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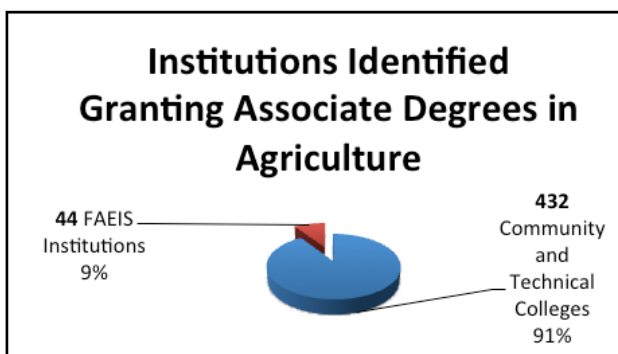
October 2013  
Issue 25

# FAEIS News

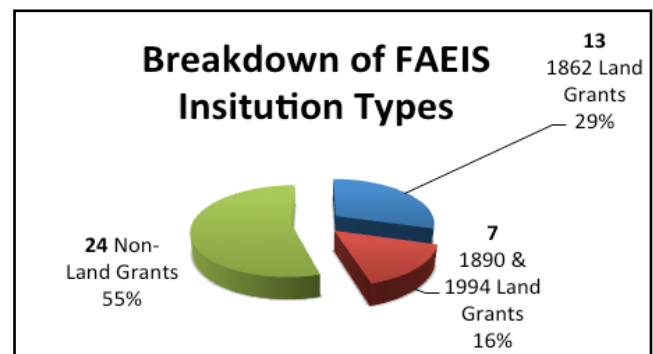
## Associate Degrees in Agriculture

For the October newsletter, we take a look at associate degrees in agricultural disciplines at 476 institutions across the nation. FAEIS now has complete data for agriculture associate degrees. Degree data for Land Grant and non-Land Grant institutions comes from FAEIS student surveys. Degree data for two-year community and technical colleges has been loaded into FAEIS from IPEDS (Integrated Postsecondary Education System).

We investigated the overall growth of students graduating with an agriculture associate degree and how that trend compares with the total number of associate degrees granted. We dug a little deeper and found patterns of ethnicity and gender within agriculture associate degrees over a period of time. We have also included a short article profiling one of the more successful agriculture associate degree programs in the country —the Agricultural Technical Institute at the Ohio State University.

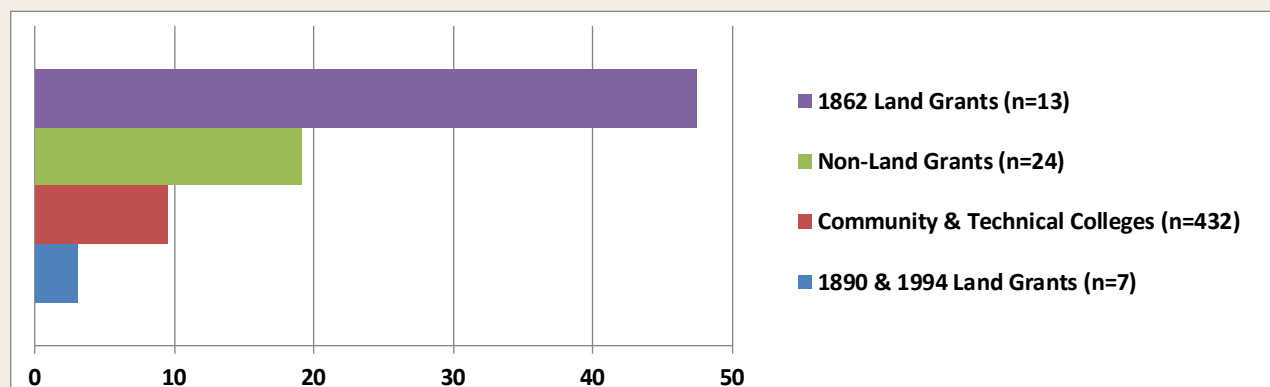


**Figure 1.** 476 Institutions identified as granting associate degrees in agricultural disciplines — 432 community and technical colleges and 44 FAEIS institutions.



**Figure 2.** Of the 44 FAEIS institutions, 24 are non-land grant, 13 are 1862 land grant and seven are 1890 & 1994 land grant.

