (45% responding) that 81% of graduates had loan debt with a median debt amount of \$25,000. This is a \$6,729 increase compared to median debt held by graduates at the baccalaureate level. The majority of master's programs had between 31 and 150 graduates for the 2005–2006 academic year. This is higher than the average for baccalaureate programs, which only reported 33.5% at 31 to 79 graduates and less than 4% at 80 or above. This indicates that, on average, baccalaureate programs are smaller than master's programs when using graduates as a measurement of program size.

Graduate Demographics Distribution of gender for graduates is comparable to the distribution for student enrollment, with the majority being female (86.5% of graduates are female; 83.4% of enrolled are female).

- ✦ Female 86.5% (14,889)
- ✦ Male 12.8% (2,210)
- ✦ Unknown Gender 0.6% (106)

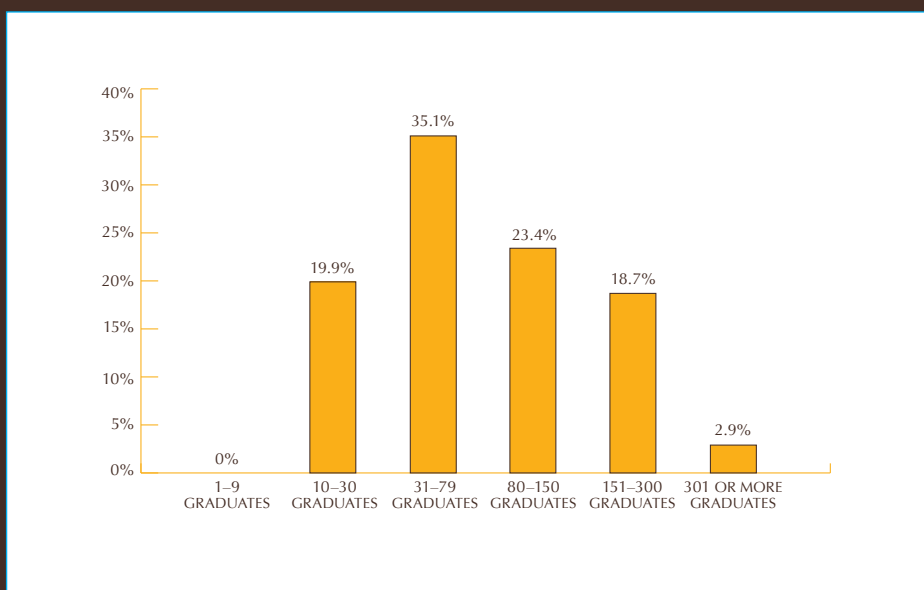
The racial/ethnic identification of master's graduates showed an increase in the percentage of graduates reported as "Minorities" (31.2% in 2006 up from 27.3% in 2004).

Master's Degrees Awarded by Academic Year
1976–1977 to 2005–2006

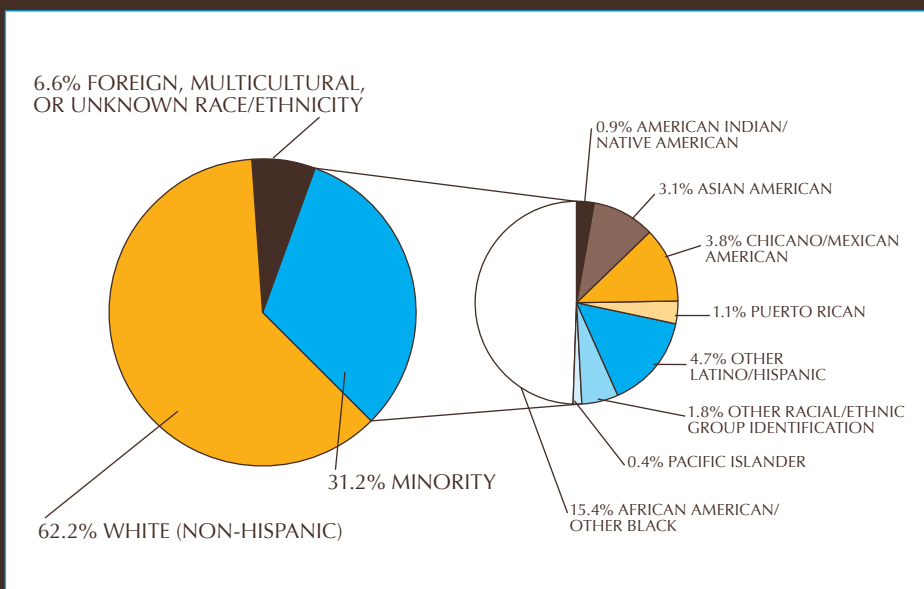
ACADEMIC YEAR	MASTER'S DEGREE	ACADEMIC YEAR	MASTER'S DEGREE
1976–1977	9,254	1991–1992	11,582*
1977–1978	9,476	1992–1993	12,583*
1978–1979	10,080*	1993–1994	12,856*
1979–1980	9,850	1994–1995	12,918*
1980–1981	9,750	1995–1996	14,484*
1981–1982	9,556	1996–1997	15,058*
1982–1983	9,034*	1997–1998	13,660*
1983–1984	8,053*	1998–1999	15,061*
1984–1985	8,798*	1999–2000	15,016*
1985–1986	8,134*	2000–2001	13,524*
1986–1987	8,811*	2001–2002	13,339*
1987–1988	9,891*	2002–2003	14,482*
1988–1989	9,509*	2003–2004	15,473*
1989–1990	10,063*	2004–2005	14,657*
1990–1991	10,969*	2005–2006	17,209*

