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# Supply of accounting graduates and the demand for public accounting recruits, 2003, for academic year 2001-2002

**Beatrice Sanders** 

Leticia B. Romeo

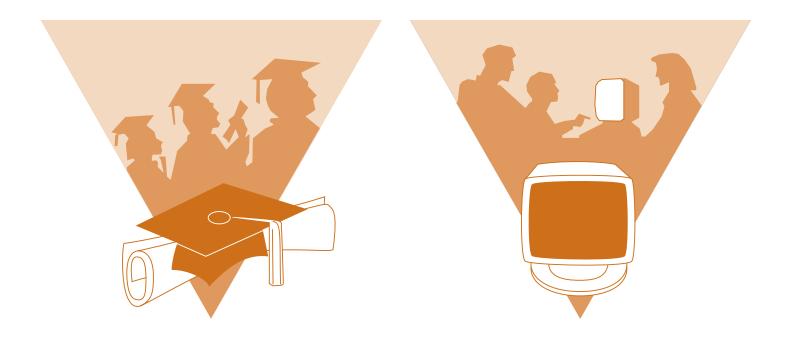
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## The Supply Of Accounting Graduates And the Demand For Public Accounting Recruits-2003 For Academic Year 2001-2002





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Academic & Career Development Team

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## The Supply Of Accounting Graduates And the Demand For Public Accounting Recruits-2003 For Academic Year 2001-2002

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Assisted by Leticia B. Romeo Coordinator, Academic and Career Development

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### Introduction and Highlights

This 2003 edition of The Supply of Accounting Graduates and the Demand for Public Accounting Recruits is prepared for anyone interested in the demographics of the accounting profession. This report will be useful for individuals involved in planning for university accounting programs, and human resources for accounting firms.

The data reported here are based on a survey conducted in 2003 of U.S. colleges and universities that offer accounting degrees at the Baccalaureate, Master's or Ph.D. level and survey of public accounting firms and sole practitioners affiliated with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). The report is presented in two sections: "Accounting Graduates" presents detailed information regarding the number of accounting degrees awarded by universities during the 2001-02 academic year and "Hiring by CPA Firms" reports the hiring of recent college graduates by public accounting firms in 2002.

Both sections present data weighted to provide a normative profile of the recipients of accounting degrees and individuals newly hired by CPA firms. The Graduates Section reports by level of accreditation held by the college or university. The Hiring Section reports by size of firm. Both reports present detailed gender and ethnic data. A complete description of the methodology used for gathering and weighting data is presented in Appendix A.

#### Supply Data from Colleges and Universities

- Thirty-five thousand students were awarded Bachelor's degrees in Accounting and close to 10,000 were awarded Master's degrees. Compared to 2000-01, the number of Bachelor's degree recipients decreased 8% and the number of Master's degrees awarded increased 11%.
- The decrease in Bachelor's degrees awarded was seen across the country, except in the Southern region where Bachelor's degree recipients increased by more than 8%. Schools in all regions awarded a greater number of Master's degrees than in recent years.
- In 2001-02, more females than males received Bachelor's degrees (57% to 43%) and Master's degrees (54% to 46%) while more males than females received Ph.D.s (64% to 36%).
- Minorities accounted for 23% of accounting bachelor's, 22% of master's graduates, and 35% of Ph.D.s.
- Approximately one-third of 2001-02 Bachelor's degree recipients took positions with public accounting firms and about one-fifth began their careers in business and industry. A majority of Master's degree recipients (56%) went into public accounting. These proportions are similar to the placement of 2000-01 degree recipients.
- Compared to 2000-01, accounting enrollments in Bachelor's programs decreased by 1%, Master's in Accounting programs increased by 21%, MBA in Accounting programs increased by 1.6%, Master's in Taxation programs increased by 21%, and Ph.D. programs increased by 11%.
- The number of candidates sitting for the CPA Exam increased almost 3%. Exam candidates for 2002 totaled 108,955.

#### Demand Data from Public Accounting Firms

- In 2002, there was a decrease in the number of new accounting Bachelor's hired (-5%) and an increase in Master's hired (9%) compared to 2001.
- Over the years, the Institute has tracked the proportions of new hires working variously in accounting/auditing, management consulting and taxation. In 2002, almost three-quarters of the graduates (72%) accepted accounting/auditing positions, more than one-fifth took assignments in taxation and 2% began work in management consulting for public accounting firms.
- In 2002, the share of new hires accepting accounting/auditing positions continued to grow; the share of new management consultants continued to decrease. The percentage of graduates hired into Taxation decreased slightly.
- Continuing a trend starting in the early nineties, females comprise the majority (61%) of new graduates hired by public accounting firms.
- Seventeen percent of new graduate hires were minorities; consistent with the previous year.
- Across all firms surveyed, the annual turnover rate was 10%, down from 12% during 2001. Turnover rates and firm size are positively correlated.
- In 2002, the turnover rate was higher for females than males, especially at the medium-sized and smaller firms.
- The largest firms are the most ethnically and racially diverse.

#### Demand Projections by Public Accounting Firms

- In addition to requesting their actual Year 2002 hiring facts and figures, we asked firms to predict future hiring trends vs. their actual hiring figures in 2002. We asked firms to estimate the percentage change from 2002 hiring out to three different years: (1) 2003, (2) 2005, and (3) 2007. Predictions for 2003 vs. 2002 hiring of accounting graduates range from a negative growth for the larger firms to an 8.4% increase for firms employing 10-49 members.
- Compared with predictions for accounting graduates, firms' estimates of growth in hiring of non-accounting graduates are more conservative.
- Predictions for long-term growth with respect to hiring of accounting graduates and nonaccounting graduates are more optimistic.

### Accounting Graduates

The following tables present a variety of characteristics of colleges and universities which awarded accounting degrees during 2001–02 and the individuals who received those degrees. AACSB—International (AACSB) and the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) appear in several tables because both those organizations accredit business degree programs. Business accreditation focuses on degree programs offered within a business school which may include one or more degrees in accounting. The AACSB also offers specific accreditation of accounting programs which is the highest level of accreditation available for schools that offer accounting degrees. The majority of accounting degree programs are accredited by regional accrediting organizations that review the entire college or university without special emphasis on business or accounting.

#### **College and University Response Rates**

Of the 849 colleges and universities asked to participate in the survey, 271 returned completed questionnaires for a response rate of 32%. Last year, the response rate was 31%.

TABLE 1           Number of Schools Surveyed for 2003 Report				
Accredited in Accounting By AACSB	156	75	48	
Accredited in Business By AACSB By ACBSP	239 99	71 25	30 25	
Other Business Administration Programs	355	100	28	
Total Schools Surveyed	849	271	32	
Public Schools Private Schools	444 405	148 123	33 30	
Majority Schools Minority Schools	764 85	248 23	32 27	

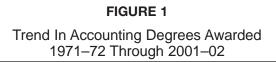
Projecting from the sample to all colleges and universities awarding accounting degrees, almost 35,000 students were awarded Bachelor's degrees in Accounting and 9,700 were awarded Master's degrees.

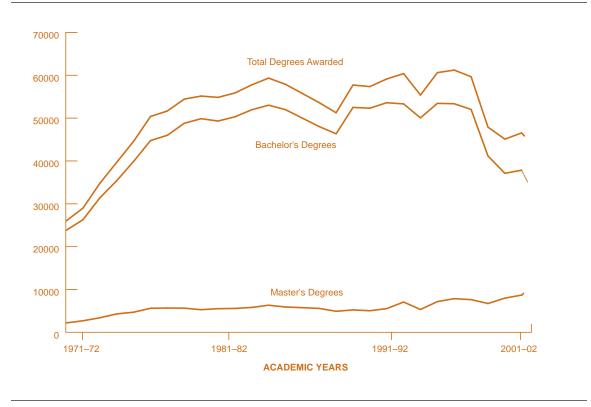
	TABLE 2				
	Graduates by Level of Accreditation 2001–02				
	Number of Programs	Bachelor's	Master's	Total	
Accounting	156	16,895	7,125	24,020	
Business AACSB ACBSP	239 99	9,345 1,640	1,845 200	11,190 1,840	
Other	355	7,115	530	7,645	
Total	849	34,995	9,700	44,695	

#### Accounting Degrees Awarded

		Г	ABLE 3A			
	Accounting Degrees Awarded by All Schools 1971–72 Through 2001–02					
	Bache	elor's	Masi	ter's	То	tal
	Number of Graduates	Rate of Growth	Number of Graduates	Rate of Growth	Number of Graduates	Rate of Growth
1971–72	23,800	—	2,200	—	26,000	_
1972–73	26,300	+ 11%	2,700	+ 23%	29,000	+ 12%
1973–74	31,400	+ 19%	3,400	+ 26%	34,800	+ 20%
1974–75	35,400	+ 13%	4,300	+ 26%	39,700	+ 14%
1975–76	39,900	+ 13%	4,700	+ 9%	44,600	+ 12%
1976–77	44,760	+ 12%	5,620	+ 20%	50,380	+ 13%
1977–78	46,000	+ 3%	5,670	+ 1%	51,670	+ 3%
1978–79	48,800	+ 6%	5,640	- 1%	54,440	+ 5%
1979–80	49,870	+ 2%	5,280	- 6%	55,150	+ 1%
1980–81	49,320	- 1%	5,520	+ 5%	54,840	- 1%
1981–82	50,300	+ 2%	5,570	+ 1%	55,870	+ 2%
1982–83	51,950	+ 3%	5,810	+ 4%	57,760	+ 3%
1983–84	53,020	+ 2%	6,330	+ 9%	59,350	+ 3%
1984–85	51,980	- 2%	5,910	- 7%	57,890	- 2%
1985–86	50,000	- 4%	5,750	- 3%	55,750	- 4%
1986–87	48,030	- 4%	5,580	- 3%	53,610	- 4%
1987–88	46,340	- 4%	4,910	- 12%	51,250	- 4%
1988–89	52,500	+ 13%	5,230	+ 7%	57,730	+ 13%
1989–90	52,320	-0-	5,040	- 4%	57,360	- 1%
1990–91	53,600	+ 1%	5,540	+ 10%	59,140	+ 3%
1991–92	53,320	-0-	7,070	+ 28%	60,390	+ 2%
1992–93	50,060	- 6%	5,330	- 25%	55,390	- 8%
1993–94	53,450	+ 7%	7,170	+ 35%	60,620	+ 9%
1994–95	53,360	-0-	7,860	+ 10%	61,220	+ 1%
1995–96	52,030	- 2%	7,630	- 3%	59,660	- 3%
1998–99	41,170	- 21%	6,725	- 12%	47,895	- 20%
1999–00	37,115	- 10%	7,980	+ 19%	45,095	- 6%
2000–01	37,855	+ 2%	8,700	+ 9%	46,555	+ 3%
2001–02	34,995	- 8%	9,700	+ 11%	44,695	- 4%

Compared to 2000–2001, the number of Bachelor's degree recipients decreased 8% and the number of Master's degrees awarded increased 11%.





