

Report on the Survey of Earned Doctorates, 2010–11 and 2011–12

MLA Office of Research

Web publication, June 2014

© 2014 by The Modern Language Association of America

All material published by the Modern Language Association in any medium is protected by copyright. Users may link to the MLA Web page freely and may quote from MLA publications as allowed by the doctrine of fair use. Written permission is required for any other reproduction of material from any MLA publication.

Send requests for permission to reprint material to the MLA permissions manager by mail (26 Broadway, 3rd floor, New York, NY 10004-1789) or e-mail (permissions@mla.org).

Report on the Survey of Earned Doctorates, 2010–11 and 2011–12

IN DECEMBER 2012 and December 2013, the National Science Foundation (NSF) released *Doctorate Recipients from U.S. Universities, 2011* and *Doctorate Recipients from U.S. Universities, 2012*, its annual report on the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), the federally sponsored census of persons who receive doctoral degrees from universities in the United States each year.¹ The 2011 SED counted 900 doctorate recipients in English and American language and literature and 644 in foreign languages between 1 July 2010 and 30 June 2011. The 2012 SED counted 989 doctorate recipients in English and American language and literature and 685 in foreign languages between 1 July 2011 and 30 June 2012. Recent years have shown modest increases in doctorate conferrals in both English and foreign language fields.

Figures 1 and 2 show the larger context for these degree conferrals. **Figure 1** gives doctorates by broad field in selected years from 1982 to 2012, showing that across the period the humanities' share of doctorate conferrals has remained relatively stable, ranging from just over 10% to 13%.² The most dramatic decline in share was in education (from 23.3% to 9.4%), the most dramatic increase in engineering (from 8.5% to 16.5%). **Figure 2** shows a breakdown for various areas within the humanities from degrees conferred from 2002 to 2012. Foreign languages account for 11%–13% of humanities doctorates in each of these years, letters for 26%–30%, and history for 18%–21%.³ The overall picture for the humanities in figure 1 and for letters and foreign languages in figure 2 is one of incremental growth and a stable share.

Trends in the Number of Doctorate Recipients in English and Foreign Languages

Figure 3 shows the number of doctorate recipients in letters and in foreign languages, as reported on the SED from 1958 to 2012. The historic high in 1973 is evident, as is the trough in the 1980s.

Figures 4a, 4b, and 5 break out the fields included in the category *letters* in the 2012 report: English language and literature, American literature, folklore, creative writing, classics, speech and rhetorical studies and rhetoric and composition, and comparative literature. **Figure 4a** gathers the fields that contribute to English and American language and literature, and **figure 4b** shows the remaining subfields.

When degree recipients in English and American language and literature are counted separately from other letters fields, as they are in figure 4a, the downward trend from 1997 to 2009 is more apparent (cf. the flatter line in fig. 3). The number has since ticked back up slightly: there were 926 recipients of doctorates in English and American language and literature in 2010, 900 in 2011, and 989 in 2012, but these numbers are still, respectively, 15.4%, 17.7%, and 9.6% below the recent high of 1,094 reached in 1997. Of the 900 degree recipients in 2011, 59.8% were women

*Report on the Survey
of Earned Doctorates,
2010–11 and 2011–12*

and 40.2% were men; of the 989 degree recipients in 2012, 59.2% were women and 41.1% were men. Since 1995, when the number of recipients of doctorates in English literature grew to a recent peak of 706, the number has declined to 354 in 2011 and 423 in 2012, declines of 49.9% and 40.1%, respectively (see [app. 1](#) for the numbers for all fields in letters and all years from 1958 to 2012).

Comparing figures 4a and 4b illustrates that the growth in recent years has been steeper in the categories other than English and American language and literature (but bear in mind the different scales of the two figures). Figure 4b shows the subfields folklore, creative writing, classics, speech and rhetorical studies and rhetoric and composition, and comparative literature. Rhetoric and composition, added in 2012, is combined with speech and rhetorical studies in figures 4b and 5 but broken out in appendix 1, which clearly shows the shift in allocation from one category to the other. Creative writing was added in 2007 and shows modest but steady growth each year.

[Figure 5](#) gathers the several categories that are most usually represented in English departments: creative writing, speech and rhetorical studies and rhetoric and composition, American literature, English language, and English literature (somewhat variously aggregated over the years). English language and literature's share of doctorates has declined since the early 1970s (68.5% in 1973, 45.1% in 2012), whereas American literature's has gained (15.7% in 1973, 31.7% in 2012), and new categories have emerged. In 2007, the SED counted 65 doctorate recipients in creative writing; the number increased to 73, 76, 81, 85, and 91 in the years from 2008 to 2012, or from 6.2% in 2007 to 7.1% in 2012 of the total number of doctorate recipients in the subfields in figure 5. The rhetoric fields account for 16.0% of these doctorate recipients in 2012, American literature for 31.7%, English language for 12.3%, and English literature for 32.9%.

The trend line for foreign languages in figure 3, unlike that for letters, remains fairly flat over most of the past ten years, with modest rises in 2011 and 2012. Over the past fifteen years, the number of foreign language doctorate recipients has ranged from 587 to 685, standing closer to 630 for the five years from 1998 to 2002, closer to 600 for most survey years from 2003 to 2010, and ticking back up to 644 and 685 in 2011 and 2012. Women accounted for 61.6% and men 38.4% of foreign language doctorates in 2011, women 65.3% and men 34.7% in 2012.

Trends for foreign language and literature fields show complex patterns of increases and declines, as we see in figures 6 and 7. [Figure 6](#) shows the number of doctorate recipients in German, French, and Spanish—the three language fields that on average graduate more than 80 doctorate recipients each year. All these fields experienced growth from the mid-1980s to the mid-1990s. The number of doctorate recipients in French grew by almost 50%, from about 100 to about 150; in German by as much as a third, from about 75 to about 100; and in Spanish by nearly 60%, from about 130 to about 200. But of the three, only for Spanish has the increase been sustained, leveling off to about 240 over 2001–10 and ticking up slightly in 2012 to 262. In 2012, the number of doctorate recipients in French and German was, respectively, 19.2% and 3.2% below the number in 1995; by contrast, the number for Spanish in 2012 (205, or 262 if we include Latin American)⁴ was somewhat higher than that in 1995 (209). Over the eleven years from 1987 to 1997, French,

*Report on the Survey
of Earned Doctorates,
2010–11 and 2011–12*

German, and Spanish graduated on average 124, 82, and 179 doctorate recipients each year, respectively. Over the years since, from 1998 to 2012, the averages for French and German have hardly changed, at 122 and 80 degree recipients per year, respectively, whereas Spanish averaged 230 per year (not including Latin American languages and literatures), 28.5% greater than its average for the years 1987 to 1997. Italian shows continued growth, reaching a peak of 51 doctorate recipients in 2012, twice its number of forty years ago (whereas in 2012 the number of doctorate recipients in French was only half that of 1972).

Fields graduating fewer than 50 degree recipients in recent years show more erratic trends on a smaller scale in [figure 7](#). Like French and German, Russian and other Slavic languages saw increased degree production from the 1980s into the 1990s but decreases since. Chinese saw its number of degree recipients grow until the two most recent years. At 20 doctorates in 2012, Japanese remains near its average of 19 since 2000. [Figure 7](#) also shows degree recipients in Arabic, which has averaged 8 doctorates per year across the last twenty-five years. Even where there have been increases, the number of degree recipients in these fields remains relatively small, with considerable year-to-year fluctuations, and the smaller numbers create seemingly dramatic rises and falls in graph form.

Postgraduation Plans and Job Placement

The SED inquires about doctorate recipients' postgraduation plans, although for the foreign language fields the report presents information about graduates' placement to employment or postdoctoral study only in the aggregate. [Table 1](#) presents these data along with those for history and for other humanities fields. Of the 1,515 doctorate recipients in letters in 2011, 45.4% reported having definite employment at the time of graduation, 7.7% had definite postdoctoral study, and 34.3% were seeking positions. Of the 646 doctorate recipients in foreign languages, 43.5% reported having definite employment at the time of graduation, 6.2% had definite postdoctoral study, and 33.6% were seeking positions. (The remainder had other plans or placements.) Of the 1,638 doctorate recipients in letters in 2012, 45.8% reported having definite employment at the time of graduation, 6.5% had definite postdoctoral study, and 32.2% were seeking positions. Of the 685 doctorate recipients in foreign languages, 42.3% reported having definite employment at the time of graduation, 5.8% had definite postdoctoral study, and 33.6% were seeking positions. (The remainder had other plans or placements.)

