

# **Arkansas Division of Higher Education**

## **Annual Report of Credentials Awarded at Arkansas Institutions of Higher Education**

**Academic Year 2017-18**



**Research & Analytics**

**December 2019**

**Arkansas Division of Higher Education**

423 Main Street, Little Rock, AR 72201

## ANNUAL REPORT OF CREDENTIALS AWARDED

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Every year colleges and universities submit a Graduated Student File to the Arkansas Higher Education Information System (SIS). This file contains a record for every certificate and degree awarded to students by the institution between July 1<sup>st</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. This year's annual report includes AY2018 credentials awarded between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018.

### Statewide Trends

The last five academic years show a steady growth of credentials with 44,571 credentials awarded to all institutions in AY 2018. Total AY 2018 credentials for all institutions increased 1.2% over AY 2017 and showed a 7.8% increase since AY 2014. The 4-year universities had the largest one-year increase showing a 5.3% increase over total credentials awarded in AY 2017. Both the 2-year colleges and the private/independent institutions showed decreases comparing AY 2018 to AY 2017. The 2-year colleges had a 4.2% decline, while the private institutions showed a one-year decrease of 3.6%.

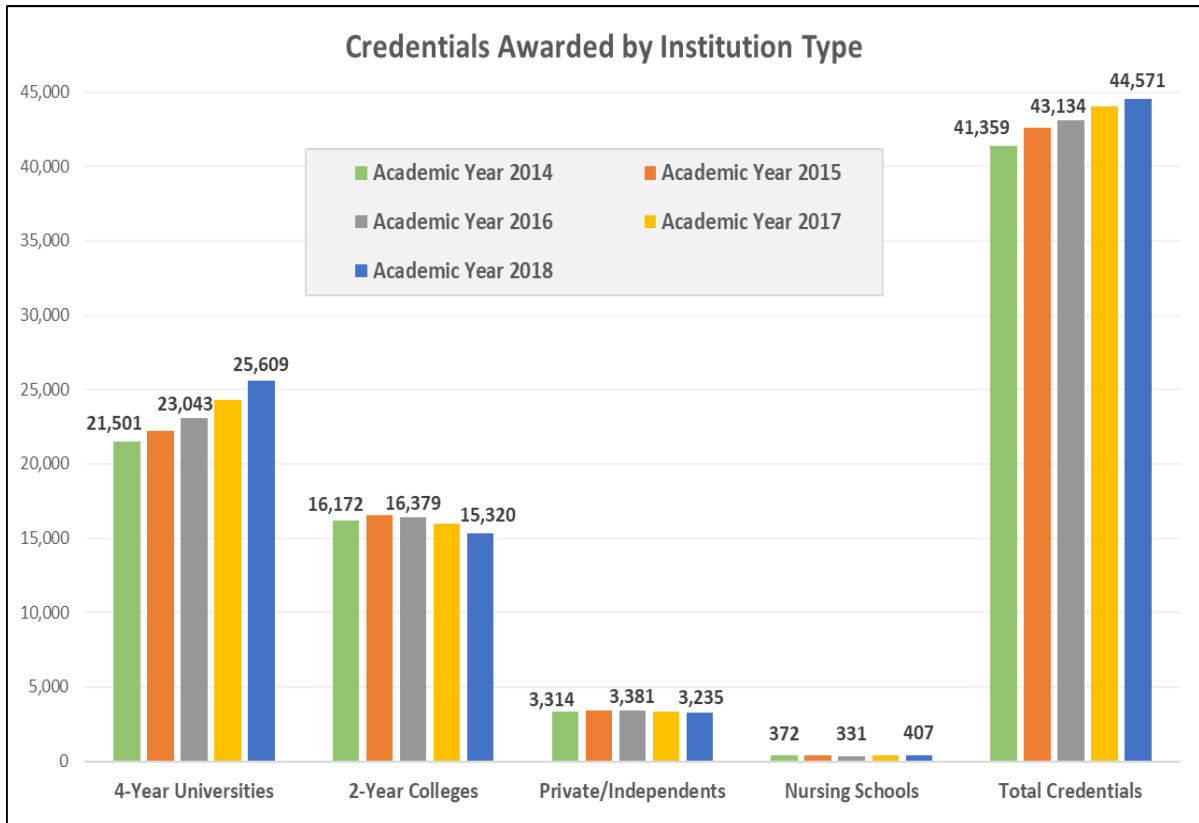


Chart 3.1: Five-Year History of Credentials Awarded by Institution Type

When looking at the five-year trends by credential type, all undergraduate levels reported an increase in awards over AY 2017, except for Technical Certificates, which had a 5.9% decrease. The undergraduate trends are reported below in Chart 3.2.

