



- Trends in graduate enrollment
- Trends in agriculture, agriculture operations, and related sciences
- Trends in family and consumer/human sciences
- Trends in natural resources and conservation
- Trends in related biological sciences

F AEIS News

Trends in Graduate Enrollment

For the Food and Agricultural Education Information System (FAEIS) February newsletter we investigated enrollment in Master's and Doctoral programs in [139 public and Land-grant institutions \(see Grad enr by institution sheet in file\)](#) for the reporting years of 2007 to 2011. We explored graduate enrollment for the four major program areas in FAEIS: 1) agriculture, agriculture operations, and related sciences, 2) family and consumer/human sciences, 3) natural resources and conservation, and 4) related biological sciences.

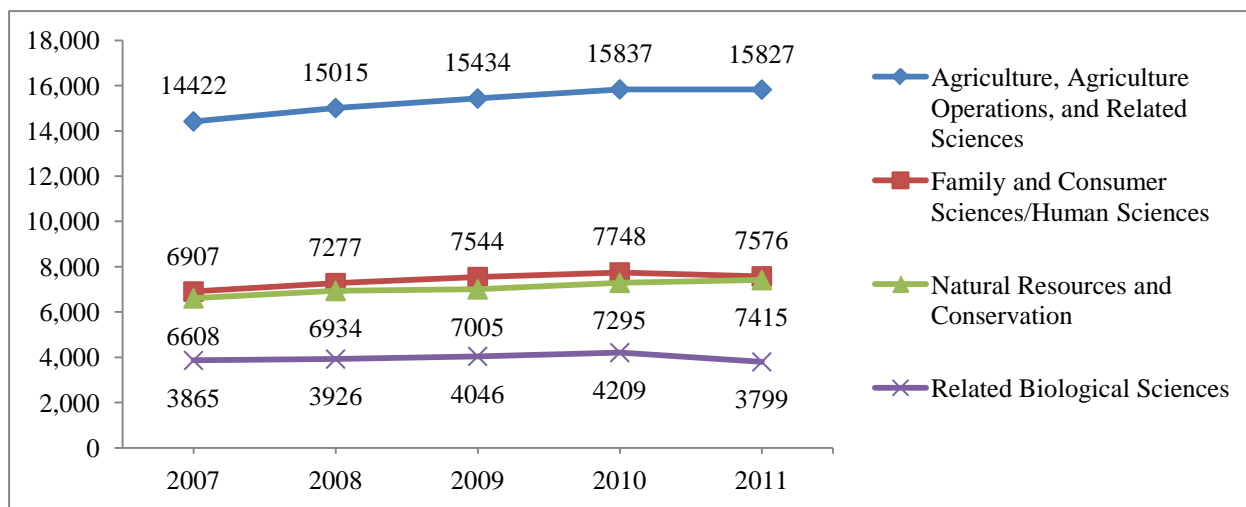


Figure 1. Graduate Enrollment in Public Institutions by Major Program Area (n=139 institutions).

Based on our analyses we found the following results. [Click here to view report \(see Figure 1 sheet in file\).](#)

- Enrollment in agriculture, agriculture operations, and related sciences programs *increased* by 9.7%.
- Enrollment in family and consumer/human sciences programs *increased* by 9.7%
- Enrollment in natural resources and conservation programs *increased* by 12.2%.
- Enrollment in related biological sciences programs *decreased* by 1.7%.

Natural Resources and Conservation is the only area showing steady growth through 2011. The other three areas peaked in 2010, and stayed flat or actually declined in 2011. We hope this is just a pause and not the end of growth in our graduate programs.

Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, and Related Sciences

We investigated changes in academic areas in agriculture, agriculture operations and related sciences with the highest enrollment, namely, 1) plant sciences, 2) animal sciences, 3) agricultural economics, agricultural business and management, and 4) food science and technology (Figure 2). [Click here to view report \(see Figure 2 sheet in the file\)](#). Based on our analyses we found the following.

