

TABLE 3-2

Primary source of support for postdoctoral appointees in science, engineering, and health, by broad field: 2023

(Number and percent)

| Broad field | Total | Federal | | Institutional | | Nonfederal domestic | | Foreign | | Self-support | | Unknown | |
|--|--------|---------|---------|---------------|---------|---------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| All surveyed fields | 65,850 | 32,155 | 48.8 | 16,011 | 24.3 | 9,579 | 14.5 | 1,159 | 1.8 | 726 | 1.1 | 6,220 | 9.4 |
| Science | 37,982 | 18,913 | 49.8 | 9,629 | 25.4 | 5,170 | 13.6 | 517 | 1.4 | 357 | 0.9 | 3,396 | 8.9 |
| Agricultural and veterinary sciences | 1,993 | 853 | 42.8 | 638 | 32.0 | 317 | 15.9 | 20 | 1.0 | 4 | 0.2 | 161 | 8.1 |
| Biological and biomedical sciences | 19,520 | 10,520 | 53.9 | 3,936 | 20.2 | 2,692 | 13.8 | 228 | 1.2 | 119 | 0.6 | 2,025 | 10.4 |
| Computer and information sciences | 987 | 437 | 44.3 | 314 | 31.8 | 138 | 14.0 | 22 | 2.2 | 15 | 1.5 | 61 | 6.2 |
| Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences | 1,919 | 928 | 48.4 | 453 | 23.6 | 242 | 12.6 | 55 | 2.9 | 85 | 4.4 | 156 | 8.1 |
| Mathematics and statistics | 1,220 | 306 | 25.1 | 671 | 55.0 | 109 | 8.9 | 8 | 0.7 | 11 | 0.9 | 115 | 9.4 |
| Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary sciences | 988 | 416 | 42.1 | 307 | 31.1 | 119 | 12.0 | 14 | 1.4 | 13 | 1.3 | 119 | 12.0 |
| Natural resources and conservation | 937 | 437 | 46.6 | 270 | 28.8 | 143 | 15.3 | 20 | 2.1 | 18 | 1.9 | 49 | 5.2 |
| Physical sciences | 7,220 | 3,924 | 54.3 | 1,682 | 23.3 | 949 | 13.1 | 93 | 1.3 | 62 | 0.9 | 510 | 7.1 |
| Psychology | 1,344 | 719 | 53.5 | 352 | 26.2 | 143 | 10.6 | 19 | 1.4 | 19 | 1.4 | 92 | 6.8 |
| Social sciences | 1,854 | 373 | 20.1 | 1,006 | 54.3 | 318 | 17.2 | 38 | 2.0 | 11 | 0.6 | 108 | 5.8 |
| Engineering | 9,051 | 4,431 | 49.0 | 2,324 | 25.7 | 1,388 | 15.3 | 246 | 2.7 | 108 | 1.2 | 554 | 6.1 |
| Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering | 254 | 134 | 52.8 | 57 | 22.4 | 28 | 11.0 | 5 | 2.0 | 2 | 0.8 | 28 | 11.0 |
| Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering | 1,594 | 881 | 55.3 | 308 | 19.3 | 244 | 15.3 | 17 | 1.1 | 5 | 0.3 | 139 | 8.7 |
| Chemical, petroleum, and chemical-related engineering | 1,501 | 689 | 45.9 | 350 | 23.3 | 319 | 21.3 | 44 | 2.9 | 21 | 1.4 | 78 | 5.2 |
| Civil, environmental, transportation and related engineering fields | 1,070 | 447 | 41.8 | 380 | 35.5 | 165 | 15.4 | 20 | 1.9 | 10 | 0.9 | 48 | 4.5 |
| Electrical, electronics, communications and computer engineering | 1,339 | 693 | 51.8 | 318 | 23.7 | 198 | 14.8 | 42 | 3.1 | 22 | 1.6 | 66 | 4.9 |
| Industrial, manufacturing, systems engineering and operations research | 170 | 61 | 35.9 | 72 | 42.4 | 16 | 9.4 | 2 | 1.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 19 | 11.2 |
| Mechanical engineering | 1,317 | 655 | 49.7 | 381 | 28.9 | 142 | 10.8 | 48 | 3.6 | 14 | 1.1 | 77 | 5.8 |
| Metallurgical, mining, materials and related engineering fields | 557 | 277 | 49.7 | 137 | 24.6 | 95 | 17.1 | 12 | 2.2 | 10 | 1.8 | 26 | 4.7 |
| Other engineering | 1,249 | 594 | 47.6 | 321 | 25.7 | 181 | 14.5 | 56 | 4.5 | 24 | 1.9 | 73 | 5.8 |
| Health | 18,817 | 8,811 | 46.8 | 4,058 | 21.6 | 3,021 | 16.1 | 396 | 2.1 | 261 | 1.4 | 2,270 | 12.1 |
| Clinical medicine ^a | 16,393 | 7,678 | 46.8 | 3,528 | 21.5 | 2,457 | 15.0 | 388 | 2.4 | 250 | 1.5 | 2,092 | 12.8 |
| Other health | 2,424 | 1,133 | 46.7 | 530 | 21.9 | 564 | 23.3 | 8 | 0.3 | 11 | 0.5 | 178 | 7.3 |

^a Clinical medicine includes postdoctoral appointees in medical clinical sciences, clinical and medical laboratory sciences, anesthesiology, cardiology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, hematology, neurology, obstetrics and gynecology, oncology and cancer research, ophthalmology, otorhinolaryngology, pediatrics, psychiatry, public health, pulmonary disease, radiological sciences, surgery, and clinical medicine not elsewhere classified.

Note(s):

For postdoctoral appointees, "field" refers to the field of the unit that reports information on this group to the Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering (GSS). Percentages may not add to total because of rounding. 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, 2023.