

Nursing Data Review
Academic Year 2005-2006

Baccalaureate, Associate Degree, and Diploma Programs

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New York, NY 10006

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We are also extremely grateful to Susan K. Fairchild, who not only performed the computational gymnastics required to generate the working data files, graphs, and tables used in this report, but also provided considerable methodological expertise and collegial support at key moments in the research process.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge the following members of the NLN staff: Adefunke Faly, research associate, who conscientiously organized and composed these book pages, and Mario Espailat, general services coordinator, for handling its production.

PREFACE

The National League for Nursing is currently the only organization in the United States that collects comprehensive nursing education statistics from all types of programs that prepare students for licensure as registered nurses. The NLN's most recent effort to date, *Nursing Data Review, Academic Year 2005-2006*, draws on the NLN's annual survey of schools of nursing as well as previously published data book volumes to provide a contemporary overview of the 1,694 prelicensure registered nursing programs across the United States. To this end, this volume provides long-term trend data on schools, applications, admissions, enrollments, and graduations.

The National League for Nursing's public policy research program is fully independent of NLN membership and NLNAC accreditation activities in an effort to provide accurate information on all US nursing programs. Thus, nursing programs are represented in *Nursing Data Review* irrespective of their membership and accreditation status.

Nursing Data Review will be invaluable to decision-makers, organizations, and individuals interested in data reflecting the state of nursing education. Moreover, it will serve a critical role in models designed to project the magnitude of the future registered nurse workforce and help address the nursing shortage.

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JURISDICTIONS INCLUDED IN THE US REGIONS

North Atlantic

Connecticut
Delaware
District of Columbia
Maine
Massachusetts
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New York
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
Vermont

Midwest

Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Michigan
Minnesota
Missouri
Nebraska
North Dakota
Ohio
South Dakota
Wisconsin

South

Alabama
Arkansas
Florida
Georgia
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maryland
Mississippi
North Carolina
Oklahoma
South Carolina
Tennessee
Texas
Virginia
West Virginia

West

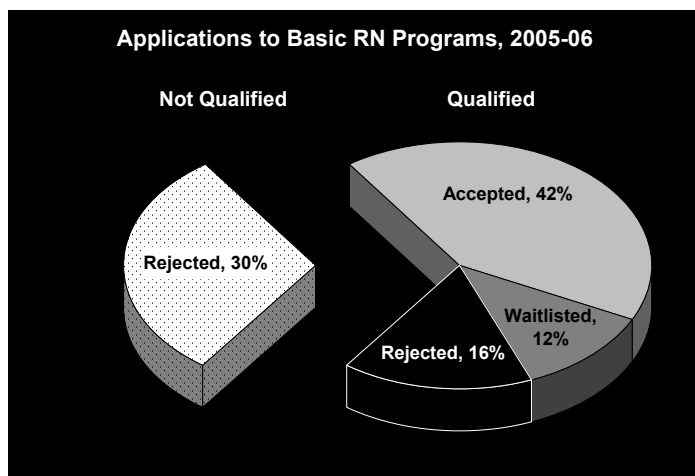
Alaska
Arizona
California
Colorado
Hawaii
Idaho
Montana
Nevada
New Mexico
Oregon
Utah
Washington
Wyoming

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As Applications Fall Off “Applicant Discouragement” Is Suspected Cause

Applications, Institutional Selectivity, and Yield Rates. Applications to all types of prelicensure RN programs dropped by 8.7 percent between 2005 and 2006. In 2005, total applications peaked at more than 347,000 in contrast to slightly fewer than 317,000 applications in 2006. Diploma programs experienced the greatest loss, more than 13 percent. For baccalaureate programs the loss was similar. Applications were down by 12.4 percent, from almost 114,000 in 2005 to less than 100,000 in 2006. Associate degree programs had notable but smaller reductions in applications, from 217,000 in 2005 to 203,000 in 2006, a decrease of 6.4 percent.

Unmet Demand for Placement in Programs Persists



Despite the reduced number of applications, many factors indicate that opportunities to obtain a nursing education are still in short supply. Eighty-eight thousand (88,000) qualified applications — or one out of every three qualified applications submitted to nursing education programs this year — were turned away due to lack of capacity. Moreover, the level of selectivity of prelicensure nursing programs, while down from last year’s peak, continues to dramatically exceed that of US undergraduate programs nationwide.

Selectivity. The most commonly used measure of demand in higher education is the “selectivity rate” — also known as the acceptance rate — which is the percentage of all applicants who are accepted into a school or program. In 2006 Harvard University was the nation’s most selective college, with a selectivity rate of 9 percent. Generally, undergraduate colleges are considered “highly selective” if they offer admission to fewer than half of their applicants. Whereas only about one-third (35 percent) of US four-year colleges fell into the highly selective category, more than one-half (54 percent) of prelicensure nursing programs earned that designation in 2006. And, while the vast majority (over 90 percent) of undergraduate colleges are “less selective” (accepting more than one-half of their applicants), only 42 percent of nursing programs fall into that category.¹

Overall, baccalaureate programs accept qualified applications at a much higher rate than do their associate degree counterparts. In 2006, baccalaureate programs accepted more than 71 percent of all qualified prelicensure applications, and diploma programs accepted 74 percent, compared to only 54.4 percent accepted by associate degree programs. Compared with 2005, the percentage of qualified applications not accepted to baccalaureate programs was up slightly in 2006, while the percentage turned away from associate degree programs was down relative to the previous academic year.

¹ Hawkins, D. A., & Clinedinst, M. (2006). *The State of College Admission 2006*. Alexandria, VA: National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC). Also, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). (2004). Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). DAS Online data extraction system. [Online]. Available: <http://nces.ed.gov/dasol/ipeds/mainpage.asp>.

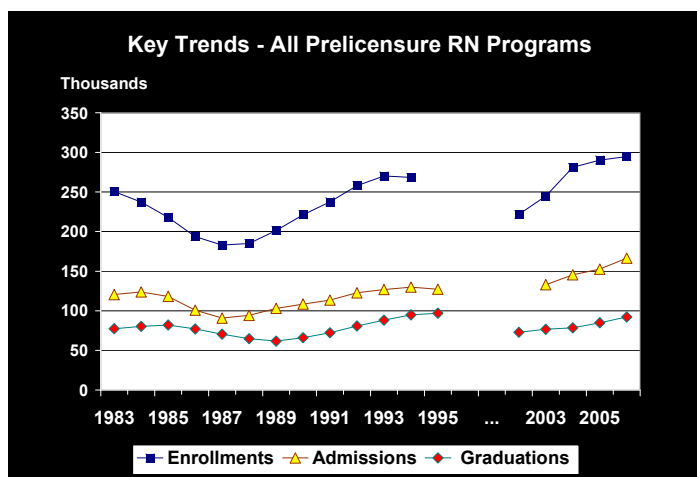
Yield. The yield rate, defined as the percentage of accepted applicants who go on to enroll, offers another indicator of demand for spots in academic programs. A high yield rate might indicate the popularity of a particular program relative to others, or can signal a dearth of alternative venues for pursuing a course of educational studies. Consistent with this year's drop in applications, after three consecutive years of extraordinarily high yield rates exceeding 90 percent, the average yield rate of all prelicensure RN programs fell in 2006 to just over 80 percent. Specifically, yield rates were highest among associate degree programs, where 86 percent of accepted applicants went on to enroll. At baccalaureate and diploma programs, on average, three out of four accepted applicants entered those schools.

While down slightly from 2005, the yield rate for prelicensure nursing programs is still extraordinarily high relative to that found among undergraduate colleges nationally. For instance, in 2006, Harvard's yield rate of 79 percent was the highest in the nation, whereas the *average* yield rate among prelicensure nursing programs was 80 percent.² Specifically, at 86 percent, yield rates among associate degree programs were the highest of the various types of prelicensure nursing programs, while at baccalaureate and diploma programs three out of four accepted applicants went on to enroll.

Admissions Rise But Rate of Enrollment Growth Continues to Fall

Nursing Workforce Supply Trends. The nation added 150 additional prelicensure RN programs between 2005 and 2006, a significant expansion. Moreover, the new programs were not simply added by institutions with established nursing schools. Rather, the overall number of American institutions offering nursing programs expanded by 6.4 percent over the past year.

Perhaps reflecting this expanded capacity, annual admissions rose by 5 percent, to 166,442 in 2005-2006. Increases were seen across program types, with baccalaureate program admissions up 12 percent, diploma programs up 9 percent, and associate degree program admissions gaining 8 percent between 2005 and 2006.



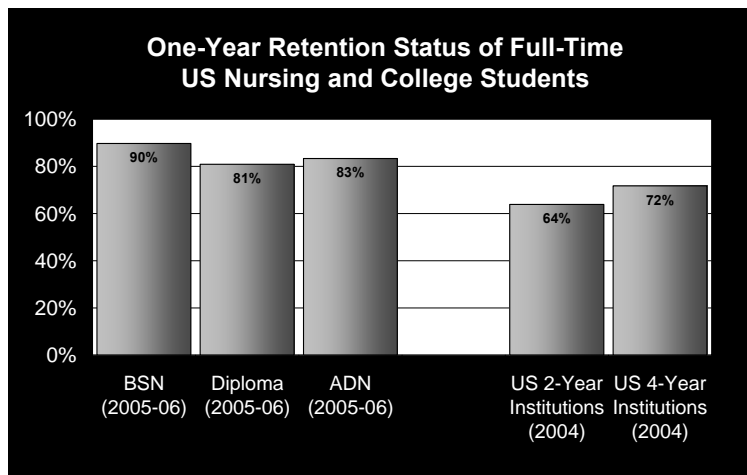
Although annual admissions increased in healthy proportions, the rate of growth of overall enrollments fell off significantly between 2005 and 2006. After growing almost 15 percent between 2003 and 2004, enrollment growth declined to only 3 percent in 2005, and fell to just half that level — 1.5 percent — in 2006.

The falling growth rate in enrollments was seen across all types of RN programs. Baccalaureate enrollments grew by only 4.2 percent in 2006 compared with 6.2 percent in 2005 — a decline of 33 percent. And

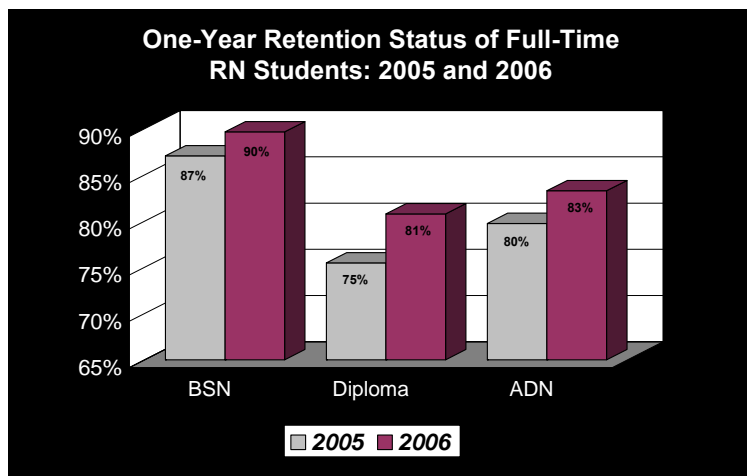
enrollments in associate degree programs were effectively unchanged from last year, registering a fractional 0.3 percent drop to 150,277 in 2006. Diploma enrollments fell by 2.6 percent to slightly under 12,000 in 2006.

² National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). (2007). IPEDS Peer Analysis System (includes four-year, non-profit, Title IV eligible colleges only). [Online]. Available: <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/pas>.

Graduations. In keeping with long-term trends, fully 59 percent of all new graduates eligible to enter the nursing workforce this year in the United States were prepared in two-year associate degree programs, whereas slightly more than one-third (38 percent) graduated from baccalaureate nursing programs, and 8 percent graduated from diploma programs. Overall graduations from prelicensure programs grew by 8.5 percent to just under 85,000 in 2006. Graduations from baccalaureate programs grew by almost 20 percent, whereas the number of associate degrees conferred grew by only 3 percent, and graduations from diploma programs actually fell by 3 percent.



Student Retention. Retention rates in nursing exceed those found in US postsecondary institutions by a healthy margin. In 2006, nine out of every 10 students who had enrolled in baccalaureate nursing programs in 2005 remained enrolled or graduated by 2006, compared with a retention rate of only 72 percent at four-year US undergraduate institutions. And associate degree nursing programs had a retention rate of 83 percent, comparing very favorably with that of US two-year institutions, which retained under two-thirds (64 percent) of their first-year students at last count in 2004.³

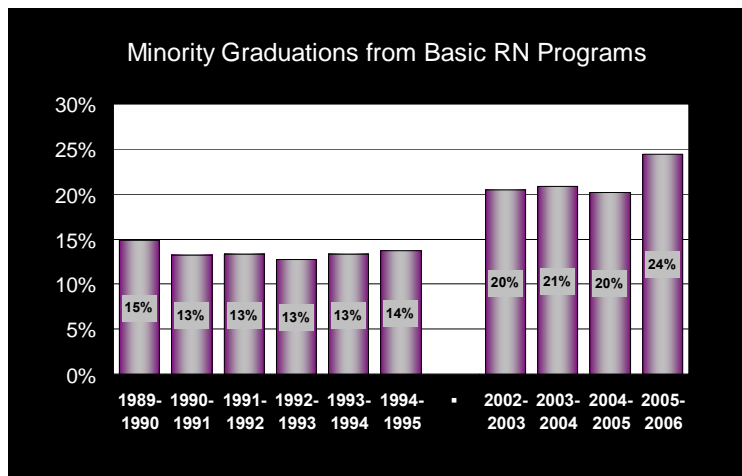


Moreover, the one-year retention status of first-year, full-time nursing students showed a very healthy increase this year across all types of prelicensure RN programs. Between 2005 and 2006, the average first-year retention rate increased 3 percent among both baccalaureate and associate degree programs, while first-year retention in diploma programs jumped a prodigious 6 percent, from 75 percent in 2004-2005 to 81 percent in 2005-2006.

Minority Graduations Jump to 25 Percent

Student Demographics. This year's Annual Survey of Schools of Nursing yields both positive and negative findings regarding characteristics of graduates from US nursing programs. On a very positive note, after three consecutive years in which the proportion of minorities entering the RN workforce stagnated at approximately 20 percent, minority graduations jumped to 24.5 percent in 2006. This increase in minority graduations was distributed across all racial-ethnic categories, each of which exhibited fractional growth between 2005 and 2006. (Asians, African-Americans, and Hispanics each gained roughly an additional 1 percent share of graduates, while American Indians gained .3 percent.)

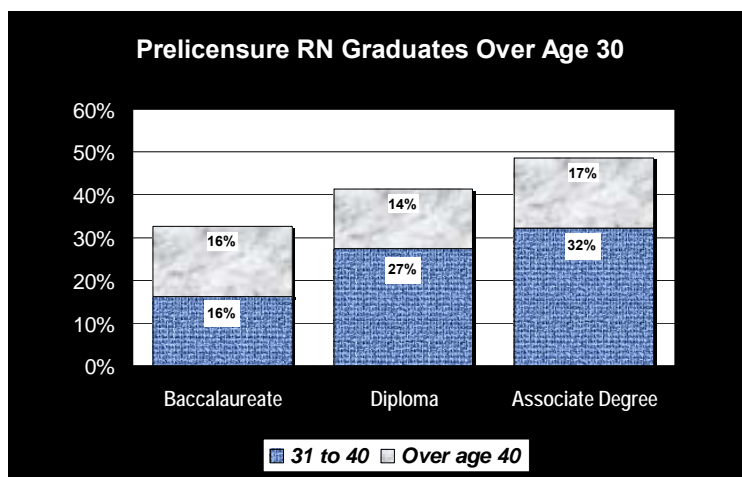
³ op. cit. NCES, 2004.



This represents an extremely auspicious turn of events from two key standpoints. First, given the need to maximize the sheer numbers of recruits into the profession, it is crucial that future candidates be drawn from the broadest possible swath of the working population. Second, research increasingly links minority health disparities to a lack of cultural competence on the part of health care providers, who often differ from their patients with respect to racial-ethnic background. This concern has been

particularly acute within the RN workforce where the percentage of minorities has been slow to increase, and only exceeded 10 percent in the last decade.⁴ Thus, if this year's jump in minority graduations marks a permanent trend, it will be welcome indeed.

On another positive note, after falling off during the dot.com boom, the percentage of men graduating from basic RN programs has exhibited a small but steady growth trend over the past three years, with men reaching just over 12.1 percent of graduates in 2006. Baccalaureate programs had the smallest proportion of men in 2006, with males representing just over one in 10 graduates. Associate degree and diploma programs, with 13 percent and 15 percent of graduates respectively, had slightly greater percentages of men.



Despite the good news, the age of new graduates represents an area of concern. Fully 43 percent of all prelicensure nursing graduates were over the age of 30 in 2006, and one in six (16 percent) were over the age of 40. While age breakdowns for new college graduates were not available in 2006, we do know that fewer than one in four (24 percent) of students *enrolled* in US postsecondary institutions were over age 30 in 2006, and that only 11 percent were over the age of 40. By contrast, the relatively advanced age of new nursing graduates

is worrisome as it indicates that, despite growth in the volume of new workforce entrants in nursing, the average RN's overall length of employment in nursing will be foreshortened considerably by delayed entrance into the profession.

*Kathy Kaufman, PhD
Senior Research Scientist for Public Policy
National League for Nursing*

⁴ US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) (2006). *The Registered Nurse Population: Findings from the March 2004 National Sample Survey of Registered Nurses*. [Online]. Available: <ftp://ftp.hrsa.gov/bhpr/workforce/0306rnss.pdf>.

FIGURES

Figure 1
 Number of Basic RN Programs by Program Type: 1986 to 1995 and 2003 to 2006

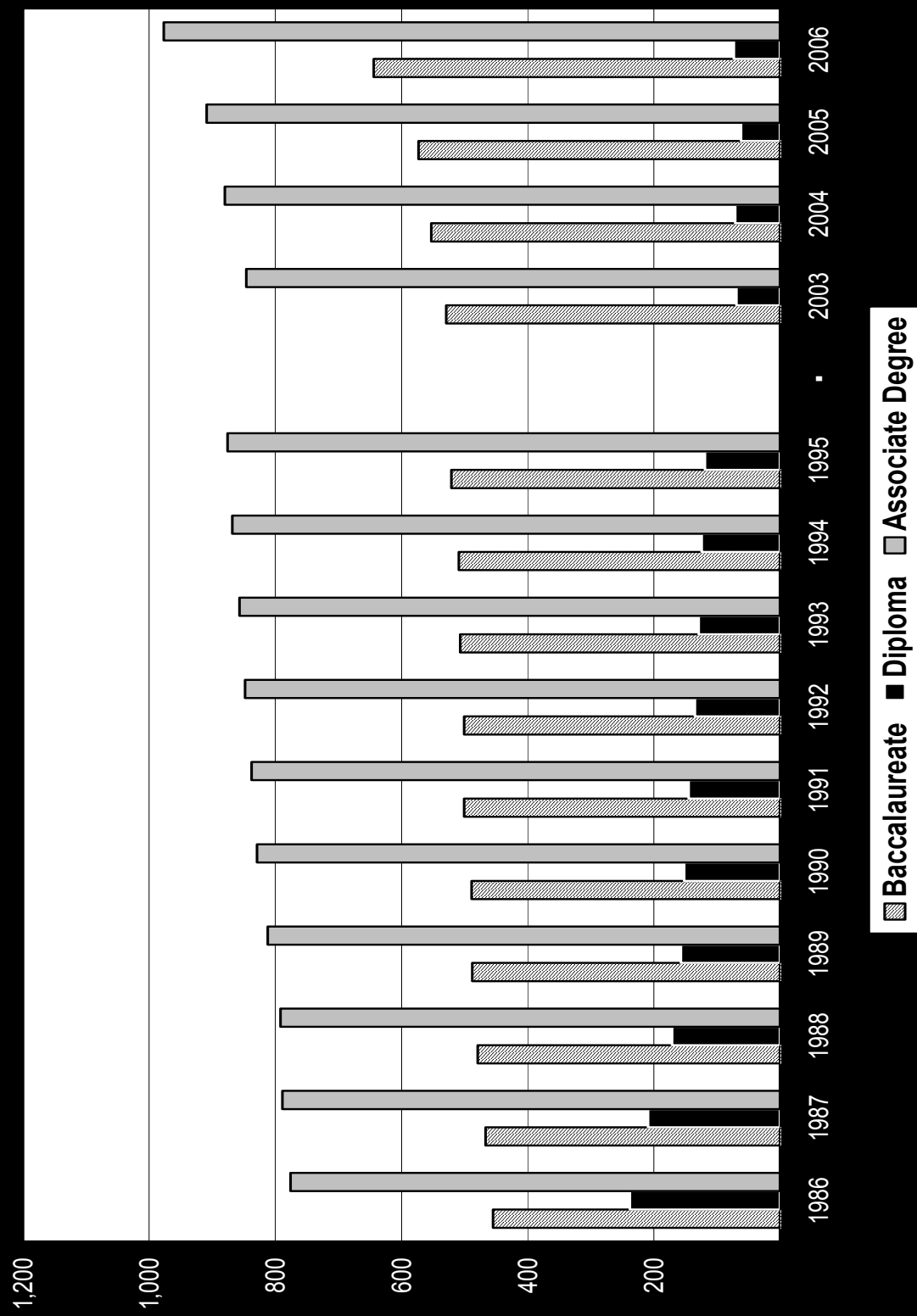


Figure 2
Percentage of Basic RN Programs by Program Type: 1986 to 1995 and 2003 to 2006

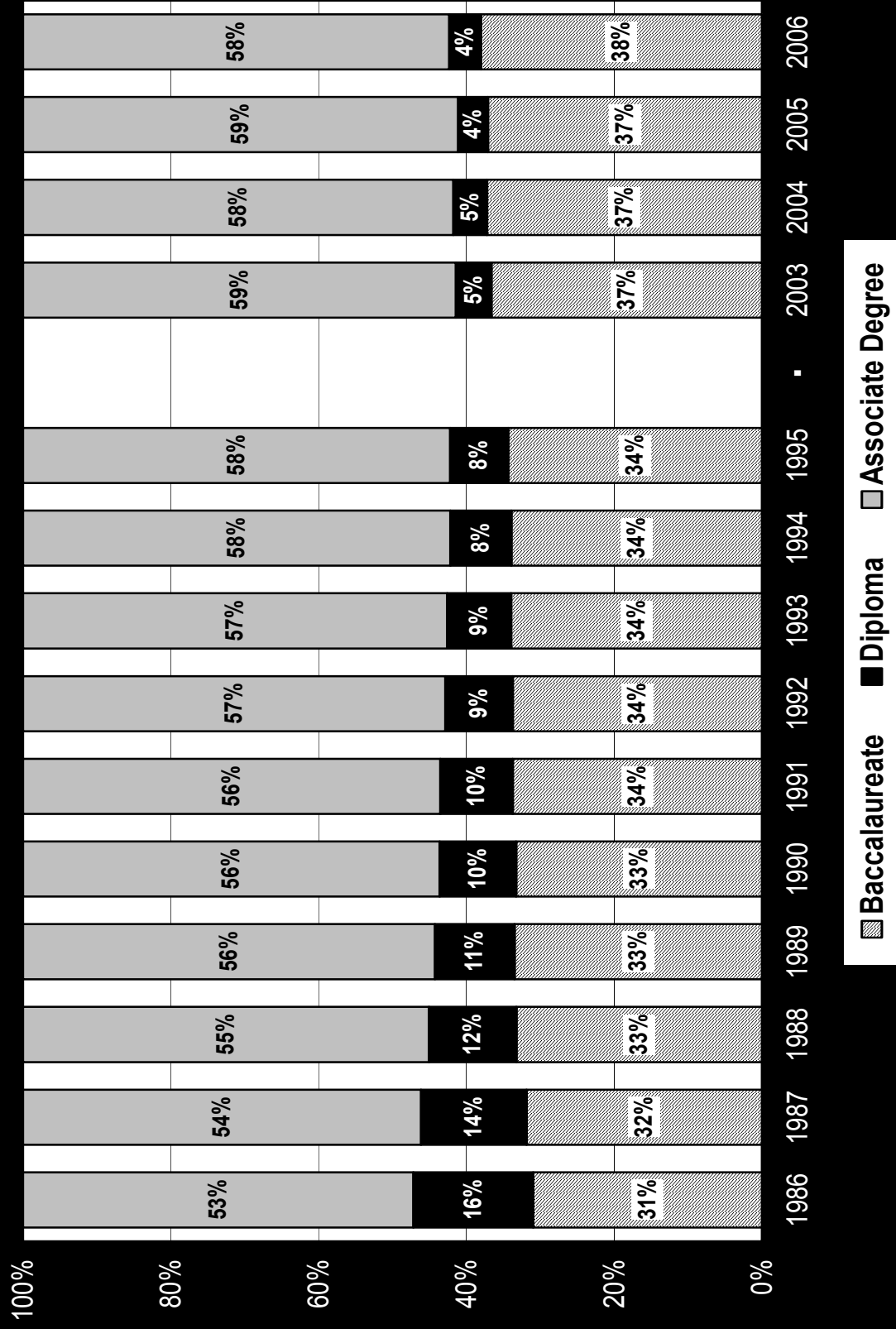


Figure 3
 Number of Basic RN Programs by Region: 1988 to 1995 and 2003 to 2006

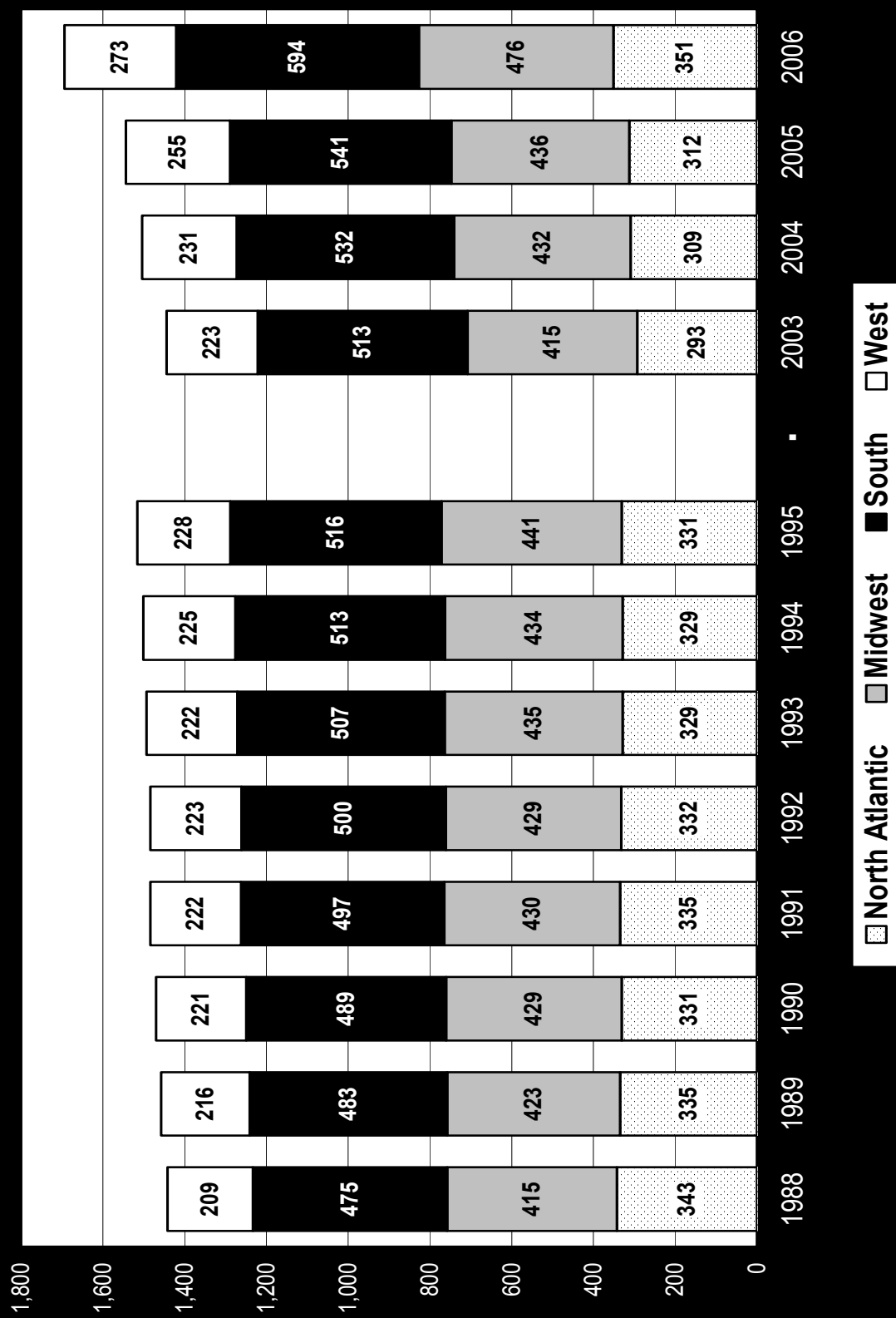
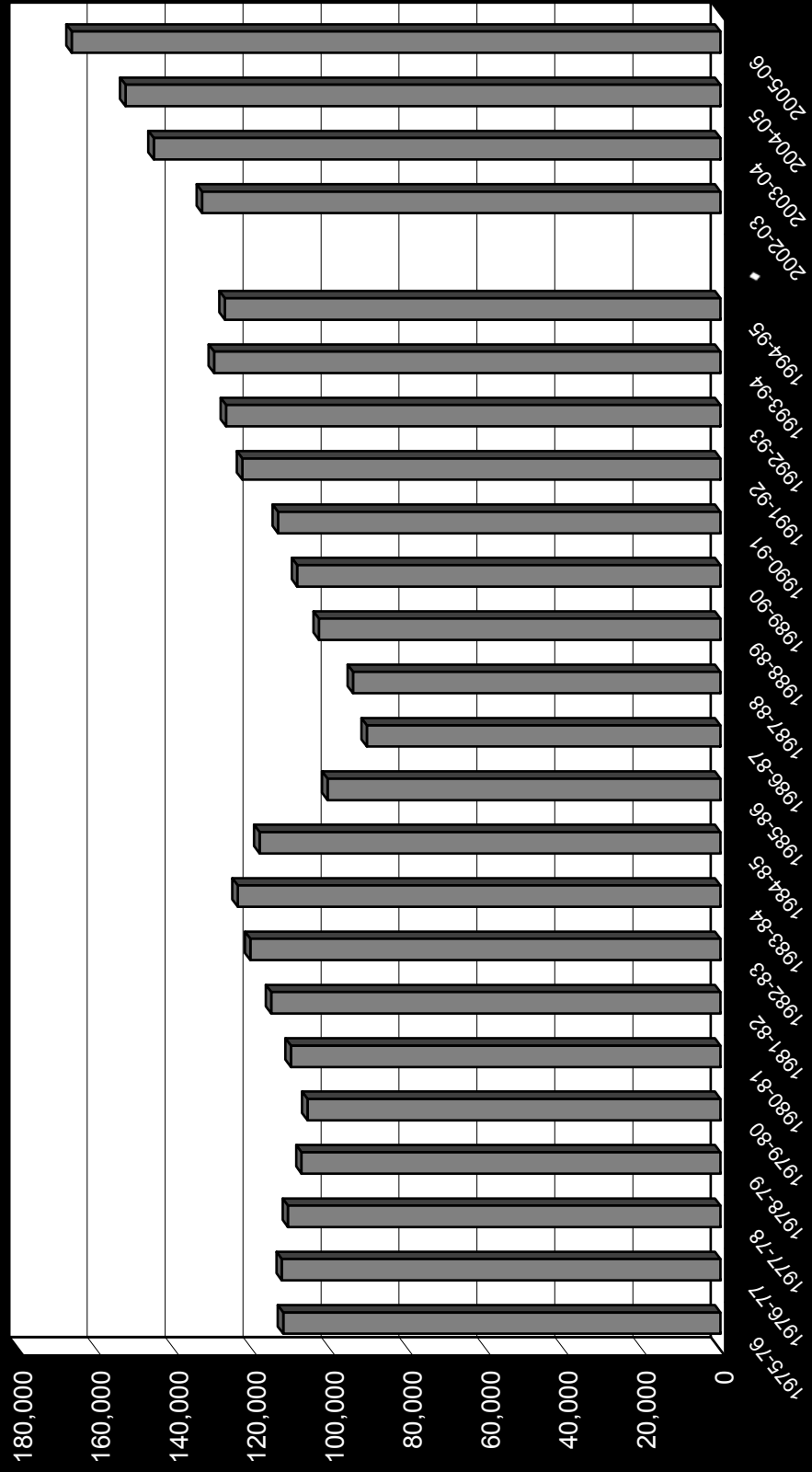
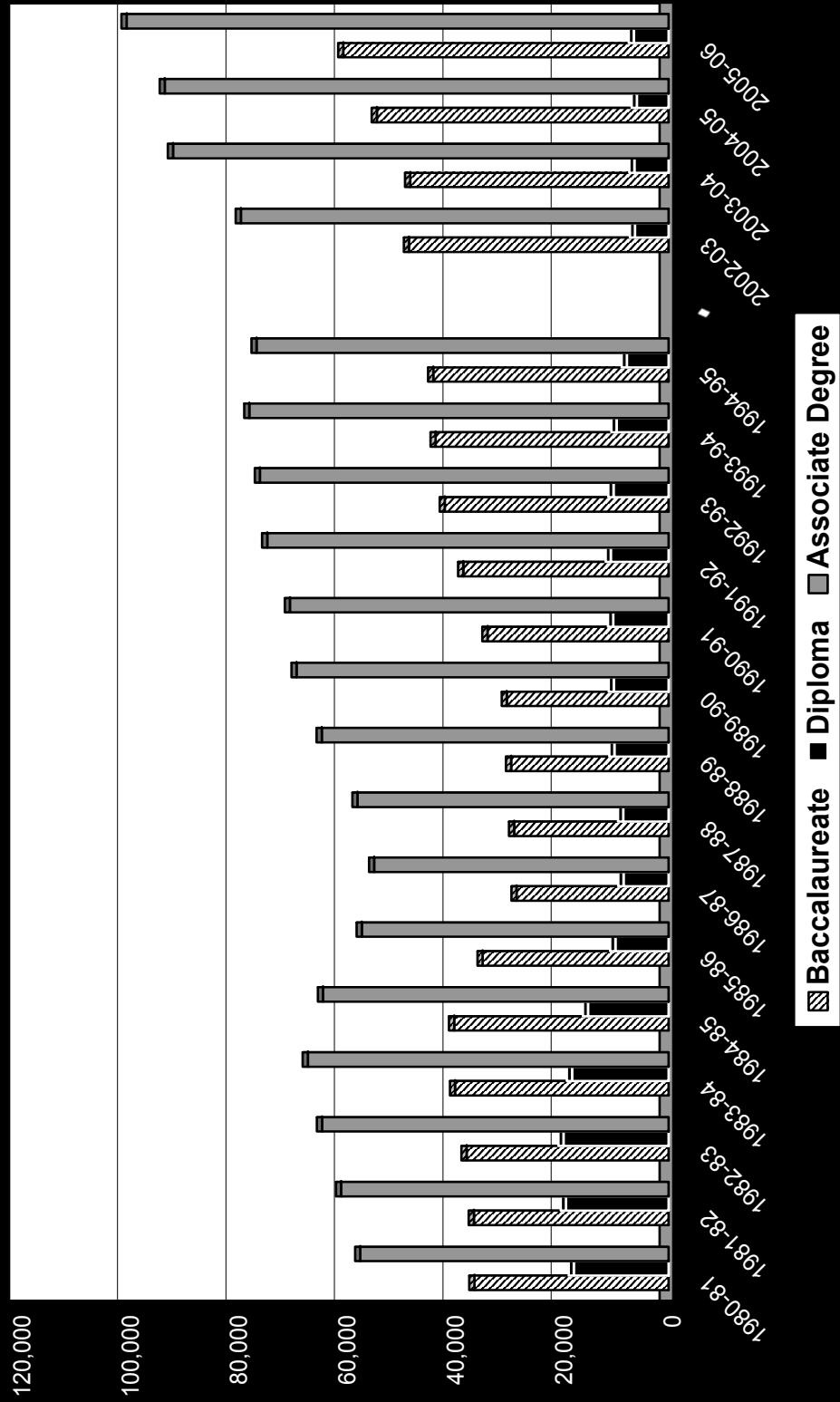


Figure 4
 Annual Admissions to Basic RN Programs: 1975-76 to 1994-95 and 2002-03 to 2005-06



* After 2001 missing values were imputed from historical records. See Appendix for methodology.

Figure 5
 Annual Admissions to Basic RN Programs by Program Type:
 1980-81 to 1994-95 and 2002-03 to 2005-06



* After 2001 missing values were imputed from historical records. See Appendix for methodology.

Figure 6
Enrollments in Basic RN Programs by Program Type, 2006

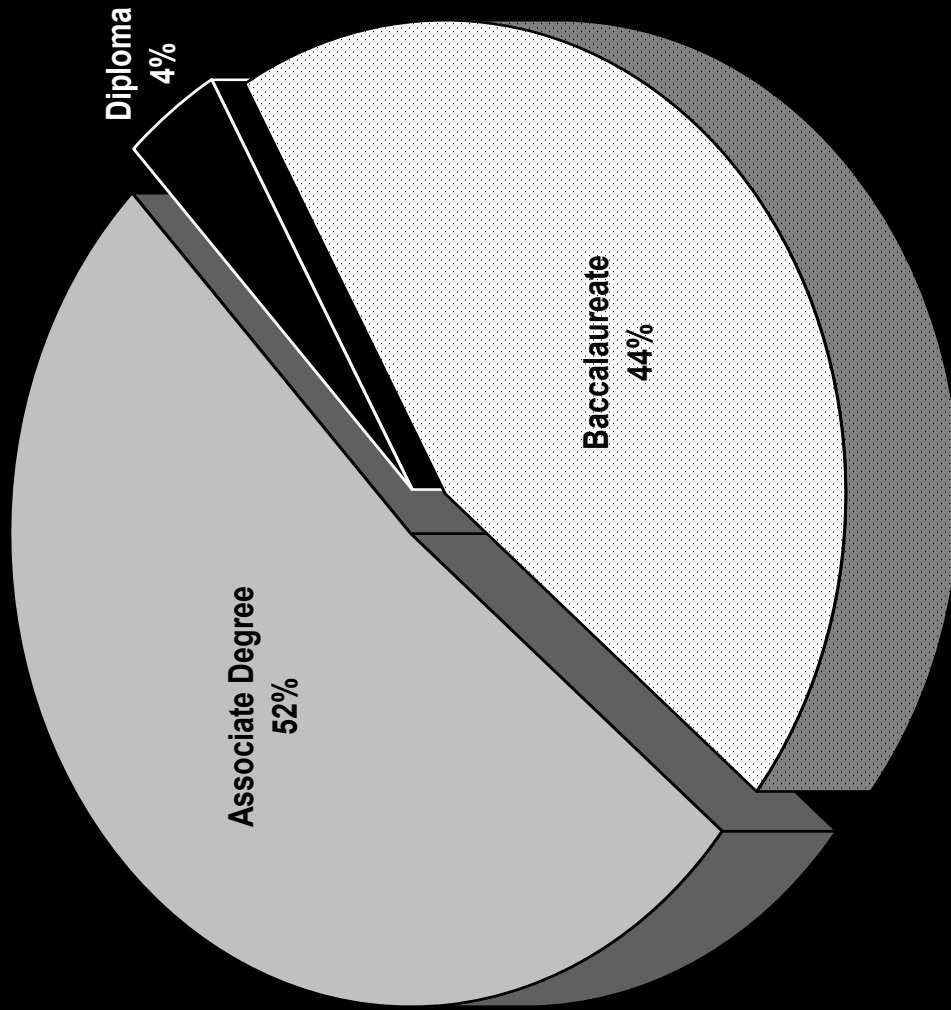
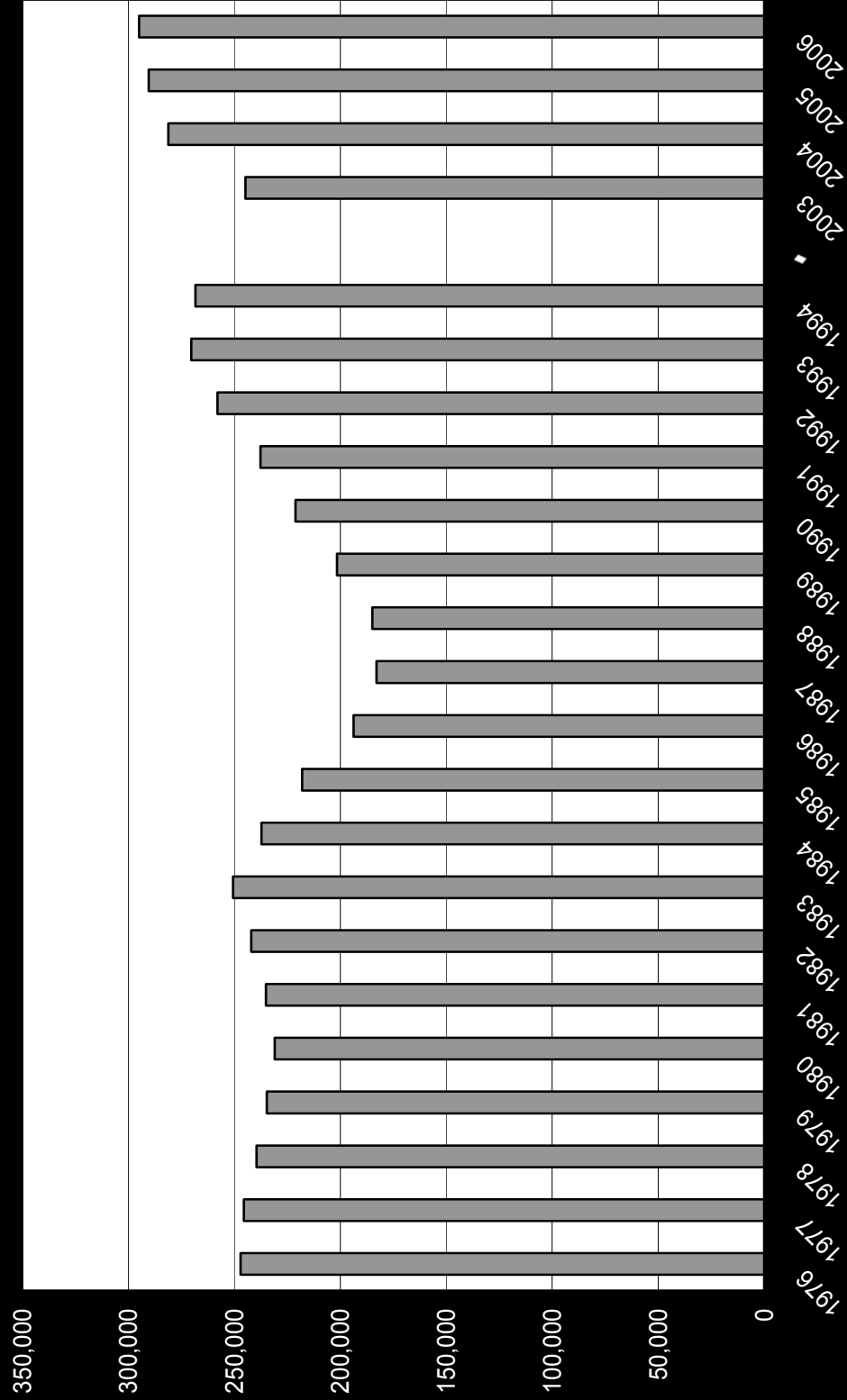
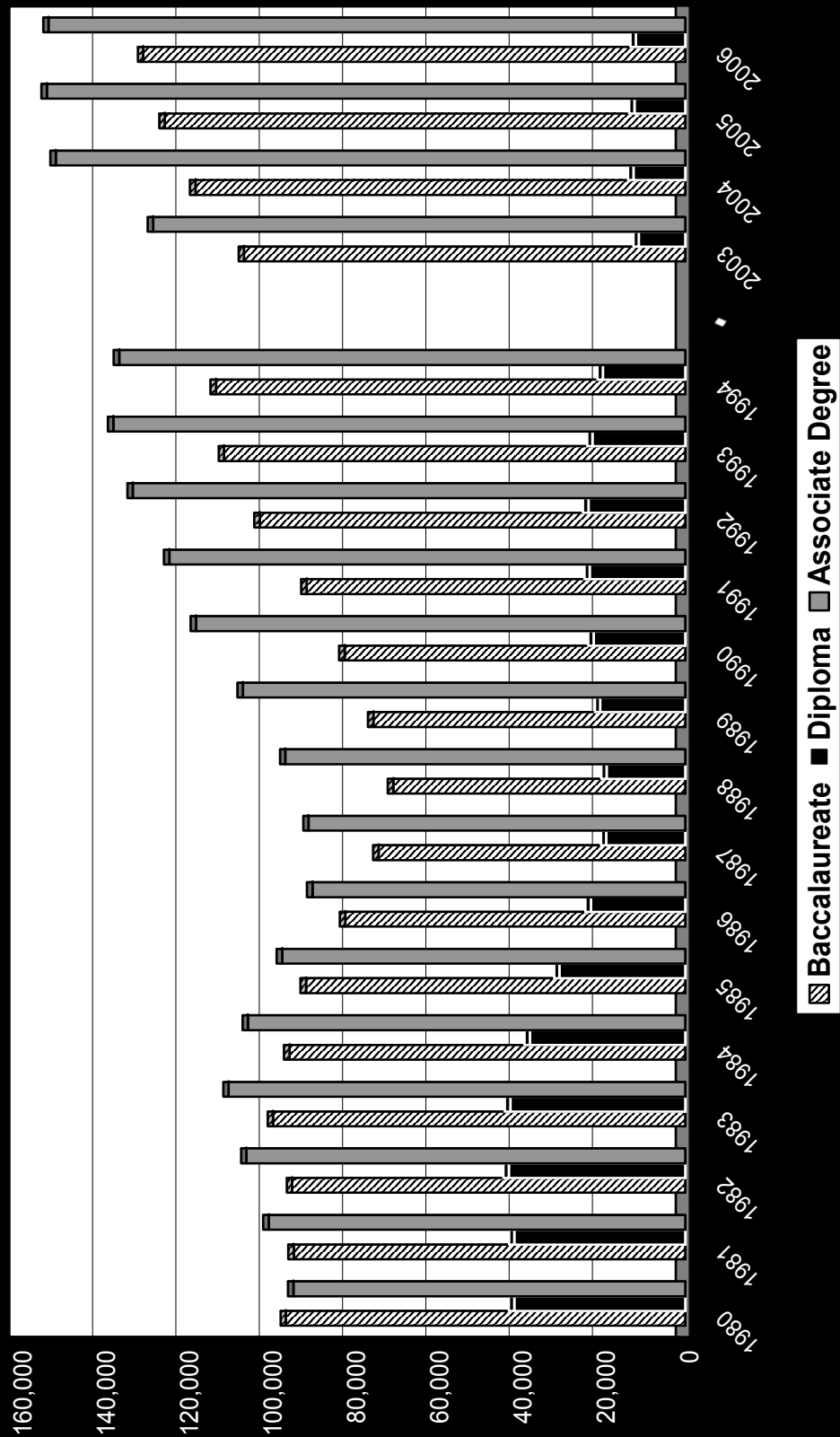


Figure 7
Enrollments in Basic RN Programs: 1976 to 1994 and 2003 to 2006



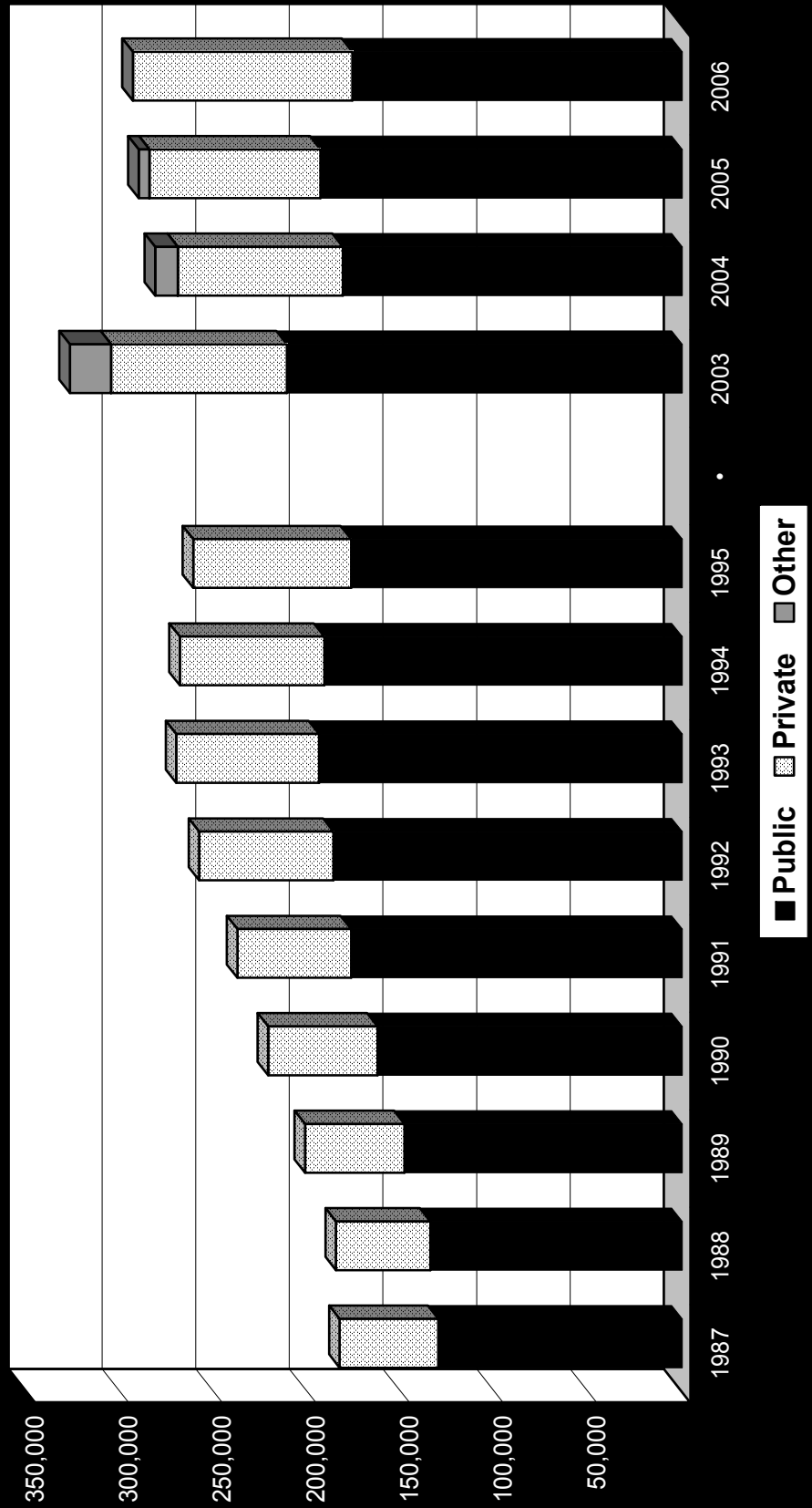
* After 2001 missing values were imputed from historical records. See Appendix for methodology.

Figure 8
Enrollments in Basic RN Programs by Program Type:
1980 to 1994 and 2003 to 2006



* After 2001 missing values were imputed from historical records. See Appendix for methodology.

Figure 9
Enrollments in Basic RN Programs by Administrative Control:
1987 to 1995 and 2003 to 2006



* After 2001 missing values were imputed from historical records. See Appendix for methodology.

Figure 10
Enrollments of Basic RN Students by Enrollment Status and Program Type, 2005-06

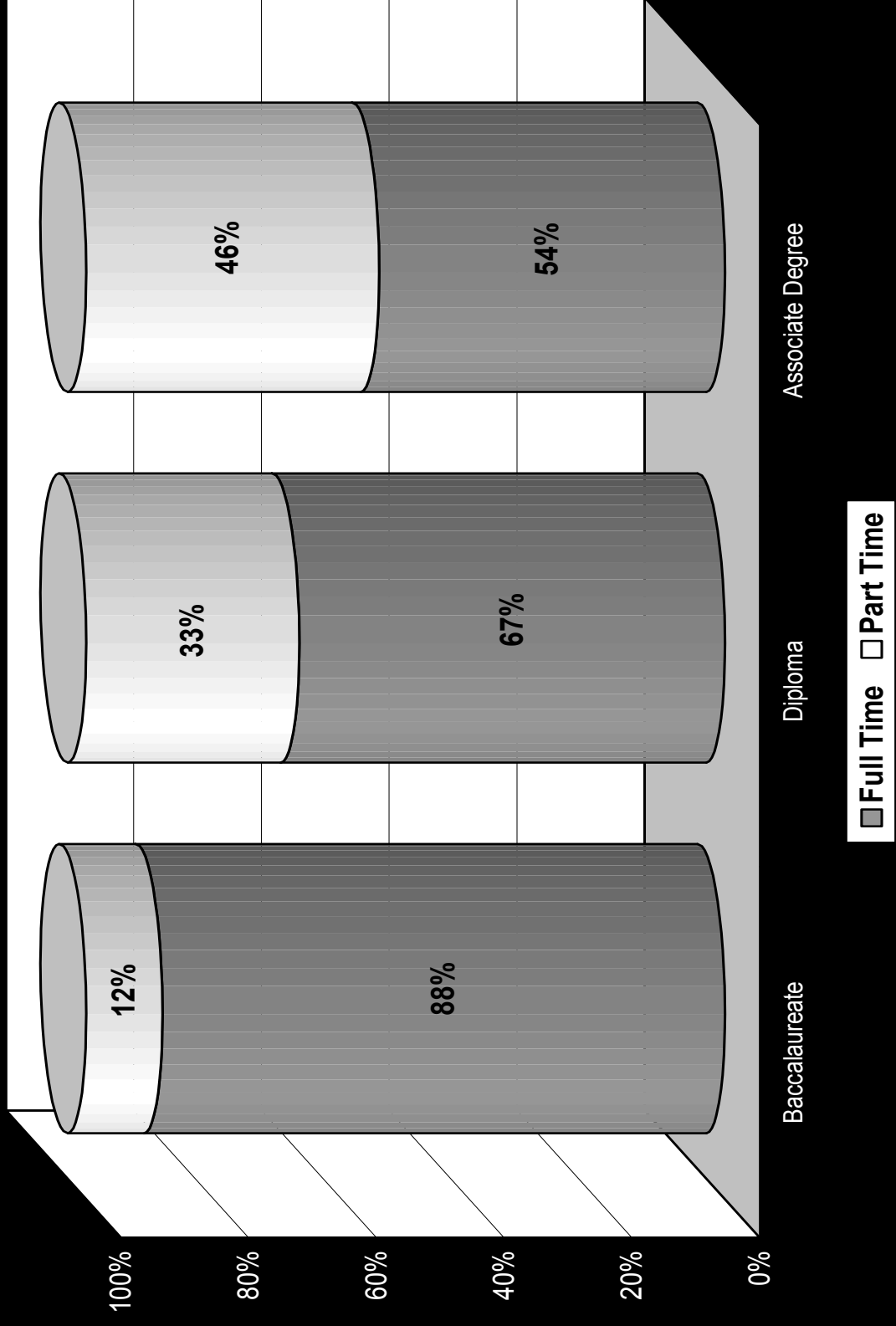


Figure 11
 Percentage of Basic RN Students Enrolled Part Time by Program Type, 2003, 2005, and 2006

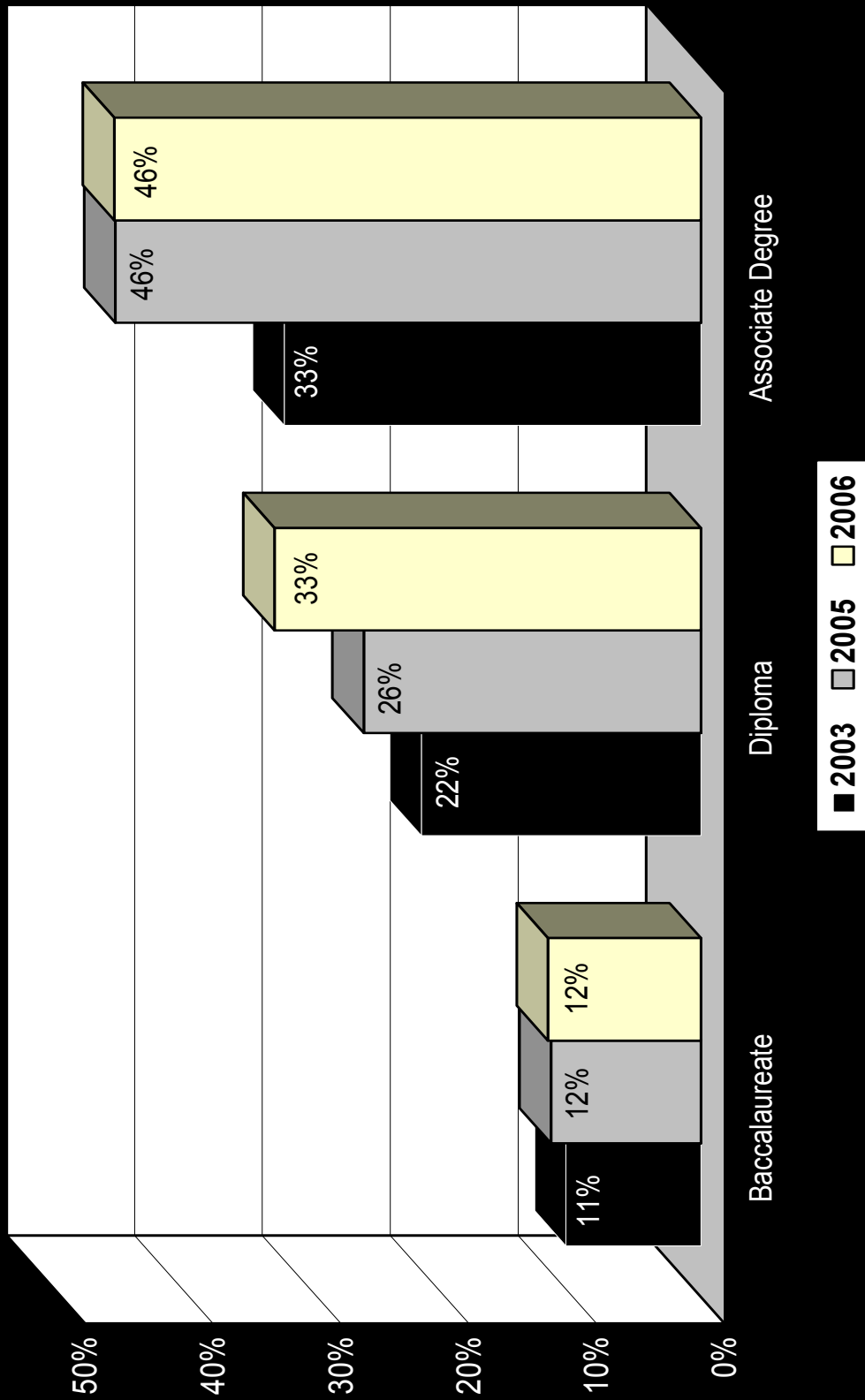
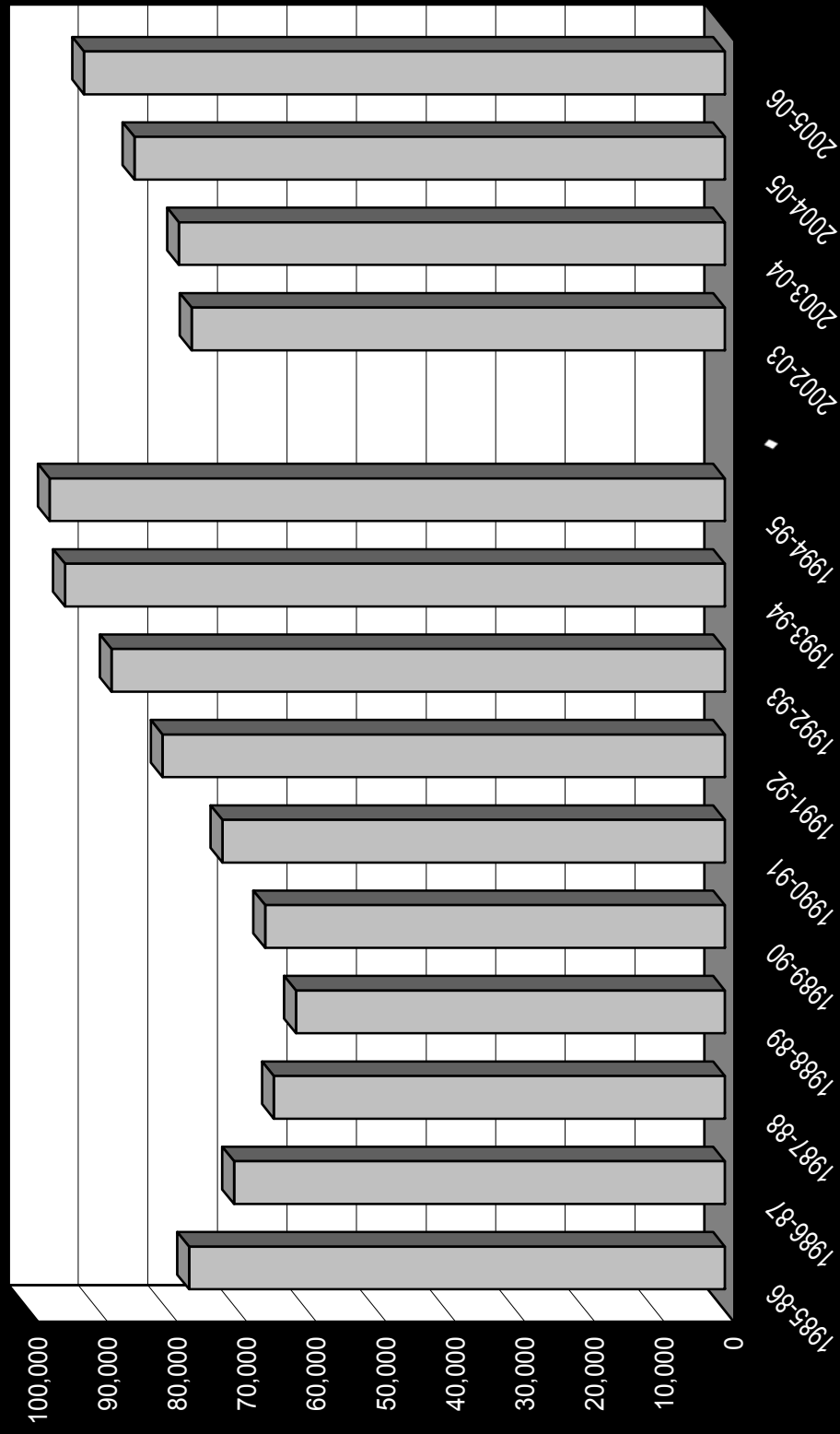


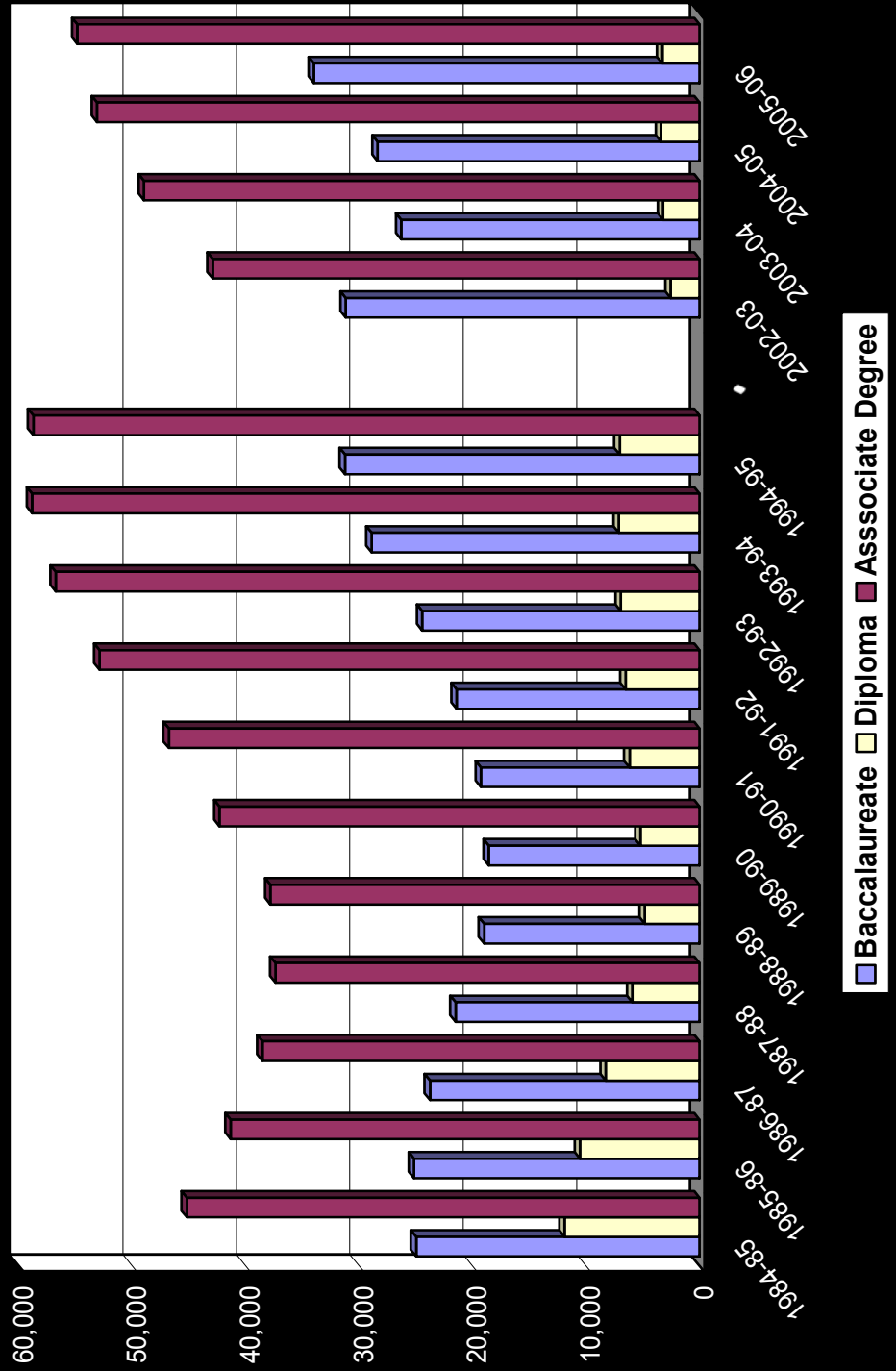
Figure 12

Graduations from Basic RN Programs: 1985-86 to 1994-95 and 2002-03 to 2005-06



* After 2001 missing values were imputed from historical records. See Appendix for methodology.

Figure 13
 Graduations from Basic RN Programs by Program Type:
 1984-85 to 1994-95 and 2002-03 to 2005-06



* After 2001 missing values were imputed from historical records. See Appendix for methodology.

Figure 14
Graduations from Prelicensure RN Programs by Program Type, 2005-06

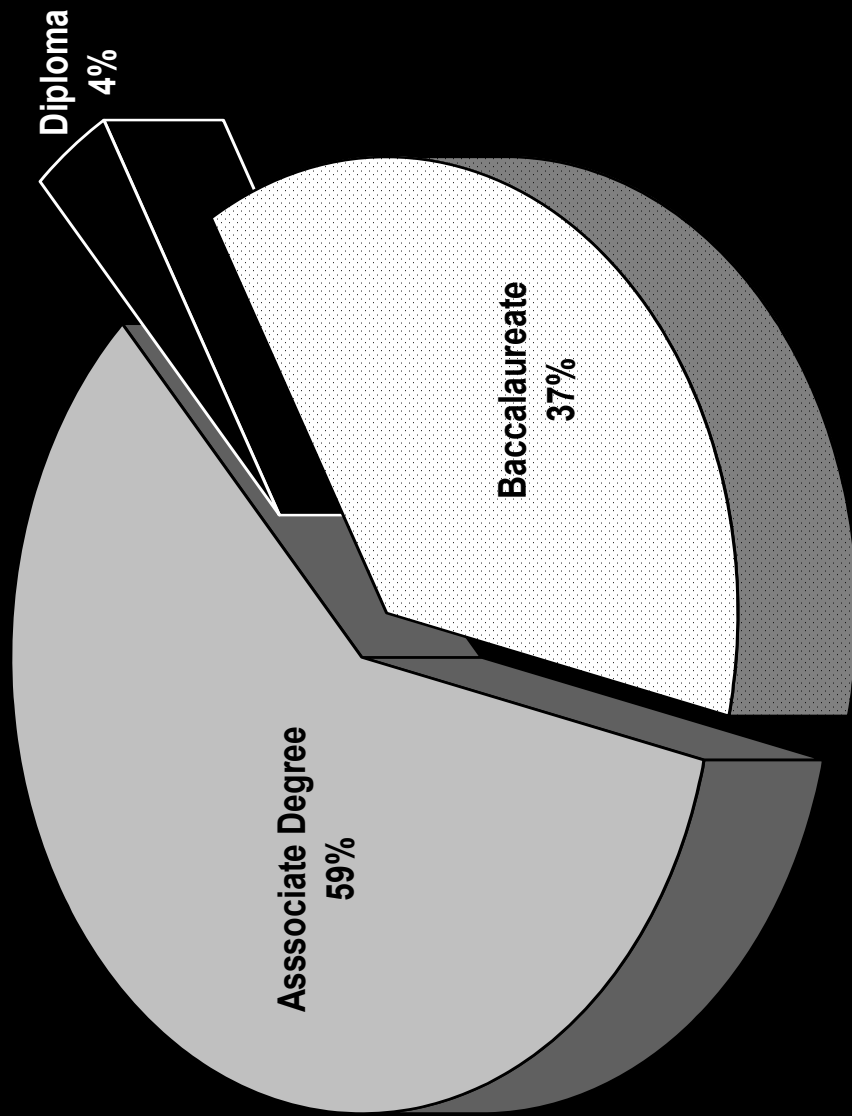


Figure 15
 Baccalaureate Programs as a Percentage of All Basic RN Programs
 and Baccalaureate Graduations as a Percentage of All Basic RN Graduations:
 1986-87 to 1994-95 and 2002-03 to 2005-06

