



What are the Benefits of Graduate School

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NDSU Memorial Union, Prairie Room
11 a.m.

Why Should I Attend Graduate School?

- Career of interest may require
- Advance Career
- Become credentialed
- Earn a higher salary
- Hone your professional skills
- Develop new competencies
- Change careers
- Enter a doctoral program
- Think independently and learn actively

In the fields of observation chance favors only the prepared mind.

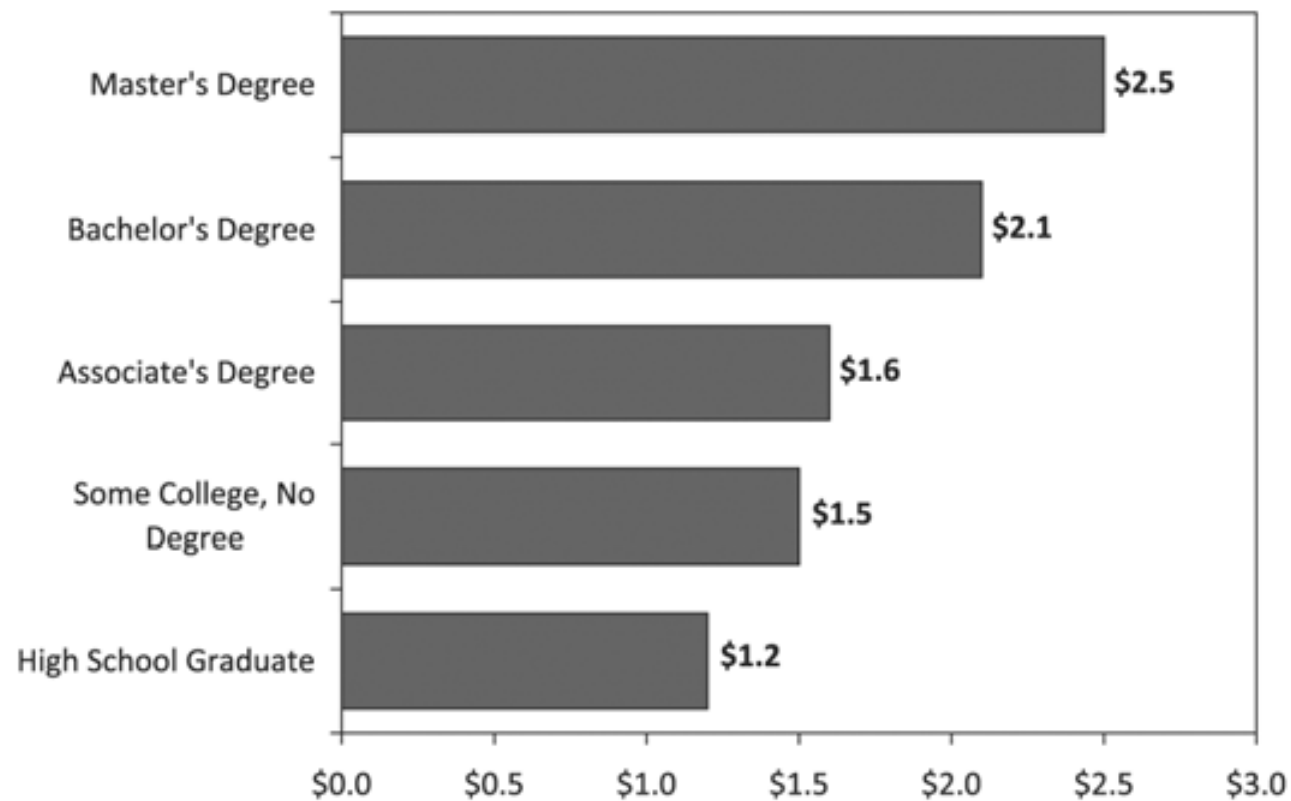


Masters Degrees

- Number of master's degrees in the U.S. increased over 43% in the past decade
- 75% of graduate students enrolled
- 90% of graduate degrees awarded
- Number of occupations requiring a master's degree will increase by ~20% over next decade



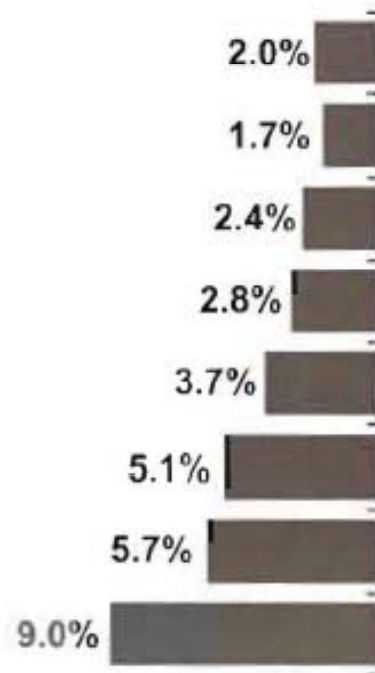
Average Expected Lifetime Earnings by Highest Level of Educational Attainment (in millions)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *The Big Payoff: Educational Attainment and Synthetic Estimates of Work-Life Earnings*, P23-210, July 2002.

