

ADPCCJ



**ASSOCIATION OF DOCTORAL
PROGRAMS IN CRIMINOLOGY AND
CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

2025-2026 Survey Report

ADPCCJ Executive Board

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Association of Doctoral Programs in Criminology & Criminal Justice (ADPCCJ) 2025-2026 Survey Report

Purpose

The Association of Doctoral Programs in Criminology and Criminal Justice (ADPCCJ) comprises universities and colleges offering a doctorate in criminology, criminal justice, and related areas of study. The ADPCCJ was developed in the late 1970s. Membership is open to all institutions that currently have or are developing a doctoral program in criminology, criminal justice, or a closely-related discipline. The members meet once per year (in conjunction with the American Society of Criminology annual conference) and periodically in a summit of graduate directors/coordinators. As outlined in the Association's bylaws (see <http://www.adpccj.com/bylaws.pdf>), the primary purpose of the ADPCCJ is the "promotion of doctoral education with a primary focus on criminology and criminal justice." One of the tasks in line with this charge is to conduct an annual survey of doctoral program characteristics and activities.

A key function of the ADPCCJ annual survey is to collect and disseminate information that will aid in the advancement of doctoral education in criminology and criminal justice. Since 1998, the ADPCCJ has fielded the annual survey of doctoral programs and publicly disseminated the results (reports are available at <http://www.adpccj.com/resources>). Frost and Clear¹ describe the history of criminology and criminal justice doctoral programs and summarize ADPCCJ survey results from the late 1990s through the mid-2000s.

During the spring of 2026, the ADPCCJ Executive Board distributed a survey to all active member programs. This report outlines the aggregated results from the 2025-2026 ADPCCJ survey and begins with a brief overview of the programs, followed by details regarding their faculty, graduate programs, enrollment, and financial data. In response to requests for information on "top" criminology and criminal justice programs, this report includes an appendix that summarizes data for the top ten programs according to the [2021 U.S. News & World Report](#). These programs included University of Maryland-College Park, Arizona State University, University of California-Irvine, University of Cincinnati, Pennsylvania State University, University at Albany-SUNY, Florida State University, Rutgers University, Michigan State University, and George Mason University.

¹Natasha A. Frost & Todd R. Clear (2007) Doctoral Education in Criminology and Criminal Justice, *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*, 18:1, 35-52, [doi: 10.1080/10511250601144258](https://doi.org/10.1080/10511250601144258)

Overview of ADPCCJ Criminology and Criminal Justice Programs

In 2026, there were 44 active ADPCCJ member institutions (see Table 1), all of whom participated in the 2025-2026 ADPCCJ survey. Throughout, the sample size is $n=44$ for all descriptive statistics, unless otherwise noted. Member programs are located throughout the United States, spanning 27 states, 19 of which are in the Southern region, 4 in the West, 7 in the Midwest, 10 in the Northeast, and 1 international department.

Table 1. Participating Programs ($n = 44$).

American University	University of Albany
Arizona State University	University of Arkansas at Little Rock
CUNY Graduate Center/John Jay College	University of California Irvine
Florida International University	University of Central Florida
Florida State University	University of Cincinnati
George Mason University	University of Delaware
Georgia State University	University of Florida
Indiana University Bloomington	University of Louisville
Indiana University of Pennsylvania	University of Maribor
Michigan State University	University of Maryland
North Dakota State University	University of Massachusetts Lowell
Northeastern University	University of Miami
Pennsylvania State University	University of Mississippi
Prairie View A&M University	University of Missouri St. Louis
Rutgers University Newark	University of Nebraska Omaha
Sam Houston State University	University of Nevada Las Vegas
Southern Illinois University	University of New Haven
Tarleton State University	University of Pennsylvania
Temple University	University of South Carolina
Texas Southern University	University of South Florida
Texas State University	University of Texas at Dallas
University of Alabama	Washington State University

Time frames are noted throughout the report. Faculty data are current as of summer 2026, while other items refer to the previous academic year: 2025-2026. Sample sizes varied due to nonresponse or relevance (e.g., some programs only offer a Ph.D.). The report begins with an overview of faculty characteristics, followed by a summary of program requirements and graduate student characteristics.

Faculty Characteristics

Faculty by Tenure and Rank

As shown in Figure 1, among Criminology and Criminal Justice (CCJ) faculty, full professors comprised the largest proportion (38%), with associate professors accounting for 31% of the faculty ranks. Longitudinal data for tenured faculty percentages are presented in Figure 2. In the 2025-2026 academic year, there was a slight increase from 2024-2025, with an average of 70% of faculty being tenured. Most full-time faculty members, from reporting programs, were either tenured or on the tenure track.

Figure 1. Full-Time Faculty by Rank 2025-2026 ($n = 756$).

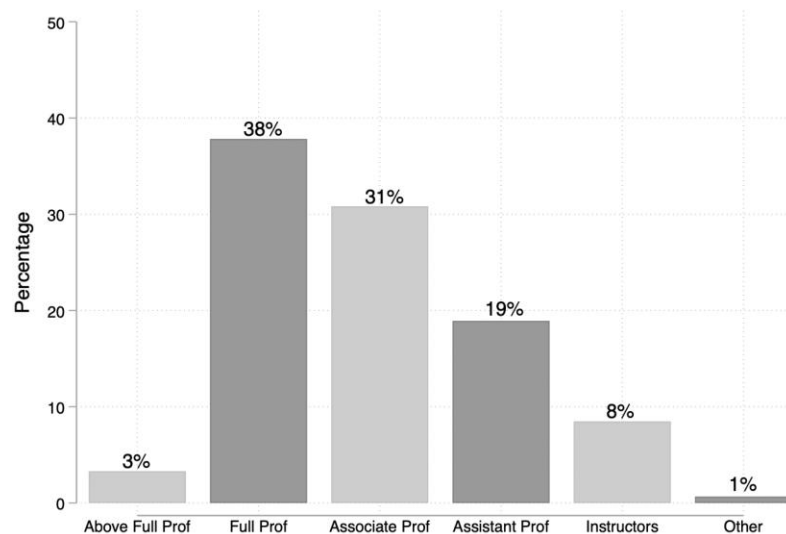
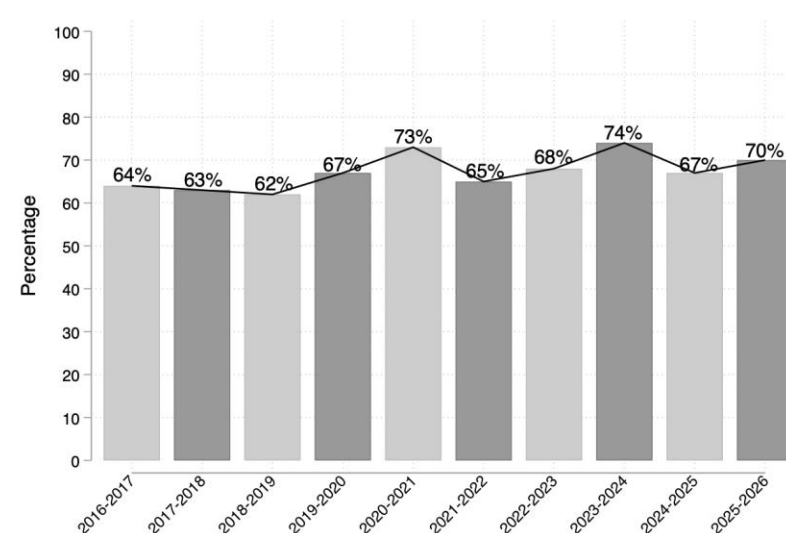


Figure 2. Mean Percentage of CCJ Tenured Faculty by Academic Year



Faculty Demographic Composition

Figures 3 and 4 display the demographic characteristics of CCJ faculty by race/ethnicity and gender, respectively. Due to state restrictions, 12 ADPCCJ programs could not collect information on faculty's gender or ethnicity. As Figure 3 shows, about 73% of faculty were White, approximately 10% were Black, and approximately 7% were Asian. Additionally, approximately 6% identified as Hispanic in ethnicity. Figure 4 shows that 50% of faculty members identified as men, and 49% identified as women. One faculty member identified as non-binary. Additionally, there were a total of 75 international faculty members (10%) across programs.

Figure 3. CCJ Faculty by Race and Ethnicity for 2025-2026 ($n = 513$ faculty, $n = 32$ programs)

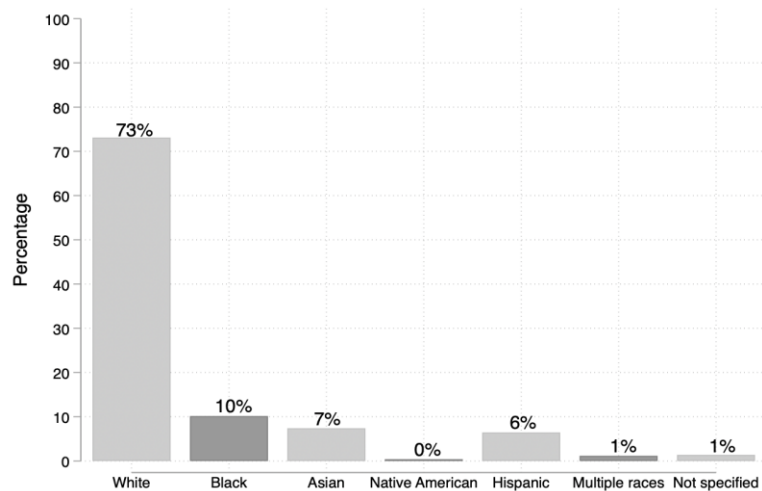
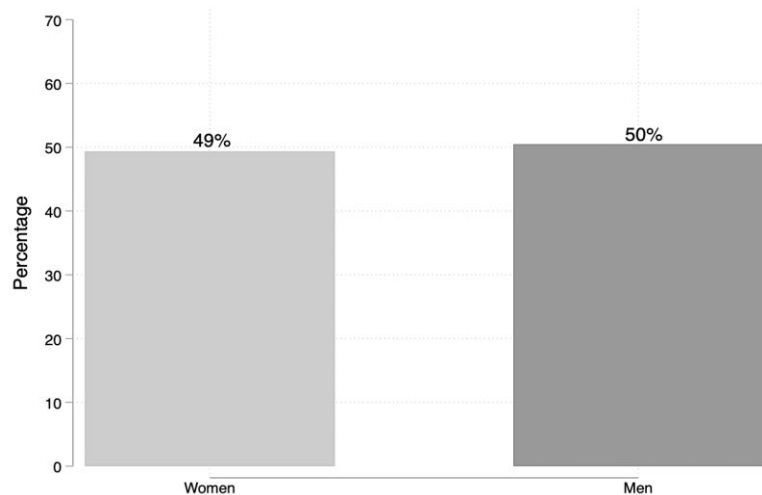


Figure 4. CCJ Faculty Members by Gender for 2025-2026 ($n = 535$, $n = 32$ programs)



*Less than 1% of faculty identified as non-binary

Faculty New Hires

Figure 5, Figure 6, and Figure 7 illustrate the number of new hires across APDCCJ programs since 2016 for assistant, associate, and full professor positions respectively. Figure 5 shows that the trend in hiring assistant professors has remained relatively stable except for during the initial academic year of the global pandemic (2019-2020) and a recent increase this past academic year. Associate professors were hired far less frequently than assistant professors (Figure 6). Figure 7 shows the number of full professor new hires for all academic years.