[Table 2](#) shows additional detail about the types of placements graduates reported within each postgraduation status. Placements outside postsecondary education remain rare across the humanities; in both 2011 and 2012 academia was the employment destination for around nine-tenths of the graduates in foreign languages and in letters who had definite employment plans at the time of graduation.

[Figure 8](#) compares the job placement trend line for humanities degree recipients with those from education, social sciences, and other nonscience fields; [figure 9](#) compares humanities with engineering, life sciences, and physical sciences. The figures make evident a decline in graduates' placement prospects in the 1990s, a subsequent

*Report on the Survey
of Earned Doctorates,
2010–11 and 2011–12*

recovery, and another decline in 2006. The drop in the 1990s was especially steep and deep in humanities and engineering—more than 11 percentage points, from 67.6% to 56.1% of humanities graduates with definite plans for employment or study at the time of graduation between 1989 and 1997 and from 67.6% to 55.7% of graduates in engineering between 1989 and 1993.

Although employment prospects for graduates in all fields rise and fall with economic cycles, graduates of doctoral humanities programs have consistently had the lowest rate of definite placement at the time of receiving the degree of all seven disciplinary areas displayed in figures 8 and 9. Only in engineering, the field where placement prospects have seen both the steepest declines and most pronounced recoveries, have graduates' postgraduation prospects fallen to a level parallel with or below that for graduates in the humanities. Not to be ignored either is the coincidence of reduced placement prospects and the significantly increased numbers of doctorate recipients in English and other modern languages that characterized the 1990s.

At the same time, any assessment of placement trends for humanities doctorate recipients needs to be cognizant of the master's degree as a *de facto* degree qualification for a large share of postsecondary faculty positions in four-year as well as two-year institutions. Information from the 2004 National Study of Postsecondary Faculty (NSOPF:04) documents the substantial population of humanities faculty members teaching off the tenure track with a master's degree as their highest degree. In both two- and four-year institutions, 76,700 humanities faculty members held a master's degree, or 45.1% of the entire complement of 169,900 faculty members teaching in the humanities disciplines, full- or part-time, on or off the tenure track as of fall 2003 (the data collection period for NSOPF:04). In four-year institutions—where 94.9% of the 55,200 tenured and tenure-track faculty members in humanities fields held a doctorate—28,500 (57.2%) of the 49,800 non-tenure-track faculty members held a master's degree as their highest degree. An estimated 32,200 (29.7%) of all 108,300 humanities faculty members in four-year institutions held a master's degree as their highest degree.⁵ Thus teaching in four- as well as two-year colleges clearly figures as a significant employment destination for graduates from the field's master's degree programs, as the ADE Ad Hoc Committee on the Master's Degree remarked in its 2011 report (*Rethinking*).

Years to Degree and Amount of Educational Debt

Figure 10 shows time to degree (since receiving the baccalaureate and since starting graduate school) for humanities doctorate recipients in selected years since 1970, showing a gradual increase from 6.0 years in 1970 to a peak of 10.4 years in 1990 and then a reduction to 9.3 years in 2011 and 9.0 years in 2012, still well above the median 7.7 years for all fields and significantly shorter only than the median for education (11.7 and 11.8 years in 2011 and 2012, respectively). Recipients of doctorates in life sciences in 2011 and 2012 took 6.9 years from starting graduate school to complete the degree, in physical sciences 6.7 years, and in social sciences 7.7 years (see table 31 in the 2011 and 2012 SED reports for data on time to degree for recipients of doctorates in all fields).

*Report on the Survey
of Earned Doctorates,
2010–11 and 2011–12*

Table 3 shows average debt levels for the seven broad fields of study and the percentage of 2011 and 2012 graduates in each field that graduated debt-free or with various levels of debt. Recipients of humanities doctorates in 2011 held average undergraduate educational debts of \$7,827, 17.2% higher than the \$6,678 mean for all disciplines; average graduate debt of \$20,068, 41.9% higher than the \$14,144 mean for all disciplines; and total average cumulative debt of \$27,754, 33.9% higher than the \$20,732 mean for all disciplines. Only graduates in social sciences and education had higher levels of cumulative educational debt—\$29,132 in education and \$32,980 in the social sciences. Recipients of humanities doctorates in 2012 held average undergraduate educational debts of \$8,035, 12.9% higher than the \$7,118 mean for all disciplines; average graduate debt of \$21,408, 47.9% higher than the \$14,479 mean for all disciplines; and total average cumulative debt of \$29,281, 36.3% higher than the \$21,482 mean for all disciplines. As in 2011, only graduates in social sciences and education had higher levels of cumulative educational debt—\$31,848 in education and \$33,346 in the social sciences.

Race and Ethnicity

Table 4 reports race and ethnicity for 2011 and 2012 doctorate recipients in humanities disciplines. In 2011, 69.6% of recipients of foreign language doctorates were white, 19.2% Hispanic, 5.2% Asian, and 3.0% black; in letters, 83.3% of degree recipients were white, 4.4% Hispanic, 4.1% Asian, and 3.5% black. In 2012, 68.3% of recipients of foreign language doctorates were white, 21.6% Hispanic, 4.7% Asian, and 1.3% black; in letters, 81.1% of degree recipients were white, 5.7% Hispanic, 4.6% black, and 3.6% Asian.

Doug Steward

Notes

1. This report includes the detailed data on humanities subfields of doctorates conferred from 1958 to 2012, drawn from a custom data run of the SED for the MLA by NORC, at the University of Chicago. The seventy data tables from each SED report are freely available on the NSF Web site at <http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/doctorates/>.

2. As constituents of the major category *humanities*, the SED includes *foreign languages*, *history*, *letters*, and *other humanities*. Where totals are broken out in more detail—by gender, for example, as in SED table 16—numbers for some subfields (like creative writing) that have smaller numbers of degree recipients are not reported separately but collected within a subcategory named, somewhat confusingly, *letters, aggregated*.

3. The category *letters* is complex and, as figures 4a, 4b, and 5 show, changes over time. In 1958–68, English degrees were labeled *English and American literature*. In 1969–82, they were split between *English language and literature* and *American literature*. In 1983–2012, the categories were *English language*, *English literature (British and Commonwealth)*, and *American literature*. In 1958–75, the only other *letters* categories were *speech and rhetorical studies* and *classics*. In 1976–2003, the categories included *comparative literature*, *speech and rhetorical studies*, and *classics*. The category *folklore* was added in 2004, and *creative writing* in 2007. In 2012, *rhetoric and composition* was added, apparently taking some share of the degrees previously labeled *speech and rhetorical studies*. The category *speech and rhetorical studies* runs the entire length of the SED's series, that of *rhetoric and composition* only the most recent year. The two categories have been combined in figures 4b and 5, as the new category clearly drew from the older, which drops notably in 2012.

4. The category *Latin American languages and literatures* was added in 2012 as a way of allowing degree recipients to distinguish themselves from those specializing in peninsular literatures. The category is not specifically Spanish-language, however; it could logically include not only Portuguese and French

***Report on the Survey
of Earned Doctorates,
2010–11 and 2011–12***

but also Native languages in Latin America. Figure 6 does include Latin American with Spanish, since the vast majority of degrees in the new category would have been counted among the degrees in Spanish in previous years.

5. By comparison, NSOPF:04 found that 17.0% of faculty members in the social sciences and 16.8% of faculty members in the natural sciences at four-year institutions held a master's degree as their highest degree.

Works Cited

-
- Doctorate Recipients from U.S. Universities, 2011.* Rept. NSF 13-301. *National Science Foundation*. Natl. Science Foundation, Dec. 2012. Web. 12 Dec. 2013.
- Doctorate Recipients from U.S. Universities, 2012.* Spec. Rept. NSF 14-305. *National Science Foundation*. Natl. Science Foundation, Dec. 2013. Web. 12 Dec. 2013.
- Rethinking the Master's Degree for a New Century: Report of the ADE Ad Hoc Committee on the Master's Degree.* *Modern Language Association*. MLA, June 2011. Web. 17 Apr. 2014. <http://www.mla.org/rethinking_degree>.
- 2004 National Study of Postsecondary Faculty.* Natl. Center for Educ. Statistics, 24 Apr. 2010. Web. 14 Dec. 2010.

