



The Future of Sociology: *Minorities, Programs, and Jobs*

(Revised)

*Roberta Spalter-Roth, Ph.D.,
American Sociological Association*



Points to Remember

The majority of undergraduate majors do not go on to graduate school in sociology. We must do a better job of counseling them, because they are the bread and butter of the discipline.

The market is improving for new PhDs, but sociology would have a lower unemployment rate if they were trained non-academic jobs.

It looks as if cultural studies is the intellectual future of the discipline replacing family and theory, although criminal justice is where jobs are.

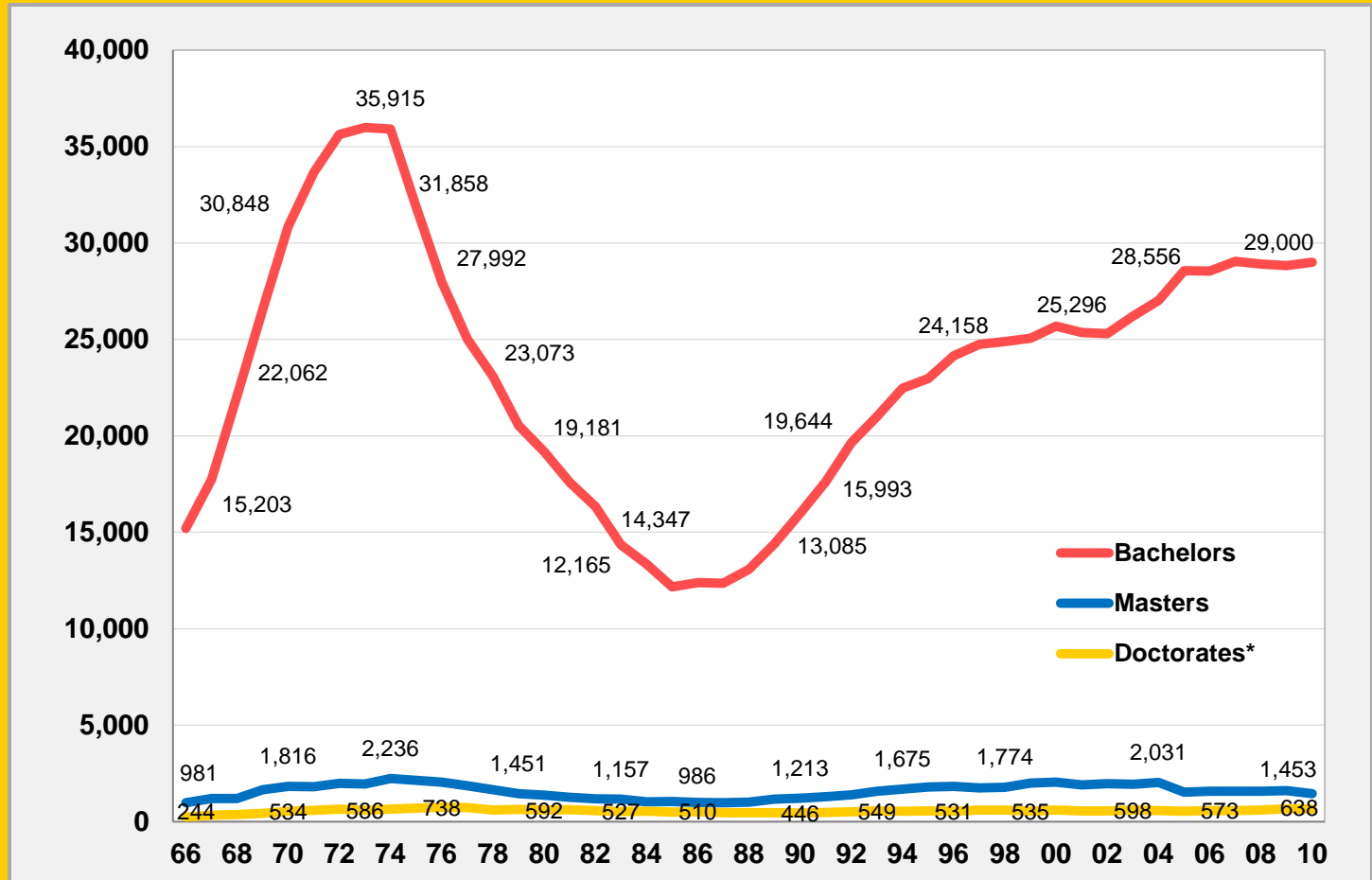
There are small increases in minorities in the sociology pipeline, but they appear to get stuck on the way to the top. MFP helps.



Individual and Institutional Aspects

Sociology Degrees Awarded by Degree Level, 1966 – 2010*

(number of degrees)

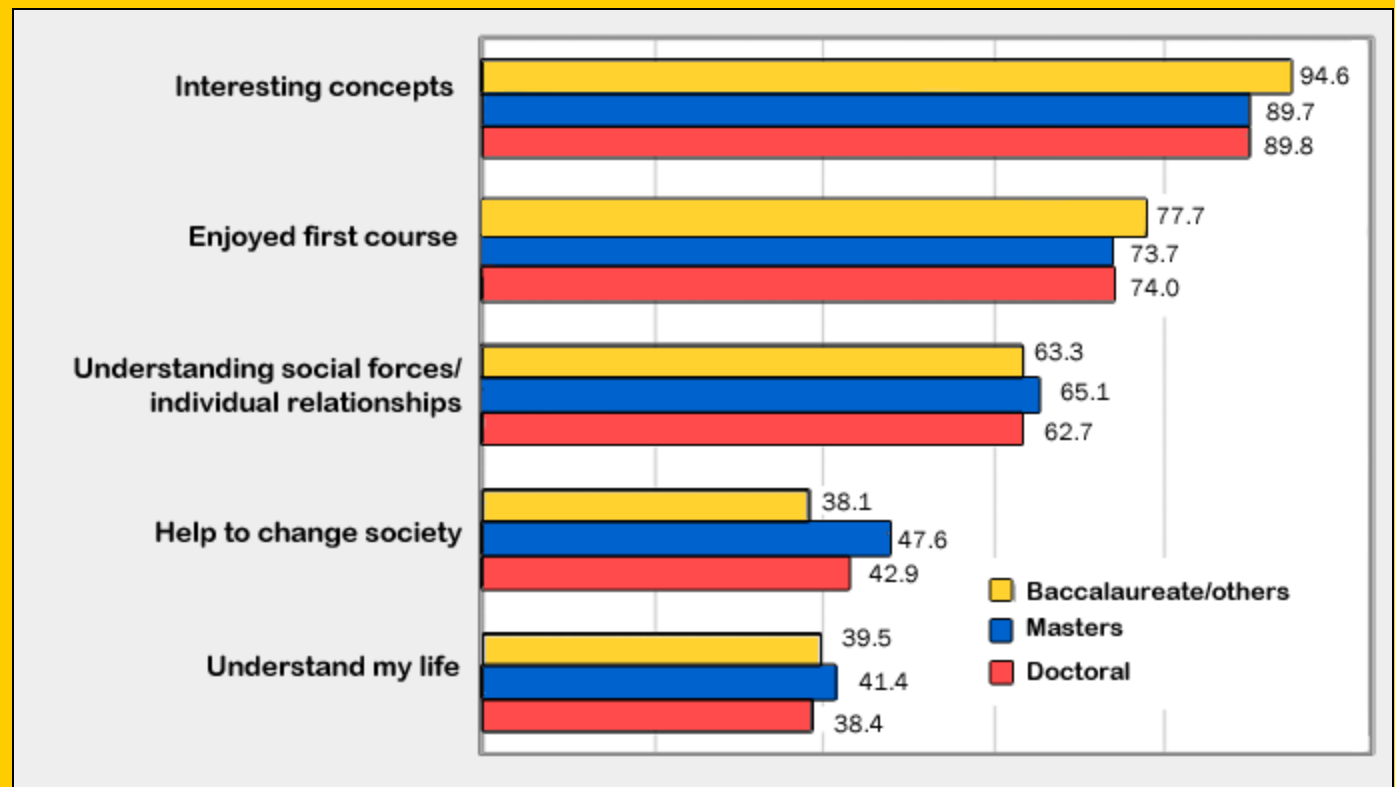


Source: National Center for Education Statistics. 2012. *The Higher Education General Information Survey (HEGIS) and the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)*. Washington, DC: Department of Education. Retrieved: February 15, 2012 (<https://webcaspar.nsf.gov>).

