

TABLE 76

Postdoc status of U.S. residing doctoral scientists and engineers, by years since doctorate and broad field of doctorate: 2019

(Number and SE)

Years since doctorate and status of postdoctoral appointment ^a	All employed		Science														Engineering		Health	
			Total		Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences		Computer and information sciences		Mathematics and statistics		Physical sciences		Psychology		Social sciences					
	Number	SE	Number	SE	Number	SE	Number	SE	Number	SE	Number	SE	Number	SE	Number	SE	Number	SE		
Doctorate recipient	857,200	1,975	640,300	1,900	220,700	1,100	31,100	400	36,650	450	133,750	950	115,350	825	102,700	900	176,700	1,175	40,200	475
Postdoctoral appointment in 2019	25,400	725	21,050	700	13,400	550	300	100	800	150	4,900	350	1,000	150	650	100	3,350	300	1,050	175
≤ 5 years	142,500	625	100,000	750	35,700	600	7,350	325	6,600	300	19,800	425	14,650	375	15,900	375	33,400	700	9,100	275
Postdoctoral appointment in 2019	20,700	600	17,050	550	10,500	450	250	100	750	150	4,150	325	850	150	550	100	2,850	275	850	150
6–10 years	154,750	1,025	112,250	1,025	41,950	750	7,650	350	6,800	300	21,800	575	16,800	475	17,300	475	34,400	750	8,100	350
Postdoctoral appointment in 2019	3,900	350	3,250	325	2,500	250	D	D	D	D	550	125	50	50	50	25	450	125	200	100
11–15 years	127,000	1,150	93,350	1,150	34,050	675	5,200	300	5,350	275	17,650	575	16,300	425	14,850	475	27,250	650	6,400	300
Postdoctoral appointment in 2019	650	125	550	125	350	100	D	D	D	D	150	100	D	D	D	D	S	S	D	D
> 15 years	432,950	1,725	334,700	1,600	109,050	1,250	10,900	400	17,900	450	74,500	950	67,650	850	54,700	875	81,700	1,050	16,600	425
Postdoctoral appointment in 2019	200	75	200	75	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information. S = suppressed for reliability; coefficient of variation exceeds publication standards.

SE = standard error.

^a A postdoc is a temporary position awarded in academe, industry, nonprofit organizations, or government primarily for gaining additional education and training in research.

Note(s):

Numbers are rounded to the nearest 50. Standard errors are rounded up to the nearest 25. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Postdoc status is reported for principal job as of survey reference date (1 February 2019). Years since doctorate were calculated as academic years since doctorate attainment. Residence location is based on reported living location on 1 February 2019.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Doctorate Recipients: 2019.