110 Accounting Ph.D.s were awarded in 2001-2002, a slight increase over 2000-2001 estimates.

	TABLE 3B			
	Accounting Ph.D's Awarded 1995–96 Through 2001–02			
	Number of Graduates	Rate of Growth		
1995–96	190	- 7%		
1998–99	185	- 3%		
1999–00	195	+ 5%		
2000–01	115	- 41%		
2001–02	110	- 4%		

The number of bachelor's degrees and MBAs in Accounting awarded at accounting accredited programs continued to increase in 2001–02, as did Master's in Accounting and MBAs in Accounting.

	TABLE 4			
Accountir	ng Degrees Awarded by A	ACSB – Accred	lited Accounting	g Programs
	Number of AACSB-Accredited Accounting Programs	Bachelor's	MBA in Accounting	Master's in Accounting
1995–96	120	19,340	430	3,610
1998–99	139	14,075	220	3,100
1999–00	140	15,750	355	4,585
2000–01	147	15,815	505	4,585
2001–02	156	16,895	650	6,475

When focusing on AACSB and ACBSP business-accredited programs, the number of bachelors degrees awarded decreased, while graduates with masters degrees significantly increased.

	TABLE 5				
New Accounting Graduates From AACSB- and ACBSP-Accredited Business Administration Programs (including AACSB – Accredited Accounting Programs)					
Number of AACSB- and ACBSP-Accredited Business Administration Programs Bachelor's Master's Total					
1995–96	366	39,000	6,680	45,680	
1998–99	458	29,780	6,345	36,125	
1999–00	461	28,070	7,260	35,330	
2000–01	479	28,175	7,235	35,410	
2001–02	494	27,880	9,170	37,050	

Other business administration programs saw significant decreases.

#### TABLE 6

#### New Accounting Graduates From Other Business Administration Programs

	Number of Other Business Administration Programs	Bachelor's	Master's	Total	
1995–96	497	13,030	950	13,980	
1998–99	395	11,390	380	11,770	
1999–00	395	9,045	720	9,765	
2000–01	378	9,680	1,465	11,145	
2001–02	355	7,115	530	7,645	

In 2001–02, fewer public school students received Bachelor's degrees in Accounting than in previous years. Private schools also saw a decrease in Bachelor's graduates after an uptick in the previous year.

	TABLE 7			
New Accounting Graduates With Bachelor's Degrees From Public and Private Schools				
	Public	Private		
1995–96	36,080	15,950		
1998–99	29,680	11,490		
1999–00	26,455	10,660		
2000–01	26,045	11,810		
2001–02	25,195	9,800		

More public school students received Master's degrees in Accounting; the number of Master's degrees awarded to private school students dropped slightly.

	TABLE 8				
	New Accounting Graduates With Master's Degrees From Public and Private Schools				
	Public	Private			
1995–96	4,530	3,100			
1998–99	4,365	2,360			
1999–00	5,125	2,855			
2000–01	5,480	3,220			
2001–02	6,625	3,075			

With respect to geographical trends, the only region to see an increase in Bachelor's graduates was the Southern region.

TABLE 9					
	New Accounting Graduates With Bachelor's Degrees by Geographic Region				
	North				
	Eastern	Central	Southern	Pacific	
1995–96	11,870	15,270	17,980	6,910	
1998–99	10,215	12,070	13,185	5,700	
1999–00	8,800	9,485	13,220	5,610	
2000–01	9,865	10,505	11,135	6,350	
2001–02	8,800	8,950	12,105	5,140	

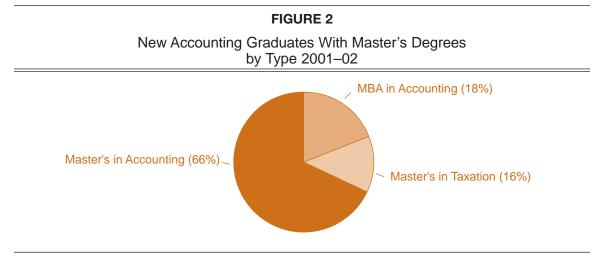
TABLE 10					
New Accounting Graduates With Master's Degrees by Geographic Region					
North					
	Eastern	Central	Southern	Pacific	
1995–96	2,180	1,590	2,920	940	
1998–99	1,810	1,710	2,590	615	
1999–00	1,820	1,160	3,100	1,900	
2000–01	1,870	2,180	3,455	1,195	
2001–02	2,275	2,325	3,705	1,395	

All regions saw an increase in Master's graduates than in the previous year.

More Master's in Accounting and MBAs in Accounting were awarded in 2001-02 than in previous years. Master's in Taxation also increased.

		TABLE 11		
New Accounting Graduates With Master's Degrees by Type				
	Master's in Accounting	MBA in Accounting	Master's in Taxation	
1995–96	4,300	1,530	1,800	
1998–99	4,565	1,265	895	
1999–00	5,390	1,115	1,475	
2000–01	5,685	1,630	1,385	
2001–02	6,395	1,725	1,580	

Still, the large majority of all Master's degrees awarded were Master's in Accounting.



#### Gender Data For New Graduates

	Percentage of New Accounting Graduates Combined Bachelor's and Master's D	
	Male (%)	Female (%)
1995–96	46	54
1998–99	44	56
1999–00	44	56
2000–01	45	55
2001–02	43	57

57% of all Bachelor's and Master's degrees in accounting were awarded to females in 2001–02.

TABLE 12A

In 2001-02, considerably more females than males received accounting Bachelor's degrees. The percentage of females receiving accounting Master's degrees also continued to increase. Considerably more males than females received accounting Ph.D.s.

TABLE 12B

#### Percentage of New Accounting Graduates by Gender 2001–02 Bachelor's, Master's and Ph.D. Degrees

	Bachelor's (%)	Master's (%)	Ph.D. (%)	
Male	43	46	64	
Female	57	54	36	

FIGURE 3 Percentage of New Accounting Graduates by Gender 2001–02 Bachelor's, Master's and Ph.D. Degrees Bachelor's Master's Ph.D. Male (43%) Male (46%) Male (64%) Male (64%) Female (64%) Female (57%) Female (57%) Female (54%) Female (54%)

#### Ethnic/Racial Data For New Graduates

The percentage of accounting degree recipients of ethnic/racial background has increased after several years of holding at the 20% level.

#### TABLE 13A Percentage of New Accounting Graduates by Ethnic/Racial Background Total Bachelor's and Master's Degrees Native American/ Asian/ Total Ethnic/ Pacific Islander Black Hispanic Alaskan Native Racial White Other (%) (%)(%)(%)(%)(%) (%)

	(70)	(70)	(70)	(70)	(70)	(70)	(70)
1995–96	8	8	7	*	23	74	3
1998–99	6	8	5	*	19	78	3
1999–00	6	9	5	*	20	77	3
2000–01	8	7	5	*	20	75	5
2001–02	8	8	7	*	23	72	5

\* Less than 0.5%.

#### TABLE 13B

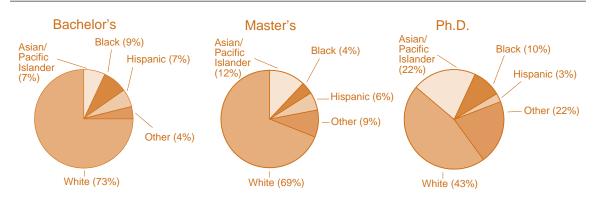
#### Percentage of New Accounting Graduates by Ethnic/Racial Background 2001–02 Bachelor's, Master's and Ph.D. Degrees

	Bachelor's (%)	Master's (%)	Ph.D. (%)
Asian/Pacific Islander	7	12	22
Black	9	4	10
Hispanic	7	6	3
Native American/Alaskan Nativ	ve *	*	*
Total Ethnic/Racial	23	22	35
White	73	69	43
Other	4	9	22

\* Less than 0.5%.

#### **FIGURE 4**

#### Percentage of New Accounting Graduates by Ethnic/Racial Background 2001–02 Bachelor's, Master's and Ph.D. Degrees



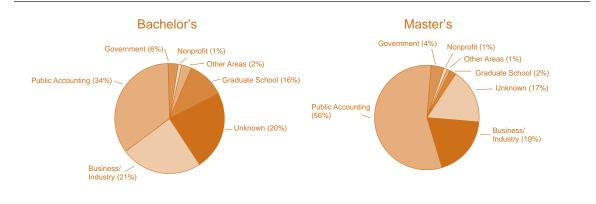
#### **Placement of New Graduates**

Approximately one-third of 2001–02 accounting Bachelor's degree recipients took positions in public accounting firms and about one-fifth began their careers in business and industry. A large majority of Master's degree recipients (56%) went into public accounting.

	TABLE 14					
Plac	ement of New Accounting Grad	luates 2001–02				
	Bachelor's (%) Master's (%)					
Public accounting	34	56				
Business/Industry	21	19				
Government	6	4				
Nonprofit	1	1				
Other areas	2	1				
Graduate school	16	2				
Unknown	20	17				

#### FIGURE 5

Placement of New Accounting Graduates 2001–02 Bachelor's and Master's Degrees



Regardless of accreditation level, Master's degree recipients were more likely to go into public accounting than were Bachelor's degree recipients.

TABLE 15         Placement of Bachelor's Graduates         by Level of Accreditation 2001–02					
	Accounting	AACSB	ACBSP	Other	
Public accounting	34%	39%	26%	26%	
Business/Industry	14	26	25	32	
Government	3	6	18	8	
Nonprofit	1	2	5	2	
Other areas	2	2	3	3	
Graduate school	22	9	11	9	
Unknown	24	16	12	20	

## TABLE 16Placement of Master's Graduatesby Level of Accreditation 2001–02

		Business		
	Accounting	AACSB	ACBSP	Other
Public accounting	57%	54%	39%	56%
Business/Industry	18	25	30	36
Government	2	10	19	1
Nonprofit	*	3	8	2
Other areas	1	2	*	3
Graduate school	2	2	*	*
Unknown	20	4	4	2

\* Less than 0.5%.

