

BACHELOR'S DEGREES

Background

In 2007, the US Department of Education formally expanded CEPH's scope of recognition to include accreditation of bachelor's degrees, in addition to graduate degrees, reflecting CEPH's practice of accrediting bachelor's degrees housed in accredited schools of public health. In 2016*, CEPH accredited its first standalone baccalaureate program (SBP).

CEPH accredits bachelor's degrees with a variety of names, such as Bachelor of Science (BS), Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH), Bachelor of Public Health (BPH), and Bachelor of Arts (BA). Among these degrees, units offer concentrations including general public health, global health, health policy, environmental health, epidemiology, social and behavioral sciences, nutrition, and allied health, among others. General public health accounts for most concentrations that CEPH accredits.

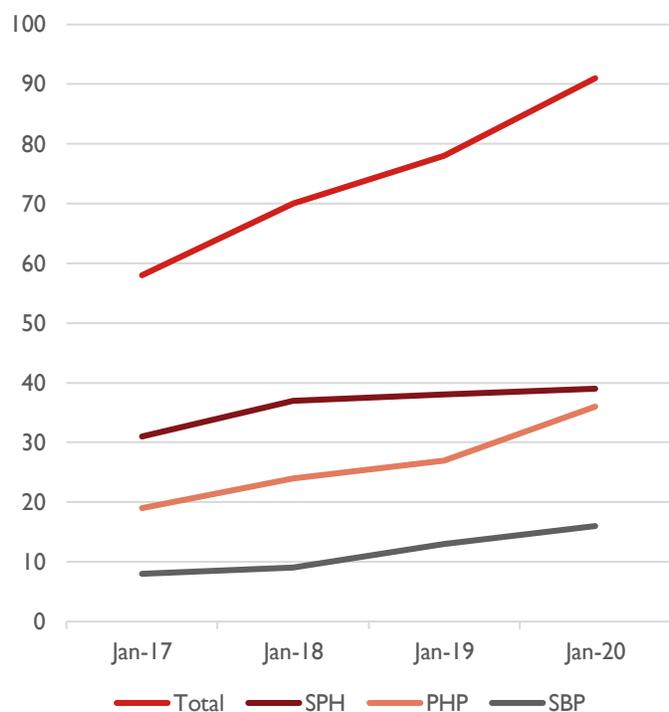
Adoption of the criteria for SBP and the 2016 Criteria for PHP and SPH constituted the first definition of curricular expectations for an accredited bachelor's degree in public health. Prior to these adoptions, PHP and SPH that included bachelor's degrees were reviewed using minimally defined criteria that mirrored curricular expectations for the MPH and/or MS in public health disciplines. Current criteria use a framework of foundational public health domains, competencies, integrative and culminating experiences, and cross-cutting areas to analyze bachelor's curricula.

**CEPH procedures allow for initial accreditation to cover students who were enrolled while the review was taking place, making the effective date of initial accreditation 2014 for the first SBPs accredited.*

TRENDS

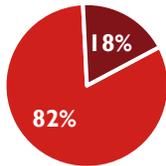
The number of accredited bachelor's degrees (and accredited units offering bachelor's degrees) has grown steadily over the last three years. This trend is consistent with national trends on growth in bachelor's degree conferrals generally, and in health professions (including public health), particularly.

Number of CEPH-accredited units offering undergraduate degree(s)

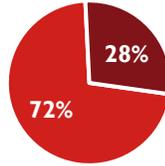


Undergraduate degrees in PHP

January 2017
n=113



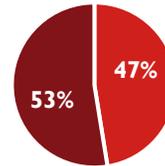
December 2019
n=127



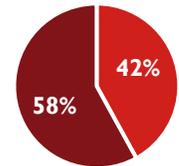
■ Offers UG degree(s) ■ Does not offer UG degree(s)

Undergraduate degrees in SPH

January 2017
n=59



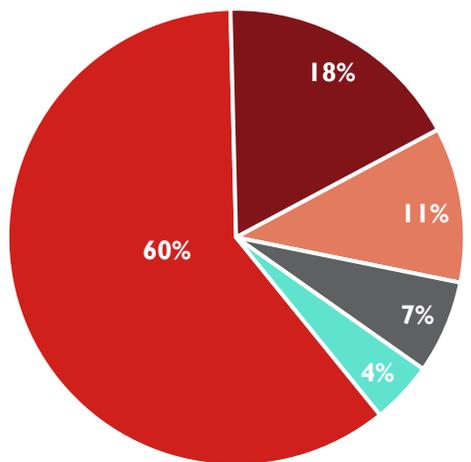
December 2019
n=67



CONCENTRATIONS

Units may contain a single bachelor's degree and concentration or multiple degrees and/or concentrations. At the end of 2019, 60% of units that offered a bachelor's degree offered a single degree and concentration.

Number of concentrations offered by each accredited unit



■ One ■ Two ■ Three ■ Five-Ten ■ Four

At the end of 2019, CEPH records indicated 178 bachelor's concentrations in 91 accredited units. The five most common undergraduate concentrations, comprising 155 of the offerings, were as follows:

Number of offerings	Concentration
82	General Public Health
40	SBS*
16	EHS
9	HSA
8	Global Health

* See [Background](#) document for a key to abbreviations.