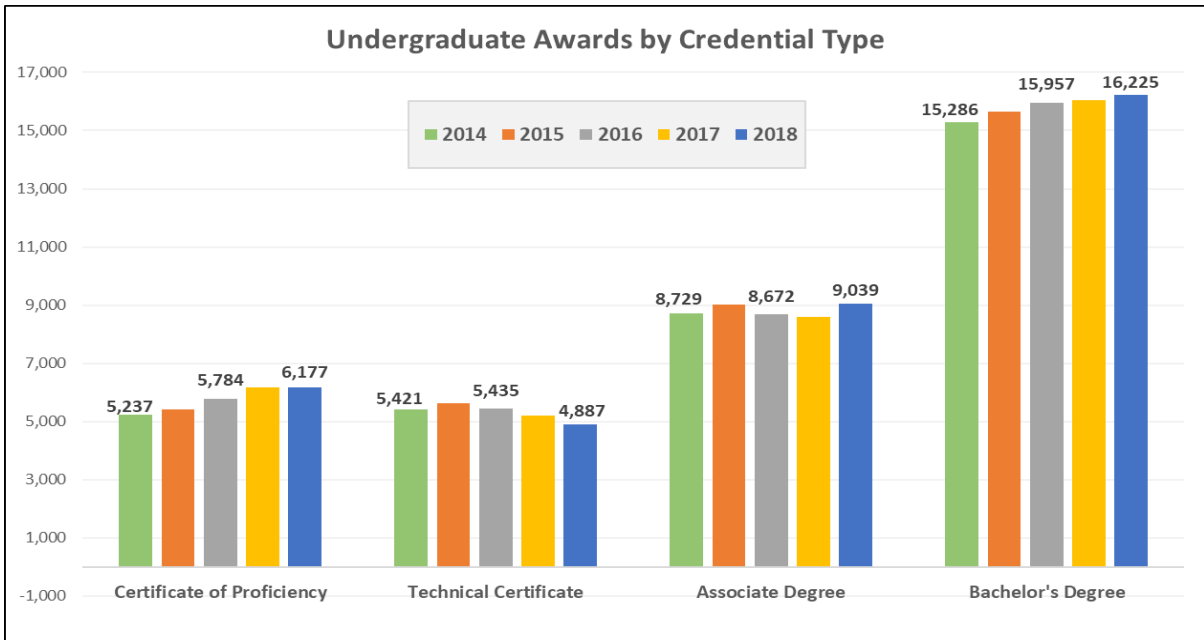


Chart 3.2: Five-year History of Undergraduate Credentials

For the graduate level credentials, Post-Bacc Certificates showed a one-year increase of 77.4%. Both Post-Masters/Specialist and Doctoral-Research degrees reported a 15% increase from AY 2017 to AY 2018.

