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ABSTRACT

Preliminary results of the 1986-87 Council of Graduate Schools/Graduate Record Examinations (CGS/GRE) Enrollment Survey are presented. Respondents totaled 512 of the 552 U.S. institutions surveyed, for a 93% response rate. Highlights of the survey results include: (1) CGS and affiliated institutions enrolled 85% of the total graduate enrollment nationwide, with public institutions representing 70% of these enrollments; (2) nearly half of the students were women; (3) among master's-only institutions, 56% of the students were women; (4) part-time students comprised 52% of the total enrollments; and (5) graduate students at private institutions were somewhat more likely to be male (51% versus 48%) and full-time (43% versus 41%) than their counterparts at public institutions. Statistical tables give data on total enrollment by institution type and sex, and by institution type and enrollment status (1986), first-time enrollment by institution type and sex (1986), graduate degrees awarded by sex (1985-1986), and a profile of graduate enrollment by region (1986). (KM)

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DATA SOURCES

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## FIRST CGS/GRE ENROLLMENT SURVEY DATA RELEASED

**Peter D. Syverson**  
**Director of Information Services**

The first stages of processing the responses to the 1986-87 CGS/GRE Enrollment Survey have been completed and preliminary results are now available. Questionnaires were received from 91 percent, or 500 of the 552 institutions surveyed<sup>1</sup>. CGS is very pleased with this high level of participation. [Update: We have now received questionnaires from 12 additional institutions, boosting the response rate to 93 percent. These responses are being added to the database and will be included in future reports from CGS.] This enrollment survey represents the first of what will be an annual data-collection effort that will produce the core of a longitudinal data base on graduate education in the United States. A full report on the results of the 1986-87 survey will be published this fall.

Highlights of this year's survey results include:

- CGS and affiliated institutions enrolled a total of 943,900 graduate students in the fall of 1986, constituting 85 percent of the total graduate enrollment nationwide. Seventy percent of these enrollments were at public institutions.

- Nearly one-half of the students were women, reflecting the trend that began in the 1960s for increasing numbers of women to pursue graduate education. Fifty-six percent of the graduate students at master's-only institutions were women.

- Part-time students comprised 52 percent of the total enrollments. More than two-thirds of graduate students at master's institutions were part-time, while at doctorate-granting institutions, there was about an even split between full and part-time students.

- Graduate students at private institutions were somewhat more likely to be male (51 percent versus 48 percent) and full-time (43 percent versus 41 percent) than their counterparts at public institutions.

- Nearly a quarter million students enrolled for graduate study for the first time at CGS and affiliated institutions in

1986. Men and women accounted for approximately equal shares of these first-time enrollments.

- The institutional respondents reported awarding 202,500 master's and 30,800 doctoral degrees in 1985-86, or about 70 and 97 percent of the national totals, respectively. Women earned approximately one-half of the master's degrees and one-third of the doctoral degrees.

- First-time enrollments were slightly higher in the New England, Middle Atlantic, and Mountain and Pacific

regions than in other areas of the United States.

<sup>1</sup>The survey questionnaire was mailed in January 1987 to 388 CGS member institutions and to 164 institutions that are not CGS members but are members of one of the four regional organizations affiliated with the Council (North-eastern Association of Graduate Schools, Conference of Southern Graduate Schools, Mid-western Association of Graduate Schools, and Western Association of Graduate Schools). Enrollment data are for fall, 1986; degree data are for the year July 1, 1985 through June 30, 1986.