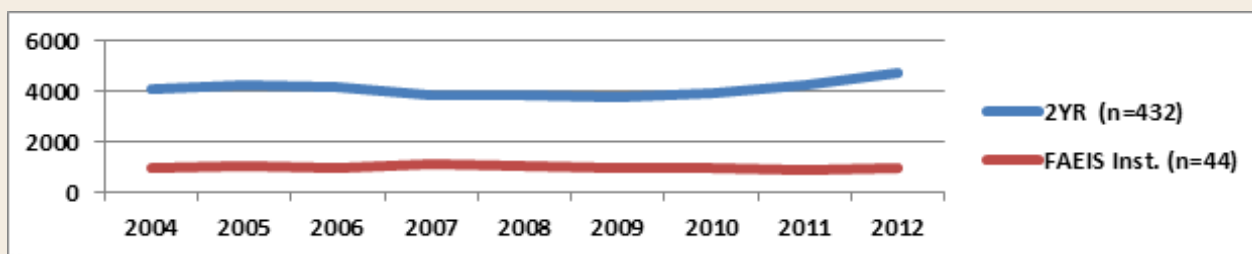
## Average Annual Agriculture Associate Degrees Granted by Institution Type



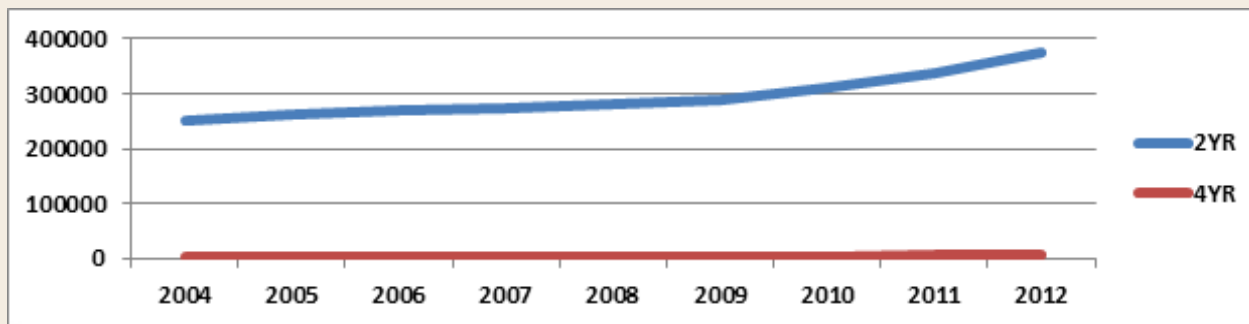
**Figure 3.** This graph shows the average annual degrees awarded per institution for each institution type between 2004-2012.

## Growth of Agriculture Associate Degrees

Although they fluctuated between 2004 and 2012, the number of agriculture associate degrees granted in 2012 was 12 % higher than the average over nine years. Figure 4 shows the number of degrees awarded by two-year institutions versus FAEIS institutions. For comparison, Figure 5 shows the total number of associate degrees awarded in that same period. Agriculture degrees comprise just 1.5% of the total associate degrees granted in 2012. Growth in agriculture associate degrees is much lower when compared to the total number of degrees.



**Figure 4.** This graph shows the number of agriculture associate degrees granted by two-year institutions versus FAEIS institutions over a nine-year period. Most of the growth came from two-year institutions as opposed to land grant and non-land grant universities.



**Figure 5.** Total associate degrees granted at all 476 institutions —two-year and four-year institutions.

## Gender Trends

The growth in agriculture associate degrees between 2004 and 2012 came primarily from males; in 2012, they received 62% of agriculture associate degrees.

