University of Mississippi

eGrove

AICPA Annual Reports

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Historical Collection

2008

2008 Trends in the supply of accounting graduates and the demand for public accounting recruits

Dennis R. Reigle

Heather L. Bunning

Danielle Grant

TARP Worldwide

Follow this and additional works at: https://egrove.olemiss.edu/aicpa_arprts



Part of the Accounting Commons, and the Taxation Commons

Recommended Citation

Reigle, Dennis R.; Bunning, Heather L.; Grant, Danielle; and TARP Worldwide, "2008 Trends in the supply of accounting graduates and the demand for public accounting recruits" (2008). AICPA Annual Reports. 174. https://egrove.olemiss.edu/aicpa_arprts/174

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Historical Collection at eGrove. It has been accepted for inclusion in AICPA Annual Reports by an authorized administrator of eGrove. For more information, please contact egrove@olemiss.edu.



IN THE SUPPLY OF ACCOUNTING GRADUATES
AND THE DEMAND FOR PUBLIC ACCOUNTING RECRUITS



Copyright © 2008 by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Inc. New York, NY 10036-8775

All rights reserved. Requests for permission to make copies of any part of this work should be mailed to Permissions Department, AICPA, 220 Leigh Farm Road, Durham, NC 27707-8110

1234567890 ACD920

2008 TRENDS

IN THE SUPPLY OF ACCOUNTING GRADUATES AND THE DEMAND FOR PUBLIC ACCOUNTING RECRUITS

By

Dennis R. Reigle

Director, Academic & Career Development

Assisted by

Heather L. Bunning

Senior Manager – Education & Recruitment, Academic & Career Development

Danielle Grant

Coordinator – Education & Recruitment, Academic & Career Development

TARP Worldwide

contents

- 5 Introduction
- 7 Key Findings
- 11 Trends in Supply
 - 15 Accounting Enrollment
 - 23 Accounting Enrollment Predictions
 - 25 Accounting Graduates
 - 33 Accounting Placements
- 43 Trends in Demand
 - 44 CPA Firm Hiring
 - 52 CPA Firm Projections Hiring
- **57** Firm Demographics
- **63** CPA Examination
- **65** APPENDIX A
 - 66 Breakdown of Geographic Regions
- **67 APPENDIX B**
 - 68 Educator Letter and Supply Survey
 - 76 Managing Partner Letter and Demand Survey

Introduction

The 2008 edition of Trends in the Supply of Accounting Graduates and the Demand for Public Accounting Recruits

is a continuation of a long-standing AICPA survey. The last survey was published in 2005 (for the 2003-04 academic year), and the current version attempts to identify key trends in accounting enrollment, graduation and hiring through the 2006-07 academic year.

This report is prepared to provide guidance and information to various stakeholders and interested parties. We hope that colleges and universities with accounting curricula, CPA firms that hire graduates, as well as business, industry, and governments that employ accounting professionals will find this data useful. Various member organizations such as the American Accounting Association, state CPA societies and Beta Alpha Psi, should also find the information contained herein valuable for planning and analytical purposes.

The survey methodology, response rates and confidence levels for the data are contained in this report. We are very appreciative of all who took the time to participate, and welcome your questions and feedback as we strive to make the information in these surveys relevant to your needs.

Key Findings

Supply - Enrollment

- Accounting enrollments are up almost 19% to more than 203,000 students across all degree
 programs, compared to the last survey in 2003-04. The only degree program showing a decline is the
 Master's in Taxation, where enrollment is down slightly more than 9%.
- The great majority of the growth is at the Bachelor's degree level, an increase of almost 30,000 students have enrolled during the three-year period between surveys.
- AACSB accounting accredited programs at the Bachelor's level are the most likely to have enrollments limited by capacity constraints. Thirteen percent of respondent schools faced space limitations, and rejected an average of approximately 65 applicants.
- Minorities comprise 26% of Bachelor's enrollments: 11% Black/African-American, 8% Asian, 6% Hispanic/Latino and 1% American Indian/Alaskan Native.
- At the Master's level, enrollments are 20% minority: 10% Asian, 5% Black/African-American and 5% Hispanic/Latino.
- These ethnicity numbers for both Bachelor's and Master's enrollments have changed very little, if at all, from the last survey published for 2003-04.
- The female/male enrollment ratio is narrowing and now stands at 52% female and 48% male for both Bachelor's and Master's programs. This is down from a high in 2002 of 57% female and 43% male, a substantial change.
- Going forward, respondent schools generally anticipate a continuing rise in enrollments: 60% expect increases at the Bachelor's level (32% say the number will stay the same), while 63% expect increases at the Master's level (20% believe enrollments will stay the same).

Supply - Graduates

- Total graduates in 2006-07 in Bachelor's and Master's degree programs are 64,221, up 19% over the three-year period since the 2003-04 survey. This is the highest number of graduates since the survey began in 1971-72.
- Bachelor's degrees granted are 47,662 (up from 40,420 in 2003-04) and Master's degrees granted are 16,559 (up from 13,340 in 2003-04).
- Bachelor's degrees comprise close to 74% of degrees awarded for 2006-07, while Master's degrees accounted for almost 26% of the total. In the last survey, Master's degrees were just under 25%; a slight increase over three years.
- 83% of Bachelor's and Master's degree graduates in accounting are produced by accounting and/or business accredited programs, while approximately 40% are specifically from accounting accredited programs.
- Between 2004 and 2007, Bachelor's degrees increased 16% and Master's degrees increased 18% at accounting and business accredited programs. They have risen more sharply in percentage terms (34%) at other responding schools, but the overall graduate numbers at these schools is less than 1/5 of those at accounting and business accredited schools.
- Graduates by gender at the combined Bachelor's and Master's levels mirror overall enrollments at 52% female and 48% male.
- Ethnicity of graduates is 32% overall, but 11% of that is "other," meaning unknown or multi-racial/ethnic. Asians comprised 8% of the graduates, Black/African-Americans 7%, Hispanic/Latinos 5%, and American Indian/Alaskan natives 1%. These numbers are fairly consistent with the last survey published for 2003-04.
- Of the Master's degrees awarded, 75% are Master's in Accounting, 16% are Master's in Taxation, and 9% are MBAs with an accounting concentration, a share that continues to decline.
- Public Accounting firms remain the primary employer for new graduates; they hire 34% of Bachelor's and 70% of Master's degree recipients. Those numbers are slightly higher for graduates of AACSB accounting accredited programs.
- For enrollment and graduate findings in this report, the margin of error at the 90% confidence level is 4.6%.

Demand - Hiring

- Hires reported by CPA firms for summer of 2007 were up substantially from the last survey covering the 2003-04 academic year. Total hires were 36,112, consisting of 28,025 Bachelor's and 8,087 Master's degree hires. The total for 2006-07 is up 83% over the base year of 2003-04. This is not surprising given the visibility and growth in the profession, along with the requirements of Sarbanes-Oxley legislation.
- Hiring was up for both Bachelor's and Master's degree recipients at CPA firms of all sizes (<10, 10-49, 50-200, and >200 members).
- The largest firms hire Master's degree holders as a greater percentage of their total hires (35%) than other firms, but that percentage is increasing for all other sized firms except those with fewer than 10 members.
- In terms of the percentage of new hires for all CPA firms, the Bachelor's (61%) and Master's (14%) levels were down somewhat, while the total non-accounting major percentage was up to 25%. This increase could be the result of more non-attest services, depth of quality issues in the growing accounting pool, or a combination of both.
- New hires at CPA firms were 52% female and 48% male, mirroring both enrollments and graduates, and significantly different than the 61% female and 39% male ratio at its peak in 2002.
- Ethnicity of new hires was 13% Asian, 8% Black/African-American, 4% Hispanic/ Latino, 1% Native American/Alaskan Native, and 2% Other/Unknown. Each of these percentages is up very slightly from the 2003-04 survey except the Hispanic/Latino figure, which declined.
- Almost all sizes of firms expect hiring numbers to remain steady or increase, with 67% of
 the largest firms projecting increased hiring. The largest firms also expect to hire as many
 or more non-accounting majors; 58% said they would hire about the same number; and
 33% said they would hire even more non-accountants.
- The same picture holds for plans to hire those with prior experience all sizes of firms expect the percentage of experienced hires in the total to rise, this being especially true in firms with more than 50 members.
- For demand and hiring findings in this report, the margin of error at the 90% confidence level is 3.3% and the R square is .890.

Demand - Firm Demographics

- Males are currently 55% of CPA firm employees, while females are 45%, a 1% increase from the previous survey.
- Minorities are 11% of current CPA firm professionals with Asians at 6%, Hispanic/Latinos at 3%, and Black/African-Americans at 2%. Firms reported 9% as Other/Unknown.
- Women are now more than 20% of Partners across all firms, up slightly, while minorities make up 5% of all Partners, with 4% reported as Other/Unknown.

CPA Exam

• The number of CPA Exam-takers declined significantly in 2004 when the exam changed to a computer-based exam, an expected result based on similar experiences for other high-stakes tests that converted to computer-based exams. However, the number of exam-takers has increased more than 50% since 2004 and continues to rise. In addition, the current numbers count a candidate once, regardless of how many sittings or parts are taken in a given year. Previously, when the exam was offered twice per year, in May and November, a person sitting for both administrations was counted twice. Consequently, it would appear that the number of test-takers is moving toward parity with pre-2004 levels.

2008 TRENDS in Supply

Survey Methodology Overview - Supply

Survey Fielding

- A census of colleges and universities granting accounting degrees was invited to participate
- Advance notifications were sent to colleges and universities September 18, 2007
- Survey invitations were e-mailed September 26, 2007
- The AICPA followed up extensively with non-respondents to maximize the response rate
- State CPA societies encouraged college and university contacts to participate
- The field closed December 10, 2007

Response Information

- Surveys were predominantly completed online; a paper-copy response option was also available
- The overall response rate was 26%, but close to 50% of accounting accredited programs responded

Analysis & Reporting

- Survey results have been weighted by accounting faculty size to reflect the entire population
- The margin of error at the 90% confidence level is 4.6%
- Regression equations were developed to forecast enrollment and graduation numbers
 - The number of Accounting faculty was used to predict enrollment and graduation
 - Six regression equations were developed in total; an enrollment and graduation equation for each program (Bachelor's, Master's and Ph.D.)
 - R squares were developed for each equation
 - Only Ph.D. enrollment and completion numbers cannot be accurately predicted

Supply Survey Response Rate

Total	# Mailed Out	# Returned	Response Rate					
All Institutions	946	242	26%					
Accreditation								
Accounting - AACSB								
Bachelors	171	81	47%					
Masters	147	75	51%					
Ph.D.	48	30	63%					
Business - AACSB	*							
Bachelors	270	61	23%					
Masters	275	63	23%					
Ph.D.	56	18	32%					
Business - ACBSP	**							
Bachelors	151	39	26%					
Masters	91	24	26%					
Ph.D.	0	0	0%					
Other								
Bachelors	322	57	18%					
Masters	115	23	20%					
Ph.D.	7	1	14%					
Туре								
Public	471	137	29%					
Private	475	105	22%					
Majority	844	228	27%					
Minority	102	14	14%					
Region								
Eastern	236	51	22%					
North Central	261	76	29%					
Southern	346	92	27%					
Pacific	103	23	22%					

^{*} AACSB = Association for the Advancement of Collegiate Schools of Business

^{**} ACBSP = Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs

Supply Survey Response Rate (cont'd.)

