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APPENDIX A:

DATA ELEMENT AVAILABILITY BY YEAR

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TABLE A-1. Graduate students, by enrollment status, sex, citizenship, and race and ethnicity: 1972–2023

Data availability, by year	1972	1973–77	1978	1979	1980–92	1993–98	1999–2007	2008–17old	Counts found in ___ variables	2017–23	Counts found in ___ variables
Master's students ^a										X	ma_*
Doctoral students ^a										X	dr_*
Part-time graduate students	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	pt_*	X	
By sex				X	X	X	X	X		X	
By citizenship and race and ethnicity ^{b,c}					X	X	X	X		X	
By sex, citizenship, and race and ethnicity ^{c,d}						X	X	X		X	
Full-time graduate students	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	ft_*	X	
By sex	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	
By citizenship and race and ethnicity ^c					X	X	X	X		X	
By sex, citizenship, and race and ethnicity ^{c,d}						X	X	X		X	
First-time, full-time graduate students		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	ft_frst_*	X	
By sex					X	X	X	X		X	
By citizenship and race and ethnicity ^e							X	X		X	
By sex, citizenship, and race and ethnicity ^e							X	X		X	
Sex											
Total	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	*_tot_*	X	*_tot_*
Men				X	X	X	X	X	*_men_*	X	*_men_*
Women				X	X	X	X	X	*_wmen_*	X	*_wmen_*
Citizenship and race and ethnicity categories collected											
Total	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	*_all_races_v	X	*_all_races_v
U.S. citizens ^e											
White, non-Hispanic					X	X	X	X	*_white_v	X	*_white_v
Asian or Pacific Islander					X	X			*_asian_pi_98_v		
Asian							X	X	*_asian_v	X	*_asian_v
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander							X	X	*_pacific_v	X	*_pacific_v
Black, non-Hispanic					X	X	X	X	*_black_v	X	*_black_v
Hispanic (one or more races)					X	X		X	*_hisp_v	X	*_hisp_v
Hispanic, one race							X		Sum in *_hisp_v		
Hispanic, more than one race							X				
American Indian or Alaska Native					X	X	X	X	*_indian_v	X	*_indian_v
Other or unknown ^b					X				*_unknown_v		
Other						X			*_other_98_v		
Unknown						X	X	X	*_unknown_v	X	*_unk_v
More than one race (non-Hispanic)							X	X	*_multi_non_hisp_v	X	*_multi_v
Foreign ^{b,f}					X	X	X	X	*_forgn_v	X	*_forgn_v

^a Starting in 2017, data were collected separately for master's and doctoral students; prior to 2017, graduate student data combine master's and doctoral students.

^b In 1980 and 1981, foreign part-time students and part-time students of other or unknown race were collected within a single "foreign, other, or unknown" category. In 1982, this category was split into "foreign" and "other or unknown," making it match the categories used for full-time students.

^c In 1999, some part-time and full-time graduate students are classified as Asian or Pacific Islanders (*_asian_pi_98_v) or of "Other" race (*_other_98_v), even though these categories were not used in the 1999 survey.

^d Part-time and full-time graduate student citizenship and race and ethnicity by sex data are incomplete in 1993, the first year that these data were collected.

^e First-time, full-time graduate student citizenship and race and ethnicity data are incomplete in 1999, the first year that these data were collected.

^f Beginning in fall 1992, permanent residents were included with U.S. citizens; in previous years, permanent residents were counted with foreign students.

