

TABLE 1-11a

Master's student enrollment, by detailed fields: 2017–23

(Number)

Detailed field	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
All fields	378,587	391,211	408,228	414,478	466,613	501,311	510,866
Science	229,169	241,327	259,795	267,904	305,796	331,983	348,520
Agricultural and veterinary sciences ^a	5,603	5,658	5,629	6,487	6,801	6,949	6,901
Agricultural sciences	5,603	5,658	5,629	5,589	5,790	6,165	6,218
Veterinary biomedical and clinical sciences ^b	na	na	na	898	1,011	784	683
Biological and biomedical sciences ^a	33,926	35,306	38,078	39,920	42,728	43,062	44,703
Biochemistry	791	743	808	889	1,005	911	778
Biology	8,791	8,696	8,635	8,381	8,294	7,969	7,988
Biomedical sciences	4,298	4,379	5,241	5,898	5,794	5,681	6,391
Biophysics	18	6	7	8	6	8	9
Biostatistics and bioinformatics	2,540	2,890	3,036	3,143	3,519	3,852	4,240
Biotechnology	1,893	1,953	3,157	3,143	3,395	3,916	4,420
Botany and plant biology	378	373	392	376	363	369	378
Cell, cellular biology, and anatomical sciences	926	919	927	954	1,210	1,137	1,031
Ecology and population biology	921	888	939	1,052	1,201	1,058	1,035
Epidemiology	2,577	2,669	2,776	3,153	3,623	3,844	3,837
Genetics	512	557	581	620	718	749	693
Microbiological sciences and immunology	1,037	1,254	1,370	1,649	2,011	2,026	1,934
Molecular biology	277	364	378	378	405	408	388
Neurobiology and neuroscience	318	304	362	545	591	515	480
Nutrition science	2,144	2,546	2,385	2,370	2,871	2,905	2,959
Pathology and experimental pathology	122	93	87	105	100	106	143
Pharmacology and toxicology	881	873	923	770	926	996	844
Physiology	2,229	2,288	2,594	3,044	2,898	2,891	2,951
Zoology and animal biology	759	829	891	869	927	861	901
Biological and biomedical sciences nec	2,514	2,682	2,589	2,573	2,871	2,860	3,303
Computer and information sciences	75,618	77,351	84,092	80,690	102,199	129,972	143,530
Computer science	22,786	22,966	24,628	22,670	30,361	42,092	46,477
Computer and information sciences ^c	30,217	30,568	33,698	27,044	35,308	45,098	48,392
Computer and information sciences ^d	NA	NA	NA	23,625	30,804	39,719	41,959
Artificial intelligence, informatics, and computer and information science topics ^d	NA	NA	NA	3,419	4,504	5,379	6,433
Computer and information sciences nec ^c	22,615	23,817	25,766	30,976	36,530	42,782	48,661
Computer and information systems security ^d	NA	NA	NA	7,023	8,401	9,254	10,774
Information science and studies ^d	NA	NA	NA	11,671	13,098	15,478	16,138
Information technology ^d	NA	NA	NA	5,618	7,527	10,601	14,484