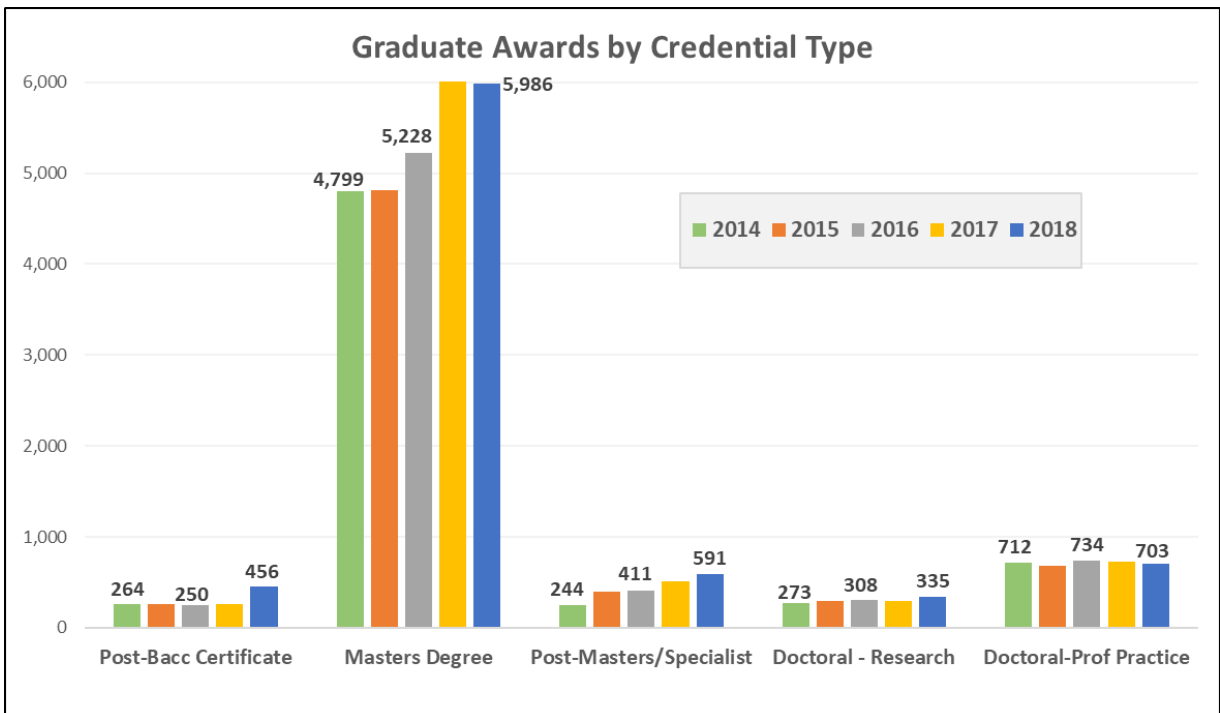


Chart 3.3: Five-year History of Graduate Credentials

Gender percentages tend to fluctuate very little from year to year. Female students comprise between 58% - 60% of students receiving credentials each year. The 2-year colleges experienced a 3.5% decline in the number of credentials awarded to female students, and the private institutions reported a modest decrease of less than 2.0%. The 4-year institutions had a 6.5% increase in credentials awarded to female students in AY 2018 over AY 2017. The nursing schools credentials awarded to female students increased slightly at 1.2%. The most significant five-year change belongs to the 4-year universities, which reported a 16.4% increase in credentials awarded to female students. See chart 3.4 for a five-year trend of credentials awarded to female students.

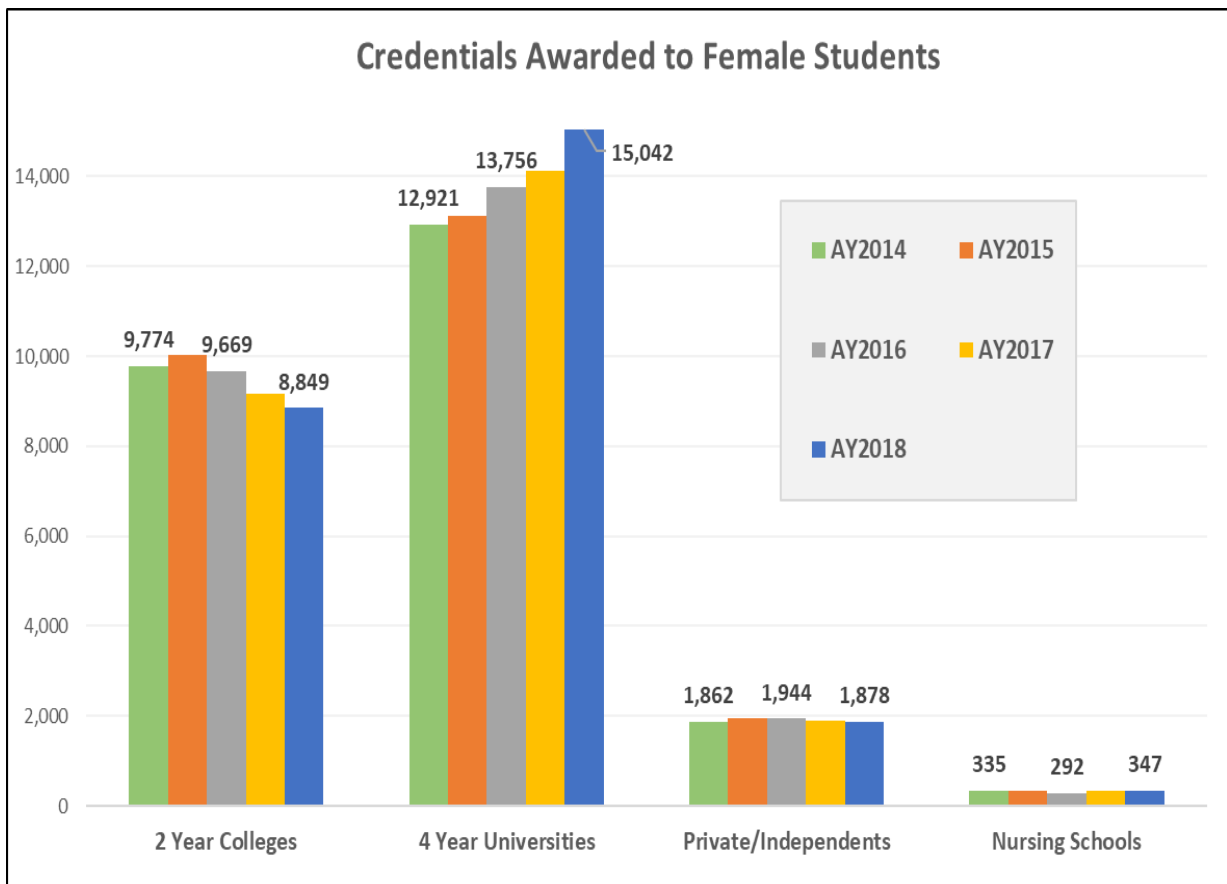


Chart 3.4: Five-year History of Credentials Awarded to Female Students

The 2-year colleges showed a 5.2% decrease in awards to male students from AY 2017 to AY 2018. The 4-year universities reported a one-year 3.7% increase. The private institutions declined 6.2% from AY 2017 to AY 2018, and the nursing schools saw an increase of 23 awards to male students, which translates to an increase of 62.2%. The most significant five-year increase for the male students was 23.2 at the 4-year universities. Chart 3.5 provides a look at the history of credentials awarded to male students.

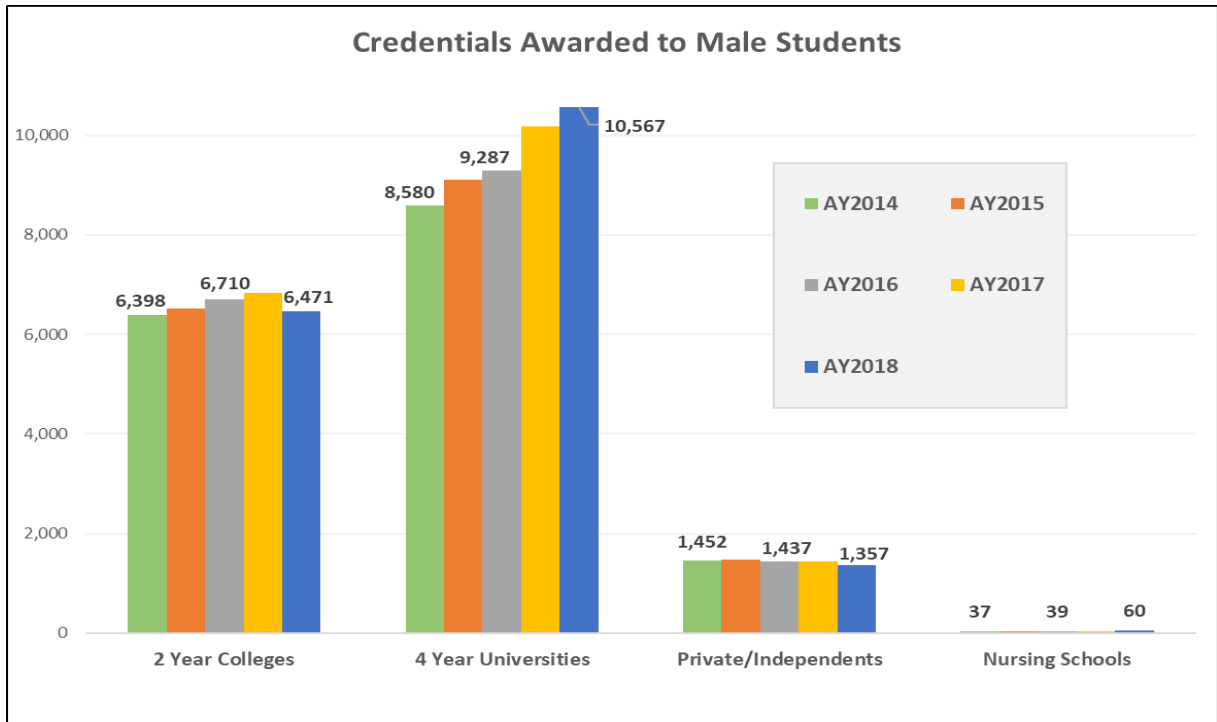


Chart 3.5: Five-year History of Credentials Awarded to Male Students

When looking at race and ethnicity, all races showed a one-year percent increase except for black students; however, their decline was less than 1%. The number of Hispanic students receiving credentials in AY 2018 increased 17.2% over AY 2017. International student credentials decreased from AY 2017 to AY 2018 by almost 6% statewide. Five-year trends showed considerable increases for all races, except Black students reported a 6.8% decline.

| Race/Ethnicity           | Academic Year |        |        |        |        | 1-Year Change | 5-Year Change |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------------|---------------|
|                          | 2014          | 2015   | 2016   | 2017   | 2018   |               |               |
| More than two races      | 1,042         | 933    | 1,359  | 1,381  | 1,479  | 7.1%          | 41.9%         |
| American Indian          | 327           | 334    | 331    | 314    | 363    | 15.6%         | 11.0%         |
| Asian                    | 558           | 621    | 619    | 591    | 688    | 16.4%         | 23.3%         |
| Black                    | 6,371         | 6,393  | 6,416  | 5,981  | 5,938  | -0.7%         | -6.8%         |
| Hispanic                 | 1,497         | 1,757  | 1,959  | 2,057  | 2,410  | 17.2%         | 61.0%         |
| Native Hawaiian          | 33            | 32     | 30     | 34     | 42     | 23.5%         | 27.3%         |
| International - Non-U.S. | 1,204         | 1,265  | 1,483  | 1,883  | 1,771  | -5.9%         | 47.1%         |
| White                    | 29,960        | 30,879 | 30,630 | 30,381 | 31,200 | 2.7%          | 4.1%          |

Table 3.6: Five-year History by race/ethnicity

## Credential Trends by Institution

The following charts provide a five-year history of credentials awarded by institution. The institutions are separated into multiple graphs to allow for better trend analyses.