Unemployment and Earnings by Level of Education, 2008

Unemployment Rate in 2008



Median Annual Earnings in 2008

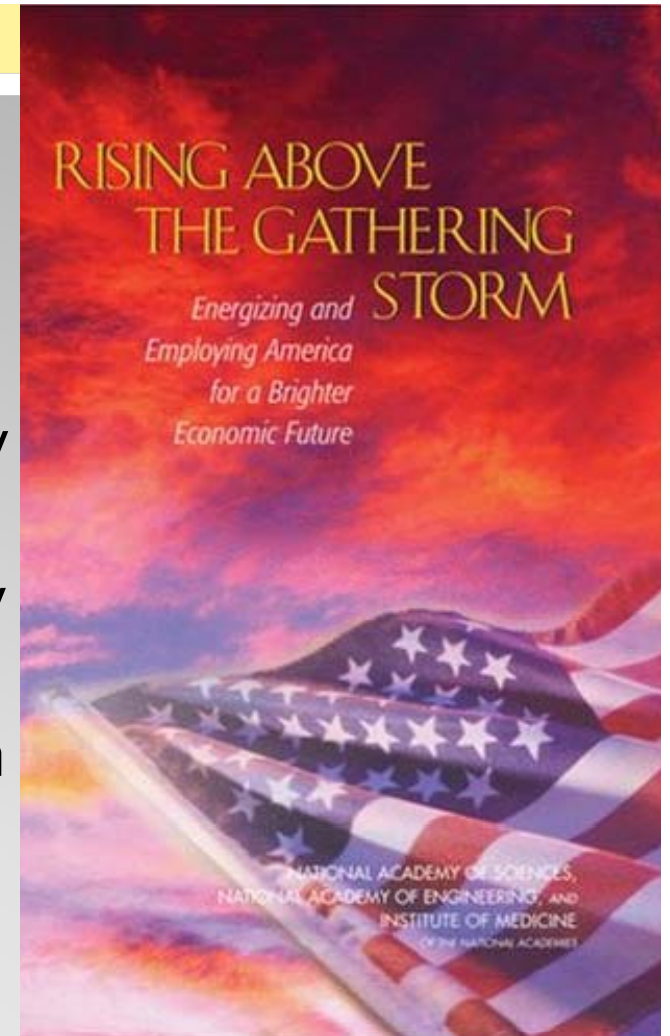


Note: Median annual salaries were derived by multiplying median weekly earnings by 52.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Current Population Survey*

Global Economy

- “the Death of Distance.”
 - “Thanks to globalization, driven by modern communications and other advances, workers in virtually every sector must now face competitors who live just a mouse-click away in Ireland, Finland, China, India, or dozens of other nations whose economies are growing.”
 - “the nation is unlikely to receive some sudden “wakeup” call; rather, the problem is one that is likely to evidence itself gradually over a surprisingly short period.”



National Interest

- “We can no longer take for granted America’s continued leadership in innovation and competitiveness.”
- “Many...have expressed serious concerns about the capacity of our nation to compete in the 21st century.”
- “A highly skilled workforce operating at the frontiers of knowledge creation and professional practice is key to America’s competitiveness and national security.”
- “The United States must find ways to nurture a broader and more diverse talent pool to be successful in the knowledge-based economy.”