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Detailed field	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Computer and information sciences nec ^d	NA	NA	NA	6,664	7,504	7,449	7,265
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	6,006	5,629	5,327	5,277	5,520	5,186	4,793
Atmospheric sciences and meteorology	464	459	473	458	487	489	441
Geological and earth sciences	4,107	3,924	3,610	3,561	3,534	3,183	2,984
Ocean and marine sciences	1,275	1,246	1,244	1,258	1,499	1,514	1,368
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences nec	160	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne
Mathematics and statistics	16,568	18,073	19,594	18,284	20,639	20,798	20,105
Mathematics and applied mathematics ^c	10,387	11,212	11,933	11,058	13,063	13,002	12,600
Applied mathematics ^d	NA	NA	NA	6,678	8,899	9,097	8,977
Mathematics ^d	NA	NA	NA	4,380	4,164	3,905	3,623
Statistics	6,181	6,861	7,661	7,226	7,576	7,796	7,505
Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary sciences ^c	6,923	7,414	8,203	10,980	11,994	16,931	21,928
Biological and physical sciences ^d	NA	NA	NA	993	874	899	921
Computational science ^d	NA	NA	NA	1,968	2,088	3,089	2,939
Data science and data analytics ^d	NA	NA	NA	2,124	2,358	6,000	10,243
International and global studies ^d	NA	NA	NA	1,341	1,267	1,083	865
Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary sciences nec ^d	NA	NA	NA	4,554	5,407	5,860	6,960
Natural resources and conservation	7,311	7,691	8,066	8,793	10,012	9,807	9,486
Environmental science and studies	3,515	3,683	3,883	4,067	4,851	4,422	4,359
Forestry, natural resources, and conservation	3,796	4,008	4,183	4,726	5,161	5,385	5,127
Physical sciences	6,368	6,075	6,361	6,275	6,409	6,256	6,000
Astronomy and astrophysics	69	72	77	76	85	100	100
Chemistry	3,453	3,144	3,152	3,096	3,066	3,015	2,891
Materials sciences	448	449	539	464	439	402	373
Physics	2,182	2,173	2,164	2,141	2,278	2,253	2,179
Physical sciences nec	216	237	429	498	541	486	457
Psychology ^a	29,638	35,404	40,838	47,279	51,878	48,321	49,474
Clinical psychology	3,098	3,213	3,587	3,480	4,167	4,519	4,603
Counseling and applied psychology ^c	19,413	24,714	29,322	33,652	36,482	32,491	33,591
Applied psychology ^d	NA	NA	NA	17,673	19,517	20,091	20,430
Counseling psychology ^d	NA	NA	NA	15,979	16,965	12,400	13,161
Human development ^b	na	na	na	1,499	1,566	1,525	1,321
Psychology, general	5,905	6,178	6,357	6,826	7,329	7,346	7,321
Research and experimental psychology	1,222	1,299	1,572	1,822	2,334	2,440	2,638

TABLE 1-11a

Master's student enrollment, by detailed fields: 2017–23

(Number)

Detailed field	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Social sciences ^a	41,208	42,726	43,607	43,919	47,616	44,701	41,600
Agricultural and natural resource economics	806	779	700	603	672	485	436
Anthropology	2,363	2,302	2,233	2,167	2,292	2,173	1,971
Criminal justice and safety studies	3,869	4,506	4,917	5,674	5,602	5,223	4,942
Economics (except agricultural and natural resource)	5,238	5,427	6,084	6,114	6,882	6,734	6,398
Geography and cartography	2,696	2,717	2,660	2,745	3,147	2,807	2,517
Human development ^b	1,349	1,329	1,339	na	na	na	na
International relations and national security studies	6,755	6,826	6,657	7,322	8,308	7,833	7,147
Linguistics	1,237	1,175	1,153	1,164	1,188	1,159	1,117
Political science and government	2,979	2,706	2,897	3,072	3,270	2,925	2,649
Public policy analysis	4,718	5,882	6,297	6,352	7,290	6,701	4,645
Sociology and population studies	2,629	2,395	2,263	2,342	2,331	2,190	1,888
Social sciences, nec ^c	6,569	6,682	6,407	6,364	6,634	6,471	7,890
Area, ethnic, cultural, gender, and group studies ^d	NA	NA	NA	2,642	2,767	2,634	2,582
Criminology ^d	NA	NA	NA	1,308	1,272	1,180	1,161
Urban studies and affairs ^d	NA	NA	NA	907	827	671	648
Social sciences, other ^d	na	na	na	1,507	1,768	1,986	3,499
History and philosophy of science and technology ^e	25	31	32	na	na	na	na
Social sciences, nec ^c	6,544	6,651	6,375	na	na	na	na
Engineering	96,756	93,064	91,939	86,450	95,126	103,020	100,567
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	3,322	3,342	3,701	4,326	5,065	5,263	5,380
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering	4,108	4,282	4,424	4,536	5,192	5,177	5,204
Bioengineering and biomedical engineering	4,037	4,202	4,335	na	na	na	na
Biological and biosystems engineering	71	80	89	na	na	na	na
Chemical, petroleum, and chemical-related engineering	4,208	3,815	3,274	2,942	2,983	3,011	2,658
Chemical engineering	3,292	3,061	2,632	2,426	2,555	2,599	2,271
Petroleum engineering	916	754	642	516	428	412	387
Civil, environmental, transportation and related engineering fields ^c	13,506	12,729	11,873	10,819	11,730	12,621	12,082
Civil engineering ^d	13,506	12,729	11,873	8,703	9,352	9,692	9,149
Architectural, environmental, construction and surveying engineering ^d	NA	NA	NA	2,116	2,378	2,929	2,933
Electrical, electronics, communications and computer engineering	29,816	28,108	28,177	25,312	27,695	32,316	31,093
Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering ^c	29,816	28,108	28,177	16,746	17,866	19,757	18,215
Computer engineering ^d	NA	NA	NA	8,566	9,829	12,559	12,878
Industrial, manufacturing, systems engineering and operations research	12,272	12,389	11,912	11,030	11,949	12,579	11,873