*Indicates less than 100% response rate.

Percentage of Master's Programs by **Graduate Ranges**



Master's Graduates by **Racial/Ethnic** Group Identification



Doctoral Programs: Enrollment and Degrees Awarded

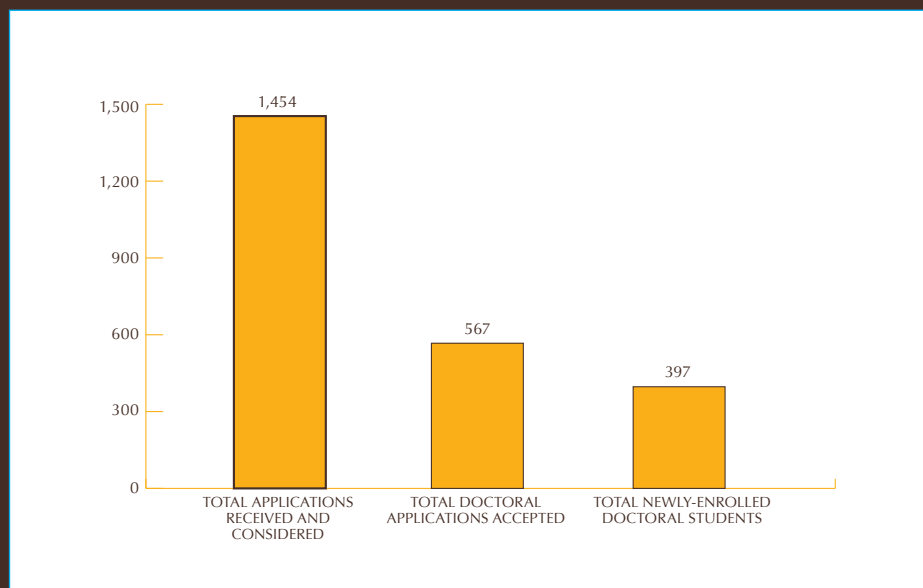
In 2006, there were 69 doctoral programs in social work in the U.S. who were members of the Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education (GADE) (<http://web.uconn.edu/gade/>). Sixty-one of these programs (88.4%) responded to the Annual Survey of Social Work Programs. A total of 1,637 full-time and 917 part-time doctoral students enrolled as of November 1, 2006.

- ✦ 101 (25.4%) newly-enrolled doctoral students had both a BSW and an MSW
- ✦ 235 (59.2%) newly-enrolled doctoral students did not have a BSW but did have an MSW
- ✦ 18 (4.5%) newly-enrolled doctoral students had a BSW and a graduate degree other than an MSW

