TABLE A-5b

Science, engineering, and health organizational units with postdocs, by detailed field: 2018–20

(Number)

Field	2018	2019	2020
All surveyed fields[a]	7,211	7,533	7,613
Science	4,145	4,287	4,399
Agricultural and veterinary sciences	187	183	259
Agricultural sciences	187	183	179
Veterinary biomedical and clinical sciences[b]	na	na	80
Biological and biomedical sciences[c]	1,733	1,745	1,796
Biochemistry	125	132	140
Biology	200	201	186
Biomedical sciences	60	61	71
Biophysics	15	18	19
Biostatistics and bioinformatics	84	79	89
Biotechnology	17	19	20
Botany and plant biology	48	49	48
Cell, cellular biology, and anatomical sciences	119	119	116
Ecology and population biology	58	52	53
Epidemiology	36	41	40
Genetics	91	93	100
Microbiological sciences and immunology	153	156	156
Molecular biology	39	41	50
Neurobiology and neuroscience	141	146	146
Nutrition science	41	44	42
Pathology and experimental pathology	81	82	80
Pharmacology and toxicology	101	98	100
Physiology	167	167	188
Zoology and animal biology	48	46	46
Biological and biomedical sciences nec	109	101	106
Computer and information sciences	163	179	169
Artificial intelligence, informatics, and computer and information science topics	na	na	16
Computer and information sciences	57	72	47
Computer and information systems security	na	na	3
Computer science	66	75	76
Information science and studies	na	na	10
Information technology	na	na	5
Computer and information sciences nec	40	32	12
Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	250	266	258
Atmospheric sciences and meteorology	46	43	42
Geological and earth sciences	123	142	140
Ocean and marine sciences	53	54	52
Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences nec	28	27	24
Mathematics and statistics	171	182	176
Applied mathematics	na	na	31
Mathematics	na	na	104
Mathematics and applied mathematics	130	140	na
Statistics	41	42	41
Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary studies[c]	181	177	179
Biological and physical sciences	na	na	17
Computational science	na	na	8
Data science and data analytics	NA	NA	14
International and global studies	na	na	6
Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary studies nec	na	na	134

TABLE A-5b

Science, engineering, and health organizational units with postdocs, by detailed field: 2018–20

(Number)

Field	2018	2019	2020
Natural resources and conservation	137	148	139
Environmental science and studies	60	62	55
Forestry, natural resources, and conservation	77	86	84
Physical sciences	551	556	565
Astronomy and astrophysics	61	62	66
Chemistry	220	222	223
Materials sciences	27	31	29
Physics	225	222	226
Physical sciences nec	18	19	21
Psychology	215	214	249
Applied psychology	na	na	36
Clinical psychology	19	18	17
Counseling psychology	na	na	8
Counseling and applied psychology	61	50	na
Human development[d]	na	na	41
Psychology, general	103	110	104
Research and experimental psychology	32	36	43
Social sciences	557	637	609
Agricultural and natural resource economics	21	22	20
Anthropology	54	59	66
Area, ethnic, cultural, gender, and group studies	na	na	102
Criminal justice and safety studies	7	8	10
Criminology	na	na	2
Economics (except agricultural and natural resource)	43	50	56
Geography and cartography	43	41	46
Human development[d]	34	41	na
International relations and national security studies	11	21	16
Linguistics	22	22	27
Political science and government	46	56	48
Public policy analysis	59	59	61
Sociology	65	69	61
Urban studies and affairs	na	na	4
Social sciences, other[e]	na	na	90
History and philosophy of science[e]	7	12	na
Social sciences nec[e]	145	177	na
Engineering[f]	1,011	1,051	1,108
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	29	31	35
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering[e]	na	na	156
Bioengineering and biomedical engineering[e]	121	130	na
Biological and biosystems engineering[e]	15	15	na
Chemical, petroleum, and chemical-related engineering	132	132	139
Chemical engineering	122	118	127
Petroleum engineering	10	14	12
Civil, environmental, transportation and related engineering fields	146	157	175
Civil engineering	146	157	152
Architectural, environmental, construction and surveying engineering	na	na	23
Electrical, electronics, communications and computer engineering	150	169	160
Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering	150	169	144
Computer engineering	na	na	16

TABLE A-5b

Science, engineering, and health organizational units with postdocs, by detailed field: 2018–20

(Number)

Field	2018	2019	2020
Industrial, manufacturing, systems engineering and operations research	46	44	49
Industrial and manufacturing engineering	46	44	30
Systems engineering and operations research	na	na	19
Mechanical engineering	136	145	148
Metallurgical, mining, materials and related engineering fields[e]	76	83	85
Metallurgical and materials engineering[e]	63	73	na
Mining engineering[e]	13	10	na
Other engineering	160	145	161
Agricultural engineering	21	18	20
Engineering mechanics, physics, and science	19	18	20
Nuclear engineering	14	13	13
Engineering, other[e]	na	na	108
Nanotechnology[e]	19	16	na
Engineering nec[e]	87	80	na
Health	2,055	2,195	2,106
Clinical medicine	1,605	1,741	1,743
Anesthesiology	48	55	56
Cardiology	59	61	54
Endocrinology	37	44	43
Gastroenterology	35	41	41
Hematology	27	38	30
Medical clinical sciences and clinical and medical laboratory sciences	NA	NA	46
Neurology	114	111	121
Obstetrics and gynecology	52	53	54
Oncology and cancer research	129	133	110
Ophthalmology	69	73	70
Otorhinolaryngology	34	35	37
Pediatrics	107	129	132
Psychiatry	76	77	83
Public health	149	159	177
Pulmonary disease	30	32	43
Radiological sciences	84	103	110
Surgery	164	187	175
Clinical medicine nec	391	410	361
Other health	450	454	363
Communication disorders sciences	32	33	32
Dental sciences	57	55	56
Kinesiology and exercise science	na	na	29
Nursing science	38	46	49
Pharmaceutical sciences	101	99	93
Veterinary biomedical and clinical sciences[b]	80	81	na
Other health nec	142	140	104

na = not applicable; data collected under different Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering (GSS) codes or GSS code moved. NA = not available; GSS code contains Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes added in 2020.

nec = not elsewhere classified.

[a] Several field names changed in 2020; the field names listed in this table are the field names used in the GSS collection and reporting for 2020. For a complete list of field names from 2017 to 2020, see https://ncses.nsf.gov/pubs/nsf21318/table/A-17.

[b] In 2020, veterinary biomedical and clinical sciences moved from other health to agriculture and veterinary sciences.

[c] Prior to 2020, multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary studies was a reported as single a broad field with no detailed fields; the detailed fields were

added in 2020.

[d] In 2020, human development moved from social sciences to psychology.

[e] Starting in 2020, some fields were combined for reporting. See technical table A-16 for more information.

[f] In 2020, broad fields were added to engineering.

Note(s):
"Field" refers to the field of the unit that reports doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers to the GSS. This file only contains fields where graduate students may be reported. Detailed fields listed as NA are comprised entirely of CIP codes added in 2020. 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.