Fig. 1
Number of Doctorate Recipients by Broad Field, Selected Years

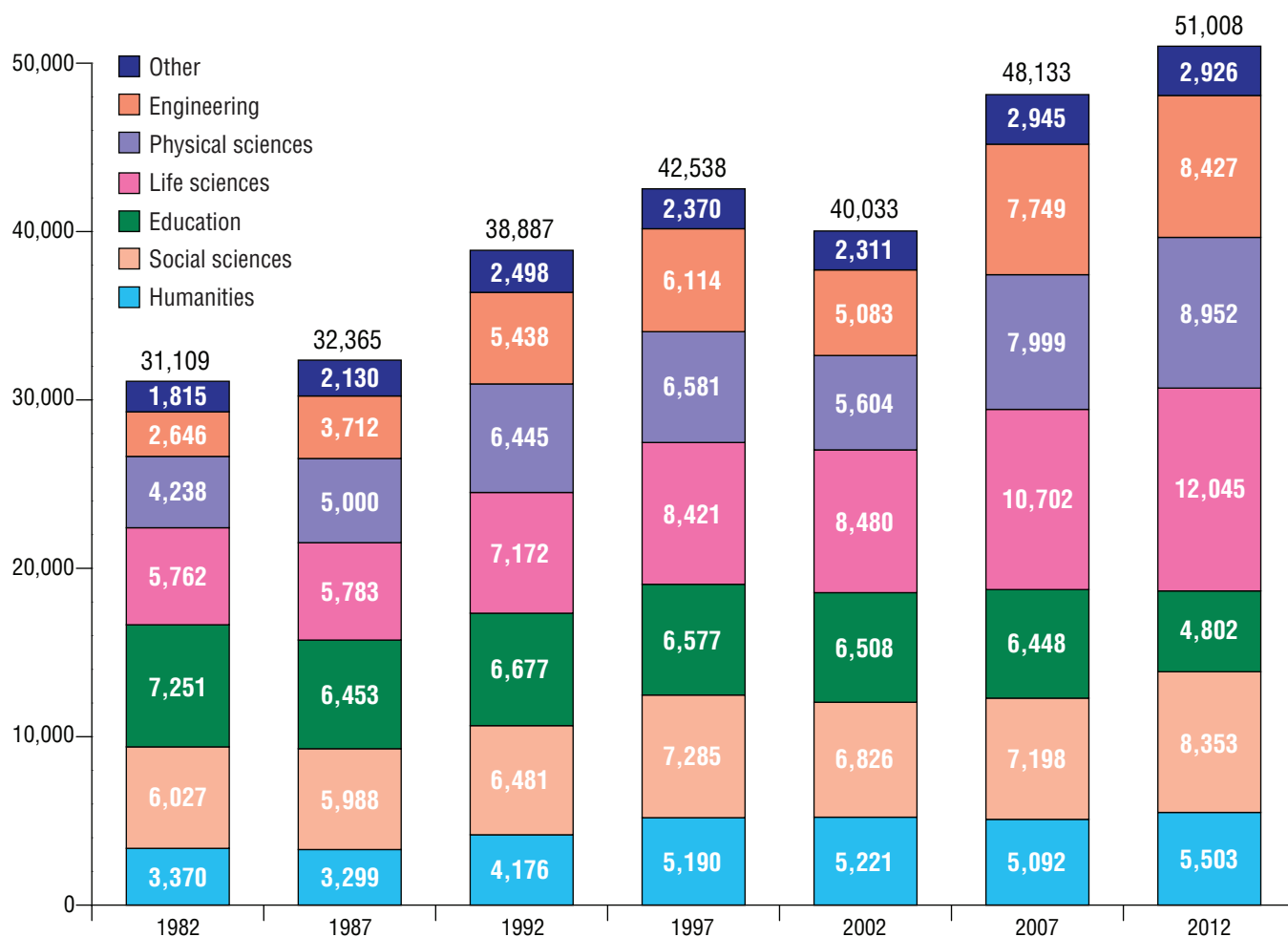


Fig. 2
Number of Humanities Doctorate Recipients, Selected Years

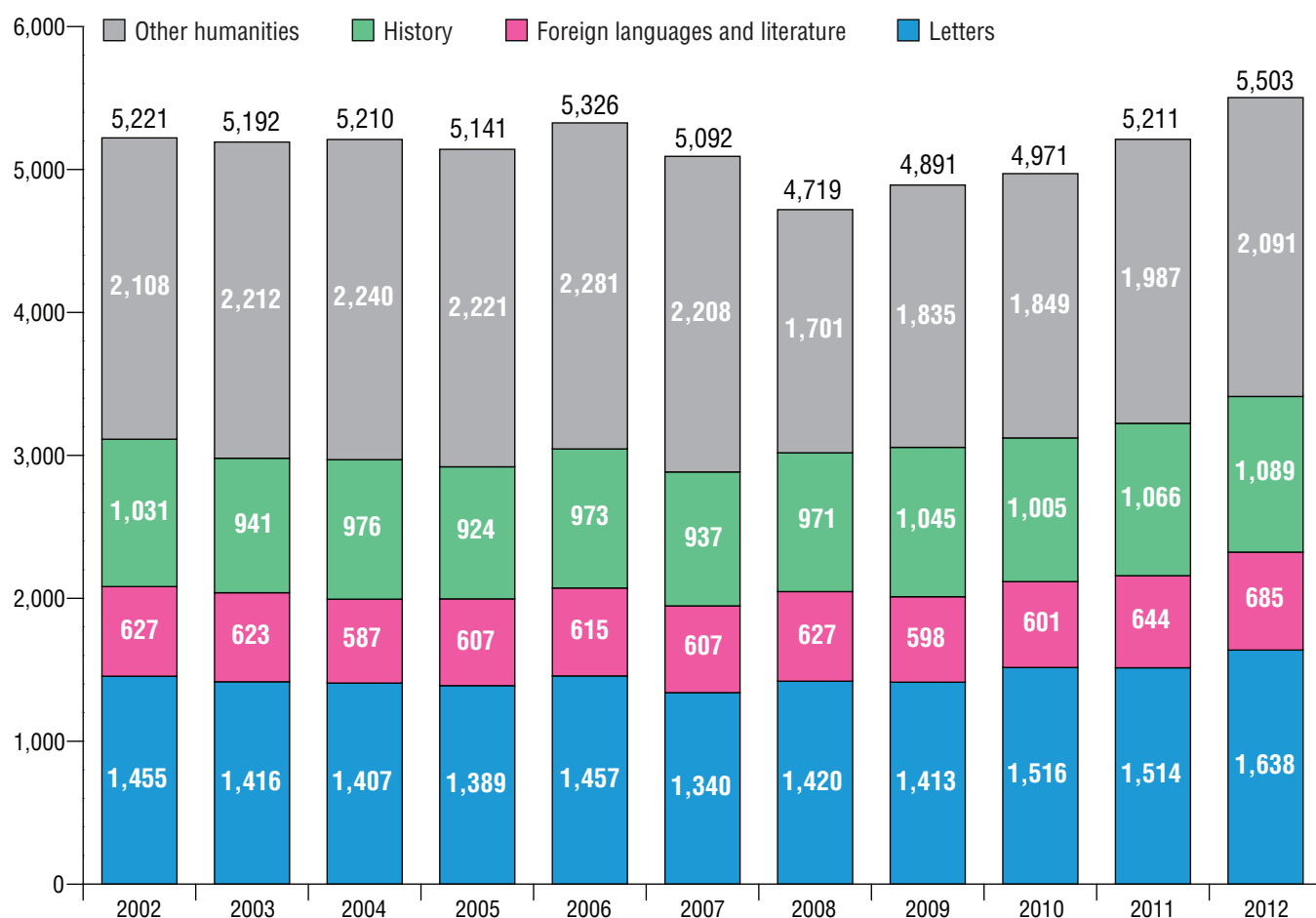


Fig. 3
Number of Doctorate Recipients in Letters and Foreign Languages, 1958–2012