* Data for PhDs earned between 2008 and 2010 are taken from the National Science Foundation's Survey of Doctoral Recipients (<https://webcaspar.nsf.gov>).

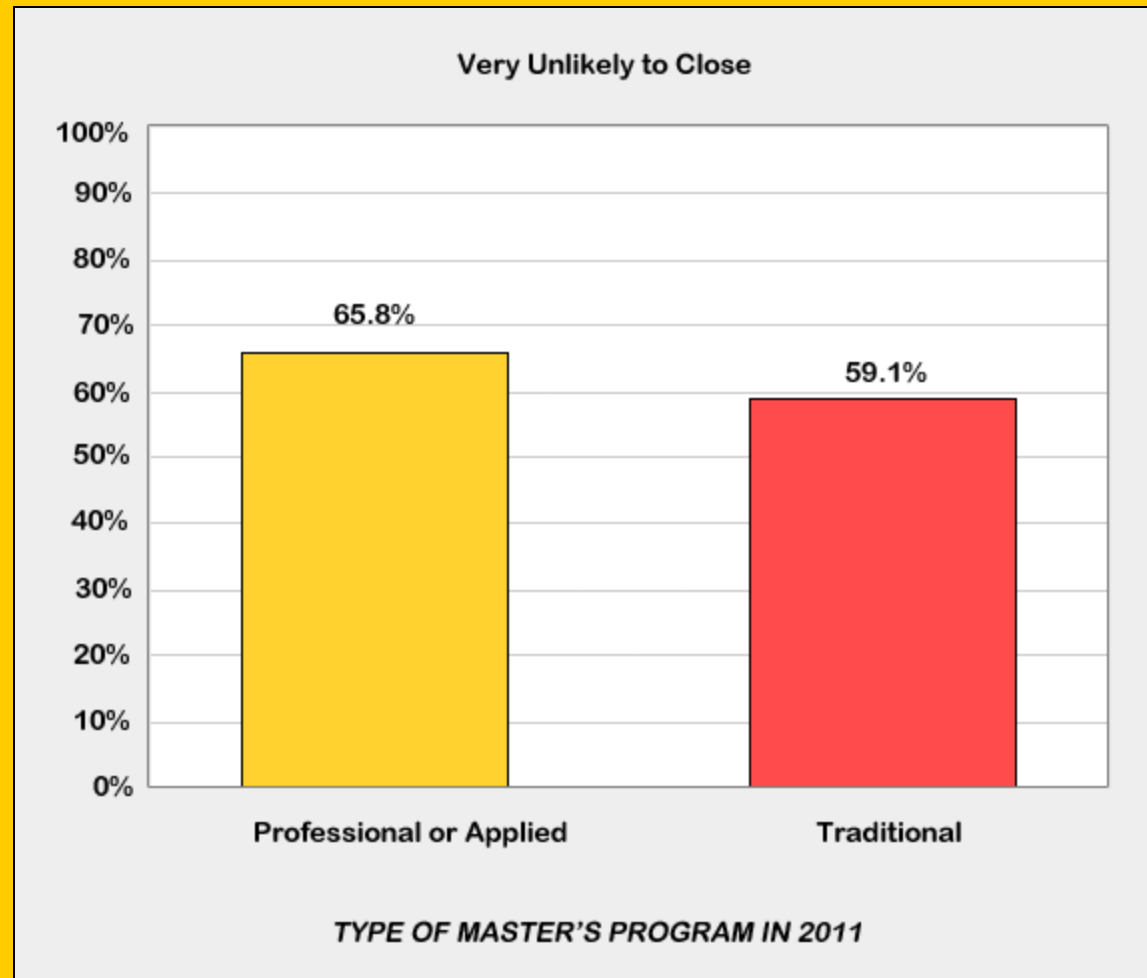
Top Five Reasons For Majoring in Sociology, by Type of School (2005)

(Percent Responding "Very Important;" Weighted)



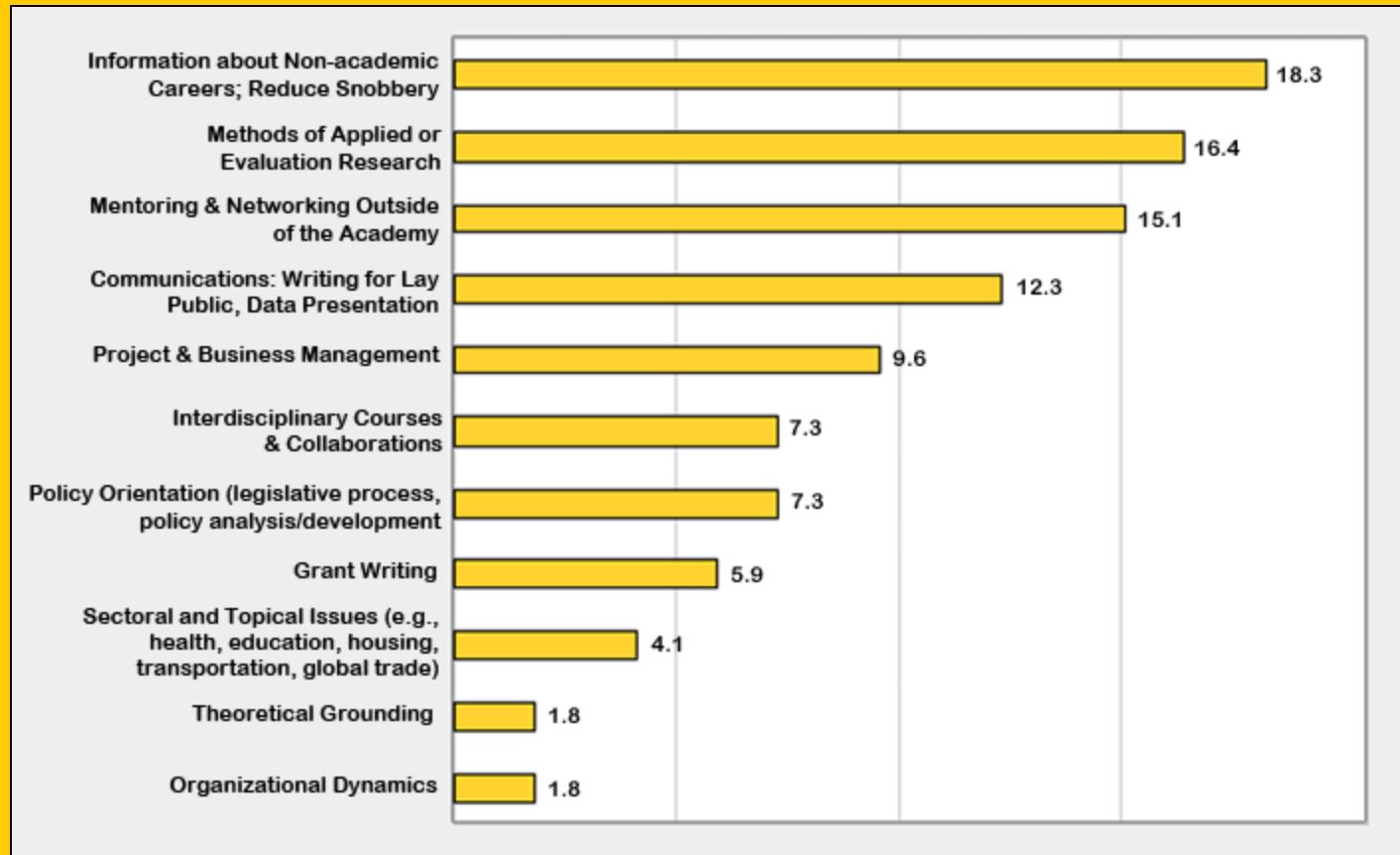
Source: Bachelors and Beyond Survey, 2005

