Applications/Admits/Enrolled and Total Enrollment

The data provided on the number of applications, admits, and enrolled students for each graduate program (fall 2004 through fall 2008) came directly from the Admissions Office data warehouse. The numbers are considered the official counts of the University. *However, the data only reflect applications that were routed through the Admissions Office.*

Programs may report discrepancies in this data for several reasons:
- Some programs, especially in the biomedical sciences, prescreen applicants.
- Several programs in the biomedical sciences admit students through the Biosciences Program, a non-degree granting program. Those Bioscience students are then admitted into their eventual graduate program as second year students. A table showing where the Bioscience students end up can be found at the end of the document titled --"AdmEnrFall04_Fall08_BIOL_BIOMED_SCI ".
- Some programs may count auditions/interviews performed on or off campus in their applicant pool in order to reflect selectivity. These may have been done prior to the actual submission of an official application, and for whatever reason, the student then chose not to officially apply.
- Some programs admit a few students to the summer or spring term that are not picked up in fall admissions data reports. Additionally, a few programs (i.e., Physical Therapy and M.S. programs in the College of Dentistry) only admit to the summer session.
- And finally, the Admissions Office data presented only captures first time applicants/admits/ enrolled. If an enrolled student switches programs or degree objectives, a change of status form is submitted to the Admissions Office, but an internal code is assigned. Those students are not picked up in these fall admissions data reports.

The data in the **Total Enrollment** column came from the Registrar's Office database. These totals reflect the enrollment on the 10th day of each fall semester and are also considered the official enrollment count for the University. Graduate students are known for late registration, so some programs may argue that the number is a bit low. However, the count is never off by more than a few students.

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GRE/GPA Data

GRE and GPA data also comes from the Admissions Office and thus only reflects those admitted and enrolled who applied through the Admissions Office. The same discrepancies/exceptions apply to this data as to the Application/Admit/Enroll data.

The Graduate College uses a three-year rolling mean report from the Admissions Office to compare Iowa's scores with the scores found in ETS' *Graduate Record Examinations: Guide to the Use of Scores* which only lists national GRE scores as a three-year rolling mean.

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Completion Table and Time to Degree

This data report was compiled by the Graduate College from a database referred to as the "Graduate Profile" which is created from a query to the Registrar's Office data warehouse. It was compiled in order to respond to response to the NRC Assessment of Research Doctorate Programs in order to complete the Program Questionnaires. Only students who were identified with a PhD degree objective are included. However, as defined by NRC, a student might have been coded as a master's student at the time of entry. Master's students who never switched to a PhD degree objective were not included. NRC participating programs were sent the names of all their entering students from 1996-2005 and asked to correct any errors. Only in a few cases were corrections made. The Graduate College ran the same query for all non-NRC participating programs and presented the data for 1996-2000 at several disciplinary DEO/DGS meetings in the fall of 2008.

Time to degree is calculated in two ways:
1) prospectively from time of entry at Iowa regardless of whether that entry was at the master's or doctoral level (consistent with the Council of Graduate School's Completion Project and the NRC Assessment of Research Doctorate Programs);
2) retrospectively from time of graduation during a certain time period back to the student's entry at Iowa regardless of when that entry might be. Unregistered time is deducted.

Iowa versus national TTD comparisons

Several of the program responses quoted national TTD rates. TTD can be computed in several different ways which need to be taken into account when making a comparison.

The primary source for national data on median time to degree is the annual *NSF Doctorate Recipients from U.S. Universities Summary Report* based on doctoral student responses to the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED).

Doctoral recipients from 421 universities in the US and Puerto Rico are asked to respond to the Survey. Institutions provide data on the number of research doctoral degrees awarded which for the most recent report (2007-08) was 48,402. 92.1% of all doctoral recipients responded, however, not all doctoral recipients respond to every question.

Graduates are asked to respond to the following questions related to time to degree:

Month/year that your research doctoral degree was granted?
Month/year that you started your research doctoral degree?
Month/year that your most recent master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA, or equivalent) was granted?
Month/year that you started your most recent master's degree?
Month/year that your first bachelor's degree was granted?
Excluding those above, have you attained any additional post secondary degrees?
In what month and year did you first enter graduate school in any program or capacity, in any university?

Was there any time from the year you entered your doctoral program and the award of your doctorate that you were not working on your degree (that is, not taking courses or working on your dissertation)? If yes, please provide the number of years ___ .

The Summary Report states: **SED measures time to degree in three ways: (1) the total time elapsed from completion of the baccalaureate to completion of the doctorate; (2) the total time elapsed from the start of any graduate school to completion of the doctorate; and (3) the age of the doctorate recipient at the time the doctorate is awarded.** (p. 13)

The University of Iowa Graduate College computes the median TTD of all PhD graduates as the time it takes for graduate students to earn their Ph.D. at **Iowa**. Previous graduate work at another institution is not taken into consideration since it was felt that the program has no real control over that previous work. Thus, our reported median TTD is almost always lower than those reported nationally. The Graduate College does keep track of the number of students in each program who are admitted with a master's degree from another program as well as the number of graduate hours transferred here.

The most recent report on the Survey of Earned Doctorates can be found at:
http:///www.nsf.gov/statistics/nsf10309/

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Placement Data

Individual student placement is collected annually by each PhD and DMA doctoral program. The Graduate College provides the programs with a list of their graduates over a certain time period. Currently, updates go back to 1997.   Programs are asked to list the initial placement of all recent graduates and to update the current placement for any graduate who has changed positions. The query format includes columns where programs indicate with a "1" whether the placement is a postdoc position, college/university teaching position, or in industry, etc. Those columns are then tied to the summary report.

On occasion the Graduate College is asked to provide data on the placement of doctoral graduates at our peer universities. The Graduate College uses the current Carnegie Classification listing of our peer research institutions. That list can be found under Basic Classifications for RU:VH (Research Universities (with very high research activity) at:
 http://classifications.carnegiefoundation.org/lookup_listings/standard.php