

Table A-7. Comparison of the broad and major fields, trend broad and major fields, and historical broad and major fields

(Crosswalk)

Broad and major fields (Cycles 2023–24 data tables)		Trend broad and major fields (Cycles 2023–24 data tables)		Historical broad and major fields (Cycles 2021–22 data tables)	
All fields	Level	All fields	Level	All fields	Level
Science and engineering	Area	Science and engineering	Area	na	Area
na	-	na	-	Life sciences	Broad
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	Broad	Agricultural sciences and natural resources ^a	Broad	Agricultural sciences and natural resources	Major
Agricultural, animal, plant, and veterinary sciences	Major	Agricultural sciences ^a	Major	na	-
Natural resources and conservation	Major	Natural resources and conservation	Major	na	-
Biological and biomedical sciences	Broad	Biological and biomedical sciences	Broad	Biological and biomedical sciences	Major
Biochemistry, biophysics, and molecular biology	Major	Biochemistry and biophysics	Major	na	-
Bioinformatics, biostatistics, and computational biology	Major	Bioinformatics, biostatistics, and computational biology	Major	na	-
Biological and biomedical sciences, general	Major	Biology and biomedical sciences, general	Major	na	-
Cell/ cellular biology and anatomy	Major	Cellular and developmental biology, and anatomy	Major	na	-
Ecology, evolutionary biology, and epidemiology	Major	Ecology, evolutionary biology, and epidemiology	Major	na	-
Genetics and genomics	Major	Genetics and genomics	Major	na	-
Microbiology and immunology	Major	Microbiology and immunology	Major	na	-
na	-	Molecular biology	Major	na	-
Neurobiology and neurosciences	Major	Neurobiology and neurosciences	Major	na	-
Pharmacology and toxicology	Major	Pharmacology and toxicology	Major	na	-
Physiology, oncology, and cancer biology	Major	Physiology, pathology, and cancer biology	Major	na	-
Biological and biomedical sciences, other	Major	Biology and biomedical sciences, other	Major	na	-
Computer and information sciences	Broad	Computer and information sciences	Broad	Computer and information sciences	Major
Computer science	Major	Computer science	Major	na	-
Computer and information sciences, other	Major	Computer and information sciences, other	Major	na	-
Engineering	Broad	Engineering	Broad	Engineering	Broad
Aerospace, aeronautical, astronautical and space engineering	Major	Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	Major	Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	Major
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering	Major	Bioengineering and biomedical engineering	Major	Bioengineering and biomedical engineering	Major
Chemical and petroleum engineering	Major	Chemical and petroleum engineering	Major	Chemical engineering	Major
Civil, environmental, and transportation engineering	Major	Civil, environmental, and transportation engineering	Major	Civil engineering	Major
Electrical and computer engineering	Major	Electrical and computer engineering	Major	Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering	Major
Engineering technologies	Major	NA	-	NA	-
Industrial engineering and operations research	Major	Industrial engineering and operations research	Major	Industrial and manufacturing engineering	Major
Materials and mining engineering	Major	Materials and mining engineering	Major	Materials science engineering	Major
Mechanical engineering	Major	Mechanical engineering	Major	Mechanical engineering	Major
Engineering, other	Major	Engineering, other	Major	Other engineering	Major
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	Broad	Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	Broad	Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	Major
Geological and earth sciences	Major	Geological sciences	Major	na	-

