

TABLE 5

Field of research of postdocs at federally funded research and development centers, by FFRDC type: 2021

(Number)

Field of research	Total	University administered	Nonprofit administered	Industry administered
All postdocs	3,637	1,405	1,029	1,203
Science and engineering	3,513	1,376	991	1,146
Science	2,571	1,103	730	738
Agricultural and veterinary sciences	7	3	3	1
Biological and biomedical sciences	258	74	128	56
Chemistry	458	142	172	144
Computer and information sciences	173	73	66	34
Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	242	137	43	62
Materials science and chemistry	412	171	144	97
Mathematics and statistics	75	35	9	31
Natural resources and conservation	16	2	7	7
Physics and astronomy	870	453	118	299
Psychology	2	1	1	0
Social sciences	5	1	3	1
Other sciences	53	11	36	6
Engineering	942	273	261	408
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	21	9	3	9
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering	46	21	1	24
Chemical, petroleum, and related engineering fields	169	52	87	30
Civil, environmental, transportation, and related engineering fields	83	30	28	25
Electrical, electronics, communications, and computer engineering	147	49	31	67
Engineering science, mechanics, and physics	124	22	3	99
Industrial, manufacturing, systems engineering, and operations research	15	3	8	4
Mechanical engineering	173	66	62	45
Metallurgical, mining, materials, and related engineering fields	41	6	6	29
Nuclear engineering	87	8	25	54
Other engineering fields	36	7	7	22
Health	3	0	2	1
Multidisciplinary	92	17	34	41
Non-science or engineering	10	4	2	4
Field of research not known or reported	19	8	0	11

FFRDC = federally funded research and development center.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Postdocs at Federally Funded Research and Development Centers, 2021.