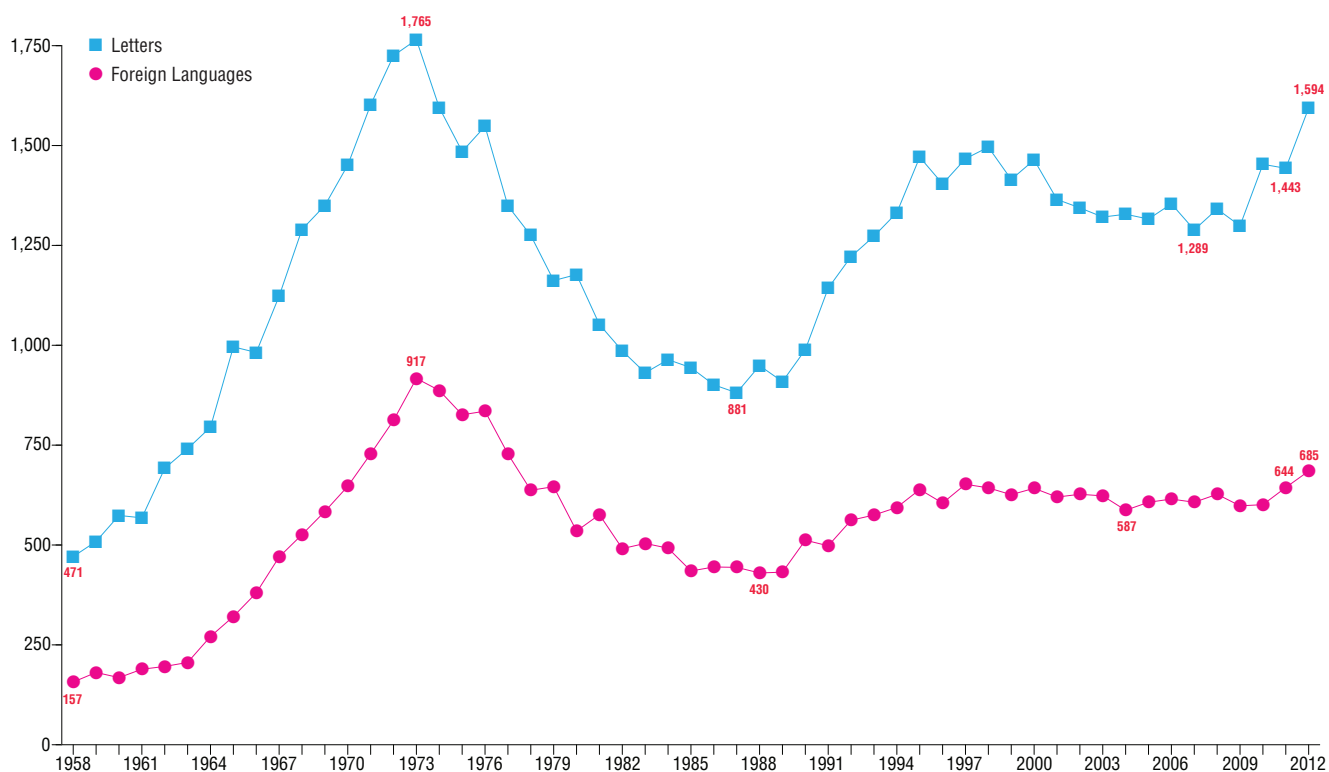


Fig. 4a
Number of Doctorate Recipients in English and American Language and Literature, 1958–2012

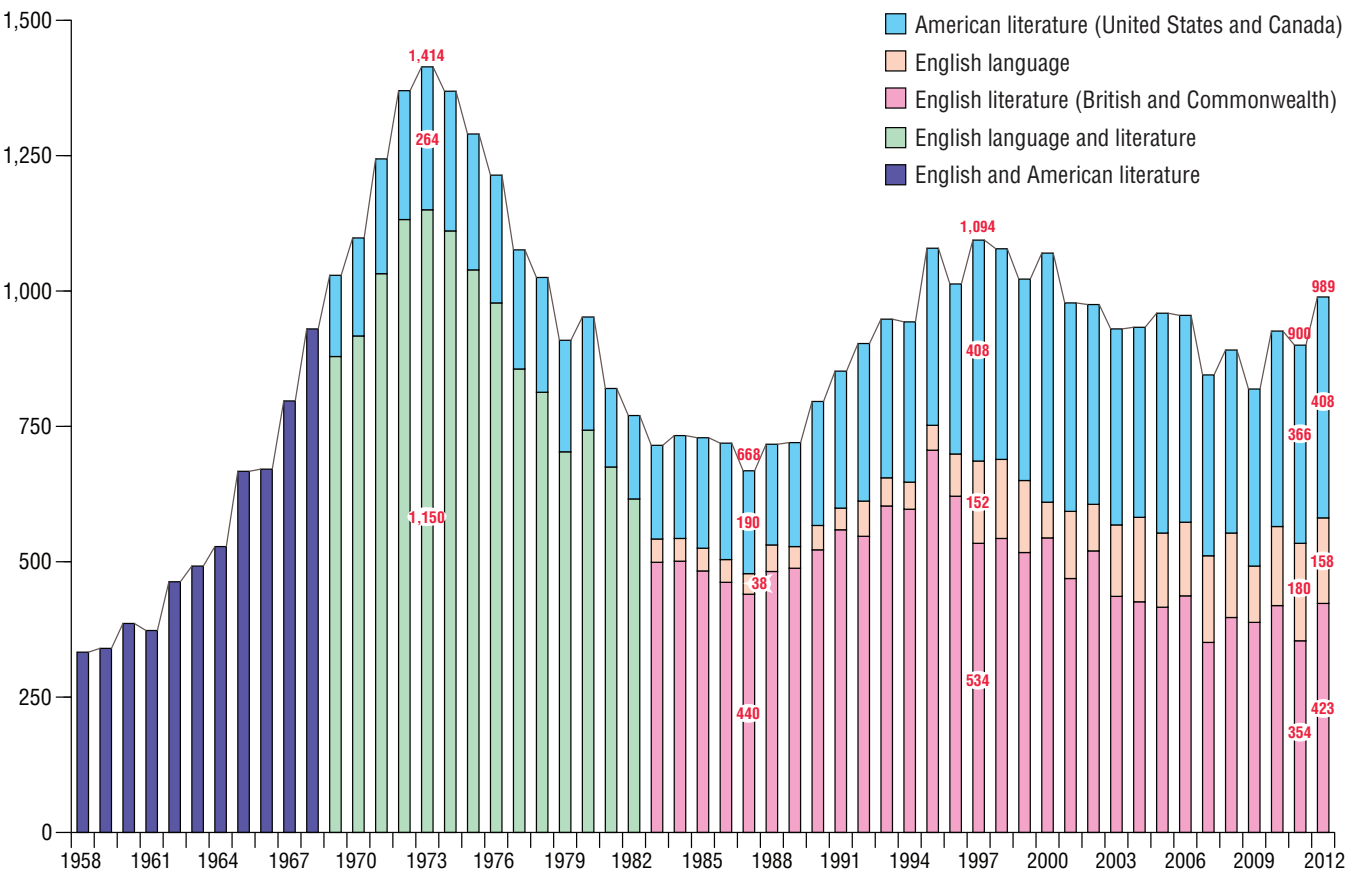


Fig. 4b
Number of Doctorate Recipients in Other Letters Fields, 1958–2012

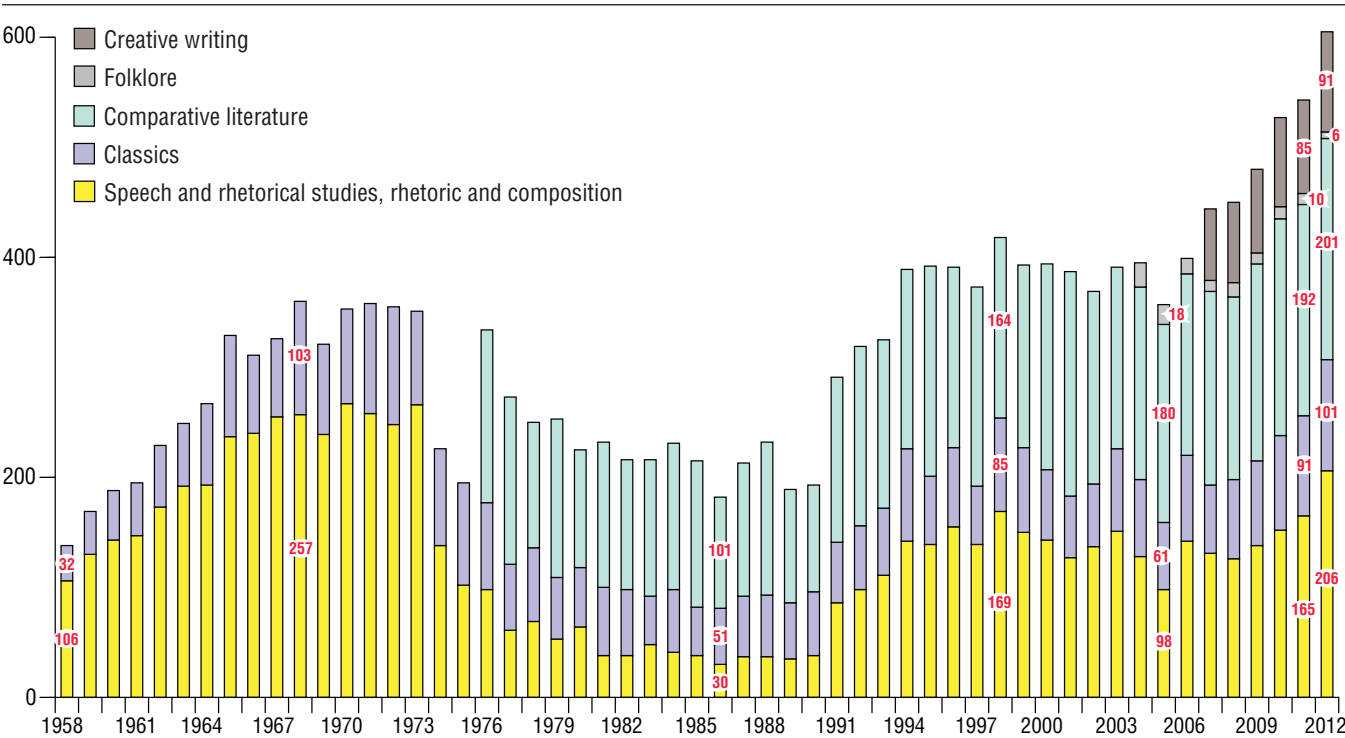


Fig. 5
Number of Doctorate Recipients in English and American Language and Literature, Speech and Rhetorical Studies, Rhetoric and Composition, and Creative Writing, 1958–2012

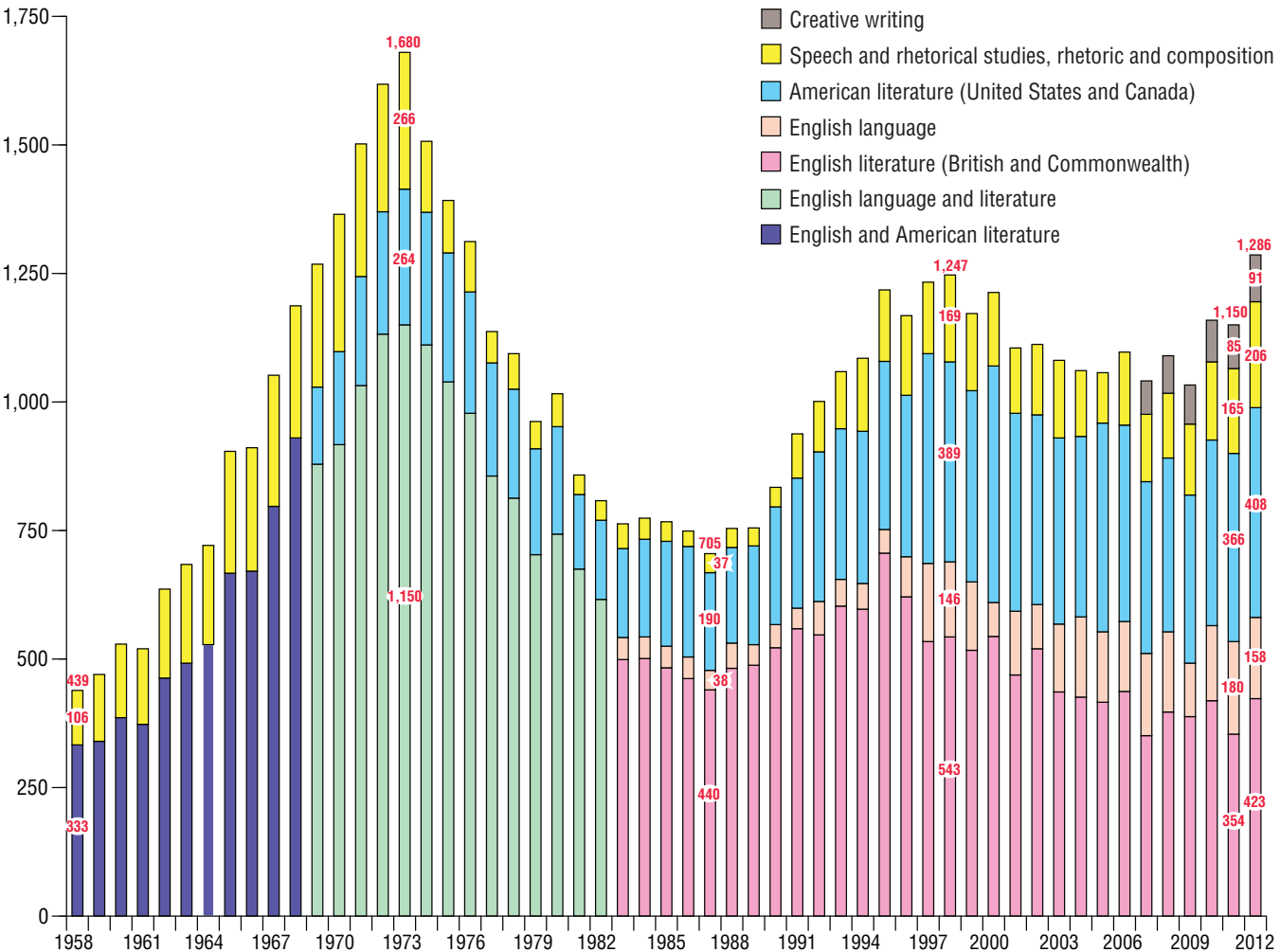


Fig. 6
Number of Doctorate Recipients in Spanish and Latin American, French, German, and Italian, 1962–2012

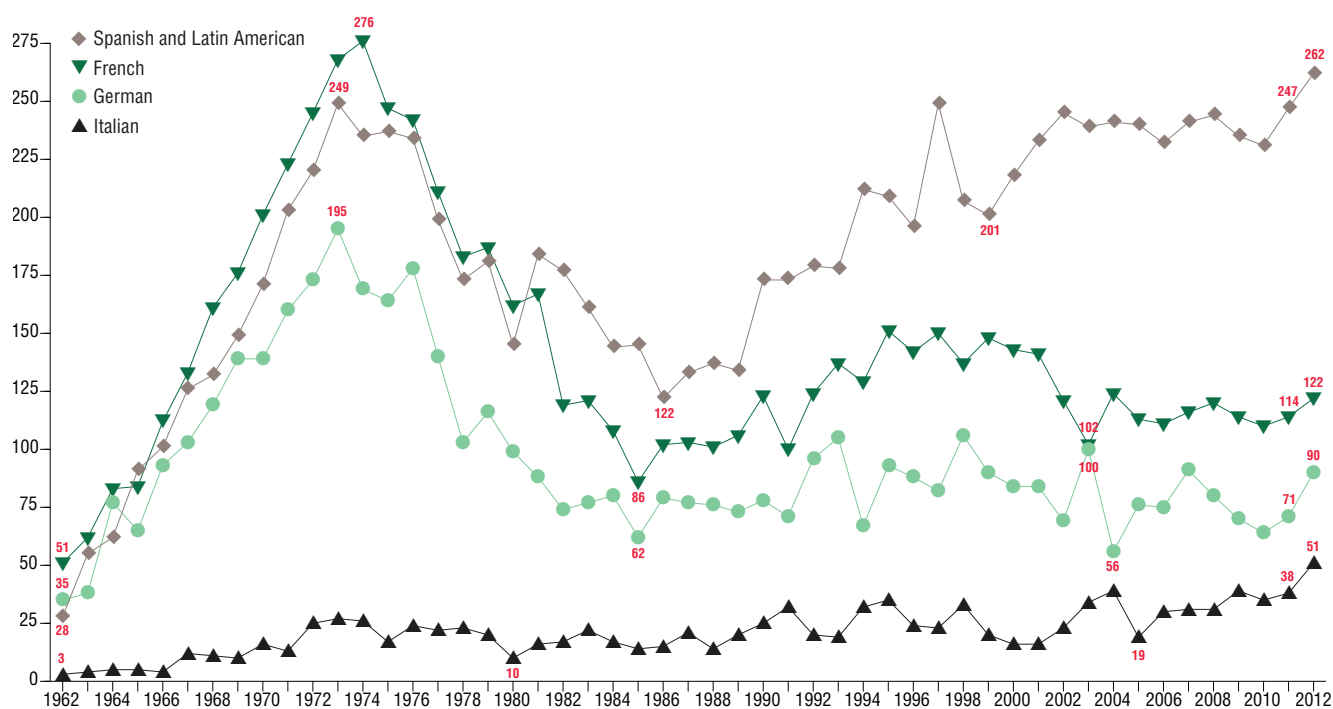


Fig. 7
Number of Doctorate Recipients in Russian and Slavic, Chinese, Japanese, and Arabic, 1962–2012

