

CHEMISTRY AT HIGHER DEGREE

When chemistry is compared to other subjects it is found to be one of the most commonly studied subjects at higher degree level. However, growth in postgraduate studies has been rapid in some other disciplines, which has led to a reduction in the proportion of all higher degrees that are in chemistry.

'Higher degree' refers to degrees at Masters or Doctorate level that are obtained by research and/or taught courses. Higher doctorates (such as DSc), which are normally awarded based on the accumulation of published work, are not included.

The criteria for collecting data changed in 1995. Data are now combined for all higher education institutions. As a result, data from 1995 cannot be compared directly with those from previous years.

Old Data on University Chemistry Higher Degree Graduates

	Total Chemistry	Chemistry as a % of all Higher Degrees
1987	1017	4.1
1988	1038	3.8
1989	1014	3.7
1990	1138	3.5
1991	1167	3.7
1992	1217	3.4
1993	1171	2.8
1994	1281	2.9

University Chemistry Higher Degree Graduates

	Total Chemistry	Chemistry as a % of all Higher Degrees
1995	1156	2.5
1996	1323	2.4
1997	1291	2.2
1998	1354	2.1
1999	1282	1.9
2000	1270	1.8
2001	1380	1.6
2002	1270	1.4
2003	1380	1.4
2004	1495	1.4
2005	1455	1.2
2006	1370	1.1
2007	1450	1.1

University Higher Degree Graduates 1992-95

	% of total graduates		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Chemistry	2.8	2.9	2.5
Physics	2.4	2.4	1.7
Biology	1.4	1.6	1.1
Maths	1.0	1.1	1.5
English	2.3	2.3	1.8
French	0.2	0.2	0.2

University Higher Degree Graduates 1996-2004

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Chemistry	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.4
Physics	1.5	1.3	1.2	1	1	0.9	0.9	0.8
Biology	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.1
Maths	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
English	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.9	1.8
French	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

University Higher Degree Graduates 2005-

	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007
Chemistry	1.2	1.1	1.1
Physics	0.7	0.8	0.8
Biology	1.1	1.1	1.1
Maths	0.8	0.8	0.7
English	1.7	1.8	1.8
French	0.1	0.1	0.1