- Enrollment in plant sciences *increased* by 12.9%.
- Enrollment in animal sciences *decreased* by 0.8%.
- Enrollment in agricultural economics, agricultural business and management *increased* by 4.1%.
- Enrollment in food science and technology *increased* by 22.7%.

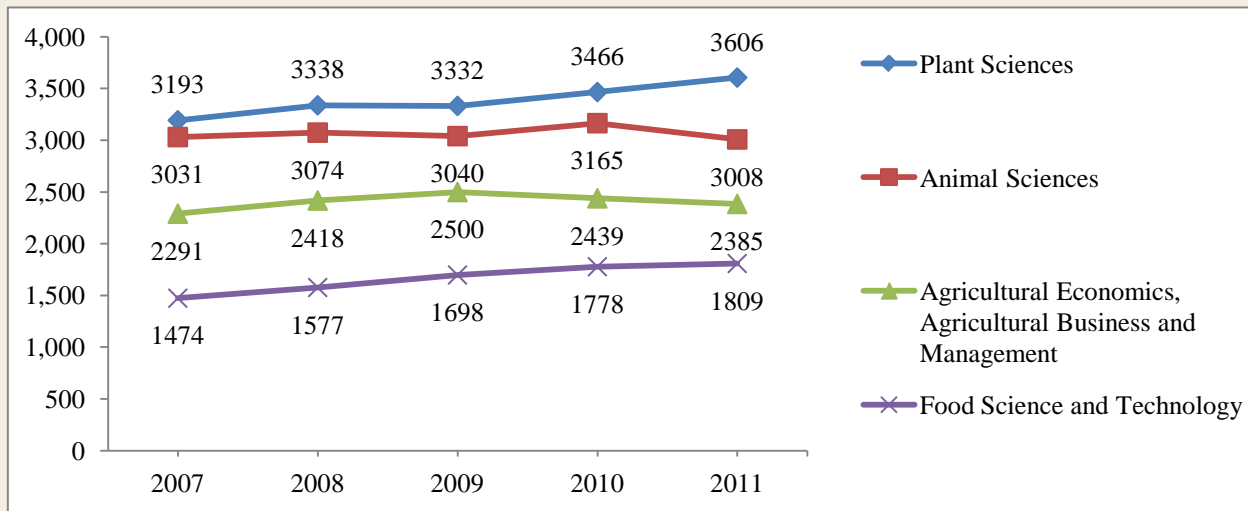


Figure 2. Graduate Enrollment in Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, and Related Sciences Academic Areas (n=139 institutions).

Family Sciences and Consumer Sciences/Human Sciences

We investigated changes in the academic areas in family sciences, consumer sciences, and human sciences with the highest enrollment, 1) human development, family studies and related sciences, 2) foods, nutrition and related services, 3) family and consumer sciences, human sciences, and 4) family and consumer economics and related sciences. (Figure 3). [Click here to view report \(see Figure 3 sheet in the file\)](#).

Based on our analyses we found the following results:

- Enrollment in human development, family studies and related services *increased* by 5.7%.
- Enrollment in foods, nutrition and related services *increased* by 7.6%.
- Enrollment in family, consumer sciences, and human sciences *decreased* by 2.4%.
- Enrollment in family and consumer economics, and related sciences *increased* by 84.0%.