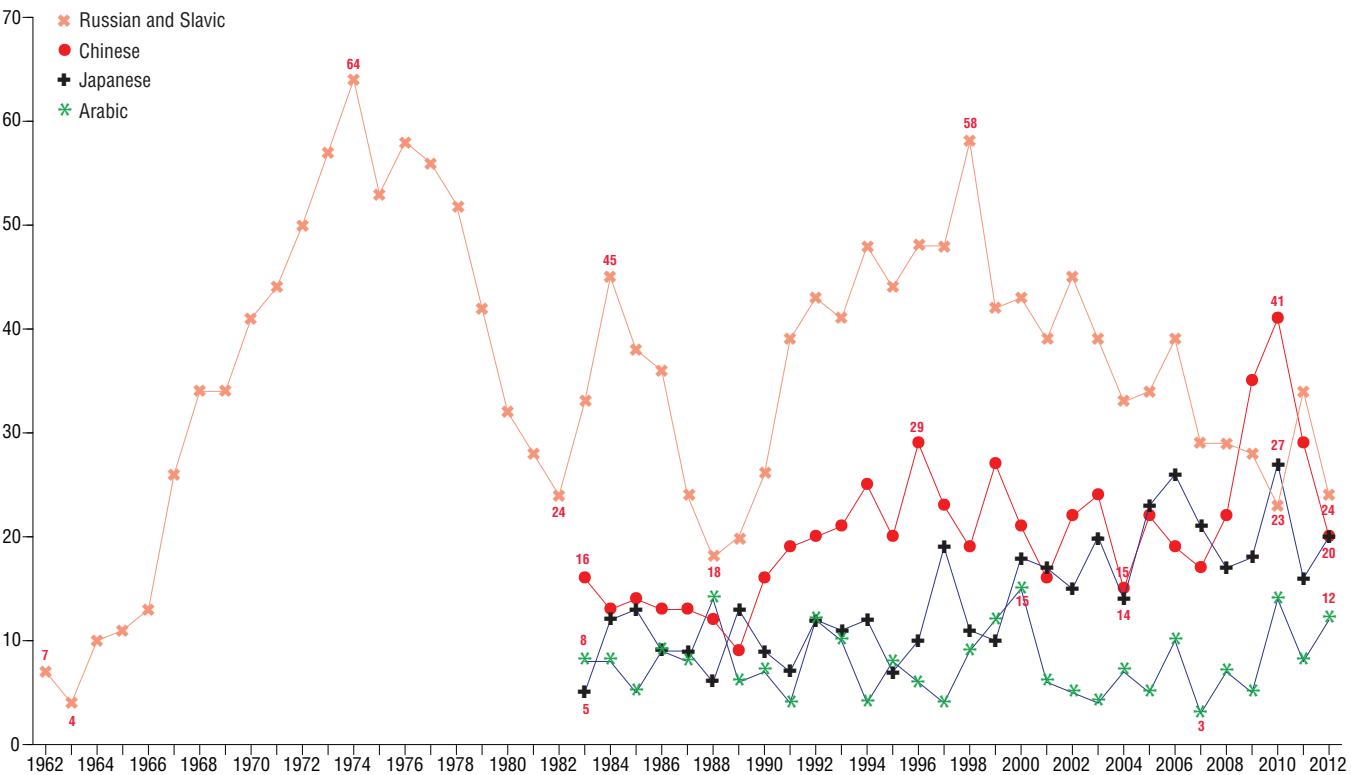
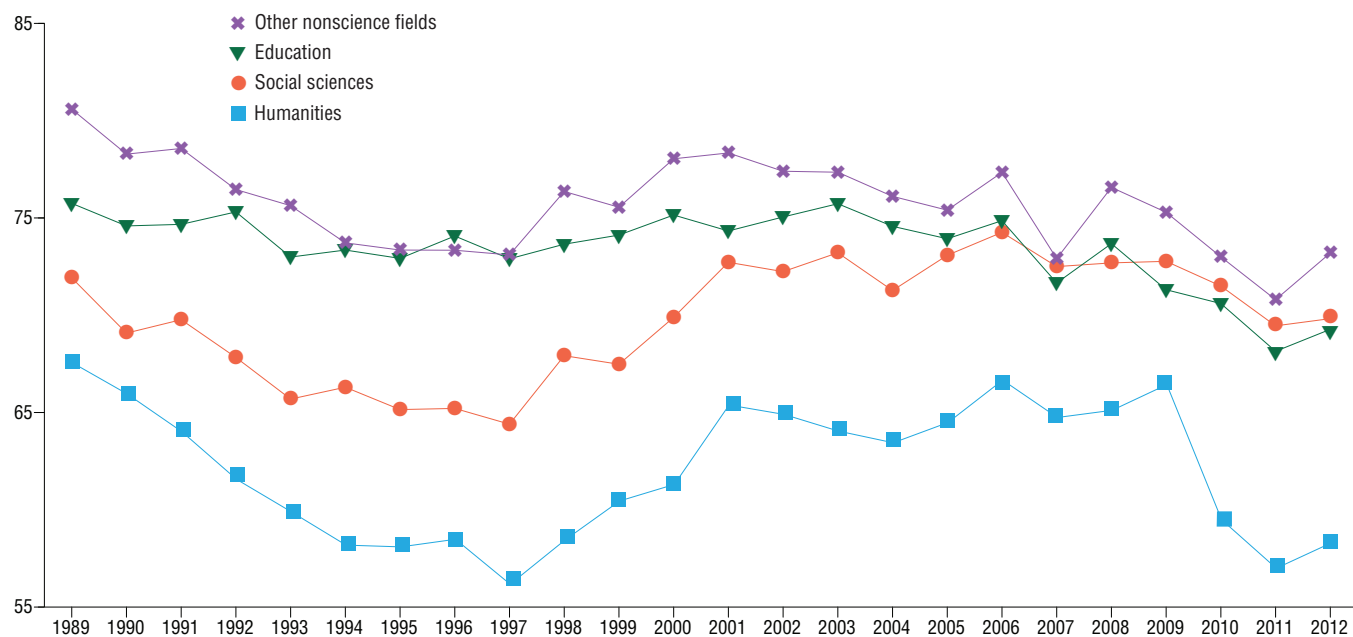
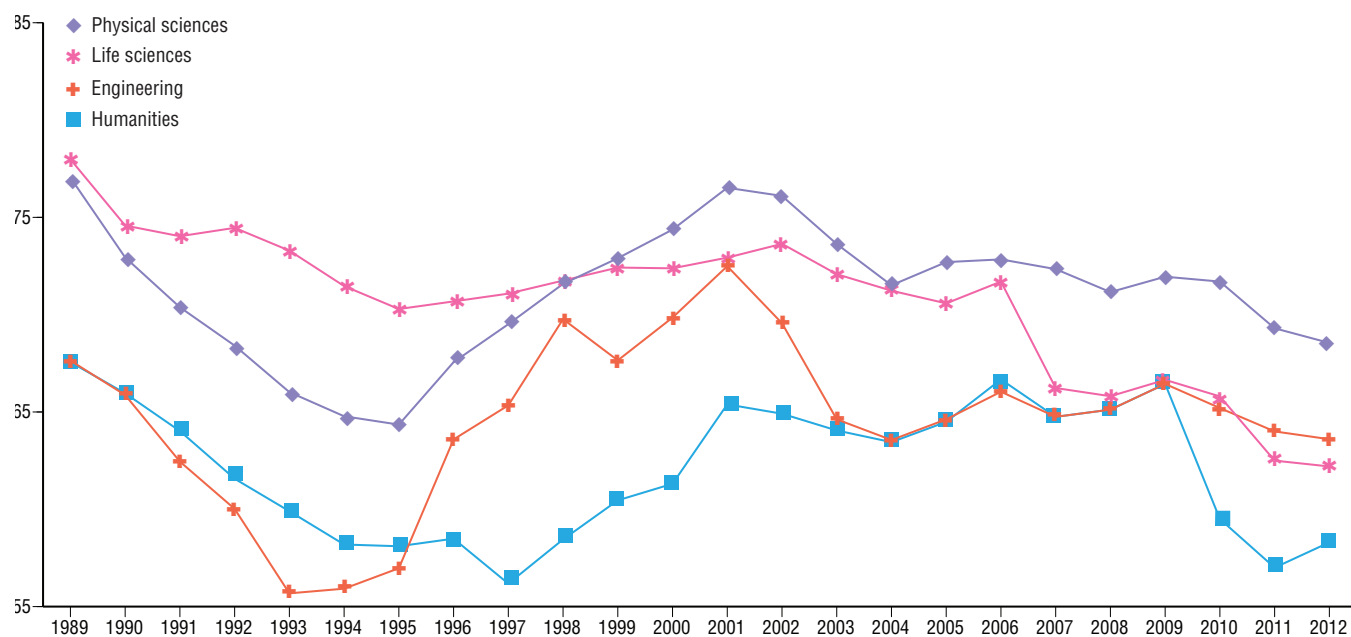


Fig. 8
Percentage of Graduates with Definite Employment or Study Commitments at Doctorate Award: Humanities, Social Sciences, Education, and Other Nonscience Fields of Study, 1989–2012



