

Health Physics Enrollments and Degrees Survey, 2014 Data

Number 75

Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education

2015

SURVEY UNIVERSE

The 2014 survey includes degrees granted between September 1, 2013 and August 31, 2014. Enrollment information refers to the fall term 2014. Twenty-two academic programs were included in the survey universe, with all 22 programs providing data. Since 2009, data for two health physics programs located in engineering departments are also included in the nuclear engineering survey. The enrollments and degrees data includes students majoring in health physics or in an option program equivalent to a major.

DEGREE DATA

Bachelor's Degrees. The number of B.S. degrees granted in 2014 was 24 percent lower than in 2013 and 18 percent lower than in 2012. (Table 1) The 2014 number of B.S. degrees is 27 percent below the number of B.S. degrees reported in the mid-1990s and 54 percent below the peak years in the late 1970s. Health physics programs accounted for over 73 percent of all B.S. degrees. (Table 2)

Graduate Degrees. The number of M.S. degrees granted in 2014 was 6 percent less than in 2013, and in line with the number of degrees reported for the previous 5 years. The number of Ph.D. degrees granted in 2014 was 28.5 percent lower than in 2013 but still considerably higher than in 2011. (Table 1) The 2011 number of Ph.D. degrees was the lowest reported since the survey began over 45 years ago. Health physics programs accounted for 78 percent of the M.S. degrees and 70 percent of the Ph.D. degrees. (Table 2)

Table 1. Health Physics Degrees, 2005-2014

Year	Degrees		
	B.S.	M.S.	Ph.D.
2014	67	81	10
2013	88	86	14
2012	82	91	15
2011	64	85	5
2010	62	89	15
2009	77	83	9
2008	73	108	8
2007	79	91	28
2006	71	90	12
2005	78	77	14

Source: Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education

Table 2. Health Physics Degrees by Curriculum, 2014

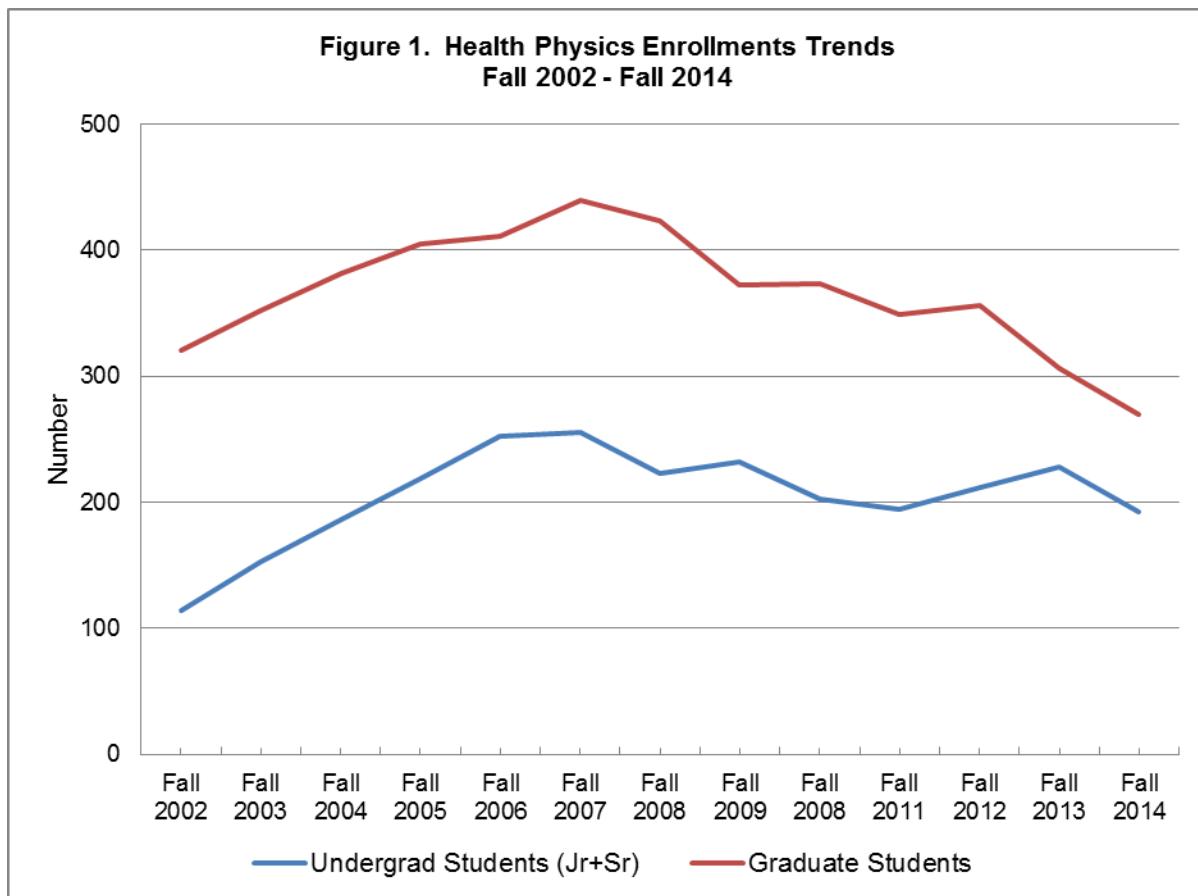
Curriculum	B.S.	M.S.	Ph.D.
Health Physics Program	49	63	7
Medical Health Physics	0	14	1
Other Health Physics Option	18	4	2