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Ocean, marine, and atmospheric sciences	Major	Ocean, marine, and atmospheric sciences	Major	na	-
Health sciences	Broad	Health sciences ^a	Broad	Health sciences	Major
Nursing and nursing science	Major	Nursing science	Major	na	-
Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences	Major	Pharmaceutical sciences	Major	na	-
Public health	Major	Public health	Major	na	-
Health sciences, other	Major	Health sciences, other	Major	na	-
na	-	na	-	Mathematics and computer sciences	Broad
Mathematics and statistics	Broad	Mathematics and statistics	Broad	Mathematics and statistics	Major
Applied mathematics	Major	Applied mathematics	Major	na	-
Mathematics	Major	Mathematics	Major	na	-
Statistics	Major	Statistics	Major	na	-
na	-	Mathematics and statistics, other	Major	na	-
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences	Broad	NA	-	NA	-
Interdisciplinary computer sciences	Major	NA	-	NA	-
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences, other	Major	NA	-	NA	-
na	-	na	-	Physical sciences and earth sciences	Broad
Physical sciences	Broad	Physical sciences	Broad	na	-
Astronomy and astrophysics	Major	Astronomy and astrophysics	Major	na	-
Chemistry	Major	Chemistry	Major	Chemistry	Major
Materials sciences	Major	NA	-	NA	-
Physics	Major	Physics	Major	Physics and astronomy	Major
na	-	na	-	Psychology and social sciences	Broad
Psychology	Broad	Psychology	Broad	Psychology	Major
Clinical psychology	Major	Clinical psychology	Major	na	-
Counseling and applied psychology	Major	Counseling and applied psychology	Major	na	-
Research and experimental psychology	Major	Research and experimental psychology	Major	na	-
Psychology, other	Major	Psychology, other	Major	na	-
Social sciences	Broad	Social sciences	Broad	na	-
Anthropology	Major	Anthropology	Major	Anthropology	Major
Area, ethnic, cultural, gender, and group studies	Major	na	-	na	-
Economics	Major	Economics	Major	Economics	Major
Political science and government	Major	Political science and government	Major	Political science and government	Major
Public policy analysis	Major	Public policy analysis	Major	na	-
Sociology, demography, and population studies	Major	Sociology, demography, and population studies	Major	Sociology	Major
Social sciences, other	Major	Social sciences, other	Major	Other social sciences	Major
Non-science and engineering	Area	Non-science and engineering	Area	na	-
Business	Broad	Business	Broad	Business management and administration	Major
Business administration and management	Major	na	-	na	-
Business, other	Major	na	-	na	-
na	-	Business	Major	na	-
Education	Broad	Education	Broad	Education	Broad

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Broad and major fields (Cycles 2023–24 data tables)		Trend broad and major fields (Cycles 2023–24 data tables)		Historical broad and major fields (Cycles 2021–22 data tables)	
Education leadership and administration	Major	Education leadership and administration	Major	Education administration	Major
Education research	Major	Education research	Major	Education research	Major
Teacher education and teaching fields	Major	Teacher education and teaching fields	Major	Teacher education	Major
na	-	na	-	Teaching fields	Major
Education, other	Major	Education, other	Major	Other education	Major
Humanities	Broad	Humanities and arts	Broad	Humanities and arts	Broad
English language and literature, letters	Major	Letters	Major	Letters	Major
Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics	Major	Foreign languages and literature	Major	Foreign languages and literature	Major
History	Major	History	Major	History	Major
Philosophy and religious studies	Major	Philosophy and religious studies	Major	na	-
na	Major	Humanities and arts, other	Major	Other humanities and arts	Major
Humanities, other	Major	na	-	na	-
Visual and performing arts	Broad	na	-	na	-
Performing arts	Major	Music and performing arts	Major	na	-
Visual arts, media studies, and design	Major	NA	-	NA	-
Other non-science and engineering	Broad	Other non-science and engineering	Broad	Other	Broad
Communication and journalism	Major	Communication	Major	Communication	Major
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary studies	Major	NA	-	NA	-
Public administration and social services	Major	Public administration and social services	Major	na	-
Non-science and engineering, other	Major	Non-science and engineering, other	Major	Non-science and engineering fields nec	Major

NA = not available; data were not collected at this level. na = not applicable; data were not reported at this level. nec = not elsewhere classified.

^a "Veterinary sciences" currently reported under the trend major field "Agricultural sciences." It was previously reported under the historical major field "Health sciences."

Note(s):

Beginning in 2021, a modified version of the 2020 Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes was used in the survey data collection and the new broad, major, and detailed fields are used in the tables reporting data from 2021 to present. In 2023, two new major fields "Biological and biomedical sciences, general" and "Aerospace, aeronautical, astronautical, and space engineering" were added to improve data utility. See the SED-CIP code crosswalk to the new field taxonomy in table A-5. Therefore, the field of doctorate data prior to 2021 may not be comparable to subsequent years. See table A-6 for the SED-CIP code crosswalk to the current trend fields. For the SED-CIP code crosswalk to the historical fields, see <https://nces.nsf.gov/pubs/nsf24300/table/A-6>. For more information about the field taxonomy changes, see the "Technical Notes" and the SED 2021 Taxonomy Changes Working Paper (available at <https://nces.nsf.gov/pubs/nces23200>).

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates.