



COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

Survey of Social Work Programs

2013 RESEARCH BRIEF

Survey invitations were sent electronically in November 2013 to accredited social work programs and doctoral programs that were members of the Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education in Social Work. Response rates for 2013 were 97.3% (477/490) for baccalaureate, 99.1% (226/228) for master's, and 93.2% (68/73) for doctoral programs. The Annual Statistics on Social Work Education in the United States (2006–2013) can be downloaded from the CSWE website. <http://www.cswe.org/CentersInitiatives/DataStatistics/ProgramData.aspx>

FACULTY

In 2013, 479 institutions (87.1%) reported a total of 4,981 full-time and 6,444 part-time faculty members.

Faculty Demographics

- 69.4% of full-time and 72.4% of part-time faculty were female.
- 30.0% of full-time and 23.1% of part-time faculty were from historically underrepresented groups.

Tenure and Highest Earned Degree

- 45.8% of full-time faculty members were tenured, and 23.7% were on tenure track.
- 88.9% of full-time faculty members and 83.7% of part-time faculty members held MSW degrees.
- 69.3% of full-time faculty members and 14.7% of part-time faculty members held a doctorate as their highest degree.

FULL-TIME FACULTY BY HIGHEST EARNED DEGREE

HIGHEST EARNED DEGREE	<i>n</i>	%
Research-focused doctorate in social work or social welfare	2,394	48.3
Advanced practice doctorate in social work or social welfare	335	6.8
Other doctorate	701	14.2
MSW	1,377	27.8
Other master's degree	75	1.5
Law	37	0.7
Medicine	4	0.1
Other	26	0.5
Unknown	4	0.1

STUDENTS

As of fall term 2013 there were 88,727 full-time and 26,093 part-time social work students.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT BY PROGRAM LEVEL

PROGRAM LEVEL	FULL-TIME	PART-TIME	TOTAL	% CHANGE FROM 2012
Baccalaureate	51,714	6,373	58,087	-2.1
Master's	35,178	19,010	54,188	+2.0
Doctoral	1,835	710	2,545	+4.8

Demographics

- Most full-time students were female: 87.2% baccalaureate, 85.5% master's, and 76.6% doctoral.
- Most part-time students were female: 85.2% baccalaureate, 84.1% master's, and 77.5% doctoral.
- Part-time students tended to be older than full-time students at each program level.
- A higher proportion of part-time students were from historically underrepresented groups at the baccalaureate and master's levels, but the reverse was true at the doctoral level.

PROPORTION OF STUDENTS FROM HISTORICALLY UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS BY PROGRAM LEVEL

PROGRAM LEVEL	FULL-TIME	PART-TIME
Baccalaureate	41.8	43.7
Master's	35.1	38.3
Doctoral	39.7	32.5

(continued)

STUDENTS (cont.)

Field Placements

The top field placements by number of baccalaureate and master's students are listed below

TOP FIELD PLACEMENTS BY PROGRAM LEVEL AND NUMBER OF STUDENTS

BACCALAUREATE LEVEL	<i>n</i>	%
Child welfare	2,721	16.6
Family services	1,753	10.7
School social work	1,620	9.9
Mental health or community mental health	1,567	9.6
Aging/gerontological social work	1,518	9.3
MASTER'S LEVEL		
Mental health or community mental health	8,417	22.9
School social work	4,166	11.3
Health	3,795	10.3
Child welfare	3,727	10.1
Family services	3,588	9.8

Concentrations

The top concentrations by number of master's students are listed below.

TOP CONCENTRATIONS BY TYPE AND NUMBER OF MASTER'S STUDENTS

METHOD	<i>n</i>
Direct practice/clinical	23,038
Advanced generalist	5,803
Social policy	3,588
FIELD OF PRACTICE	
Children, youths, & families	6,707
Mental health	4,031
Health & mental health	1,703

GRADUATES

A total of 40,237 social work degrees was awarded for the 2012–2013 academic year.

GRADUATES BY PROGRAM LEVEL

GRADUATES	<i>n</i>	% FEMALE	% FROM HISTORICALLY UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS
Baccalaureate	17,221	87.6	37.4
Master's	22,677	86.4	31.2
Doctoral	339	79.8	35.4

Information about loan debt at graduation is presented below.

LOAN DEBT OF GRADUATES BY PROGRAM LEVEL

PROGRAM LEVEL	% WITH DEBT	MEAN DEBT
Baccalaureate	81.0	\$31,880
Master's	80.5	\$41,754
Doctoral	65.5	\$42,149