

Table 2-2. Graduate students, postdoctoral appointees, and doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers in science, engineering, and health broad fields, by institutional control: 2024

(Number and percent)

| Broad field | Graduate students | | | | | | Postdoctoral appointees | | Doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| | All graduate students | | Master's | | Doctoral | | | | | |
| | Total number | Percentage in public institutions | Total number | Percentage in public institutions | Total number | Percentage in public institutions | Total number | Percentage in public institutions | Total number | Percentage in public institutions |
| All broad fields | 818,078 | 67.0 | 505,930 | 65.8 | 312,148 | 68.9 | 69,877 | 53.2 | 35,142 | 66.8 |
| Science | 564,367 | 65.7 | 347,469 | 64.3 | 216,898 | 67.9 | 39,702 | 56.1 | 20,566 | 66.8 |
| Agricultural and veterinary sciences | 12,017 | 94.7 | 6,973 | 93.9 | 5,044 | 95.8 | 2,177 | 91.6 | 1,234 | 92.6 |
| Biological and biomedical sciences | 109,018 | 62.1 | 46,661 | 58.5 | 62,357 | 64.8 | 20,234 | 49.5 | 8,795 | 56.3 |
| Computer and information sciences | 161,368 | 70.6 | 137,358 | 71.1 | 24,010 | 67.9 | 1,042 | 56.7 | 653 | 82.7 |
| Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences | 11,766 | 82.4 | 4,909 | 87.9 | 6,857 | 78.4 | 2,043 | 66.8 | 2,253 | 82.4 |
| Mathematics and statistics | 33,979 | 66.9 | 19,948 | 61.5 | 14,031 | 74.4 | 1,238 | 61.5 | 199 | 68.8 |
| Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary sciences | 31,641 | 60.3 | 26,426 | 58.2 | 5,215 | 71.1 | 1,061 | 48.7 | 890 | 63.9 |
| Natural resources and conservation | 13,332 | 85.8 | 9,150 | 84.6 | 4,182 | 88.3 | 969 | 85.0 | 649 | 94.1 |
| Physical sciences | 45,337 | 71.6 | 6,008 | 73.5 | 39,329 | 71.3 | 7,570 | 58.3 | 3,093 | 67.9 |
| Psychology | 72,924 | 51.1 | 49,516 | 47.7 | 23,408 | 58.4 | 1,392 | 56.8 | 892 | 71.1 |
| Social sciences | 72,985 | 61.8 | 40,520 | 59.7 | 32,465 | 64.5 | 1,976 | 50.1 | 1,908 | 62.8 |
| Engineering | 176,012 | 69.3 | 99,571 | 67.1 | 76,441 | 72.1 | 9,545 | 59.0 | 4,436 | 76.5 |
| Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering | 8,595 | 77.1 | 5,563 | 74.1 | 3,032 | 82.6 | 246 | 67.5 | 167 | 88.0 |
| Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering | 15,805 | 58.6 | 5,475 | 60.2 | 10,330 | 57.7 | 1,685 | 42.6 | 680 | 53.8 |
| Chemical, petroleum, and chemical-related engineering | 10,599 | 68.8 | 2,664 | 67.4 | 7,935 | 69.2 | 1,552 | 54.3 | 363 | 67.5 |
| Civil, environmental, transportation and related engineering fields | 19,259 | 76.8 | 11,360 | 75.0 | 7,899 | 79.4 | 1,166 | 66.6 | 583 | 82.2 |
| Electrical, electronics, communications and computer engineering | 48,615 | 66.1 | 30,841 | 61.8 | 17,774 | 73.5 | 1,381 | 63.4 | 698 | 80.5 |
| Industrial, manufacturing, systems engineering and operations research | 15,750 | 65.1 | 11,704 | 61.1 | 4,046 | 76.6 | 162 | 61.1 | 164 | 72.0 |
| Mechanical engineering | 26,994 | 70.2 | 15,136 | 68.2 | 11,858 | 72.7 | 1,459 | 62.3 | 566 | 81.4 |
| Metallurgical, mining, materials and related engineering fields | 7,361 | 77.4 | 2,503 | 76.4 | 4,858 | 77.8 | 588 | 63.8 | 260 | 87.7 |
| Other engineering | 23,034 | 73.7 | 14,325 | 74.3 | 8,709 | 72.6 | 1,306 | 66.8 | 955 | 82.6 |
| Health | 77,699 | 71.2 | 58,890 | 72.5 | 18,809 | 66.8 | 20,630 | 44.9 | 10,140 | 62.5 |
| Clinical medicine ^a | 33,044 | 69.3 | 26,645 | 70.4 | 6,399 | 64.7 | 17,919 | 39.9 | 8,618 | 59.2 |
| Other health | 44,655 | 72.5 | 32,245 | 74.3 | 12,410 | 67.9 | 2,711 | 77.6 | 1,522 | 81.3 |

^a Clinical medicine includes graduate students in public health and in medical clinical sciences and clinical and medical laboratory sciences. Clinical medicine includes postdoctoral appointees and nonfaculty researchers 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 and doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers, "field" refers to the field of the unit that reports information on these groups 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 table A-6. 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."

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering, 2024.