Graduate
Education
*The Backbone
of American
Competitiveness
and Innovation*



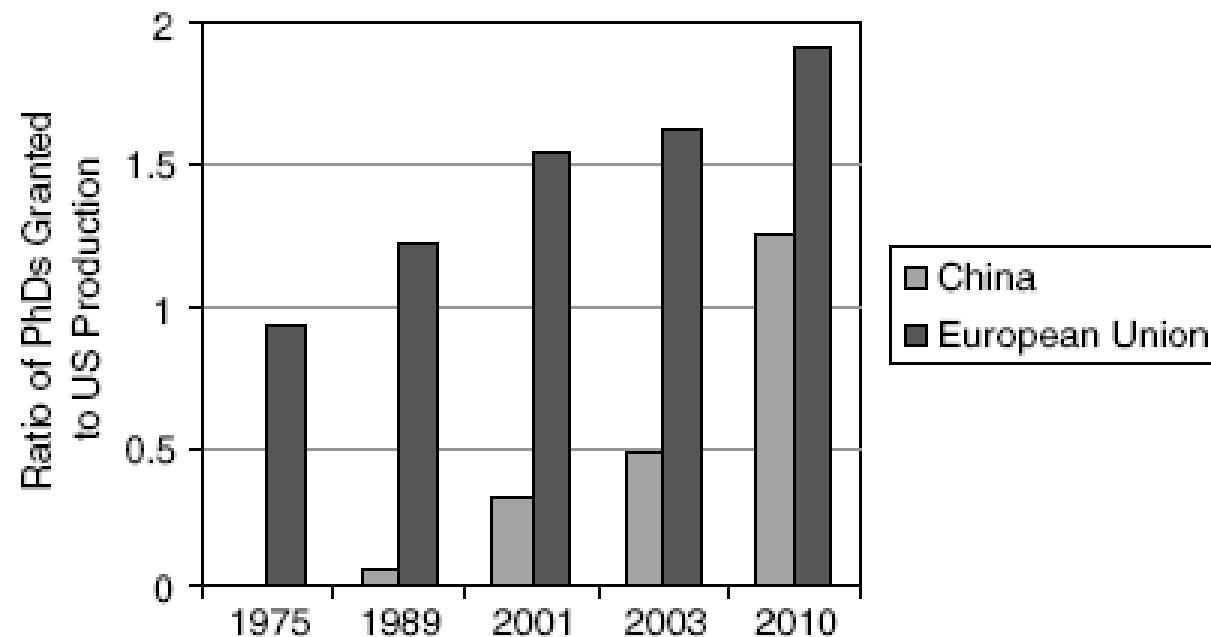


FIGURE 9-2 China and European Union production of science and engineering doctorates compared with US production, 1975-2010.

SOURCE: R. B. Freeman. *Does Globalization of the Scientific/Engineering Workforce Threaten US Economic Leadership?* Working Paper 11457. Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research, June 2005.

Out of Crisis Comes Opportunity

- Education with global perspective
- Innovative programs
- Funding
- Increasing opportunities for underrepresented groups
 - The browning and the graying of America