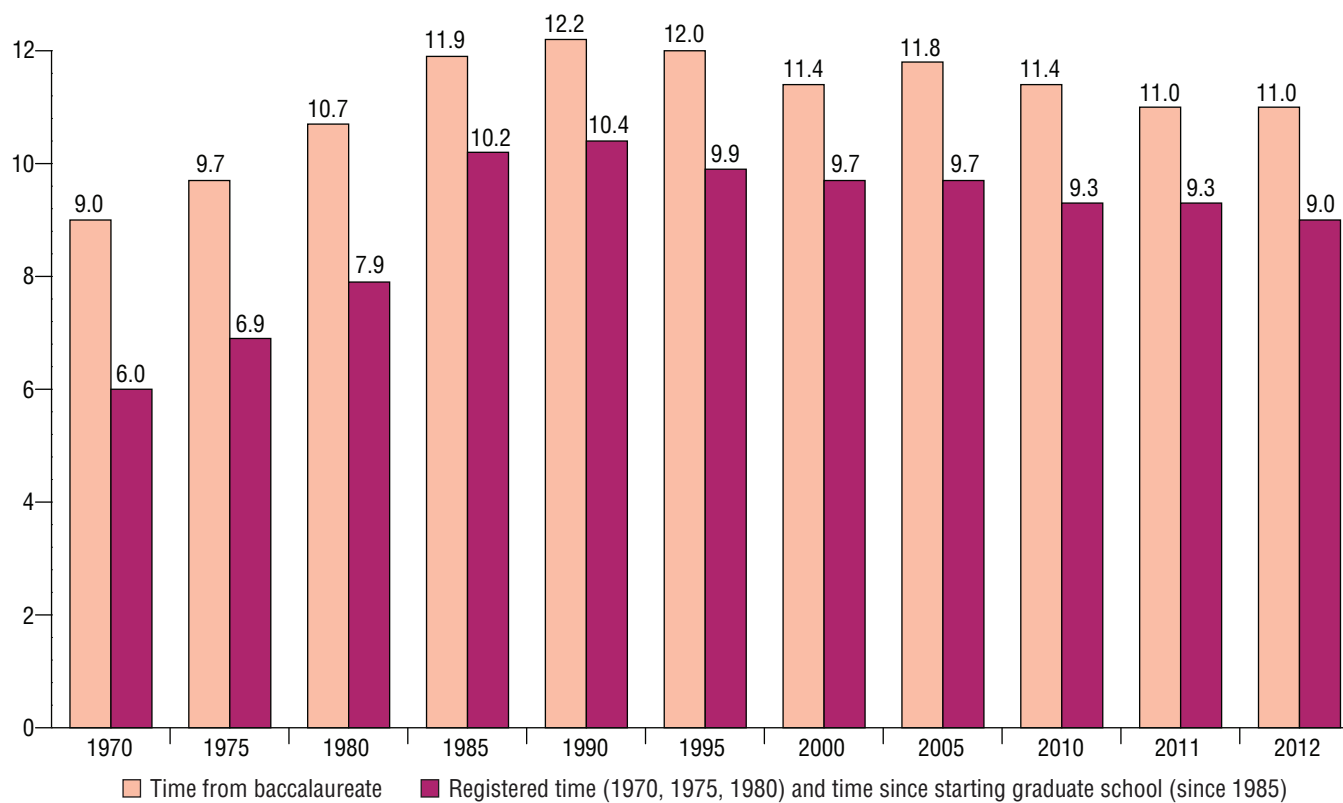
Note: The data for 1989–2009 are drawn from figures 5-A and 5-B of the 2009 SED report; the percentages for 2010–12 are drawn from table 42 of the 2010, 2011, and 2012 reports.

Fig. 9
Percentage of Graduates with Definite Employment or Study Commitments at Doctorate Award: Humanities, Engineering, Life Sciences, and Physical Sciences, 1989–2012



Note: The data for 1989–2009 are drawn from figures 5-A and 5-B of the 2009 SED report; the percentages for 2010–12 are drawn from table 42 of the 2010, 2011, and 2012 reports.

Fig. 10
Time to Degree in Years for Humanities Doctorate Recipients, Selected Years



Note: The data for 1970–80 are drawn from table 8 of the 1995 SED report; the data for 1985–2010 are drawn from table 31 of the 2010 SED report.

Table 1
Doctorate Recipients' Postgraduation Plans: Percentage with Definite Employment, with Definite Postdoctoral Study, and Seeking Employment or Study

2011	All Humanities	Foreign Languages	Letters	History	Other Humanities
Definite employment	40.1	43.5	45.4	38.4	35.8
Definite postgraduation study	8.4	6.2	7.7	11.3	8.1
Seeking employment or study	36.2	33.6	34.3	37.0	39.4
Other	3.4	3.6	3.4	3.6	3.2
Number (basis for percentages)	5,214	646	1,515	1,066	1,987

Source: *Doctorate Recipients from U.S. Universities, 2011*, data table 67

2012	All Humanities	Foreign Languages	Letters	History	Other Humanities
Definite employment	40.7	42.3	45.8	39.2	37.0
Definite postgraduation study	7.7	5.8	6.5	11.4	7.7
Seeking employment or study	35.0	33.6	32.2	35.7	37.4
Other	2.9	3.6	2.7	2.2	3.1
Number (basis for percentages)	5,503	685	1,638	1,089	2,091

Source: *Doctorate Recipients from U.S. Universities, 2012*, data table 67

Table 2
Doctorate Recipients' Postgraduation Plans: Percentage of Doctorate Recipients Placed in Different Employment Sectors and Forms of Postdoctoral Study

2011	All Humanities	Foreign Languages	Letters	History	Other Humanities
Definite employment					
Academia	83.6	94.3	89.1	77.5	77.7
Government	2.7			7.8	2.2
Industry or business	4.1			3.7	6.0
Not-for-profit organization	5.1		1.6	6.1	10.0
Other or unknown	4.4	2.1	5.5	4.9	4.1
Number (basis for percentages)	2,090	281	688	409	712
Definite postgraduation study					
Postdoctoral fellowship	82.4	80.0	81.9	83.3	82.6
Postdoctoral research associateship	15.1	15.0	16.4	13.3	15.5
Other	2.5	5.0	1.7	3.3	1.9
Number (basis for percentages)	437	40	116	120	161

Source: *Doctorate Recipients from U.S. Universities, 2011*, data table 67

Blanks indicate cells where regulations governing reportage require data to be suppressed.

2012	All Humanities	Foreign Languages	Letters	History	Other Humanities
Definite employment					
Academia	82.8	90.3	89.9	79.4	76.0
Government	2.1			6.1	1.3
Industry or business	4.2	2.1	2.5	3.3	7.1
Not-for-profit organization	5.1			3.5	10.9
Other or unknown	5.8	4.8	6.0	7.7	4.8
Number (basis for percentages)	2,241	290	750	427	774
Definite postgraduation study					
Postdoctoral fellowship	82.4	65.0	81.3	87.1	83.9
Postdoctoral research associateship	14.6	32.5	14.0	11.3	13.0
Other	3.0	2.5	4.7	1.6	3.1
Number (basis for percentages)	432	40	107	124	161

Source: *Doctorate Recipients from U.S. Universities, 2012*, data table 67

Blanks indicate cells where regulations governing reportage require data to be suppressed.