Source: Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education

ENROLLMENT TRENDS AND SHORT-TERM OUTLOOK FOR DEGREE TRENDS (Figure 1)

Undergraduate Students. In 2014, the enrollment of junior and senior undergraduates was approximately 190 which is a 16 percent decrease over 2013, and 9 percent decrease over 2012. The 2014 number is the lowest number since 2004. The undergraduate enrollment decrease in 2014 indicates that the number of B.S. degrees is likely to continue at 2014 levels of 65-75 in 2015 and then fall to 60-70 in 2016.

Graduate Students. Graduate enrollment in 2014 was 270 students. This is nearly 12 percent lower than in 2013 and 24 percent lower than in 2012. The 2014 graduate enrollment is the lowest reported since the early 1970s. The enrollment trends indicate that the number of M.S. degrees is likely to be in the 65-75 range in 2015 and 2016, while the number of Ph.D. degrees is likely to be in the 5 to 10 range in 2015 and 2016.



Source: Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education

CITIZENSHIP, GENDER, AND RACE/ETHNICITY OF DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Note that citizenship, gender, and race/ethnicity data were not reported for all degree recipients. Percentages for the B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees are based on the 50 B.S. degrees, 60 M.S. degrees, and 8 Ph.D. degrees for which data was reported. (Table 3)

Citizenship. U.S. citizens comprised 98 percent of B.S. degree recipients. Non-U.S. citizens accounted for 8 percent of M.S. degree recipients and 25 percent of Ph.D. degree recipients.

Gender. Females comprised 30 percent of the B.S. degree recipients, 28 percent of the M.S. degree recipients, and 25 percent of the Ph.D. recipients.

Race/Ethnicity. U.S. citizen minority groups represented 10 percent of B.S. degree recipients and 11 percent of M.S. degree recipients. Only one minority degree recipient was reported among U.S. citizen Ph.D. degree recipients.

Table 3. Gender, Citizenship, and Race/Ethnicity of Degree Recipients, 2014¹

	B.S.		M.S.		Ph.D.	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Non-U.S. Citizens	0	1	2	3	0	2
U.S. Citizens						
African/Black Americans	0	0	0	3	0	0
American Indians/Native Americans	0	0	0	0	0	0
Asian/Pacific Island Americans	1	2	2	0	0	0
Hispanic Americans	1	1	0	1	1	0
White/Caucasian Americans	10	30	12	35	1	4
Other or Unknown	3	1	1	1	0	0
Totals	15	35	17	43	2	6

¹Citizenship, gender, and race/ethnicity data were not available for 17 B.S. degree recipients, 21 M.S. degree recipients, and 2 Ph.D. degree recipients.

Source: Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education

Table 4. Health Physics Degrees, 2014, by Academic Institution

State	Name of Institution	Degrees		
		Sept. 1, 2013 – Aug. 31, 2014		
CA	San Diego State University	0	11	0
CO	Colorado State University	0	11	1
DC	Georgetown University	0	3	0
ID	Idaho State University	4	6	1
IL	Illinois Institute of Technology	0	9	0
IN	Purdue University	6	1	0
LA	Louisiana State University	0	0	0
MA	University of Massachusetts Lowell	3	4	1
ME	University of Maine	1	0	0
MO	University of Missouri	0	1	0
NC	Duke University	0	1	0
NJ	Thomas Edison State College	18	0	0
NV	University of Nevada, Las Vegas	1	1	0
NY	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	6	1	2
OH	University of Cincinnati	0	2	1
OR	Oregon State University	11	22	2
PA	Bloomsburg University	4	0	0
SC	Clemson University	0	2	1
SC	Francis Marion University	2	0	0
TN	University of Tennessee	0	3	1
TN	Vanderbilt University	0	0	0
TX	Texas A&M University	11	3	0
Totals		67	81	10

Source: Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education

Prepared by: Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, March 2015.

This document was prepared for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) through an interagency agreement with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). ORISE is managed by Oak Ridge Associated Universities under DOE contract number DE-AC05-06OR23100.

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