Figure 5. New Hires for Assistant Professor Positions by Academic Year

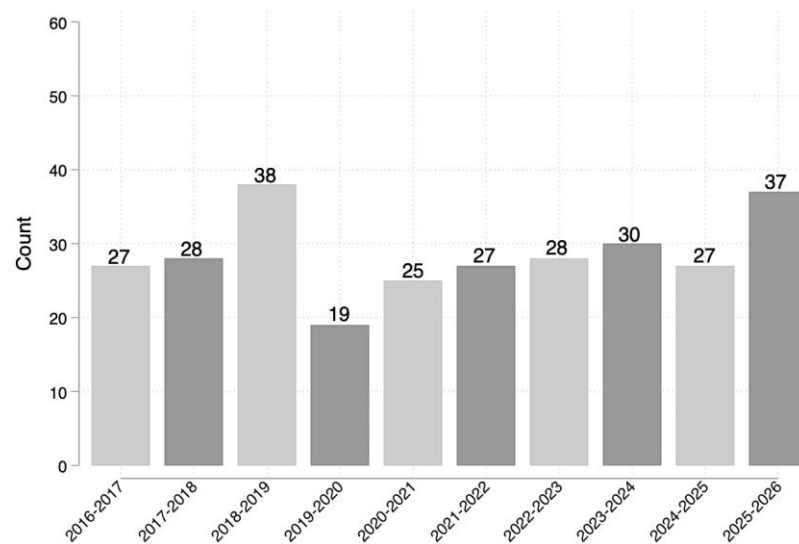


Figure 6. New Hires for Associate Professor Positions by Academic Year

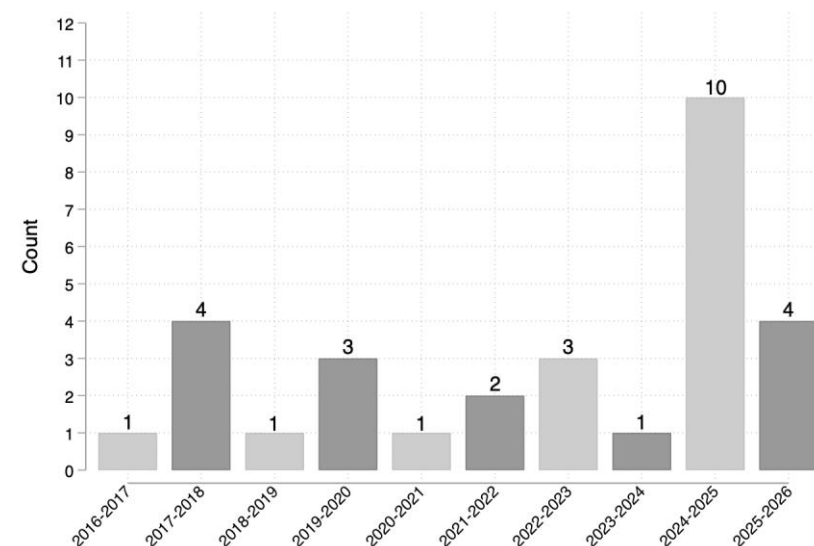
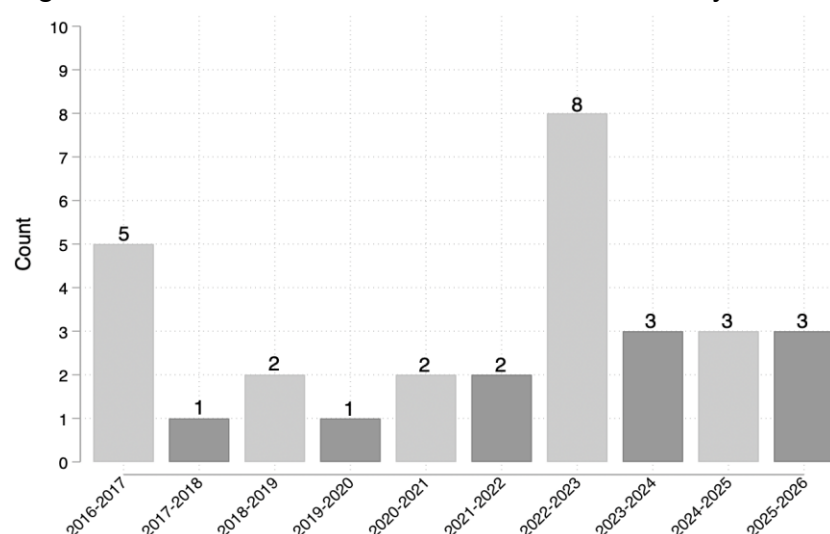


Figure 7. New Hires for Full Professor Positions by Academic Year



Faculty Activity

Faculty Course Loads

The ADPCCJ survey assesses the typical course loads and overall distribution of duties across teaching, service, and research. The majority (81%) of programs indicated that full-time faculty typically taught four courses per academic year; a small number of programs reported higher teaching loads, up to eight total courses per year. The median number of courses assigned per academic year across these programs was four.

Number of Faculty per Graduate Student

Table 2 shows the student-to-faculty ratio to help assess workload. Overall, out of the total active graduate students, there was an average of about 5.3 students per faculty member, with an average of 1.6 doctoral students and 3.7 master's students per faculty.

Table 2. Graduate Students per Faculty 2025-2026

	Mean	Minimum	Maximum
All Active Graduate Students	5.3	0.6	19
Active Doctoral Students	1.6	0.5	5.4
Active Master's Students	3.7	0.0	14.5

Faculty Workload Distribution

Considering workload more broadly, Table 3 indicates that most programs expected faculty workload distribution to equate to an average of 40% on research, 43% on teaching, and 16% on service. The table also shows the central tendencies for the expected workload allocation for research, teaching, and service across programs via the average, median, minimum, and maximum percentage of reported times.

Table 3. Faculty Time Distribution 2025-2026

	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Percentage of Time Spent on Research	40%	40%	20%	70%
Percentage of Time Teaching	43%	40%	20%	65%
Percentage of Time Spent on Service	16%	20%	0%	33%

Faculty Publication Productivity

The ADPCCJ survey collects information on faculty scholarly productivity (i.e., publications and grants). Program representatives reported the number of articles published in peer-reviewed journals and the number of books published during 2025-2026. The information provided is summarized in Table 4. Note that these estimates make no adjustments for the journal's prestige or the quality of the book publisher, but they provide an indication of the overall quantity of publications across programs during the period. The data indicate the mean number of journal articles published per faculty member was about 2, with responses ranging from 0 to 7 across programs. Book publications were much less common, and there was substantial variability across programs.

Table 4. CCJ Faculty Publications 2025-2026 ($n = 36$)

	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Per Program				
Peer reviewed articles	31	26	0	118
Books	1.3	1	0	7
Per Faculty				
Peer reviewed articles	2.3	2.4	0	6.4
Books	0.5	0	0	2.3

Faculty Grant Productivity

Table 5 displays the grant activity across reporting programs in both number and dollar amounts. The mean, maximum, and minimum exclude \$0 responses. Across reporting programs, there were 125 national grants, 70 internal grants, and 227 external grants. A total of \$54,524,584 dollars of grant money was awarded to ADPCCJ programs across all grant types. The number of grants programs received ranged from 0 to 37.²

Table 5. Faculty Grant Productivity 2025-2026 ($n = 37$ programs)

	National Grants	Internal Grants	External Grants
	125	70	227
	Grant Dollar Amount		
	Mean	Minimum	Maximum
Federal	\$1,224,841	\$120,741	\$5,536,322
State and Local	\$341,151	\$2,250	\$2,777,646
Foundation	\$819,690	\$1,000	\$7,350,000
Private	\$71,716	\$600	\$248,959

Faculty Compensation

The ADPCCJ survey collects data on faculty salaries by rank. Table 6 shows the mean, median, minimum, and maximum academic year salaries for all full, associate, and assistant professors, as well as for recently hired assistant professors across the programs that provided such data. Table 6 indicates substantial variability in faculty salaries both between and within ranks. There were 25 programs that provided salary data (57% of respondents). Some programs either did not report salary data for newly hired assistant professors or did not have a newly hired assistant professor to report ($n = 19$). The median salary for full professors was \$140,559, associate professor's median salary was \$99,131, and assistant professor's median salary was \$85,465. For the most recently hired assistant professors, their median salary was reported as \$79,250.

Table 6. CCJ Faculty Salaries 2025-2026 ($n = 25$)

Faculty Type	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Full Professor	\$155,300	\$140,559	\$82,442	\$449,071
Associate Professor	\$106,925	\$99,131	\$73,500	\$178,756
Assistant Professor	\$86,596	\$85,465	\$56,557	\$143,671
Recently Hired Assistant Professor	\$84,713	\$79,250	\$65,000	\$106,000

² The information reflects the amount of grant funding awarded. The survey did not request information on whether these grants were reduced or discontinued because of changes in federal administrative priorities and/or executive orders.

Figure 8, Figure 9, and Figure 10 present the median academic year salary reported for assistant, associate, and full professors across ADPCCJ programs. Figure 8 shows that the median salary for assistant professors was \$85,465 for the 2025-2026 academic year, compared to the previous year's salary of \$86,539. In comparison, the median 9-month salary for assistant professors in the 2016-2017 academic year was \$72,022, indicating a 19% increase in salary over time. As presented in Figure 9, the median 9-month salary for associate professors has increased by 14% since 2016-2017, when it was \$86,776, to \$99,131 in 2025-2026. As shown in Figure 10, the median 9-month salary for full professors in 2025-2026 was \$140,559, compared to 2016-2017 when it was \$130,190 indicating an 8% increase.