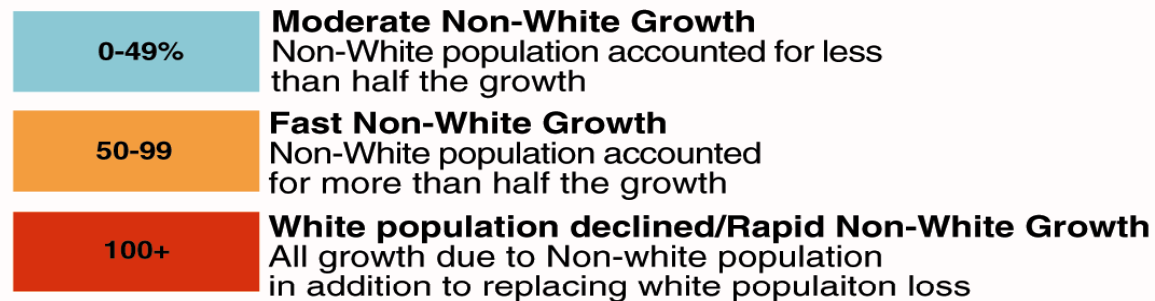


Broadening
Participation
in Graduate
Education



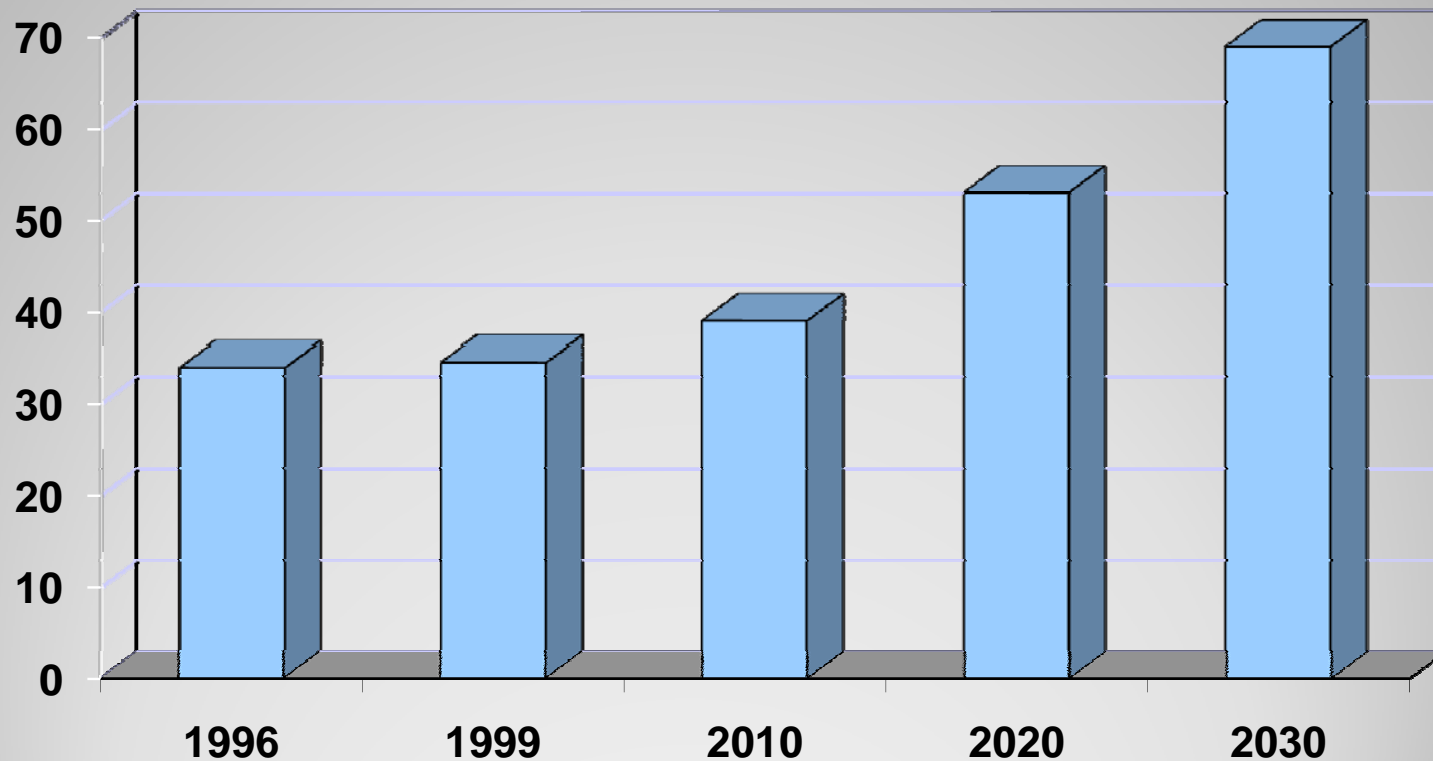
This choropleth map displays the number of non-white residents in each state of the United States in 1990. The data is as follows:

State	Number of Non-Whites (1990)
Alabama	100
Alaska	78
Arizona	60
Arkansas	48
California	137
Colorado	33
Connecticut	136
Delaware	66
District of Columbia	110
Florida	67
Georgia	66
Hawaii	246
Idaho	27
Illinois	115
Indiana	84
Iowa	49
Kansas	80
Kentucky	41
Louisiana	92
Maine	46
Maryland	130
Massachusetts	227
Michigan	76
Minnesota	57
Mississippi	62
Missouri	70
Montana	27
Nebraska	73
Nevada	55
New Hampshire	24
New Jersey	133
New Mexico	84
New York	264
North Carolina	52
North Dakota	34
Ohio	53
Oklahoma	97
Oregon	52
Oklahoma	97
Pennsylvania	154
Rhode Island	228
South Carolina	50
South Dakota	45
Tennessee	35
Texas	83
Utah	34
Vermont	29
Virginia	71
Washington	58
West Virginia	376
Wisconsin	54
Wyoming	78



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Aging America: U.S. Population 65 and older, selected years, 1996–2030 *(in millions)*



Good for Society

- “Increasingly, graduate school is where future professionals obtain the knowledge and skills needed to solve big, complex problems.”
- “Scholars educated at the graduate level in such fields as science, mathematics, humanities, arts, and social sciences are critically important to our quality of life and the cultural and social fabric of society.”



Graduate
Education
and the
Public Good



Good for Global Society

- “many international students remain in the United States after they complete their studies, starting companies that create jobs or contributing to the public good in other ways.

Those who return to their home countries often assume leadership positions and maintain connections with the United States, fostering positive diplomatic relations and enhanced understanding.”



Good for ...

- Improved Health and quality of life
- Higher participation in civic activities
- Better educated children
- Providing leadership in education, non-profit, and government sectors



Graduate Programs at NDSU

- http://www.ndsu.edu/gradschool/graduate_programs/
- Doctorate, Masters, Graduate Certificates
- Supportive academic community
- Well rounded experience
 - Student organizations
 - Experiential learning opportunities
 - Global perspectives

