

TABLE 3-2

Primary source of support for postdoctoral appointees in science, engineering, and health, by broad field: 2021

(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	63,328	32,429	51.2	13,633	21.5	9,537	15.1	1,354	2.1	754	1.2	5,621	8.9
Science	37,189	19,606	52.7	7,962	21.4	5,238	14.1	660	1.8	318	0.9	3,405	9.2
Agricultural and veterinary sciences	1,595	741	46.5	409	25.6	261	16.4	11	0.7	2	0.1	171	10.7
Biological and biomedical sciences	20,245	11,372	56.2	3,408	16.8	2,925	14.4	380	1.9	105	0.5	2,055	10.2
Computer and information sciences	880	407	46.3	230	26.1	149	16.9	25	2.8	11	1.3	58	6.6
Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	1,797	906	50.4	408	22.7	225	12.5	43	2.4	64	3.6	151	8.4
Mathematics and statistics	1,112	333	29.9	544	48.9	108	9.7	10	0.9	9	0.8	108	9.7
Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary studies	878	402	45.8	282	32.1	120	13.7	7	0.8	9	1.0	58	6.6
Natural resources and conservation	889	440	49.5	264	29.7	96	10.8	16	1.8	18	2.0	55	6.2
Physical sciences	6,823	3,943	57.8	1,344	19.7	927	13.6	125	1.8	65	1.0	419	6.1
Psychology	1,325	711	53.7	297	22.4	161	12.2	20	1.5	21	1.6	115	8.7
Social sciences	1,645	351	21.3	776	47.2	266	16.2	23	1.4	14	0.9	215	13.1
Engineering	8,340	4,235	50.8	1,923	23.1	1,352	16.2	262	3.1	98	1.2	470	5.6
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	277	122	44.0	65	23.5	39	14.1	13	4.7	3	1.1	35	12.6
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering	1,616	952	58.9	321	19.9	236	14.6	38	2.4	7	0.4	62	3.8
Chemical, petroleum, and chemical-related engineering	1,167	521	44.6	276	23.7	245	21.0	39	3.3	6	0.5	80	6.9
Civil, environmental, transportation and related engineering fields	968	371	38.3	310	32.0	168	17.4	37	3.8	10	1.0	72	7.4
Electrical, electronics, communications and computer engineering	1,275	720	56.5	240	18.8	192	15.1	25	2.0	37	2.9	61	4.8
Industrial, manufacturing, systems engineering and operations research	127	41	32.3	52	40.9	26	20.5	4	3.1	0	0.0	4	3.1
Mechanical engineering	1,200	615	51.3	293	24.4	175	14.6	51	4.3	12	1.0	54	4.5

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		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Metallurgical, mining, materials and related engineering fields	562	298	53.0	116	20.6	90	16.0	18	3.2	8	1.4	32	5.7
Other engineering	1,148	595	51.8	250	21.8	181	15.8	37	3.2	15	1.3	70	6.1
Health	17,799	8,588	48.2	3,748	21.1	2,947	16.6	432	2.4	338	1.9	1,746	9.8
Clinical medicine ^a	15,561	7,529	48.4	3,210	20.6	2,507	16.1	420	2.7	330	2.1	1,565	10.1
Other health	2,238	1,059	47.3	538	24.0	440	19.7	12	0.5	8	0.4	181	8.1

^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, 2021.