Figure 8. Mean and Median Salaries for Assistant Professors by Academic Year

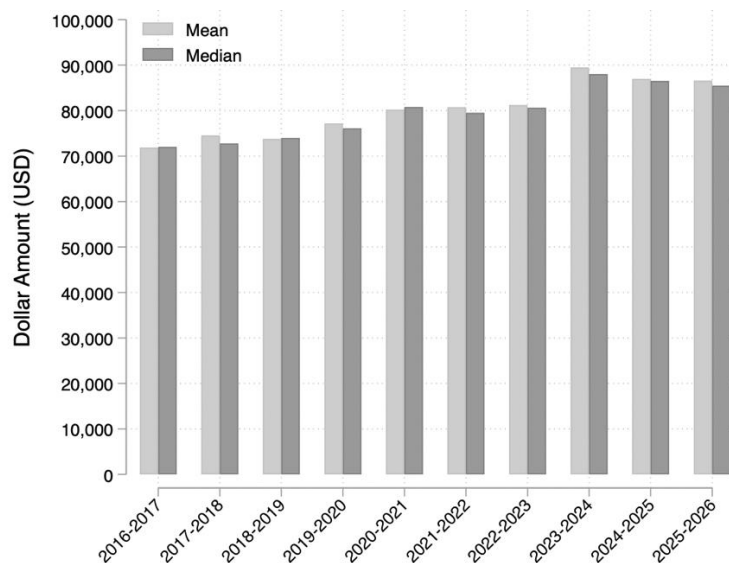


Figure 9. Mean and Median Salaries for Associate Professors by Academic Year

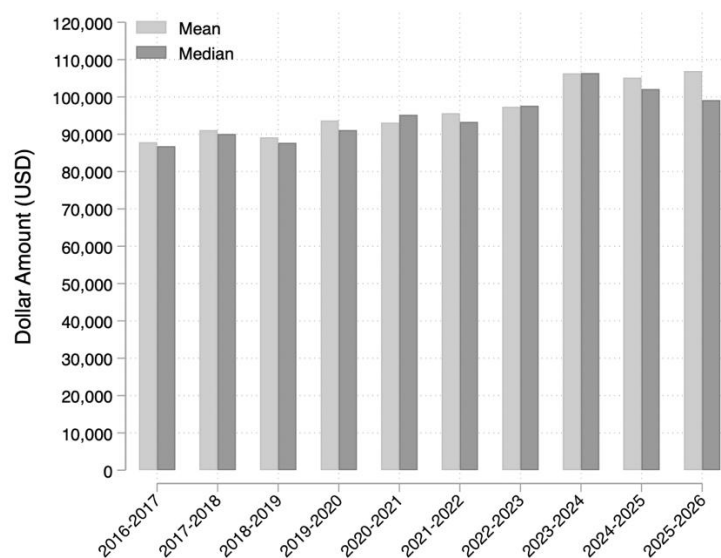
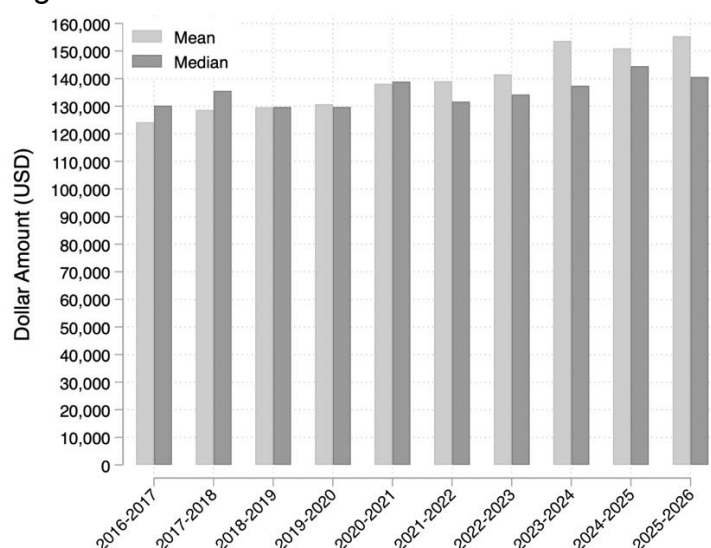


Figure 10. Mean and Median Salaries for Full Professors by Academic Year



Faculty Conference Travel Funding

The ADPCCJ survey collects information on whether graduate faculty receive conference travel funding. About 89% ($n = 39$) programs provide faculty conference travel funding. Table 7 shows the mean, median, minimum, and maximum amount of funding graduate faculty receive for conference travel.

Table 7. Faculty Conference Travel Funding 2025-2026

Compensation Type	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Dollar Amount per Academic Year	\$1,878	\$1700	\$750	\$3,500

Graduate Director Compensation

Advising a graduate student group and overseeing graduate program(s) administration is a time consuming, impactful role for ADPCCJ's graduate program directors. Table 8 demonstrates that most graduate directors (95%) were compensated in some way for their oversight of graduate students and programs. On average, those faculty members received at least one course release, a stipend during the academic year ($M = \$8,538$) and/or a summer stipend ($M = \$8,247$). Some graduate directors received conference travel funding with an average additional allocation of \$1,783.

Table 8. Graduate Director Compensation 2025-2026

Compensation Type	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Course Release	1	1	0	5
Monetary Stipend - Academic Year	\$8,538	\$7,000	\$0	\$20,000
Monetary Stipend - Summer	\$8,247	\$6,250	\$0	\$30,000
Travel Support	\$1,783	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,500

Note: Mean and median stipend estimates exclude programs that indicated no stipends

CCJ Program Concentrations and Admission Requirements

Areas of Concentrations

Table 9 highlights the areas of concentration available in ADPCCJ programs (n= 10 programs offer concentrations).

Table 9. Areas of Concentrations

Corrections
Crime Prevention
Criminal Behavior
Criminal Justice
Criminology
Custom Area of Specialization
Investigation Science
Juvenile Justice
Law and Public Policy
Law and Society
Law, Society, and Culture
Medical Sociology
Policing and Law Enforcement
Policing Theory
Political Violence
Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration
Race and Justice
Sociological Theory

Table 10 shows that 64% ($n = 28$) of programs did not require a post-graduate degree for admission. Table 11 demonstrates the different course credit classifications of these programs depending on admitted students' degrees. Generally, most programs require more core classes than electives regardless of degree background. Table 12 shows that most programs (78%) did not require a thesis for program completion. However, most of these programs had an alternate requirement in place of a thesis.

Table 10. Doctoral Program Entry Requirements 2025-2026

Admit Students with BS/BA Only	
Yes	No
28	16

Table 11. Doctoral Program Requirements: Average Credit Hour Profile 2025-2026

Enter with BS/BA	
Total	68
Electives	21
Core	30
Enter with MS/MA	
Total	53
Electives	18
Core	37

Table 12. Master's Degree Requirements 2025-2026 ($n = 37$)

Thesis Required for Master's			
Yes		No	
8		29	
Credit Hours	Total	Hours for Core Courses	Electives
Average	33	19	13

All but five (87%) of responding ADPCCJ members required a version of a comprehensive or qualifying exam for doctoral students. At the membership's request, we have created a Google Form to collect more detailed information about the exam process and content³. These data are collated in a live document for member programs to access.

³ To request more information on the exam process and content, email adpccjdocs@gmail.com

GRE Scores of Graduate Students

Table 13 shows the mean, median, minimum, and maximum GRE scores of newly admitted doctoral students. It is noteworthy that 66% (n = 29) of programs do not require the GRE and only 34% (n=15) of programs reported such scores. On average, the verbal score was 154 and the quantitative score was 151 across programs that reported GRE scores. The average analytical writing score was 4.

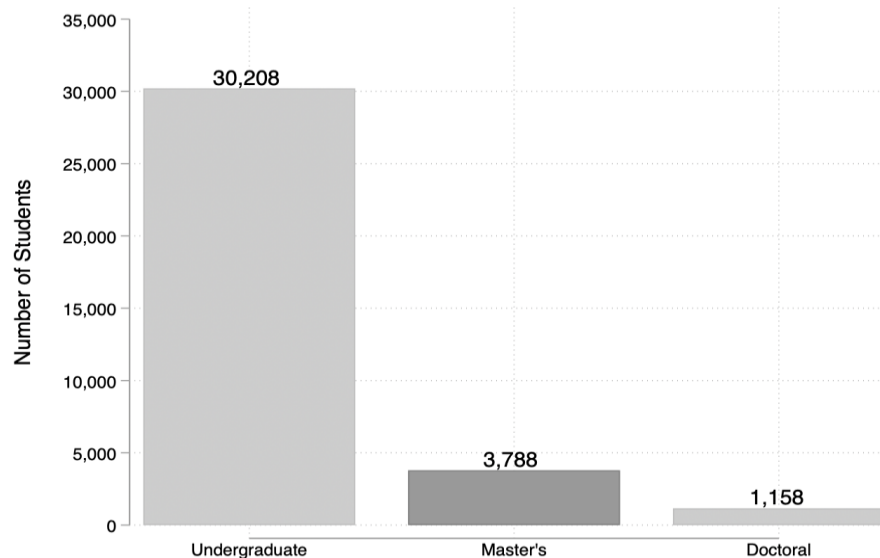
Table 13. GRE Scores for Newly Admitted Doctoral Students 2025-2026 (n = 15)

	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Verbal	154	153	136	170
Quantitative	151	151	133	168
Analytical Writing	4	4	1.5	5.5
Combined	275	301	271	335

Graduate Student Applications and Matriculation

In 2025-2026, the programs reported serving 30,208 CCJ undergraduate majors and 4,946 CCJ graduate students pursuing advanced degrees (i.e., master's and doctoral degrees), as shown in Figure 11.

Figure 11. Total Number of Students Enrolled in CCJ Programs 2025-2026



Master's and Doctoral Acceptance, Enrollment, and Active Students

Figure 12 displays the number of applications, acceptances, and enrollments for all program types. Figure 13 shows the acceptance rates for master's students, distance learning master's students, and doctoral students. Students that applied for a distance learning master's degree had the highest acceptance rate (67%), while students that applied to entry into doctoral programs have the lowest acceptance rate (25%). Figure 14 displays the enrollment rates. Distance learning master's degrees had the highest enrollment rate at 72%, followed by doctoral enrollment 58%, and master's enrollment at 52%. The number of doctoral applications received per program ranged from 0 to 147. Three programs were not recruiting or received 0 doctoral applications. The number of doctoral applications accepted per program ranged from 2 to 17. The number of doctoral enrollments per program ranged from 0 to 12 students.

Figure 12. Average Number of Applications and Matriculation by Program 2025-2026

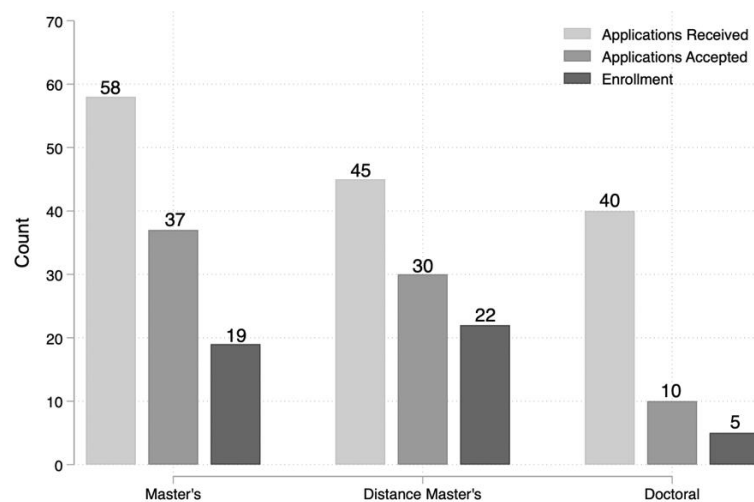


Figure 13. Acceptance Rates of CCJ Graduate Students 2025-2026

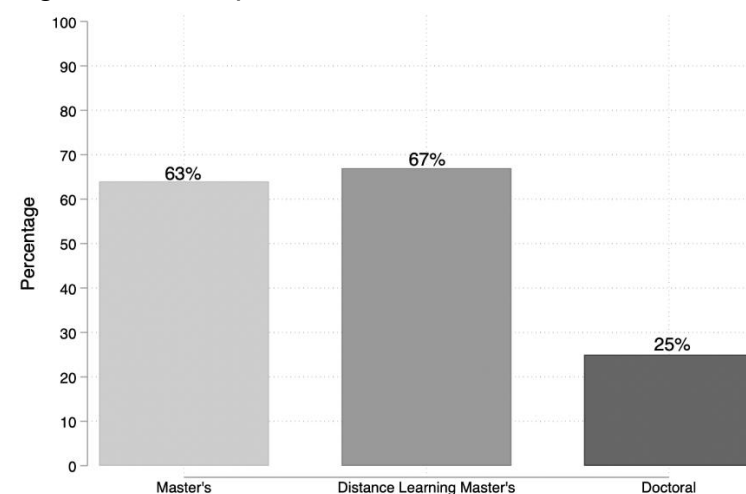
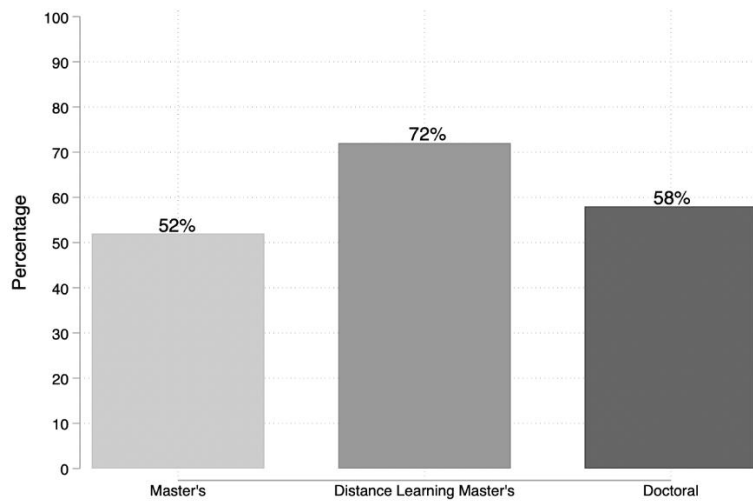