Relationship Between Type of Program and Master's Program's Likelihood of Closing, 2011



Source: ASA Survey of Graduate Program Directors, 2011

Recommendation for Improving Graduate School Curricula by Non-Academic Sociologists (Percentage of Respondents)

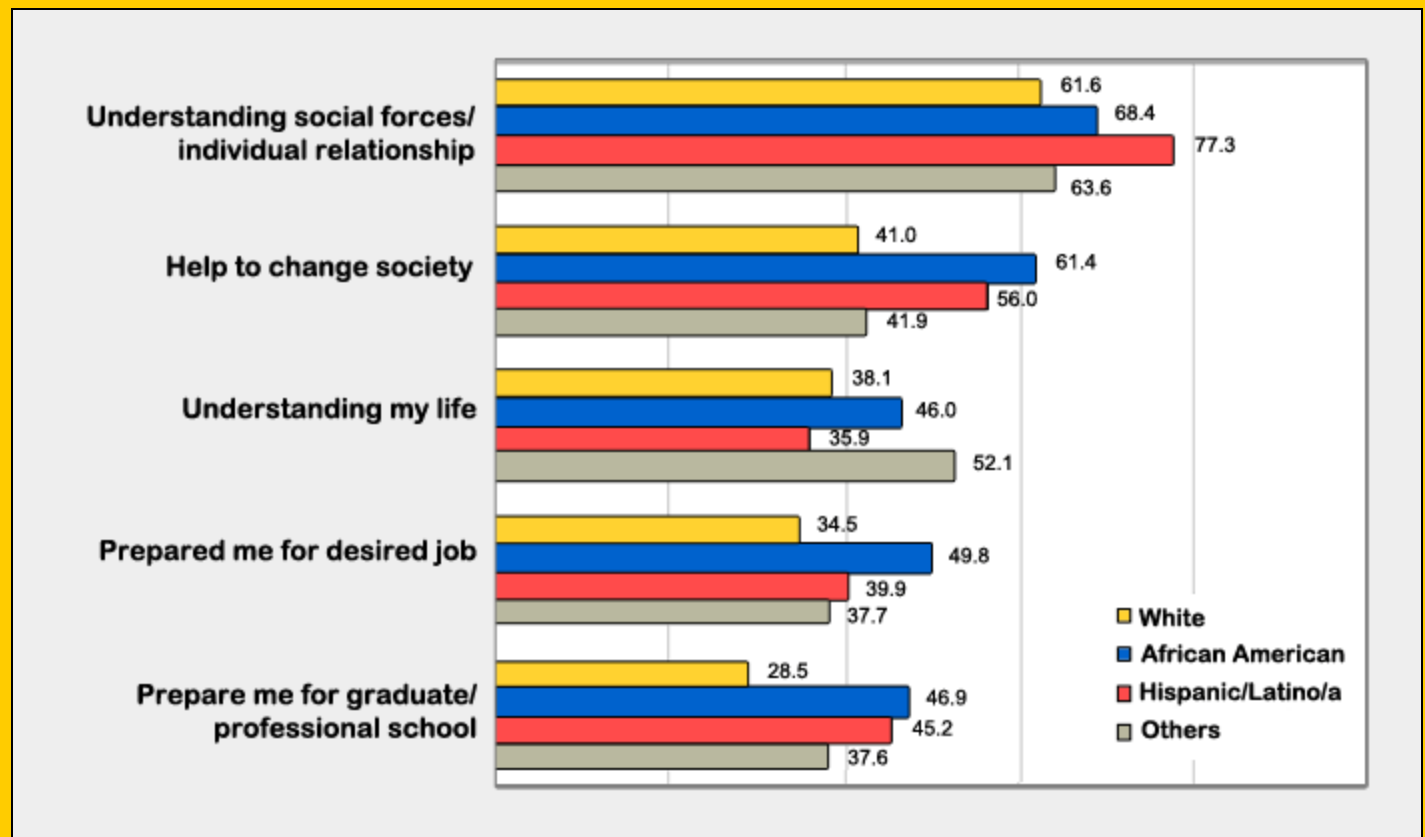




Race and Ethnicity

Significant Differences in the Reasons For Majoring in Sociology by Race and Ethnicity (2005)

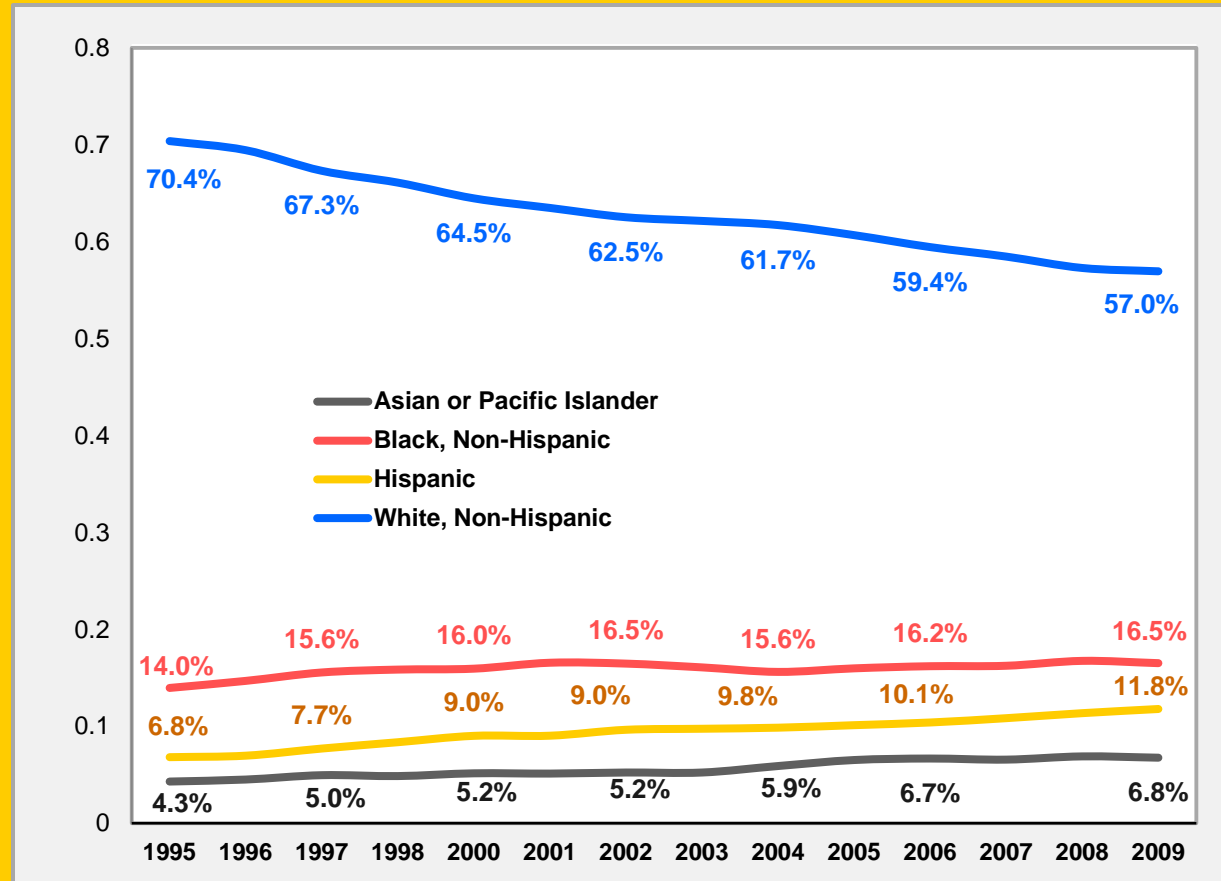
(Percent Responding "Very Important;" Weighted)



Source: *Bachelors and Beyond Survey, 2005*

Sociology Degrees Awarded by Race/Ethnicity, 1995 - 2009

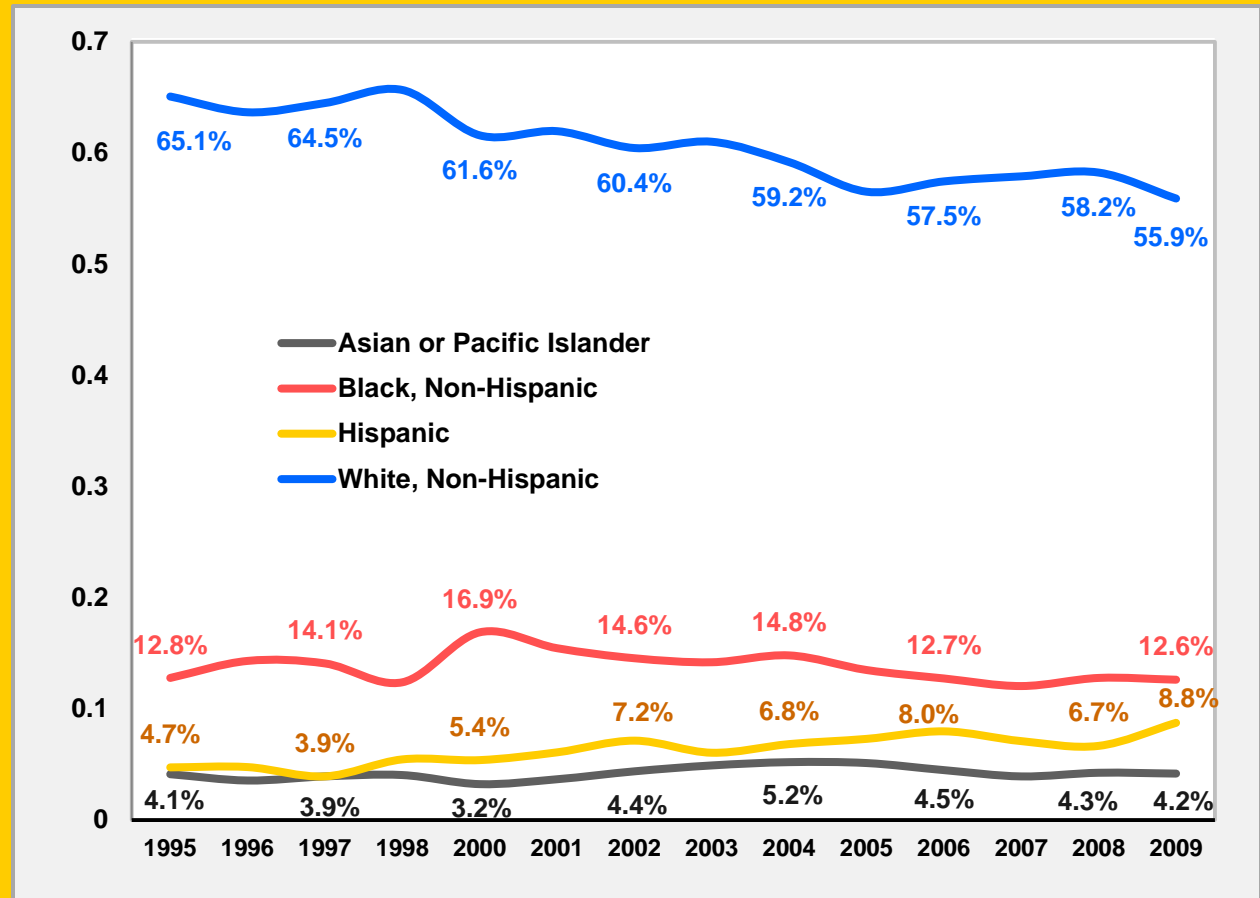
Percentage of Bachelor's Degrees Awarded



Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Completions, 1966-2009 (Washington, DC: NCES, 2010). Retrieved from <https://webcaspar.nsf.gov> (November 4, 2010).

Sociology Degrees Awarded by Race/Ethnicity, 1995 - 2009

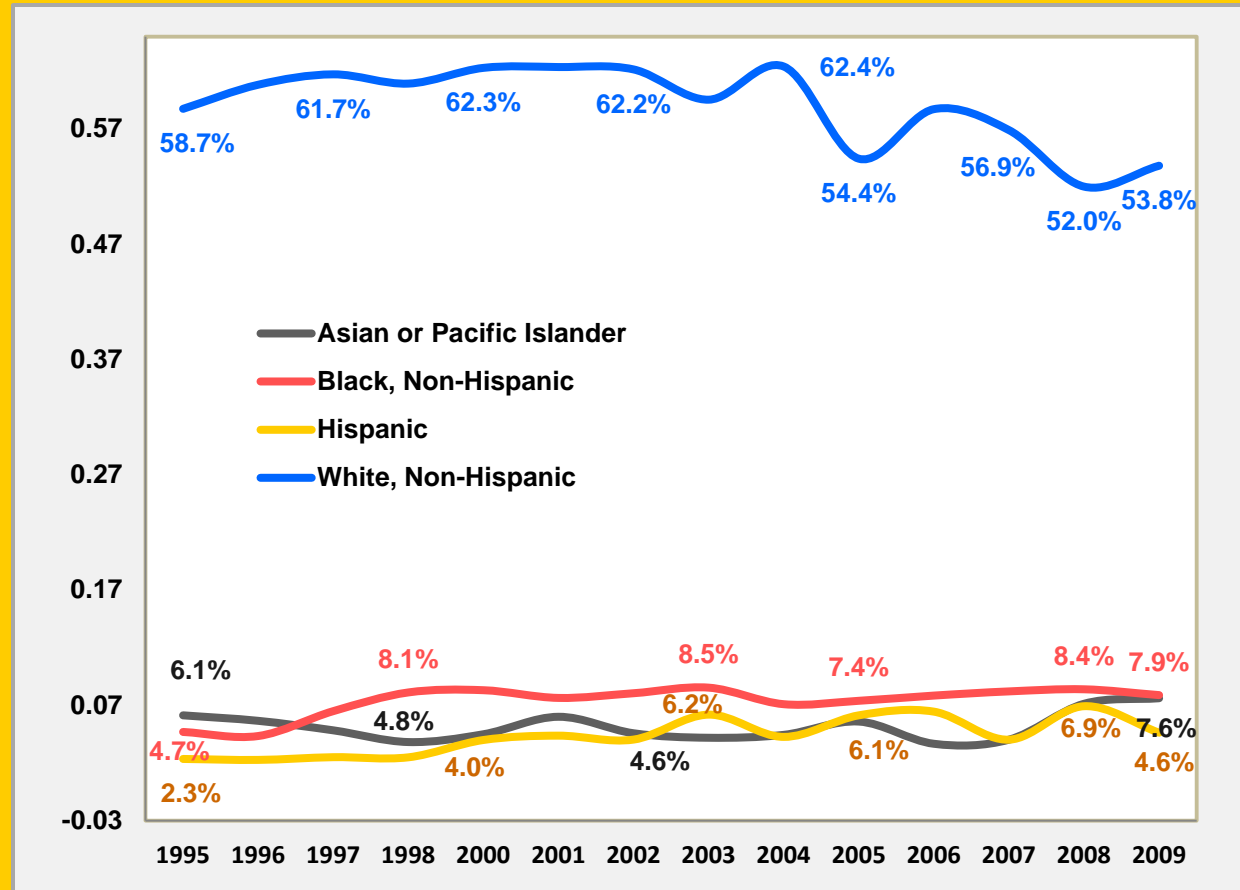
Percentage of Master's Degrees Awarded



Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Completions, 1966-2009 (Washington, DC: NCES, 2010). Retrieved from <https://webcaspar.nsf.gov> (November 4, 2010).