**Table 1. Total Enrollment by Institution Type and Sex, 1986**

Highest Degree	Control	Male	Female	No Report	Number Enrolled
Master's	Public	51,600	81,300	4,000	136,900
	Private	23,100	24,100	2,900	50,100
	Subtotal	74,700	105,400	6,900	187,000
	% of total enrolled	40%	56%	4%	
Doctorate	Public	264,500	251,200	5,500	521,200
	Private	124,000	98,300	13,500	235,800
	Subtotal	388,500	349,500	19,000	757,000
	% of total enrolled	51%	46%	3%	
Total	Public	316,100	332,500	9,500	658,100
	Private	147,100	122,300	16,400	285,800
	Total	463,200	454,800	25,900	943,900
	% of total enrolled	49%	48%	3%	

Source: 1986-87 CGS/GRE Survey of Graduate Enrollment

**Table 2. Total Enrollment by Institution Type and Enrollment Status, 1986**

Highest Degree	Control	Full-time	Part-time	No Report	Number Enrolled
Master's	Public	28,500	98,800	9,600	136,900
	Private	12,700	33,200	4,200	50,100
	Subtotal	41,200	132,000	13,800	187,000
	% of total enrolled	22%	71%	7%	
Doctorate	Public	240,900	235,200	45,100	521,200
	Private	112,300	121,000	2,500	235,800
	Subtotal	353,200	356,200	47,600	757,000
	% of total enrolled	47%	47%	6%	
Total	Public	269,400	334,000	54,700	658,100
	Private	125,000	154,200	6,600	285,800
	Total	394,400	488,200	61,300	943,900
	% of total enrolled	42%	52%	6%	

Source: 1986-87 CGS/GRE Survey of Graduate Enrollment

**Table 3. First-time Enrollment by Institution Type and Sex, 1986**

Highest Degree	Control	Male	Female	No Report	Number Enrolled
<b>Master's</b>	Public	10,700	16,500	1,300	28,500
	Private	6,000	6,300	1,200	13,500
	Subtotal	16,700	22,800	2,500	42,000
	% of total enrolled	40%	54%	6%	
<b>Doctorate</b>	Public	59,100	55,300	6,900	121,300
	Private	30,900	24,400	4,900	60,200
	Subtotal	90,000	79,700	11,800	181,500
	% of total enrolled	50%	44%	7%	
<b>Total</b>	Public	69,800	71,800	8,200	149,800
	Private	36,900	30,700	6,100	73,700
	Total	106,700	102,400	14,400	223,500
	% of total enrolled	48%	46%	6%	

Source: 1986-87 CGS/GRE Survey of Graduate Enrollment

**Table 4. Graduate Degrees Awarded by Sex, 1985-86**

Control	Responding Institutions	Percent Response	Men	Women	No Report	Total
<b>Master's Degrees</b>						
Public	273	79%	56,200	60,700	16,000	132,900
Private	165	83%	33,800	27,400	8,400	69,600
Total	443	80%	90,000	88,100	24,400	202,500
<b>Doctoral Degrees</b>						
Public	164	85%	11,200	6,500	2,100	19,800
Private	106	87%	6,200	3,600	1,200	11,000
Total	270	86%	17,400	10,100	3,300	30,800

Source: 1986-87 CGS/GRE Survey of Graduate Enrollment

**Table 5. Profile of Graduate Enrollment by Region, 1986**

	New England	Middle Atlantic	South Atlantic	Region East Central	West Central	Mountain & Pacific	Total
<b>Total Enrollment</b>	67,700 7.2%	146,800 15.6%	157,400 16.7%	223,200 23.6%	166,300 17.6%	182,600 19.3%	943,900
<b>First-time Enrollment</b>	18,200 8.1%	37,200 16.6%	36,400 16.3%	48,600 21.7%	37,000 16.6%	46,100 20.6%	223,500
<b>Male*</b>	35,800 7.7%	68,800 14.9%	75,600 16.3%	108,200 23.4%	81,600 17.6%	93,200 20.1%	463,200
<b>Female*</b>	31,900 7.0%	66,000 14.5%	79,900 17.6%	111,500 24.5%	84,800 18.6%	80,800 17.8%	454,800

\* Figures for male and female do not add up to total enrollment because three institutions did not report enrollment by sex.

Source: 1986-87 CGS/GRE Survey of Graduate Enrollment