Table 3
Cumulative Educational Debt of 2011 and 2012 Recipients of Doctoral Degrees

2011	All Fields	Humanities	Social Sciences	Education	Life Sciences	Physical Sciences	Engineering	Other
No debt (%)	52.3	39.8	39.0	43.3	53.4	63.3	66.8	48.1
\$10,000 or less (%)	9.6	10.7	8.8	7.9	10.3	9.4	10.3	7.7
\$10,001–\$30,000 (%)	14.5	17.3	14.6	13.9	16.3	14.1	11.0	12.6
More than \$30,000 (%)	23.8	32.2	37.6	34.9	20.0	13.1	12.0	31.7
Number of doctorate recipients (basis for percentages)	46,708	4,827	7,298	4,293	10,674	8,050	7,371	2,568
Mean cumulative total debt	\$20,732	\$27,754	\$32,980	\$29,132	\$17,426	\$12,146	\$11,126	\$26,906
Mean graduate debt	\$14,144	\$20,068	\$24,902	\$21,948	\$10,525	\$6,501	\$6,437	\$20,526
Mean undergraduate debt	\$6,678	\$7,827	\$8,219	\$7,333	\$6,977	\$5,684	\$4,737	\$6,501
2012	All Fields	Humanities	Social Sciences	Education	Life Sciences	Physical Sciences	Engineering	Other
No debt (%)	52.1	39.2	38.6	42.7	53.1	64.0	66.1	48.2
\$10,000 or less (%)	9.6	10.0	8.8	9.0	10.1	9.3	10.8	8.1
\$10,001–\$30,000 (%)	14.2	17.1	14.8	12.2	16.4	13.5	11.1	11.7
More than \$30,000 (%)	24.1	33.9	37.7	36.1	20.3	13.1	12.0	31.9
Number of doctorate recipients (basis for percentages)	46,708	5,037	7,478	4,412	11,242	8,225	7,723	2,591
Mean cumulative total debt	\$21,482	\$29,281	\$33,346	\$31,848	\$18,334	\$12,177	\$11,183	\$28,315
Mean graduate debt	\$14,479	\$21,408	\$24,851	\$23,761	\$10,724	\$6,276	\$6,479	\$21,452
Mean undergraduate debt	\$7,118	\$8,035	\$8,677	\$8,312	\$7,707	\$5,958	\$4,746	\$7,025

Table 4**Race and Ethnicity of 2011 and 2012 Recipients of Humanities Doctorates, Citizens and Permanent Residents of the United States, by Percentage**

2011	Number of Degree Recipients (Basis for Percentages)	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian ¹	Black	Hispanic ²	White	Two or More Races	Other / Unknown Race ³
Humanities	4,191	0.4	4.7	3.9	6.9	80.0	2.2	1.9
Foreign language and literature	427	0.2	5.2	3.0	19.2	69.6	0.9	1.9
History	893	0.8	4.0	5.2	6.9	79.1	2.5	1.6
Letters	1,290	0.2	4.1	3.5	4.4	83.3	2.3	2.2
Other humanities	1,581	0.4	5.4	3.9	5.6	80.5	2.2	2.0
2012	Number of Degree Recipients (Basis for Percentages)	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian ¹	Black	Hispanic ²	White	Two or More Races	Other / Unknown Race ³
Humanities	4,391	0.3	4.7	4.3	7.6	78.6	2.6	1.9
Foreign language and literature	473	0.0	4.7	1.3	21.6	68.3	1.9	23.3
History	889	0.1	4.4	6.6	6.6	77.7	2.5	2.0
Letters	1,378	0.4	3.6	4.6	5.7	81.1	2.6	2.0
Other humanities	1,651	0.2	5.9	3.7	5.8	80.0	2.9	1.6

¹Excludes Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders who are not Hispanic.

²Includes persons reporting Hispanic ethnicity, whether singly or in combination with at least one other race.

³Includes doctorate recipients who are not Hispanic and did not indicate race, doctorate recipients with unknown race and ethnicity, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders who are not Hispanic.

Appendix 1: Doctorate Recipients in Letters, 1958–2012

Year	English & Amer. Lit.	English Lang. & Lit.	English Lit. (British & Commonwealth)	Amer. Lit. (US & Canada)	English Lang.	Creative Writing	Rhetoric & Composition	Speech & Rhetorical Studies	Classics	Compar. Lit.	Folklore	All Letters Fields
1958	333							106	32			471
1959	340							130	39			509
1960	386							143	45			574
1961	373							147	48			568
1962	463							173	56			692
1963	492							192	57			741
1964	528							193	74			795
1965	667							237	92			996
1966	671							240	71			982
1967	797							255	71			1,123
1968	930							257	103			1,290
1969		879		150				239	82			1,350
1970		917		181				267	86			1,451
1971		1,032		212				258	100			1,602
1972		1,132		238				248	107			1,725
1973		1,150		264				266	85			1,765
1974		1,111		258				138	88			1,595
1975		1,039		251				102	93			1,485
1976		978		236				98	79	157		1,548
1977		856		220				61	60	152		1,349
1978		813		212				69	67	114		1,275
1979		703		206				53	56	144		1,162
1980		743		209				64	54	107		1,177
1981		675		145				38	62	132		1,052
1982		616		154				38	60	118		986
1983			499	173	43			48	44	124		931
1984			501	190	42			41	57	133		964
1985			483	204	42			38	44	133		944
1986			462	215	42			30	51	101		901
1987			440	190	38			37	55	121		881
1988			482	186	49			37	56	139		949
1989			488	192	40			35	51	103		909
1990			522	229	45			38	58	97		989
1991			559	253	40			86	55	150		1,143
1992			547	291	65			98	58	163		1,222
1993			603	293	52			111	61	153		1,273
1994			597	296	50			142	84	163		1,332
1995			706	327	46			139	62	191		1,471
1996			621	314	78			155	72	164		1,404
1997			534	408	152			139	53	181		1,467
1998			543	389	146			169	85	164		1,496
1999			517	372	133			150	77	166		1,415
2000			544	460	66			143	64	187		1,464
2001			469	385	124			127	56	204		1,365
2002			520	369	86			137	57	175		1,344
2003			436	362	132			151	75	165		1,321
2004			426	351	156			128	70	175	22	1,328
2005			416	406	137			98	61	180	18	1,316
2006			437	382	136			142	78	165	14	1,354
2007			351	334	160	65		131	62	176	10	1,289
2008			397	338	156	73		126	72	166	13	1,341
2009			388	327	104	76		138	77	179	10	1,299
2010			419	361	146	81		152	86	197	11	1,453
2011			354	366	180	85		165	91	192	10	1,443
2012			423	408	158	91	153	53	101	201	6	1,594

Appendix 2: Doctorates in Languages Other Than English, 1958–2012

Year	Arabic	Chinese	French	German	Hebrew	Italian	Japanese	Russian	Slavic (Other Than Russian)	Spanish ¹	Other Langs. and Lits.	Total
1958											157	157
1959											181	181
1960											168	168
1961											189	189
1962			51	35		3		7		28	72	196
1963			62	38		4		4		55	43	206
1964			83	77		5		10		62	34	271
1965			84	65		5		11		91	65	321
1966			112	93		4		13		101	57	380
1967			133	103		12		26		126	70	470
1968			161	119		11		34		132	69	526
1969			176	139		10		34		149	76	584
1970			201	139		16		41		171	79	647
1971			223	160		13		44		203	85	728
1972			245	173		25		50		220	99	812
1973			268	195		27		57		249	121	917
1974			276	169		26		64		235	117	887
1975			247	164		17		53		237	108	826
1976			242	178		24		58		234	99	835
1977			211	140		22		56		199	100	728
1978			183	103		23		52		173	103	637
1979			187	116		20		42		181	100	646
1980			162	99		10		32		145	87	535
1981			167	88		16		28		184	93	576
1982			119	74		17		24		177	80	491
1983	8	16	121	77	11	22	5	24	9	161	50	504
1984	8	13	108	80	13	17	12	33	12	144	52	492
1985	5	14	86	62	9	14	13	28	10	145	49	435
1986	9	13	102	79	11	15	9	28	8	122	49	445
1987	8	13	103	77	13	21	9	19	5	133	43	444
1988	14	12	101	76	12	14	6	13	5	137	40	430
1989	6	9	106	73	10	20	13	13	7	134	41	432
1990	7	16	123	78	14	25	9	19	7	173	41	512
1991	4	19	100	71	11	32	7	25	14	173	42	498
1992	12	20	124	96	20	20	12	28	15	179	36	562
1993	10	21	137	105	15	19	11	28	13	178	38	575
1994	4	25	129	67	10	32	12	38	10	212	55	594
1995	8	20	151	93	11	35	7	28	16	209	61	639
1996	6	29	142	88	12	24	10	37	11	196	50	605
1997	4	23	150	82	7	23	19	39	9	249	47	652
1998	9	19	137	106	8	33	11	43	15	207	55	643
1999	12	27	148	90	4	20	10	25	17	201	72	626
2000	15	21	143	84	11	16	18	29	14	218	73	642
2001	6	16	141	84	6	16	17	27	12	233	62	620
2002	5	22	121	69	8	23	15	26	19	245	74	627
2003	4	24	102	100	5	34	20	28	11	239	56	623
2004	7	15	124	56		39	14	25	8	241	58	587
2005	5	22	113	76		19	23	21	13	240	75	607
2006	10	19	111	75		30	26	28	11	232	73	615
2007	3	17	116	91		31	21	25	4	241	58	607
2008	7	22	120	80		31	17	27	2	244	77	627
2009	5	35	114	70		39	18	18	10	235	54	598
2010	14	41	110	64		35	27	23		231	56	601
2011	8	29	114	71		38	16	34		247	87	644
2012	12	20	122	90		51	20	24		262	84	685

¹The number of degrees in Spanish in 2012 includes 57 doctorates in the new category Latin American languages and literatures.