

TABLE A-1

Changes in the organizational unit listing: 2015–19

(Number)

Activity	2015	2016^a	2017^b	2018	2019
Units at start of data collection	14,845	15,202	15,853	18,745	19,592
Units added	774	1,611	16,274	5,512	4,493
Units deleted	417	960	13,382	4,665	3,836
Units at end of data collection	15,202	15,853	18,745	19,592	20,249
Net difference	357	651	2,892	847	657

^a The 2016 survey included a pilot data collection to assess the feasibility of several data collection changes, including the use of Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes for reporting data and file uploads for transmitting data. The number of units added and deleted by pilot coordinators was much greater than is typical. These increases are largely due to how data are organized in institutional information systems and the increased granularity of CIP codes relative to codes from the Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering, rather than a reflection of increased organizational complexity.

^b In 2017, the data collection changes piloted in 2016 were implemented universally, substantially increasing the number of added and deleted units. In addition, several previously eligible fields became ineligible.

Source(s):

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