

In this Edition >>>>>>>>>>

- *Announcements*
- *Helpdesk Personnel*
- *Breakdown of Baccalaureate Degrees by Subject Area*



Surveys Are Open

The 2015 surveys are open as of January 15, 2016. We are piloting a new survey this year to explore the gender and ethnicity of students transferring from 2-year programs into 4-year programs. This survey will be a first step in

looking at the role of two year programs in agriculture, natural resource, and family and consumer sciences/human sciences.

Below is a quick reference guide for upcoming surveys, the notification date, and the due date. The institutional contacts for the surveys will be notified when the surveys become available. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the FAEIS Staff at faeis@vt.edu.

<i>Survey</i>	<i>Notification</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
<i>2015 Faculty Survey</i>	<i>November 1st</i>	<i>June 1</i>
<i>2015 Student Enrollment</i>	<i>January 15th</i>	<i>March 15th</i>
<i>2014/2015 Degrees Awarded</i>	<i>January 15th</i>	<i>March 15th</i>
<i>2014/2015 Placement of Graduates</i>	<i>January 15th</i>	<i>March 15th</i>
<i>2015 Transfer Students</i>	<i>January 15th</i>	<i>March 15th</i>

The surveys collect data on different aspects of student and faculty information. Additional information on the surveys is listed below.

The Faculty Survey collects data each Fall semester on faculty academic rank and tenure status, appointment type and percentage breakdown, the faculties' primary discipline (CIP), monthly salary, demographic information, and administrative position information.

- The Student Enrollment Survey reflects the Fall census for the current year. The survey collects Fall enrollment by degree level, discipline (CIP), gender, and ethnicity.
- The Degrees Awarded Survey collects degrees each academic year by degree level, discipline (CIP), gender, and ethnicity.
- The Placement of Graduates Survey collects data each academic year on the jobs that students receive after graduation, including the degree they received, the number of new graduates placed broken down by CIP program, and the place of work.
- The Transfer Student survey is a pilot survey inquiring about transfer students who transferred into four-year programs from two-year programs.

New FAIES Helpdesk Personnel

Meet the FAIES Help Desk!

We have recently hired three students to work the FAIES help desk. The primary role of these students is to help in our data validation process and to contact participating institutions about missing data and other discrepancies. We have divided all participating institutions into three groups based on alphabetical order. In addition to their main tasks all of students are available to help answer questions about the FAIES system and to assist end users to generate reports.

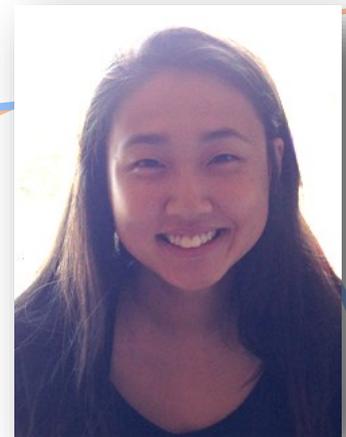


Abbi Hahn

Abbi is the main point of contact for academic institutions ranging from A-M (Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College through Minnesota State University), with regards to updating survey results or CIP code inquiries. Abbi, a freshman attending Virginia Tech, is from Arlington, VA majoring in Crop and Soil Science. Her academic interests include: computer science, agriculture, and GIS (geographic information system). When asked about her work thus far with FAIES, Abbi said, "I was shocked by the number of land grant universities and colleges in the United States and United States territories." When Abbi completes her degree at Virginia Tech she will apply to the Peace Corps.

Cathlean Kim

Cathlean is the main point of contact with regards to updating survey results or CIP code inquires for academic institutions ranging from M-T (Mississippi State University through Turtle Mountain College). Cathlean, a sophomore attending Virginia Tech, is from Richmond, VA studying bio-chemistry with the hopes of continuing her studies in Veterinarian School after graduation. Her academic interests include chemistry and animal science. When asked about working for the FAIES helpdesk Cathlean said "I enjoy learning about the variety of majors offered under agricultural programs. I did not realize how many majors were categorized under agriculture."



Taylor Lewis

Taylor is the main point of contact with regards to updating survey results or CIP code inquires for academic institutions ranging from T-Y (Tuskegee University through Youngtown State University). Taylor, a junior at Virginia Tech, is from Virginia Beach, VA majoring in Human Nutrition, Food, and Exercise (HNFE) with a minor in Business. Along with her work at FAIES, Taylor is a teaching assistant for the Principles of Biology courses. When asked about her work with the FAIES Helpdesk, Taylor said, "My computer skills have improved. Everyday I feel like I am learning a new feature of excel that helps make data gathering and analyses easier." After graduation, she will continue on to graduate school to become a physician assistant.