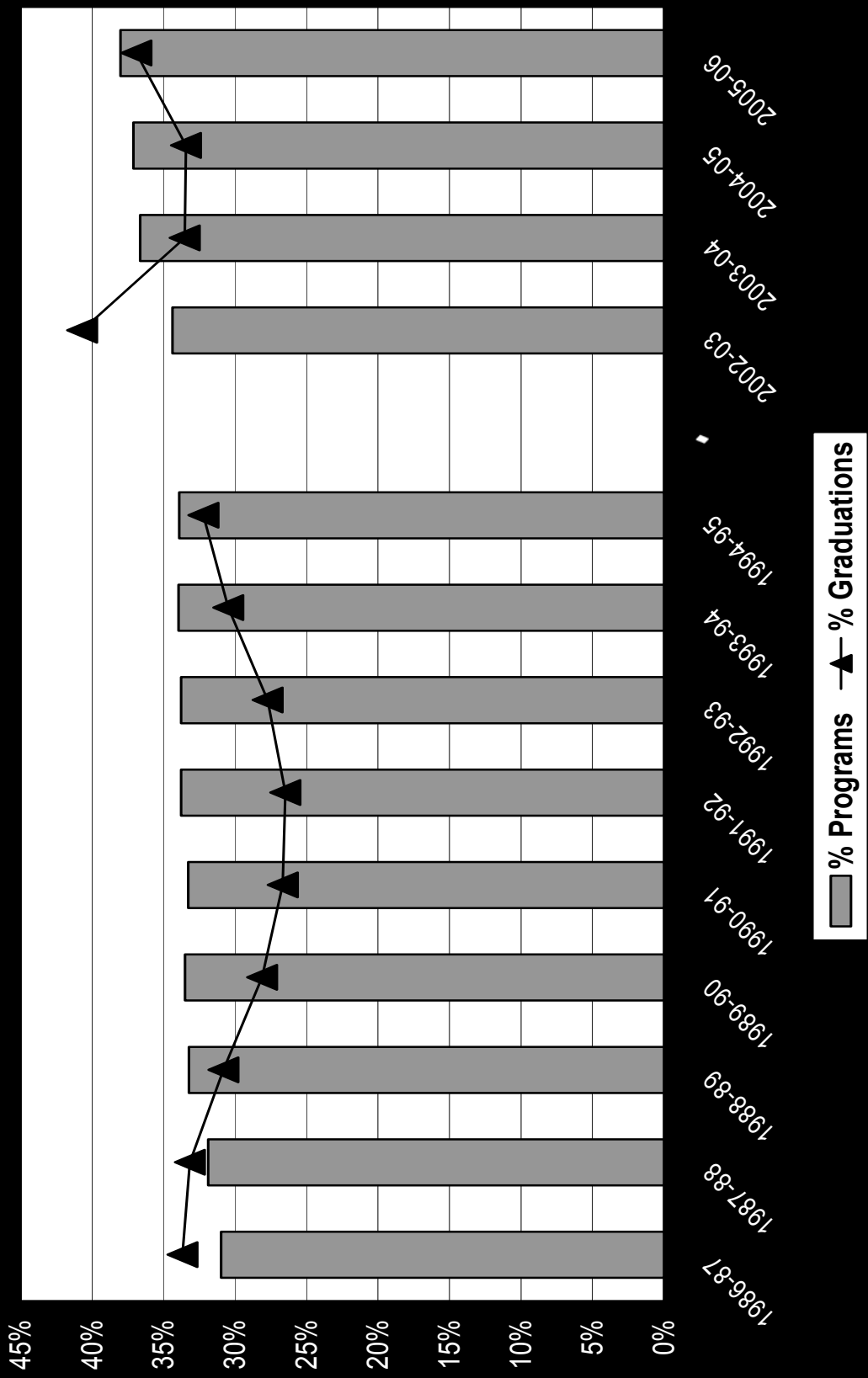


Figure 16
 Diploma Programs as a Percentage of All Basic RN Programs
 and Diploma Graduations as a Percentage of All Basic RN Graduations:
 1986-87 to 1994-95 and 2002-03 to 2005-06

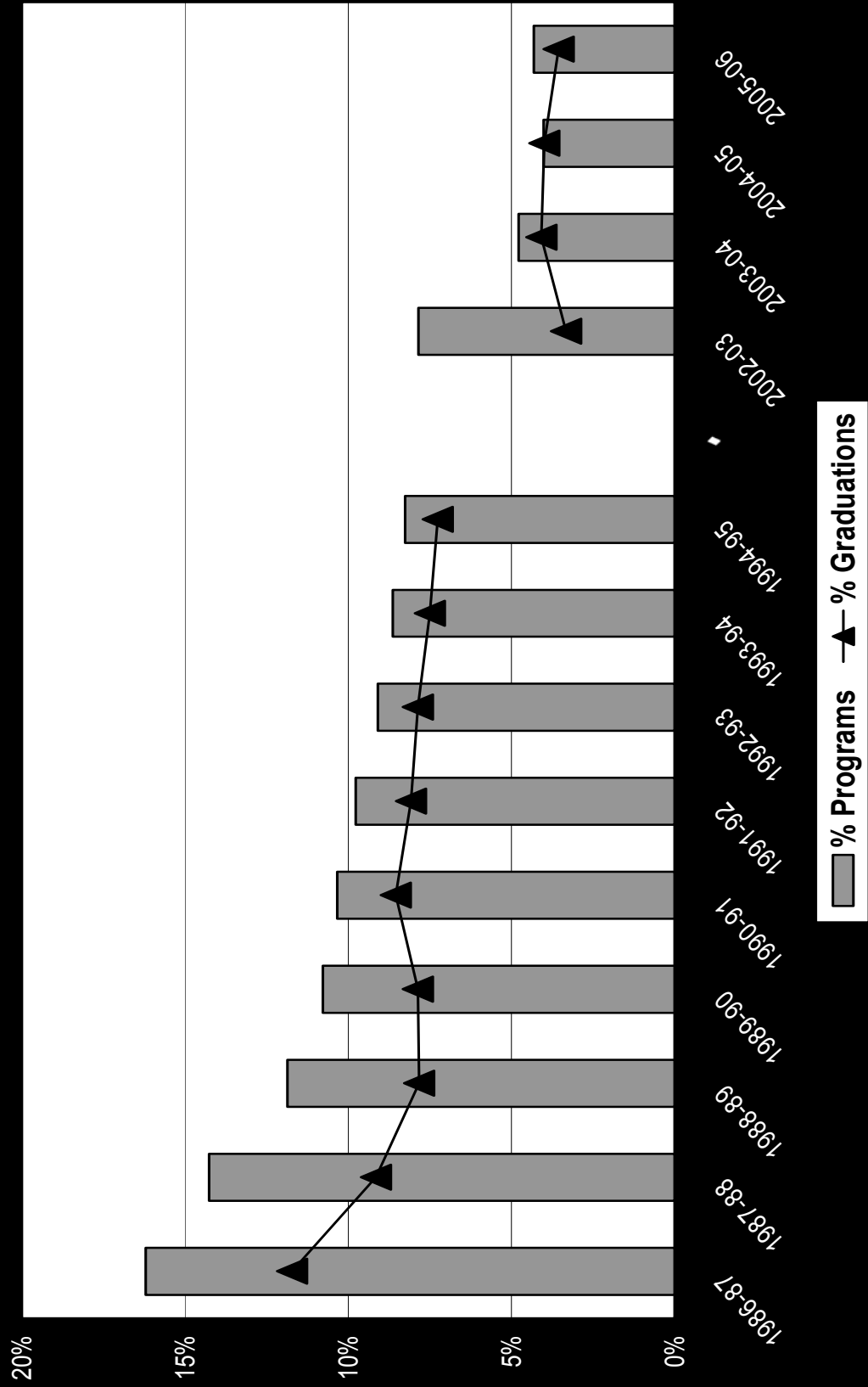


Figure 17

Associate Degree Programs as a Percentage of All Basic RN Programs
and Associate Degree Graduations as a Percentage of All Basic RN Graduations:
1986-87 to 1994-95 and 2002-03 to 2005-06

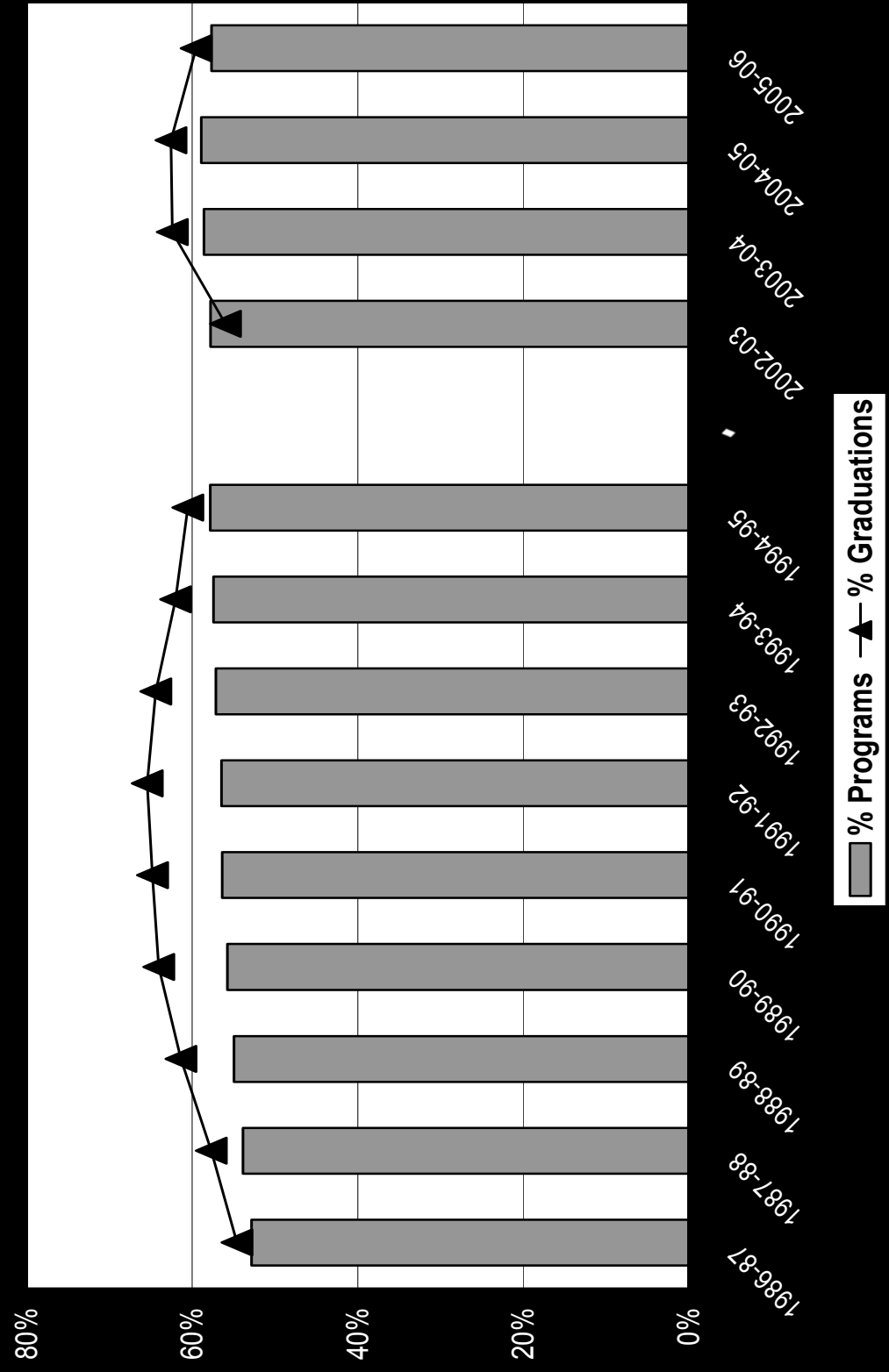
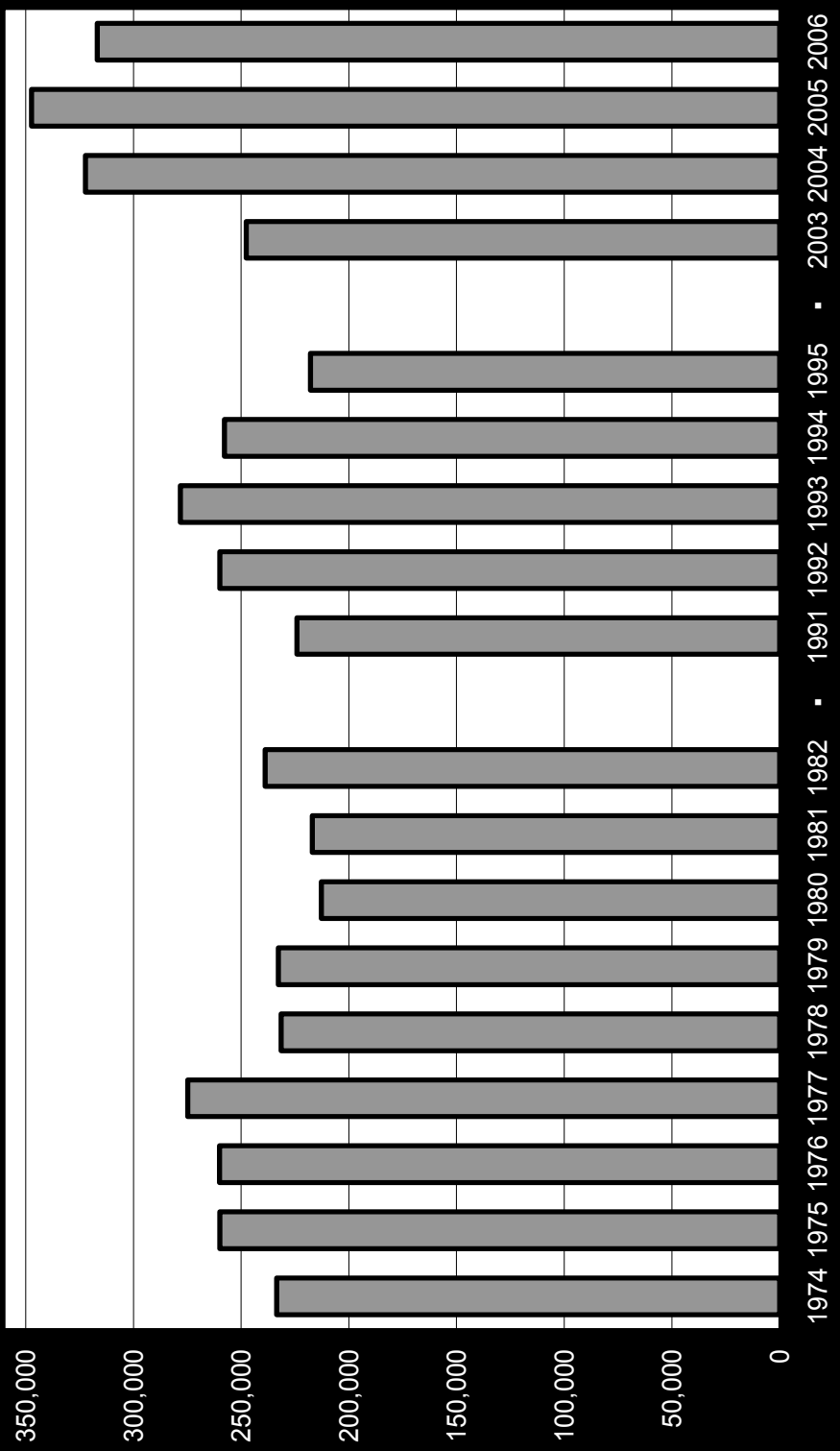


Figure 18
 Number of Applications Submitted to Basic RN Programs:
 1974 to 1982, 1991 to 1995, and 2003 to 2006



* After 2001 missing values were imputed from historical records. See Appendix for methodology.

Figure 19
Disposition of Applications to Basic RN Programs, 2005-06

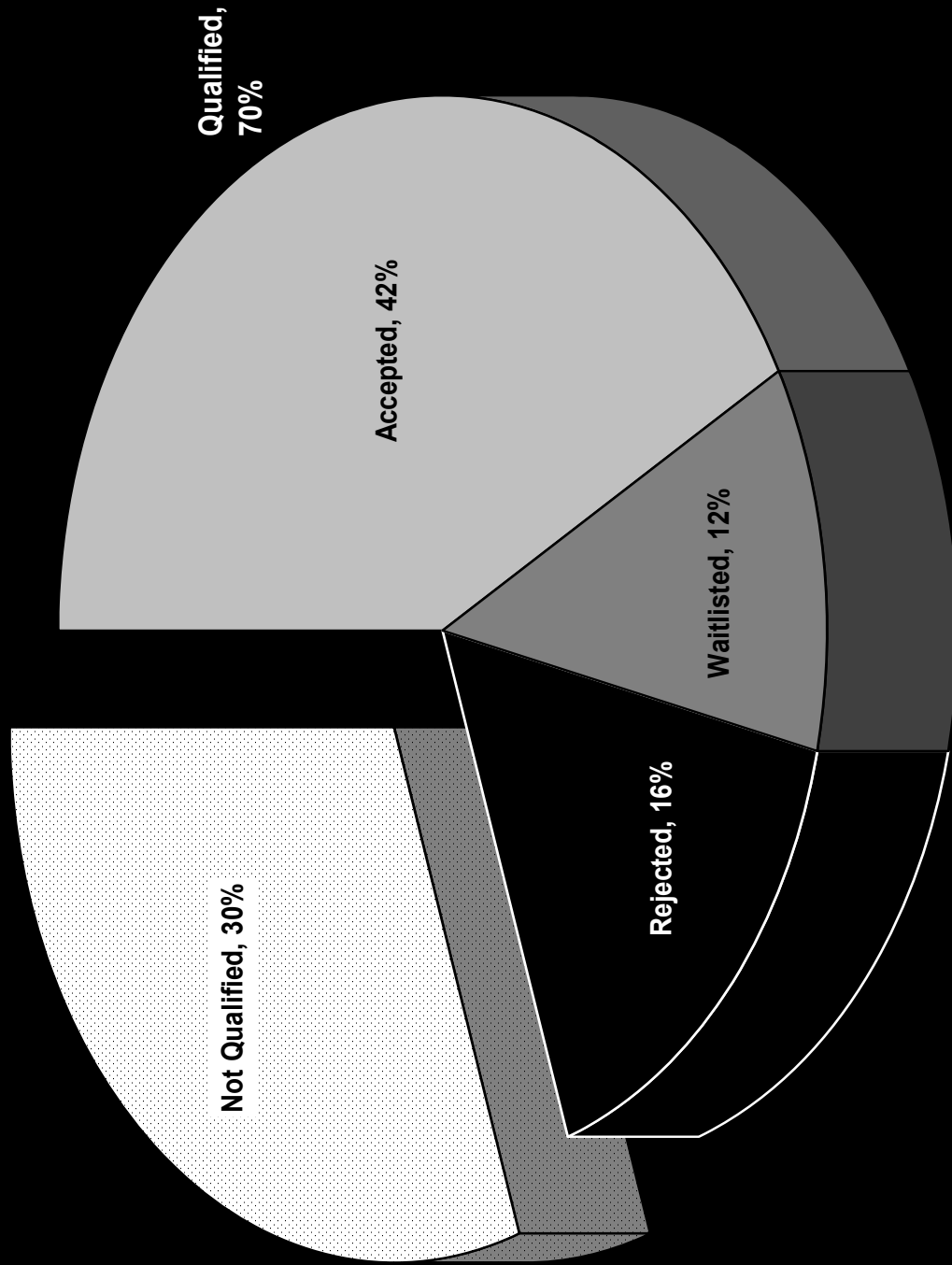


Figure 20
Disposition of Applications to Basic RN Programs by Program Type, 2005-06