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TABLE A-2. Source and mechanism of support for full-time graduate students: 1972–2023

Data availability, by year	1972–77	1978	1979–84	1985–95	1996–98	1999–2017old	Counts found in __ variables	2017–23	Counts found in __ variables
Master's students ^a								X	ma_*
Doctoral students ^a								X	dr_*
Full-time graduate students	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
By source	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
By sex ^b	X		X	X	X	X		X	
By sex and source ^b	X		X	X	X	X		X	
By mechanism ^b	X		X	X	X	X		X	
By mechanism and source ^b	X		X	X	X	X	ft_*	X	*ft_*
Sex									
Total	X	X	X	X	X	X	ft_tot_*	X	*ft_tot_*
Men	X	X	X	X	X	X	ft_men_*	X	*ft_men_*
Women	X	X	X	X	X	X	ft_wmen_*	X	*ft_wmen_*
Sources of financial support collected									
All sources							*_all_srces_v	X	*_all_v
Federal							*_fed_all_srces_v	X	*_fed_all_v
DOD ^c	X		X	X	X	X	*_fed_dod_v	X	*_fed_dod_v
NIH	X	X	X	X	X	X	*_fed_hhs_nih_v	X	*_fed_nih_v
HHS	X	X	X	X	X	X	*_fed_hhs_oth_v	X	*_fed_hhs_v
NSF	X	X	X	X	X	X	*_fed_nsf_v	X	*_fed_nsf_v
DOA				X	X	X	*_fed_doa_v	X	*_fed_doa_v
NASA					X	X	*_fed_nasa_v	X	*_fed_nasa_v
DOE						X	*_fed_doe_v	X	*_fed_doe_v
Other federal ^c	X	X	X	X	X	X	*_fed_oth_v	X	*_fed_oth_v
Nonfederal							*_nonfed_all_srces_v	X	*_nfed_all_v
Institutional	X	X	X	X	X	X	*_nonfed_inst_sup_v	X	*_nfed_inst_v
Other United States	X	X	X	X	X	X	*_nonfed_oth_us_v	X	*_nfed_othus_v
Foreign ^b	X		X	X	X	X	*_nonfed_forgn_v	X	*_nfed_forgn_v
Self	X	X	X	X	X	X	*_self_sup_v	X	*_self_sup_v
Mechanisms of financial support collected									
Fellowships and traineeships ^d	X						ft_felshp_*_v		
Fellowships			X	X	X	X	ft_felshp_*_v	X	*ft_fel_*_v
Traineeships			X	X	X	X	ft_trneeshp_*_v	X	*ft_trn_*_v
Research assistantships	X		X	X	X	X	ft_rscht_asst_*_v	X	*ft_ra_*_v
Teaching assistantships	X		X	X	X	X	ft_tchg_asst_*_v	X	*ft_ta_*_v
Other mechanisms	X		X	X	X	X	ft_oth_mech_*_v	X	*ft_ots_*_v

DOA = Department of Agriculture; DOD = Department of Defense; DOE = Department of Energy; HHS = Department of Health and Human Services; NASA = National Aeronautics and Space Administration; NIH = National Institutes of Health; NSF = National Science Foundation.

^a Starting in 2017, data were collected separately for master's and doctoral students; prior to 2017, graduate student data combine master's and doctoral students.

^b Data on mechanisms of support and foreign sources of support were not requested on the short forms used in 1978. Breakdowns of graduate students and full-time graduate student support by sex were inaccurate and have been omitted from the public-use data file.

^c DOD support is counted within "Other federal" support in 1978.

^d Before 1979, fellowships and traineeships were not separately identified; their sum is stored in the fellowship variables (ft_felshp_*_v) for these years.

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TABLE A-3. Postdoctoral appointees and nonfaculty research staff: 1972–2009

