

TABLE 1-7

Detailed primary source of federal support for full-time graduate students in science, engineering, and health: 1975–2019

(Number and percent)

| Year | Total | DOD | | DOE | | HHS: NIH | | HHS: Other HHS | | NASA | | NSF | | USDA | | Other | |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|---------|----------|---------|----------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
| | | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| 1975 | 47,055 | 5,061 | 10.8 | NA | NA | 12,141 | 25.8 | 7,836 | 16.7 | NA | NA | 8,790 | 18.7 | NA | NA | 13,227 | 28.1 |
| 1976 | 49,036 | 4,772 | 9.7 | NA | NA | 11,307 | 23.1 | 8,341 | 17.0 | NA | NA | 8,953 | 18.3 | NA | NA | 15,663 | 31.9 |
| 1977 | 50,809 | 4,971 | 9.8 | NA | NA | 10,861 | 21.4 | 9,397 | 18.5 | NA | NA | 9,018 | 17.7 | NA | NA | 16,562 | 32.6 |
| 1978 ^a | 51,984 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 10,825 | 20.8 | 10,060 | 19.4 | NA | NA | 9,007 | 17.3 | NA | NA | 22,092 | 42.5 |
| 1979 | 52,682 | 4,990 | 9.5 | NA | NA | 11,648 | 22.1 | 10,482 | 19.9 | NA | NA | 9,366 | 17.8 | NA | NA | 16,196 | 30.7 |
| 1980 | 52,959 | 5,251 | 9.9 | NA | NA | 11,499 | 21.7 | 7,522 | 14.2 | NA | NA | 9,348 | 17.7 | NA | NA | 19,339 | 36.5 |
| 1981 | 50,896 | 5,664 | 11.1 | NA | NA | 11,179 | 22.0 | 6,429 | 12.6 | NA | NA | 9,143 | 18.0 | NA | NA | 18,481 | 36.3 |
| 1982 | 47,403 | 5,941 | 12.5 | NA | NA | 10,814 | 22.8 | 4,975 | 10.5 | NA | NA | 9,257 | 19.5 | NA | NA | 16,416 | 34.6 |
| 1983 | 47,752 | 6,969 | 14.6 | NA | NA | 10,810 | 22.6 | 4,179 | 8.8 | NA | NA | 9,524 | 19.9 | NA | NA | 16,270 | 34.1 |
| 1984 | 47,784 | 7,125 | 14.9 | NA | NA | 10,983 | 23.0 | 4,124 | 8.6 | NA | NA | 9,848 | 20.6 | NA | NA | 15,704 | 32.9 |
| 1985 | 49,051 | 7,326 | 14.9 | NA | NA | 11,112 | 22.7 | 4,740 | 9.7 | NA | NA | 10,180 | 20.8 | 2,171 | 4.4 | 13,522 | 27.6 |
| 1986 | 51,361 | 7,940 | 15.5 | NA | NA | 11,877 | 23.1 | 4,500 | 8.8 | NA | NA | 10,826 | 21.1 | 2,328 | 4.5 | 13,890 | 27.0 |
| 1987 | 53,538 | 8,795 | 16.4 | NA | NA | 12,944 | 24.2 | 4,247 | 7.9 | NA | NA | 11,247 | 21.0 | 2,684 | 5.0 | 13,621 | 25.4 |
| 1988 | 55,489 | 9,546 | 17.2 | NA | NA | 13,715 | 24.7 | 4,186 | 7.5 | NA | NA | 11,634 | 21.0 | 2,591 | 4.7 | 13,817 | 24.9 |
| 1989 | 57,433 | 9,140 | 15.9 | NA | NA | 14,357 | 25.0 | 4,335 | 7.5 | NA | NA | 11,900 | 20.7 | 2,728 | 4.7 | 14,973 | 26.1 |
| 1990 | 59,258 | 8,868 | 15.0 | NA | NA | 14,996 | 25.3 | 4,512 | 7.6 | NA | NA | 12,025 | 20.3 | 2,722 | 4.6 | 16,135 | 27.2 |