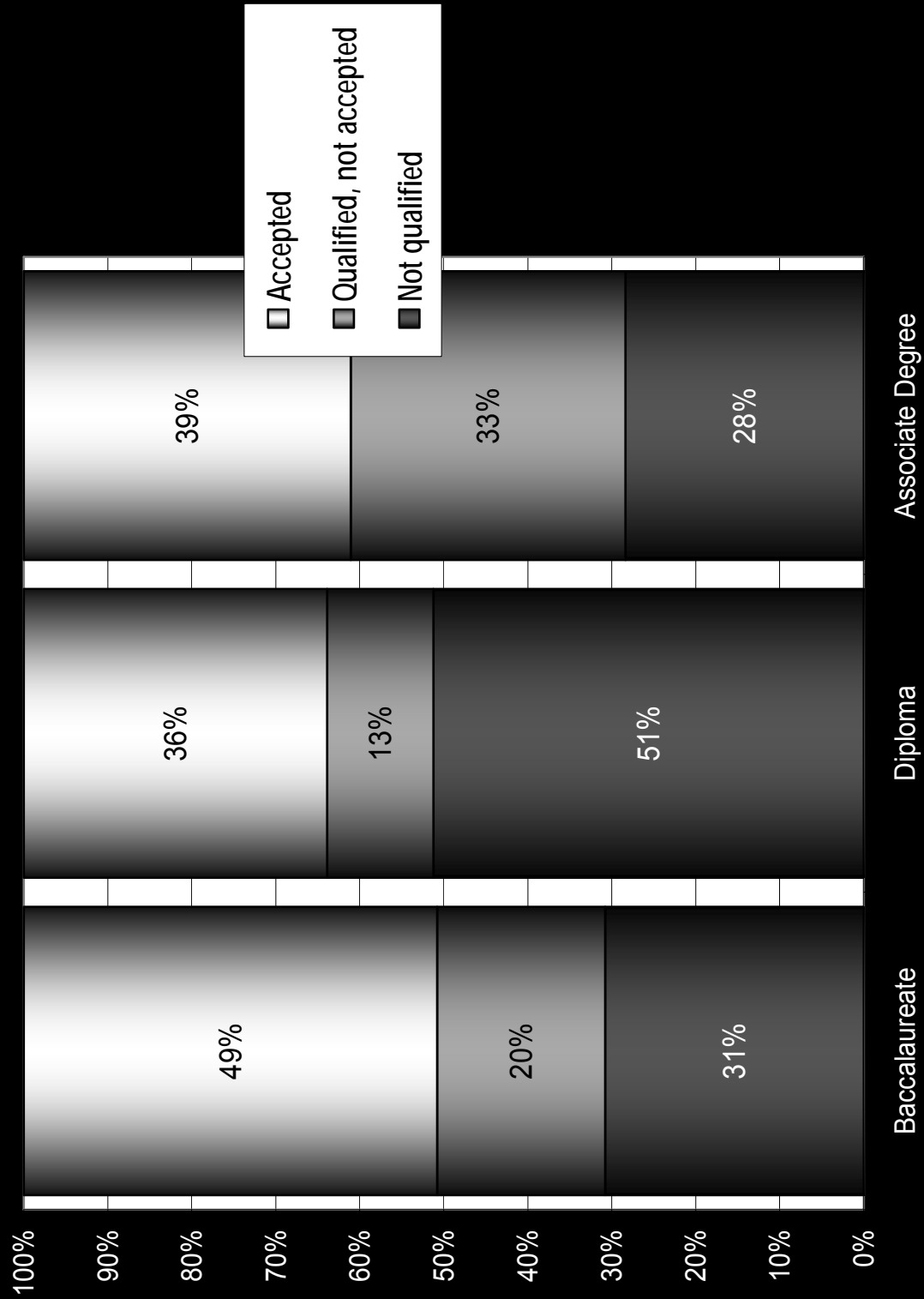


Figure 21
 Selectivity Level of Basic RN Programs by Program Type, 2005-06

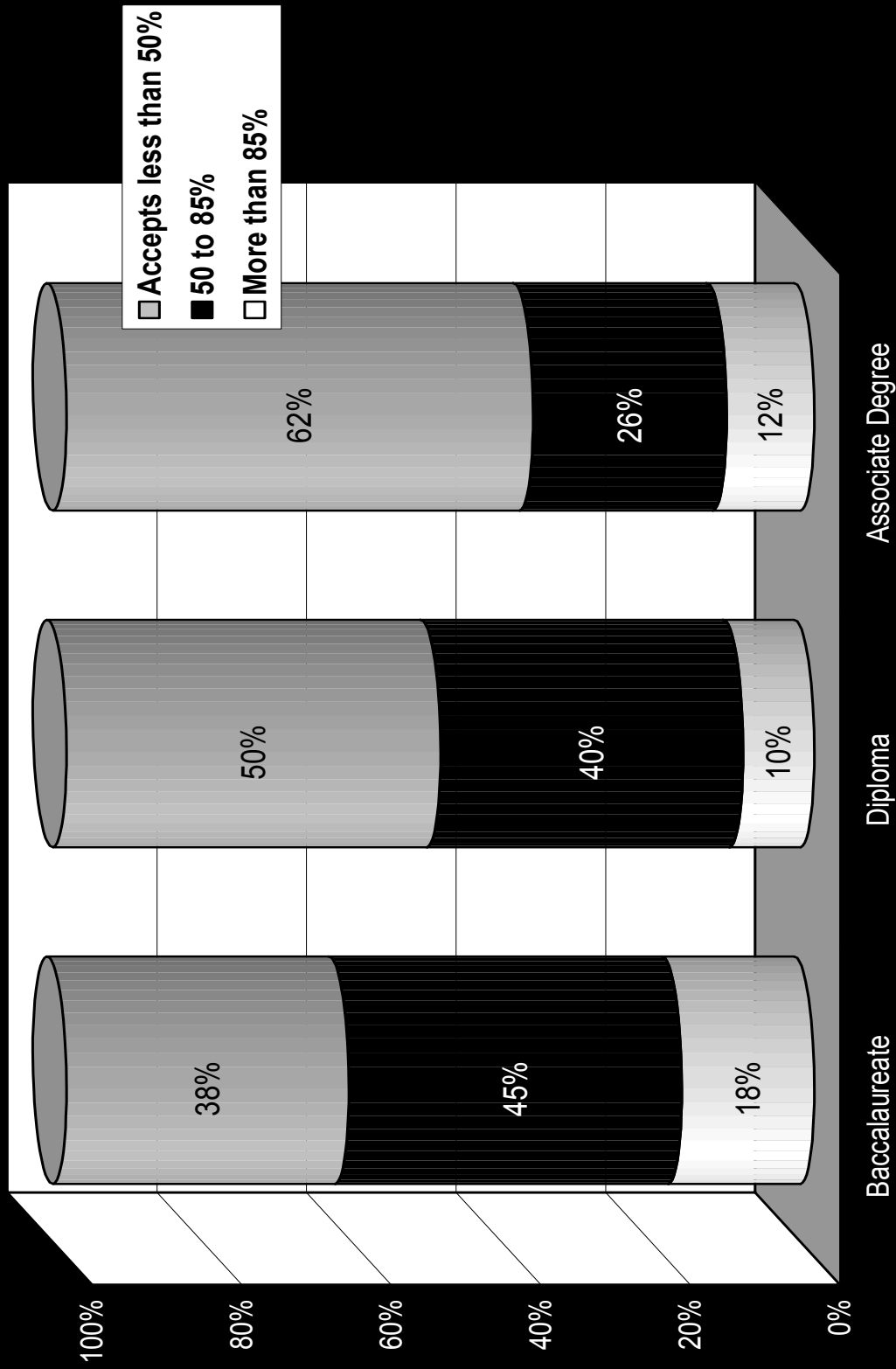
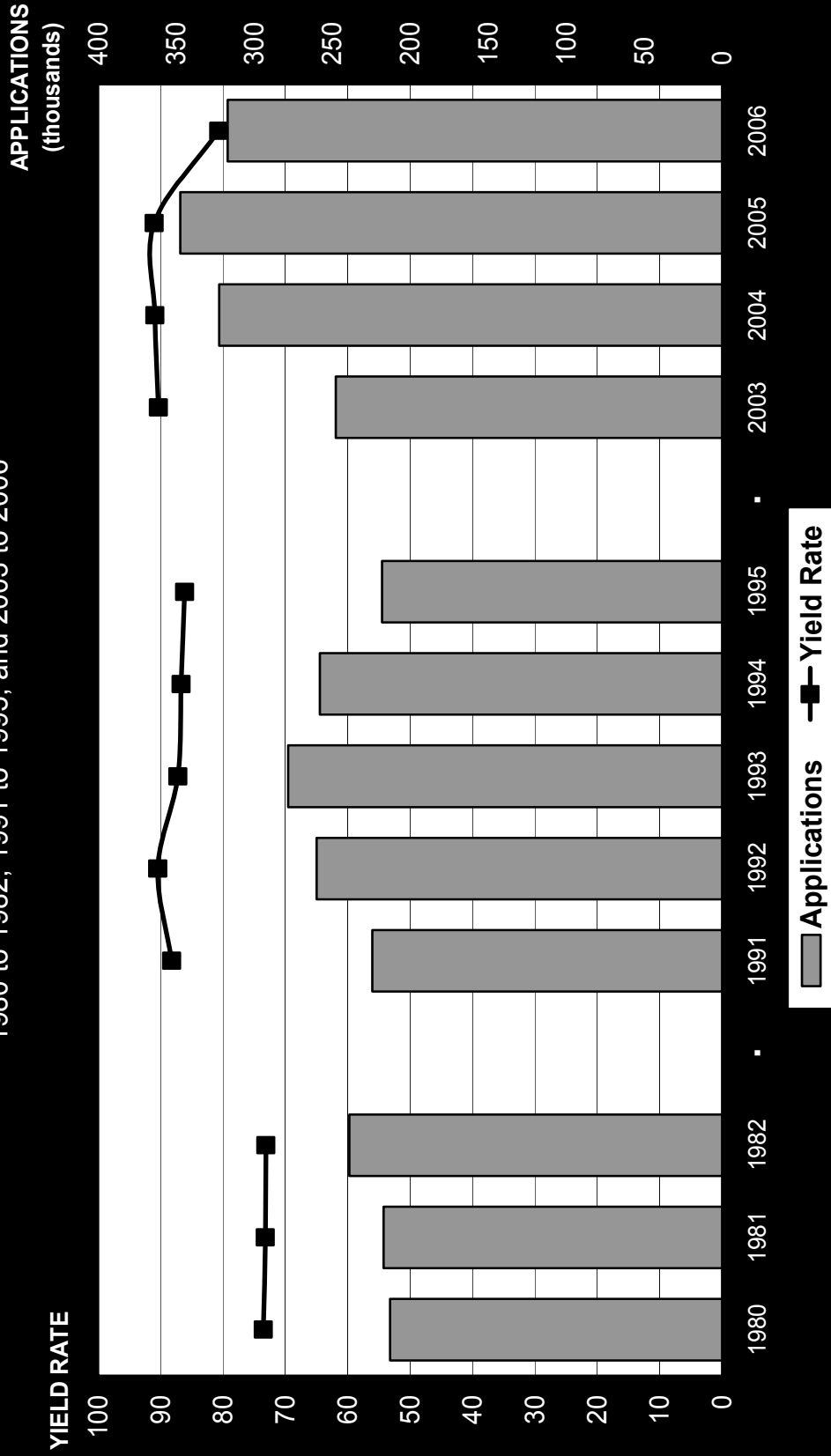
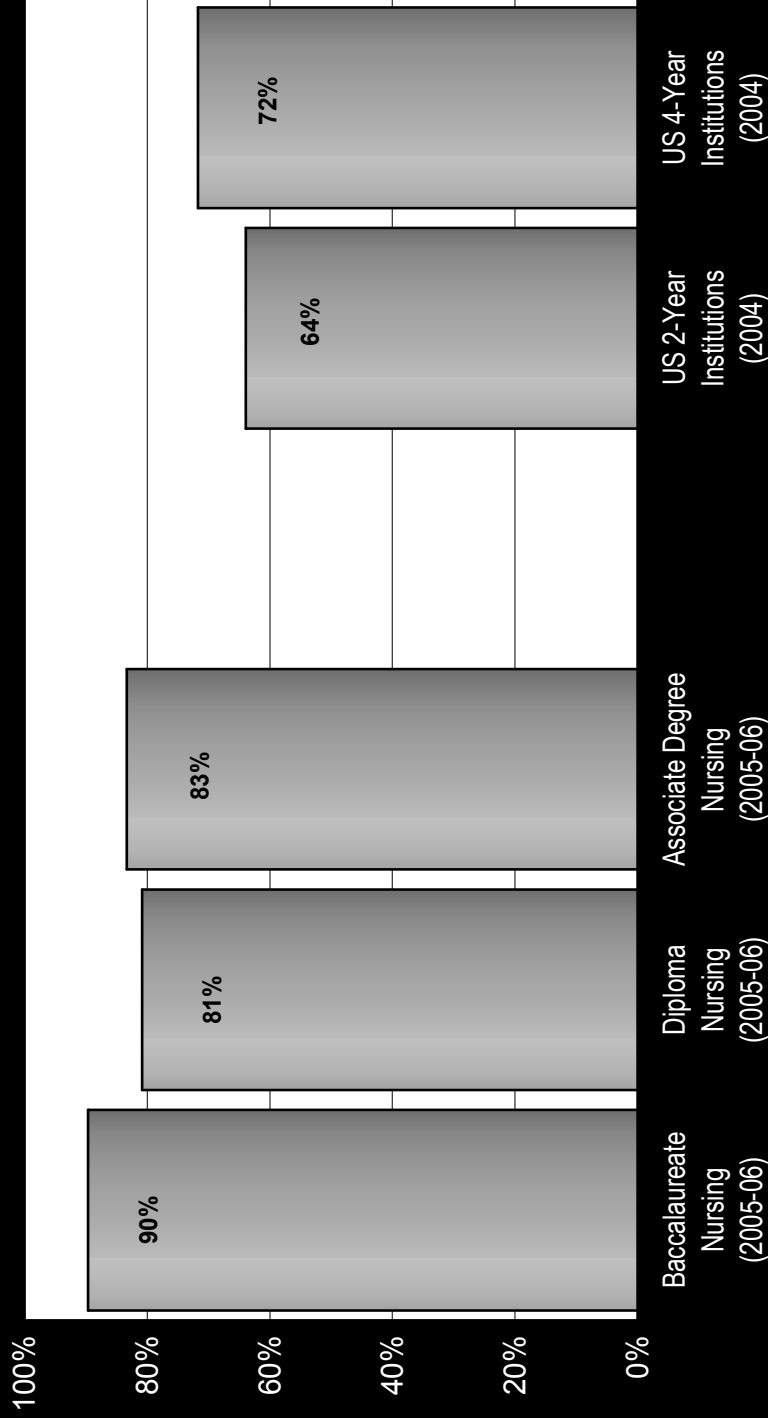


Figure 22
 Average Yield Rate of Basic RN Programs and Number of Applications Submitted:
 1980 to 1982, 1991 to 1995, and 2003 to 2006



*After 2001 one number of applications was imputed from historical records. See Appendix for methodology.

Figure 23
 One-Year Retention Status* of Full Time Nursing Students
 and Full Time US Undergraduates by Program/Institution Type



ADDITIONAL SOURCE: National Center for Education Statistics (2004). *Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)*. DAS Online data extraction system. Available at: <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/mainpage.asp>.

* Percentage of students who are still enrolled or have graduated one year after initial enrollment.