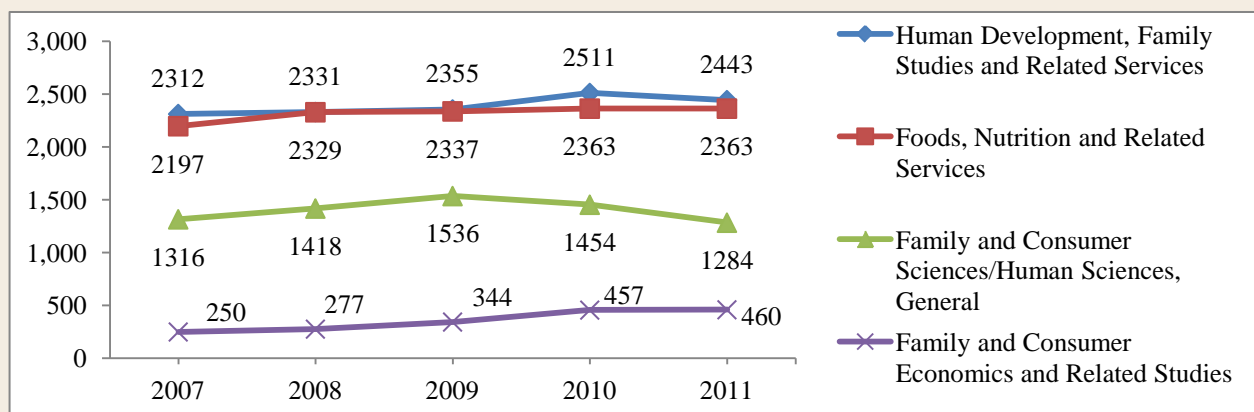


Figure 3. Graduate Enrollment in Family Consumer/Human Sciences Academic Areas (n=139 institutions).

Natural Resources and Conservation

We also investigated graduate enrollment in academic areas in natural resources and conservation (Figure 4). We investigated changes in the academic areas with the highest enrollment, 1) natural resources conservation and management, 2) forestry, 3) environmental science and studies, and 4) fisheries and wildlife. [Click here to view report \(see Figure 4 sheet in the file\)](#). Based on our analyses we found the following results:

- Enrollment in natural resources conservation and management *increased* by 15.0%.
- Enrollment in forestry *increased* by 3.6%.
- Enrollment in environmental science and studies *increased* by 56.6%.
- Enrollment in fisheries and wildlife *increased* by 1.4%.

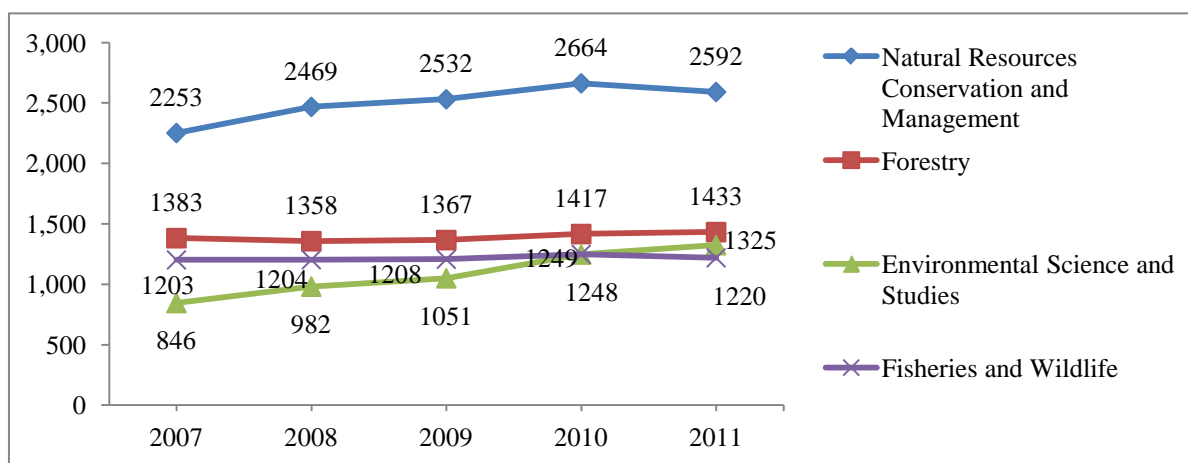


Figure 4. Graduate Enrollment in Natural Resources and Conservation Academic Areas (n=139 institutions).