Figure 14. Enrollment Rates of CCJ Graduate Students 2025-2026



The total number of active graduate students, shown in Figure 15, included 3,788 master's students and 1,158 doctoral students. Included in these active students were 92 international master's students and 204 international doctoral students, as shown in Figure 16. Figure 17 shows the newly enrolled international students as 59 for master's and 54 for doctoral students.

Figure 15. Total Active Graduate Students 2025-2026

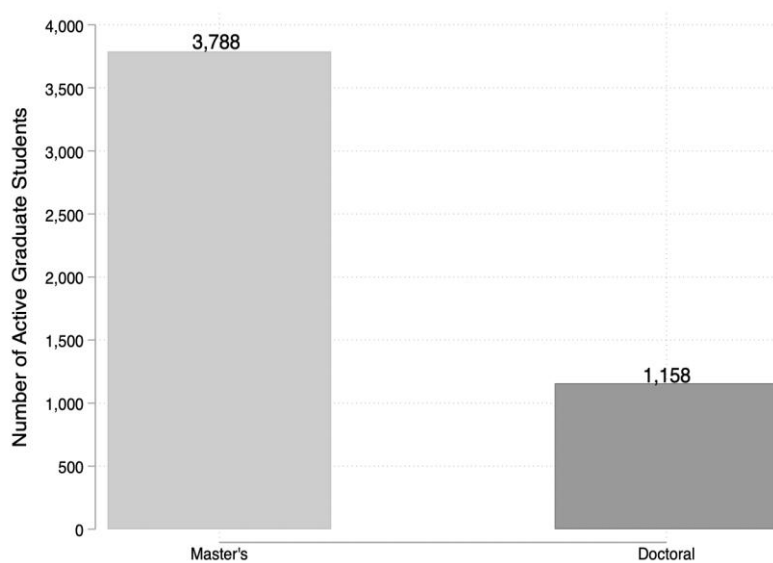


Figure 16. Total Active International Graduate Students 2025-2026

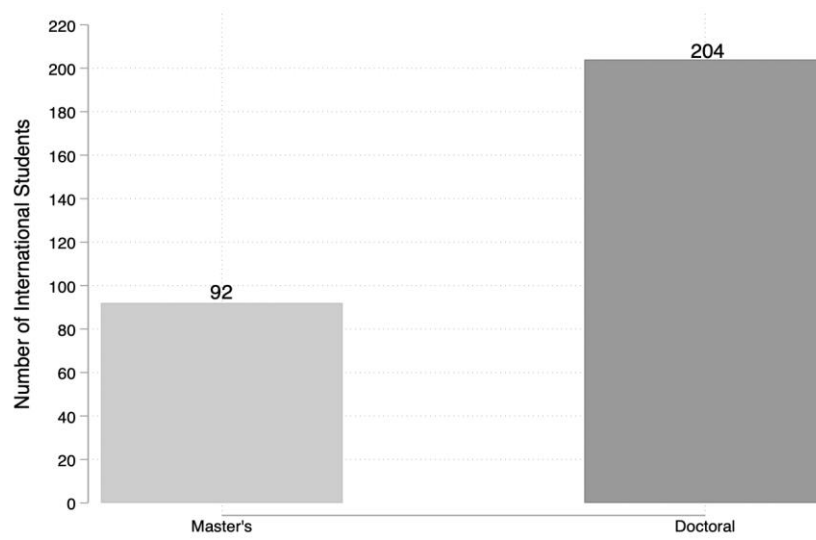
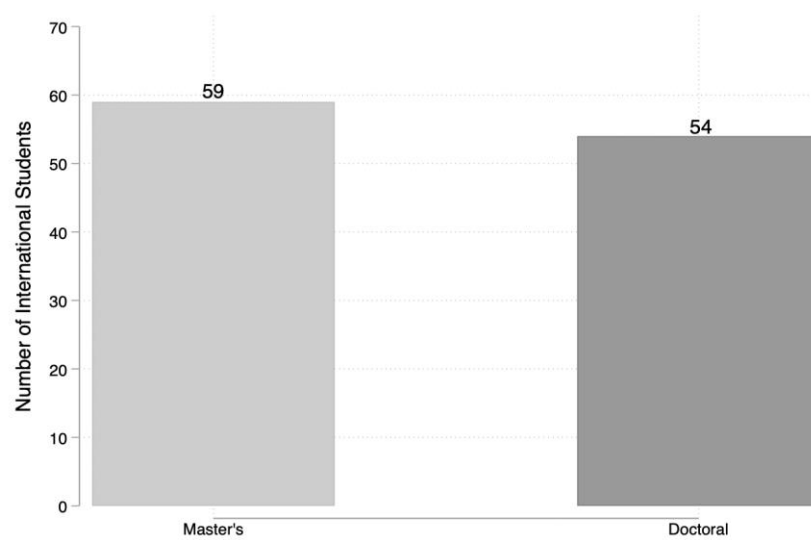


Figure 17. Newly Enrolled International Students 2025-2026



PhD Active Students

Degree Backgrounds of Graduate Students

Table 14 shows the degree background of newly admitted doctoral students, including 5 with a JD and 3 with an LLM.

Table 14. Newly Admitted Doctoral Student Degree Background 2025-2026 ($n = 36$)

	BS	BA	MA	MS	JD	LLM	MPH	PhD
Total	22	36	81	64	5	3	2	0

Doctoral Student Demographics

Figure 18 shows doctoral student demographics by race and ethnicity for the 2025-2026 academic year. Due to state restrictions, 12 ADPCCJ programs could not report on the gender or ethnicity of their students. Most doctoral students were White ($n = 370$) at 52%. There were 84 Black doctoral students accounting for 12% of the total number of doctoral students. A total of 13% of doctoral students were Asian, while there were far fewer for Native American students and people who identified with multiple races. One hundred (14%) of doctoral students identified as Hispanic. Figure 19 shows a summary of race/ethnicity trends by academic year for the last decade. Table 15 shows the percentage of each racial and ethnic group by academic year.

Figure 18. Doctoral Students by Race and Ethnicity 2025-2026 ($n = 713$)

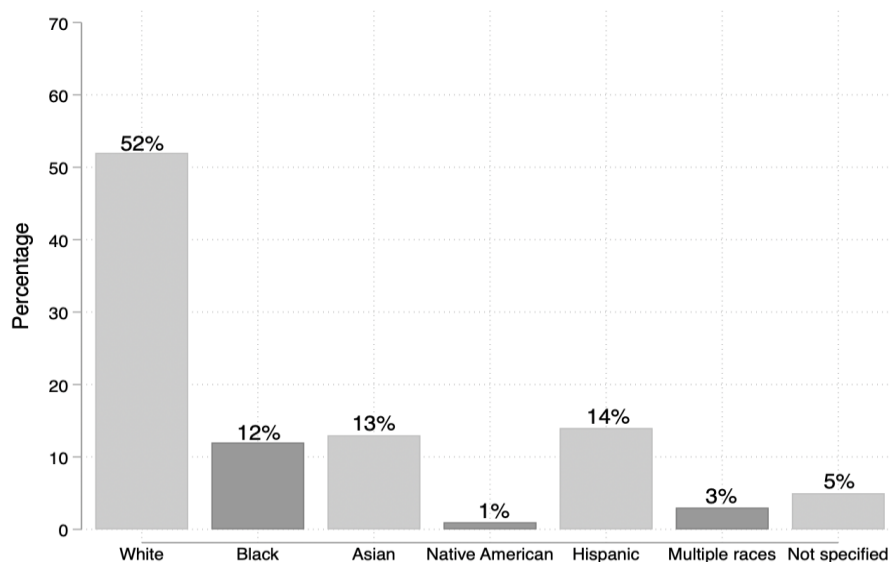
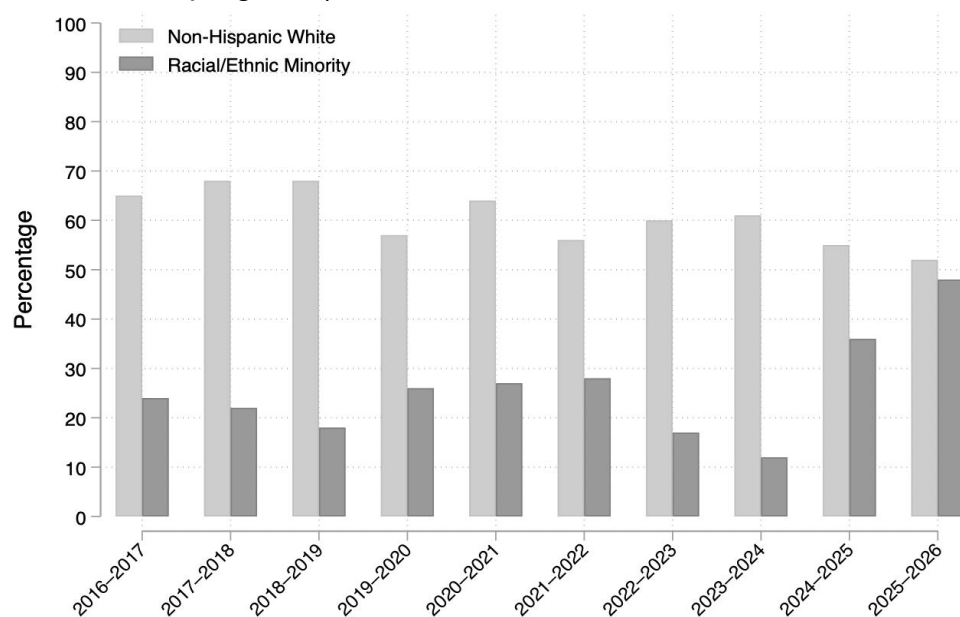


Figure 19. Doctoral Students by Race and Ethnicity by Academic Year ($n = 713$ students, 32 programs)



