The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) is the primary federal entity in the United States for collecting and analyzing data related to education in the US and other nations. NCES is located within the US Department of Education and the Institute of Education Sciences. The NCES fulfills a congressional mandate to collect, collate, analyze, and report complete statistics on the condition of US education; conduct and publish reports; and review and report on education activities internationally. The NCES is one of four centers (along with the National Center for Education Research, the National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance, and the National Center for Special Education Research) charged with carrying out the work of the Institute of Education Sciences.

Dataset: Bachelor’s Degrees from the Completions - Postsecondary Education Database

An award (baccalaureate or equivalent degree, as determined by the Secretary, U.S. Department of Education) that normally requires at least 4 but not more than 5 years of full-time equivalent college-level work. This includes all bachelor’s degrees conferred in a 5-year cooperative (work-study) program. A cooperative plan provides for alternate class attendance and employment in business, industry, or government; thus, it allows students to combine actual work experience with their college studies. Also includes bachelor’s degrees in which the normal 4 years of work are completed in 3 years.

Data are from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) conducted by the NCES. IPEDS involves annual institution-level data collections. All postsecondary institutions that participate in federal programs providing financial assistance to students are required to report data using a web-based data collection system. This annual component of IPEDS collects number of degrees and other formal awards (certificates) conferred.

NOTE: For all datasets, FIPS code for the school facility are provided. County and state national numbers are calculated based on the given FIPS codes, and national numbers are created as a
The Completions component of the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) datasets are labeled by end year of the reporting period. For example, 2014 data represent degrees conferred July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014. For information on the statistical standards utilized by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), visit http://nces.ed.gov/statprog/index.asp.


Technical Documentation

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