State	# Mailed Out	# Returned	Response Rate
AK	4	0	0%
AL	24	4	17%
AR	15	4	27%
AZ	8	2	25%
CA	52	8	15%
СО	14	3	21%
СТ	15	1	7%
DC	9	1	11%
DE	5	1	20%
FL	31	10	32%
GA	30	7	23%
HI	6	1	17%
IA	15	6	40%
ID	4	2	50%
IL	33	7	21%
IN	29	12	41%
KS	11	2	18%
KY	18	6	33%
LA	19	6	32%
MA	29	6	21%
MD	14	4	29%
ME	4	1	25%
MI	31	8	26%
MN	16	3	19%
MO	25	10	40%
MS	15	8	53%

State	# Mailed Out	# Returned	Response Rate
МТ	3	0	0%
NC	40	6	15%
ND	6	1	17%
NE	9	4	44%
NH	5	0	0%
NJ	20	3	15%
NM	5	0	0%
NV	2	0	0%
NY	63	22	35%
ОН	36	11	31%
ОК	15	12	80%
OR	8	1	13%
PA	61	11	18%
PR	4	0	0%
RI	7	1	14%
SC	19	3	16%
SD	4	0	0%
TN	24	6	25%
TX	57	15	26%
UT	7	2	29%
VA	28	5	18%
VT	4	0	0%
WA	12	7	58%
WI	18	7	39%
WV	10	1	10%
WY	1	1	100%

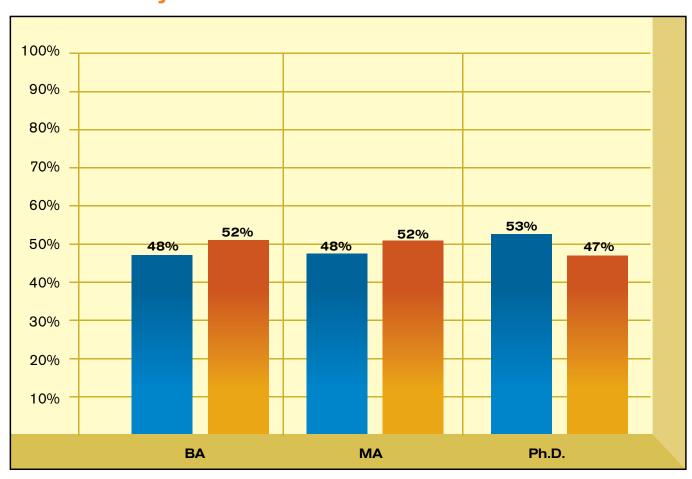
TRENDS in Supply Accounting Enrollment

Accounting Enrollment by Program

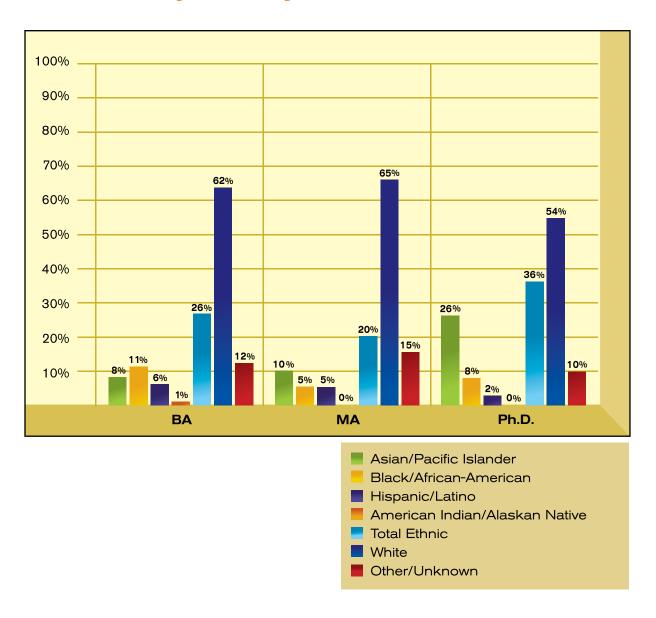
	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2006-07
ВА	127,960	134,775	133,435	141,175	143,735	173,299
MA Accounting	9,455	10,375	12,565	17,540	18,795	21,253
MBA Accounting	2,445	4,000	4,065	5,270	4,030	4,482
MA Taxation	3,130	2,935	3,555	3,550	3,595	3,239
Ph.D.	680	800	890	1,085	955	1,095
Total	143,670	152,885	154,510	168,620	171,110	203,368

- Bachelor's program enrollment in Accounting has increased by almost 30,000 in the past 3 years.
- Only MA Taxation enrollment has declined slightly since 2003-04.

Enrollment by Gender - 2006-07



Enrollment by Ethnicity - 2006-07

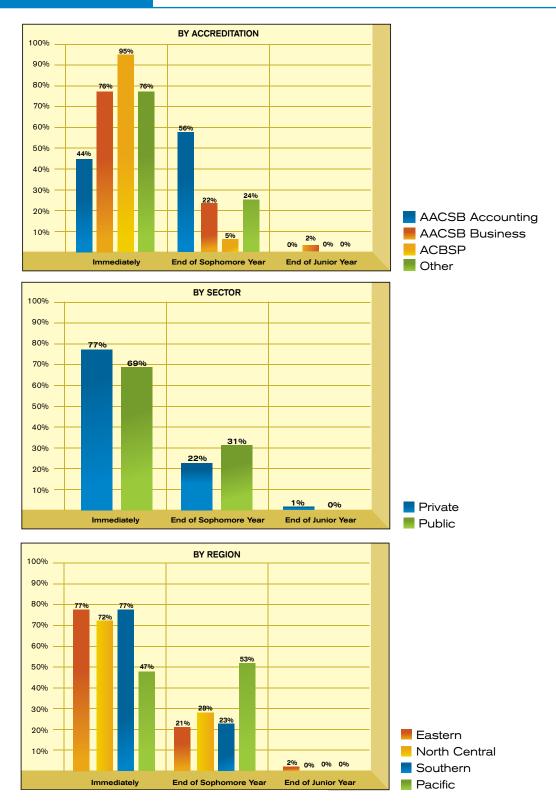


• These numbers are very similar to those for 2003-04, the last previous survey.

Bachelor's Enrollments by Major Declaration – 2006-07

SURVEY QUESTION:

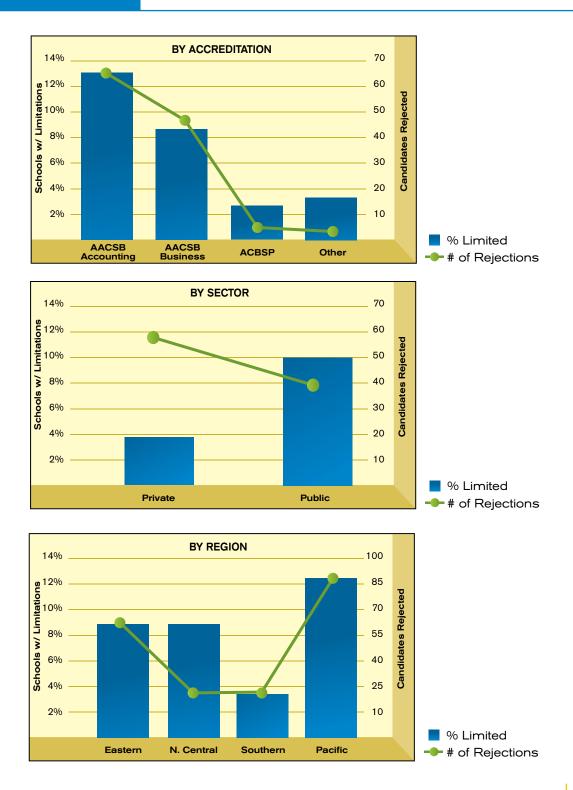
When can undergraduate students declare accounting as a major?



Bachelor's Enrollments by Limited Space - 2006-07

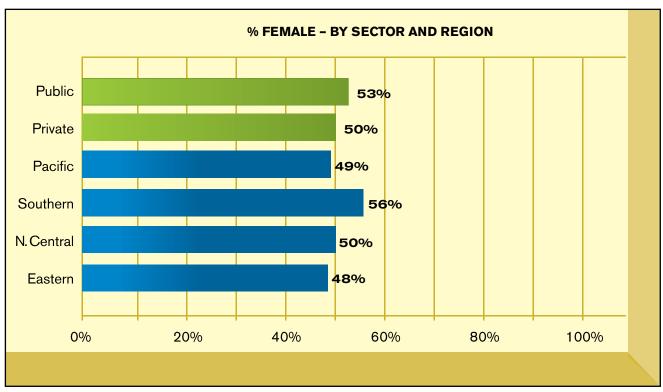
SURVEY QUESTION:

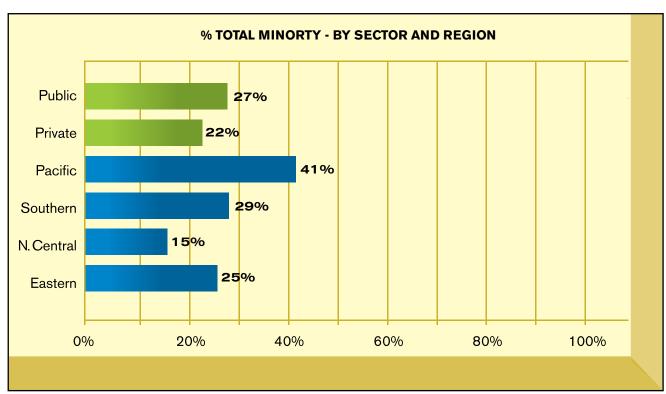
Are your enrollments limited by available spaces? If your enrollment is limited, roughly how many qualified candidates do you turn away?



trends in supply

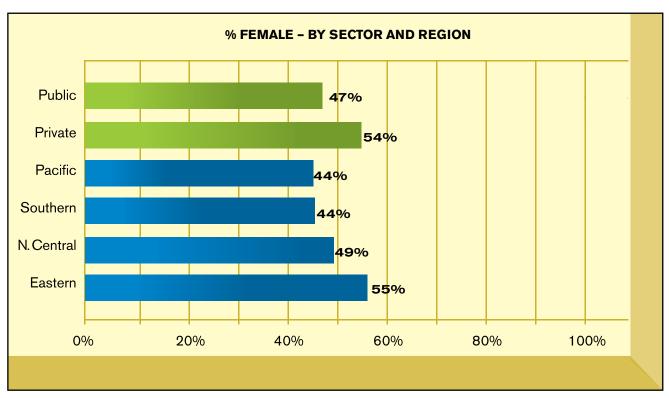
Bachelor's Enrollment by Gender and Ethnicity - 2006-07

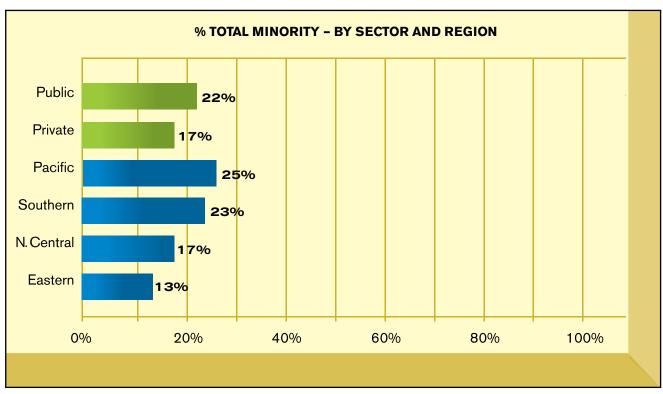




Sectors Regions

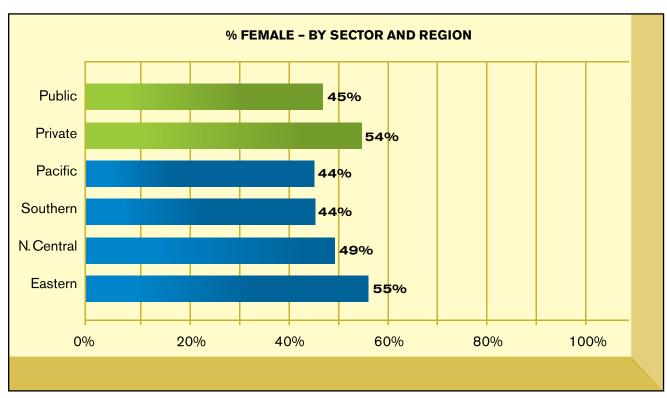
Master's Enrollment by Gender and Ethnicity – 2006-07