Figure 24

Graduations of Men from Basic RN Programs:
1988 to 1989, 1991 to 1995, and 2003 to 2006

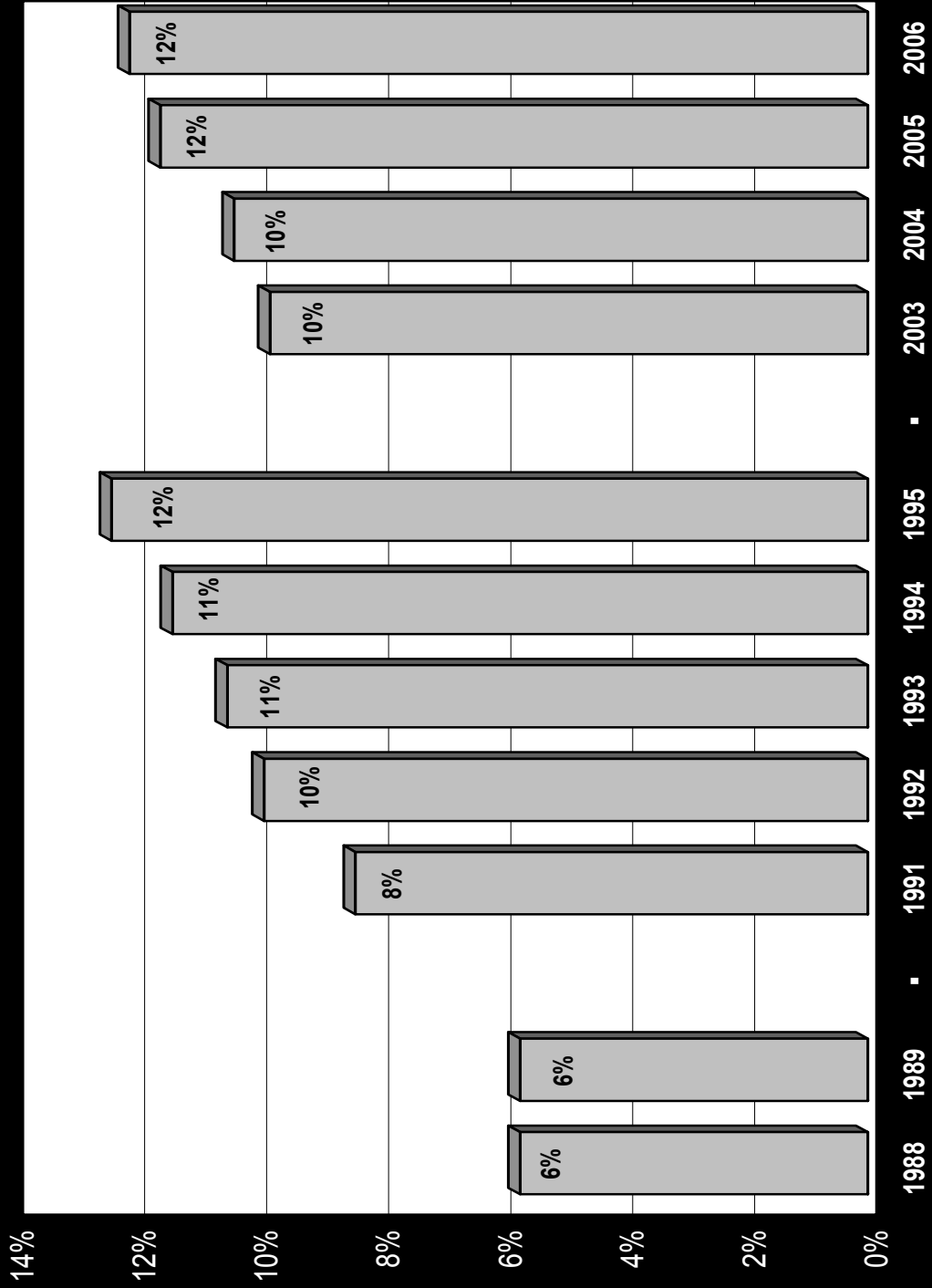


Figure 25
Percentage of Minorities Graduating from Basic RN Programs:
1989-90 to 1994-95 and 2002-03 to 2005-06

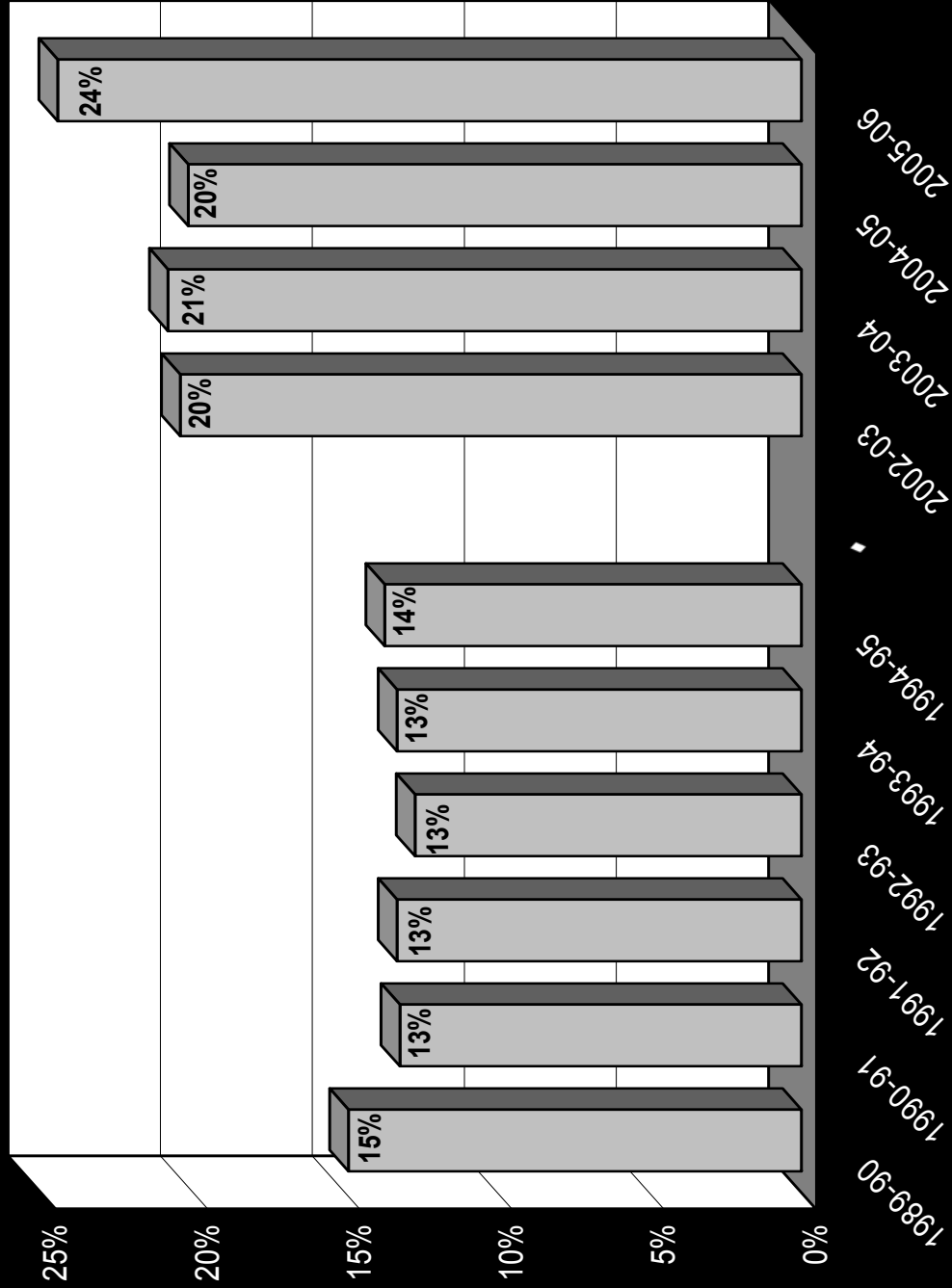


Figure 26
Percentage of Minorities Graduating from Basic RN Programs by Race-Ethnicity:
1989-90 to 1994-95 and 2002-03 to 2005-06

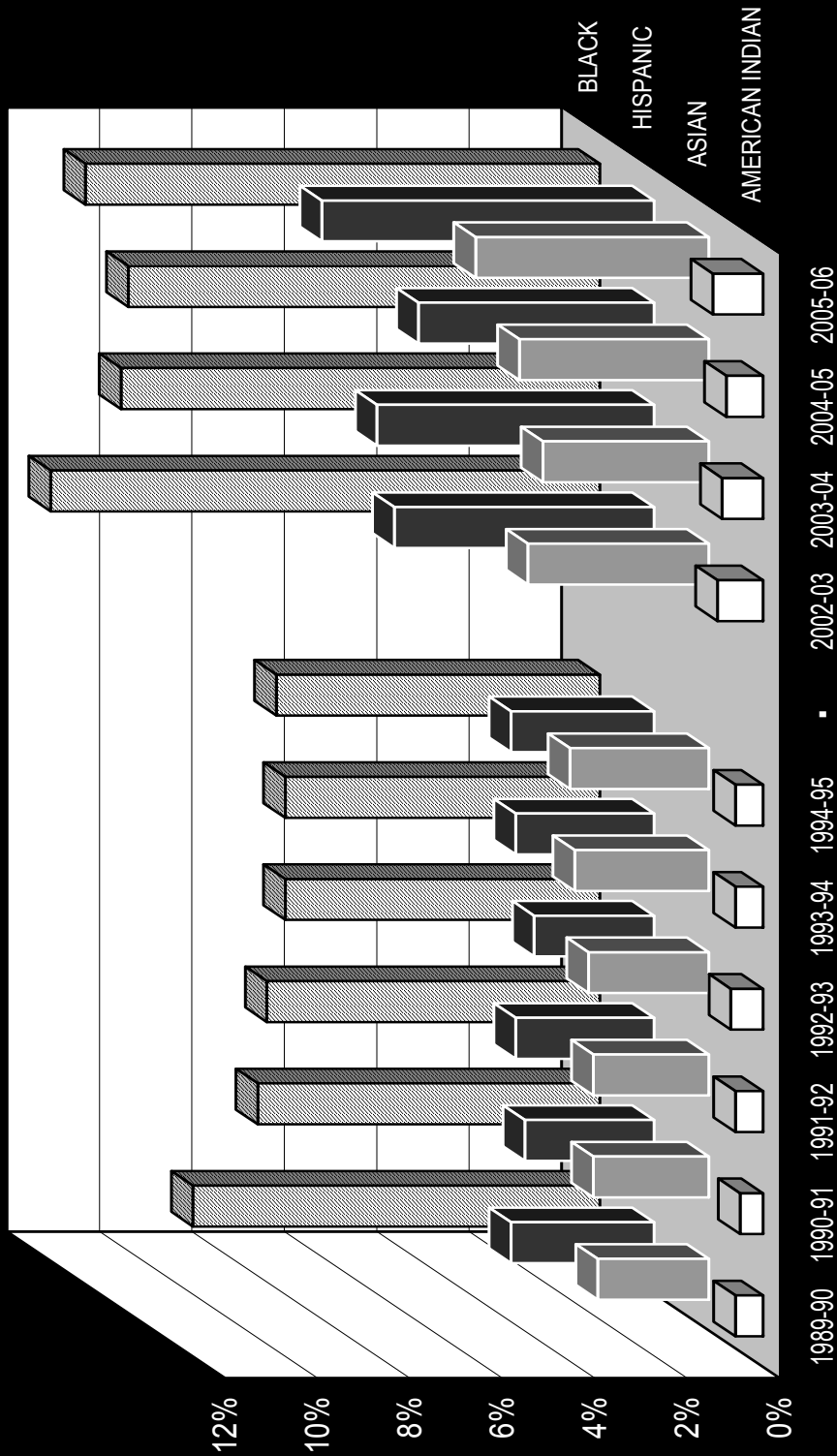


Figure 27
 Graduations from Basic RN Programs by Age Category and Program Type, 2005-06

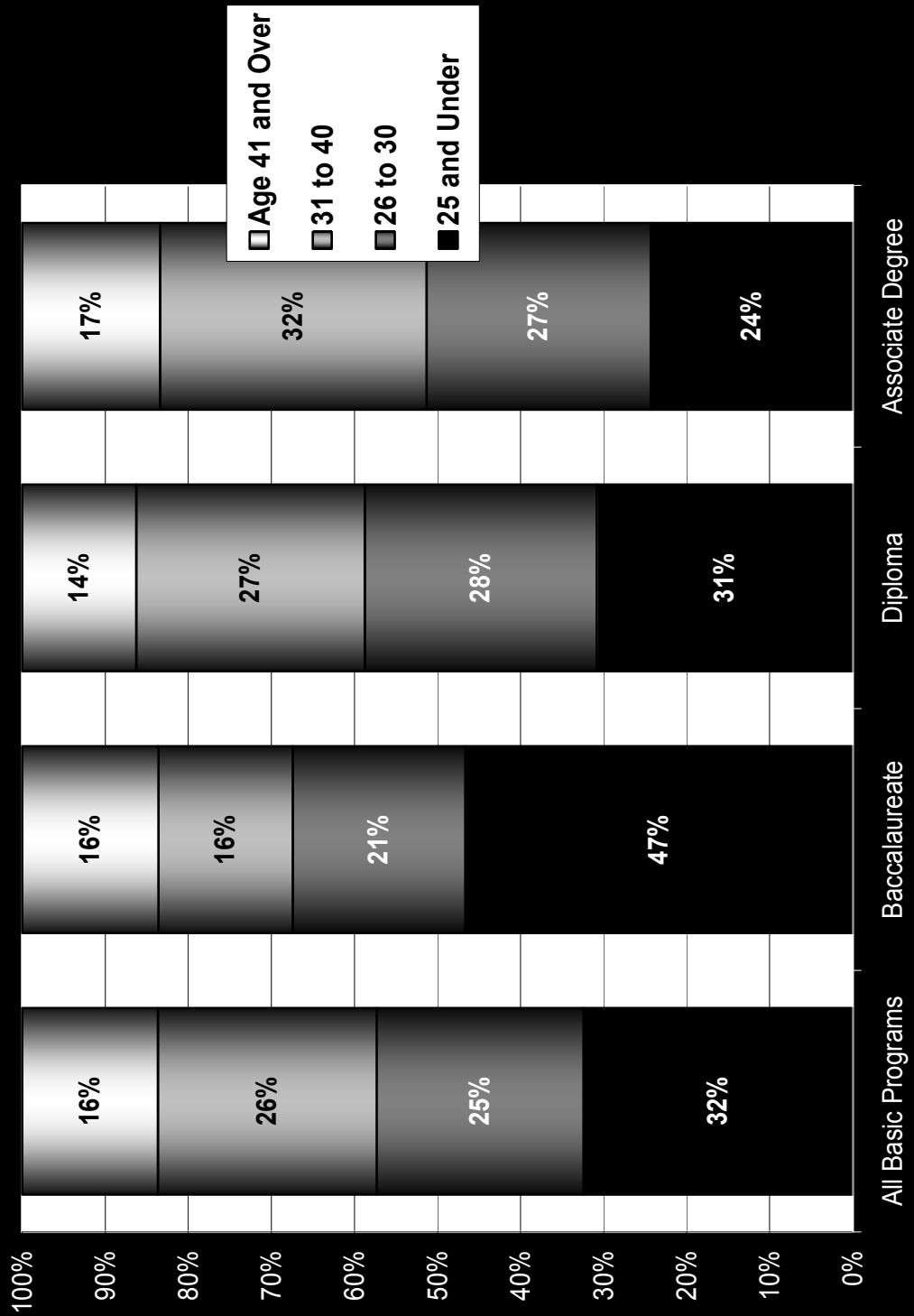
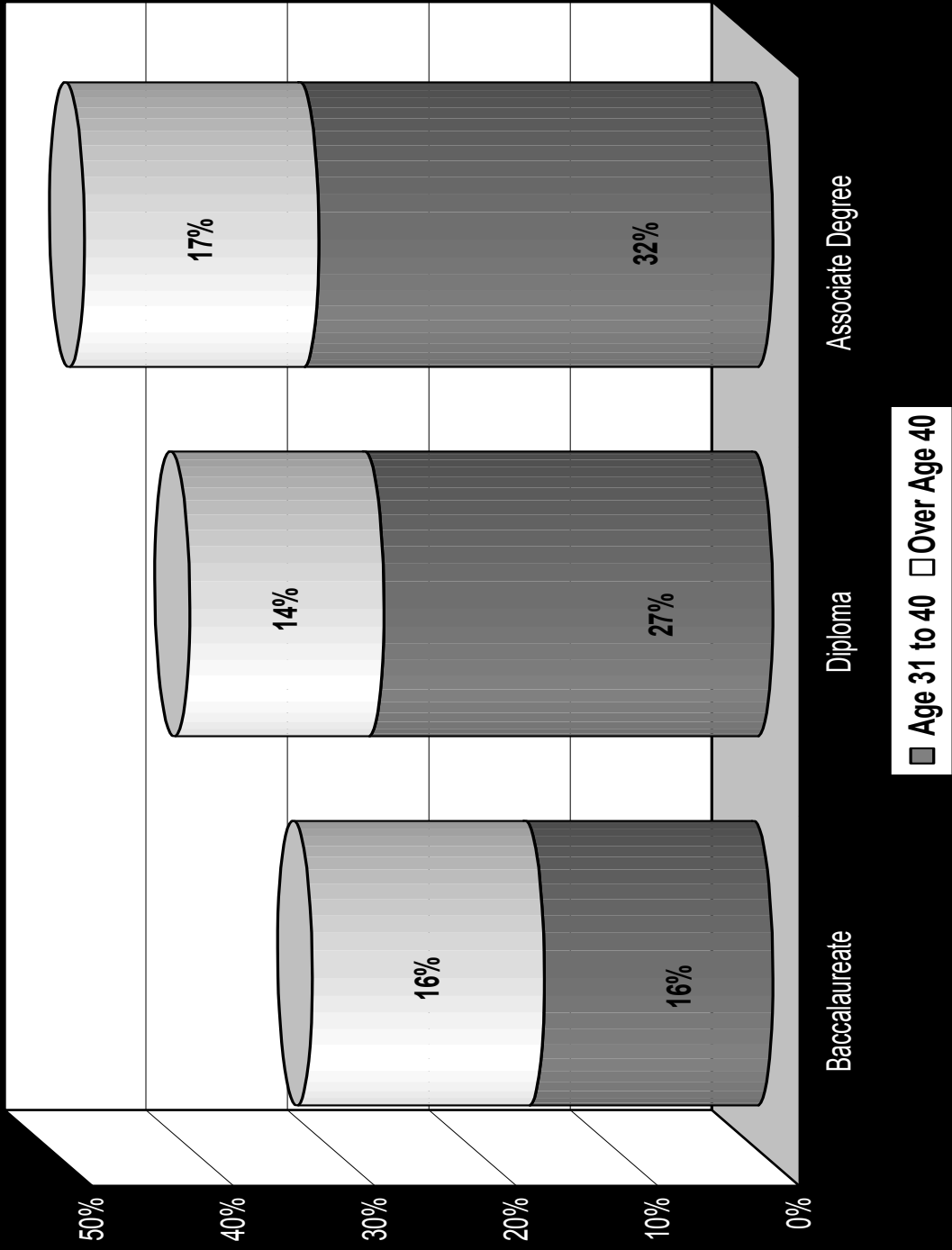


Figure 28
 Percentage of Prelicensure RN Graduates over Age 30, 2005-06



TABLES

Table 1

Basic RN Programs and Percentage Change from Previous Years by Type of Program:
1980 to 1995 and 2002 to 2006

YEAR	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS	ALL BASIC RN PROGRAMS		BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS		DIPLOMA PROGRAMS		ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS	
		Number of Programs	Percent Change	Number of Programs	Percent Change	Number of Programs	Percent Change	Number of Programs	Percent Change
1980	1,360	1,385	0.8	377	3.9	311	-6.6	697	2.8
1981	1,377	1,401	1.2	383	1.6	303	-2.6	715	2.6
1982	1,406	1,432	2.2	402	5.0	288	-5.0	742	3.8
1983	1,432	1,466	2.4	421	4.7	281	-2.4	764	3.0
1984	1,445	1,477	0.8	427	1.4	273	-2.8	777	1.7
1985	1,434	1,473	-0.2	441	3.3	256	-6.2	776	-0.1
1986	1,426	1,469	-0.3	455	3.2	238	-7.0	776	0.0
1987	1,406	1,465	-0.3	467	2.6	209	-12.2	789	1.7
1988	1,391	1,442	-1.6	479	2.6	171	-18.7	792	0.3
1989	1,429	1,457	1.0	488	1.9	157	-8.2	812	2.5
1990	1,412	1,470	0.9	489	0.2	152	-3.2	829	2.1
1991	1,411	1,484	1.0	501	2.4	145	-4.6	838	1.1
1992	1,404	1,484	0.0	501	0.0	135	-6.9	848	1.2
1993	1,415	1,493	0.6	507	1.2	129	-4.4	857	1.1
1994	1,422	1,501	0.5	509	0.4	124	-3.9	868	1.3
1995	1,434	1,516	1.0	521	2.4	119	-4.0	876	0.9
...									
2002	*	1,459	-3.8	526	1.0	76	-36.1	857	-2.2
2003	1,376	1,444	-1.0	529	0.6	69	-9.2	846	-1.3
2004	1,410	1,504	4.2	553	4.5	71	2.9	880	4.0
2005	1,446	1,544	2.7	573	3.6	62	-12.7	909	3.3
2006	1,538	1,694	9.7	644	12.4	73	17.7	977	7.5

*Data not available.