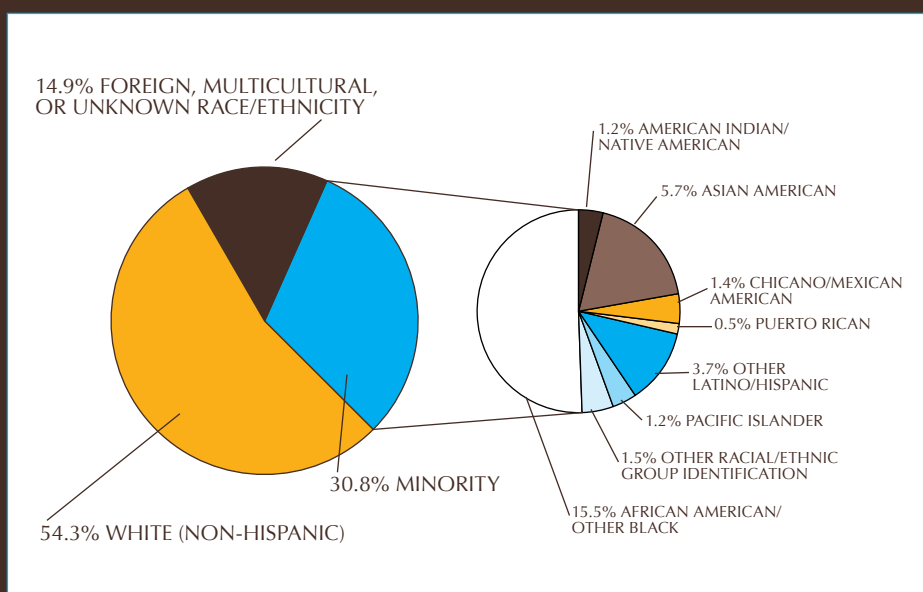
Student Demographics Distribution of gender for full-time doctoral students is comparable to part-time doctoral students with a slightly higher percentage of male full-time students (23.5% full-time; 22.4% part-time). The percentage of full-time minority students decreased this year to 30.8%, compared to 34% in 2004.

Degrees Awarded During the 2005–2006 academic year, 293 doctoral degrees in social work were awarded from 59 programs. Almost one quarter (24.9%) of doctoral graduates completed their programs in 4 years or less, however, over 14% of graduates took 10 or more years to complete their degree requirements.

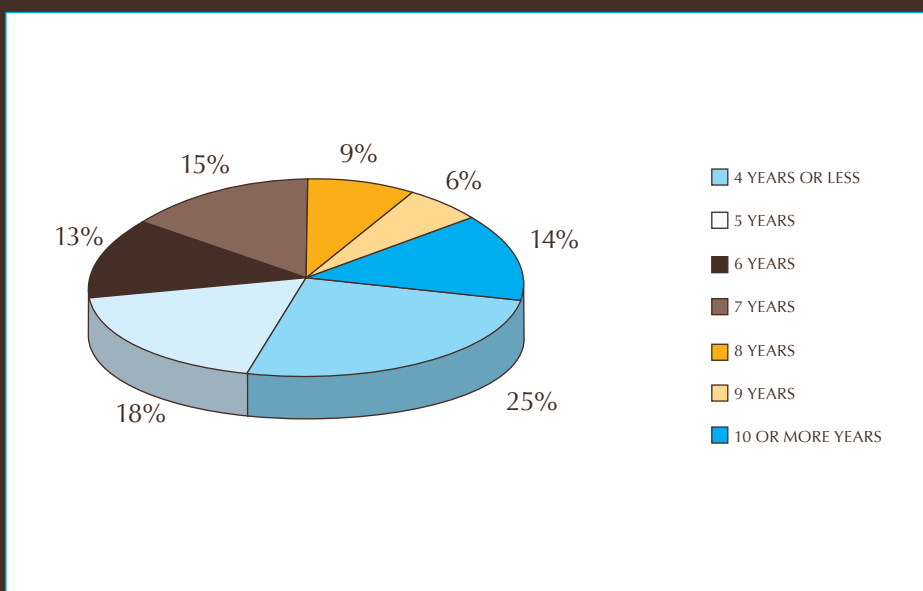
Doctoral Program **Applications, Acceptances, and Newly-Enrolled Students**



Full-Time Doctoral Students by **Racial/Ethnic** Group Identification



Doctoral Graduates **Time to Completion**



Graduate Demographics The racial/ethnic identification of doctoral graduates showed a significant increase in Foreign, Multicultural, or Unknown Race/Ethnicity (11.6% in 2006 up from 2.1% in 2004).

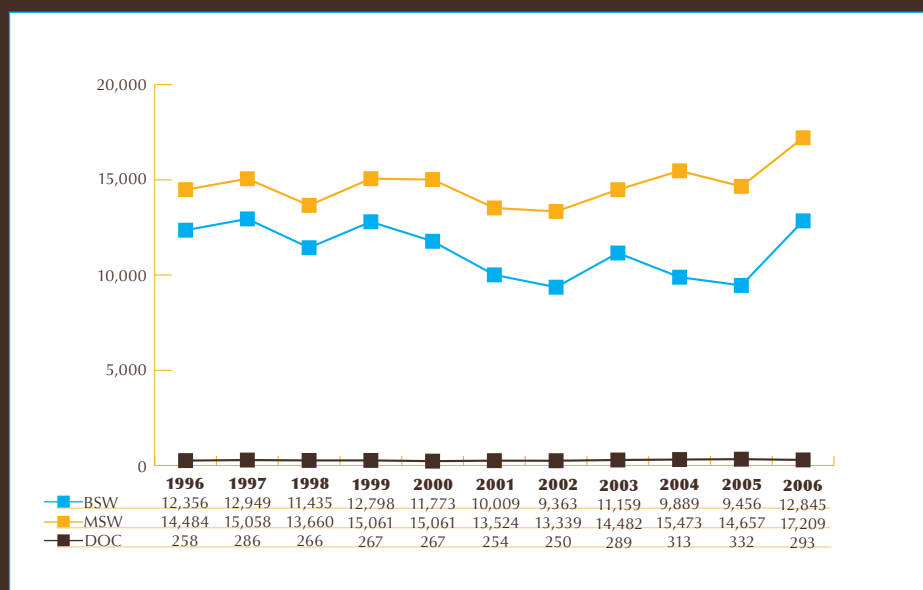
- ✦ Female 73.4% (215)
- ✦ Male 26.6% (78)
- ✦ Minority 28% (82)
- ✦ White 60.4% (177)
- ✦ Foreign, Multicultural, or Unknown 11.6% (34)

Recent Trends in Social Work Degrees Awarded

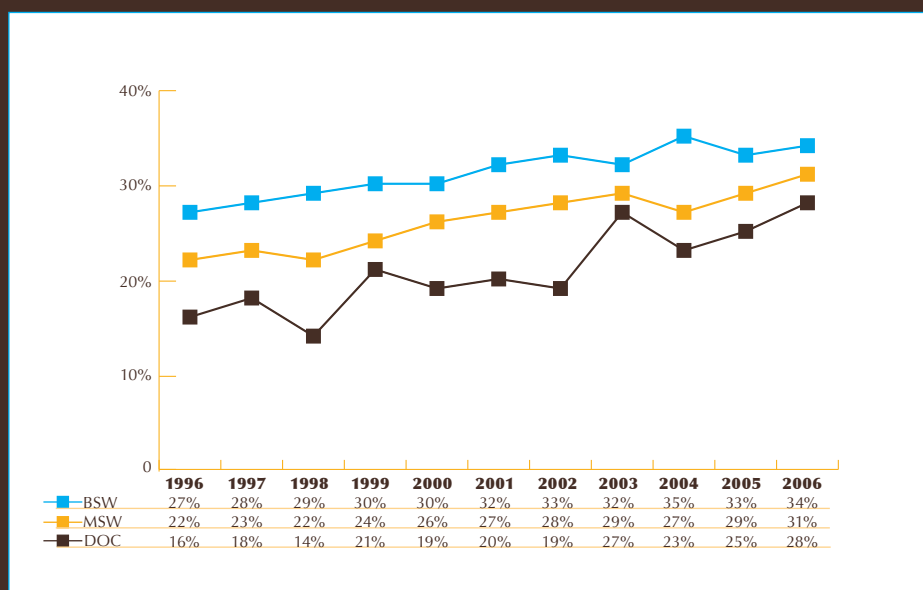
The number of social work graduates at each program level fluctuated between 1996 and 2006. This fluctuation may be due in part to the variance in response rates as noted in the Introduction and Institutional Data Overview. The mean number of graduates over the last 10 years at the baccalaureate level is 12,403, at the master's level is 16,196, and at the doctoral level is 304.

Demographic Trends Distribution of minority graduates increased steadily for master's and baccalaureate program levels between 1996 and 2006. While baccalaureate programs had the smallest total percentage increase over that time period, they have maintained the highest rate of minority graduates out of all three program levels. Though the doctoral level has had the greatest gains in percentage of minority graduates, its current rate of minority graduates is still the lowest of the three program levels. In fact, the percentage of minority doctoral graduates is nearly the same in 2006 as the baccalaureate percentage was 10 years ago.

