

Roster of Astronomy Departments with Enrollment and Degree Data, 2015

Results from the 2015 Survey of Enrollments and Degrees

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In the academic year 2014-15, there were 79 departments that offered an astronomy degree in the US. The number of astronomy bachelors conferred at these departments continues to rise, with 459 bachelors conferred in the class of 2015. This represents another all-time high. With undergraduate astronomy enrollments continuing to grow, we expect this trend to continue for at least the next couple of years. There were 198 first-year students enrolling in US astronomy graduate programs in the fall of 2015. The number of students enrolling in astronomy graduate programs has remained at around 200 for over a decade. There were 130 astronomy PhDs in the class of 2015.

Total Astronomy Degrees Academic Year 2014-2015	
Bachelors	459
Exiting Masters	22
PhDs	130

Total Astronomy Enrollments Fall 2015	
Juniors	604
Seniors	782
1 st Yr Grad	198
Total Grad	1,137

Number of Departments by Highest Degree Offered Academic Year 2014-2015	
Bachelors	36
Masters	3
PhD	40
Total Departments	79

This roster contains detailed data from the annual Survey of Enrollments and Degrees. The survey was conducted in the fall of 2015 and includes all degree-granting astronomy departments in the United States.

All but 4 of the 79 degree-granting astronomy departments contributed to the data supplied in this year's roster (95%). Thirty-eight are stand-alone astronomy departments and the remaining 43 are combined physics and astronomy departments. The totals above include data from the 75 responding departments as well as estimated data for the 4 non-responding departments.

Trend in astronomy enrollments and degrees, academic years 2004 to 2016.

Academic Year	Number of astronomy degrees			Undergraduate astronomy major enrollments		Graduate astronomy student enrollments	
	Bachelors	Exiting		Juniors	Seniors	1 st -year	Total
		Masters	PhDs				
2004-05	343	27	91	437	584	212	999
2005-06	351	30	119	511	565	188	1,026
2006-07	336	18	125	379	569	206	1,077
2007-08	327	36	161	364	536	193	1,081
2008-09	322	29	141	388	515	215	1,065
2009-10	382	23	156	382	605	193	1,083
2010-11	408	47	160	450	637	202	1,156
2011-12	385	35	152	487	666	224	1,122
2012-13	386	35	155	484	694	233	1,134
2013-14	428	28	147	530	711	183	1,118
2014-15	459	22	130	561	780	187	1,108
2015-16				604	782	198	1,137

Notations used in this roster:

m Masters is the department's highest astronomy degree (N=3).

p PhD is the department's highest astronomy degree (N=40).

s The astronomy department is administered separately from the physics department (N=38).

c This is a combined department, offering degrees in both astronomy and physics (N=41). Data concerning the physics portion of their program can be found in the "Roster of Physics Departments, 2015".

GRADUATE ONLY Department has no undergraduate program in astronomy (N=9).

FIRST YEAR This column includes graduate students who were new to the department in the fall of 2015 as well as students who entered the department in the previous winter, spring and summer.

EXITING MASTER'S This column reflects the number of students who left the department with a master's degree.

FIRST TERM INTRODUCTORY COURSE ENROLLMENTS The introductory course enrollment totals listed for each department represent the number of students who took their first term of introductory level astronomy. Departments were instructed not to include enrollments for courses that were a continuation of a sequence.

— Data for this field were not provided.