Data availability, by year ^a	1972	1973–76	1977	1978	1979–82	1983–09	Counts found in __ variables ^b
Count of postdoctoral appointees and nonfaculty research staff ^c							
Total	X	X	X				pd_tot_all_srces_v
By source		X	X				tot_postdoc_*
By citizenship			X				pd_tot_[us forgn]_v
Count of postdoctoral appointees							
Total					X	X	pd_tot_all_srces_v
By source					X	X	tot_postdoc_*
By citizenship					X	X	pd_tot_[us forgn]_v
By sex					X	X	pd_tot_[men wmen]_all_srces_v
By sex and source					X	X	[men wmen]_postdoc_*
By sex and citizenship					X	X	pd_[men wmen]_[us forgn]_v
With medical degree						X	med_degr_postdoc_all_srces_v
With medical degree, by source						X	med_degr_postdoc_*
With medical degree, by citizenship						X	med_degr_postdoc_forgn_v
Count of nonfaculty research staff							
Total					X	X	nfr_tot_all_degr_v
By sex					X	X	nfr_[men wmen]_all_degr_v
With medical degree						X	med_degr_oth_non_fcty_v
Sources of financial support collected							
Federal fellowships and traineeships ^d		X	X				*_felshp_v
Federal fellowship					X	X	*_felshp_v
Federal traineeship					X	X	*_trneeshp_v
Research associates		X	X				*_rsch_grnt_v
Federal research grant					X	X	*_rsch_grnt_v
Nonfederal		X	X		X	X	*_nonfed_v

^a No postdoctoral appointee or nonfaculty research staff data were collected in 1978.

^b In 2010, the postdoctoral appointee and nonfaculty research staff data collection was expanded significantly to capture more detailed information about these groups (see <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvygradpostdoc/> for more information). Of those items collected prior to 2010, only the total counts and the counts by sex and citizenship were asked in a consistent manner in 2009 and 2010. Consequently, only the variables housing these counts have been renamed using the 2010 variable naming convention (pd_* and nfr_*). All other variables retain their 2009 and prior names.

^c Postdoctoral appointees and nonfaculty researchers were not separately identified before 1979; their sum is stored in the postdoctoral appointee variables (tot_postdoc_*_v) for these years.

^d Similarly, fellowships and traineeships were not separately identified before 1979; their sum is stored in the fellowship variables (ft_felshp_*_v) for these years.

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TABLE A-4. Postdoctoral appointees: 2010–23

Data availability, by year ^a	2010–17old	Counts found in __ variables	2017–23	Counts found in __ variables
Count of postdoctoral appointees, by	X		X	
Sex, citizenship, and race and ethnicity	X		X	
Mechanism and source of financial support	X		X	
Mechanism of financial support and sex	X		X	
Mechanism of financial support and type of doctoral degree	X		X	
Citizenship and type of doctoral degree	X		X	
Origin of doctoral degree	X	pd_*	X	pd_*
Sex				
Total	X	pd_tot_*	X	pd_tot_*
Men	X	pd_men_*	X	pd_men_*
Women	X	pd_wmen_*	X	pd_wmen_*
Citizenship and race and ethnicity categories				
Total	X	pd_*_all_races_v	X	pd_*_all_races_v
U.S. citizens	X	pd_*_us_v	X	pd_*_us_v
White, non-Hispanic	X	pd_*_white_v	X	pd_*_white_v
Asian	X	pd_*_asian_v	X	pd_*_asian_v
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	X	pd_*_pacific_v	X	pd_*_pacific_v
Black, non-Hispanic	X	pd_*_black_v	X	pd_*_black_v
Hispanic (one or more races)	X	pd_*_hisp_v	X	pd_*_hisp_v
American Indian or Alaska Native	X	pd_*_indian_v	X	pd_*_indian_v
Other or unknown	X	pd_*_unknown_v	X	pd_*_unk_v
More than one race (non-Hispanic)	X	pd_*_multi_non_hisp_v	X	pd_*_multi_v
Temporary visa holders	X	pd_*_forgn_v	X	pd_*_forgn_v
Source of financial support				
Total	X	pd_*_all_srces_v	X	pd_*_all_v
Federal	X	pd_*_fed_all_srces_v	X	pd_*_fed_all_v
DOD	X	pd_*_fed_dod_v	X	pd_*_fed_dod_v
NIH	X	pd_*_fed_hhs_nih_v	X	pd_*_fed_nih_v
HHS	X	pd_*_fed_hhs_oth_v	X	pd_*_fed_hhs_v
NSF	X	pd_*_fed_nsf_v	X	pd_*_fed_nsf_v
DOA	X	pd_*_fed_doa_v	X	pd_*_fed_doa_v
NASA	X	pd_*_fed_nasa_v	X	pd_*_fed_nasa_v
DOE	X	pd_*_fed_doe_v	X	pd_*_fed_doe_v
Other federal	X	pd_*_fed_oth_v	X	pd_*_fed_oth_v
Nonfederal	X	pd_*_nonfed_all_srces_v	X	pd_*_nfed_all_v
Institutional	X	pd_*_nonfed_inst_sup_v	X	pd_*_nfed_inst_v
Other United States	X	pd_*_nonfed_oth_us_v	X	pd_*_nfed_othus_v
Foreign	X	pd_*_nonfed_forgn_v	X	pd_*_nonfed_forgn_v
Self-support	X	pd_*_self_sup_v	X	pd_*_self_sup_v
Unknown or not stated	X	pd_*_unknown_sup_v	X	pd_*_unk_sup_v
Mechanism of financial support				
Fellowships	X	pd_felshp_*_v	X	pd_fel_*_v
Traineeships	X	pd_trneeshp_*_v	X	pd_trn_*_v
Research grants	X	pd_rsch_grnt_*_v	X	pd_grt_*_v
Other support	X	pd_oth_mech_*_v	X	pd_om_*_v

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Data availability, by year ^a	2010–17old	Counts found in __ variables	2017–23	Counts found in __ variables
Type of doctoral degree				
Professional degree	X	*_med_degr_v	X	pd*_med_v
Doctoral degree	X	*_nonmed_degr_v	X	pd*_nmed_v
Both professional and doctoral degree	X	*_dual_degr_v	X	pd*_dual_v
Degree type unknown	X	*_unknown_degr_v	X	pd*_unk_degr_v
Origin of doctoral degree				
Doctorate from a U.S. institution	X	pd_degr_us_v	X	pd_degr_us_v
Doctorate from a foreign institution	X	pd_degr_forgn_v	X	pd_degr_forgn_v
Unknown origin	X	pd_degr_unknown_orig_v	X	pd_degr_unk_orig_v

DOA = Department of Agriculture; DOD = Department of Defense; DOE = Department of Energy; HHS = Department of Health and Human Services; NASA = National Aeronautics and Space Administration; NIH = National Institutes of Health; NSF = National Science Foundation.

^a In 2010, the postdoctoral appointee (postdoc) data collection was expanded significantly to capture more detailed information about the postdocs (see <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvygradpostdoc/> for more information). A new naming convention was implemented in 2010 to reduce variable length and make the variable naming more consistent with the graduate student data. All postdoc variables begin with "pd_".

TABLE A-5. Nonfaculty researchers: 2010–23

Data availability, by year ^a	2010–16 ^b	Counts found in __ variables	2017–23	Counts found in __ variables
Counts of nonfaculty research staff	X	nfr_*	X	nfr_*
By sex and type of degree	X		X	
Sex				
Total	X	nfr_tot_*	X	nfr_tot_*
Men	X	nfr_men_*	X	nfr_men_*
Women	X	nfr_wmen_*	X	nfr_wmen_*
Type of doctoral degree				
Total	X	nfr*_all_degr_v	X	nfr*_all_v
Professional degree	X	nfr*_med_degr_v	X	nfr*_med_v
Doctoral degree	X	nfr*_nonmed_degr_v	X	nfr*_nmed_v
Both professional and doctoral degree	X	nfr*_dual_degr_v	X	nfr*_dual_v
Degree type unknown	X	nfr*_unknown_degr_v	X	nfr*_unk_degr_v

^a In 2010, the nonfaculty researcher (NFR) data collection was expanded to capture more detailed information about the doctoral degree type (see <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvygradpostdoc/> for more information). A new naming convention was implemented in 2010 to reduce variable length and make the variable naming more consistent with the graduate student data. All NFR variables begin with "nfr_".

^b 2017old data are not available for NFRs. A special report is forthcoming that will provide more information about the changes to the 2017 GSS and 2017old.