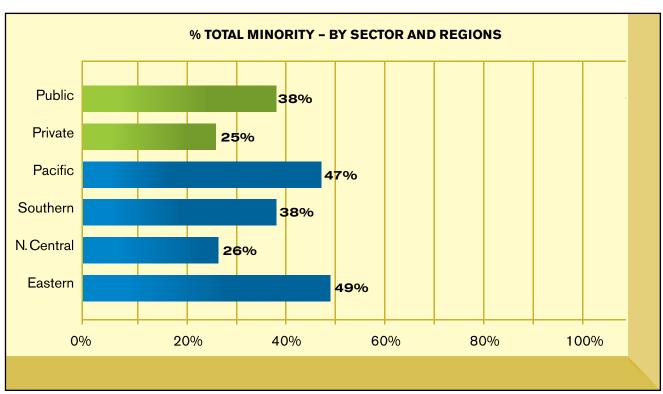




SectorsRegions

Ph.D. Enrollment by Gender and Ethnicity - 2006-07



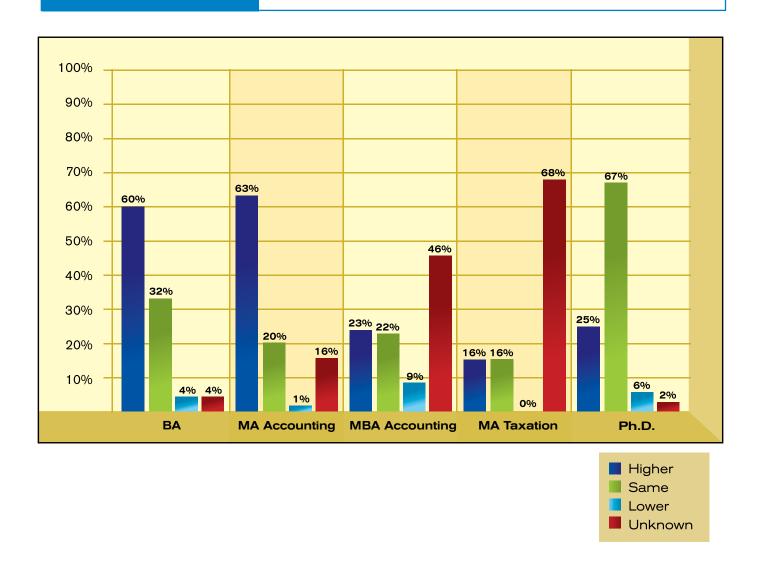


Sectors Regions

Future Enrollment Predictions in Accounting Programs – 2006-07

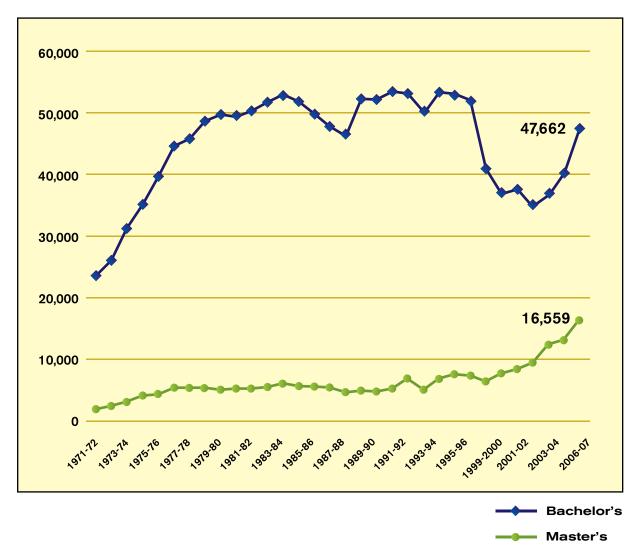
SURVEY QUESTION:

For each of the following accounting programs listed, please indicate whether you expect enrollment at your institution two years from now to be higher, lower or the same as current enrollment.



TRENDS in Supply Accounting Graduates

Accounting Degrees Awarded Historical - 2006-07

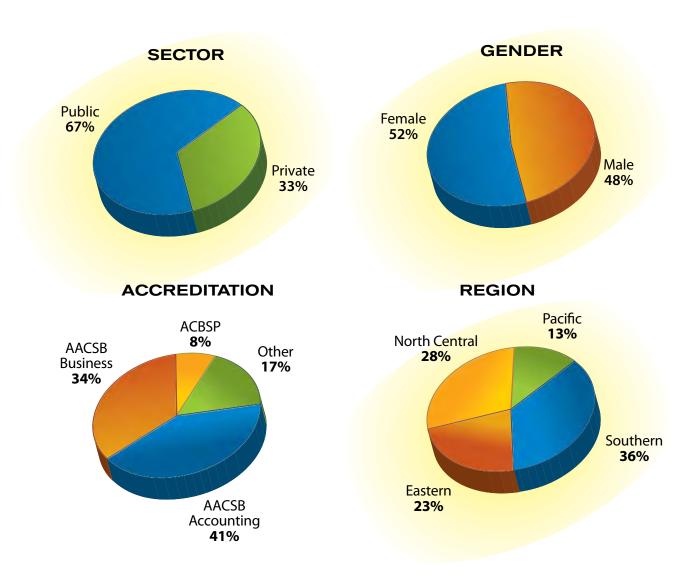


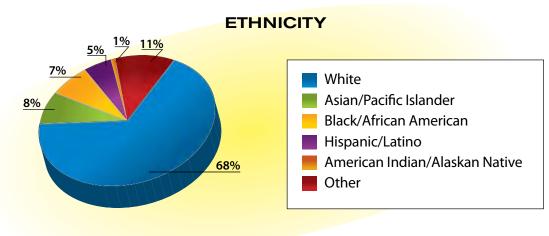
• Since the previous survey in 2003-04, the number of BA graduates increased by 18% and MA graduates increased by 24%.

Accounting Degrees Awarded by All Schools 1971-72 through 2006-07

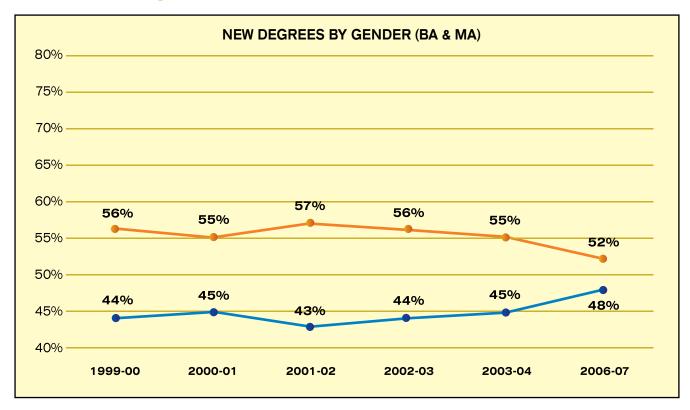
	Bache	elor's	Mast	er's	Tol	tal
Year	Number of Graduates	Rate of Growth	Number of Graduates	Rate of Growth	Number of Graduates	Rate of Growth
1971-72	23,800	-0-	2,200	-0-	26,000	-0-
1972-73	26,300	+ 11%	2,700	+ 23%	29,000	+ 12%
1973-74	31,400	+ 19%	3,400	+ 26%	34,800	+ 20%
1974-75	35,400	+ 13%	4,300	+ 26%	39,700	+ 14%
1975-76	39,900	+ 13%	4,700	+ 9%	44,600	+ 12%
1976-77	44,760	+ 12%	5,620	+ 20%	50,380	+ 13%
1977-78	46,000	+ 3%	5,670	+ 1%	51,670	+ 3%
1978-79	48,800	+ 6%	5,640	- 1%	54,440	+ 5%
1979-80	49,870	+ 2%	5,280	- 6%	55,150	+ 1%
1980-81	49,320	- 1%	5,520	+ 5%	54,840	- 1%
1981-82	50,300	+ 2%	5,570	+ 1%	55,870	+ 2%
1982-83	51,950	+ 3%	5,810	+ 4%	57,760	+ 3%
1983-84	53,020	+ 2%	6,330	+ 9%	59,350	+ 3%
1984-85	51,980	- 2%	5,910	- 7%	57,890	- 2%
1985-86	50,000	- 4%	5,750	- 3%	55,750	- 4%
1986-87	48,030	- 4%	5,580	- 3%	53,610	- 4%
1987-88	46,340	- 4%	4,910	- 12%	51,250	- 4%
1988-89	52,500	+ 13%	5,230	+ 7%	57,730	+ 13%
1989-90	52,320	-0-	5,040	- 4%	57,360	- 1%
1990-91	53,600	+ 1%	5,540	+ 10%	59,140	+ 3%
1991-92	53,320	-0-	7,070	+ 28%	60,390	+ 2%
1992-93	50,060	- 6%	5,330	- 25%	55,390	- 8%
1993-94	53,450	+ 7%	7,170	+ 35%	60,620	+ 9%
1994-95	53,360	-0-	7,860	+ 10%	61,220	+ 1%
1995-96	52,030	- 2%	7,630	- 3%	59,660	- 3%
1998-99	41,170	- 21%	6,725	- 12%	47,895	- 20%
1999-00	37,115	- 10%	7,980	+ 19%	45,095	- 6%
2000-01	37,855	+ 2%	8,700	+ 9%	46,555	+ 3%
2001-02	34,995	- 8%	9,700	+ 11%	44,695	- 4%
2002-03	37,010	+ 6%	12,655	+ 30%	49,665	+ 11%
2003-04	40,420	+ 9%	13,340	+ 5%	53,760	+ 8%
2006-07	47,662	+ 18%	16,559	+ 24%	64,221	+ 19%

Accounting Graduates Snapshot (MA & BA combined) – 2006-07





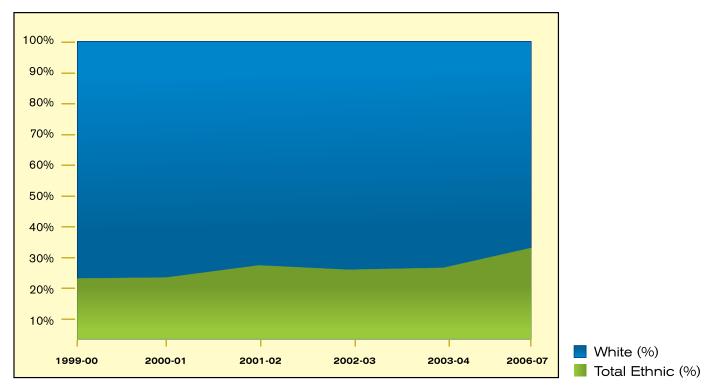
Graduates by Gender – 2006-07

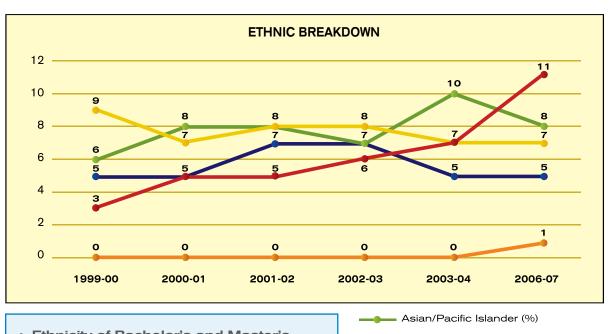




• Since 2001-02, the percentage of male graduates has been increasing slightly, while the share of female graduates has gradually decreased.