Sociology Degrees Awarded by Race/Ethnicity, 1995 - 2009

Percentage of Doctoral Degrees Awarded

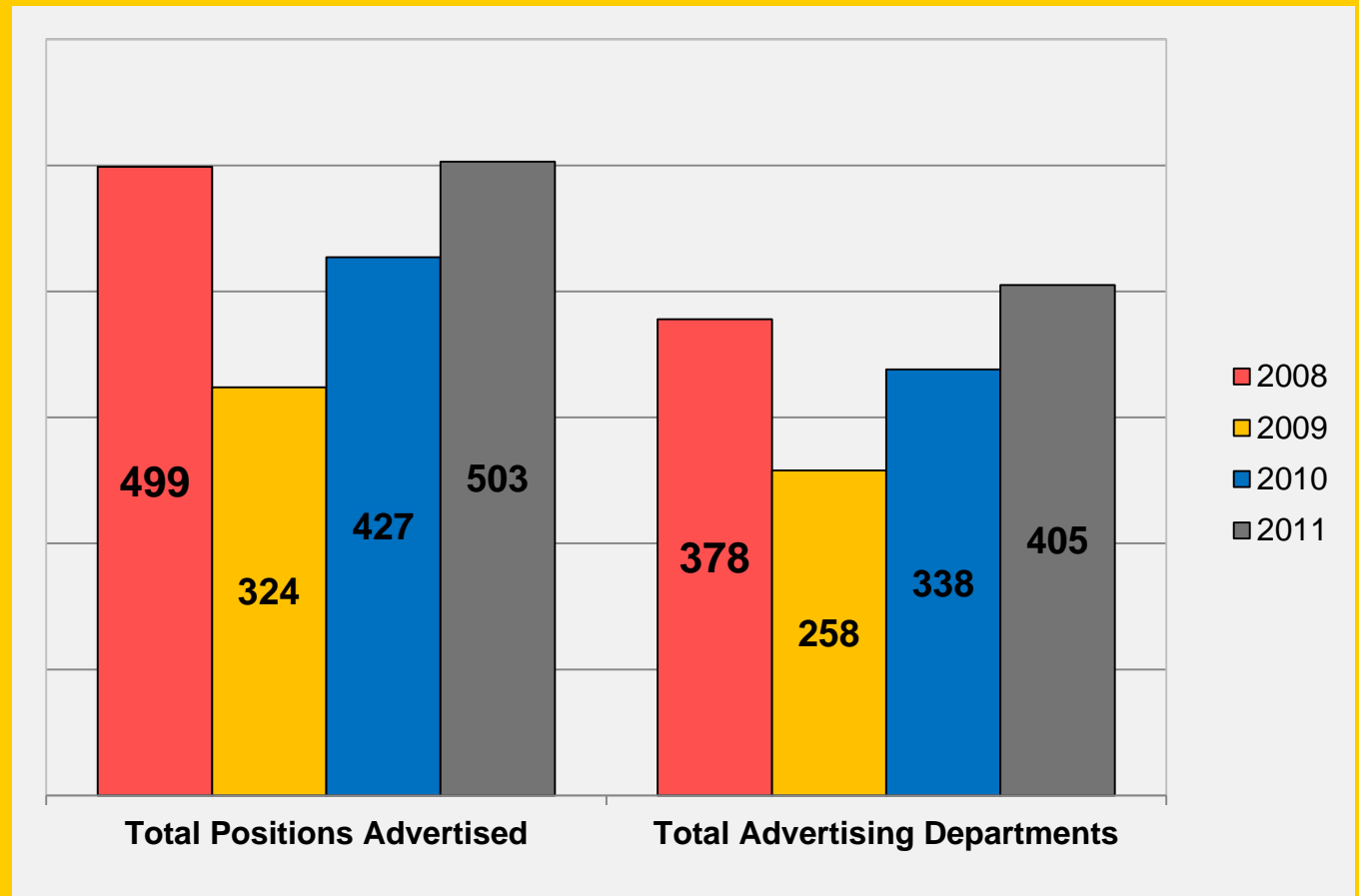


Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Completions, 1966-2009 (Washington, DC: NCES, 2010). Retrieved from <https://webcaspar.nsf.gov> (November 4, 2010).

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What Do We Do? Sociologists in the Work Force

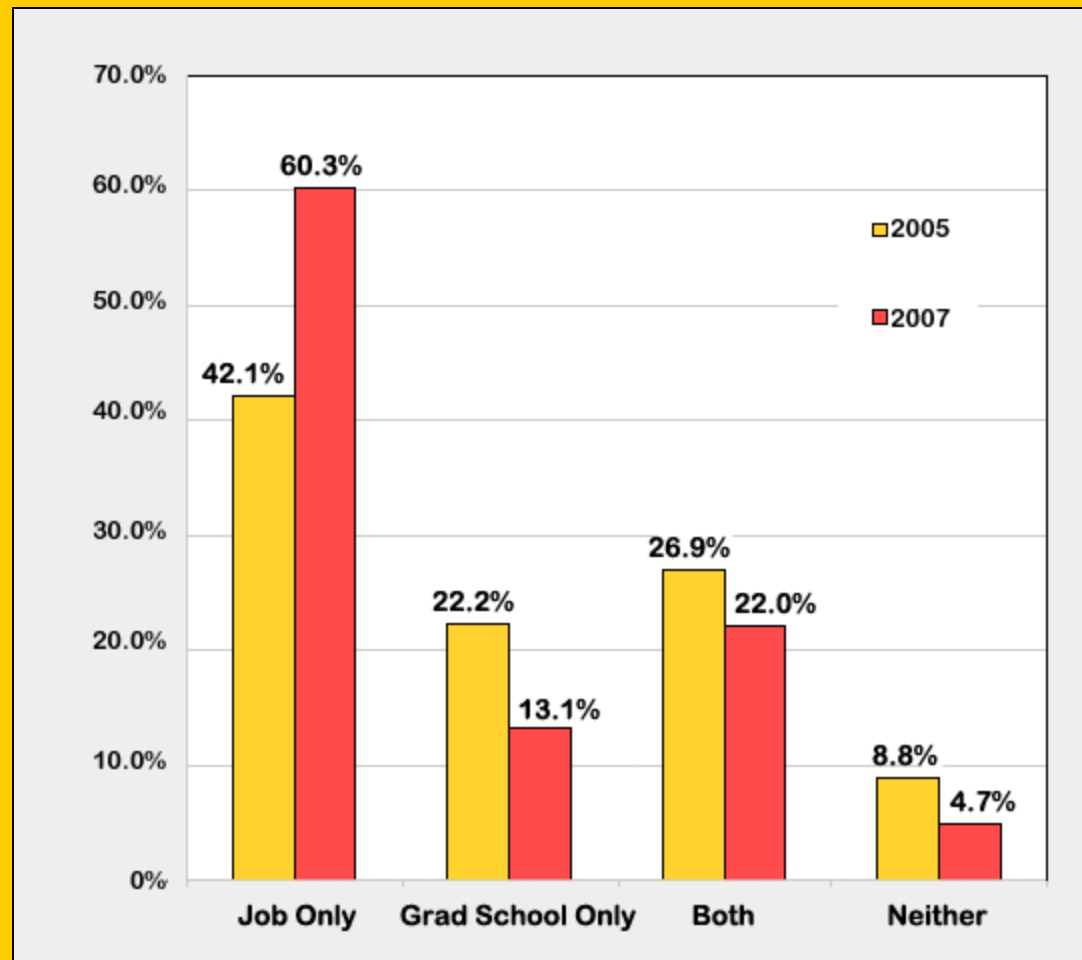
Assistant and Open Rank Faculty Positions Advertised Through the American Sociological Association, 2008 - 2011*



Source: ASA Job Bank Survey, 2008 - 2011

* Excludes foreign positions and departments.

More Sociology Bachelor's Recipients are in the Labor Market: Future Plans as Reported in 2005 versus 2007



Source: ASA Research and Development Department, *What Can I Do With a Bachelor's in Sociology? A National Survey of Seniors Majoring in Sociology Wave II, 2007*

Types of Occupations of Sociology Bachelor's Degree Recipients (2007)

<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Example</i>	<i>%</i>
Social Services, Counselors, Psychologists	Oversee AIDS outreach team	26.5
Administrative Support	Scheduler for a state representative	15.8
Management	Handle employment and labor relations	14.4
Marketing	Planning and developing marketing strategies	10.1
Services	Crime scene technician	8.3
Teachers, librarians	Provide reference, research, and database searching	8.1
Social Science, Researchers	Research climate change policies	5.7
Other professionals	Website design	6.8
Other	N/A	4.4

Source: ASA Research and Development Department, *What Can I Do With a Bachelor's in Sociology? A National Survey of Seniors Majoring in Sociology Wave II, 2007*

What Do They Study in Graduate School?

(in percents)

Professional Degree Fields	34.8
Social work/human services	18.3
Law, pre-law, or legal studies	8.4
Health professional and related sciences	8.1
Sociology	13.0
Other Degree Fields	24.6
Education	6.4
Psychology	5.0
Business	3.1
Criminology	2.7
Library Science	1.9
Political Science	1.6
Visual and performing arts	1.6
Languages, linguistics, literature, and letters	1.5
Area and Ethnic Studies	0.4
Urban and religious services	0.4
Other/Joint Programs	27.6
TOTAL	100.0

Source: ASA Research and Development Department, *What Can I Do With a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology?* Wave III

Types of Job Activities Differ Between Terminal Master's Graduates and Current Students

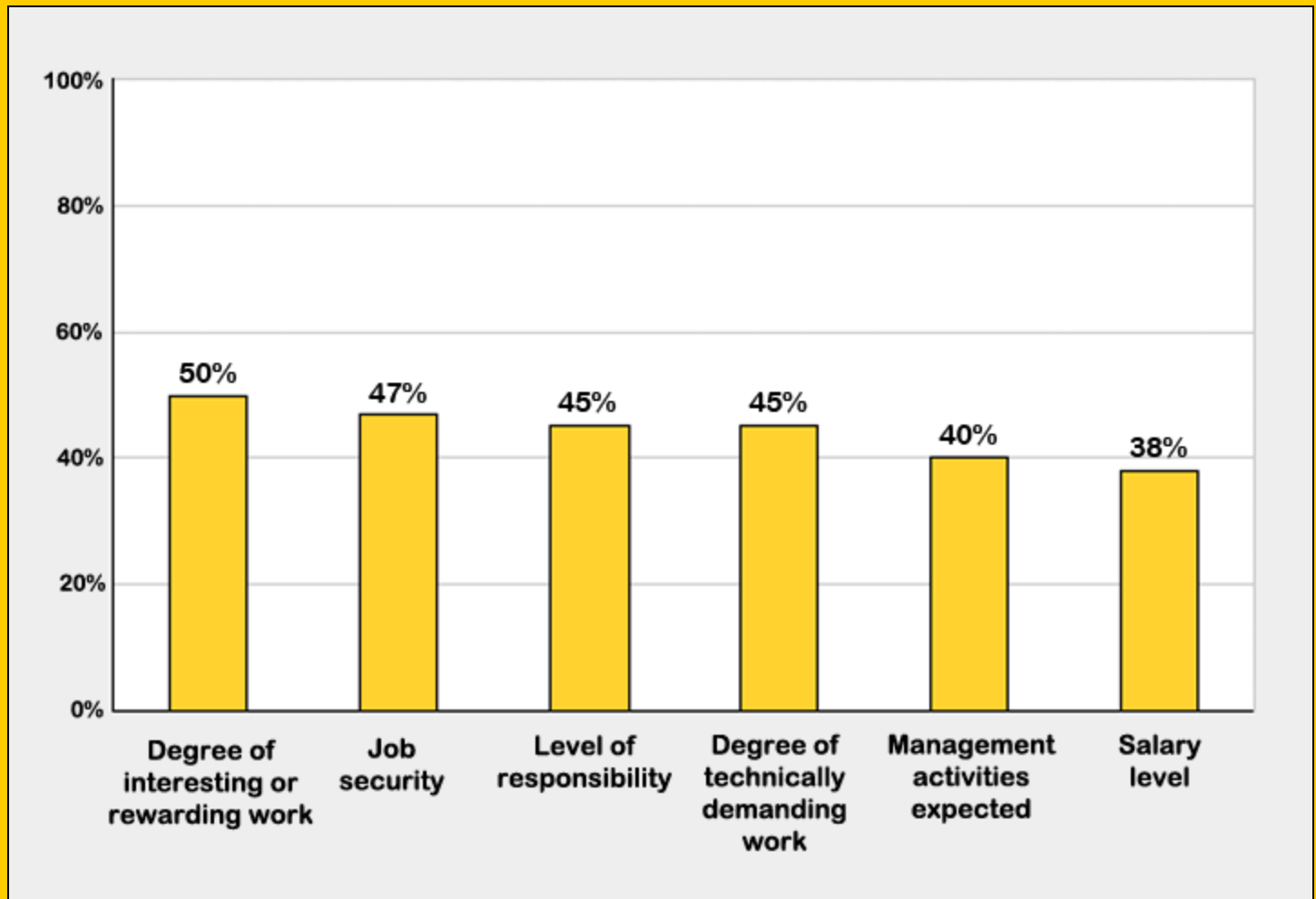
(in percents)

Primary work activities	Terminal Master's Graduate	Current Terminal Master's Student	Total
Accounting and finance	3.5	2.7	3.2
Applied or basic research	30.4	12.8	20.2
Computer programming	4.1	7.2	5.3
Employee relations	4.7	0.0	2.8
Managing or supervising	3.5	12.6	7.1
Professional services	6.4	12.6	8.9
Sales and marketing	10.5	9.0	9.9
Teaching	15.8	14.4	15.2
Working with diverse groups	9.4	5.4	7.8
Other	11.7	16.2	13.5
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0
(N)	171	111	282

Source: ASA Research and Development Department, What Can I Do With a Master's in Sociology? Wave III.

Master's Degrees Improve Job Conditions

(percentage of terminal master's graduates)



Source: ASA Research and Development Department, What Can I Do With a Master's in Sociology? Wave III.

Comparison of Specializations Listed in All Assistant and Open Rank Job Bank Advertisements in 2010 to Areas of Interest Selected by PhD Candidates on ASA Membership Forms in 2010

Specialization	Advertised Specialties (N=427)		Areas of Student Interest in 2010 (N=4,511)		Difference in % of Specialties Compared to Interest *
	%	Rank	%	Rank	%
Sociology of Culture	8.4	14	24.3	3	- 15.8
Inequalities and Stratification	19.7	6	34.7	1	- 15.0
Social Control, Law, Crime, and Deviance	30.9	1	17.9	7	+ 13.0
Politics and Social Change	23.0	2	33.9	2	- 10.9
Place and Environment	23.0	3	13.7	10	+ 9.3
Gender and Sexuality	10.3	13	19.6	5	- 9.3