		TABLE 17					
Placement of New Accounting Graduates With Bachelor's Degrees by Region 2001–02							
Eastern (%) North Central (%) Southern (%) Pacific (%)							
Public accounting	48	33	26	29			
Business/Industry	18	26	21	18			
Government	3	4	7	9			
Nonprofit	1	1	1	2			
Other areas	1	2	3	4			
Graduate school	7	16	22	13			
Unknown	22	18	20	25			

Bachelor's degree recipients from Eastern schools were more likely to begin their careers with public accounting firms than graduates from schools in other regions of the country.

Regardless of where their school is located, accounting Master's degree recipients were most likely to begin their careers in public accounting.

		TABLE 18					
Placement of New Accounting Graduates With Master's Degrees by Region 2001–02							
Eastern (%) North Central (%) Southern (%) Pacific (%)							
Public accounting	49	53	69	44			
Business/Industry	25	16	21	17			
Government	4	3	3	6			
Nonprofit	1	*	1	1			
Other areas	1	1	1	2			
Graduate school	1	2	1	3			
Unknown	19	25	4	27			

\* Less than 0.5%.

Type of degree obtained had more influence on placement than gender did.

		TABLE 19			
Placer	nent of New Acc	ounting Graduat	tes by Gender	2001–02	
	Bachelor's Master's				
	Male (%)	Female (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	
Public accounting	36	32	55	59	
Business/Industry	21	22	18	16	
Government	4	8	4	4	
Nonprofit	1	2	*	2	
Other areas	3	2	1	1	
Graduate school	15	13	2	2	
Unknown	20	21	20	16	

The degree obtained had more influence on placement than ethnic/racial background.

by Ethnic/Racial Background 2001–02						
	Asian/ Pacific Islander (%)	Black (%)	Hispanic (%)	Native American/ Alaskan Native (%)	White (%)	Other (%)
Public accounting	28	14	25	20	34	27
Business/Industry	16	31	21	10	20	18
Government	7	13	10	10	5	2
Nonprofit	2	2	3	20	1	*
Other areas	5	4	1	*	3	2
Graduate school	16	7	21	15	16	6
Unknown	26	29	19	25	21	45

## Placement of New Accounting Graduates With Bachelor's Degrees

TABLE 20

\* Less than 0.5%.

		TA	BLE 21			
Placer	ment of New A by Eth		g Graduates Background		r's Degrees	6
	Asian/ Pacific Islander (%)	Black (%)	Hispanic (%)	Native American/ Alaskan Native (%)	White (%)	Other (%)
Public accounting	33	40	72	24	62	35
Business/Industry	20	24	7	57	13	17
Government	4	23	4	*	3	6
Nonprofit	1	4	3	*	1	*
Other areas	2	*	*	*	1	*
Graduate school	3	*	*	*	2	*
Unknown	37	9	14	19	18	42

† The base for this table includes only 288 non-White graduates, of which 185 are Asian/Pacific Islander, 52 are Black, 48 are Hispanic, and 3 are Native American/Alaskan Native.

\* Less than 0.5%.

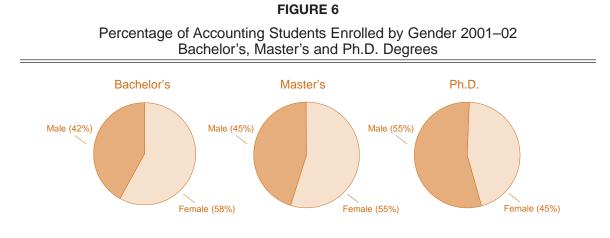
#### **Accounting Enrollment**

			TABLE 22			
Accounting Enrollment in All Schools 2001–02						
	Bachelor's	Master's in Accounting	MBA in Accounting	Master's in Taxation	Ph.D.	Total
1995–96	174,010	9,430	3,360	4,760	770	192,330
1998–99	134,050	8,620	3,770	2,600	770	149,810
1999–00	127,960	9,455	2,445	3,130	680	143,670
2000–01	134,775	10,375	4,000	2,935	800	152,885
2001–02	133,435	12,565	4,065	3,555	890	154,510

Enrollment has increased for all graduate degrees. Bachelor's enrollments dropped by 1%. Nevertheless, total accounting enrollments are up another 1% over last year's 6% increase.

TABLE 23				
Percentage of Accounting Students Enrolled by Gender 2001–02				
	Bachelor's (%)	Master's (%)	Ph.D. (%)	
Male	42	45	55	
Female	58	55	45	

In 2001–02, males comprised 42% of all those enrolled in Bachelor's degree programs, 45% of those enrolled in Master's degree programs and 55% of those enrolled in Ph.D. programs.



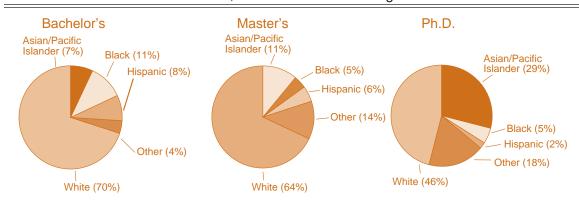
## TABLE 24Percentage of Accounting Students Enrolled<br/>by Ethnic/Racial Background 2001–02

	Bachelor's (%)	Master's (%)	Ph.D. (%)
Asian/Pacific Islander	7	11	29
Black	11	5	5
Hispanic	8	6	2
Native American/Alaskan Native	*	*	*
Total Ethnic/Racial	26	22	36
White	70	64	46
Other	4	14	18

\* Less than 0.5%.

More than 50% of all accounting Ph.D. candidates in 2001–02 were non-whites.

FIGURE 7 Percentage of Accounting Students Enrolled by Ethnic/Racial Background 2001–02 Bachelor's, Master's and Ph.D. Degrees



#### Accounting Enrollment Trends

Many survey respondents believe that Master's in Accounting will attract greater interest in the future.

	TABLE	25			
Trends in	n Enrollment in A	ccounting Programs*			
		Percent of Schools Indicating Th Ilment Two Years From Now W			
	Higher ThanThe SameLower ThanCurrentas CurrentCurrentEnrollment (%)Enrollment (%)Enrollment (%)				
Bachelor's in accounting	58	35	7		
Master's in accounting	69	31	٠		
MBA in accounting 52 43 5					
Master's in taxation 49 47 4					
Ph.D. in accounting/taxation	32	56	12		

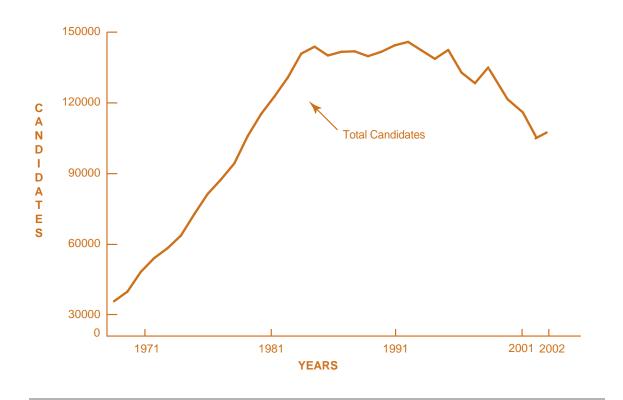
\* Percentage distributions for each program exclude schools that do not offer that degree.

#### **Uniform CPA Examination**

TABLE 26				
Uniform CPA Exar	nination — 1971-2002			
	Total Number			
Year	of Candidates			
1971	53,811			
1972	57,928			
1973	63,165			
1974	72,052			
1975	80,433			
1976	86,464			
1977	93,148			
1978	104,511			
1979	113,629			
1980	120,925			
1981	128,793			
1982	138,677			
1983	141,583			
1984	137,918			
1985	139,454			
1986	139,647			
1987	137,637			
1988	139,474			
1989	142,135			
1990	143,572			
1991	140,042			
1992	136,536			
1993	140,228			
1994	130,803			
1995	126,434			
1996	133,000			
1997	121,443			
1998	116,906			
1999	126,769			
2000	115,493			
2001	106,072			
2002	108,955			

Since the peak years of the early nineties, the number of candidates sitting for the CPA Exam has been in decline. However, in 2002, the number of candidates increased over the previous year.

FIGURE 8 Uniform CPA Examination 1971 through 2002



## Hiring by CPA Firms

In early 2003, the AICPA conducted a survey of all the public accounting firms affiliated with the Institute. Survey questionnaires were sent to those individuals responsible for human resources and asked a variety of questions about newly employed graduates and professional staff. The core question in the survey asked firms to provide a breakdown of both accounting and non-accounting graduates employed in 2001.

Firms were asked to provide a breakdown of newly employed graduates by gender, ethnic/racial background, and area of assignment (i.e., accounting/auditing, taxation, management consulting services, and other specialty areas). In addition, firms were asked to give information on recruiting activities, professional and paraprofessional staff, and experienced recruits, as well as some general background information.

Because the 14 largest firms account for such a large proportion of newly employed graduates, a greater effort was made to obtain their responses. The firms' responses were tracked, and a series of follow-up phone calls was undertaken in an effort to maximize the collective response rate. A more complete description of the survey is presented in Appendix B.

TABLE 27           CPA Firms Surveyed for 2003 Report					
More than 200 members	14	14	11	79	
50-200 members	80	80	34	43	
10–49 members	1,417	1,417	484	34	
Fewer than 10 members	40,763*	4,005	1,062	27	
All CPA firms	42,274	5,518	1,591	29	

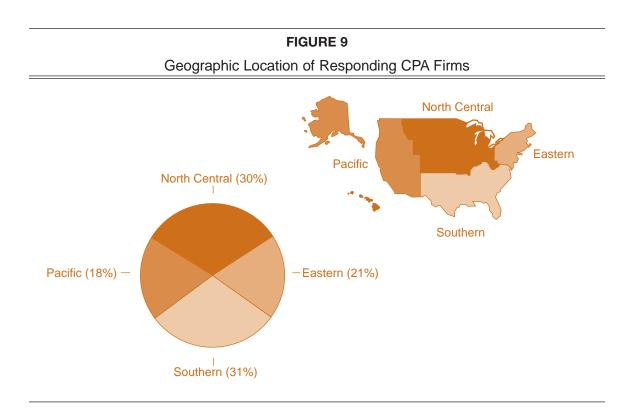
#### Public Accounting Firms Response Rates

In total, 5,518 public accounting firms were surveyed and 1,591 responded for a 29% response rate.

