

TABLE 5

Field of research of postdocs at federally funded research and development centers, by FFRDC type: 2023

(Number)

Field of research	Total	University administered	Nonprofit administered	Industry administered
All postdocs	3,629	1,428	1,059	1,142
Science and engineering	3,518	1,411	1,016	1,091
Science	2,579	1,138	678	763
Agricultural and veterinary sciences	7	3	1	3
Biological and biomedical sciences	237	74	82	81
Chemistry	428	138	186	104
Computer and information sciences	188	56	60	72
Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	272	129	56	87
Materials science and chemistry	450	157	126	167
Mathematics and statistics	59	29	6	24
Natural resources and conservation	10	3	5	2
Physics and astronomy	838	495	124	219
Psychology	1	0	1	0
Social sciences	12	3	6	3
Other sciences	77	51	25	1
Engineering	939	273	338	328
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	31	14	2	15
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering	89	18	44	27
Chemical, petroleum, and related engineering fields	192	58	79	55
Civil, environmental, transportation, and related engineering fields	81	30	37	14
Electrical, electronics, communications, and computer engineering	153	59	37	57
Engineering science, mechanics, and physics	26	7	2	17
Industrial, manufacturing, systems engineering, and operations research	8	5	2	1
Mechanical engineering	155	59	63	33
Metallurgical, mining, materials, and related engineering fields	121	5	36	80
Nuclear engineering	58	7	27	24
Other engineering fields	25	11	9	5
Health	4	0	2	2
Multidisciplinary	85	7	34	44
Non-science or engineering	12	2	7	3
Field of research not known or reported	10	8	0	2

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, 2023.