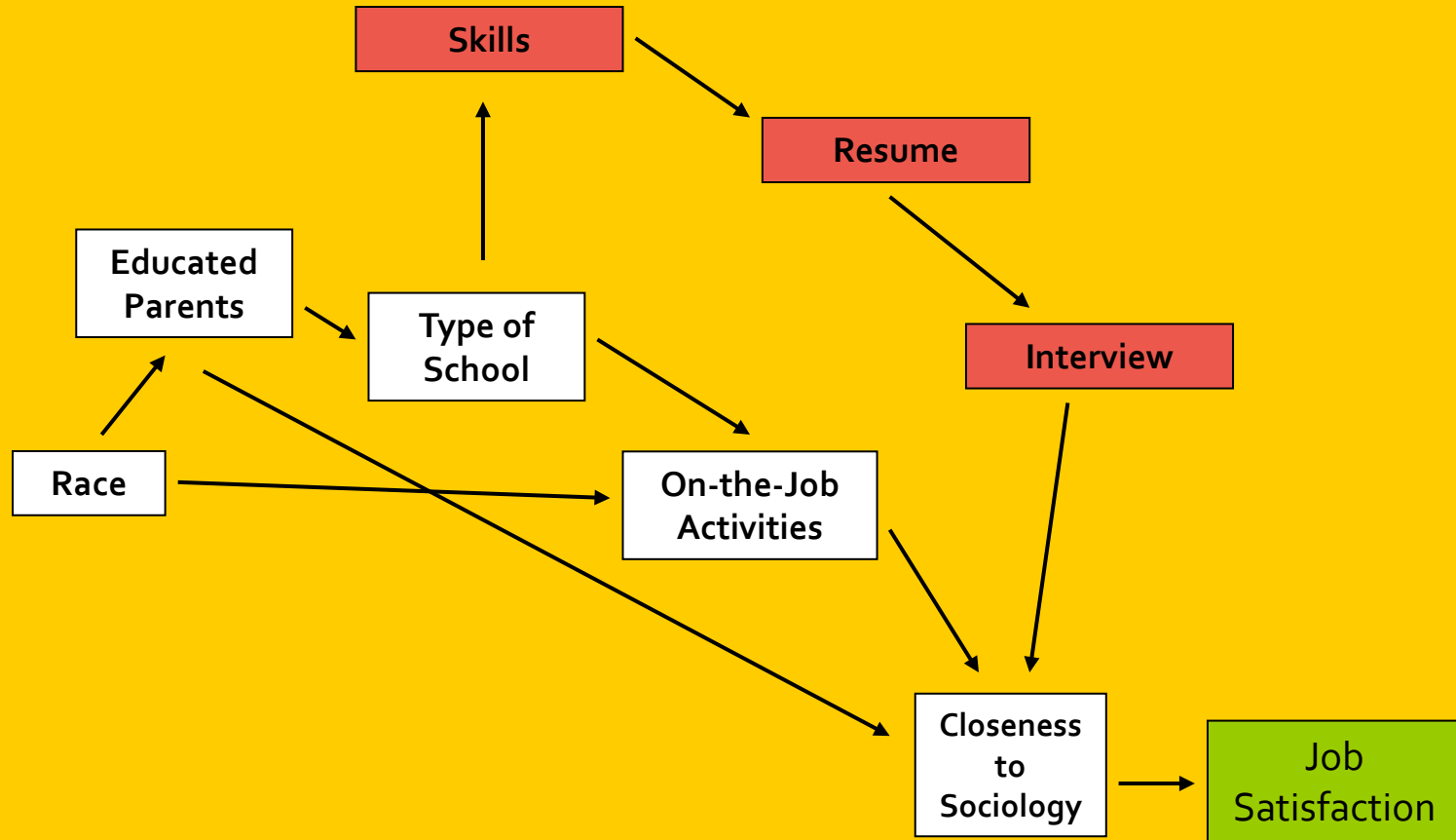
Sources: ASA Job Bank and Membership databases.

* A minus sign indicates an oversupply of graduate students. A plus sign indicates an undersupply.



Job Satisfaction

Sociology Bachelor's Degree Recipients' Pathways to Job Satisfaction



Source: ASA Research and Development Department, *What Can I Do With a Bachelor's in Sociology? A National Survey of Seniors Majoring in Sociology Wave II, 2007*

Factors Related to Job Satisfaction for Master's Graduates*

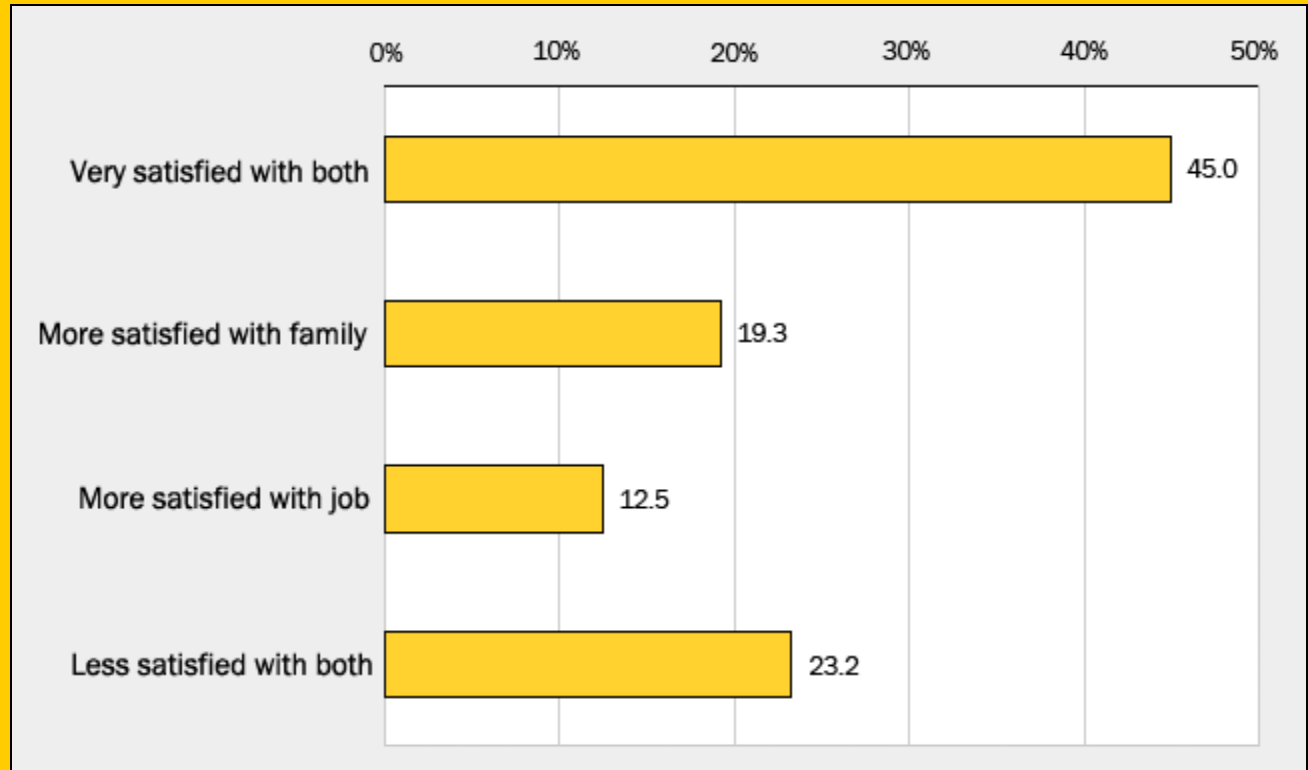


Source: ASA Research and Development Department, *What Can I Do With a Master's in Sociology? Wave III*.

* Based on a regression model. Black text indicates variables in the model that are not significant at the 0.05 level.

PhD Job and Family Satisfaction, 2006

(in percents)



Source: ASA Research and Development Department, *PhD+10: A Follow-Up Survey on Career and Family Transitions Out of the Academic Sector*, 2007.

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Intellectual Activities

Total ASA Membership by Race/Ethnicity in 2001 and 2010*

(in percents)

<i>Racial and Ethnic Categories</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2010</i>
African American	4.9	6.0
Asian or Pacific Islander	5.1	5.4
Hispanic	3.4	4.3
White	68.3	64.0
Did Not Report Race/Ethnicity	15.1	17.2
TOTAL	100.0	100.0
(N)	12,365	13,708

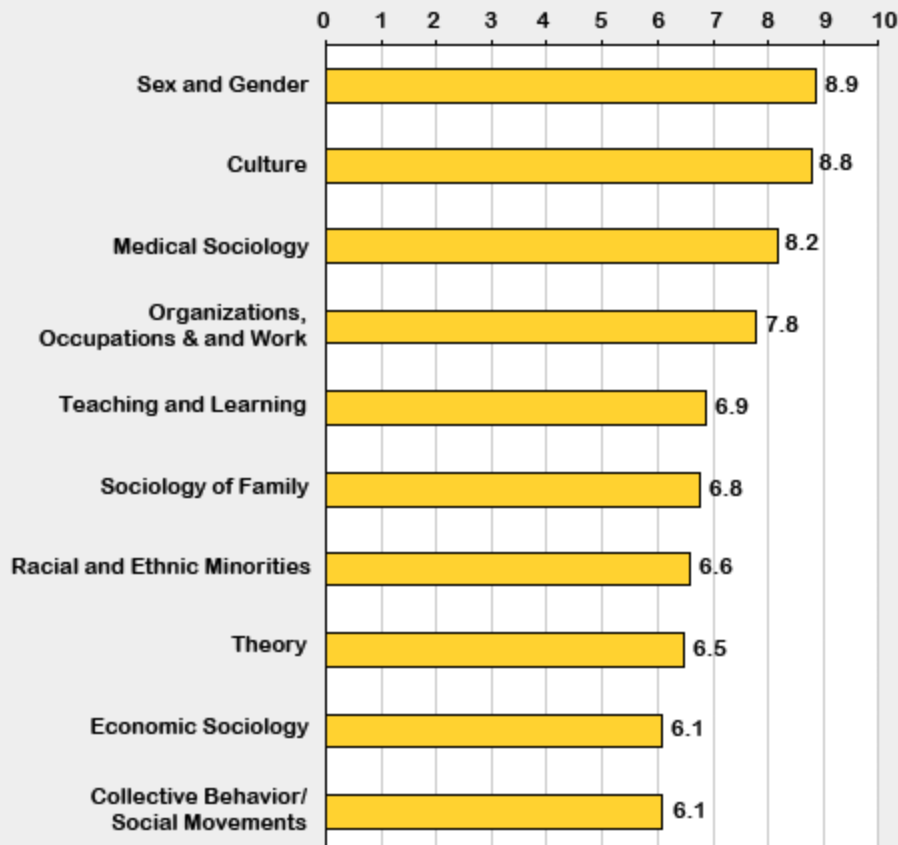
Source: ASA Membership Database

***Excludes Native American and Other categories.**

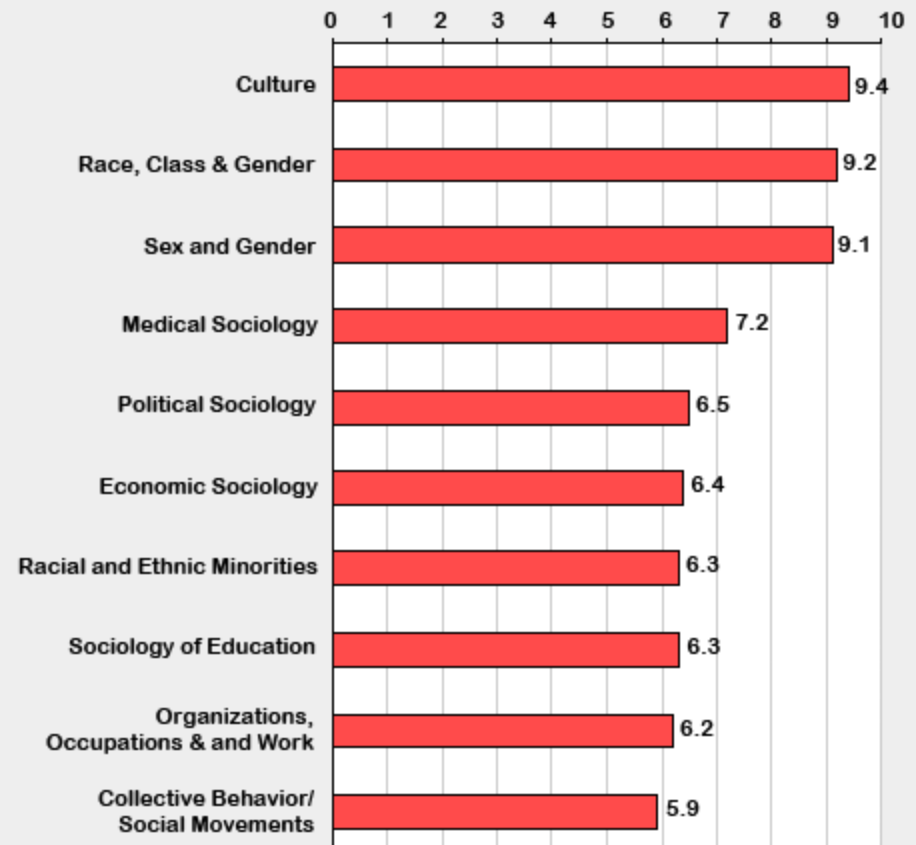
Top 10 Sections in 2010, by Membership Status

(rank and percent of group)

REGULAR MEMBERS



STUDENT MEMBERS

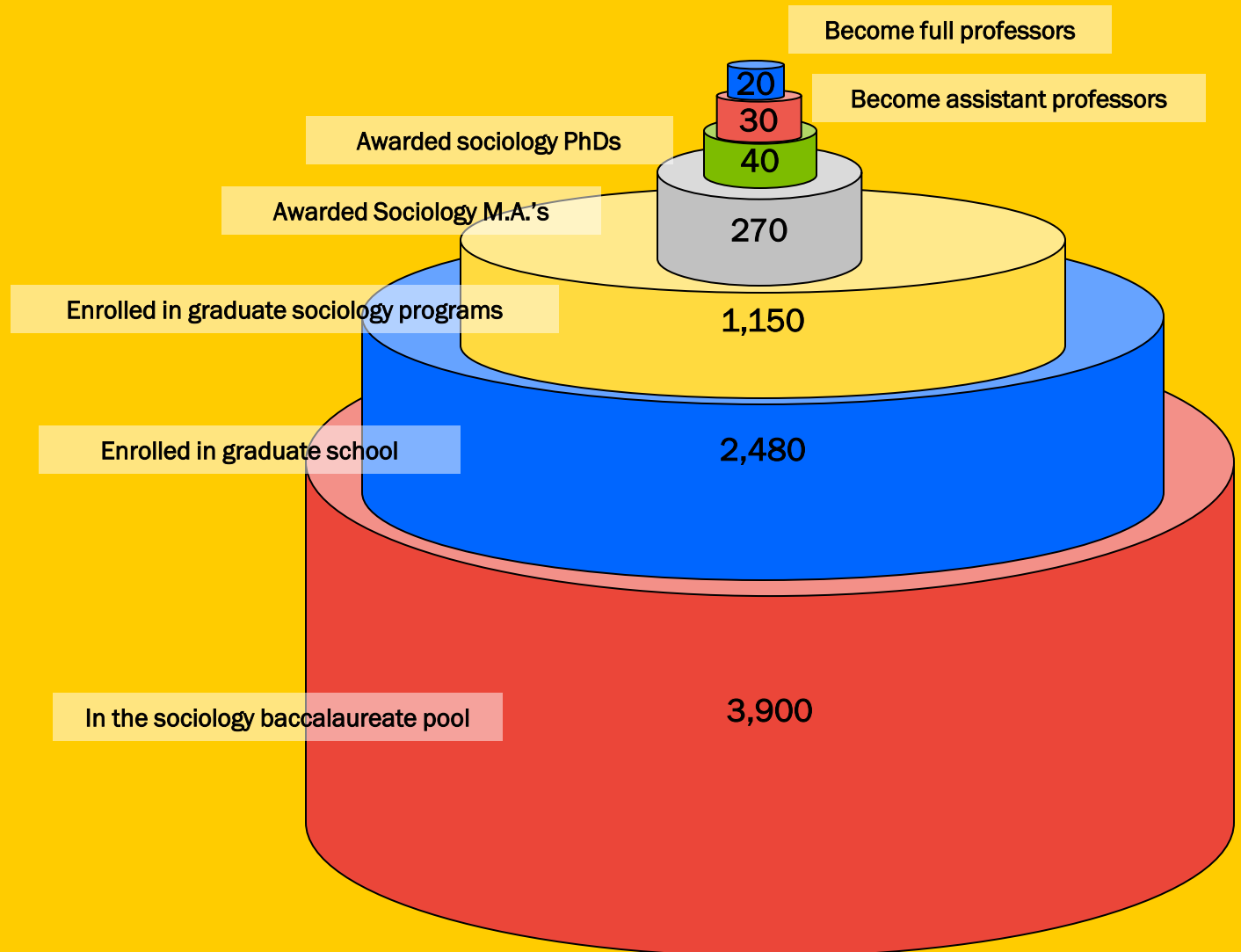




African Americans in the Sociology Pipeline

The Survival of African Americans in the Sociology "Career Pipeline"

(estimated number of students/faculty)





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Visit the ASA Research Department on the web.

<http://www.asanet.org/research/index.cfm>