

# Nuclear Engineering Enrollments and Degrees Survey, 2005 Data

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## SURVEY UNIVERSE

The survey includes degrees granted between September 1, 2004 and August 31, 2005, and fall 2005 enrollments. Thirty-two academic programs reported having nuclear engineering programs during the 2005 and all but two small programs responded to the survey. One nuclear engineering program was discontinued after 2004 and one new nuclear engineering program was included in 2005.

## DEGREE DATA

**Bachelor's Degrees.** The number of B.S. degrees granted in 2005 by nuclear engineering programs increased by over 20% from 2004. (See Table 1.) The number of B.S. degrees in 2005 was the highest reported in the last eight years, but still substantially below the number of B.S. degrees granted during the early through mid 1990s (approximately 400 per year). Nuclear engineering majors accounted for 95% of all B.S. degrees with the remaining 5% in nuclear engineering option programs. (See Table 2.)

**Graduate Degrees.** The number of masters' degrees granted in 2005 increased over 2004 and was the highest reported since 1996 but still 25% below the numbers granted annually in the early to mid 1990s. The number of doctorate degrees was only one less than in 2004. (See Table 1.) Nuclear engineering majors accounted for the vast majority of both the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees. (See Table 2.)

**Table 1. Nuclear Engineering Degrees, 1998-2005**

Year	Degrees		
	B.S.	M.S.	Ph.D.
2005	268	171	74
2004	219	154	75
2003	166	132	78
2002	195*	130	67
2001	120	145	80
2000	159	133	74
1999	199	142	86
1998	222	160	98

\*Three programs were discontinued/out-of-scope after 2002 and not included in the 2003 survey. These three programs reported a total of 17 B.S. degrees in 2002.

**Table 2. Nuclear Engineering Degrees by Curriculum, 2005**

Curriculum	B.S.	M.S.	Ph.D.
Nuclear Engineering Major	255	170	72
Nuclear Engineering Option	13	1	2

## ENROLLMENTS AND SHORT-TERM OUTLOOK FOR DEGREE TRENDS

**Undergraduate Students.** In 2005, the enrollment of junior and senior nuclear engineering undergraduate students was approximately 1,000. This is double the enrollment level reported in 2000 (when the lowest number was reported in the time series) and the first time since 1995 that enrollments have been at the 1,000 level. The increase in undergraduate enrollment indicates that the number of B.S. degrees is likely to continue to increase at least for the next couple of years.

**Graduate Students.** Graduate student enrollment reported in 2005 was also approximately 1,000 (an increase of almost 10% over 2004). This is 30% greater than in 2000 and 2001 (when the lowest enrollment numbers were reported in the time series) and the first time since 1996 that enrollments have reached the 1,000 level. The increase in graduate enrollment indicates that the number of M.S. degrees should continue to increase for the next few years. It is also likely that the number of Ph.D. degrees will begin to increase in the near future.

### CITIZENSHIP, GENDER, AND RACE/ETHNICITY OF DEGREE RECIPIENTS (TABLE 3.)

**Citizenship.** The vast majority of B.S. degree recipients were U.S. citizens. Among M.S. degree recipients, almost 20% were non-U.S. citizens; and for Ph.D. degree recipients, 47% were non-U.S. citizens. The higher percentages of non-U.S. citizens among graduate degree recipients is a continuation of a long-term trend common across graduate engineering academic programs.

**Gender.** Females comprised 16% of the B.S. degree recipients, 17% of the M.S. degree recipients, and 17% of the Ph.D. recipients.

**Race/Ethnicity.** Among the B.S. degree recipients, one out of eight (12.5%) of the U.S. citizens were members of minority groups. Among the combined M.S.-plus-Ph.D. degree recipients, approximately 12% of the U.S. citizens were members of minority groups (excluding the "other or unknown" group).

**Table 3. Citizenship, Gender, and Race/Ethnicity of Degree Recipients, 2005**

	B.S.		M.S.		Ph.D.	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Non-U.S. Citizens	2	2	8	24	6	28
U.S. Citizens						
African/Black Americans	1	4	0	0	0	1
American Indians/Native Americans	0	0	0	0	0	0
Asian/Pacific Island Americans	3	11	1	6	1	4
Hispanic Americans	1	12	0	4	1	1
White/Caucasian Americans	35	189	18	102	2	22
Other or Unknown	0	8	1	4	2	4
(not reported = 0 BS; 3 MS; & 2 PhD )						
Totals	42	226	28	140	12	60

**Table 4. Nuclear Engineering Degrees, 2005, by Academic Institution**

Name of Institution	State	Degrees, September 1, 2004 - August 31, 2005		
		B.S.	M.S.	Ph.D.
Air Force Institute of Technology	OH	0	17	2
Georgia Institute of Technology	GA	7	1	1
Idaho State University	ID	1	2	0
Kansas State University	KS	5	1	0
Louisiana State University	LA	0	1	0
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	MA	9	25	15
North Carolina State University	NC	14	8	5
Ohio State University	OH	0	7	0
Oregon State University	OR	15	3	0
Pennsylvania State University	PA	26	5	2
Purdue University	IN	20	10	4
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	NY	33	0	3
Texas A&M University	TX	24	11	5
United States Military Academy	NY	16	0	0
University of California, Berkeley	CA	10	6	5
University of Florida	FL	7	2	2
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	IL	18	4	2
University of Maine	ME	1	0	0
University of Maryland	MD	1	2	2
University of Massachusetts, Lowell	MA	2	2	0
University of Michigan	MI	9	31	12
University of Missouri, Columbia	MO	0	4	2
University of Missouri, Rolla	MO	14	1	0
University of Nevada, Las Vegas	NV	0	0	0
University of New Mexico	NM	11	3	0
University of South Carolina	SC	0	2	0
University of Tennessee	TN	7	7	3
University of Texas	TX	3	0	2
University of Utah	UT	0	2	1
University of Wisconsin	WI	15	12	4
<i>Estimate for two non-responding programs</i>		0	2	2
<b>TOTALS:</b>		<b>268</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>74</b>

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