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RHODE ISLAND HIGHER EDUCATION 2004-2005 DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES CONFERRED

From July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005, Rhode Island institutions of higher education conferred 16,329 degrees and certificates, a decrease of 2.7 percent from the 16,778 awards of the previous year. In 2004-2005 public institutions of higher education conferred 5,341 or 32.7 percent of all awards, while independent institutions awarded 10,988, or 67.3 percent.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF RHODE ISLAND

In 2004-2005 the total number of awards conferred at the Community College of Rhode Island decreased 5.3 percent to 1,285 from 1,357 awards. CCRI awarded 178 certificates in 2005 (2 fewer than in 2004). The number of associate's degrees dropped from 1,177 degrees to 1,107. Popular programs at the certificate level were in accounting, allied health, practical nurse training, computer and engineering-related technologies, criminal justice and dental assistant training. At the associate's degree level, popular programs were liberal arts, general studies, allied health, nursing, and law enforcement/police science. Graduates of the liberal arts program at CCRI generally transfer to four-year degree programs.

RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

Rhode Island College awarded 1,457 degrees during the 2004-2005 academic year, down 2.8 percent from the previous year's total of 1,499. RIC awarded 1,142 bachelor's degrees awarded down 1.8 percent from 2004, while the number of master's degrees and CAGS dropped slightly from 330 to 311 awards. This year the college awarded four doctorates in the joint doctorate in education program. Popular programs at the baccalaureate level were education, nursing, psychology and communications. At the graduate level the most popular programs were education and social work.

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

The University of Rhode Island awarded 2,599 degrees, down 4.1 percent from the previous year. URI awarded 1,889 bachelor's degrees slightly down from last year. Master's degrees awarded rose from 507 to 556 awards, and doctorate/first professional degrees remained steady with 154 conferred in 2005. Although degrees awarded were fairly well distributed across many fields of study, the most popular undergraduate programs were in business management and administrative services, human development and family studies, psychology, the health professions (predominantly nursing), communications and education. Popular master's degrees included business,

health professions, library science and education. Popular doctorate/first professional degrees awarded were in pharmacy, psychology, nursing and the physical sciences (especially oceanography).

INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS

Degrees and certificates awarded at Rhode Island independent institutions decreased 2.0 percent during 2004-2005 to 10,988. At the associate's level the predominant program was culinary arts followed by hotel/restaurant management, business management and administrative services, computer/information sciences, and engineering-related technologies. Business and computer/information sciences were the most popular programs at the bachelor's and master's levels. Education programs were also popular at the master's level. Law (J.D.) and medical (M.D) degrees were most common at the doctorate/first-professional levels.

REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN, MINORITIES AND NON-RESIDENT ALIENS

Women earned 57 percent of all certificates and degrees awarded in 2004-2005. Women earned 73.4 percent of certificates, 53.4 percent of associate's degrees, 57 percent of bachelor's degrees, 58.5 percent of master's degrees and 52 percent of doctorates/first professional degrees.

Minorities¹ earned 13.4 percent of all certificates and degrees awarded, up from 13.2 percent in 2003-2004. Blacks received 4.7 percent of all awards, Asians/Pacific Islanders 4.1 percent, Hispanics 4.3 percent and American Indians/ Alaskan Natives 0.3 percent.

Non-Resident Aliens earned 5.1 percent of the certificates and degrees awarded by Rhode Island institutions in 2004-2005, compared to 6.0 percent in 2003-2004.

¹ **Minority** refers to the sum of Black, Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, and American Indian/Alaskan Native students. These are racial/ethnic group categories used by the U.S. Department of Education in its data collection activities.

Table 1.

INSTITUTION	Certificates	Associate's Degrees	Bachelor's Degrees	Master's Degrees	First Prof. Degrees	Doctoral Degrees	Total Awards
Community College of RI	178	1,107					1,285
Rhode Island College			1,142	311		4	1,457
University of Rhode Island			1,889	556	80	74	2,599
PUBLIC TOTAL	178	1,107	3,031	867	80	78	5,341
Brown University			1,499	329	73	151	2,052
Bryant University			644	116			760
Gibbs College	206	82					288
Johnson & Wales University	1	1,643	1,349	361		10	3,364
New Eng. Inst. of Technology	22	722	189				933
Providence College	39	6	931	249			1,225
RI School of Design			518	154			672
Roger Williams Univ.	3	11	829	78			921
Roger Williams Univ.-- Law					165		165
Salve Regina University		2	427	117		4	550
Zion Bible Institute	3		55				58
INDEPENDENT TOTAL	274	2,466	6,441	1,404	238	165	10,988
GRAND TOTAL	452	3,573	9,472	2,271	318	243	16,329

Table 2

Degrees and Certificates Conferred by Institution: Academic Years Ending 1995 through 2005

INSTITUTION	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	%Chg 04-05
Community College of RI	1,720	1,669	1,551	1,403	1,421	1,333	1,379	1,369	1,315	1,357	1,285	-5.3%
Rhode Island College	1,716	1,650	1,571	1,495	1,439	1,399	1,399	1,471	1,439	1,499	1,457	-2.8%
University of Rhode Island	2,635	2,556	2,435	2,458	2,449	2,410	2,462	2,613	2,576	2,711	2,599	-4.1%
PUBLIC TOTAL	6,071	5,875	5,557	5,356	5,309	5,142	5,240	5,453	5,330	5,567	5,341	-4.1%
Brown University	2,155	2,233	1,910	1,949	2,005	2,085	2,258	2,327	2,412	2,394	2,052	-14.3%
Bryant University	841	752	765	709	704	667	717	846	787	857	760	-11.3%
Gibbs College										402	288	-28.4%
Johnson & Wales University	2,928	2,888	2,755	2,897	3,034	3,002	3,051	3,208	3,356	3,200	3,364	5.1%
New Eng. Inst. of Technology	585	687	759	757	700	820	808	880	784	875	933	6.6%
Providence College	1,102	1,158	1,166	1,078	1,153	1,165	1,212	1,163	1,248	1,194	1,225	2.6%
RI School of Design	598	586	544	533	537	597	563	553	544	650	672	3.4%
Roger Williams Univ.	657	557	630	576	668	561	640	623	743	840	921	9.6%
Roger Williams Univ.-- Law		84	147	137	113	120	97	96	112	156	165	5.8%
Salve Regina University	592	534	513	435	437	421	491	521	567	578	550	-4.8%
Zion Bible Institute			110	71	73	80	82	63	54	65	58	-10.8%
INDEPENDENT TOTAL	9,458	9,479	9,299	9,142	9,424	9,518	9,919	10,280	10,607	11,211	10,988	-2.0%
GRAND TOTAL	15,529	15,354	14,856	14,498	14,733	14,660	15,159	15,733	15,937	16,778	16,329	-2.7%

Source: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Completions Surveys 2004-2005