INSTITUTION	DEPT TYPE	2014-15	FALL 2015		FALL 2015			2014-15			
		FIRST-TERM ASTRO COURSE ENROLLMENTS	UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS	SR	GRADUATE STUDENTS	FOREIGN	FIRST YEAR	ASTRONOMY DEGREES	EXITING	PHDS	
			JR		TOTAL			BACHELORS	MASTERS		
ARIZONA											
p	Arizona State U (Astrophys)	s									
DATA NOT PROVIDED											
p	Arizona-U of	s	1662	36	20	40	11	9	11	0	3
p	Arizona-U of (Planetary)	s								1	7
			GRADUATE ONLY			31	8	4			
	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical U	c	28	2	0				0		
	Northern Arizona U	c	287	31	36				12		
CALIFORNIA											
p	CA Inst of Tech	s	0	4	5	31	—	5	5	0	5
p	CA-U of, Berkeley	s	1565	11	69	28	5	7	30	1	6
p	CA-U of, Los Angeles	c	1627	29	32	31	5	5	11	0	2
p	CA-U of, Santa Cruz	s								0	5
			GRADUATE ONLY			28	5	5			
m	San Diego State U	s	946	7	12	9	1	5	5	5	
	Southern CA-U of (USC)	c	379	3	0				1		
COLORADO											
p	CO-U of, Boulder	s	2167	58	65	53	3	7	39	2	3
CONNECTICUT											
m	Wesleyan U	s	204	6	2	4	1	2	5	3	
p	Yale U	s	371	3	7	25	6	3	4	0	2
FLORIDA											
	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical U	c	50	3	13				4		
p	Florida Inst of Tech	c	59	13	21	20	5	5	10	1	0
p	Florida-U of	s	901	8	7	34	17	7	8	0	2
GEORGIA											
	Agnes Scott Coll	c	55	1	2				2		
p	Georgia State U	c	1126							0	0
			GRADUATE ONLY			27	5	3			
	Valdosta State U	c	338	5	4				1		
HAWAII											
	Hawaii-U of, Hilo	c	152	11	11				7		
p	Hawaii-U of, at Manoa	c									
			GRADUATE ONLY								
ILLINOIS											
p	Chicago-U of	s								0	6
			GRADUATE ONLY			28	11	7			
p	Illinois-U of, Urbana	s	2863	17	14	27	12	9	10	1	4
INDIANA											
p	Indiana U-Bloomington	s	1780	3	4	17	0	4	5	1	4
IOWA											
	Drake U	c	220	0	2				5		
p	Iowa State U	c								0	0
			GRADUATE ONLY			9	1	—			
m	Iowa-U of	c	925	7	12	12	0	2	4	0	
KANSAS											
	Benedictine Coll	c	72	1	0				0		
	Kansas-U of	c	189	3	5				4		
MARYLAND											
p	Johns Hopkins U	c	129							0	3
			GRADUATE ONLY			44	14	2			
p	MD-U of, College Park	s	934	26	28	42	10	6	15	0	2
MASSACHUSETTS											
p	Boston U	s	504	10	11	32	5	3	11	3	1
p	Harvard U	s	52	9	8	62	15	13	11	0	8
p	MA-U of, Amherst	s	1097	22	21	23	9	4	7	0	1
	Mount Holyoke Coll	s	174	4	1				2		
	Smith Coll	s	166	6	2				4		
p	Tufts U	c	366	3	1	5	1	0	0	0	0
	Wellesley Coll	s	182	7	5				5		
	Williams Coll	s	58	2	3				3		
MICHIGAN											
p	Michigan State U	c	1282	23	22	14	0	5	3	0	1
p	Michigan-U of	s	2612	17	23	25	4	6	8	0	3
	Wayne St U	c	924	5	5				2		

INSTITUTION	DEPT TYPE	2014-15	FALL 2015		FALL 2015			2014-15		
		FIRST-TERM INTRODUCTORY ASTRO COURSE ENROLLMENTS	UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS	SR	GRADUATE STUDENTS	FOREIGN	FIRST YEAR	ASTRONOMY DEGREES	EXITING	PHDS
			JR		TOTAL			BACHELORS	MASTERS	
MINNESOTA										
p Minnesota-U of	s	1243	9	29	22	4	3	12	0	1
NEW HAMPSHIRE										
Dartmouth Coll	c	339	1	2				0		
NEW JERSEY										
p Princeton U	s	201	10	5	23	12	4	5	0	4
p Princeton U-Forrestal Campus	s	GRADUATE ONLY			40	13	8		0	8
NEW MEXICO										
p New Mexico State U	s	GRADUATE ONLY			26	0	4		0	7
NEW YORK										
Barnard Coll	c	127	0	0				1		
Colgate U	c	129	6	7				5		
p Columbia U	s	398	8	11	29	9	7	10	0	2
p Cornell U	s	332	2	6	27	5	1	1	0	5
Rochester-U of	c	66	3	1				5		
SUNY Coll at New Paltz	c	192	6	9				1		
SUNY-Stony Brook	c	401	14	17				2		
Union Coll	c	150	0	1				0		
Vassar Coll	c	142	3	3				6		
OHIO										
p Case Western Reserve U	s	126	8	7	5	1	0	1	0	0
p Ohio State U	s	1603	16	39	25	3	4	14	0	2
Ohio Wesleyan U	c	98	2	2				2		
Toledo-U of	c	—	4	7				2		
Youngstown State U	c	DATA NOT PROVIDED								
OKLAHOMA										
Oklahoma-U of	c	76	4	2				3		
PENNSYLVANIA										
Haverford Coll	c	92	3	3				6		
Lycoming Coll	c	130	2	3				1		
p Pennsylvania St U	s	5042	10	14	40	7	7	23	1	1
p Pittsburgh-U of	c	1033	8	8	*	*	*	4	0	0
Swarthmore Coll	c	52	3	1				5		
Villanova U	s	360	6	4				6		
SOUTH CAROLINA										
Charleston-Coll of	c	639	5	10				6		
TEXAS										
p Rice U	c	120	1	4	3	0	1	6	0	2
p Texas-U of, Austin	s	1641	12	22	36	8	8	11	1	8
VERMONT										
Marlboro Coll	c	1	0	1				0		
VIRGINIA										
George Mason U	c	1467	11	7				2		
p Virginia-U of	s	1515	9	13	32	9	4	18	0	4
WASHINGTON										
p Washington-U of	s	2012	10	37	32	3	6	18	0	5
Whitman Coll	s	135	6	5				6		
WISCONSIN										
p Wisconsin-U of, Madison	s	833	14	17	28	2	4	14	0	3
WYOMING										
Wyoming-U of	c	DATA NOT PROVIDED								

* U of Pittsburgh - Astronomy graduate enrollment data are incorporated into their physics graduate enrollments listed in the physics roster.