| 1991 | 63,000 | 9,128 | 14.5 | NA | NA | 16,018 | 25.4 | 4,461 | 7.1 | NA | NA | 12,666 | 20.1 | 3,075 | 4.9 | 17,652 | 28.0 |
| 1992 | 65,607 | 9,247 | 14.1 | NA | NA | 17,091 | 26.1 | 4,321 | 6.6 | NA | NA | 13,366 | 20.4 | 3,216 | 4.9 | 18,366 | 28.0 |
| 1993 | 67,673 | 9,750 | 14.4 | NA | NA | 18,135 | 26.8 | 3,888 | 5.7 | NA | NA | 13,530 | 20.0 | 3,324 | 4.9 | 19,046 | 28.1 |
| 1994 | 68,550 | 9,449 | 13.8 | NA | NA | 18,292 | 26.7 | 4,374 | 6.4 | NA | NA | 13,990 | 20.4 | 3,422 | 5.0 | 19,023 | 27.8 |
| 1995 | 67,294 | 9,339 | 13.9 | NA | NA | 18,109 | 26.9 | 4,666 | 6.9 | NA | NA | 13,661 | 20.3 | 3,254 | 4.8 | 18,265 | 27.1 |
| 1996 | 65,240 | 8,802 | 13.5 | NA | NA | 17,929 | 27.5 | 4,432 | 6.8 | 2,309 | 3.5 | 13,412 | 20.6 | 3,004 | 4.6 | 15,352 | 23.5 |
| 1997 | 64,522 | 9,021 | 14.0 | NA | NA | 18,087 | 28.0 | 4,443 | 6.9 | 2,586 | 4.0 | 13,362 | 20.7 | 2,646 | 4.1 | 14,377 | 22.3 |
| 1998 | 63,759 | 8,259 | 13.0 | NA | NA | 18,215 | 28.6 | 4,489 | 7.0 | 2,646 | 4.2 | 13,459 | 21.1 | 2,485 | 3.9 | 14,206 | 22.3 |
| 1999 | 65,796 | 8,026 | 12.2 | 2,749 | 4.2 | 19,019 | 28.9 | 4,423 | 6.7 | 2,579 | 3.9 | 13,835 | 21.0 | 2,634 | 4.0 | 12,531 | 19.0 |
| 2000 | 67,588 | 8,141 | 12.0 | 2,995 | 4.4 | 19,472 | 28.8 | 4,018 | 5.9 | 2,780 | 4.1 | 14,599 | 21.6 | 2,630 | 3.9 | 12,953 | 19.2 |
| 2001 | 68,843 | 7,960 | 11.6 | 3,116 | 4.5 | 19,904 | 28.9 | 4,433 | 6.4 | 2,819 | 4.1 | 15,429 | 22.4 | 2,735 | 4.0 | 12,447 | 18.1 |
| 2002 | 75,538 | 7,977 | 10.6 | 3,548 | 4.7 | 22,129 | 29.3 | 4,830 | 6.4 | 3,082 | 4.1 | 17,135 | 22.7 | 3,100 | 4.1 | 13,737 | 18.2 |
| 2003 | 81,761 | 9,204 | 11.3 | 4,024 | 4.9 | 24,309 | 29.7 | 4,922 | 6.0 | 3,230 | 4.0 | 19,308 | 23.6 | 3,468 | 4.2 | 13,296 | 16.3 |
| 2004 | 83,816 | 9,007 | 10.7 | 4,135 | 4.9 | 26,689 | 31.8 | 4,211 | 5.0 | 2,916 | 3.5 | 19,975 | 23.8 | 3,563 | 4.3 | 13,320 | 15.9 |
| 2005 | 83,723 | 8,993 | 10.7 | 4,392 | 5.2 | 26,868 | 32.1 | 3,912 | 4.7 | 2,691 | 3.2 | 20,387 | 24.4 | 3,351 | 4.0 | 13,129 | 15.7 |
| 2006 | 83,962 | 8,867 | 10.6 | 4,480 | 5.3 | 27,587 | 32.9 | 3,662 | 4.4 | 2,364 | 2.8 | 20,339 | 24.2 | 3,000 | 3.6 | 13,663 | 16.3 |
| 2007 ^{old} ^b | 81,542 | 8,874 | 10.9 | 4,281 | 5.3 | 26,982 | 33.1 | 3,067 | 3.8 | 2,314 | 2.8 | 19,747 | 24.2 | 2,796 | 3.4 | 13,481 | 16.5 |
| 2007 ^{new} ^b | 81,859 | 8,885 | 10.9 | 4,284 | 5.2 | 27,015 | 33.0 | 3,086 | 3.8 | 2,317 | 2.8 | 19,792 | 24.2 | 2,810 | 3.4 | 13,670 | 16.7 |
| 2008 | 78,464 | 8,219 | 10.5 | 4,341 | 5.5 | 26,003 | 33.1 | 2,496 | 3.2 | 2,344 | 3.0 | 19,882 | 25.3 | 2,770 | 3.5 | 12,409 | 15.8 |

