

TABLE A-5b

Science, engineering, and health organizational units with postdocs, by detailed field: 2019–21

(Number)

Field	2019	2020	2021
All surveyed fields ^a	7,533	7,613	7,624
Science	4,287	4,399	4,457
Agricultural and veterinary sciences	183	259	276
Agricultural sciences	183	179	198
Veterinary biomedical and clinical sciences ^b	na	80	78
Biological and biomedical sciences	1,745	1,796	1,808
Biochemistry	132	140	139
Biology	201	186	188
Biomedical sciences	61	71	116
Biophysics	18	19	19
Biostatistics and bioinformatics	79	89	77
Biotechnology	19	20	18
Botany and plant biology	49	48	44
Cell, cellular biology, and anatomical sciences	119	116	118
Ecology and population biology	52	53	57
Epidemiology	41	40	43
Genetics	93	100	105
Microbiological sciences and immunology	156	156	161
Molecular biology	41	50	48
Neurobiology and neuroscience	146	146	137
Nutrition science	44	42	32
Pathology and experimental pathology	82	80	69
Pharmacology and toxicology	98	100	96
Physiology	167	188	172
Zoology and animal biology	46	46	49
Biological and biomedical sciences nec	101	106	120
Computer and information sciences	179	169	196
Artificial intelligence, informatics, and computer and information science topics	na	16	17
Computer and information sciences	72	47	49
Computer and information systems security	na	3	4
Computer science	75	76	88
Information science and studies	na	10	13
Information technology	na	5	3
Computer and information sciences nec	32	12	22
Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	266	258	256
Atmospheric sciences and meteorology	43	42	42
Geological and earth sciences	142	140	134
Ocean and marine sciences	54	52	53
Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences nec	27	24	27
Mathematics and statistics	182	176	186
Applied mathematics	na	31	34
Mathematics	na	104	102
Mathematics and applied mathematics	140	na	na
Statistics	42	41	50
Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary studies ^c	177	179	174
Biological and physical sciences	na	17	20
Computational science	na	8	9
Data science and data analytics	NA	14	13
International and global studies	na	6	5
Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary studies nec	na	134	127

TABLE A-5b

Science, engineering, and health organizational units with postdocs, by detailed field: 2019–21

(Number)

Field	2019	2020	2021
Natural resources and conservation	148	139	144
Environmental science and studies	62	55	49
Forestry, natural resources, and conservation	86	84	95
Physical sciences	556	565	557
Astronomy and astrophysics	62	66	67
Chemistry	222	223	220
Materials sciences	31	29	29
Physics	222	226	225
Physical sciences nec	19	21	16
Psychology	214	249	246
Applied psychology	na	36	44
Clinical psychology	18	17	20
Counseling psychology	na	8	6
Counseling and applied psychology	50	na	na
Human development ^d	na	41	35
Psychology, general	110	104	102
Research and experimental psychology	36	43	39
Social sciences	637	609	614
Agricultural and natural resource economics	22	20	22
Anthropology	59	66	57
Area, ethnic, cultural, gender, and group studies	na	102	106
Criminal justice and safety studies	8	10	9
Criminology	na	2	2
Economics (except agricultural and natural resource)	50	56	63
Geography and cartography	41	46	43
Human development ^d	41	na	na
International relations and national security studies	21	16	18
Linguistics	22	27	29
Political science and government	56	48	49
Public policy analysis	59	61	59
Sociology	69	61	66
Urban studies and affairs	na	4	6
Social sciences, other ^e	na	90	85
History and philosophy of science ^e	12	na	na
Social sciences nec ^e	177	na	na
Engineering ^f	1,051	1,108	1,090
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	31	35	35
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering ^e	na	156	146
Bioengineering and biomedical engineering ^e	130	na	na
Biological and biosystems engineering ^e	15	na	na
Chemical, petroleum, and chemical-related engineering	132	139	133
Chemical engineering	118	127	120
Petroleum engineering	14	12	13
Civil, environmental, transportation and related engineering fields	157	175	174
Civil engineering	157	152	154
Architectural, environmental, construction and surveying engineering	na	23	20
Electrical, electronics, communications and computer engineering	169	160	159
Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering	169	144	144
Computer engineering	na	16	15

TABLE A-5b

Science, engineering, and health organizational units with postdocs, by detailed field: 2019–21

(Number)

Field	2019	2020	2021
Industrial, manufacturing, systems engineering and operations research	44	49	44
Industrial and manufacturing engineering	44	30	31
Systems engineering and operations research	na	19	13
Mechanical engineering	145	148	158
Metallurgical, mining, materials and related engineering fields ^e	83	85	78
Metallurgical and materials engineering ^e	73	na	na
Mining engineering ^e	10	na	na
Other engineering	145	161	163
Agricultural engineering	18	20	19
Engineering mechanics, physics, and science	18	20	24
Nuclear engineering	13	13	12
Engineering, other ^e	na	108	108
Nanotechnology ^e	16	na	na
Engineering nec ^e	80	na	na
Health	2,195	2,106	2,077
Clinical medicine ^g	1,741	1,743	1,713
Anesthesiology	55	56	47
Cardiology	61	54	54
Endocrinology	44	43	41
Gastroenterology	41	41	37
Hematology	38	30	27
Medical clinical sciences and clinical and medical laboratory sciences	NA	46	48
Neurology	111	121	126
Obstetrics and gynecology	53	54	48
Oncology and cancer research	133	110	107
Ophthalmology	73	70	63
Otorhinolaryngology	35	37	34
Pediatrics	129	132	127
Psychiatry	77	83	88
Public health	159	177	180
Pulmonary disease	32	43	37
Radiological sciences	103	110	102
Surgery	187	175	182
Clinical medicine nec	410	361	365
Other health	454	363	364
Communication disorders sciences	33	32	31
Dental sciences	55	56	62
Kinesiology and exercise science	na	29	25
Nursing science	46	49	41
Pharmaceutical sciences	99	93	100
Veterinary biomedical and clinical sciences ^b	81	na	na
Other health nec	140	104	105

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://nces.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.