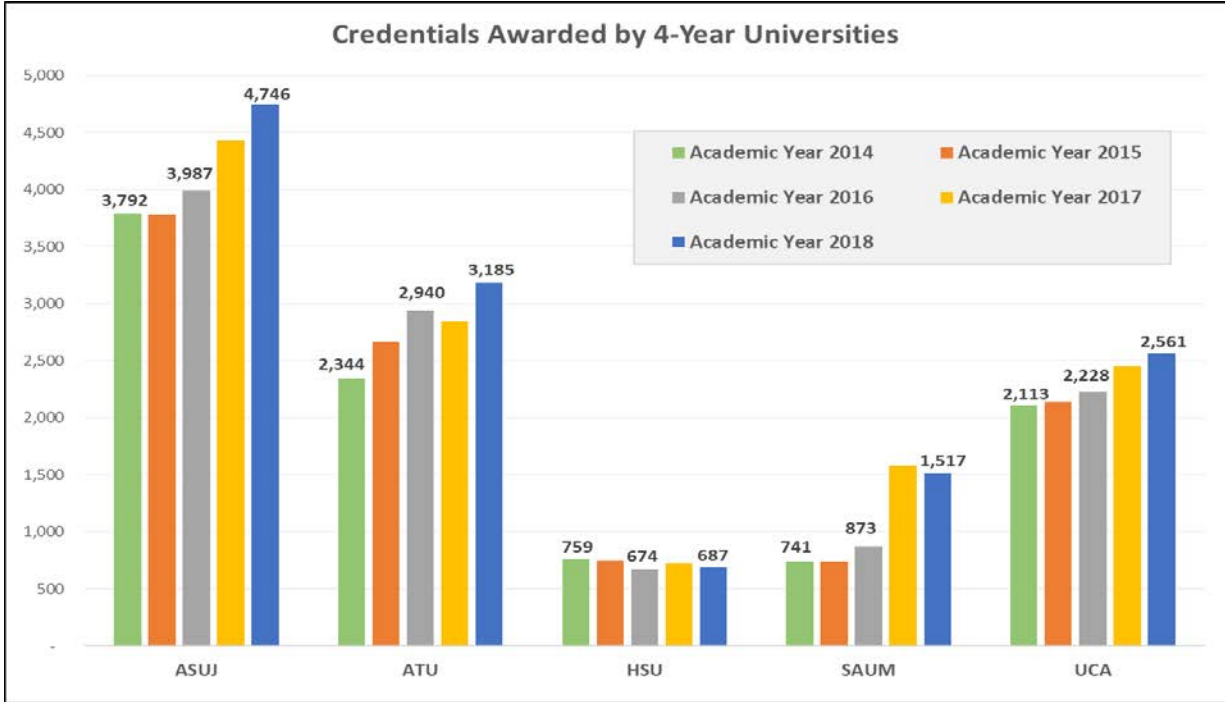


Chart 3.7: Five-year History of Credentials Awarded by 4-Year Universities

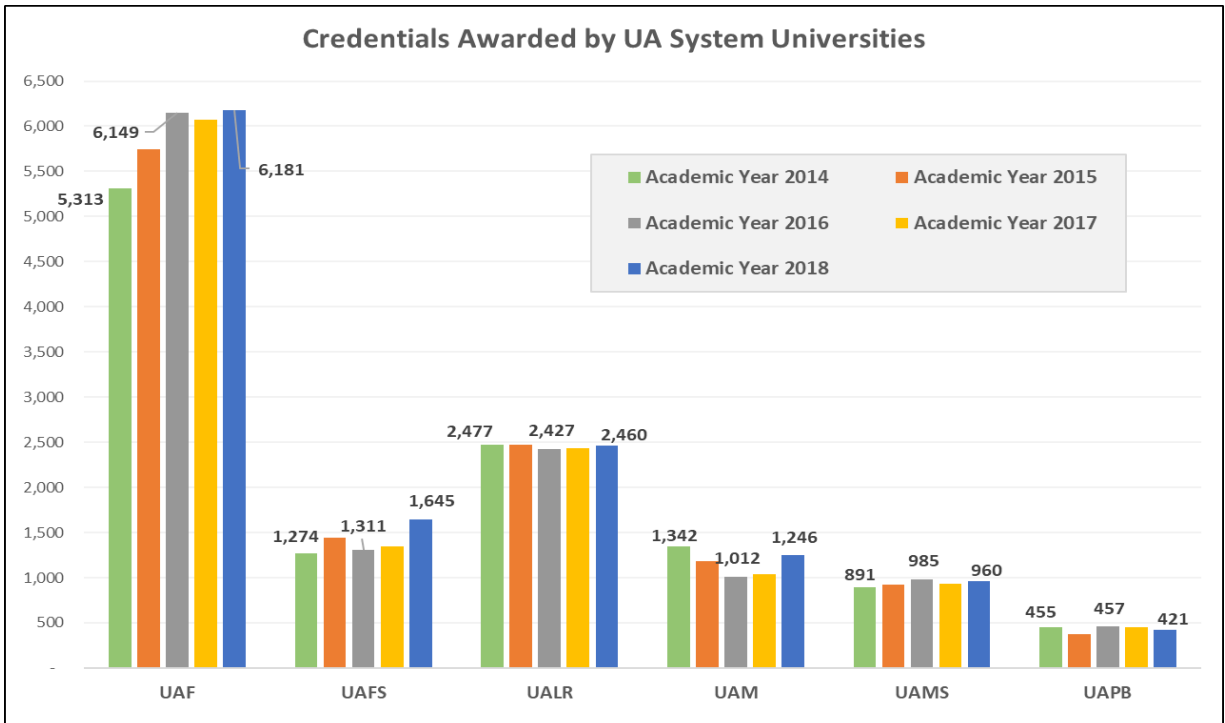


Chart 3.8: Five-year History of Credentials Awarded by UA System 4-Year Universities

