

Table 2-4 • Recipients of postsecondary degrees by sex, academic years 1980/81, 2000/01, and projected 2010/11

Between 1980/81 and 2000/01, women's representation among degree recipients grew impressively at every level, and by leaps and bounds at the highest levels. In 00/01, a considerable majority of associate, bachelor's, and master's degrees went to women, and even though women were still the minority of first professional and doctoral degree recipients, they were only five percentage points or so from parity.

<i>Degree</i>	<i>1980/81</i>	<i>2000/01</i>	<i>Percent change 80/81– 00/01</i>	<i>Projected 2010/11</i>
Associate degrees				
Number of women	227,739	347,220	52.5	426,000
Number of men	188,638	231,645	22.8	236,000
Women as a percentage of degree recipients	54.7	60.0	—	64.4
Bachelor's degrees				
Number of women	465,257	712,331	53.1	834,000
Number of men	469,883	531,840	13.2	580,000
Women as a percentage of degree recipients	49.8	57.3	—	59.0
Master's degrees				
Number of women	148,696	274,125	84.4	290,000
Number of men	147,043	194,351	32.2	201,000
Women as a percentage of degree recipients	50.3	58.5	—	59.1
First professional degrees				
Number of women	19,164	36,845	92.3	41,100
Number of men	52,792	42,862	-18.7	44,600
Women as a percentage of degree recipients	26.6	46.2	—	48.0
Doctoral degrees				
Number of women	10,247	20,176	96.9	20,500
Number of men	22,711	24,728	8.9	25,800
Women as a percentage of degree recipients	31.1	44.9	—	44.3

¹ Includes non-U.S. citizens on student visas.

Source: National Center for Educational Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics 2002*, Table 246.

Table prepared by the Women's Research and Education Institute (WREI), 2005.