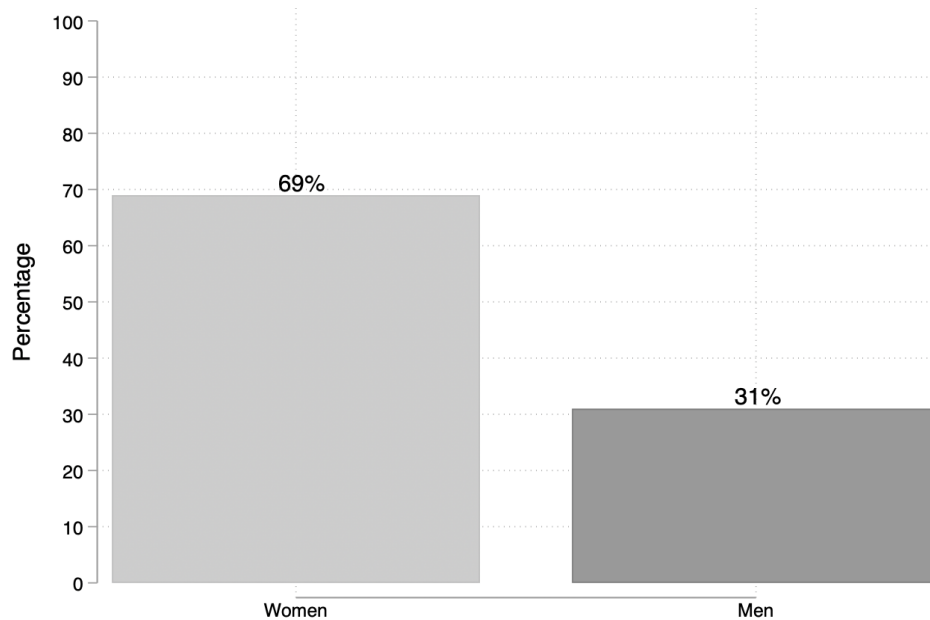
*Prior to 2024-2025, race and ethnicity were measured separately, so individuals identifying as Hispanic were not included in the “racial/ethnic minority” category. Beginning with the 2024-2025 survey, race and ethnicity were asked inclusively, which accounts for the observed increase in the reported racial/ethnic minority doctoral students.

Table 15. Doctoral Students Race and Ethnicity by Academic Year

Academic Year	White	Black	Asian	Hispanic	Native American	Not Specified
2016-2017	65%	9%	8%	7%	0%	11%
2017-2018	68%	8%	6%	8%	0%	10%
2018-2019	68%	7%	5%	6%	0%	14%
2019-2020	57%	12%	5%	9%	0%	17%
2020-2021	64%	9%	7%	11%	0%	9%
2021-2022	56%	11%	7%	10%	0%	6%
2022-2023	60%	13%	2%	n/a	2%	5%
2023-2024	61%	10%	2%	n/a	2%	2%
2024-2025	55%	10%	12%	13%	1%	6%
2025-2026	52%	12%	13%	14%	1%	5%

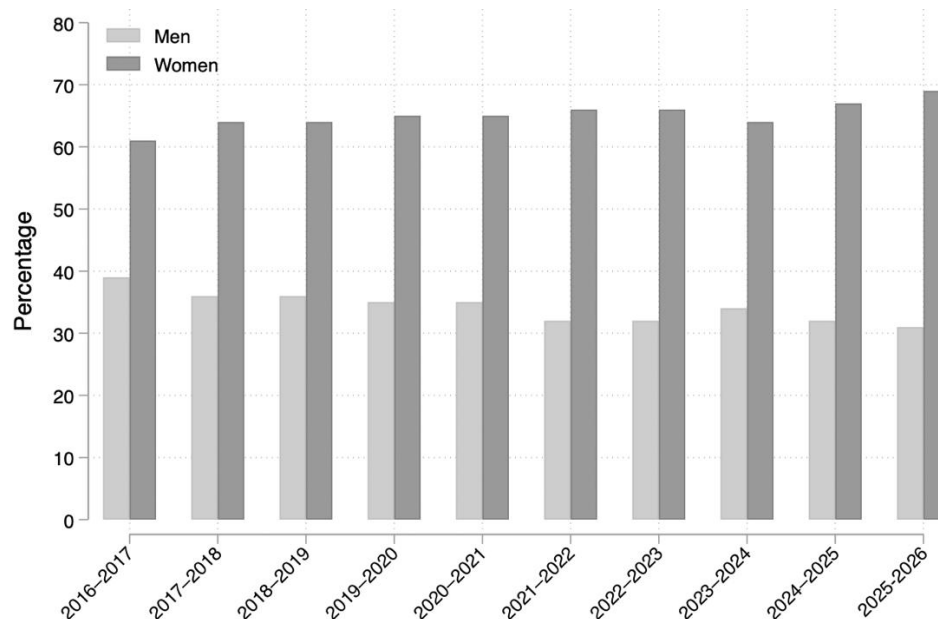
Figures 20 and 21 present the gender distribution of doctoral students by academic year. Figure 20 shows that most doctoral students identified as women, accounting for about 69% of students. In contrast, men comprised about 31%, while non-binary students represented less than 1% of reported genders. These proportions align with the annual trends illustrated in Figure 21, where women were consistently the largest proportion of doctoral students.

Figure 20. Doctoral Students by Gender for 2025-2026 ($n = 762$)



*Less than 1% of doctoral students were identified as non-binary

Figure 21. Doctoral Student Gender by Academic Year



Doctoral Student Stipends

Table 16 shows the doctoral stipend amounts for both academic year and 12-month contracts. Acknowledging that not all students within one department receive the same stipends, programs were asked to provide stipend amounts for their basic stipend as well as for the most lucrative stipend they offer (i.e., highest paying stipend). The most lucrative academic year stipend was an average of \$27,697 a year, with a maximum stipend of \$50,000 and a minimum stipend of \$14,000 (minimum calculation excludes \$0 responses). The average basic or typical academic year stipend ranged from \$24,549 to \$50,000. For 12-month stipend, the most lucrative had an average of \$34,890 and a maximum of \$60,634, and for basic or typical, an average of \$32,164. Figure 22 shows the basic or typical doctoral student stipends by academic year. Table 17 shows whether the doctoral stipend award included student health insurance.

Table 16. Doctoral Student Stipends 2025-2026 (n = 35)

Stipend Description	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Most Lucrative 9-month	\$27,697	\$27,000	\$14,000	\$50,000
Basic or Typical 9-month	\$24,549	\$22,500	\$12,600	\$50,000
Most Lucrative 12-month	\$34,890	\$31,183	\$20,000	\$60,634
Basic or Typical 12-month	\$32,164	\$29,667	\$21,600	\$60,000

Figure 22. Average Doctoral Student Basic or Typical Salaries by Academic Year

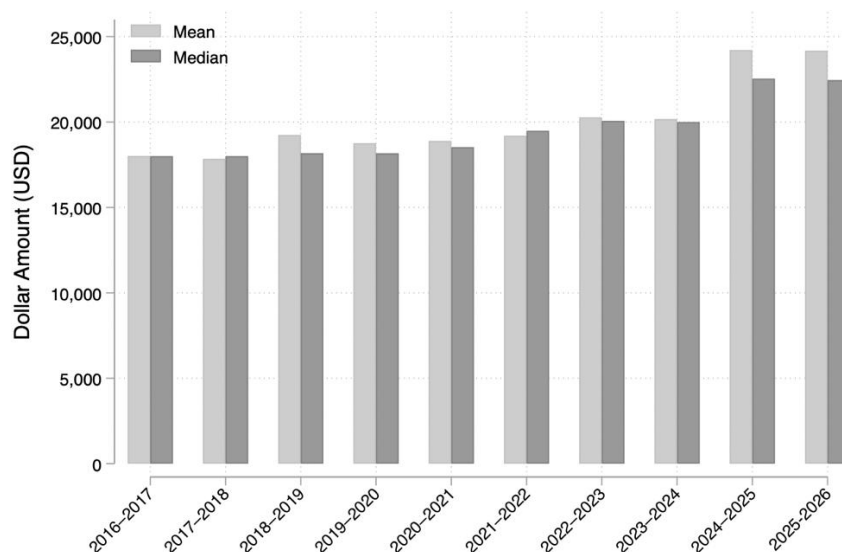


Table 17. Doctoral Student Health Insurance Coverage

Stipend Description	Full Insurance Coverage	Partial Insurance Coverage	No Insurance Coverage
Most Lucrative 9-month	21	14	8
Basic or Typical 9-month	20	15	8

Doctoral Student Conference Travel Funding

The ADPCCJ survey collects information on whether doctoral students receive conference travel funding. Forty programs, of 41, provide doctoral students conference travel funding. Table 18 shows the mean, median, minimum, and maximum amount of funding doctoral students receive for conference travel (excludes \$0 responses).

Table 18. Doctoral Students Conference Travel Funding 2025-2026

Compensation Type	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Dollar Amount per Academic Year	\$1,109	\$1,000	\$500	\$3,368

Doctoral Student Support

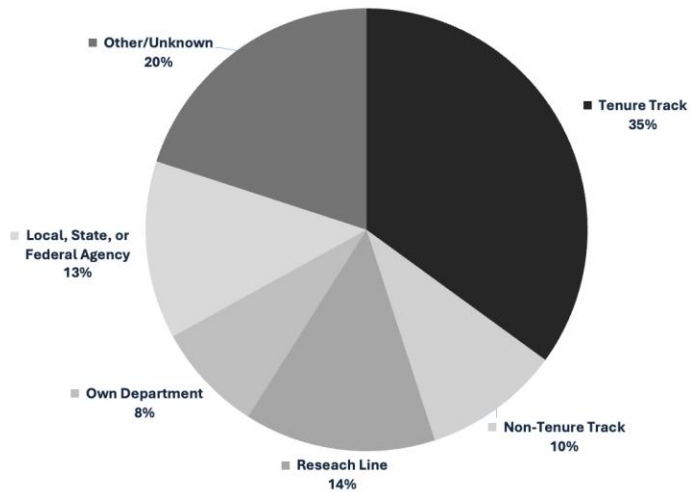
Table 19 shows the different types of doctoral funding received for the 2025-2026 academic year. Most doctoral students were funded for teaching-related duties across the 2025-2026 academic year. The mean and median show the average number of doctoral students per program supported by teaching and research duties in the Summer of 2025, Fall of 2025, and Spring of 2026.

Table 19. Doctoral Student Funding Support 2025-2026

Semester	Number	Mean	Median
Summer 2025	-	-	-
Teaching	137	3	0
Research	177	4	0
Fall 2025			
Teaching	350	8	6
Research	291	7	4
Spring 2026			
Teaching	351	8	7
Research	286	6	4

Figure 23 shows initial employment placement for 159 graduates from 2026. Placement categories included tenure-track or non-tenure track positions at universities or colleges, research positions in nonprofit organizations, research or management positions in local, state, or federal government criminal justice agencies, research or teaching at their own department, and other/unknown positions. Tenure track positions were the most common initial placement (35%).

Figure 23. Doctoral Graduate Employment Placement 2025-2026 ($n = 40$)



Master's Active Students

The following section describes the characteristics of master's students in ADPCCJ programs that reported in the 2025-2026 academic year. As shown in Figure 15, there were 3,788 active master's students.