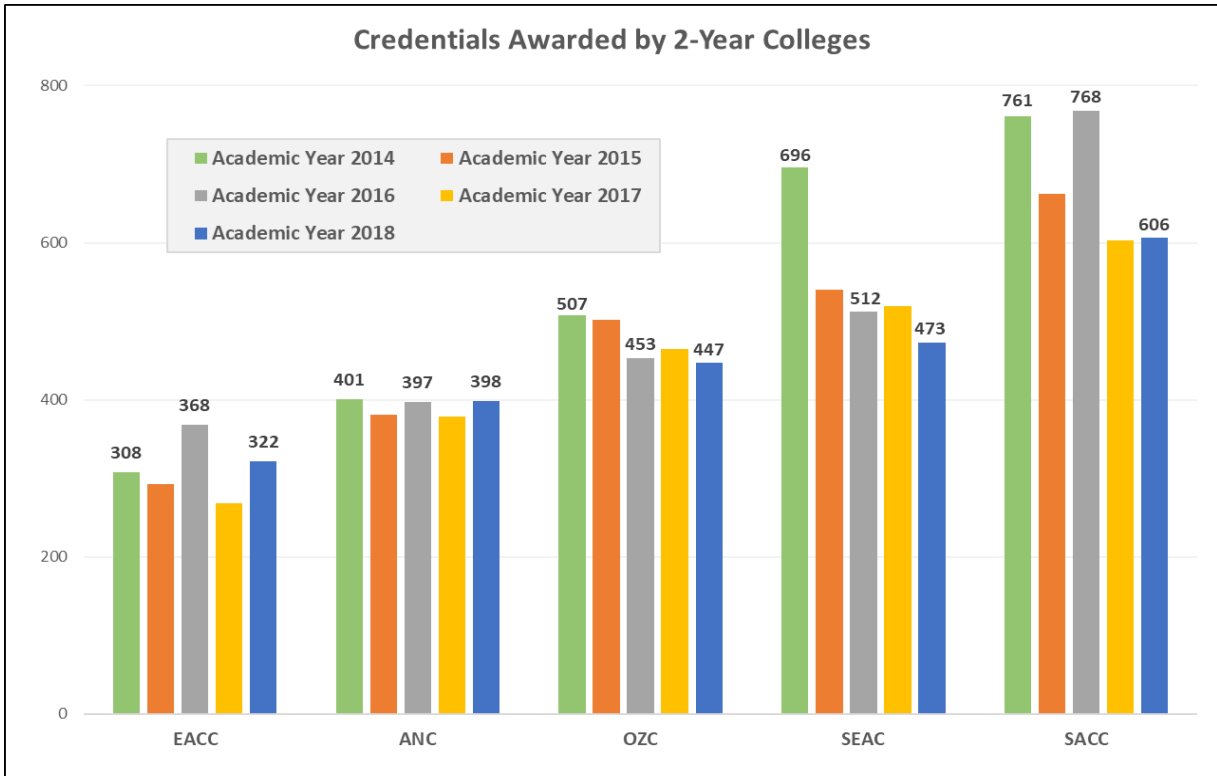


Chart 3.9: Five-year History of Credentials Awarded by 2-Year Colleges

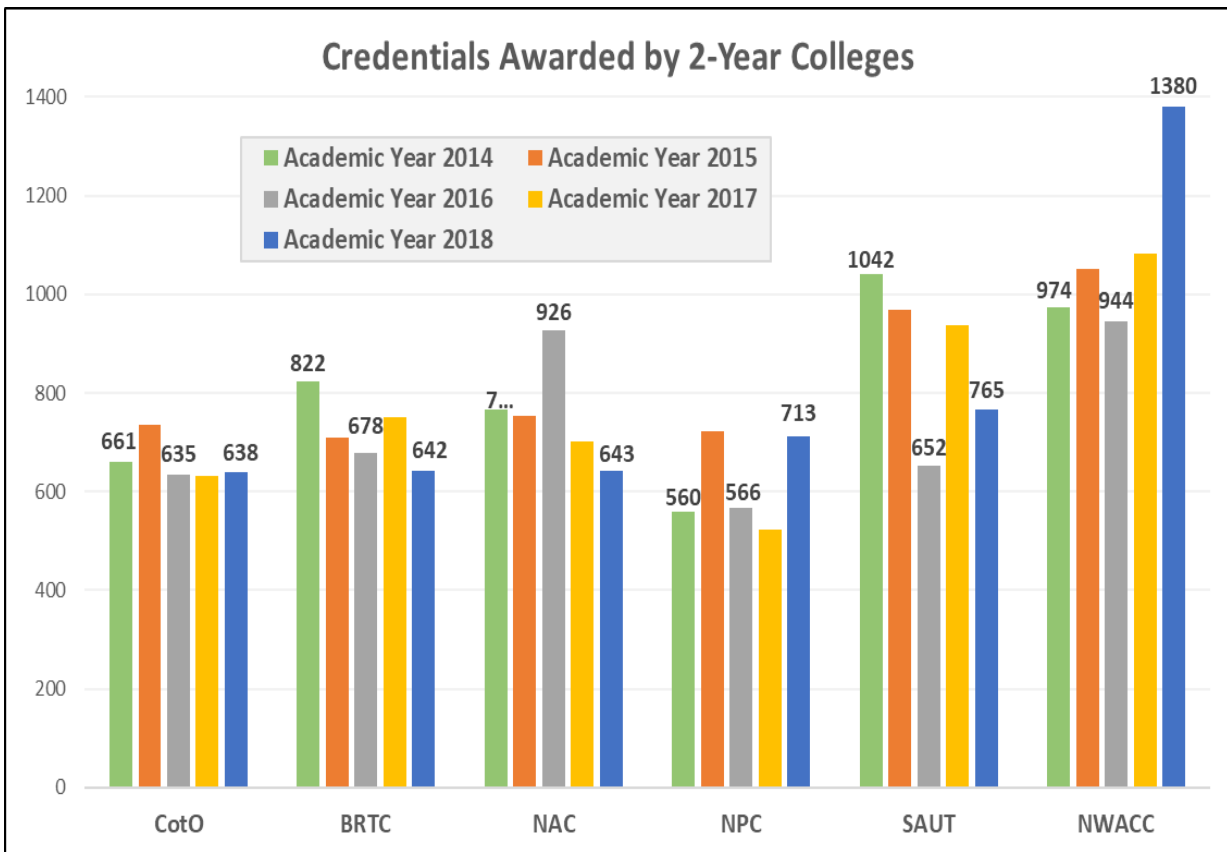


