

Doctorates in Education in the 20th Century

	1920-1999	1960-1999	1960-1964	1965-1969	1970-1974	1974-1979	1980-1984	1985-1989	1990-1994	1995-1999	1920-1959	1960-1979	1980-1999	
Adult/continuing education	5,674	5,674	0	0	521	880	1,164	1,098	1,077	934		0	1401	4,273
Agricultural education	1,455	1,454	150	176	189	139	211	185	236	168		1	654	800
Art education	1,611	1,609	63	134	273	266	262	219	189	203		2	736	873
Business education	1,979	1,967	106	288	453	361	260	222	134	143		12	1208	759
Counseling education/counseling and guidance Services	16,361	16,351	636	2,126	3,446	3,261	2,580	1,617	1,402	1,283		10	9469	6,882
Curriculum / instruction	23,082	23,082	1	0	1,989	4,051	4,194	4,037	4,221	4,589		0	6041	17,041
Educational administration/supervision	51,369	51,280	2,850	5,027	7,492	7,662	7,870	8,330	6,928	5,121		89	23031	28,249
Educational assessment/testing/measurement	655	655	0	0	0	0	107	225	168	155		0	0	655
Educational evaluation and research, higher education	15,003	15,003	0	0	1,598	3,288	3,301	2,543	1,934	2,339		0	4886	10,117
Educational/instructional media design	2,981	2,981	56	228	528	448	399	391	397	534		0	1260	1,721
Educational leadership	7,932	7,932	0	0	0	0	0	2	2,755	5,175		0	0	7,932
Educational measurement/statistics	1,709	1,707	60	270	564	540	273	0	0	0		2	1434	273
Educational statistics/research methods	1,148	1,148	0	0	0	0	191	315	332	310		0	0	1,148
Elementary education	6,163	6,159	607	1,131	1,509	1,024	699	513	392	284		4	4271	1,888
English education	2,416	2,414	87	221	441	407	355	327	280	296		2	1156	1,258
Foreign languages education	1,243	1,243	12	53	162	165	146	190	229	286		0	392	851
General education	34,977	12,851	1,778	299	1,278	1,941	1,911	1,789	2,301	1,554		22,126	5296	7,555
Health education	1,465	1,465	0	0	0	0	192	447	451	375		0	0	1,465
Home economics education	833	833	46	105	177	151	136	91	68	59		0	479	354
Junior high school education	4	4	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0		0	0	4
Mathematics education	3,084	3,082	82	413	651	444	312	336	343	501		2	1590	1,492
Music education	3,469	3,458	171	373	598	467	493	457	439	460		11	1609	1,849
Nursing education	500	500	0	0	0	0	127	160	114	99		0	0	500

Physical education/coaching	2,816	2,816	0	0	0	0	454	982	843	537	0	0	2,816
Physical education/health and recreation	6,339	6,193	546	1,039	1,854	1,670	1,084	0	0	0	146	5109	1,084
Pre-elementary/early childhood education	1,439	1,439	0	0	0	0	359	371	413	296	0	0	1,439
Psychology, educational	13,152	13,085	451	1,291	2,310	2,304	1,882	1,662	1,593	1,592	67	6356	6,729
Psychology, school	1,640	1,640	0	0	0	0	198	472	448	522	0	0	1,640
Reading education	2,730	2,730	0	0	1	539	817	510	497	366	0	540	2,190
Science education	3,981	3,972	377	606	893	533	444	331	375	413	9	2409	1,563
Secondary education	4,722	4,710	684	860	1,120	799	557	339	181	170	12	3463	1,247
Social/philosophical foundations of education	6,858	6,854	312	1,188	1,430	1,197	930	605	545	647	4	4127	2,727
Social science education	1,329	1,324	92	184	348	266	191	99	68	76	5	890	434
Special education	9,566	9,563	220	892	1,386	1,551	1,666	1,307	1,229	1,312	3	4049	5,514
Speech education	166	166	0	0	0	91	46	23	6	0	0	91	75
Teacher education nec	2,342	2,336	104	241	687	372	181	229	237	285	6	1404	932
Technical education	288	288	0	0	0	0	0	41	126	121	0	0	288
Technical/industrial arts education	1,255	1,252	65	226	357	207	139	85	77	96	3	855	397
Trade/industrial education	3,144	3,141	35	162	584	959	888	350	94	69	3	1740	1,401
Other education	9,134	9,127	18	412	1,017	1,136	1,296	1,576	1,916	1,756	7	2583	6,544
	256,014	233,488	9609	17945	33856	37119	36,316	32,479	33,038	33,126	22,526	98529	134,959

Summary:

1. 91% of 20th century doctorates in education were granted in the period from 1960 through the end of the century.
2. 52% of Doctorates were granted in the period from 1980 and 1999
3. 99% of all Doctorates in Educational Administration were granted in the period of 1960 – 1999.
4. 55% of all Doctorates in Education Administration were granted in the period of 1980-1999
5. Doctorates in Administration outnumbered Doctorates in curriculum 2.21 to 1.
6. Doctorates in Administration outnumbered Doctorates in educational research, statistics, measurement, and research design by 17 to 1
7. Doctorates in Educational media design were outnumbered by Doctorates in Administration by 17 to 1
8. In the period of 1985 to 1999 there were “no” Doctorates granted in Educational measurement and statistics.
9. Sub-disciplines in education were almost non-existent before the 1960 reporting period.

Questions:

1. Do the requirements for Doctorates include enough measurement, statistics, and research design to provide the required skills for current mandated decision processes? Most non-research graduate programs require 12 credit hours.
2. Has there been the development of an administratively oriented bureaucracy in education?
3. Should more attention be paid to curriculum development to foster innovation?
4. How did education evolve into a PhD culture?
5. Does this emphasis on theory serve the national goals?
6. Can a person without a PhD have a successful career in P-20 education?
7. Despite the increased number of PhDs, why has general education languished in achievement levels?
8. Are there too much emphasis on administration and too little on application?
9. Does the lack of research oriented professional impact the development of empirically driven decisions as required by NCLB.
10. Does technology afford the opportunity to address some of these issues?
11. Are we training enough people to exploit the available technology?
12. Has higher education responded appropriately to the emerging technologies?

Bibliography:

National Science Foundation, Division of Science Resources Statistics, *U.S. Doctorates in the 20th Century*, NSF 06-319, Lori Thurgood, Mary J. Golladay, and Susan T. Hill (Arlington, VA 2006).