Degree Backgrounds of Graduate Students

The master's students newly admitted to in-person programs possess a diverse array of higher education degrees, including 24 with a MS, and 2 with a JD (see Table 20), similar to those newly enrolled in distance-learning programs (see Table 21).

Table 20. Newly Admitted Master's Student Degree Background 2025-2026

	BS	BA	MA	MS	JD	LLM	MPH	PhD
Total	405	306	6	21	2	0	0	0

Table 21. Newly Admitted Master's (Distance Learning) Student Degree Background 2025-2026

	BS	BA	MA	MS	JD	LLM	MPH	PhD
Total	22	213	5	24	2	0	0	0

Master's Student Demographics

Figure 24 shows master's student demographics by race and ethnicity for the 2025-2026 academic year. Out of a total of 2,179 master's students, the majority were White ($n = 1,203$) at 55%. There were 347 Black master's students comprising 16% of the total number of master's students. A total of 5% of master's students were Asian, while there were far fewer for Native American students and those who identified with more than one race. A total of 392 (18%) of master's students identified as Hispanic. Figure 25 displays these trends by academic year for the last decade. Table 22 shows the breakdown of specific racial and ethnic groups by academic year.

Figure 24. Master’s Students by Race and Ethnicity 2025-2026 (n = 2,179)

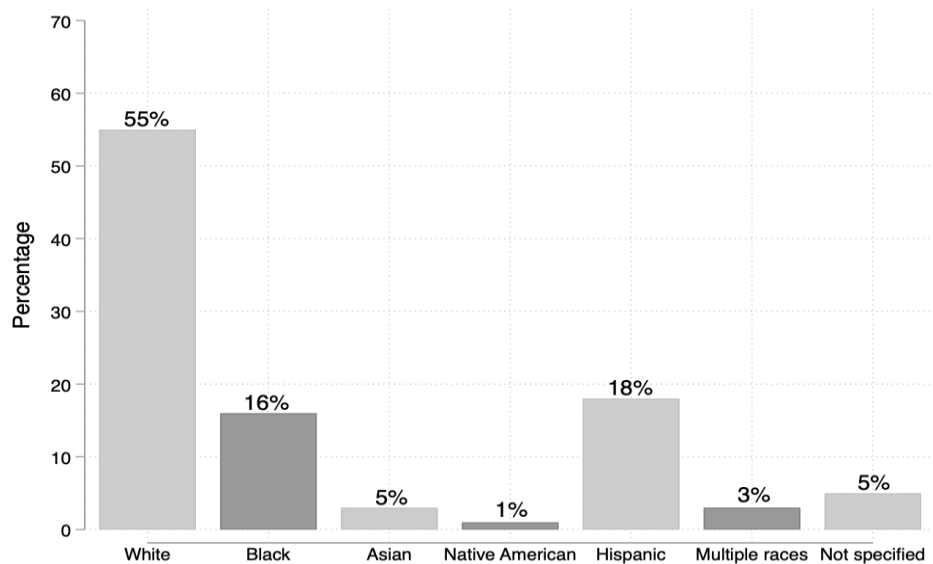
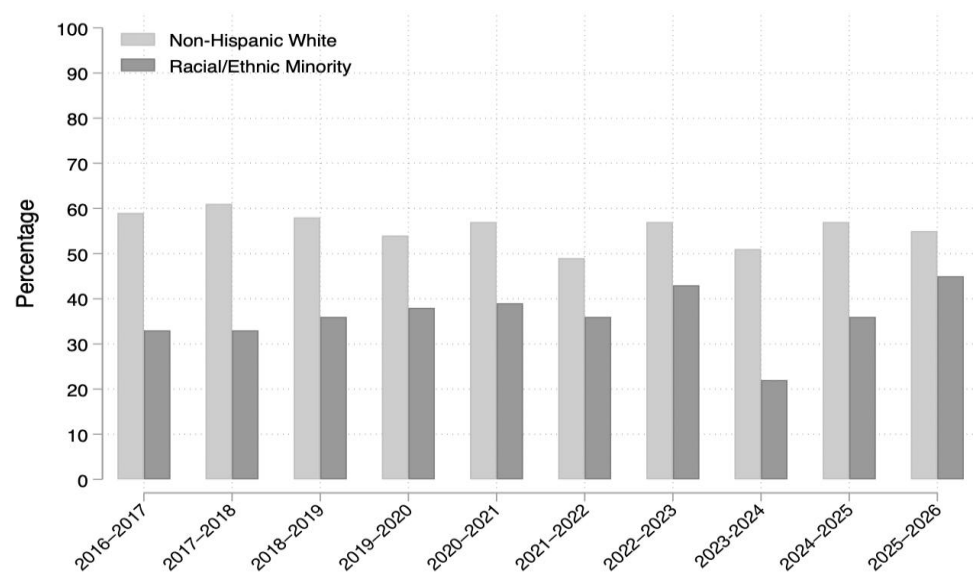


Figure 25. Master’s Students by Race and Ethnicity by Academic Year*



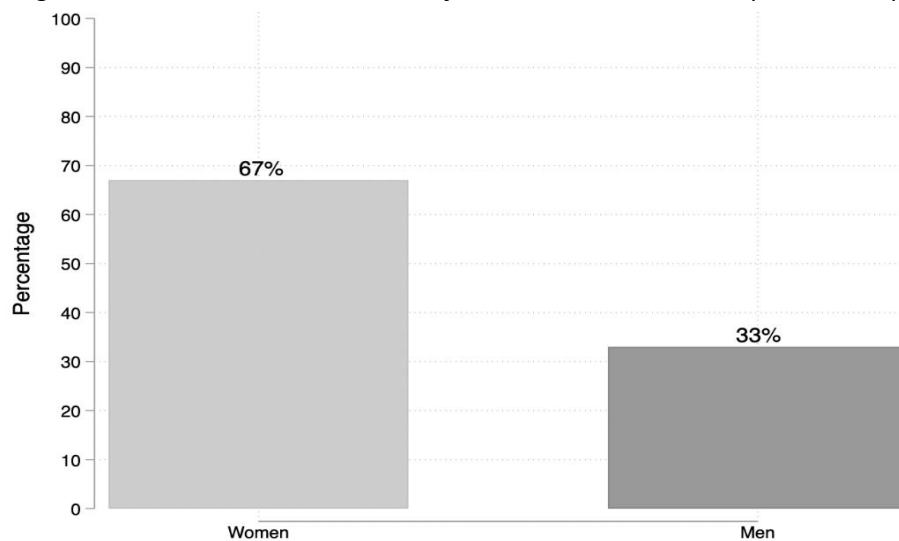
*Prior to 2024-2025, race and ethnicity were measured separately, so individuals identifying as Hispanic were not included in the “racial/ethnic minority” category. Beginning with the 2024-2025 survey, race and ethnicity were asked inclusively, which accounts for the observed increase in the reported racial/ethnic minority master’s students.

Table 22. Master's Student Race and Ethnicity by Academic Year

Academic Year	White	Black	Asian	Hispanic	Native American	Not Specified
2016-2017	59%	18%	3%	12%	0%	8%
2017-2018	61%	15%	3%	15%	0%	6%
2018-2019	58%	18%	4%	14%	0%	6%
2019-2020	54%	17%	3%	18%	0%	8%
2020-2021	57%	17%	4%	18%	0%	4%
2021-2022	49%	16%	3%	17%	0%	11%
2022-2023	57%	18%	5%	N/A	2%	12%
2023-2024	51%	14%	3%	3%	2%	8%
2024-2025	57%	14%	3%	18%	1%	4%
2025-2026	55%	16%	3%	18%	1%	5%

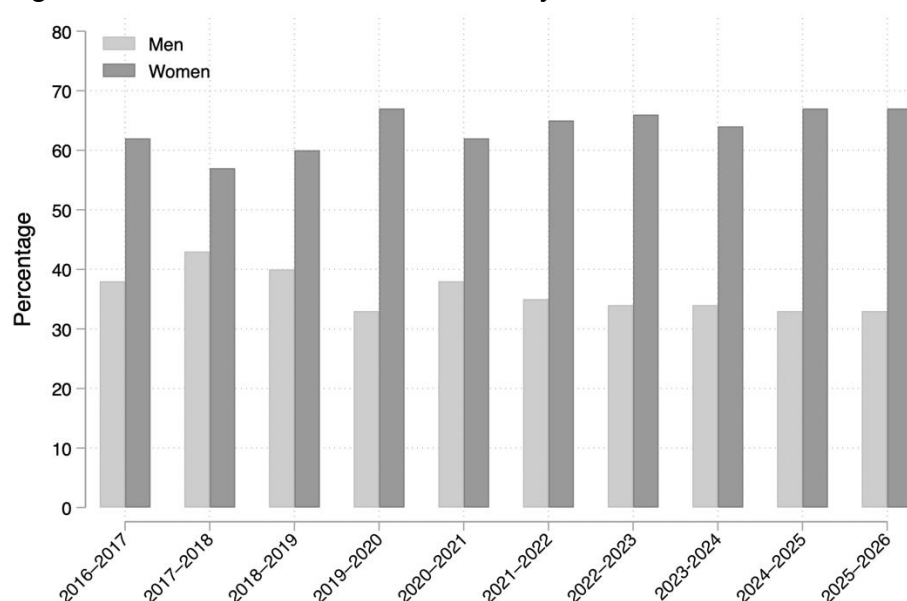
Figure 26 shows that most master's students were women (67%), 33% were men and less than 1% were non-binary ($n = 5$). Figure 27 shows master's students' gender by academic year, which follows a similar trend with most students being women.

Figure 26. Master's Students by Gender 2025-2026 ($n = 2,228$)



*Less than 1% of master's students were identified as non-binary

Figure 27. Master's Student Gender by Academic Year



Master's Student Stipends

Table 23 shows the master's stipend amounts for both 9-month and 12-month contracts. Acknowledging that not all students within one department receive the same stipends, programs were asked to provide stipend amounts for their basic stipend as well as for the most lucrative stipend they offer (i.e., highest paying stipend). The most lucrative 9-month stipend was an average of \$16,039 a year, with a maximum salary of \$2,000 and a minimum of \$34,080. Minimums of \$0 were excluded. Basic or typical 9-month salaries had an average of \$14,135, and a maximum of \$20,867. For 12-month salaries, the most lucrative had an average of \$18,344 and a maximum of \$24,500, and for basic or typical, an average of \$19,428.

Table 23. Master's Student Stipends 2025-2026 ($n = 19$)

Stipend Description	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Most Lucrative 9-month	\$16,307	\$16,902	\$2,000	\$34,080
Basic or Typical 9-month	\$13,614	\$15,337	\$2,000	\$20,867
Most Lucrative 12-month	\$18,583	\$20,447	\$8,000	\$24,500
Basic or Typical 12-month	\$19,340	\$19,557	\$13,750	\$24,500

Undergraduate Criminal Justice Majors

Figure 28 shows the number of undergraduate CCJ majors from the ADPCCJ programs by academic year. As of 2026, there were 30,208 undergraduates across all programs. Figure 29 below shows the mean and median number of undergraduate students by academic year. In 2025-2026, the average number of undergraduate students was 737 with a median of 626 students.

Figure 28. Undergraduate CCJ Majors by Academic Year

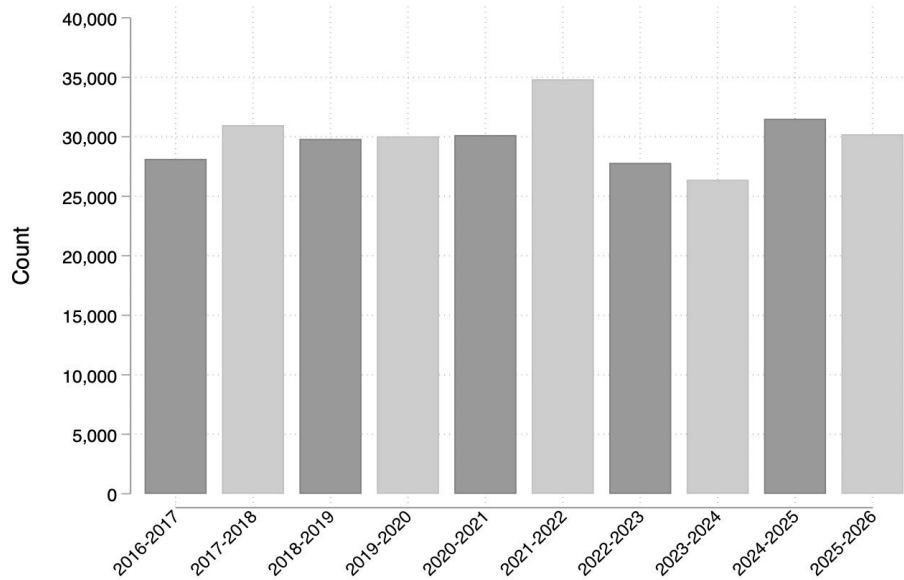
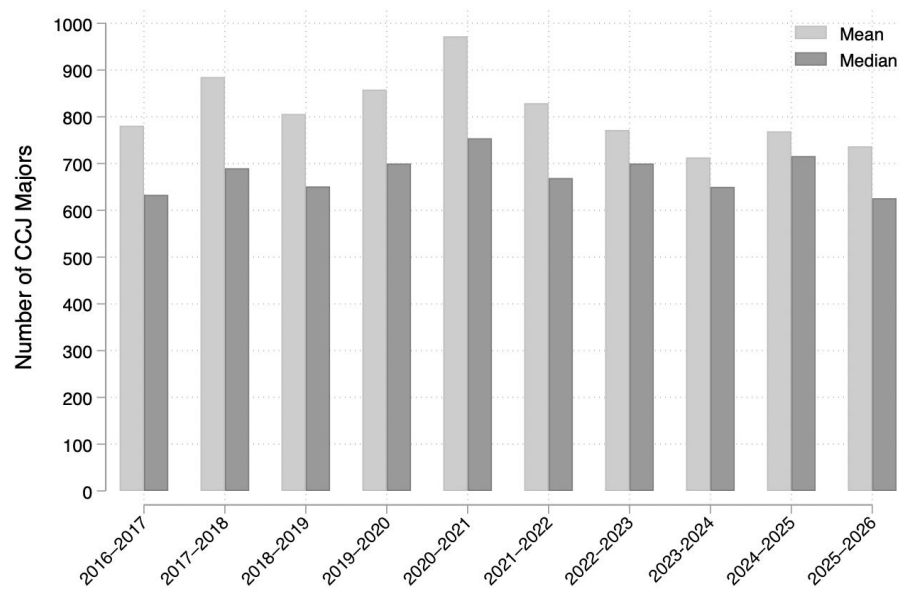


Figure 29. Mean and Median Number of Undergraduate CCJ Majors by Academic Year



Conclusion

This report provides a snapshot of ADPCCJ member graduate programs in 2025-2026. We hope the information summarized above is useful to current ADPCCJ members, others in the CCJ scholarly community, and prospective students and faculty members. Placed in the historical context (e.g., Frost & Clear, 2007), the dominant theme is the continued growth in the number and size of CCJ doctoral programs. Some of the data elements summarized in this report (e.g., funding sources and details for graduate students, class sections offered, tenure timelines) are newer portions of the survey preventing us from comparing them to previous years, but by and large trends have remained stable over the past several years. For additional information, please visit the ADPCCJ website (www.adpccj.com).

Appendix A: List of ADPCCJ Members, 2026

Table A-1. All Members of ADPCCJ (n = 44).

American University	University of Albany
Arizona State University	University of Arkansas at Little Rock
CUNY Graduate Center/John Jay College	University of California Irvine
Florida International University	University of Central Florida
Florida State University	University of Cincinnati
George Mason University	University of Delaware
Georgia State University	University of Florida
Indiana University Bloomington	University of Louisville
Indiana University of Pennsylvania	University of Maribor
Michigan State University	University of Maryland
North Dakota State University	University of Massachusetts Lowell
Northeastern University	University of Miami
Pennsylvania State University	University of Mississippi
Prairie View A&M University	University of Missouri St. Louis
Rutgers University Newark	University of Nebraska Omaha
Sam Houston State University	University of Nevada Las Vegas
Southern Illinois University	University of New Haven
Tarleton State University	University of Pennsylvania
Temple University	University of South Carolina
Texas Southern University	University of South Florida
Texas State University	University of Texas at Dallas
University of Alabama	Washington State University

Appendix B: Top 10 CCJ Reporting Programs, 2026

Table B-1. Top 10 ADPCCJ Universities⁴

Arizona State University
Florida State University
George Mason University
Michigan State University
Pennsylvania State University
Rutgers
University at Albany-SUNY
University of California-Irvine
University of Cincinnati
University of Maryland-College Park

Table B-2. Top 10 CCJ Faculty Publications 2025-2026 (*n* = 7)

	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Per Program				
Peer reviewed articles	61	56	29	118
Books	1.7	1	0	6
Per Faculty				
Peer reviewed articles	3.4	3.5	2.4	4.2
Books	0.6	1	0	1

Table B-3. Top 10 CCJ Faculty Grant Productivity 2025-2026 (*n* = 9)*

National Grants	Internal Grants	External Grants	
57	22	95	
Dollar Amount of Grants			
	Mean	Minimum	Maximum
Federal	\$1,661,750	\$120,741	\$5,506,705
State and Local	\$388,488	\$75,837	\$433,531
Foundation	\$606,912	\$146,000	\$1,082,129
Private	\$41,048	\$2,598	\$79,500

*The minimum calculation excludes \$0 responses

⁴ The top ten programs according to the [2021 U.S. News & World Report](#).

Table B-4. Top 10 CCJ Faculty Time Distribution 2025-2026 ($n = 10$)

	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Percentage of Time Spent on Research	39%	40%	30%	45%
Percentage of Time Teaching	47%	45%	40%	60%
Percentage of Time Spent on Service	15%	13%	10%	20%

Table B-5. Top 10 CCJ Faculty Salaries 2025-2026 ($n = 8$)

Faculty Type	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Full Professor	\$187,740	\$187,732	\$119,592	\$449,071
Associate Professor	\$124,648	\$124,083	\$99,180	\$178,756
Assistant Professor	\$97,835	\$94,000	\$81,013	\$143,671
Recently Hired Assistant Professor	\$98,668	\$100,004	\$90,000	\$106,000

Table B-6. Top 10 CCJ Graduate Director Compensation 2025-2026 ($n = 10$)

Compensation Type	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Course Release	1	1	0	2
Monetary Stipend - Academic Year	\$7,900	\$8,500	\$0	\$20,000
Monetary Stipend - Summer	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$5,500
Travel Support	\$167	\$0	\$0	\$1,500

Table B-7. Top 10 CCJ Number of Active Graduate Students 2025-2026 ($n = 10$)

	Number
All Active Graduate Students	1,300
Active Doctoral Students	379
Active Master's Students	921

Table B-8. Top 10 CCJ Newly Admitted Doctoral Student GRE Scores 2025-2026 ($n = 6$)

	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Verbal	155	155	138	169
Quantitative	152	154	133	168
Analytical Writing	4	4	3	5.5

Table B-9. Top 10 CCJ Doctoral Student Stipends 2025-2026 (n = 9)

Stipend Description	Mean	Median	Min	Max
Most Lucrative 9-month	\$34,019	\$32,500	\$25,119	\$45,594
Basic or Typical 9-month	\$27,255	\$25,695	\$21,000	\$40,000

Figure B-1. Top 10 CCJ Percentage of Faculty Members by Rank 2025-2026 (n = 10 programs, 232 faculty)

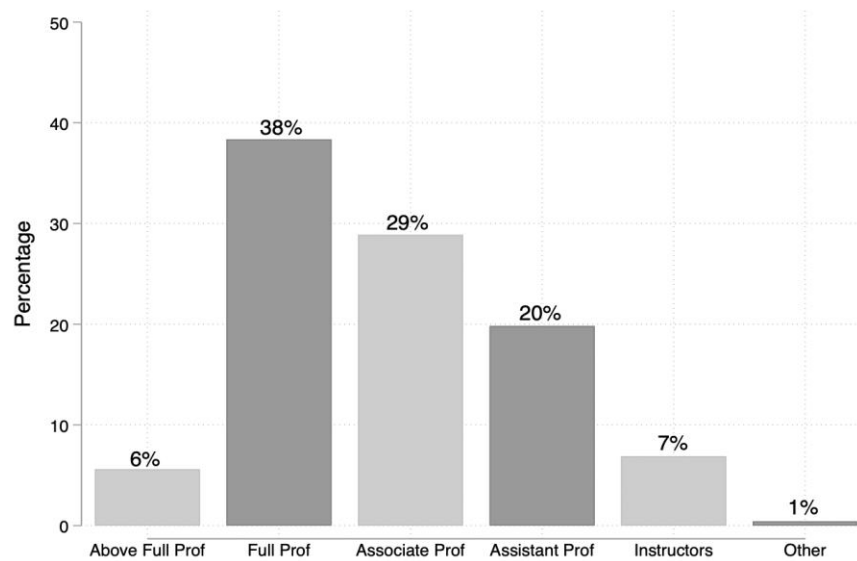


Figure B-2. Top 10 CCJ Faculty Members by Race and Ethnicity 2025-2026 (n = 7 programs, 145 faculty)