A Glance at Degrees Awarded by Program Area

FAEIS retrieved data from the FAEIS database linking baccalaureate degrees awarded by region to years 2010 through 2013. The three program areas FAEIS explored were 1) Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, and Related Sciences, 2) Family and Consumer/Human Sciences, and 3) Natural Resources and Conservation. In 2010 a similar newsletter was published. It can be accessed here: http://www.faeis.ahnrit.vt.edu/newsletter/august_10/newsletter.html.

The FAEIS website provides a description of the CIP codes within each program area here: http://www.faeis.ahnrit.vt.edu/cip_codes.shtml.

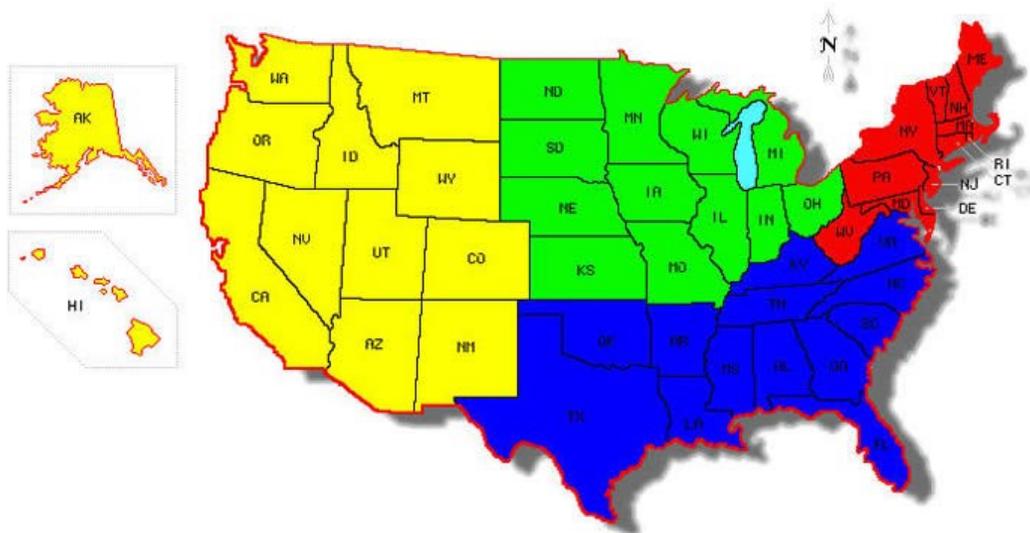


Figure 1. Map of the four U.S. regions: West (Yellow), North Central (Green), South (Blue), and Northeast (Red)

(for the academic areas of: Applied Horticulture/Horticultural Business Services, Plant Sciences, and Soil Sciences)

Looking at Trends in Degrees Awarded by Program Area

FAEIS revisited the topic of program area trends by region. Questions that inspired the exploration into this topic include: What are the trends in degrees awarded by program area? What are some explanations for upward and downward trends over the last four years?

To provide insight into these questions, FAEIS accessed the FAEIS database to pull the information. A few parameters were defined - the selected institutions needs to show consistent reporting between the years of 2010 -2013 and offer majors that fit within at least one of the three programs we explored. Some of the limitations we had in generating the report include:

- There is a difference in CIP code entries over the four year period. It is common to see multiple CIP codes merge, see majors merge or move to a different colleges, or CIP codes added.
- There were some instances of duplicate entries.
- There were some instances where who entered data changed for the institution so there was a gap year and therefore FAEIS was not able to use that institution's data.
- There are variations in the number of institutions that reported per program. This could mean institutions do not house a specific program or FAEIS only had consistent reporting for one or two programs, not all three.

Figure 2 (next page) shows Baccalaureate degrees awarded in Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, and Related Sciences programs by U.S. regions. Based on our analyses there was a gradual increase in Baccalaureate degrees awarded in all four regions. The Southern and North Central regions have overall higher numbers because of the number of institutions that met our inclusion criteria.

