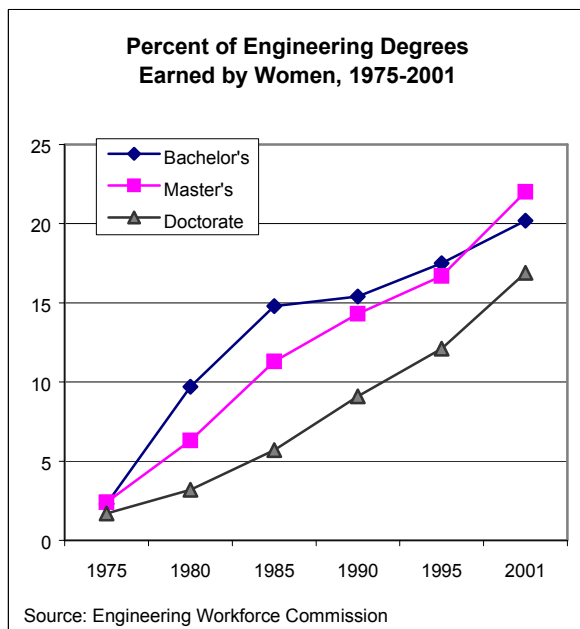


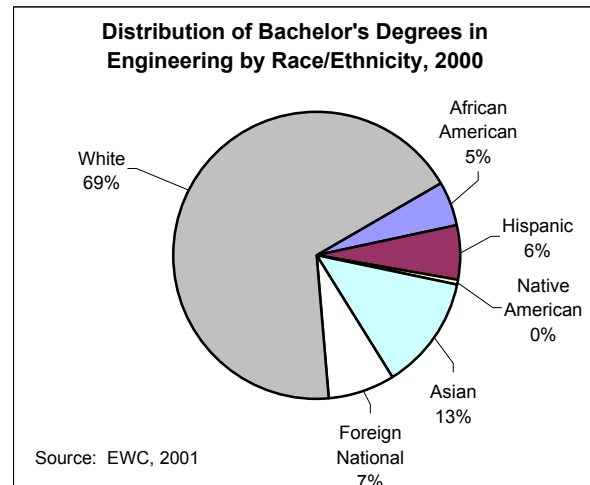
CHAPTER 7 – ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Since the peak year of 1986 when the number of bachelor's degrees in engineering rose to 78,178, the figure has dropped nearly 17%, reaching 65,195 in 2001. The number of master's degrees increased by 39% from 1986 reaching 32,008 in 2001. PhD degrees in engineering increased in 2001 to 6,141, after dropping in 1999 and 2000. Other highlights from the engineering section include:

- The percentage of women engineering degree recipients at all three levels increased. At the bachelor's level, women earned 13,195 and comprise 20.2% of the bachelor's degrees awarded in 2001. At the master's level, women increased their proportion to 22% of the total 32,008 awarded. However, at the doctoral level, women made significant advances. Women received 102 more doctoral degrees in 2001 over 2000 (from 937 to 1,039). As a result, women accounted for 16.9% of PhDs awarded in engineering in 2001.



- Women and men share a somewhat similar population group breakdown at the baccalaureate level in engineering. One fifth of both genders are Asian American or Foreign National. But, women now are composed of 16.5% underrepresented minorities while only 10.5% of the men are composed of this group.



- Significant progress has been made during the past 20 years in increasing the number of minority engineers. However, there are concerns about the declining numbers of African American men earning bachelor's degrees. Their numbers dropped from 2,111 in 1999 to 2,037 in 2000, but increased slightly to 2,084 in 2001. Hispanic Americans received a greater number of bachelor's degrees in engineering, pushing the overall number to a 4,152 in 2001 (including numbers from Puerto Rico). However, the number of Native Americans earning engineering baccalaureates dropped over 24% from 1999 to 2001 – from 328 to 275 degrees.
- Ranked by absolute number of engineering degrees awarded, Georgia Tech awarded the most BS degrees to women, NC A&T State University to African Americans, and when excluding Puerto Rico, University of Texas at El Paso for Hispanics.
- First-year full-time enrollments in engineering increased over 7% from fall 1998 to fall 2000 reaching 101,773, as did total enrollment in those two years. These increases in first-year enrollment should result in 1999 being the last year of decline for bachelor's degrees in engineering for some time. Growing numbers of women and underrepresented minority groups have been entering engineering programs. In fall 2000, women were nearly 19% of first-time enrollment, African Americans 7%, Hispanic Americans 7.4% and Native Americans 0.6%.