Table 2
Annual Admissions to Basic RN Programs and Percentage Change from
Previous Year by Program Type: 1984-85 to 1994-95 and 2002-03 to 2005-06

ACADEMIC YEAR	ALL BASIC RN PROGRAMS		BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS		DIPLOMA PROGRAMS		ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS	
	Number of Admissions	Percent Change	Number of Admissions	Percent Change	Number of Admissions	Percent Change	Number of Admissions	Percent Change
1984-85	118,224	-4.5	39,573	0.4	14,875	-16.7	63,776	-4.2
1985-86	100,791	-14.7	34,310	-13.3	9,846	-33.0	56,635	-11.2
1986-87	90,693	-10.0	28,026	-18.3	8,337	-15.3	54,330	-4.1
1987-88	94,269	3.9	28,505	1.7	8,389	0.6	57,375	5.6
1988-89	103,025	9.3	29,042	1.9	10,010	19.3	63,973	11.5
1989-90	108,580	5.4	29,858	2.6	10,088	0.8	68,634	7.3
1990-91	113,526	4.6	33,437	12.0	10,220	-1.3	69,869	1.8
1991-92	122,656	8.0	37,886	13.3	10,691	4.6	74,079	6.0
1992-93	126,837	3.4	41,290	9.0	10,165	-4.9	75,382	1.7
1993-94	129,897	2.4	42,953	4.0	9,601	-5.5	77,343	2.6
1994-95	127,184	-2.1	43,451	1.2	7,717	-19.6	76,016	-1.7
...								
2002-03	133,011	—	47,903	—	6,196	—	78,912	—
2003-04	145,410	9.3	47,668	-0.5	6,294	1.6	91,448	15.9
2004-05	152,627	5.0	53,799	12.9	5,858	-6.9	92,970	1.7
2005-06	166,442	9.1	60,013	11.6	6,406	9.4	100,023	7.6

† After 2001 missing values for individual programs were imputed from historical records. See *Appendix* for detailed methodology.

Table 3
Enrollments in Basic RN Programs and Percentage Change from Previous
Year by Program Type: 1980 to 1995 and 2002 to 2006[†]

YEAR	ALL BASIC RN PROGRAMS		BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS		DIPLOMA PROGRAMS		ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS	
	Number of Enrollments	Percent Change	Number at Enrollments	Percent Change	Number of Enrollments	Percent Change	Number of Enrollments	Percent Change
1980	230,966	-1.6	95,858	-3.1	41,048	-6.0	94,060	2.2
1981	234,995	1.7	93,967	-2.0	41,009	-0.1	100,019	6.3
1982	242,035	3.0	94,363	0.4	42,348	3.3	105,324	5.3
1983	250,553	3.5	98,941	4.9	42,007	-0.8	109,605	4.1
1984	237,232	-5.3	95,008	-4.0	37,256	-11.3	104,968	-4.2
1985	217,955	-8.1	91,020	-4.2	30,179	-19.0	96,756	-7.8
1986	193,712	-11.1	81,602	-10.3	22,641	-25.0	89,469	-7.5
1987	182,947	-5.6	73,621	-9.8	18,927	-16.4	90,399	1.0
1988	184,924	1.1	70,078	-4.8	18,860	-0.4	95,986	6.2
1989	201,458	8.9	74,865	6.8	20,418	8.3	106,175	10.6
1990	221,170	9.8	81,788	9.2	21,969	7.6	117,413	10.6
1991	237,598	7.4	90,877	11.1	22,905	4.3	123,816	5.4
1992	257,983	8.6	102,128	12.4	23,252	1.5	132,603	7.1
1993	270,228	4.7	110,693	8.4	22,235	-4.4	137,300	3.5
1994	268,350	-0.7	112,659	1.8	19,796	-11.0	135,895	-1.0
1995	261,219	-2.7	109,505	-2.8	16,479	-16.8	135,235	-0.5
...								
2002	221,698	—	94,739	—	9,767	—	117,192	—
2003	244,769	10.4	105,907	11.8	11,153	14.2	127,709	9.0
2004	281,141	14.9	117,586	11.0	12,447	11.6	151,108	18.3
2005	290,309	3.3	124,906	6.2	12,162	-2.3	153,241	1.4
2006	292,238	0.7	130,120	4.2	11,841	-2.6	150,277	-1.9

[†] After 2001 missing values for individual programs were imputed from historical records. See *Appendix* for detailed methodology.

Table 4
Graduations from Basic RN Programs and Percentage Change from Previous Year by
Program Type: 1984-85 to 1994-95 and 2001-02 to 2005-06[†]

ACADEMIC YEAR	BASIC RN PROGRAMS		BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS		DIPLOMA PROGRAMS		ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS	
	Number of Graduations	Percent Change	Number of Graduations	Percent Change	Number of Graduations	Percent Change	Number of Graduations	Percent Change
1984-85	82,075	2.2	24,975	5.3	11,892	-2.5	45,208	1.8
1985-86	77,027	-6.2	25,170	0.8	10,524	-11.5	41,333	-8.6
1986-87	70,561	-8.4	23,761	-5.6	8,272	-21.4	38,528	-6.8
1987-88	64,839	-8.0	21,504	-9.5	5,938	-28.2	37,397	-2.9
1988-89	61,660	-4.9	18,997	-11.6	4,826	-18.7	37,837	1.2
1989-90	66,088	7.2	18,571	-2.2	5,199	7.7	42,318	11.8
1990-91	72,230	9.3	19,264	3.7	6,172	18.7	46,794	10.6
1991-92	80,839	11.9	21,415	11.2	6,528	5.8	52,896	13.0
1992-93	88,149	9.0	24,442	14.1	6,937	6.3	56,770	7.3
1993-94	94,870	7.6	28,912	18.3	7,119	2.6	58,839	3.6
1994-95	97,052	2.3	31,254	8.1	7,049	-1.0	58,749	-0.1
...								
2001-02	72,882	—	30,522	—	2,287	—	40,073	—
2002-03	76,659	5.2	31,187	2.2	2,550	11.5	42,922	7.1
2003-04	78,476	2.4	26,293	-15.7	3,203	25.6	48,980	14.1
2004-05	84,878	8.2	28,373	7.9	3,387	5.7	53,118	8.4
2005-06	92,123	8.5	33,992	19.8	3,275	-3.3	54,856	3.3

[†] After 2001 missing values for individual programs were imputed from historical records. See *Appendix* for detailed methodology.

Table 5
 Percentage of Applications for
 Admission Accepted, Not Accepted, and
 Waitlisted by Program Type, 2006

	Percentage of Applications
All RN Programs	100%
Accepted	41.9
Not Accepted (<i>subtotal</i>)	58.1
Not Qualified	30.4
Qualified (<i>subtotal</i>)	27.7
Waitlisted	11.8
Not Waitlisted	16.0
Baccalaureate	100%
Accepted	49.2
Not Accepted (<i>subtotal</i>)	50.8
Not Qualified	30.8
Qualified (<i>subtotal</i>)	20.0
Waitlisted	5.2
Not Waitlisted	14.8
Diploma	100%
Accepted	36.1
Not Accepted (<i>subtotal</i>)	63.9
Not Qualified	51.2
Qualified (<i>subtotal</i>)	12.6
Waitlisted	3.6
Not Waitlisted	9.0
Associate Degree	100%
Accepted	38.9
Not Accepted (<i>subtotal</i>)	61.1
Not Qualified	28.4
Qualified (<i>subtotal</i>)	32.7
Waitlisted	15.5
Not Waitlisted	17.2

Table 6
Graduations of Minority Students from Basic RN Programs:
1990-91 to 1994-95 and 2002-03 to 2005-06

YEAR	Total Graduations [†]	Black	Hispanic	Asian	American Indian	Other*
		%	%	%	%	%
ALL REPORTING RN PROGRAMS						
1990-91	72,230	7.4	2.8	2.5	0.5	—
1991-92	80,839	7.2	3.0	2.5	0.6	—
1992-93	88,149	6.8	2.6	2.6	0.7	—
1993-94	94,870	6.8	3.0	2.9	0.6	—
1994-95	97,052	7.0	3.1	3.0	0.6	—
...						
2002-03	76,659	11.4	5.1	3.5	0.9	5.1
2003-04	78,509	10.4	6.0	3.6	0.9	5.5
2004-05	84,878	10.2	5.1	4.1	0.8	5.9
2005-06	92,123	10.7	6.9	4.8	1.0	4.2
BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS						
1990-91	19,264	8.0	2.7	4.0	0.6	—
1991-92	21,415	7.8	3.0	3.5	0.6	—
1992-93	24,442	7.4	2.4	3.8	0.8	—
1993-94	28,912	6.6	3.0	3.9	0.5	—
1994-95	31,254	7.3	2.9	4.0	0.5	—
...						
2002-03	31,187	10.5	4.1	4.2	1.1	4.0
2003-04	26,320	11.1	5.4	4.3	0.7	3.8
2004-05	28,373	10.3	4.3	4.5	0.7	4.3
2005-06	33,992	9.7	4.7	5.2	1.4	7.0
DIPLOMA PROGRAMS						
1990-91	6,172	6.2	3.2	1.8	0.2	—
1991-92	6,528	5.4	2.4	1.7	0.2	—
1992-93	6,937	5.3	2.4	2.0	0.2	—
1993-94	7,119	5.5	2.5	2.9	0.3	—
1994-95	7,049	5.5	2.7	2.3	0.3	—
...						
2002-03	2,550	15.1	4.5	2.6	0.3	4.0
2003-04	3,203	13.0	2.7	2.2	0.4	1.9
2004-05	3,387	11.2	3.1	2.8	0.2	1.0
2005-06	3,275	11.7	5.3	4.8	0.5	4.3
ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS						
1990-91	46,794	7.3	2.8	2.0	0.5	—
1991-92	52,896	7.1	3.0	2.2	0.6	—
1992-93	56,770	6.8	2.8	2.1	0.7	—
1993-94	58,839	7.1	3.0	2.5	0.7	—
1994-95	58,749	7.0	3.3	2.6	0.7	—
...						
2002-03	42,922	11.6	5.9	3.1	0.8	5.8
2003-04	48,986	9.8	6.5	3.3	1.0	6.7
2004-05	53,118	10.1	5.6	3.9	0.9	7.1
2005-06	54,856	11.1	8.1	4.6	0.9	2.8

[†] After 2001 missing values for individual programs were imputed from historical records. See *Appendix* for detailed methodology.

* Use of the "Other" category was initiated in 2002-03.

Table 7
Graduations of Men from Basic RN Programs
by Program Type:
1986 to 2006 (selected years)

YEAR	Total Graduations [†]	Percent Male
ALL RN PROGRAMS		
1988	64,839	5.7
1989	61,660	5.7
1991	72,230	8.4
1992	80,839	9.9
1993	88,149	10.5
1994	94,870	11.4
1995	97,052	12.4
2003	76,659	9.8
2004	78,476	10.4
2005	84,878	11.6
2006	92,123	12.1
BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS		
1988	21,504	5.2
1989	18,997	5.0
1991	19,264	8.2
1992	21,415	10.4
1993	24,442	10.5
1994	28,912	11.1
1995	31,254	12.2
2003	31,187	9.1
2004	26,293	9.2
2005	28,373	11.4
2006	33,992	10.2
DIPLOMA PROGRAMS		
1988	5,938	6.7
1989	4,826	5.2
1991	6,172	8.0
1992	6,528	9.7
1993	6,937	10.6
1994	7,119	12.0
1995	7,049	13.0
2003	2,550	8.2
2004	3,203	8.9
2005	3,387	11.3
2006	3,275	14.7
ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS		
1988	37,397	5.9
1989	37,837	6.0
1991	46,794	8.5
1992	52,896	9.7
1993	56,770	10.4
1994	58,839	11.5
1995	58,749	12.4
2003	42,922	10.5
2004	48,980	11.1
2005	53,118	11.7
2006	54,856	13.1

[†] After 2001 missing values for individual programs were imputed from historical records. See *Appendix* for detailed methodology.

Table 8
Graduations of Men from
Basic RN Programs by
Program Type and Region, 2006

REGION	Total Graduations [†]	Percent Male
ALL REPORTING RN PROGRAMS		
All Regions	84,878	11.6
North Atlantic	17,352	12.4
Midwest	22,269	8.7
South	32,620	12.5
West	12,637	13.1
BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS		
All Regions	28,373	11.4
North Atlantic	4,914	9.9
Midwest	8,485	8.5
South	11,296	13.7
West	3,678	12.1
DIPLOMA PROGRAMS		
All Regions	3,387	11.3
North Atlantic	1,835	13.2
Midwest	704	8.7
South	848	9.7
West	—	—
ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS		
All Regions	53,118	11.7
North Atlantic	10,603	12.9
Midwest	13,080	8.8
South	20,476	12.2
West	8,959	13.5

[†] Missing values for individual programs were imputed from historical records.
 See *Appendix* for detailed methodology.

APPENDIX: METHODOLOGY

Overview. In the spring of 2007, the deans, directors, or department chairs of all state-accredited prelicensure nursing programs in the United States* were contacted by email by the National League for Nursing and invited to participate in the 2007 Concise Survey of Schools of Nursing. Invitations were sent on March 7, 2007 followed by a series of follow-up emails sent to non-responding schools between March 28 and June 19. Electronic, web-based survey forms were made available to nursing school administrators and staff members.

Data reporting and estimation techniques. The estimation techniques used to generate this report were devised to balance two key objectives: a) the evaluation of the 2005-06 dataset within the context of historical trends, and b) accurate statistical estimation of the size of the 2005-06 student body and its subpopulations. To fulfill these objectives we used two different techniques throughout this report. Figures and tables that present the proportional distribution of the 2005-06 nursing student population use only 2005-06 survey data. By contrast, tables and figures that trend numbers of students were generated using unweighted historical imputation, a technique in which a previous value of a nonrespondent is used for the imputation of a current value. In this case the number of enrollments, admissions, or graduations of programs that did not complete a survey in 2005-06 were imputed from the data most recently reported by the program. These charts and tables are identified by the word *Estimated* in titles or footnotes.

Key Statistics in Reported and Estimated Data Tables

	Total		Baccalaureate Programs		Diploma Programs		Associate Degree Programs	
	Reported	Imputed	Reported	Imputed	Reported	Imputed	Reported	Imputed
Number of Programs	688	754	226	296	48	13	414	445
Admissions	93,872	72,570	31,224	28,789	4,934	1,472	57,714	42,309
Enrollments	150,643	144,158	58,330	71,790	9,085	2,756	83,228	69,612
Graduations	48,005	44,118	16,335	17,657	2,336	939	29,334	25,522

Characteristics of responding vs. nonresponding programs. Of 1,694 programs, 688 reported survey data this year for an overall response rate of 40.6 percent to the 2005-06 survey. The response rate varied by program type, ranging from a rate of 65.8 percent among diploma programs to 35.1 percent among baccalaureate programs. Associate degree programs responded at a rate of 42.4 percent. This year's survey response rate was highest in the North Atlantic (45 percent), followed by the South (42 percent), the Midwest (41 percent), and the West (32 percent). When reported data are combined with historical data, which is substituted in cases where data are not reported to produce population estimates, the 2005-06 dataset is very similar to the universe of nursing schools with respect to regional distribution and program type (see table below).

* U.S. territories are not included in this publication.

Distribution of Database Records by School Characteristics and Year Collected

SCHOOL CHARACTERISTICS	All nursing programs		Data Collection Year							
			Any data		2005		Pre-2005		No data	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Program Type	1694	100	1442	100	688	100	754	100	252	100
Baccalaureate	644	38.0	522	36.2	226	32.8	296	39.3	122	48.4
Diploma	73	4.3	61	4.2	48	6.9	13	1.7	12	4.7
Associate degree	977	57.7	859	59.6	414	60.2	445	59.0	118	46.8
Region	1694	100	1442	100	688	100	754	100	252	100
Midwest	476	28.1	404	28.0	194	28.2	210	27.9	72	28.6
North Atlantic	351	20.7	299	20.7	157	22.8	142	18.8	52	20.6
South	594	35.1	516	35.8	250	36.3	266	35.3	78	31.0
West	273	16.1	223	15.5	87	12.6	136	18.0	50	19.8