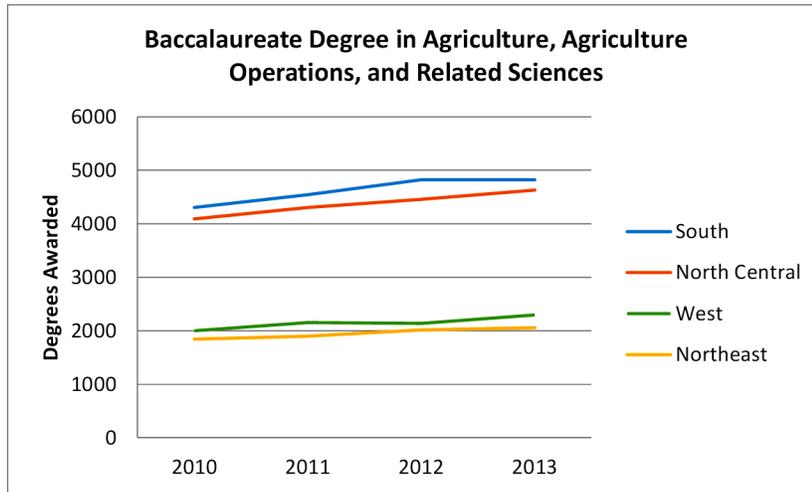


Figure 2. Baccalaureate Degree in Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, and Related Sciences by Year

	States	Institutions Reporting
South	13	34
Northeast	13	10
North Central	12	21
West	13	16

We performed the same analysis on Baccalaureate degrees awarded in Family and Consumer Sciences Programs. The marked decrease in the North Central region between 2012 to 2013, is due to changes in reported numbers across three CIP codes: 19.0401 (Family Resource Mgmt. Studies, General); 19.0504 (Human Nutrition) and 19.0701 (Human Development and Family Studies, General)

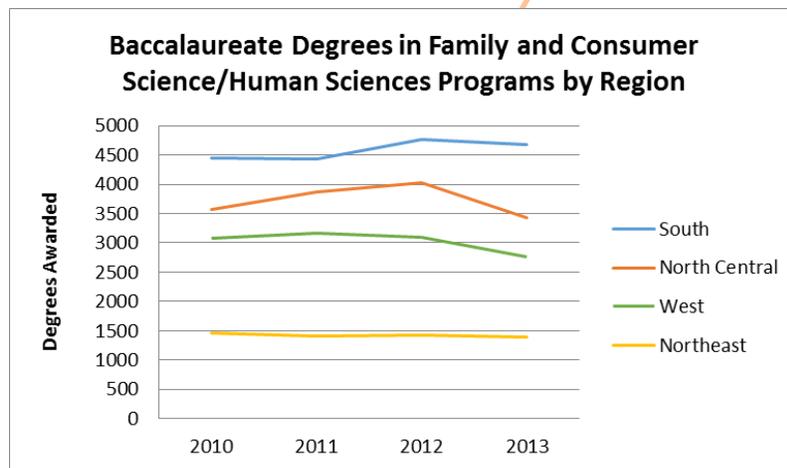


Figure 3. Baccalaureate Degrees Awarded in Family and Consumer Sciences Programs in each Region.

	States	Institutions Reporting
South	13	33
Northeast	13	10
North Central	12	20
West	13	19

Lastly, we performed the same analysis on Natural Resources and Conservation Programs across the four years. The net growth in degrees awarded in the Southern Region was attributed to seven of the twenty-two institutions which reported increases between 10 to 70 students.

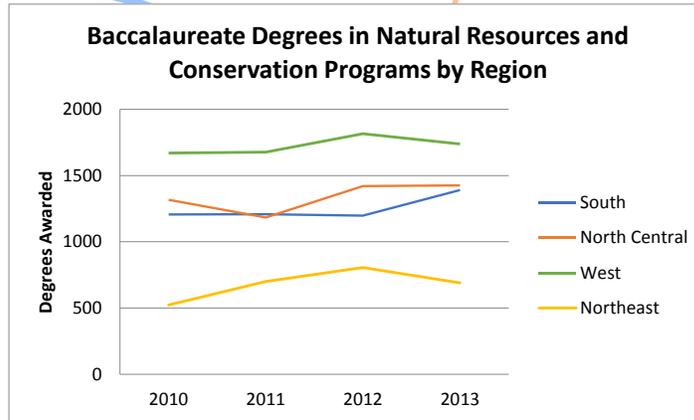


Figure 4. Baccalaureate Degrees Awarded in Natural Resources and Conservation Programs in each Region.

	States	Institutions Reporting
South	13	22
Northeast	13	11
North Central	12	20
West	13	19

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