Chart 3.10: Five-year History of Credentials Awarded by 2-Year Colleges

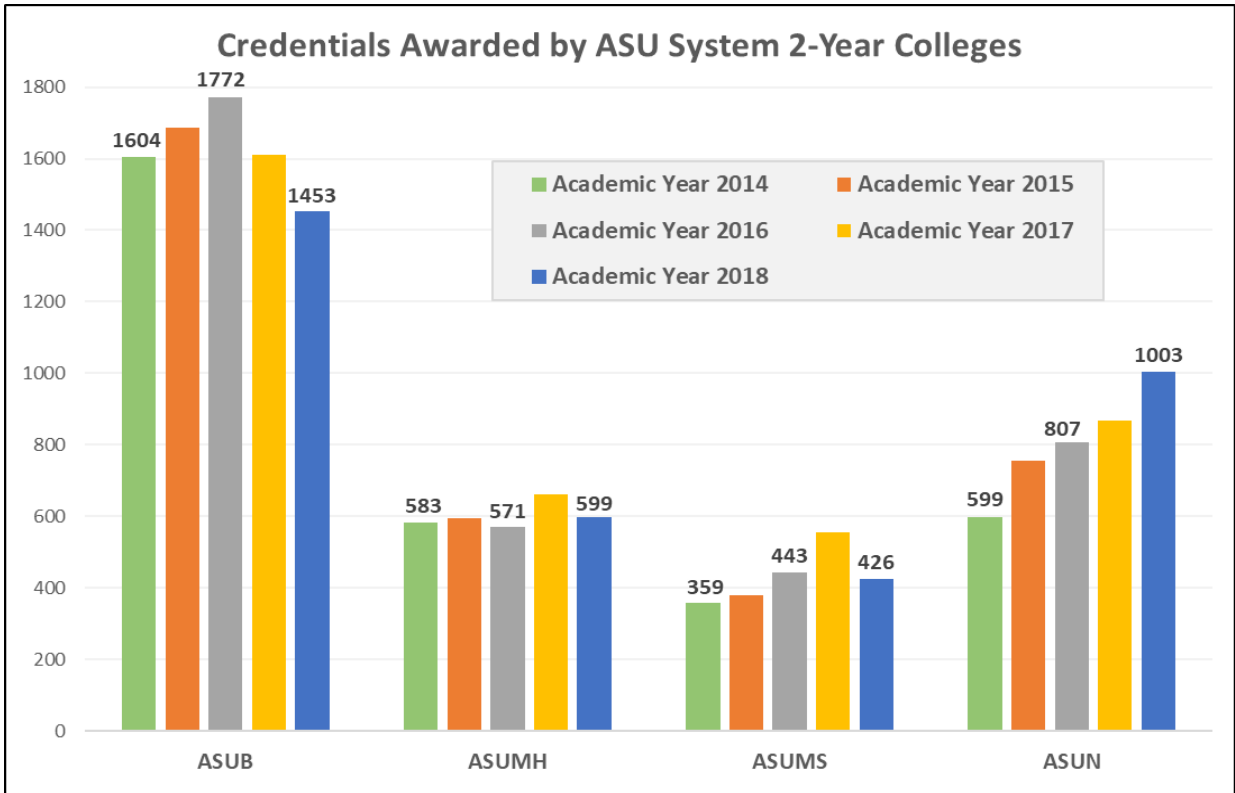


Chart 3.11: Five-year History of Credentials