\* Total includes 21,793 sole practitioners.

Firms that responded represent all regions of the country. Nine in ten were "local" firms, and 4% were minority-owned.

		TABLE 28			
	Demographic	Characteristics of Re	sponding Cl	PA Firms	
Geographic Location				Ownership oj	f
of Firm	(%)	Firm Type	(%)	Firm	(%)
Eastern	21	Local	90	Majority	96
North Central	30	Regional	9	Minority	4
Southern	31	National/	1		
Pacific	18	International			



#### New Accounting Graduates Hired by CPA Firms

TABLE 29				
	New Accounting G	raduates Hired by CP	A Firms	
	Bachelor's	Master's	Total Demand	
1971	6,800	2,000	8,800	
1972	8,900	2,400	11,300	
1973	10,000	2,600	12,600	
1974	9,500	2,600	12,100	
1975	9,200	2,800	12,000	
1976	10,010	3,350	13,360	
1977	11,660	3,310	14,970	
1978	12,770	2,890	15,660	
1979	13,500	2,900	16,400	
1980	14,100	2,460	16,560	
1981	14,200	2,210	16,410	
1982	11,970	2,210	14,180	
1983	14,490	2,180	16,670	
1984	15,640	2,180	17,820	
1985	16,510	2,250	18,760	
1986	16,110	2,030	18,140	
1987	16,720	2,050	18,770	
1988	16,740	2,220	18,960	
1989	25,240	2,600	27,840	
1990	21,340	2,500	23,840	
1991	18,840	1,760	20,600	
1992	19,870	2,650	22,520	
1993	19,320	2,670	21,990	
1994	18,500	2,970	21,470	
1995	18,560	3,375	21,935	
1996	17,820	2,650	20,470	
1999	16,960	3,250	20,210	
2000	17,265	3,686	20,951	
2001	13,335	3,035	16,370	
2002	12,630	3,295	15,295	

In 2002, the number of Bachelor's hires decreased by 5% and Master's hires increased by 9%.

FIGURE 10 New Accounting Graduates Hired by CPA Firms



New Accounting Graduates Hired by CPA Firms by Firm Size				
Number of AICPA Members				
Per CPA Firm	Bachelor's	Master's	Total	
More than 200 members				
1996	6,600	1,570	8,170	
1999	5,860	1,700	7,560	
2000	5,839	2,018	7,857	
2001	4,125	1,605	5,730	
2002	4,180	1,655	5,835	
50–200 members				
1996	980	110	1,090	
1999	880	160	1,040	
2000	565	128	693	
2001	790	110	900	
2002	580	140	720	
10–49 members				
1996	3,000	380	3,380	
1999	3,160	360	3,520	
2000	3,983	666	4,649	
2001	3,015	680	3,695	
2002	2,510	630	3,140	
Fewer than 10 members				
1996	7,240	590	7,830	
1999	7,060	1,030	8,090	
2000	6,878	874	7,752	
2001	5,405	640	6,045	
2002	5,360	870	6,230	
All CPA firms				
1996	17,820	2,650	20,470	
1999	16,960	3,250	20,210	
2000	17,265	3,686	20,951	
2001	13,335	3,035	16,370	
2002	12,630	3,295	15,925	

Firms represented in all groups, except those employing 10 to 49 members, increased their hiring of Master's degree graduates. Most firms hired relatively fewer Bachelor's graduates.

TABLE 30

Twenty-one percent of graduates hired in 2002 earned their Master's degrees in Accounting. The percentage of graduates hired earning Master's degrees has risen steadily over the years.

**TABLE 31** 

	Hired b	by ČPA Firms	s With Master as a Percenta Graduates Hi Size	ge of	
	Numl	per of AICPA Me	embers Per CPA F	irm	
	More Than 200 Members (%)	50–200 Members (%)	10–49 Members (%)	Fewer Than 10 Members (%)	All CPA Firms (%)
1996	19	10	11	8	13
1999	22	15	10	13	16
2000	26	18	14	11	18
2001	28	12	18	11	19
2002	28	19	20	14	21

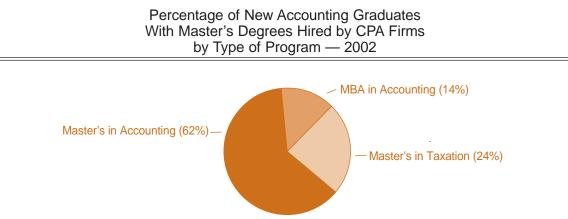
In 2002, public accounting firms hired significantly more graduates with Master's in Taxation degrees than in recent years. This ratio was higher than in any recent year.

#### **TABLE 32**

#### Percentage of New Accounting Graduates With Master's Degrees Hired by CPA Firms by Type of Program

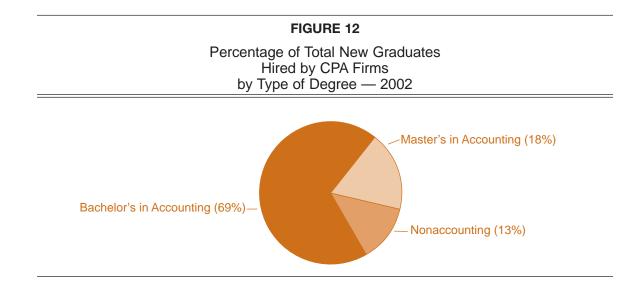
	Master's in Accounting (%)	MBA in Accounting (%)	Master's in Taxation (%)
1996	61	14	25
1999	63	21	16
2000	69	20	11
2001	72	18	10
2002	62	14	24





Two-thirds of all new graduates hired in 2002 held Bachelor's degrees in Accounting while less than two in ten held non-accounting degrees. Another 18% earned Master's degrees in Accounting.

TABLE 33         Percentage of Total New Graduates         Hired by CPA Firms         by Type of Degree					
	Total Act	Total Accounting			
	Bachelor's (%)	Master's (%)	Non-accounting (%)		
1996	72	11	17		
1999	57	11	32		
2000	66	14	20		
2001	69	16	15		
2002	69	18	13		



#### Area of Assignment

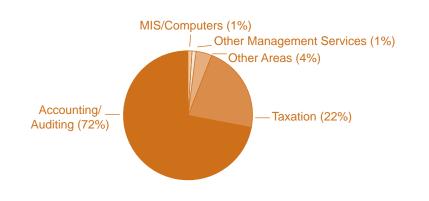
In 2002, almost three quarters of the graduates (72%) accepted accounting/auditing positions and more than one-fifth took assignments in taxation.

Over the years the Institute has tracked the proportion of new hires working variously in accounting/ auditing, management consulting and taxation. In 2002, the share of new hires accepting accounting/auditing positions continued to increase; the share of new management consultants, continued to decrease. The percentage of graduates hired into taxation jobs has held fairly steady.

TABLE 34								
Percentage of New Graduates Hired by CPA Firms by Area of Assignment								
		Management Consulting Services						
Number of AICPA Members Per CPA Firm	Accounting/ Auditing (%)	MIS/ Computers (%)	+	Other Management Services (%)	=	Total MCS (%)	Taxation (%)	Other (%)
More than 200 memb	pers							
1996	59	4		17		21	19	1
1999	49	18		5		23	19	8
2000	64	3		6		9	23	4
2001	70	3		*		3	21	6
2002	75	3		*		3	18	4
50–200 members								
1996	78	1		1		2	17	3
1999	62	4		2		6	21	10
2000	75	2		2		4	19	2
2001	71	2		2		4	22	3
2002	73	2		1		3	21	3
10-49 members								
1996	77	2		1		3	17	3
1999	71	3		1		4	21	4
2000	66	2		3		5	22	7
2001	69	1		3		4	25	2
2002	69	1		1		2	25	4
Fewer than 10 memb	pers							
1996	70	2		*		2	22	6
1999	60	1		3		4	31	5
2000	64	1		1		2	31	3
2001	67	1		3		4	26	3
2002	71	1		1		1	23	5
All CPA firms								
1996	66	3		8		11	20	3
1999	56	11		4		15	23	7
2000	65	2		3		5	25	5
2001	69	2		1		3	24	4
2002	72	1		1		2	22	4

\* Less than 0.5%.

#### FIGURE 13 Percentage of New Graduates Hired by CPA Firms by Area of Assignment — 2002



#### Gender Data for New Graduates Hired

Continuing the upward trend from 1999, females comprised the majority (61%) of new graduates hired by public accounting firms in 2002.

	TABLE 35			
Percentage of New Graduates Hired by CPA Firms by Gender				
	Male (%)	Female (%)		
1996	49	51		
1999	46	54		
2000	44	56		
2001	44	56		
2002	39	61		

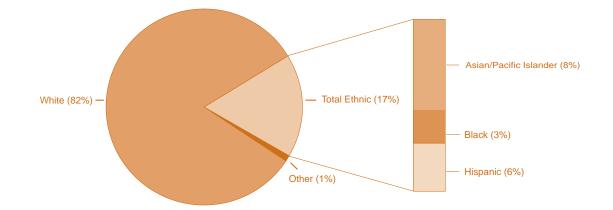
#### Ethnic/Racial Data for New Graduates Hired

Approximately eight in ten new graduates hired by CPA firms in 2002 were Whites. The percentage of Asian/Pacific Islanders (8%), Hispanic (6%) and Blacks (3%) held steady.

TABLE 36           Percentage of New Graduates Hired by CPA Firms           by Ethnic/Racial Background							
1996	9	3	4	*	16	84	*
1999	12	4	4	*	20	79	1
2000	10	3	7	*	20	79	1
2001	8	3	6	*	17	82	1
2002	8	3	6	*	17	82	1

\* Less than 0.5%.

FIGURE 14 Percentage of New Graduates Hired by CPA Firms by Ethnic/Racial Background — 2002



## **Hiring Demand Forecast**

Firms were asked to predict future hiring trends vs. their actual hiring figures in 2002. We asked firms to estimate the percentage change from 2002 hiring out to three different years: (1) 2003, (2) 2005, (3) 2007.

The table below shows estimated percentage changes in future hiring of new accounting graduates, new non-accounting graduates and total number of CPAs employed. Results are segregated by firm size.