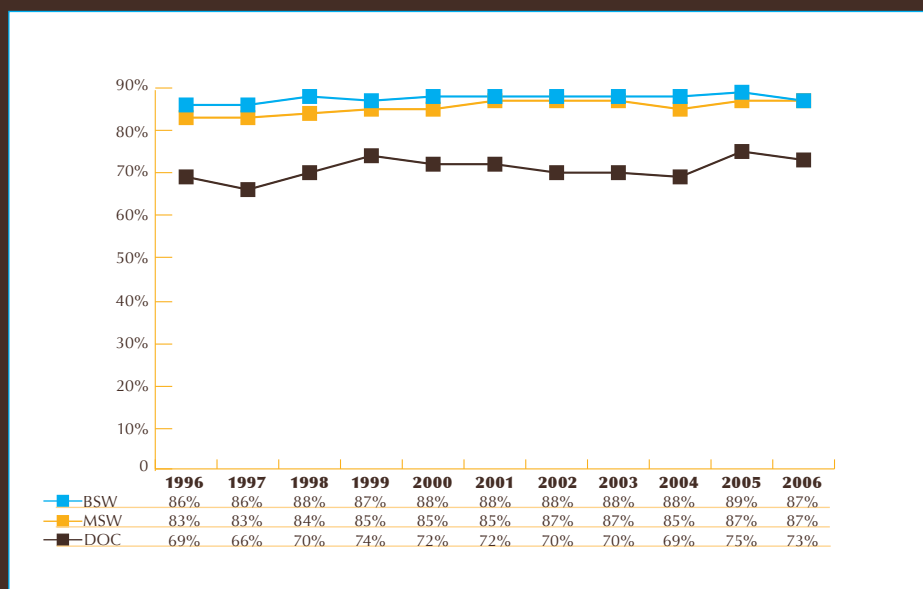
Number of **Degrees Awarded** by Program Level 1996–2006

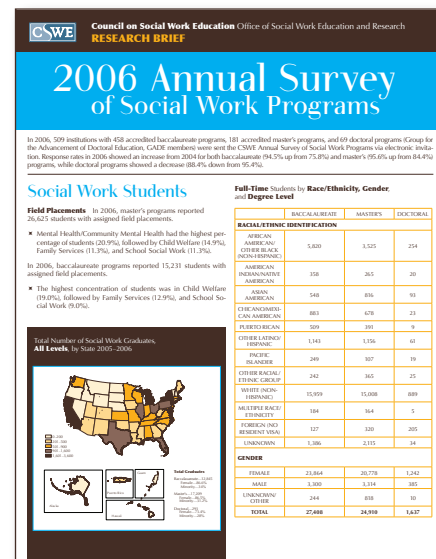
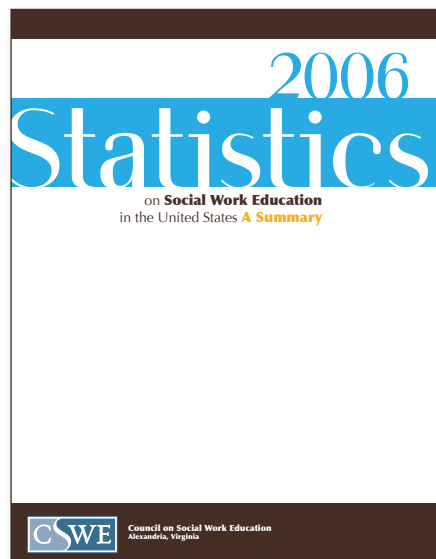
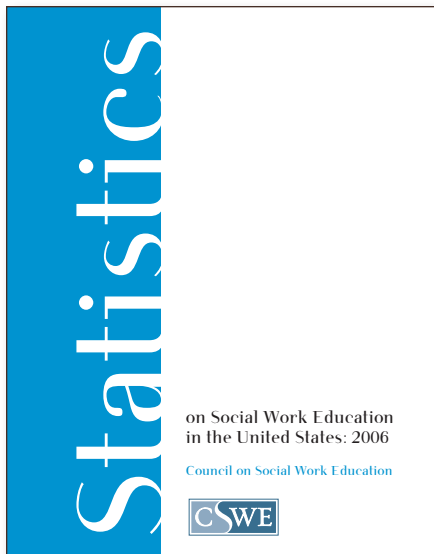


Percentage of **Minority Graduates** by Program Level 1996–2006



Percentage of **Women** Awarded Social Work Degrees by Level 1996–2006





For more information, contact:

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