Related Biological Sciences

We investigated changes in the academic areas in related biological sciences, 1) biochemistry, biophysics and molecular biology, 2) ecology, evolution, systematics and population biology, 3) microbiology, virology and immunology, and 4) botany (Figure 5). [Click here to view report \(see Figure 5 sheet in the file\)](#). Based on our analyses we found the following results:

- Enrollment in biochemistry, biophysics and molecular biology *decreased* by 15.0%.
- Enrollment in ecology, evolution, systematics and population biology *increased* by 4.7%.
- Enrollment in microbiology, virology and immunology *decreased* by 13.2%.
- Enrollment in botany *increased* by 24.9%.

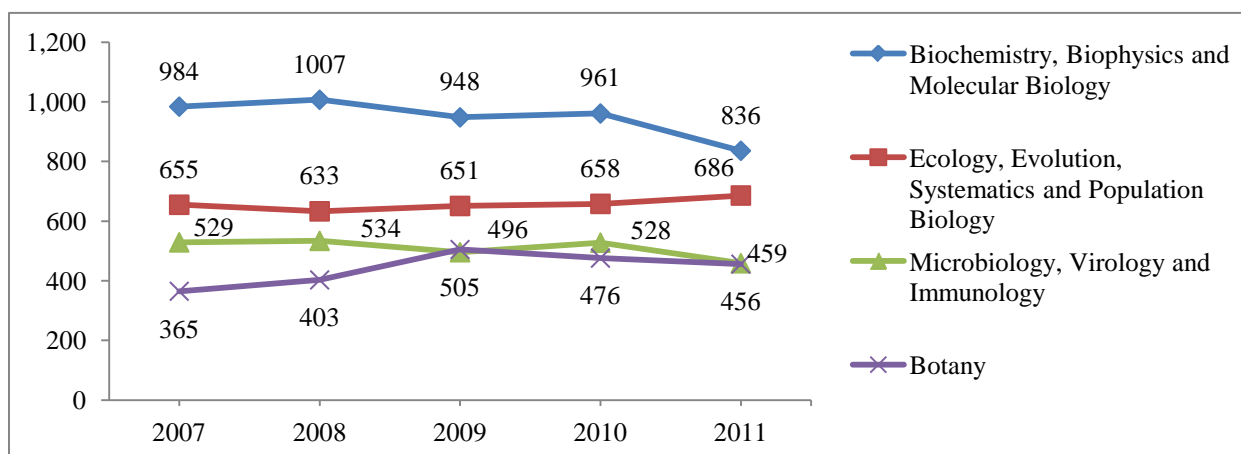
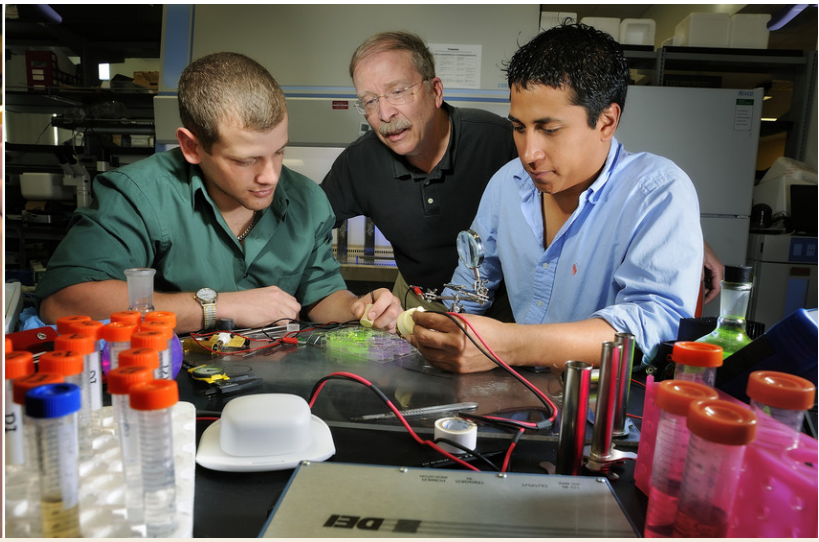


Figure 5. Graduate Enrollment in Related Biological Sciences Academic Areas (n=139 institutions).



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