				TABLE :	36A			
		Average F	ercentage	e Change i	n Hiring vs	. YR2002	Hiring	
	Fewer than 10 AICPA members	Number of firms responding	10 – 49 AICPA members	Number of firms responding	50 – 200 AICPA members	Number of firms responding	Over 200 AICPA members	Number of firms responding
New Ac	counting	Graduates						
2003 vs 2002	+3.0	1,030	+8.4	468	+1.3	34	-2.0	10
2005 vs 2002	+13.5	994	+15.4	440	+12.9	31	+7.7	9
2007 vs 2002	+12.3	971	+18.0	434	+6.9	31	+10.6	9
New No	n-Accoun	ting Gradua	tes					
2003 vs 2002	+3.0	1,034	-1.1	469	+1.9	33	+0.8	10
2005 vs 2002	+8.0	1,008	+2.0	453	+5.5	31	+2.6	8
2007 vs 2002	+8.9	993	+4.1	440	+4.5	30	+4.8	8
Total CF	PAs							
2003 vs 2002	+5.1	1,026	+5.0	458	+3.4	34	+3.5	8
2005 vs 2002	+12.1	991	+10.9	436	+9.9	33	+8.3	8
2007 vs 2002	<b>.</b> +12.7	976	+12.6	329	+10.8	30	+11.0	9

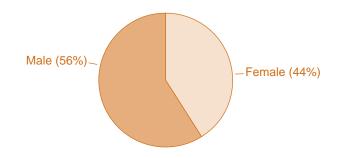
## **Professional Staff Employed**

Professional staff are defined as CPAs, prospective CPAs, and others with a similar amount of academic training in a field that is part of the practice of public accounting.

Looking at the 2002 gender breakdown among all professional staff members (both CPAs and prospective CPAs), 56% were males and 44% were females. There is no clear trend relating firm size to gender ratio.

		TAB	LE 37		
	Percentage o		Staff Employed er — 2002	by CPA Firms	
	Nı	umber of AICPA N	Nembers Per CPA	Firm	
	More Than 200	50-200	10–49	Fewer Than 10	All
	Members	Members	Members	Members	CPA Firms
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Male	57	54	55	56	56
Female	43	46	45	44	44

FIGURE 15 Percentage of Professional Staff Employed by CPA Firms by Gender — 2002



Again looking at total professional staff, but this time focusing on the ethnic/racial distribution, 89% of all staff members were White, 6% were Asian/Pacific Islander, 3% were Hispanic and 2% were Black. Firms employing 200 or more members exhibited the most racial/ethnic diversity.

Percentage of Professional Staff Employed by CPA Firms by Ethnic/Racial Background — 2002						
	Nı	umber of AICPA N	Nembers Per CPA	Firm		
	More Than 200 Members (%)	50–200 Members (%)	10–49 Members (%)	Fewer Than 10 Members (%)	All CPA Firms (%)	
Asian/Pacific						
Islander	10	2	3	5	6	
Black	3	2	2	2	2	
Hispanic	3	2	2	3	3	
Native American Alaskan Nativ		*	*	*	*	
Total Ethnic/ Racial	16	6	7	10	11	
White	84	93	92	90	89	
Other	*	1	1	*	*	

**TABLE 38** 

\* Less than 0.5%.

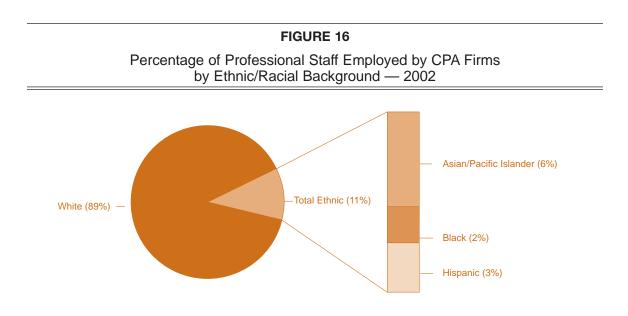


Table 39 illustrates 2002 staff turnover statistics for different size firms. Across all firms surveyed, the annual turnover rate was 10%, down from 12% during 2001. Turnover rates and firm size are positively correlated. Firms with more than 200 members saw a significant reduction in turnover compared to previous years.

TABLE 39							
	Professional Staff Turnover by CPA Firm Size						
Number of AICPA Members Per CPA Firm	Annual Professional Staff Turnover (Resignation or Termination) as a Percentage of Total Professional Staff (%)						
More than 200 members							
1996	24						
1999	22						
2000	28						
2001	25						
2002	17						
50–200 members							
1996	17						
1999	14						
2000	19						
2001	12						
2002	15						
10–49 members							
1996	13						
1999	13						
2000	13						
2001	11						
2002	11						
Fewer than 10 members							
1996	7						
1999	9						
2000	7						
2001	7						
2002	7						
All CPA firms							
1996	15						
1999	14						
2000	16						
2001	12						
2002	10						

While the ratio of male to female professional staff in 2002 was 56:44, the ratio of males to females who were terminated or resigned was 46:54, reflecting a higher turnover rate for females. Turnover of females occurred more so in the smaller firms.

TABLE 40	
Percentage of Professional Staff Terminated by or Resigned From CPA Firms by Gender — 2002	
Number of AICPA Members Per CPA Firm	

	Number of AICPA Members Per CPA Firm				
	More Than 200	50-200	10-49	Fewer Than 10	All
	Members (%)	Members (%)	Members (%)	Members (%)	CPA Firms (%)
Male	53	52	47	40	46
Female	47	48	53	60	54

85% of professional staff members who were terminated or resigned in 2002 were White. Since the percentage of Whites on staff in 2002 was 89%, a disproportionately higher rate of turnover occurred among non-Whites.

TABLE 41							
Percentage of Professional Staff Terminated by or Resigned From CPA Firms by Ethnic/Racial Background — 2002							
	Nı	umber of AICPA N	1embers Per CPA	Firm			
	More Than 200 Members (%)	50–200 Members (%)	10–49 Members (%)	Fewer Than 10 Members (%)	All CPA Firms (%)		
Asian/Pacific Islander	9	3	5	10	8		
Black	4	1	3	3	3		
Hispanic	3	2	4	3	3		
Native Americar Alaskan Nativ		1	*	*	•		
Total Ethnic/ Racial	17	7	12	16	14		
White	83	92	87	84	85		
Other	*	1	1	*	1		

\* Less than 0.5%.

\_\_\_\_\_

Turning to CPAs only (as opposed to both CPAs and non-CPAs), almost two-thirds of all CPAs employed by public accounting firms in 2002 were males (64%). Although not shown, this is a slightly lower percentage then occurred for the 2001 survey.

		TAB	LE 42			
	Percentage of CF	PAs Employed	by CPA Firms b	by Gender — 200	)2	
	Number of AICPA Members Per CPA Firm					
	More Than 200 Members (%)	50–200 Members (%)	10–49 Members (%)	Fewer Than 10 Members (%)	All CPA Firms (%)	
Male	64	61	61	65	64	
Female	36	39	39	35	36	

## TABLE 43A

	Nı	umber of AICPA N	1embers Per CPA	Firm	
M	ore Than 200 Members (%)	50–200 Members (%)	10–49 Members (%)	Fewer Than 10 Members (%)	All CPA Firms (%)
Asian/Pacific Islander	7	2	2	4	4
Black	1	1	1	1	1
Hispanic	3	1	2	2	2
Native American/ Alaskan Native	*	*	*	*	*
Total Ethnic/ Racial	11	4	5	7	7
White	89	96	95	93	93
Other	*	*	*	*	*

## Percentage of CPAs Employed by CPA Firms by Ethnic/Racial Background and Firm Size — 2002

## TABLE 43B

## Percentage of CPAs Employed by CPA Firms by Ethnic/Racial Background and Firm Type — 2002

	Minority CPA Firms (%)	Majority CPA Firms (%)	All CPA Firms (%)
Asian/Pacific Islander	41	3	4
Black	13	1	1
Hispanic	25	1	2
Native American/Alaskan Native	*	*	*
White	21	95	93
Other	*	*	*

\* Less than 0.5%.

Table 44 shows the gender distribution among partners/owners in various size firms. Across all firms, 81% of partners/owners in 2002 were males, 19% were females. Firms employing fewer than ten members had the highest percentage of female partner/owners: 21%.

		TAB	LE 44				
	Percentage of Pa	artners/Owners	in CPA Firms b	by Gender — 200	)2		
	Nı	Number of AICPA Members Per CPA Firm					
	More Than 200 Members (%)	50–200 Members (%)	10–49 Members (%)	Fewer Than 10 Members (%)	All CPA Firms (%)		
Male	88	89	87	79	81		
Female	12	11	13	21	19		

TABLE 45APercentage of Partners/Owners in CPA Firmsby Ethnic/Racial Background and Firm Size — 2002							
	More Than 200 Members (%)	50–200 Members (%)	10–49 Members (%)	Fewer Than 10 Members (%)	All CPA Firms (%)		
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	1	1	4	3		
Black	1	*	1	1	1		
Hispanic	1	*	1	2	2		
Native American Alaskan Nativ		*	*	*	*		
Total Ethnic/ Racial	4	1	3	7	6		
White	96	99	97	93	94		
Other	*	*	*	*	*		

Table 45A shows the ethnic/racial background of partners/owners in various size firms. Across all size firms, Whites comprised at least 93% of the partners/owners in 2002.

\* Less than 0.5%.

In 45% of minority-owned firms, Asian/Pacific Islanders held partner/owner positions. In one-fourth, Hispanics held partner/owner positions, and in 15% of minority-owned firms, Blacks held partner/owner positions.

	TABLE 45	iВ	
	ntage of Partners/Ov Racial Background a	vners in CPA Firms and Firm Type — 200	2
	Minority CPA Firms (%)	Majority CPA Firms (%)	All CPA Firms (%)
Asian/Pacific Islander	45	1	3
Black	15	*	1
Hispanic	28	*	2
Native American/Alaskan Native	*	*	*
White	12	99	94
Other	*	*	*

\* Less than 0.5%.

## **Experienced Recruits Hired\***

The survey also asked firms if in 2002 they hired more or fewer experienced recruits (as opposed to new graduates) than they did in 2001. Table 46 shows results for different size firms. 84% of the firms surveyed said they hired about the same number of experienced recruits in 2002 as in 2001. Firms with more than 200 AICPA members reported a higher percentage of experienced recruits.

	TABLE 4	6	
	Experienced Recruits Relative to 2 by CPA Firm	2001	
Number of AICPA Members Per CPA Firm		CPA Firms Indicating That Recruits Hired in 2002 Relat Same (%)	
More than 200 members	47	19	34
50–200 members	34	54	12
10-49 members	29	54	17
Fewer than 10 members	10	86	4
All CPA firms	11	84	5

\*Experienced recruits are defined as professional staff hired at above entry-level.

## Paraprofessional Staff Hired\*

Turning to whether firms hired more or fewer paraprofessional staff in 2002 vs. 2001, the results approximate the findings for experienced professionals (shown above): 84% of firms hired about the same number in 2002 as in 2001.

\*Paraprofessional staff are defined as nonprofessional staff employed to assist professional staff with clerical and other duties that would not be defined as traditional office duties.

	TABI	E 47		
	Paraprofessional S Relative by CPA F		002	
Number of AICPA Members Per CPA Firm	Percent Indicating They Hire Paraprofessional Staff (%)	of Parapro	rms Indicating That ofessional Staff Hire elative to 2001 Wa Same (%)	ed in 2002
More than 200 members	90	0	82	18
50-200 members	94	23	68	9
10-49 members	83	21	74	5
Fewer than 10 members	54	12	85	3
All CPA firms	56	13	84	3

## Survey Methodology

## **Colleges and University Accounting Programs**

For this survey the population of colleges and universities granting accounting degrees was defined as all schools with accreditation in accounting plus all schools accredited in business by the AACSB — International, or by the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs, plus other accounting degree granting programs that appear in *Accounting Faculty Directory*—2003 (Hasselback, Prentice Hall).

In early 2003, 849 schools offering bachelor's, master's, and/or Ph.D. degrees in accounting were asked for data about the school, its graduates, and faculty. Information was gathered regarding the number of each type of degree awarded, and the gender, racial/ethnic, and employment placement of individuals receiving those degrees. A copy of the questionnaire can be seen in Appendix D.

To estimate the accounting graduates from nonresponding schools, regression equations were developed that related the number of graduates with bachelor's, master's, and/or Ph.D. degrees to the number of accounting faculty for the schools that responded to the survey. The number of accounting faculty in the schools surveyed was obtained from the *Accounting Faculty Directory*—2003.

## **CPA Firms**

In early 2003, the AICPA conducted a survey of about 5,518 CPA firms and sole practitioners affiliated with the Institute. Questionnaires were sent to all CPA firms affiliated with the AICPA that had more than 10 AICPA members and about 10% of the 42,274 CPA firms that have fewer than 10 AICPA members. Questionnaires asked firms to categorize newly hired recent college graduates by gender, ethnic/racial background, and area of assignment (i.e., accounting/auditing, taxation, management consulting services, and other specialty areas). The firms also were asked to identify themselves as majority-owned or minority-owned, and to give information on their recruiting efforts, professional and paraprofessional staff, and new hires that had experience. A total of 1,591 CPA firms responded for an overall response rate of 29%.

A weighted methodology was used to generate estimates for the firms that did not respond to the questionnaire. Regression analysis was used to estimate the demand by nonresponding firms for accounting graduates. For each of four firm-size categories (more than 200 AICPA members, 50–200 members, 10–49 members, and fewer than 10 members) regression equations were estimated that relate the number of new accounting bachelor's and master's graduates hired to the number of AICPA members for firms that responded to the survey.

## Limitations of the Survey Results

A confidence interval or statement of accuracy of the results in the form of "plus or minus x percentage points" is not possible to compute. The methodology used for both surveys is not true statistical sampling because the populations surveyed are university accounting programs and CPA firms, not the individuals receiving the degrees or getting the new jobs and being characterized in the tables.

## APPENDIX **B**

## Survey Questionnaires



Academic and Career Development

April 2003

TO ADMINISTRATORS OF ACCOUNTING PROGRAMS:

The AICPA needs your assistance as we gather data for a survey of accounting programs. The information you supply will be used for the publication, *The Supply of Accounting Graduates and the Demand for Public Accounting Recruits.* Your prompt response is essential for us to continue to provide current and relevant information about accounting education.

The questionnaire consists of two brief sections:

- **School data** information about your program is preprinted and simply needs to be updated.
- **Student data** number of accounting majors and degrees awarded during the 2001-2002 academic year with ethnic and gender breakdown. Please include graduate data where it is requested.

Please return the questionnaire in the enclosed envelope at your earliest convenience. If it is necessary to distribute sections to staff members, please make sure that all of the sections are returned to the AICPA in an expeditious manner. If you have any questions, please contact **Leticia Romeo at (212) 596-6221.** 

Thank you for your assistance with the survey.

Sincerely,

Bea Sanders

Bea Sanders Director Academic and Career Development Team

Enclosures

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036–8775 • (212) 596–6200 • fax (212) 596–6213 • www.aicpa.org ISO 9001 Certified

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Please review the following information about your school and accounting program(s). Make any corrections or additions directly on this sheet.

## **College/University Name**

Address:

Accounting Accreditation: Regional Accreditation: Business Accreditation: Level of Accreditation: Total Enrollment: Internet Address: Main Telephone Control: Type:

## UNDERGRADUATE DIVISION NAME:

Accounting Program Head: Fax Number: Telephone: E-mail: Dean:

Undergraduate Accounting Degrees Offered Graduate Accounting Degrees Offered: Doctoral Accounting Degrees Offered: **GRADUATE DIVISION NAME:** Accounting Program Head: Fax Number: Telephone: E-mail: Dean:

(Note: Please return all sections in the enclosed envelope. If the envelope is misplaced, return the completed questionnaire to AICPA, Academic & Career Development, Curriculum Data Base Project, 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036-8775.)

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Level of Accreditation:

GENERAL QUESTIONS
1. (a) Does your school's existing accounting curriculum allow your graduates to sit for the CPA Exam in states requiring the 150 hours of education?
□ Yes   □ No (Please skip to Section II, page 3)
(b) Please identify the educational path(s) that qualify students for the 150-hour requirement. Check as many as apply:
$\Box$ A bachelor's degree in accounting with an MBA degree
□ A bachelor's degree in accounting with another business master's degree (e.g., finance, information systems, etc.)
$\Box$ A bachelor's degree in business and a master's degree in accounting
$\Box$ An integrated (150 hours) master's degree in accounting
□ A five-year bachelor's degree
□ Other (please specify)
OPTIONAL: If you are willing to share with us descriptive material about the programs that are available, please attach a copy to the questionnaire.

**SECTION II: STUDENT DATA** 

Please review the following questions as completely and accurately as possible. If your school does not have a bachelor's in accounting program, please skip to Part II. Master's Programs.

## I. BACHELOR'S PROGRAMS

	Other						Other			
ssible	Native American/ Alaskan Native					bottom row). ale and female	Native American/ Alaskan Native			
COUNTING MAJORS <b>ENROLLED</b> IN BACHELOR'S PROGRAM FOR THE 2002 FALL TERM: Please indicate the total number of undergraduates enrolled as accounting majors during the 2002 fall term. Please give the breakdown by male and female students (in the boxes in the left column) and by ethnic/racial groups (in the boxes along the bottom row). The box in the lower-left corner should match the total provided in Q.1A. Provide as much detail as possible by specifying the number of male and female undergraduates within each ethnic/racial group.	Asian/ Pacific Islander				and 8/02.	Please give the breakdown by male and female graduates (in the boxes in the left column) and by ethnic/racial groups (in the boxes along the bottom row). The box in the lower-left corner should match the total provided in Q.2A. Provide as much detail as possible by specifying the number of male and female graduates within each ethnic/racial group (in the blank lines provided below).	Asian/ Pacific Islander			
2 fall term. ethnic/racial groups ded in Q.1A. Provide	Hispanic				: sgrees between 9/01	ethnic/racial groups (ir as possible by specify	Hispanic			
DR THE 2002 FALL TERM: bunting majors during the 2002 fall term. (es in the left column) and by ethnic/racial groups • should match the total provided in Q.1A. Provide each ethnic/racial group.	Black				IED BETWEEN 9/01 and 8/02: counting-related bachelor's dec	left column) and by e vide as much detail a	Black			
toGRAM FOR THE olled as accounting m s (in the boxes in the er-left corner should r uates within each eth	White				EES AWARDED BETN ated with accounting-	s (in the boxes in the rovided in Q.2A. Prov nes provided below).	White			
COUNTING MAJORS <b>ENROLLED</b> IN BACHELOR'S PROGRAM FOR THE 2002 FALL TERM: Please indicate the total number of undergraduates enrolled as accounting majors during the 2002 fall term. Please give the breakdown by male and female students (in the boxes in the left column) and by ethnic/racia (in the boxes along the bottom row). The box in the lower-left corner should match the total provided in Q.1A by specifying the number of male and female undergraduates within each ethnic/racial group.		"	"	"	COUNTING <b>GRADUATES</b> WITH BACHELOR'S DEGREES AWARDED BETWEEN 9/01 and 8/02: Please indicate the total number of students who graduated with accounting-related bachelor's degrees between 9/01 and 8/02.	Please give the breakdown by male and female graduates (in the boxes in the The box in the lower-left corner should match the total provided in Q.2A. Pro graduates within each ethnic/racial group (in the blank lines provided below).		"	"	"
JORS ENROLLED the total number of breakdown by male ong the bottom row e number of male a					ADUATES WITH B the total number of	breakdown by male ower-left corner shc ı each ethnic/racial				
<ol> <li>ACCOUNTING MAJORS ENROLLED IN BACHELOR'S PROGRAM FOR THE 2002 FALL TERM:</li> <li>A. Please indicate the total number of undergraduates enrolled as accounting majors during the 2 B. Please give the breakdown by male and female students (in the boxes in the left column) and t (in the boxes along the bottom row). The box in the lower-left corner should match the total pro by specifying the number of male and female undergraduates within each ethnic/racial group.</li> </ol>		Male	Female	Lotal	<ol> <li>ACCOUNTING GRADUATES WITH BACHELOR'S DEGREES AWARD</li> <li>A. Please indicate the total number of students who graduated with acc</li> </ol>	B. Please give the The box in the lo graduates within		Male	Female	Total

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3. PLACEMENT OF GRADUATES WITH BACHELOR'S DEGREES AWARDED BETWEEN 9/01 AND 8/02:

- A. Please indicate in COLUMN A the placement of graduates who earned bachelor's degrees in accounting between 9/01 and 8/02.
- B. Please indicate in COLUMN B the breakdown by male and female graduates for each placement area. Indicate in COLUMN C the breakdown by ethnic/racial groups for each placement area.

	<b>COLUMN A</b>	I	COLUMN B	IN B	I				COLUMN C		
	Total Placement		Placement by Gender	y Gender				Placemen	Placement by Ethnic/Racial Groups	Groups	
	Total # of	· ·	# of graduates who went	s who went	I			-			
	graduates who	=	into each placement area	ement area	I		# 01	graduates wh	# of graduates who went into each placement area	placement area	
Placement Areas	went into each placement area	ļ	Male	Female	I	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Native American/ Alaskan Native	Other
a. Public Accounting		I II			"						
b. Business/Industry											
c. Government		I II									
d. Nonprofit Organization		I II			"						
e. Graduate School		II									
f. Other Areas											
g. Unknown		II									
O Estito non contactional difficuents of and and to be accorded to the second second second second destructions					4 		ctor bons do	chood dhin o		Crociput	

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C. For the past academic year, are you aware of any gender-related or ethnic/race-related trends in the placement of graduates with bachelor's degrees in accounting? Please be as specific as possible in your comments.

Please answer the following questions as completely and accurately as possible. If your school does not have a master's in accounting or taxation program, or an MBA in accounting program, please skip to Part III. Ph.D. Programs.	following question 1, or an MBA in ac	s as completely counting progra	y and accurately am, please skip t	ately as possible. If your school skip to Part III. Ph.D. Programs.	r school does n ograms.	ot have a master	r's in accounting	
II. MASTER'S PROGRAMS	OGRAMS							
1. MASTER'S-LEVEL ACCOUNTING/TAXATION STUDENTS ENROLLED FOR THE 2002 FALL TERM:	ACCOUNTING/TAXAT	ION STUDENTS E	ENROLLED FOR TH	E 2002 FALL TERM:				
Please indicate the	Please indicate the number of accounting and taxation students enrolled	and taxation stude		in each Master's program during the 2002 fall term.	ng the 2002 fall ter	Ľ		
Master's Programs	8			Number of Stu During the 20	Number of Students Enrolled During the 2002 Fall Term			
A. Master's in acco	Master's in accounting — including MA, MS, MAcc, MPA and MAS programs	, MS, MAcc, MPA	and MAS programs					
B. Master's in taxat	Master's in taxation — including MBAs with a concentration in tax	with a concentrati	ion in tax					
C. MBAs with a cor	C. MBAs with a concentration in accounting	gr						
D. Total number (A + B + C)	+ B + C)							
2. GENDER AND ETH	GENDER AND ETHNIC/RACE BREAKDOWN FOR ACCOUNTING/TAXATION STUDENTS IN ALL MASTER'S PROGRAMS FOR THE 2002 FALL TERM:	WN FOR ACCOU	NTING/TAXATION S	TUDENTS IN ALL MA	STER'S PROGRAI	AS FOR THE 2002 F	FALL TERM:	
Of the total number and by ethnic/racial as possible by spec	Of the total number of master's-level accounting/taxation students entered in Q.1D above, please give the breakdown by male and female students (in the boxes in the left column) and by ethnic/racial groups (in the boxes along the bottom row). The box in the lower-left corner should match the total provided in Q.1D. Next, please provide as much detail as possible by specifying the number of male and female students within each ethnic/racial group (in the blow).	nting/taxation stude long the bottom ro ale and female stu	ints entered in Q.1D a w). The box in the lo udents within each et	O.1D above, please give the breakdown by male and female students (in the boxes in the left column) in the lower-left corner should match the total provided in Q.1D. Next, please provide as much detail each ethnic/racial group (in the blank lines provided below).	preakdown by male match the total pro e blank lines provit	and female students vided in Q.1D. Next, led below).	(in the boxes in the le , please provide as m	t column) uch detail
			White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Native American/ Alaskan Native	Other
					-			
Male		I						
Female								
Total								

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CCOUNTING/TAXATION GRADUATES WITH MASTER'S DEGREES AWARI
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Please indicate the number of graduates with master's degrees for each of the accounting/taxation programs awarded between 9/01 and 8/02:

## Master's Programs

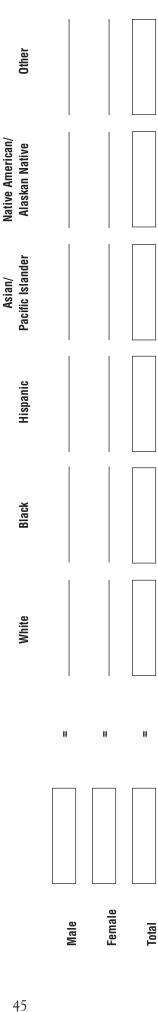
- A. Master's in accounting including MA, MS, MAcc, MPA and MAS programs
- B. Master's in taxation including MBAs with a concentration in tax
- D. Total number (A + B + C)

## Awarded Between 9/01 and 8/02 Number of Master's Degrees

- C. MBAs with a concentration in accounting

4. GENDER AND ETHNIC/RACE BREAKDOWN FOR ACCOUNTING/TAXATION GRADUATES WITH MASTER'S DEGREES AWARDED BETWEEN 9/01 AND 8/02:

ethnic/racial groups (in the boxes along the bottom row). The box in the lower-left corner should match the total provided in Q.3D. Next, please provide as much detail as possible Of the total number of graduates with master's degrees entered in Q.3D above, please give the breakdown by male and female graduates (in the boxes in the left column) and by by specifying the number of male and female graduates within each ethnic/racial group (in the blank lines provided below).



5. PLACEMENT OF GRADUATES WITH MASTER'S DEGREES AWARDED BETWEEN 9/01 AND 8/02:

- A. Please indicate in COLUMN A the placement of graduates who earned master's degrees (in accounting, taxation, or MBAs with a concentration in accounting) between 9/01 and 8/02.
  - B. Please indicate in COLUMN B the breakdown by male and female graduates for each placement area. Indicate in COLUMN C the breakdown by ethnic/racial groups for each placement area.

	COLUMN A	COLI	COLUMN B				COLUMN C		
	Total Placement	Placemen	Placement by Gender			Placemen	Placement by Ethnic/Racial Groups	Groups	
	Total # of	# of gradua	# of graduates who went		4	f avodurbour f	o wort into cooh		
	grauuates who went into each	Into each pr	JIAGEILIENL AFEA		0 #	ı yrauuates wii	# or grauuates who went into each pracement area Asian/ Native Americ	placement area Native American/	
Placement Areas	placement area	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Alaskan Native	Other
a. Public Accounting									
b. Business/Industry									
c. Government									
d. Nonprofit Organization		"		"					
e. Graduate School		"		"					
f. Other Areas		"		"					
g. Unknown		"							

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Other Other The box in the lower-left corner should match the total provided in Q.2A. Provide as much detail as possible by specifying the number of male and female graduates The box in the lower-left corner should match the total provided in Q.1A. Provide as much detail as possible by specifying the number of male and female doctoral Please give the breakdown by male and female doctoral students (in the boxes in the left column) and by ethnic/racial groups (in the boxes along the bottom row). Native American/ Native American/ **Alaskan Native Alaskan Native** Please give the breakdown by male and female graduates (in the boxes in the left column) and by ethnic/racial groups (in the boxes along the bottom row). **Pacific Islander Pacific Islander** Asian/ Asian/ A. Please indicate the total number of graduates who received accounting/taxation-related doctoral degrees between 9/01 and 8/02. A. Please indicate the total number of doctoral-level students enrolled in accounting/taxation programs during the 2002 fall term. Hispanic Hispanic ACCOUNTING/TAXATION GRADUATES WITH DOCTORAL DEGREES AWARDED BETWEEN 9/01 and 8/02: 1. DOCTORAL-LEVEL ACCOUNTING/TAXATION STUDENTS ENROLLED FOR THE 2002 FALL TERM: Black Black students within each ethnic/racial group (in the blank lines provided below). White White within each ethnic/racial group (in the blank lines provided below). program, please skip to Part IV. Enrollment Projections. п п п II П П III. Ph.D. PROGRAMS Female Female Male Male Total Total ഫ് ഫ്

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Please answer the following questions as completely and accurately as possible. If your school does not have a Ph. D. in accounting or taxation

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Please answer the following questions as completely and accurately as possible.

# IV. ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

1. For each of the accounting programs listed below, please indicate whether you expect enrollment at your institution two years from now to be higher, lower, or the same as current enrollment. (Please circle one number for each program. If your institution does not currently offer that program, circle "4".)

		Enrollment 2 years from now will be:	from now will be	
Accounting Programs	Higher than current enrollment	The same as current enrollment	Lower than current enrollment	Do not know/ No opinion
A. Bachelor's — majors in accounting	<del></del>	5	З	4
B. Master's in accounting — including students in MA, MS, MAcc, MPA and MAS programs	۴	2	ю	4
C. Master's in taxation — including MBA students with a concentration in tax	۲	5	ю	4
D. MBA students with a concentration in accounting	۲	7	ę	4
E. Ph.D. students in accounting/taxation	۲	0	ç	4
Thank you very much for completing this survey. We would like your comments about the survey and/or trends in accounting education. The information you provide is an important resource in planning for the accounting profession.	s in accounting	education.		
Comments on this survey:				

Academic & Career Development Team, Curriculum Data Base Project, 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036–8775.) (Note: Please return completed survey in the enclosed envelope. If the envelope is misplaced, return completed survey to AICPA,



May 2003

## **Dear CPA Firm Representative:**

The AICPA is conducting its study of accounting program administrators and CPA firms to gauge the supply of accounting graduates and the demand for public accounting recruits. The information gathered with these surveys is very useful to the AICPA in planning for the future needs of the profession. The survey results are also useful to the practicing profession as a source of information for human resources planning and employment trends. The data gathered will be reported in the publication *The Supply of Accounting Graduates and the Demand for Public Accounting Recruits,* which will be available later this year.

We will greatly appreciate your participation in the study by answering the questionnaire as accurately and completely as possible. The reliability and usefulness of the results depend heavily upon broad-based participation. If it is necessary to forward this questionnaire to the appropriate party or office, please do so. As in the past, the data gathered are entirely confidential and will be used only in summary form. To ensure anonymity, we are not asking you to sign your name or your firm's name.

Please return your completed questionnaire in the enclosed postage-paid envelope at your earliest convenience. Your timely response is critical to the success of this important effort. If you have any questions, please contact Leticia Romeo at (212) 596–6221.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Bea Sanders

Beatrice Sanders Director

Enclosures

## AICPA SURVEY ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF NEW GRADUATES AND OTHER PERSONNEL WITHIN PUBLIC ACCOUNTING

## IMPORTANT

Please answer the following questions by circling the numbers corresponding to your responses or by writing in your responses. Your responses should cover your entire firm — all offices or locations.

## I. Employment of New Graduates

1. We would like to determine the number of new accounting and nonaccounting graduates who began employment at your firm during **2002**. New graduates are defined as those who began employment at entry-level positions with no or only nominal previous experience with a CPA firm.

If your firm did not hire new graduates who began employment at entry-level positions in 2002, please skip to Section II (Other Personnel Information) on page 4.

Please indicate below the number of **new graduates** with the following degrees who began employment at your firm on a full-time basis during **2002**. (Note: If, for a particular degree, there were **no** graduates who began employment, enter **0**; if the information is **not available**, enter **NA**.) **Do not include** those graduates who were recruited in 2002 to begin employment in 2003.

**Note:** If a newly employed graduate has more than one degree, the individual should be counted only once and placed according to the highest degree.

<u>Acc</u>	counting Degree	Number of new graduates who began employment on a full-time basis during 2002:
A.	Bachelor's in Accounting — including other bachelor's degrees with majors in accounting.	
B.	Master's in Accounting — including MA, MS, MAcc, MPA and MAS degrees	
C.	Master's in Taxation — including MBAs with a concentration in tax	
D.	MBAs with a concentration in accounting	
E.	TOTAL: A+B+C+D=	:
No	naccounting Degree	
F.	Bachelor's degree in IS/Computer Science	
G.	Bachelor's degree in Finance	
Н.	Bachelor's degree in other (nonaccounting) business majors	
I.	Bachelor's degree in nonbusiness majors	
J.	TOTAL Nonaccounting Degree (Bachelor's): F+G+H+l=	
К.	Master's or higher degrees in IS/Computer Science	
L.	Master's or higher degrees in Finance	
М.	Master's or higher degrees in other (nonaccounting) business majors	
N.	Master's or higher degrees in nonbusiness majors	
0.	J.D. in Law	
P.	TOTAL Nonaccounting Degree (Master's or higher): K+L+M+N+O=	:
Q.	GRAND TOTAL: E+J+P=	:

2. Please indicate below the gender breakdown of new graduates who began employment at your firm on a full-time basis during 2002.

Gender		Number of new graduates employed on a full-time basis during 2002 who are:			
A.	Male				
В.	Female				
C.	TOTAL:	A+B =	= Line Q in Q.1		

**3.** Please indicate below the **ethnic/racial breakdown by gender** of new graduates who began employment at your firm on a full-time basis during **2002.** If the gender breakdown is not available, please provide the total numbers by ethnic/racial group.

	Total number of new graduates employed	Gender
Ethnic/Racial Group	on a full-time basis during 2002 who are:	Male Female
<b>A.</b> White		
<b>B.</b> Black		
C. Hispanic		
D. Asian/Pacific Islander		
E. Native American/Alaskan Native		
<b>F.</b> Other*		
G. TOTAL: A+B+	C+D+E+F = = Line Q in Q.	1

\*Please indicate generally what groups are included in "Other."

4. Please indicate below the number of new graduates who began employment at your firm on a full-time basis during 2002 who have been assigned primarily to the following areas.

Are	ea	Number of new graduates employed on a full-time basis during 2002 who have been assigned primarily to:			
A.	Accounting				
В.	Auditing				
C.	Assurance Services				
D.	Taxation				
E.	IS/Computer				
F.	Management Services (other than IS)				
G.	Other Areas				
Н.	TOTAL: A+B+	C+D+E+F+G =	= Line Q in Q.1		

**5.** Please provide the following recruiting information for those new graduates who began employment at your firm on a full-time basis during 2002.

Re	Recruiting Information					
A.	On Campus Recruiting:					
	Candidates interviewed on campus					
	Candidates interviewed on campus who visited your office					
	Candidates interviewed on campus who were offered jobs					
	Candidates interviewed on campus who were hired					
B.	Off Campus Recruiting:					
	Other new graduates who were initially interviewed					
	Other new graduates who were offered jobs					
	Other new graduates who were hired					
	Note: The total number of new graduates hired in A and B should equal the number in line Q in C	).1.				
II. Other Personnel Information						

## **Note:** The following section applies to all employees at your firm during **2002**. If some of the information for the following questions is not available, **enter N/A**.

6. Professional staff are defined as CPAs, prospective CPAs, and others with a similar amount of academic training in a field that is part of the practice of public accounting.

Α.	What is the <b>total</b> number of <b>professional staff employed</b> in your firm as of <b>December 31, 2002?</b> Include partners.	
B.	What is the <b>total</b> number of <b>professional staff</b> in your firm who were <b>terminated or resigned</b> during <b>2002?</b> Include partners.	

7. Under SECTION I below, please indicate the gender breakdown of the professional staff employed in your firm as of December 31, 2002.

Under SECTION II below, please indicate the gender breakdown of the professional staff in your firm who were terminated or resigned during 2002.

Gender		<b>SECTION I</b> Number of professionals employed as of 12/31/02 who are:		Numb	<b>SECTION II</b> Number of professionals terminated/resigned during 2002 who a		
A.	Male						
B.	Female						
С.	TOTAL:	A+B=	= Q.6A	A+B=	= Q.6B		

8. Under SECTION III below, please indicate the ethnic/racial breakdown of the professional staff employed in your firm as of December 31, 2002.

Under SECTION IV below, please indicate the ethnic/racial breakdown of the professional staff in your firm who were terminated or resigned during 2002.

<u>Ethr</u>	nic/Racial Group	SECTION III Number of professiona employed as of 12/31/02 w			<b>TION IV</b> of professionals d during 2002	
A. '	White					
B.	Black					
С.	Hispanic					
<b>D</b> .	Asian/Pacific Islander					
E.	Native American/Alaskan Native	e				
F. (	Other					
<b>G</b> .	TOTAL: A+B+	+C+D+E+F=	= Q.6A	A+B+C+D+E+F=		= Q.6B
Dlaar	no indicate the number of CDA	a omong the professional sta	ff amplayed	in your firm of of		
	se indicate the <b>number of CPA</b> ember 31, 2002. Include partn	• •		-		

**10.** Of the total **number of CPAs** entered in **Q.9**, please indicate below the **gender breakdown**.

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Gender		Number of CPAs who are:		
A.	Male	• • • • • •		
В.	Female			
C.	TOTAL:	A+B = [		= Q.9

11. Of the total **number of CPAs** entered in **Q.9**, please indicate below the **ethnic/racial breakdown by gender**. If the gender breakdown is not available, please provide the total number of CPAs by ethnic/racial group.

					Ge	ender
Eth	nnic/Racial Group	Total nu	mber of CPAs v	vho are:	Male	Female
A.	White					
В.	Black					
C.	Hispanic					
D.	Asian/Pacific Islander					
E.	Native American/Alaskan Native					
F.	Other					
G.	TOTAL: A+B+C+D	+E+F = [		= Q.9		

12. Please indicate the number of partners among the professional staff employed in your firm as of December 31, 2002.

13. Of the total number of partners entered in Q.12, please indicate below the gender breakdown.

Gender	Number of partners who are
A. Male	
B. Female	
C. TOTAL:	A+B= = Q.1

14. Of the total number of partners entered in Q.12, please indicate below the ethnic/racial breakdown.

<u>Eth</u>	Ethnic/Racial Group		partners who are:
A.	White		
В.	Black		
C.	Hispanic	••••	
D.	Asian/Pacific Islander	••••	
E.	Native American/Alaskan Native		
F.	Other	••••	
G.	TOTAL: A+B+C+D+B	+F=	= Q.12

- 15. Experienced recruits are defined as professional staff hired at above entry level. Was the total number of experienced recruits employed by your firm during 2002 higher, lower or the same as the number employed during 2001? (circle one only)
  - 1. Higher
  - 2. The Same
  - 3. Lower
- **16.** Of the total hires new graduate and experienced recruits employed in 2002, what percentage represent experienced recruits?
- **17. Paraprofessional staff** are defined as nonprofessional staff hired to assist professional staff with clerical and other duties which would not be defined as traditional office duties.
  - A. Does your firm employ paraprofessional staff? (circle one only)
    - 1. Yes
    - **2**. No
  - **B.** If yes, was the total number of paraprofessional staff employed by your firm during 2002 higher, lower or the same as the number employed during 2001? (circle one only)
    - 1. Higher
    - 2. The Same
    - 3. Lower

## IV. Background Information

- 21. In which state is your firm's headquarters located?
- 22. Which of the following most closely describes your firm? (circle one only)
  - 1. Local firm
  - 2. Regional firm
  - 3. National/multinational firm
- 23. Is your firm/practice minority-owned? (Minority-owned is defined as majority ownership by those of Black, Native American/Alaskan Native, or Asian/Pacific Islander races or of Hispanic ethnic origin.) (circle one only)
  - 1. Yes
  - **2**. No
- 24. Please indicate below the **number of AICPA members** in your **entire** firm. (If this number is not available, please provide your best estimate.) (circle one only)
  - **1.** 1–2 members
  - **2.** 3–4 members
  - 3. 5–9 members
  - 4. 10-24 members

- 5. 25–49 members
- 6. 50–99 members
- 7. 100 or more members

Thank you very much for completing this survey. We would like your comments about the survey and/or trends in the accounting profession. The information you provide is an important resource in planning for the profession.

Please return the questionnaire in the postage-paid envelope provided or send to:

AICPA Survey on the Employment of New Graduates and Other Personnel Within Public Accounting Academic & Career Development 1211 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036–8775

## APPENDIX C

## Geographic Regions Referred to in Tables 9, 10, 17, 18, and 28

Eastern Connecticut Delaware District of Columbia Maine Maryland Massachusetts New Hampshire New Jersey New Jersey New York Pennsylvania Rhode Island Vermont North Central Colorado Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Michigan Minnesota Missouri Montana Nebraska North Dakota Ohio South Dakota West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming

Southern Alabama Arkansas Florida Georgia Kentucky Louisiana Mississippi New Mexico North Carolina Oklahoma Puerto Rico South Carolina Tennessee Texas Virginia

Pacific Alaska Arizona California Hawaii Idaho Nevada Oregon Utah Washington