

TABLE 3-6

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

(Number and percent)

Broad field	Total	Fellowships		Research grants		Traineeships		Other types of support	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Other	
								Number	Percent
All surveyed fields	65,681	6,910	10.5	40,342	61.4	3,338	5.1	15,091	23.0
Science	38,741	3,849	9.9	25,032	64.6	1,457	3.8	8,403	21.7
Agricultural and veterinary sciences	1,678	161	9.6	971	57.9	99	5.9	447	26.6
Biological and biomedical sciences	21,902	1,957	8.9	14,439	65.9	940	4.3	4,566	20.8
Computer and information sciences	823	88	10.7	552	67.1	18	2.2	165	20.0
Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	1,790	212	11.8	1,221	68.2	20	1.1	337	18.8
Mathematics and statistics	1,076	184	17.1	398	37.0	74	6.9	420	39.0
Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary studies	832	74	8.9	483	58.1	43	5.2	232	27.9
Natural resources and conservation	845	71	8.4	572	67.7	31	3.7	171	20.2
Physical sciences	6,937	685	9.9	4,947	71.3	79	1.1	1,226	17.7
Psychology	1,312	178	13.6	743	56.6	95	7.2	296	22.6
Social sciences	1,546	239	15.5	706	45.7	58	3.8	543	35.1
Engineering	8,462	714	8.4	6,209	73.4	96	1.1	1,443	17.1
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	233	16	6.9	152	65.2	1	0.4	64	27.5
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering	1,696	157	9.3	1,226	72.3	48	2.8	265	15.6
Chemical, petroleum, and chemical-related engineering	1,157	125	10.8	811	70.1	12	1.0	209	18.1
Civil, environmental, transportation and related engineering fields	1,006	75	7.5	767	76.2	11	1.1	153	15.2
Electrical, electronics, communications and computer engineering	1,302	104	8.0	992	76.2	7	0.5	199	15.3
Industrial, manufacturing, systems engineering and operations research	194	6	3.1	159	82.0	1	0.5	28	14.4
Mechanical engineering	1,149	139	12.1	806	70.1	13	1.1	191	16.6
Metallurgical, mining, materials and related engineering fields	630	32	5.1	490	77.8	0	0.0	108	17.1
Other engineering	1,095	60	5.5	806	73.6	3	0.3	226	20.6
Health	18,478	2,347	12.7	9,101	49.3	1,785	9.7	5,245	28.4
Clinical medicine ^a	16,287	2,040	12.5	7,935	48.7	1,585	9.7	4,727	29.0
Other health	2,191	307	14.0	1,166	53.2	200	9.1	518	23.6

^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.