TABLE 1-11a

Master's student enrollment, by detailed fields: 2017–23

(Number)

Detailed field	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Industrial and manufacturing engineering ^c	12,272	12,389	11,912	5,569	5,284	6,349	5,821
Systems engineering and operations research ^d	NA	NA	NA	5,461	6,665	6,230	6,052
Mechanical engineering	16,279	15,434	14,861	14,305	15,718	16,029	15,335
Metallurgical, mining, materials and related engineering fields	2,427	2,395	2,266	2,299	2,518	2,545	2,462
Metallurgical and materials engineering ^e	2,115	2,079	1,974	na	na	na	na
Mining engineering ^e	312	316	292	na	na	na	na
Other engineering	10,818	10,570	11,451	10,881	12,276	13,479	14,480
Agricultural engineering	505	371	494	404	519	389	377
Engineering mechanics, physics, and science	679	729	852	740	782	762	696
Nuclear engineering	444	407	418	441	484	493	516
Engineering, other	na	na	na	9,296	10,491	11,835	12,891
Engineering, nec	9,146	9,016	9,638	na	na	na	na
Nanotechnology	44	47	49	na	na	na	na
Health	52,662	56,820	56,494	60,124	65,691	66,308	61,779
Clinical medicine	25,283	27,494	26,251	29,748	34,021	33,251	28,484
Medical clinical sciences and clinical and medical laboratory sciences	NA	NA	NA	927	1,287	1,168	1,242
Public health	24,570	26,673	25,403	28,821	32,734	32,083	27,242
Clinical medicine nec	713	821	848	ne	ne	ne	ne
Other health ^a	27,379	29,326	30,243	30,376	31,670	33,057	33,295
Communication disorders sciences	14,748	15,803	16,346	16,762	17,406	17,768	18,183
Dental sciences	1,450	1,478	1,315	1,366	1,500	1,545	1,420
Nursing science	1,550	1,902	1,861	1,488	1,662	1,535	1,701
Pharmaceutical sciences	1,078	1,075	1,187	1,619	1,939	2,142	2,265
Veterinary biomedical and clinical sciences ^b	458	637	881	na	na	na	na
Other health nec ^c	na	na	na	9,141	9,163	10,067	9,726
Kinesiology and exercise science ^d	NA	NA	NA	4,977	4,962	4,743	4,286
Other health nec ^d	8,095	8,431	8,653	4,164	4,201	5,324	5,440

na = not applicable. NA = not available (data not collected at this level of detail). ne = not eligible for graduate student reporting; the fields collected have changed over time.

nec = not elsewhere classified.

^a Broad field is not comparable between 2019 and 2020 due to changes in detailed fields.

^b Detailed field moved between broad fields between 2019 and 2020.

^c Detailed field split into multiple fields in 2020; data after 2020 represent the aggregate counts of all the new detailed fields.

^d New detailed field in 2020.

^e Code reported under a different detailed field code in 2020 and later years.

Note(s):

Percentages may not add to total because of rounding. Detailed fields under clinical medicine only list fields where graduate students can be reported. Graduate student data in this table include master's students in health sciences. For more information on the comparability of these counts to other data published by the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, see the "Technical Notes." Field titles match the 2020, and later titles in the few cases where field titles changed. Prior to 2020, there were no broad fields in engineering. All fields have been moved to match the current broad field organization. For information on the current fields and codes in the Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering, see technical tables A-16 and A-17.

Source(s):

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