

**Table 4****Employment of postdoctoral appointees and doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers, by field: 2018–22**

(Number and percent change)

Characteristic	Postdoctoral appointees							Doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers						
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% change 2018–22	% change 2021–22	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% change 2018–22	% change 2021–22
All surveyed fields	64,783	66,247	65,681	63,328	62,750	-3.1	-0.9	29,284	30,349	29,661	30,548	32,279	10.2	5.7
Science and engineering	45,478	46,769	47,203	45,529	45,008	-1.0	-1.1	21,848	22,728	22,133	22,720	23,778	8.8	4.7
Science	37,564	38,503	38,741	37,189	36,673	-2.4	-1.4	18,278	18,819	18,212	18,728	19,423	6.3	3.7
Agricultural and veterinary sciences	1,072	1,079	1,678	1,595	1,705	59.0	6.9	565	645	964	902	1,068	89.0	18.4
Biological and biomedical sciences	21,533	21,847	21,902	20,245	19,585	-9.0	-3.3	8,250	8,229	8,112	8,187	8,207	-0.5	0.2
Computer and information sciences	879	878	823	880	859	-2.3	-2.4	515	510	458	457	507	-1.6	10.9
Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	1,726	1,778	1,790	1,797	1,787	3.5	-0.6	2,106	2,177	2,150	2,308	2,448	16.2	6.1
Mathematics and statistics	982	1,070	1,076	1,112	1,110	13.0	-0.2	266	305	201	235	251	-5.6	6.8
Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary studies	980	972	832	878	840	-14.3	-4.3	832	820	679	816	931	11.9	14.1
Natural resources and conservation	764	806	845	889	936	22.5	5.3	580	582	573	620	605	4.3	-2.4
Physical sciences	6,976	7,159	6,937	6,823	6,877	-1.4	0.8	3,056	3,316	2,890	2,895	2,894	-5.3	*
Psychology	1,145	1,152	1,312	1,325	1,308	14.2	-1.3	507	576	749	803	786	55.0	-2.1
Social sciences	1,507	1,762	1,546	1,645	1,666	10.6	1.3	1,601	1,659	1,436	1,505	1,726	7.8	14.7
Engineering	7,914	8,266	8,462	8,340	8,335	5.3	-0.1	3,570	3,909	3,921	3,992	4,355	22.0	9.1
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	207	227	233	277	244	17.9	-11.9	115	124	149	144	153	33.0	6.3
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering	1,529	1,602	1,696	1,616	1,540	0.7	-4.7	491	545	525	589	685	39.5	16.3
Chemical, petroleum, and chemical-related engineering	1,205	1,229	1,157	1,167	1,239	2.8	6.2	337	410	330	307	313	-7.1	2.0
Civil, environmental, transportation and related engineering fields	739	865	1,006	968	1,018	37.8	5.2	414	492	488	479	569	37.4	18.8

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Electrical, electronics, communications and computer engineering	1,197	1,305	1,302	1,275	1,217	1.7	-4.5	588	637	706	755	734	24.8	-2.8
Industrial, manufacturing, systems engineering and operations research	156	167	194	127	143	-8.3	12.6	105	137	155	107	197	87.6	84.1
Mechanical engineering	1,069	1,142	1,149	1,200	1,189	11.2	-0.9	489	531	469	529	527	7.8	-0.4
Metallurgical, mining, materials and related engineering fields	575	665	630	562	542	-5.7	-3.6	267	303	299	259	280	4.9	8.1
Other engineering	1,237	1,064	1,095	1,148	1,203	-2.7	4.8	764	730	800	823	897	17.4	9.0
Health	19,305	19,478	18,478	17,799	17,742	-8.1	-0.3	7,436	7,621	7,528	7,828	8,501	14.3	8.6
Clinical medicine	16,563	16,650	16,287	15,561	15,630	-5.6	0.4	6,159	6,273	6,500	6,751	7,351	19.4	8.9
Other health	2,742	2,828	2,191	2,238	2,112	-23.0	-5.6	1,277	1,348	1,028	1,077	1,150	-9.9	6.8

\* = value &lt; 0.05%.

**Note(s):**

For more information on the mapping of fields and codes in the Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering, see technical table A-17 at <https://nces.nsf.gov/pubs/nsf24319/table/A-17>.

**Source(s):**

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering.