

TABLE 3-2

Primary source of support for postdoctoral appointees in science, engineering, and health, by broad field: 2020

(Number and percent)

Broad field	Total	Federal		Institutional		Nonfederal domestic		Foreign		Self-support		Unknown	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All surveyed fields	65,681	33,374	50.8	14,796	22.5	9,698	14.8	1,442	2.2	628	1.0	5,743	8.7
Science	38,741	20,150	52.0	8,815	22.8	5,293	13.7	732	1.9	261	0.7	3,490	9.0
Agricultural and veterinary sciences	1,678	721	43.0	479	28.5	198	11.8	20	1.2	1	0.1	259	15.4
Biological and biomedical sciences	21,902	12,084	55.2	4,088	18.7	3,128	14.3	373	1.7	99	0.5	2,130	9.7
Computer and information sciences	823	407	49.5	205	24.9	126	15.3	20	2.4	10	1.2	55	6.7
Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	1,790	927	51.8	453	25.3	214	12.0	52	2.9	22	1.2	122	6.8
Mathematics and statistics	1,076	319	29.6	533	49.5	103	9.6	17	1.6	4	0.4	100	9.3
Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary studies	832	328	39.4	293	35.2	119	14.3	3	0.4	15	1.8	74	8.9
Natural resources and conservation	845	397	47.0	249	29.5	103	12.2	17	2.0	16	1.9	63	7.5
Physical sciences	6,937	3,936	56.7	1,447	20.9	895	12.9	174	2.5	65	0.9	420	6.1
Psychology	1,312	705	53.7	333	25.4	144	11.0	21	1.6	16	1.2	93	7.1
Social sciences	1,546	326	21.1	735	47.5	263	17.0	35	2.3	13	0.8	174	11.3
Engineering	8,462	4,234	50.0	1,965	23.2	1,320	15.6	286	3.4	78	0.9	579	6.8
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	233	117	50.2	44	18.9	32	13.7	12	5.2	5	2.1	23	9.9
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering	1,696	976	57.5	333	19.6	269	15.9	37	2.2	5	0.3	76	4.5
Chemical, petroleum, and chemical-related engineering	1,157	519	44.9	260	22.5	232	20.1	43	3.7	5	0.4	98	8.5
Civil, environmental, transportation and related engineering fields	1,006	377	37.5	349	34.7	157	15.6	39	3.9	2	0.2	82	8.2
Electrical, electronics, communications and computer engineering	1,302	739	56.8	246	18.9	186	14.3	32	2.5	26	2.0	73	5.6
Industrial, manufacturing, systems engineering and operations research	194	65	33.5	65	33.5	39	20.1	3	1.5	2	1.0	20	10.3
Mechanical engineering	1,149	575	50.0	292	25.4	159	13.8	41	3.6	6	0.5	76	6.6

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		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Metallurgical, mining, materials and related engineering fields	630	328	52.1	124	19.7	92	14.6	26	4.1	6	1.0	54	8.6
Other engineering	1,095	538	49.1	252	23.0	154	14.1	53	4.8	21	1.9	77	7.0
Health	18,478	8,990	48.7	4,016	21.7	3,085	16.7	424	2.3	289	1.6	1,674	9.1
Clinical medicine ^a	16,287	7,936	48.7	3,502	21.5	2,638	16.2	404	2.5	287	1.8	1,520	9.3
Other health	2,191	1,054	48.1	514	23.5	447	20.4	20	0.9	2	0.1	154	7.0

^a Clinical medicine includes postdoctoral appointees in anesthesiology, cardiology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, hematology, neurology, obstetrics and gynecology, oncology and cancer research, ophthalmology, otorhinolaryngology, pediatrics, psychiatry, public health, pulmonary disease, radiological sciences, surgery, and clinical medicine not elsewhere classified.

Note(s):

"Field" refers to the field of the unit that reports postdoctoral appointees to the Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering (GSS). Percentages may not add to total because of rounding. For more information on the mapping of GSS fields and codes, see technical table A-17.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering, 2020.