Bachelor's and Master's Graduates by Ethnicity – 2006-07





 Ethnicity of Bachelor's and Master's graduates is generally very similar to the 2003-04 survey except for Asian/Pacific Islanders, which have declined slightly. Black/African-American (%)
Hispanic/Latino (%)
American Indian/Alaskan Native (%)
Other (mixed race or unidentified)(%)

New Accounting Graduates from AACSB Accounting and AACSB & ACBSP Accredited Business Administration Programs

	AACSB Accounting Programs & AACSB & ACBSP Business Admin. Programs	Bachelor's	Master's	TOTAL
1999-00	461	28,070	7,260	35,330
2000-01	479	28,175	7,235	35,410
2001-02	494	27,880	9,170	37,050
2002-03	504	30,590	11,905	42,495
2003-04	501	33,120	12,635	45,755
2006-07	597	38,555	14,912	53,467

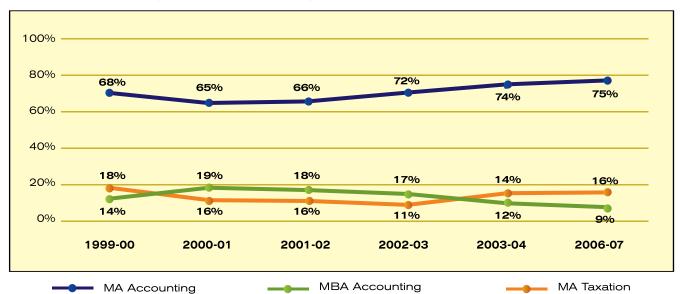
[·] Accounting graduates from accounting and business accredited programs continue to rise, 16% for Bachelor's over the 2003-04 survey, and 18% at the Master's level.

New Accounting Graduates from Other Business Administration Programs

	Number of Other Business Administration Programs	Bachelor's	Master's	TOTAL
1999-00	395	9,045	720	9,765
2000-01	378	9,680	1,465	11,145
2001-02	355	7,115	530	7,645
2002-03	337	6,420	750	7,170
2003-04	330	7,300	705	8,005
2006-07	322	9,107	1,647	10,754

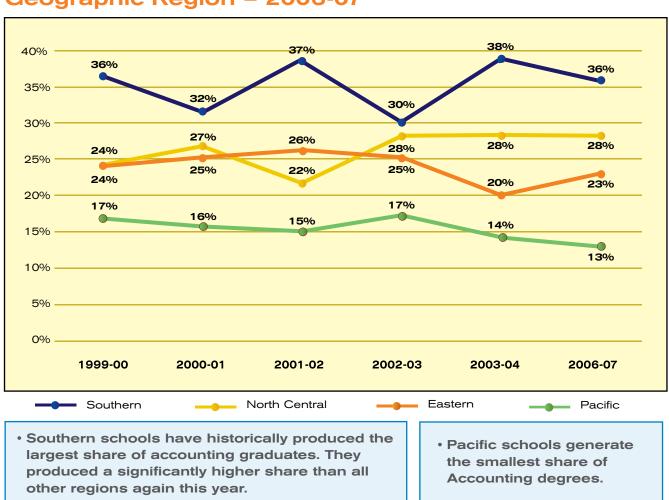
[•] Total graduates are up 34% in non-accounting and business accredited programs since the last survey in 2003-04.

Master's Degrees by Program Type - 2006-07

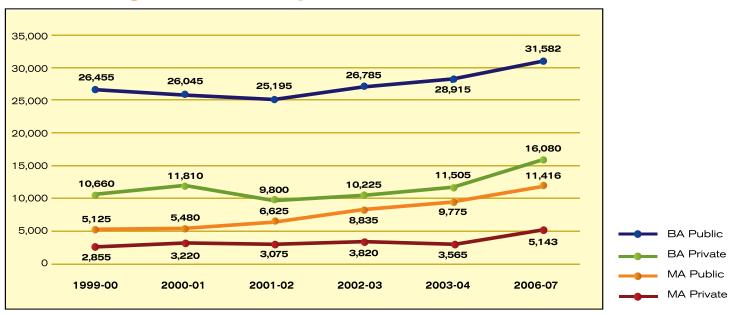


 Master's degrees in Accounting make up nearly three-quarters of accounting specific Master's degrees, significantly higher than Master's in Taxation and MBA's in Accounting, which represent roughly one-quarter combined.

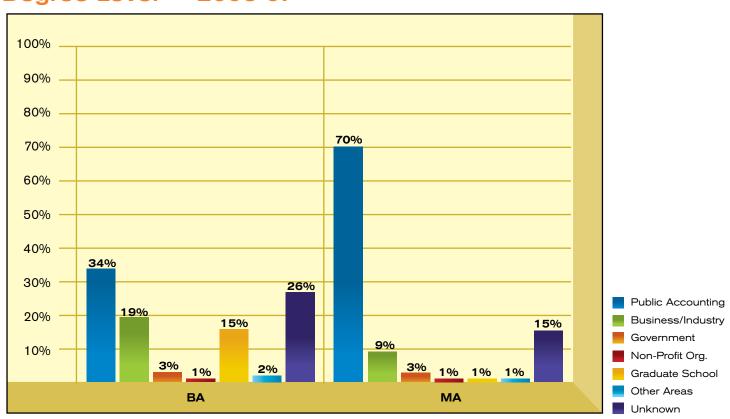
Accounting Degrees by Geographic Region – 2006-07



Accounting Graduates by Sector - 2006-07



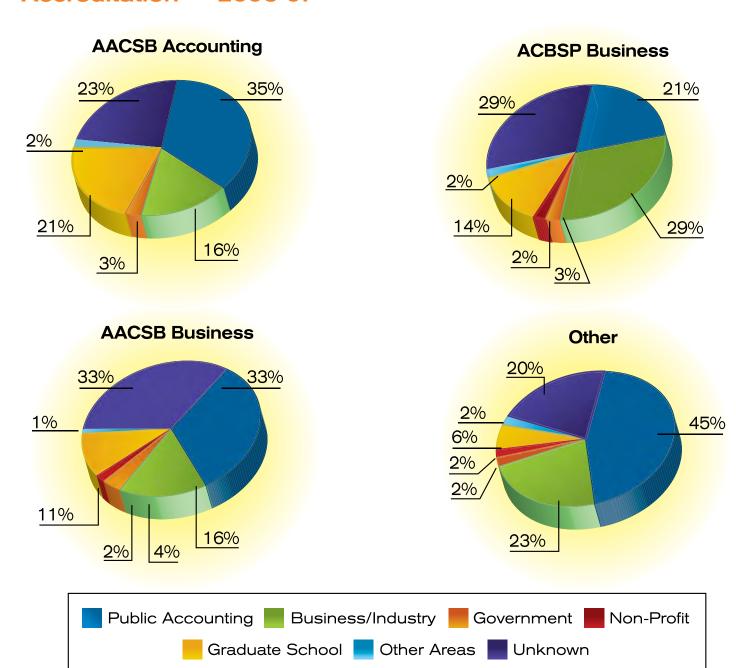
Placement of Graduates by Degree Level* – 2006-07



* Based on placement data provided by responding schools, but with varying degrees of certainty regarding accuracy.

Graduates from both Bachelor's and Master's accounting programs are most likely to begin
work in Public Accounting. The distribution of Bachelor's graduates across industries is more
evenly spread however, with roughly two-thirds working in other industries. Less than
one-third of Master's graduates begin work in industries other than Public Accounting.

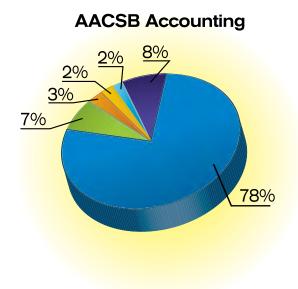
Placement of Bachelor's Graduates by Accreditation* - 2006-07

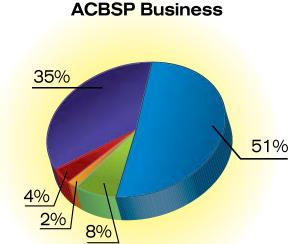


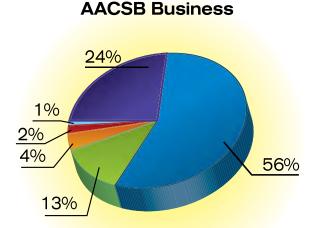
^{*} Based on placement data provided by responding schools, but with varying degrees of certainty regarding accuracy.

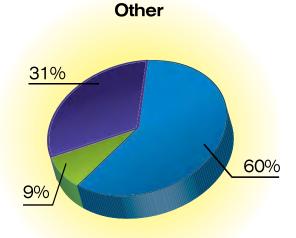
· Bachelor's graduates with AACSB Accounting, AACSB Business and Other Regional Accreditation are most likely to begin work in Public Accounting, while ACBSP Business accredited graduates are more likely to begin work in Business/Industry.

Placement of Master's Graduates by Accreditation* – 2006-07







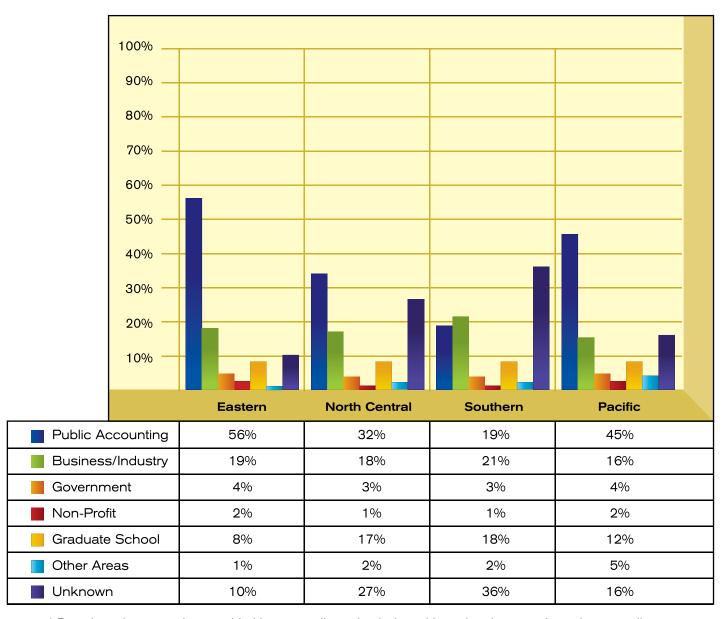




^{*} Based on placement data provided by responding schools, but with varying degrees of certainty regarding accuracy.

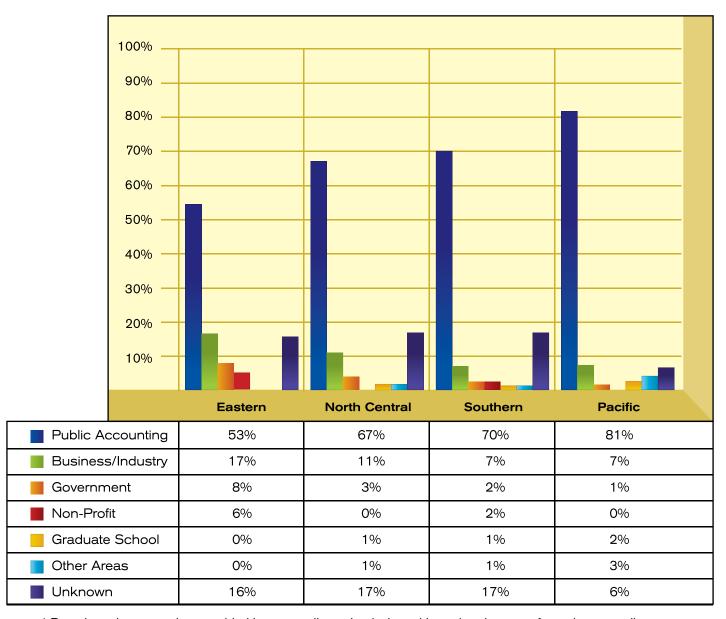
 Master's graduates of all accreditation types are most likely to begin work in Public Accounting.

Placement of Bachelor's Graduates by Region* - 2006-07



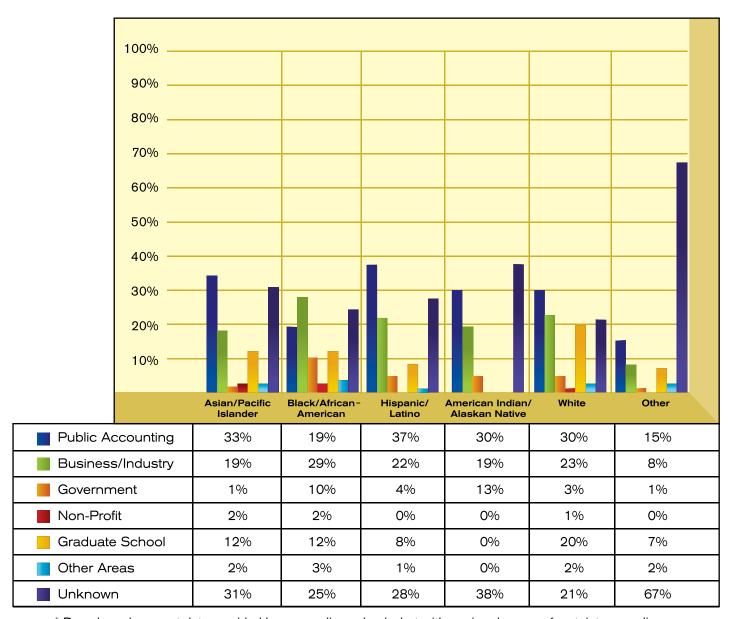
^{*} Based on placement data provided by responding schools, but with varying degrees of certainty regarding accuracy.

Placement of Master's Graduates by Region* - 2006-07



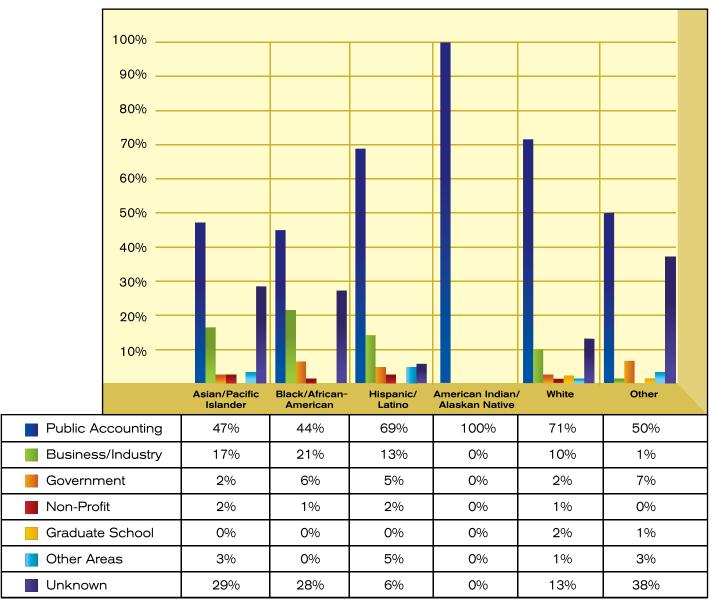
^{*} Based on placement data provided by responding schools, but with varying degrees of certainty regarding accuracy.

Placement of Bachelor's Graduates by Ethnicity* - 2006-07



^{*} Based on placement data provided by responding schools, but with varying degrees of certainty regarding accuracy.

Placement of Master's Graduates by Ethnicity* - 2006-07



^{*} Based on placement data provided by responding schools, but with varying degrees of certainty regarding accuracy.

2008 TRENDS in Demand

Survey Methodology Overview - Demand

Survey Fielding

- Sampling
- A census of public accounting firms with 10 or more AICPA members was invited to participate
- A random sample of public accounting firms with fewer than 10 members was invited to participate
- Advance notifications were sent to public accounting firms October 1, 2007
- Survey invitations were e-mailed October 8, 2007
- The AICPA followed up extensively with non-respondents to maximize the response rate
- The field closed December 10, 2007

Response Information

- Surveys were predominantly completed online
- A paper-copy response option was also made available
- The overall response rate was 15%, but almost 60% of the largest firm group surveyed responded, including all of the eight largest firms, generating substantial numerical coverage of demand and hiring

Analysis & Reporting

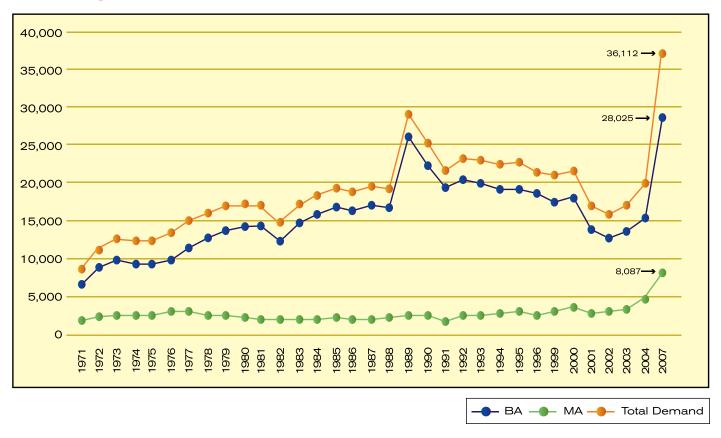
- Survey results have been weighted to be reflective of the entire public accounting population
- Results were weighted by the size of firms as determined by the number of AICPA members employed
- The margin of error at the 90% confidence level is 3.3%
- A regression equation was developed to forecast hiring
- The number of AICPA members employed at public accounting firms was used to forecast hiring
- The R square is .890

Demand Survey Response Rate

	Total Number of Firms	No. of Firms Surveyed	No. of Firms Responding	Response Rate
All Firms	43,741	4,228	639	15%
Firm Size Based	on Number of AIC	PA Members Empl	loyed	
Fewer than 10	42,242	2,729	381	14%
10 to 49	1,386	1,386	208	15%
50 to 200	89	89	36	40%
Over 200	24	24	14	58%

TRENDS in Demand CPA Firm Hiring

New Accounting Graduates Hired by CPA Firms - 2006-07



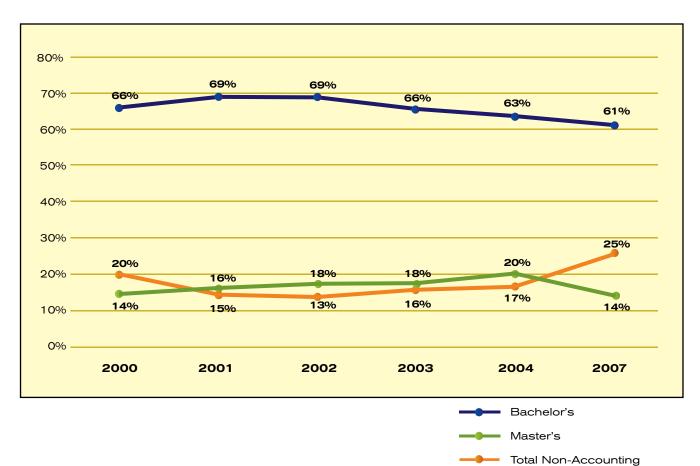
· Accounting graduate's demand increased 83% from 2003-04 to 2006-07.

44

New Accounting Graduates Hired by CPA Firms

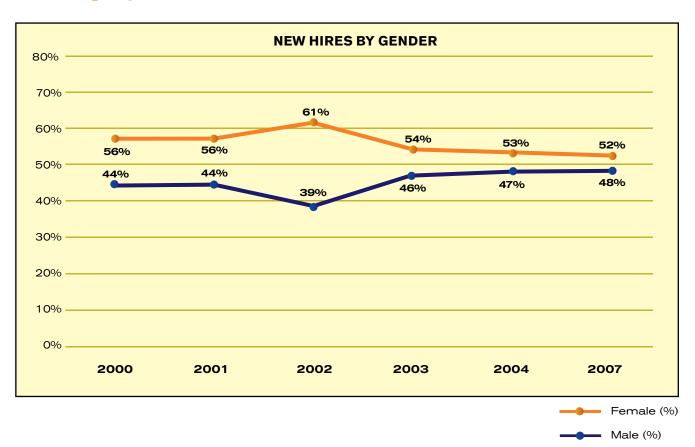
Year	Bachelor's	Master's	Total Demand
1971	6,800	2,000	8,800
1972	8,900	2,400	11,300
1973	10,000	2,600	12,600
1974	9,500	2,600	12,100
1975	9,200	2,800	12,000
1976	10,010	3,350	13,360
1977	11,660	3,310	14,970
1978	12,770	2,890	15,660
1979	13,500	2,900	16,400
1980	14,100	2,460	16,560
1981	14,200	2,210	16,410
1982	11,970	2,210	14,180
1983	14,490	2,180	16,670
1984	15,640	2,180	17,820
1985	16,510	2,250	18,760
1986	16,110	2,030	18,140
1987	16,720	2,050	18,770
1988	16,740	2,220	18,960
1989	25,240	2,600	27,840
1990	21,340	2,500	23,840
1991	18,840	1,760	20,600
1992	19,870	2,650	22,520
1993	19,320	2,670	21,990
1994	18,500	2,970	21,470
1995	18,560	3,375	21,935
1996	17,820	2,650	20,470
1999	16,960	3,250	20,210
2000	17,265	3,686	20,951
2001	13,335	3,035	16,370
2002	12,630	3,295	15,295
2003	13,270	3,555	16,825
2004	14,985	4,720	19,705
2007	28,025	8,087	36,112

New Accounting Graduates Hired by CPA Firms Percentage by Degree – 2006-07



• Bachelor's graduates continue to be hired by CPA firms in significantly higher percentages than Master's and non-accounting degrees. In 2007, non-accounting graduates were hired at substantially higher rates; thus while Master's graduates hired were up in overall numbers, their percentage of new hires decreased.

New Accounting Graduates Hired by CPA Firms Demographics – 2006-07

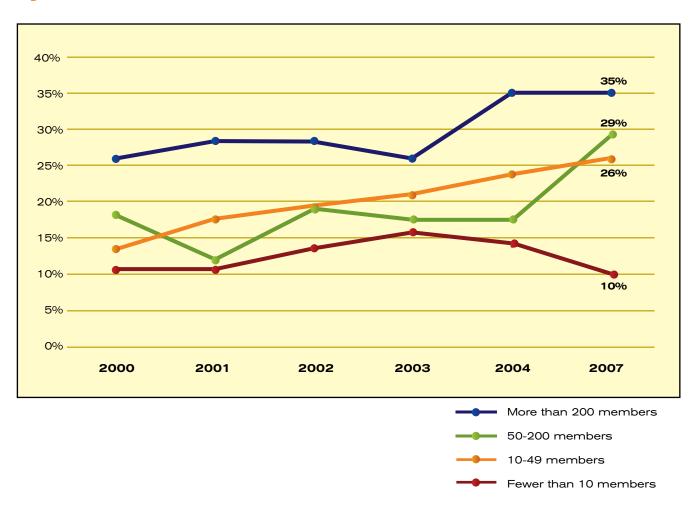


New Accounting Graduates Hired by CPA Firms Ethnicity – 2006-07

	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black/African- American	Hispanic/ Latino	American Indian/ Alaskan Native	Total Ethnic/ Racial	White	Other/ Unknown
2000	10%	3%	7%	Ο%	20%	79%	1%
2001	8%	3%	6%	0%	17%	82%	1%
2002	8%	3%	6%	Ο%	17%	82%	1%
2003	9%	5%	4%	0%	18%	81%	1%
2004	12%	3%	8%	Ο%	23%	76%	1%
2007	13%	8%	4%	1%	26%	72%	2%

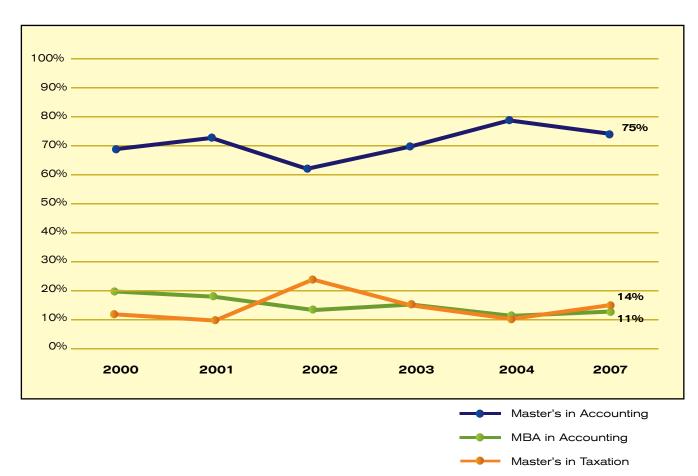
 Overall minority presence in the new hire pool is up only about 1% per year since the 2003-04 survey.

New Accounting Master's Graduates as a Percentage of all New Accounting Graduates Hired by Firm Size - 2006-07



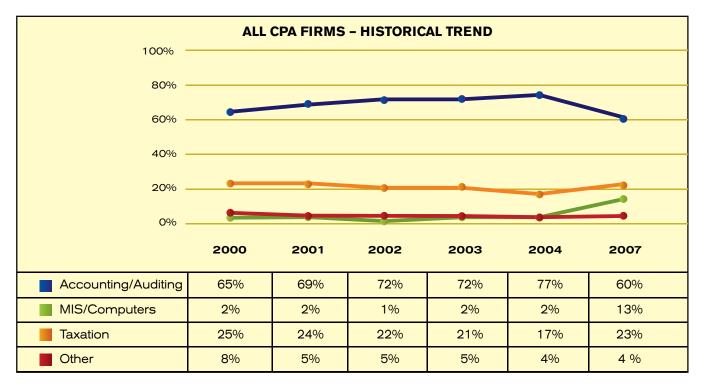
- The share of Master's Accounting graduates increased at firms with 50-200 members by 12%.
- · Master's graduates at the smallest firms decreased by 6%, and represent a significantly smaller share than other firm sizes.

New Accounting Master's Graduates Hired by CPA Firms – Percentage by Type of Degree

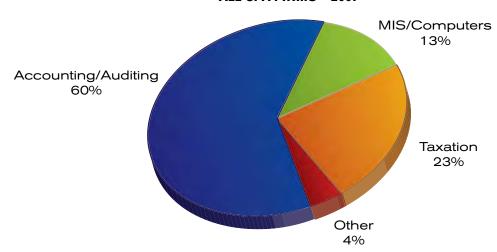


• Master's in Accounting degrees represent three-fourths of new CPA firm Master's hires, significantly higher than Master's in Taxation and MBAs in Accounting.

New Accounting Graduates Hired by CPA Firms by Area of Assignment - 2006-07

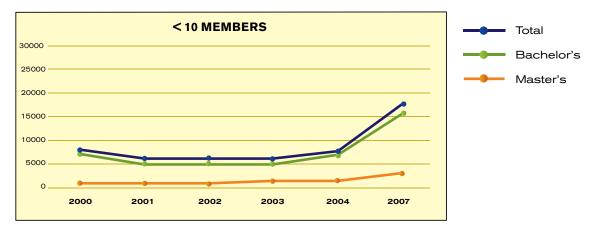


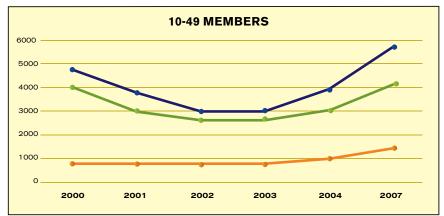


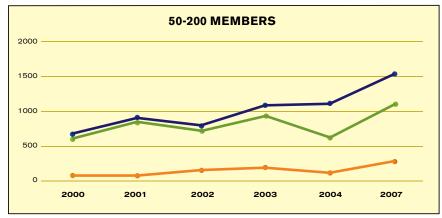


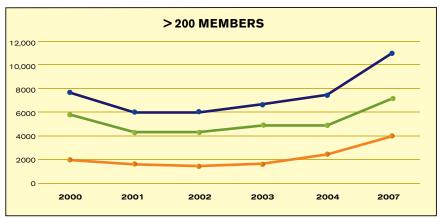
· Accounting/Auditing remains the most common area of assignment for new graduates at CPA firms, while MIC/Computers has grown significantly since the last survey in 2003-04.

New Accounting Graduates Hired by CPA Firms by Firm Size – 2000-2007

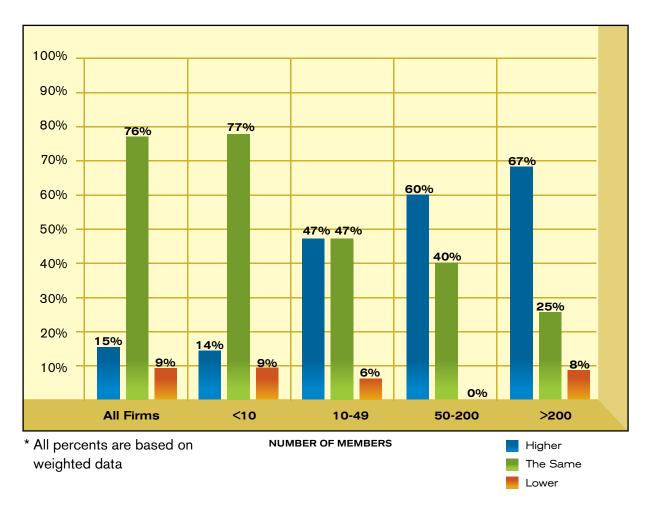






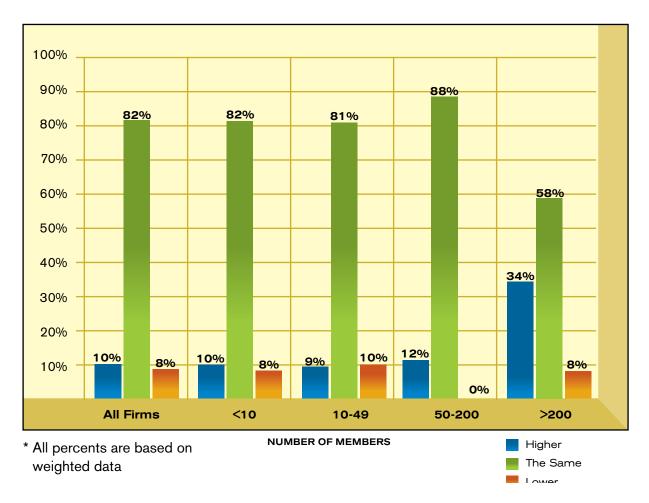


Demand Forecast - New Accountng Graduates to be Hired in 2008-09*



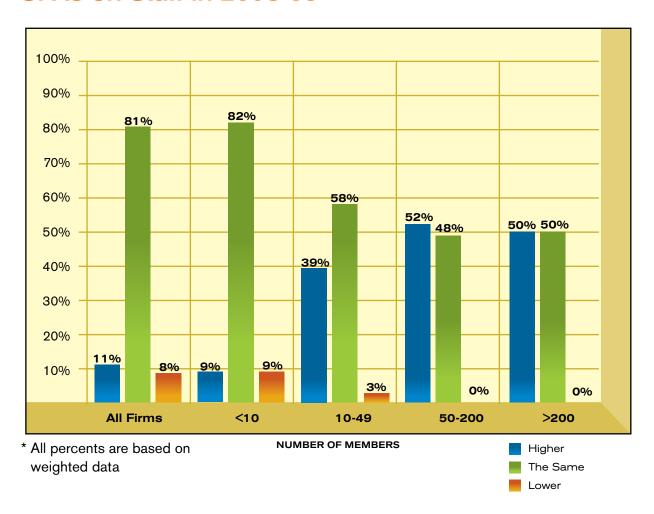
• Firms clearly expect for the most part to hire the same or greater numbers than in the past year.

Demand Forecast – New Non-Accounting Graduates to be Hired in 2008-09*



• Firms generally expect to hire the same or greater numbers than in the past year.

Demand Forecast - Expected Number of CPAs on Staff in 2008-09*

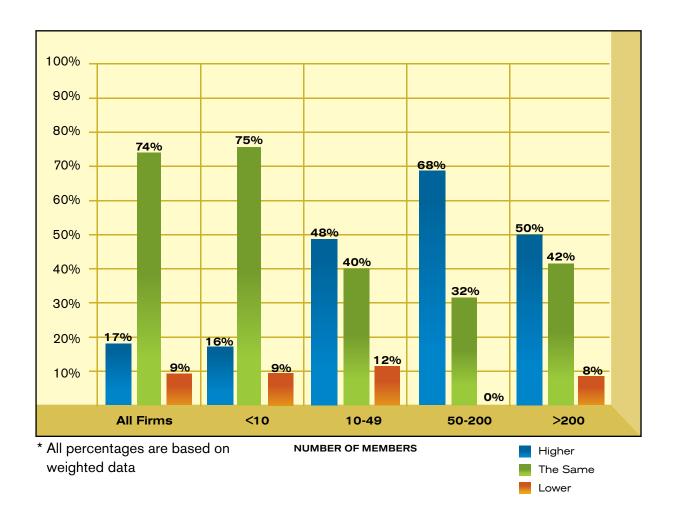


• Firms expect for the most part to have the same or greater numbers of CPAs on staff than in the past year.

Demand Forecast – Experienced Recruits to be Hired in 2008-09*

SURVEY QUESTION:

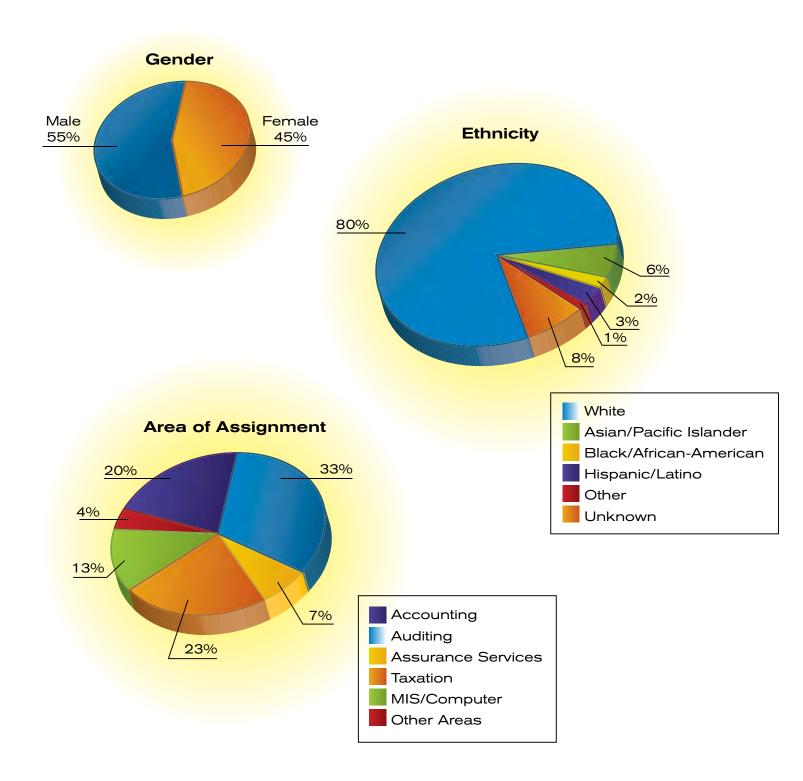
Is the number of experienced recruits hired by your firm likely to be higher, lower or the same as the previous year?



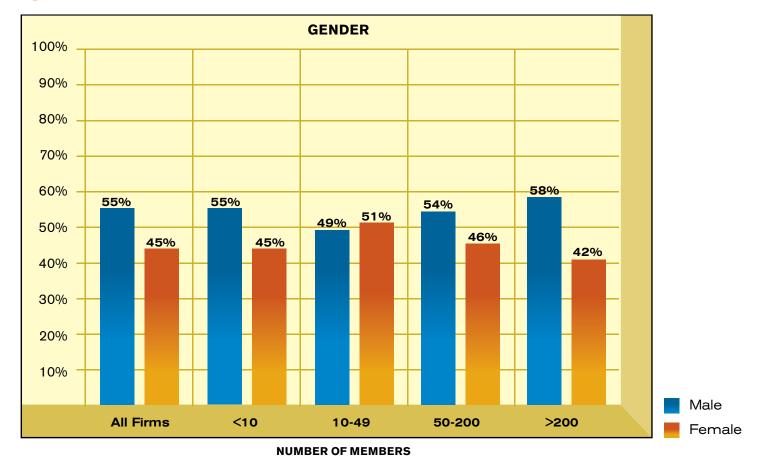
• Hiring will continue to stay the same or increase; the larger firms in particular foresee increased hiring of experienced recruits.

Firm Demographics

Demographics - All Accounting Employees at CPA Firms - 2006-07 Snapshot



Professional Staff Demographics by Firm Size – 2006-07



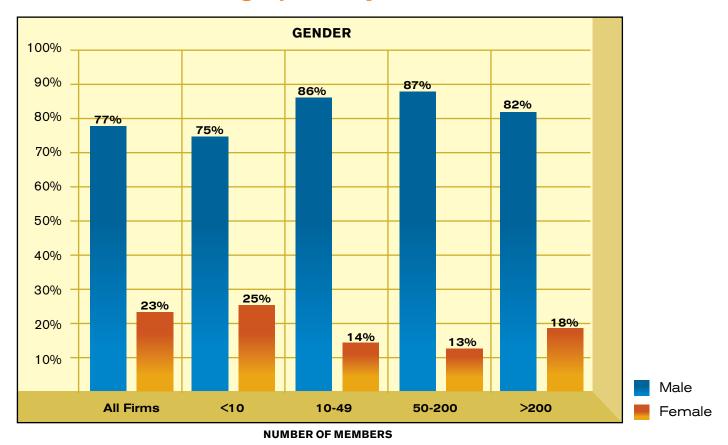
• Females are only in the majority at firms with 10-49 employees.

Ethnicity

	All Firms	<10	10-49	50-200	>200	
White	80%	91%	87%	91%	59%	
Black/African-American	2%	2%	3%	2%	3%	
Hispanic/Latino	3%	2%	2%	1%	3%	
Asian/Pacific Islander	6%	4%	7%	4%	10%	
American Indian/Alaska Nativ	e 0%	O %	0%	0%	0%	
Other	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	
Unknown	8%	0%	0%	2%	25%	

· The largest firms are the most diverse.

Partners - Demographics by Firm Size - 2006-07

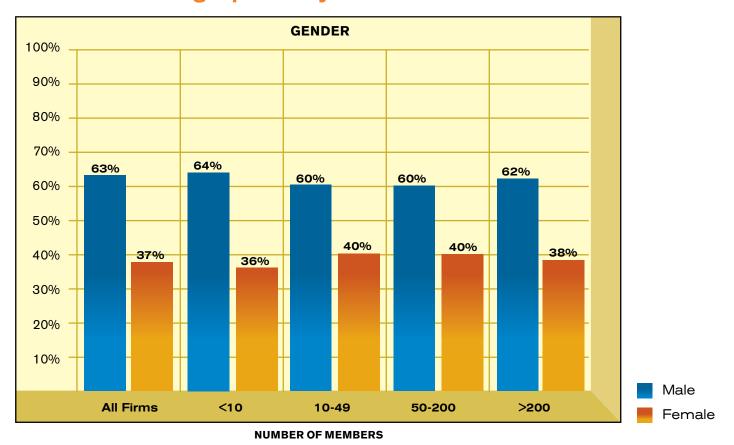


Ethnicity

	All Firms	<10	10-49	50-200	>200	
White	91%	91%	95%	96%	80%	
Black/African-American	1%	2%	1%	0%	1%	
Hispanic/Latino	2%	3%	0%	0%	1%	
Asian/Pacific Islander	2%	2%	2%	0%	2%	
American Indian/Alaska Nati	ve 0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Other	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	
Unknown	3%	1%	2%	4%	15%	

[•] Female partnership continues to increase very gradually while minority partnership collectively has not advanced.

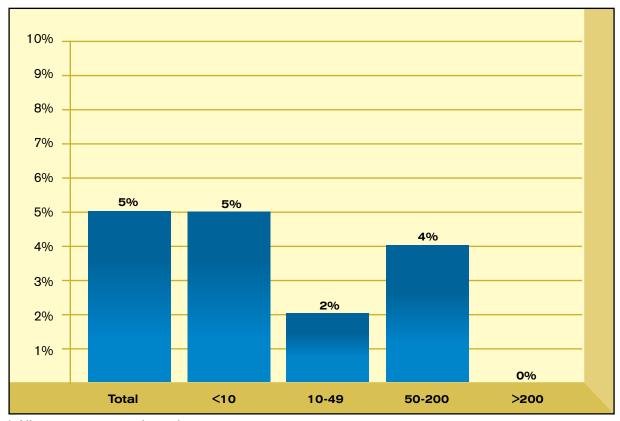
CPAs – Demographics by Firm Size – 2006-07



	All Firms	<10	10-49	50-200	>200
White	87%	93%	91%	95%	68%
Black/African-American	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%
Hispanic/Latino	2%	2%	1%	0%	2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4%	3%	6%	2%	8%
American Indian/Alaska Nativ	e 0%	Ο%	0%	0%	Ο%
Other	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Unknown	5%	0%	1%	1%	20%

Ethnicity

Minority-Owned CPA Firms by Firm Size* - 2006-07



^{*} All percentages are based on weighted data

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

CPA Examination

Uniform CPA Examination - 1971-2006*

Year	Total Number of Candidates	Year (cont.)	Total Number of Candidates
1971	53,811	1989	142,135
1972	57,928	1990	143,572
1973	63,165	1991	140,042
1974	72,052	1992	136,536
1975	80,433	1993	140,228
1976	86,464	1994	130,803
1977	93,148	1995	126,434
1978	104,511	1996	133,000
1979	113,629	1997	121,443
1980	120,925	1998	116,906
1981	128,793	1999	126,769
1982	138,677	2000	115,493
1983	141,583	2001	106,072
1984	137,918	2002	108,955
1985	139,454	2003	109,872
1986	139,647	2004*	44,513
1987	137,637	2005	61,884
1988	139,474	2006	69,259

^{* 2004} represents the first year the exam was offered as a computer-based test. Prior to April 2004, the Uniform CPA Examination was administered twice a year in May and November in a paper-and-pencil format. Under the new format, Examinations are administered continuously for a two-month window each quarter. Other testing programs have experienced similar initial declines when they moved from paper-and-pencil to computerized examination.

FOOTNOTE: Although it appears as though the number of exam candidates has decreased sharply since the advent of the computerized format, comparison of these numbers may be misleading. Under the paper-and-pencil format, candidates who took the Examination in both May and November were counted twice. Under the computerized format of the Examination, each candidate is counted only once per year regardless of how many times they attempt a section or in how many windows they test. In light of the way candidates were counted, it is likely that while the number of candidates initially decreased somewhat from the paper-and-pencil format, the decrease is much less pronounced than it might appear, and the numbers are moving toward parity with the pre-2004 numbers.

Appendix A

Breakdown of Geographic Regions

Eastern	North Central	Southern	Pacific
Connecticut	Colorado	Alabama	Alaska
Delaware	Illinois	Arkansas	Arizona
District of Columbia	Indiana	Florida	California
Maine	lowa	Georgia	Hawaii
Maryland	Kansas	Kentucky	Idaho
Massachusetts	Michigan	Louisiana	Nevada
New Hampshire	Minnesota	Mississippi	Oregon
New Jersey	Missouri	New Mexico	Utah
New York	Montana	North Carolina	Washington
Pennsylvania	Nebraska	Oklahoma	
Rhode Island	North Dakota	Puerto Rico	
Vermont	Ohio	South Carolina	
	South Dakota	Tennessee	
	West Virginia	Texas	
	Wisconsin	Virginia	
	Wyoming		

Appendix B

Educator Letter and Supply Survey

Dear Educator,

As you know, the pipeline of students matriculating in accounting programs nationwide is of considerable concern to the Institute and the profession (as is true with faculty as well). In order to assist educators and practitioners, each year the AICPA gathers important enrollment, graduation and placement data in a survey of accounting programs.

An electronic questionnaire was recently sent to your academic dean or department chair requesting your school's participation in supplying data for this important publication, Trends in the Supply of Accounting Graduates and the Demand for Public Accounting Recruits - 2008. As an On-Campus Champion, your assistance is requested to ensure completion of the survey for your college/university. Responses are critical to generating current and relevant information about accounting education and the resulting impact on the profession.

We ask for your help by responding to the online questionnaire (accessible below) as accurately and completely as possible, and submitting your responses by November 22, 2007.

To access the online questionnaire, please click the link below or copy it into your Web browser:

http://aicpa.tarp.com

We appreciate the cooperation of those who participate in the survey. Please feel free to send us your comments on the information presented. If you have any questions, please contact the Academic & Career Development team @ educat@aicpa.org or by telephone at (919) 402-4015.

Sincerely,

Dennis R. Reigle

Director



AICPA SURVEY ON THE SUPPLY OF ACCOUNTING GRADUATES

Bachelor's Enrollments

1)	When can undergrad	uate students declare accounting as a major?	
	☐ Immediately	☐ End of Sophomore year	
2)	Are your enrollments	imited by available spaces?	
	□ Yes	□ No	
3)	If your enrollment is	mited, roughly how many qualified candidates do you turn away?	
4)		umber of students enrolled as accounting majors during the fall and by ethnic/racial groups.	
Male Fema Total	= = = =	Black or Asian/ Indian/ African Hispanic Pacific Alaska Other White American or Latino Islander Native	

AICPA SURVEY ON THE SUPPLY OF ACCOUNTING GRADUATES

Female =					students who g 2006 and 8/20				oups.
Please indicate the number of accounting and taxation students enrolled in each Master's program during the fall 2006 term. Please write '0' if a particular Master's program is not offered. Master's in Accounting - including MA, MS, MAcc, MAIS, MPA and MAS programs Master's in Taxation - including MBAs with a concentration in tax MBAs with a concentration in accounting	Male Femal Total	9	=	White	African		Pacific	Indian/ Alaska	Other
Please indicate the number of accounting and taxation students enrolled in each Master's program during the fall 2006 term. Please write '0' if a particular Master's program is not offered. Identify the fall 2006 term. Please write '0' if a particular Master's program is not offered. Identify the fall 2006 term. Please write '0' if a particular Master's program is not offered. Identify the fall 2006 term. Please write '0' if a particular Master's program is not offered. Identify the fall 2006 term. Please write '0' if a particular Master's program is not offered. Identify the fall 2006 term. Please write '0' if a particular Master's program is not offered. Identify the fall 2006 term. Please write '0' if a particular Master's program is not offered. Identify the fall 2006 term. Please write '0' if a particular Master's program is not offered. Identify the fall 2006 term. Please write '0' if a particular Master's program is not offered. Identify the fall 2006 term. Please write '0' if a particular Master's program is not offered. Identify the fall 2006 term. Please write '0' if a particular Master's program is not offered.	last	ers: Enrollm	<u>ent</u>						
program during the fall 2006 term. Please write '0' if a particular Master's program is not offered. Master's in Accounting - including MA, MS, MAcc, MAIS, MPA and MAS programs Master's in Taxation - including MBAs with a concentration in tax MBAs with a concentration in accounting	Enrol	ment by Deg	ree						
Master's in Taxation - including MBAs with a concentration in tax MBAs with a concentration in accounting	6)	program dur							
MBAs with a concentration in accounting	Maste	s in Accounting	g - includin	g MA, MS	, MAcc, MAIS,	MPA and MAS	S programs		
	Maste	s in Taxation -	including I	MBAs with	a concentration	n in tax			
TOTAL	MBAs	with a concentr	ation in ac	counting					
							TOTAL		

Mast	ters: Enrollment
	Ilment by Gender/Ethnicity
7)	Please indicate the number of master's-level accounting and taxation students enrolled during the fall 2006 term by gender and by ethnic/racial groups. Note: The combined total for Male and Female below should equal the total in the section, "Enrollment by Degree." American Black or African Hispanic Pacific Alaska White American or Latino Islander Native Other
Male Femal	
Total	
<u>Mast</u>	ters: Graduates
Gradı	uates by Degree
8)	Please indicate the number of graduates awarded master's degrees for each of the following accounting/taxation programs between 9/2006 and 8/2007
	er's in Accounting - including MA, MS, MAcc, MAIS, MPA and MAS programs er's in Taxation - including MBAs with a concentration in tax
	with a concentration in accounting
	TOTAL
AICPA	SURVEY ON THE SUPPLY OF ACCOUNTING GRADUATES 3

Masters: Graduates

Graduates by Gender/Ethnicity

Please indicate the number of graduates awarded master's degrees in accounting/taxation between 9/2006 and 8/2007 by gender and by ethnic/racial groups. Note: The combined total for Male and Female below should equal the total in the section, "Graduates by Degree."

		White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian/ Pacific Islander	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other
Male	=						
Female	=						
Total	=						

Doctorate: Enrollment

Enrollment by Gender/Ethnicity

10) Please indicate the number of students enrolled in accounting/taxation doctoral programs during the 2006 fall term by gender and by ethnic/racial groups.

		White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian/ Pacific Islander	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other
Male	=						
Female	=						
Total	=						

AICPA SURVEY ON THE SUPPLY OF ACCOUNTING GRADUATES

Doctorate: Graduates

Graduates by Gender/Ethnicity

11) Please indicate the number of graduates awarded accounting/taxation-related doctoral degrees between 9/2006 and 8/2007 by gender and by ethnic/racial groups.

		White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian/ Pacific Islander	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other
Male	=						
Female	=						
Total	=						

Bachelors: Placements

12) If you or your office of career services has this data, please indicate the placement of graduates who earned bachelor's degrees in accounting between 9/2006 and 8/2007 for each placement area by gender and by ethnic/racial groups.

Public	Total	Male	Female	White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian/ Pacific Islander	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other
Accounting	=								
Business/ Industry	=		=						
Government	=		=						
Nonprofit Organization	=		=						
Graduate School	=		=						
Other Areas	=		=						
Unknown	=		=						

AICPA SURVEY ON THE SUPPLY OF ACCOUNTING GRADUATES

5

73

14)	If you or your graduates aw for each place	arded ma	ster's degre	es in acc	counting/tax	cation betw			
	Total	Male	Female	White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian/ Pacific Islander	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other
Public Accounting	=		=						
Business/ industry	=		=						
Government	=		=						
Nonprofit Organization	=		=						
Graduate School	=		=						
Other Areas	=		=						
Unknown	=		=						
15)	How accurate Complete Reasona Best estin Information	ely accura bly accura nation ac	te ate curate	statistics'	?				

16) For each of the following according expect enrollment at your inst as current enrollment. (Please does not currently offer that p	itution two years choose one op	otion for each pr	e higher, lower	r, or the same
Enrollment and/or applications 2 y	ears from now	will be:		
	Higher than current enrollment	The same as current enrollment	Lower than current enrollment	Do not know/ No Opinion
Bachelor's - majors in accounting				
Master's in accounting – including students in MA, MS, MAcc, MAIS, MPA, and MAS programs				
MBA students with a concentration in				
Master's in taxation - including MBA students with a concentration in tax				
PhD. students in accounting/taxation				
(Optional) Please provide the followir addition to the Dean or Accounting D First Name: Phone:	epartment Chai			
Email Address:				
Comments/Suggestions Please provide us with any other idea what should we ask on this survey that asking? what information is irrelevant	at you think wou	uld be viable an	d that we are o	currently not
Please provide us with any other idea what should we ask on this survey the	at you think wou	uld be viable an	d that we are o	currently not
Please provide us with any other idea what should we ask on this survey the	at you think wou that we are cu	uld be viable an	d that we are courted to be a provide?	currently not

Managing Partner Letter and Demand Survey

Dear Managing Partner or Human Resources Partner:

The pipeline of students necessary to meet the future demands of the profession is of considerable concern (as is true with faculty as well). In order to assist both practitioners and educators, the AICPA is conducting its annual study of accounting program administrators and CPA firms to gauge the supply of accounting graduates and the demand for public accounting recruits. The information gathered with this survey is critical in assessing the profession's future, and functions as a source of information for human resources planning and employment trends. The data gathered will be reported in the publication *Trends in the Supply of Accounting Graduates and the Demand for Public Accounting Recruits – 2008*.

We would greatly appreciate your participation in the study by answering the attached electronic questionnaire as accurately and completely as possible, and submitting your responses by October 26, 2007. The reliability and usefulness of the results depend heavily upon broad-based participation. As in the past, the data gathered is entirely confidential and will be used only in summary form. To ensure anonymity, we are not asking you to sign your name or your firm's name.

We appreciate the cooperation of those who participate in the survey. Please feel free to send us your comments on the information presented. If you have any questions, please contact the Academic and Career Development Team at educat@aicpa.org or by telephone at (919) 402-4015.

Sincerely,

Dennis. R. Reigle

Director



AICPA SURVEY ON THE DEMAND FOR PUBLIC ACCOUNTING RECRUITS

New Graduates: By Degree

Please indicate the number of new graduates with the following degrees who began/will begin employment at your firm on a full-time basis during 2007. (New graduates are defined as those who began/will begin employment at entry-level positions with no or only nominal previous experience with a CPA firm.)

		Number of Graduates
Ac	counting Degree	
1.	Bachelor's in Accounting - including other bachelor's degrees with majors in accounting	
2.	Master's in Accounting - including MA, MS, MAIS, MAcc, MPA and MAS Degrees	
3.	Master's in Taxation - including MBAs with a concentration in tax	
4.	MBAs with a concentration in accounting	
	TOTAL	
No	on-Accounting Bachelor's Degrees	
5.	Bachelor's degrees in non-accounting business majors (for example: computer science, finance, etc.)	
6.	Bachelor's degrees in non-business majors	
	TOTAL	
No	on-Accounting Masters Degrees	
7.	Master's or higher degrees in other (non-accounting) business majors	
8.	Master's or higher degrees in non-business majors	
9.	J.D. in Law	
	TOTAL	
	GRAND TOTAL	

Page 1 of 6

at your	firm on a full-	time b	asis during		er of flew gradi		American	employment
Male		=	White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Indian/ Alaska Native	Other
Female		=						
Total		=						
				Interns	ships			
11. Does yo	our firm empl	oy sun	nmer and/or	winter interns				
	□ Yes							
	□ No							\neg
If ye	es, what was	the to	tal number o	of interns emplo	oyed by your fi	rm during 200)7?	
12. What p	ercentage of	those	interns do v	ou anticipate e	ventually beco	mina full-time	emplovees?	
	0-50		50-80		1 80-90		90-100	
٥	0 00		B 00 00		5 00 00	5	00 100	

rea						Number of Graduate		
ilea						Graduate		
ccounting								
uditing								
ssurance \$	Services							
	OCI VIOCO							
axation								
S/Compute	er							
lanagemer	nt Services						_	
-							<u></u>	
ther Areas	5						_	
				fessional St				
ethnic/ra	acial groups.	(Profe	r of professi		aff: Employ uding partners	during 2007 ctive CPAs, ar	nd others with	d by n a similar
ethnic/ra	acial groups.	(Profe	r of professi	fessional St ional staff (inclu	aff: Employ uding partners	during 2007 ctive CPAs, ar	nd others with	d by a a similar Other
ethnic/ra amount	acial groups.	(Profe trainin	r of professi ssional staf g in a field	fessional St ional staff (inclu if is defined as that is part of the Black or African	aff: Employ uding partners CPAs, prospec ne practice of p	during 2007 ctive CPAs, are public account Asian/ Pacific	nd others with ting.) American Indian/ Alaska	ı a similar
ethnic/ra amount	acial groups.	(Profe trainin	r of professi ssional staf g in a field	fessional St ional staff (inclu if is defined as that is part of the Black or African	aff: Employ uding partners CPAs, prospec ne practice of p	during 2007 ctive CPAs, are public account Asian/ Pacific	nd others with ting.) American Indian/ Alaska	ı a similar
ethnic/ra amount	acial groups.	(Profe trainin	r of professi ssional staf g in a field	fessional St ional staff (inclu if is defined as that is part of the Black or African	aff: Employ uding partners CPAs, prospec ne practice of p	during 2007 ctive CPAs, are public account Asian/ Pacific	nd others with ting.) American Indian/ Alaska	ı a similar
ethnic/ra amount	acial groups.	(Profe trainin	r of professi ssional staf g in a field	fessional St ional staff (inclu if is defined as that is part of the Black or African	aff: Employ uding partners CPAs, prospec ne practice of p	during 2007 ctive CPAs, are public account Asian/ Pacific	nd others with ting.) American Indian/ Alaska	ı a similar
ethnic/ra amount	acial groups.	(Profe trainin	r of professi ssional staf g in a field	fessional St ional staff (inclu if is defined as that is part of the Black or African	aff: Employ uding partners CPAs, prospec ne practice of p	during 2007 ctive CPAs, are public account Asian/ Pacific	nd others with ting.) American Indian/ Alaska	ı a similar

	indicate the nuned during 2006 b				in your firm v		ninated o
Male		White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian/ Pacific Islander	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other
Female							
Total	=	=					
		Profess	sional Staff:	Who Are C	PAs?		
	indicate the nu of 2007 by geno	mber of CPAs	among the pro	ofessional stat		artners) emp	loyed in
firm as	of 2007 by gend	mber of CPAs	among the pro	ofessional stat		artners) emp American Indian/ Alaska Native	loyed in
	of 2007 by gend	mber of CPAs der and by ethni	among the process among the pr	ofessional staf	f (including page of the following page) Asian/ Pacific	American Indian/ Alaska	•

Page 4 of 6

			<u>Professi</u>	onal Staff:	Who Are Pa	artners			
	ease indicate the ender and by eth			among the pro	ofessional staf	f employed in	your firm dur	ing 2007 by	
Male Femal Total	e] =	White	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian/ Pacific Islander	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other	
			<u>!</u>	Experience	d Recruits				
the	the total number e same as the need at above enti	umber e	employed du			-			
	☐ Highe ☐ The sa ☐ Lower	ame							
	the total hires - present experier			xperienced rec	ruits likely to b	oe employed i	n 2007, what	percentage	
				<u>Demar</u>	nd Forecast	<u> </u>			
20. Th	e following ques	tions wi	II help us est	imate the prac	ticing professi	on's need for	CPAs.		
	Comparing 20	08 to 20	07:						
	Will the numbe ☐ Hig		v accounting The sa		ır firm hires be ₋ower) ercentage:	%	
	Will the numbe		v non-accour		s your firm hire Lower		one) ercentage:	%	
	Will the total n ☐ Hig		of CPAs in yo		oose one) Lower	By what pe	ercentage:	%	
						Page 5	of 6		

<u>Backgr</u>	ound Information
	r-owned is defined as majority ownership by those of Black or tive, or Asian/Pacific Islander races or of Hispanic or Latino
	tions, please remember to provide the following (optional) you, in addition to the Managing Partner or Human Resources
First Name:	Last Name:
Phone:	
Email Address:	
Comments/Suggestions concerning the survey. Please provide us with any other ideas, thoughts and/or suggestions regarding this survey. What should we ask on this survey that you think would be viable and that we are currently not asking? What information is irrelevant that we are currently asking you to provide?	
	<u>-</u>
Thank you very much for your time and cooperation in completing this questionnaire.	

Page 6 of 6

