

FAEIS Newsletter

December 15, 2009

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Happy Holidays from the FAEIS team at Virginia Tech! With a new survey year now under way, we want to thank you for helping us to reach 100% participation for most of our sponsoring organizations for last year's surveys!

FAEIS 2009 Surveys Are Open

The 2009 FAEIS Surveys are open for data entry, with the following components:

- Student Enrollments by Discipline - Fall, 2009
- Degrees Awarded - 2008/2009
- Placement of Graduates - 2008/2009
- Annual Faculty Survey
- International Programs

[Click here to see the status of the 2009 student surveys for your institution.](#)

[Click here to login to FAEIS Data Entry.](#)

We'll be sending out email reminders for the FAEIS surveys this month and next.

Exploring the Pipeline - Faculty Counts and PhD Graduates

We thought that it may be interesting to explore what the pipeline of PhD graduates looks like for filling faculty positions. The charts below show an analysis of faculty and PhD data that exists in the FAEIS faculty and degrees awarded databases. We selected the Academic Area that has the highest number of PhD graduates for each of the three major FAEIS program areas:

- Plant Science (Agriculture)
- Human Development, Family Studies, and Related Services
- Natural Resources Conservation and Research

[Click here to see the list of Disciplines included in each of these Academic Areas.](#)

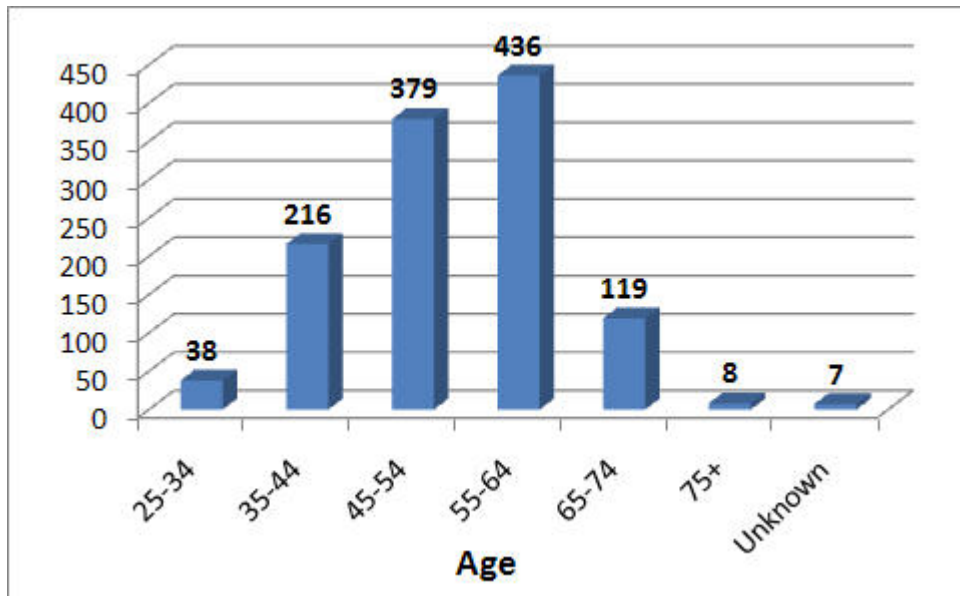
Faculty included in these counts are full-time, tenured and tenure-track faculty. Using the 10 year age brackets found in FAEIS, as one might expect, the largest group of faculty for all three program area examples exist in the 55-64 age bracket (baby boomers!).

Combining the older age brackets of 55-64, 65-74 & 75+ we find:

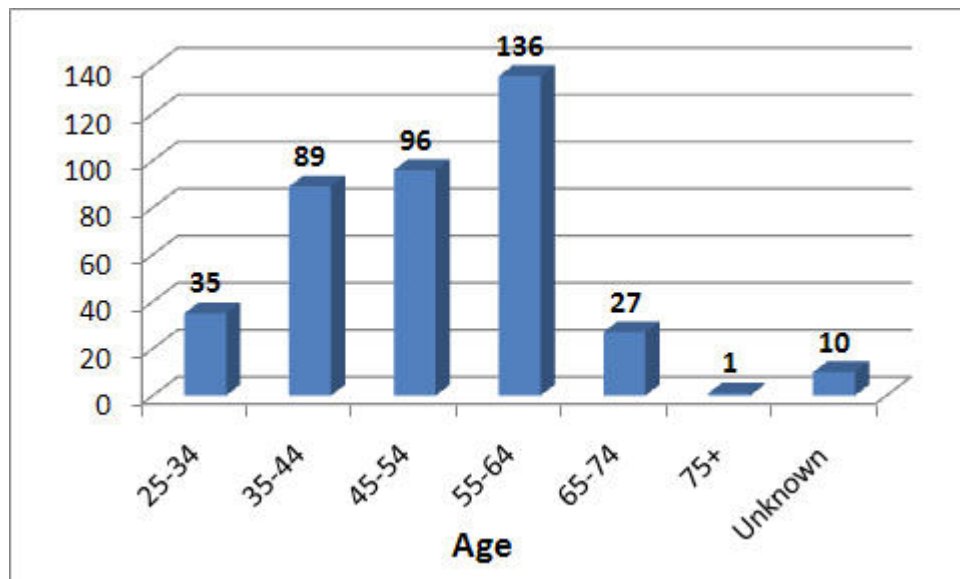
- Plant Science - 47% of faculty of known age are in the 55 – 74 age range (563 faculty in 2008)
- Human Development, Family Studies, and Related Services - 43% of faculty of known age are in the 55 – 74 age range (164 faculty in 2008)
- Natural Resources Conservation and Research - 47% of faculty of known age are in the 55 – 74 age range (80 faculty in 2008)

So the majority of faculty in each academic area is actually in the three younger age brackets (25-34; 35-44; 45-54).

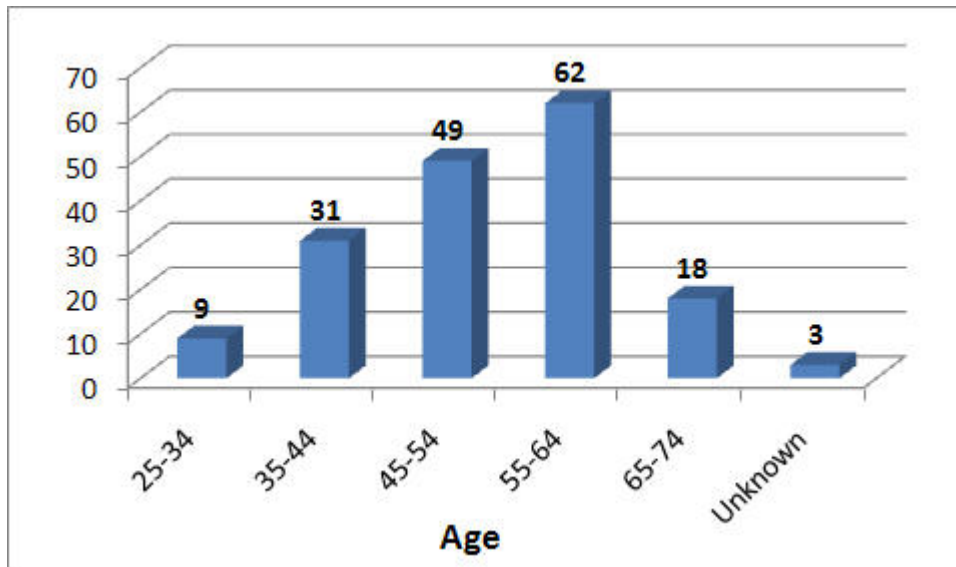
Faculty Count in Plant Sciences at All Institutions in 2008



Faculty Count in Human Development, Family Studies, and Related Services at All Institutions in 2008



Faculty Count in Natural Resources Conservation and Research at All Institutions in 2008

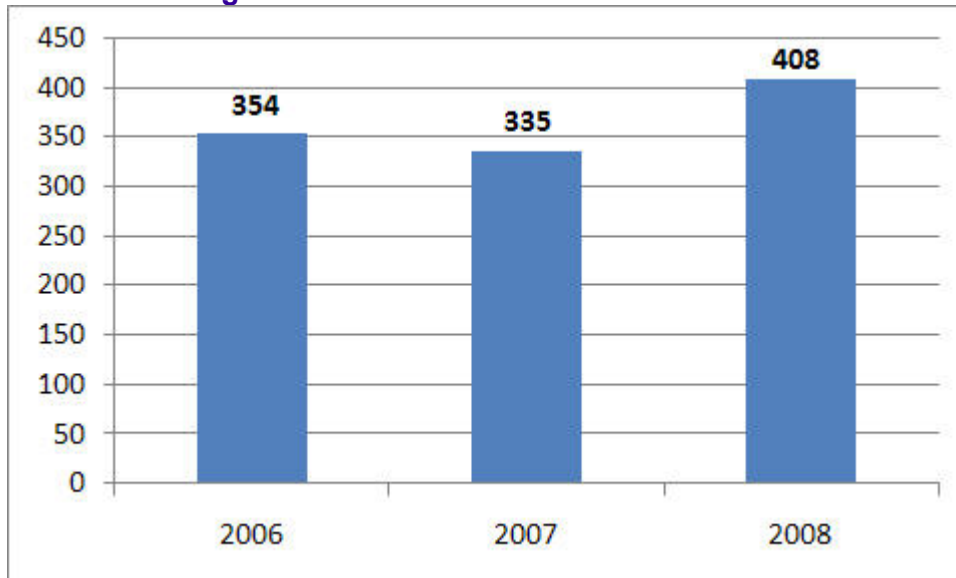


There is a growth in the number of PhD degrees awarded since 2006 for the Plant Science and Natural Resources Conservation and Research academic areas. The number of PhD degrees awarded in the Human Development, Family Studies, and Related Services academic area is flat. The number of new PhD graduates in 2008 for each of the three academic areas is:

- Plant Science – 408 in 2008 (1,097 for 2006-2008)
- Human Development, Family Studies, and Related Services - 90 in 2008 (265 for 2006-2008)
- Natural Resources Conservation and Research – 125 in 2008 (304 for 2006-2008)

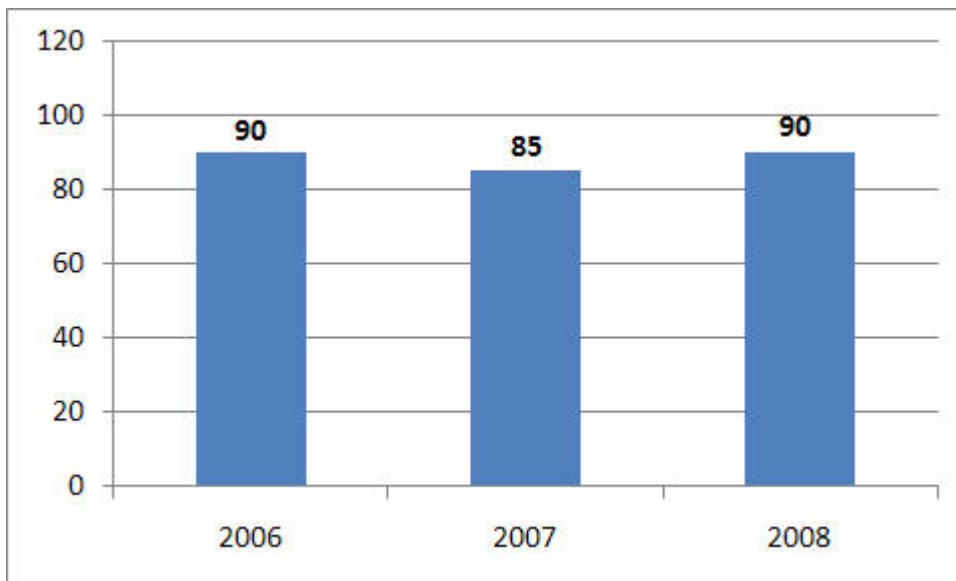
So at least for these three academic areas, there appears to be a full pipeline of graduates that could fill faculty vacancies.

Doctorate Degrees Awarded in Plant Sciences at All Institutions



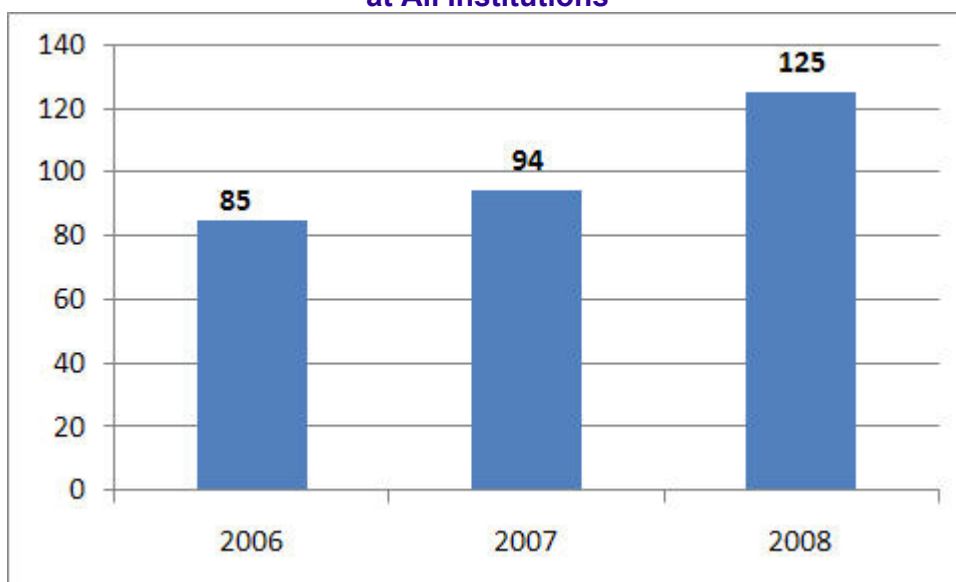
[See list of institutions in FAEIS graduating PhDs in this academic area.](#)

Doctorate Degrees Awarded in Human Development, Family Studies, and Related Services at All Institutions



[See list of institutions in FAEIS graduating PhDs in this academic area.](#)

Doctorate Degrees Awarded Natural Resources Conservation and Research at All Institutions



[See list of institutions in FAEIS graduating PhDs in this academic area.](#)

The FAEIS team would be happy to work with you to explore similar analysis for other disciplines. Please feel free to contact us at faeis@vt.edu or (540) 231-4941.

Have a question?

[Ask FAEIS](#)



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