Awarded by ASU System 2-Year Colleges

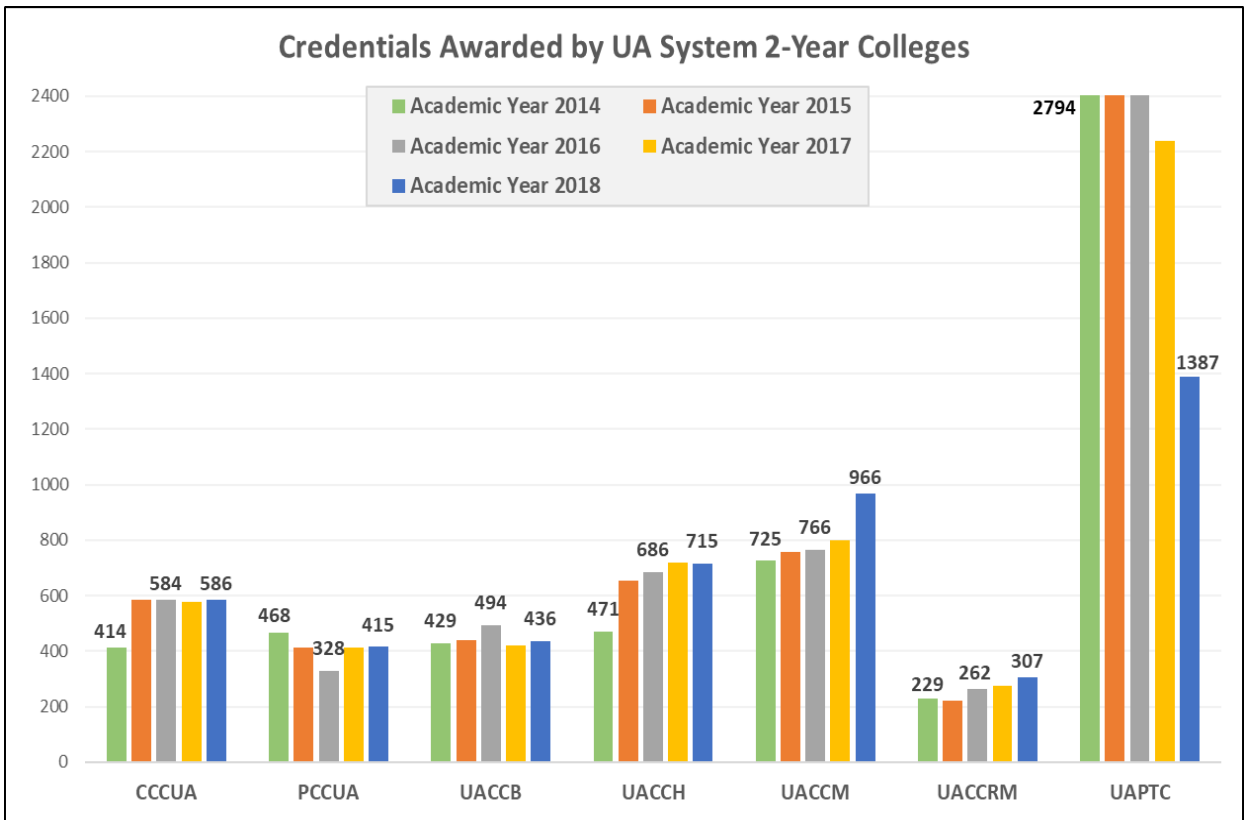


Chart 3.12: Five-year History of Credentials Awarded by UA System 2-Year Colleges