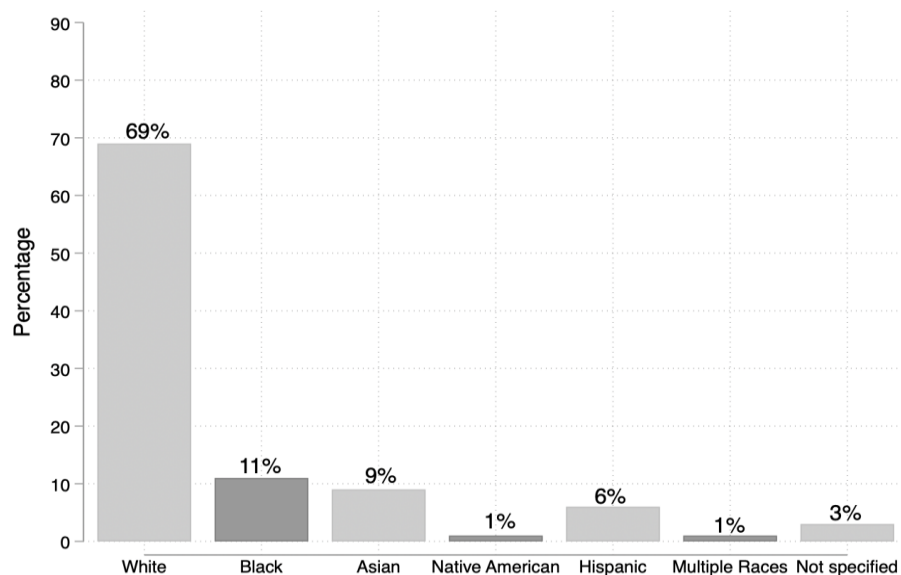
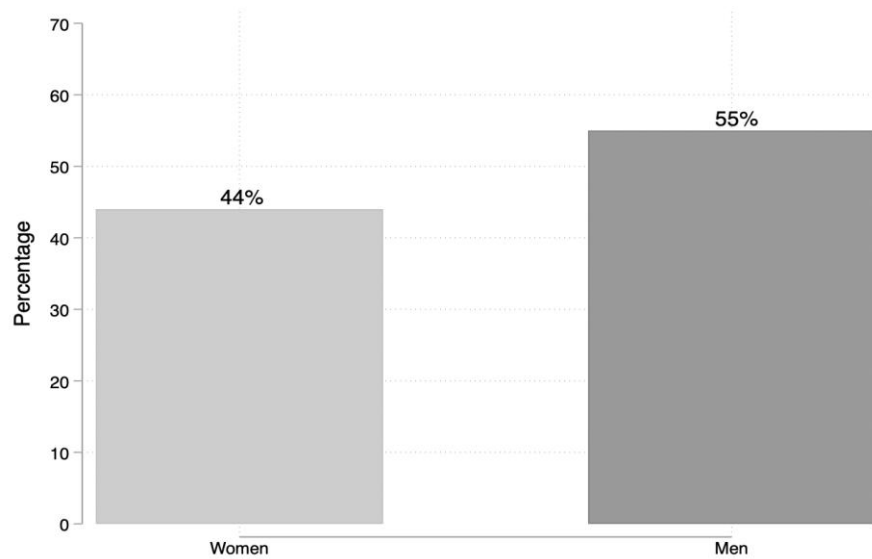


Figure B-3. Top 10 CCJ Faculty Members by Gender 2025-2026 (n = 8 programs, 167 faculty)



*Non-binary faculty comprised less than 1%

Figure B-4. Top 10 Program Matriculation 2025-2026 (n = 10 programs)

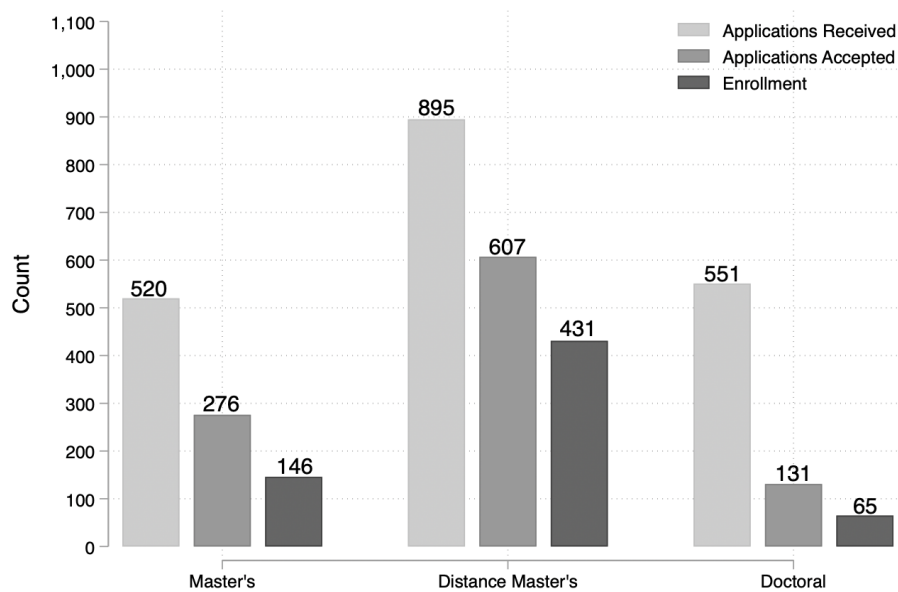
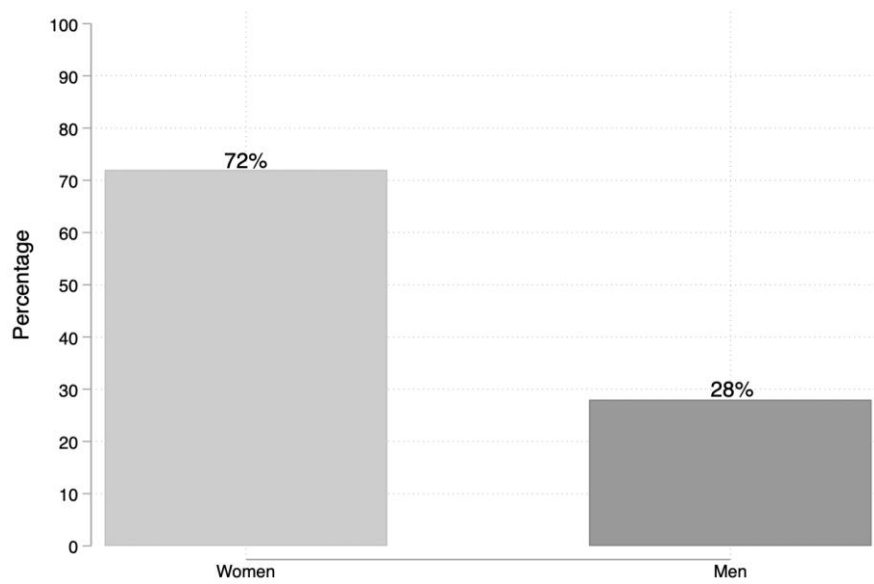


Figure B-5. Top 10 Doctoral Student Gender 2025-2026 (n = 6 programs, 185 students)



*No doctoral students were identified as non-binary

Figure B-6. Top 10 Doctoral Student Race/Ethnicity 2025-2026 (n = 6 programs, 202 students)

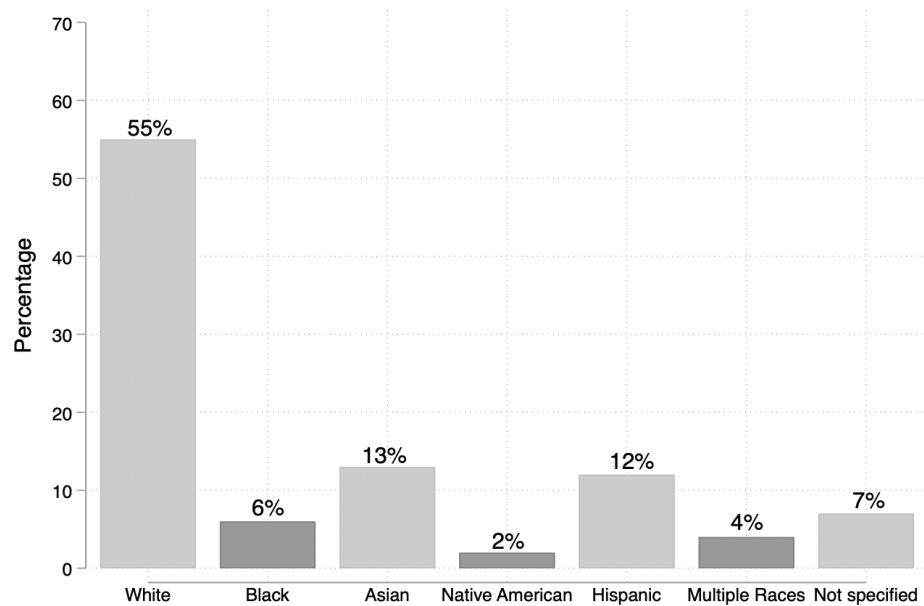


Figure B-7. Top 10 CCJ Program Graduate Employment 2025-2026 (n = 10 programs, 56 graduates)

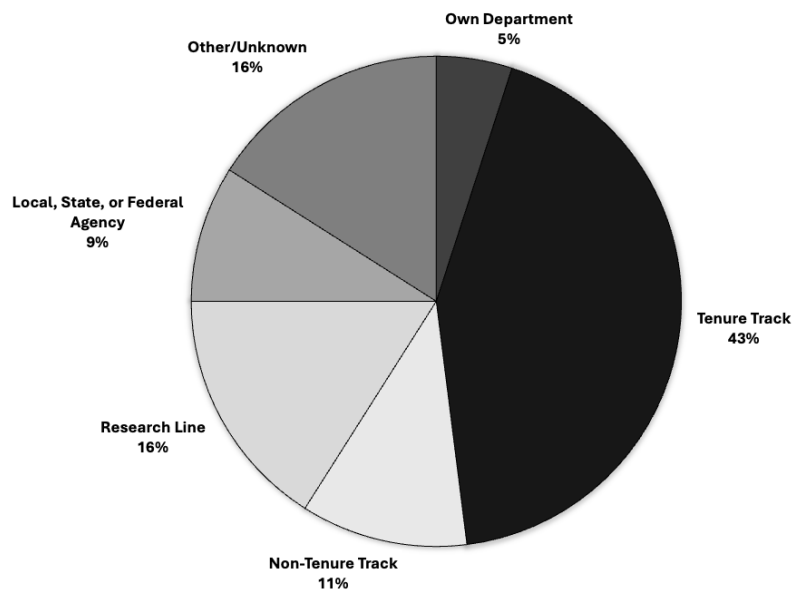
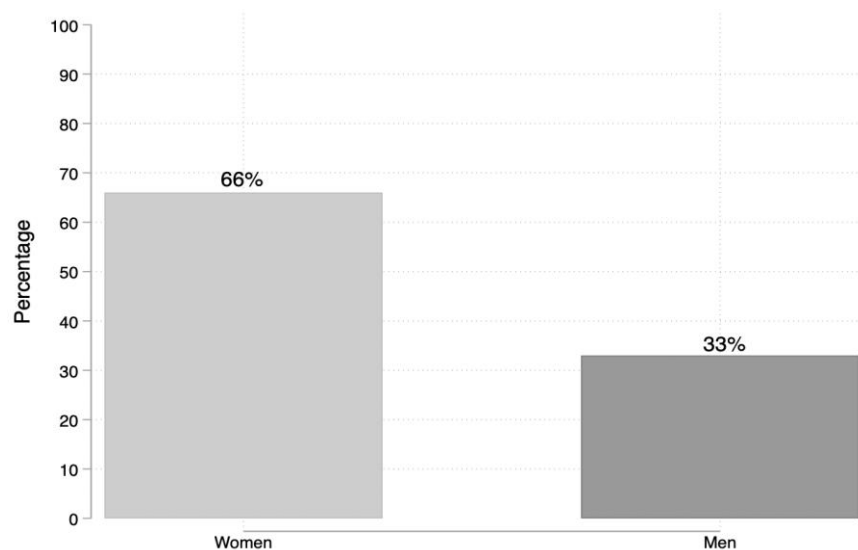


Figure B-8. Top CCJ Master's Student Gender 2025-2026 (n = 6 programs, 485 students)



*Non-binary students comprised less than 1%

Figure B-9. Top 10 Master's Student Race/Ethnicity 2025-2026 (n = 6 programs, 530 students)