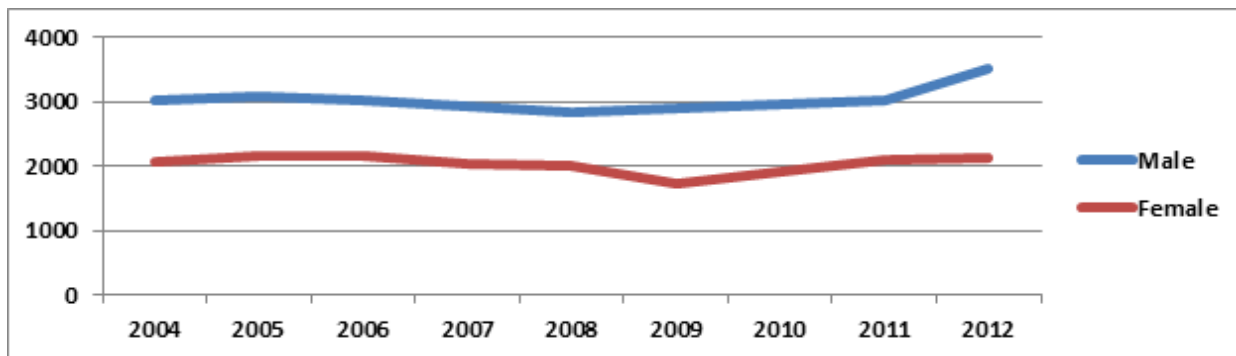


Figure 6. Agriculture associate degrees received by males versus females between 2004 and 2012.

## Ethnicity Trends

FAEIS data can be used to better understand patterns of ethnicity in agriculture associate degree programs across the nation. We compared the trends of white versus non-white students between 2004 and 2012 (Figure 7) and the fluctuations in minority enrollment within agriculture associate degree programs in the same time period (Figure 8).

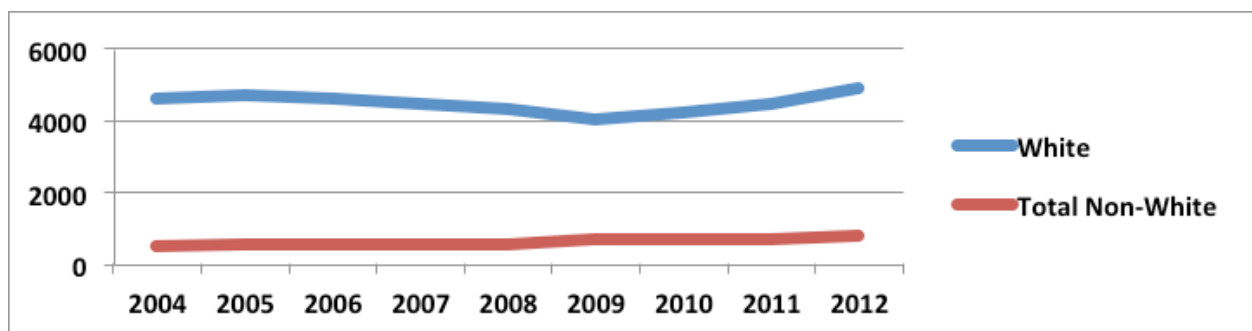


Figure 7. White versus non-white agriculture associate students between 2004 and 2012. The number of non-whites who received associate degrees in agriculture grew from 10% to 14% in 2012.

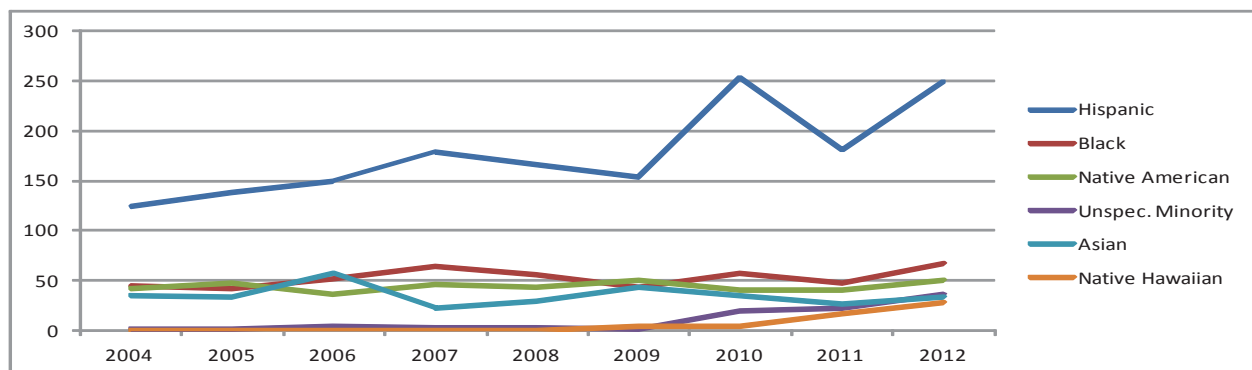


Figure 8. Ethnicity trends between 2004 and 2012. Hispanics are the fastest growing group.

## Top Ten States for Agriculture Associate Degrees in 2004-2012

1. New York	4271
2. California	3760
3. Illinois	3520
4. Ohio	3232
5. Iowa	3108
6. North Carolina	2878
7. Nebraska	1820
8. Texas	1669
9. Kansas	1422
10. Oklahoma	1330



## Top Institutions for Agriculture Associate Degrees in 2004-2012

**Top 20 Land Grant and Non-Land Grant Institutions for Agriculture Associates Degrees Awarded in 2004-2012**

The Ohio State University	1511
North Carolina State University	1328
Morrisville State College	933
SUNY at Cobleskil	879
University of Massachusetts	852
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	479
Virginia Tech	389
Purdue University	370
University of Puerto Rico- Utuado	315
University of New Hampshire	314
University of Connecticut	234
Vermont Technical College	212
Utah State University	131
Dickinson State University	98
Montana State University-Northern	81
Ferris State University	76
South Dakota State University	73
Eastern Kentucky University	56
University of Minnesota- Crookston	54
University of Arkansas at Monticello	53

**Top 20 Community and Technical Colleges for Agriculture Associates Degrees Awarded in 2004-2012**

Kirkwood Community College	960
Moorpark College	956
University of Northwestern Ohio	736
Modesto Junior College	585
Northeast Community College	585
Southeast Community College (Nebraska)	581
Walla Walla Community College	575
Black Hawk College	510
Santa Fe Community College (Florida)	507
Northeast Iowa Community College - Calmar	466
Lake Land College	447
Rend Lake College	406
Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture	397
Hawkeye Community College	388
North Dakota State College of Science	370
Lake Area Technical Institute	365
Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College	359
Iowa Lakes Community College	347
Southeast Technical Institute	332
Joliet Junior College	310

## *In the Spotlight....Agricultural Technical Institute at the Ohio State University*

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When you're hurtling down a roller coaster at Disney World or sipping wine in a Napa Valley vineyard, associate degrees in agriculture are probably not one of the few things going through your mind.

But maybe they should be.

Research and work done by graduates from agricultural associate degree programs keeps our society functioning in ways that may not occur to you.

Someone with an agriculture degree probably cultivated the gardens at Disney World, and many wine masters use their experience in an agriculture degree program to cultivate a fine blend.

These programs teach students to apply technical knowledge to a wide spectrum of specialties including managing an agriculture business, operating farm equipment, caring for livestock, designing floral arrangements and conducting agricultural research.

The Agricultural Technical Institute at the Ohio State University is an open enrollment, open admission institution that functions as a school within the university.

ATI draws people from all over the U.S., and it's one of the most successful programs of its type in the nation.



According to Steve Neal, ATI's assistant director of academic affairs, the key to their success lies largely in community support.

"We have tremendous industry and commodity group supporters," Neal says. "Our advisory committee represents all the factions of the industry, and they rely on us to produce a skilled workforce."

ATI cuts to chase – the students in this program are here to equip themselves with applicable knowledge, whether it's how to operate a milking parlor or run a floral design business. This program prides itself on focusing on those needs.

Agriculture is a close-knit community, but its impact spreads far and can be seen in almost every aspect of our society.

So maybe next time you're standing in line at Disney World, playing golf or wine tasting, you'll thank a friend in Ag – or better yet, bring them along.

—Kelly Izlar  
FAEIS



## Contributors >>>

### *Editors*

*Dr. Mary A. Marchant*

*Bill Richardson*

*Dr. Eric Smith*

*Dr. Eric Vance*

*Kelly Izlar*

### *Graphic Designer and Writer*

*Kelly Izlar*

### *The FAEIS Team*

*Bill Richardson*

*Dr. Mary A. Marchant*

*Dr. Eric Smith*

*Dr. Eric Vance*

*Kelly Izlar*

### *Photos provided by*

*Kelsey Kradel*

*Michael Shroyer*

*John McCormick*

*Logan Wallace*

