

Table 5**Change in the number of postdoctoral appointees, by field: 2018–22**

(Number)

Major field	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2018–22 combined
All fields	1,464	-566	-2,353	-578	-2,033
Science and engineering	1,291	434	-1,674	-521	-470
Science	939	238	-1,552	-516	-891
Agricultural and veterinary sciences	7	599	-83	110	633
Biological and biomedical sciences	314	55	-1,657	-660	-1,948
Computer and information sciences	-1	-55	57	-21	-20
Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	52	12	7	-10	61
Mathematics and statistics	88	6	36	-2	128
Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary studies	-8	-140	46	-38	-140
Natural resources and conservation	42	39	44	47	172
Physical sciences	183	-222	-114	54	-99
Psychology	7	160	13	-17	163
Social sciences	255	-216	99	21	159
Engineering	352	196	-122	-5	421
Health	173	-1,000	-679	-57	-1,563
Clinical medicine	87	-363	-726	69	-933
Other health	86	-637	47	-126	-630

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>. Between 2019 and 2020, veterinary biomedical and clinical sciences moved from other health to agricultural and veterinary sciences; this move caused the large change in the number of postdocs for both fields.

Source(s):

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