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(Number and percent)

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|----------------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|---------|----------|---------|----------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
| | | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| 2009 | 81,565 | 8,683 | 10.6 | 4,608 | 5.6 | 26,506 | 32.5 | 2,200 | 2.7 | 2,426 | 3.0 | 21,682 | 26.6 | 2,706 | 3.3 | 12,754 | 15.6 |
| 2010 | 86,310 | 9,233 | 10.7 | 5,512 | 6.4 | 27,615 | 32.0 | 2,255 | 2.6 | 2,472 | 2.9 | 23,226 | 26.9 | 3,061 | 3.5 | 12,936 | 15.0 |
| 2011 | 85,220 | 9,107 | 10.7 | 5,738 | 6.7 | 25,670 | 30.1 | 2,201 | 2.6 | 2,394 | 2.8 | 24,226 | 28.4 | 2,862 | 3.4 | 13,022 | 15.3 |
| 2012 | 80,962 | 8,748 | 10.8 | 5,343 | 6.6 | 24,256 | 30.0 | 1,921 | 2.4 | 2,173 | 2.7 | 24,243 | 29.9 | 2,664 | 3.3 | 11,614 | 14.3 |
| 2013 | 76,840 | 8,304 | 10.8 | 4,803 | 6.3 | 22,372 | 29.1 | 1,642 | 2.1 | 2,006 | 2.6 | 23,307 | 30.3 | 2,577 | 3.4 | 11,829 | 15.4 |
| 2014old ^c | 72,507 | 7,445 | 10.3 | 4,398 | 6.1 | 21,153 | 29.2 | 1,365 | 1.9 | 2,005 | 2.8 | 22,791 | 31.4 | 2,400 | 3.3 | 10,950 | 15.1 |
| 2014new ^c | 72,756 | 7,454 | 10.2 | 4,401 | 6.0 | 21,191 | 29.1 | 1,382 | 1.9 | 2,013 | 2.8 | 22,899 | 31.5 | 2,420 | 3.3 | 10,996 | 15.1 |
| 2015 | 72,393 | 8,127 | 11.2 | 4,309 | 6.0 | 20,641 | 28.5 | 1,715 | 2.4 | 2,036 | 2.8 | 22,924 | 31.7 | 2,676 | 3.7 | 9,965 | 13.8 |
| 2016 | 71,955 | 8,291 | 11.5 | 4,482 | 6.2 | 20,381 | 28.3 | 1,635 | 2.3 | 2,025 | 2.8 | 22,677 | 31.5 | 2,535 | 3.5 | 9,929 | 13.8 |
| 2017old ^d | 69,899 | 8,365 | 12.0 | 4,480 | 6.4 | 19,687 | 28.2 | 1,727 | 2.5 | 1,821 | 2.6 | 21,010 | 30.1 | 2,444 | 3.5 | 10,365 | 14.8 |
| 2017new ^d | 69,537 | 8,323 | 12.0 | 4,480 | 6.4 | 19,645 | 28.3 | 1,719 | 2.5 | 1,818 | 2.6 | 20,946 | 30.1 | 2,415 | 3.5 | 10,191 | 14.7 |
| 2018 | 71,594 | 7,600 | 10.6 | 4,568 | 6.4 | 19,903 | 27.8 | 2,842 | 4.0 | 1,899 | 2.7 | 21,711 | 30.3 | 2,619 | 3.7 | 10,452 | 14.6 |
| 2019 | 73,605 | 8,495 | 11.5 | 5,119 | 7.0 | 21,025 | 28.6 | 2,498 | 3.4 | 2,057 | 2.8 | 21,801 | 29.6 | 2,580 | 3.5 | 10,030 | 13.6 |
| Master's students | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2017new ^d | 12,354 | 2,756 | 22.3 | 491 | 4.0 | 1,014 | 8.2 | 310 | 2.5 | 286 | 2.3 | 2,212 | 17.9 | 962 | 7.8 | 4,323 | 35.0 |
| 2018 | 12,324 | 2,345 | 19.0 | 412 | 3.3 | 975 | 7.9 | 539 | 4.4 | 300 | 2.4 | 2,160 | 17.5 | 1,059 | 8.6 | 4,534 | 36.8 |
| 2019 | 11,491 | 2,492 | 21.7 | 452 | 3.9 | 1,046 | 9.1 | 471 | 4.1 | 276 | 2.4 | 2,054 | 17.9 | 977 | 8.5 | 3,723 | 32.4 |
| Doctoral students | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2017new ^d | 57,183 | 5,567 | 9.7 | 3,989 | 7.0 | 18,631 | 32.6 | 1,409 | 2.5 | 1,532 | 2.7 | 18,734 | 32.8 | 1,453 | 2.5 | 5,868 | 10.3 |
| 2018 | 59,270 | 5,255 | 8.9 | 4,156 | 7.0 | 18,928 | 31.9 | 2,303 | 3.9 | 1,599 | 2.7 | 19,551 | 33.0 | 1,560 | 2.6 | 5,918 | 10.0 |
| 2019 | 62,114 | 6,003 | 9.7 | 4,667 | 7.5 | 19,979 | 32.2 | 2,027 | 3.3 | 1,781 | 2.9 | 19,747 | 31.8 | 1,603 | 2.6 | 6,307 | 10.2 |

NA = not available; USDA was added in 1985, NASA was added in 1996, and DOE was added in 1999.

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; USDA = Department of Agriculture.

^a Master's-granting institutions were not surveyed in 1978; totals represent estimates based on 1977 and 1979 data.^b In 2007, eligible fields were reclassified, newly eligible fields were added, and the survey was redesigned to improve coverage and coding of eligible units. "2007new" presents data as collected in 2007; "2007old" shows data as they would have been collected in prior years. See appendix A in <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/nsf10307/> for more detail.^c In 2014, the survey frame was updated following a comprehensive frame evaluation study. The study identified potentially eligible but not previously surveyed academic institutions in the United States with master's- or doctorate-granting programs in science, engineering, or health. A total of 151 newly eligible institutions were added, and two private for-profit institutions offering mostly practitioner-based graduate degrees were determined to be ineligible. For more information, see <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/2016/nsf16314>.^d As part of 2017 Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering (GSS) redesign, the GSS taxonomy was changed to align with the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES) Taxonomy of Disciplines (TOD), thus increasing comparability with other NCSES surveys. As a result, some eligible fields were reclassified and a small number of fields became fully or partially ineligible. Comparisons to prior years should use the 2017old estimates and should be limited to broad areas of study—detailed field comparisons are not recommended.

Note(s):

Percentages may not add to total because of rounding. Master's and doctoral students were not reported separately until 2017.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering.