

Table 3-4. Detailed primary source of federal support for postdoctoral appointees in science, engineering, and health, by broad field: 2024

(Number and percent)

Broad field	Total	DOD		DOE		HHS: NIH		HHS: Other HHS		NASA		NSF		USDA		Other	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All surveyed fields	33,582	2,452	7.3	2,245	6.7	19,413	57.8	1,037	3.1	701	2.1	3,913	11.7	1,166	3.5	2,655	7.9
Science	19,641	1,042	5.3	1,456	7.4	10,227	52.1	550	2.8	602	3.1	3,008	15.3	1,041	5.3	1,715	8.7
Agricultural and veterinary sciences	977	23	2.4	19	1.9	218	22.3	63	6.4	5	0.5	83	8.5	467	47.8	99	10.1
Biological and biomedical sciences	10,842	316	2.9	162	1.5	8,230	75.9	296	2.7	21	0.2	819	7.6	343	3.2	655	6.0
Computer and information sciences	411	94	22.9	20	4.9	36	8.8	9	2.2	4	1.0	192	46.7	7	1.7	49	11.9
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	981	48	4.9	58	5.9	23	2.3	8	0.8	181	18.5	396	40.4	30	3.1	237	24.2
Mathematics and statistics	310	59	19.0	33	10.6	51	16.5	7	2.3	2	0.6	124	40.0	4	1.3	30	9.7
Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary sciences	457	47	10.3	22	4.8	232	50.8	14	3.1	2	0.4	78	17.1	9	2.0	53	11.6
Natural resources and conservation	455	11	2.4	41	9.0	14	3.1	5	1.1	21	4.6	97	21.3	133	29.2	133	29.2
Physical sciences	4,054	409	10.1	1,089	26.9	822	20.3	93	2.3	345	8.5	1,005	24.8	4	0.1	287	7.1
Psychology	710	15	2.1	1	0.1	474	66.8	34	4.8	0	0.0	104	14.6	0	0.0	82	11.5
Social sciences	444	20	4.5	11	2.5	127	28.6	21	4.7	21	4.7	110	24.8	44	9.9	90	20.3
Engineering	4,700	1,057	22.5	782	16.6	1,175	25.0	189	4.0	94	2.0	842	17.9	106	2.3	455	9.7
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	130	44	33.8	19	14.6	5	3.8	5	3.8	21	16.2	23	17.7	0	0.0	13	10.0
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering	956	102	10.7	10	1.0	681	71.2	40	4.2	3	0.3	56	5.9	14	1.5	50	5.2
Chemical, petroleum, and chemical-related engineering	712	90	12.6	220	30.9	149	20.9	62	8.7	2	0.3	140	19.7	10	1.4	39	5.5
Civil, environmental, transportation and related engineering fields	462	78	16.9	82	17.7	20	4.3	16	3.5	11	2.4	113	24.5	22	4.8	120	26.0
Electrical, electronics, communications and computer engineering	666	245	36.8	73	11.0	97	14.6	13	2.0	21	3.2	151	22.7	3	0.5	63	9.5
Industrial, manufacturing, systems engineering and operations research	51	13	25.5	0	0.0	2	3.9	2	3.9	2	3.9	19	37.3	0	0.0	13	25.5
Mechanical engineering	758	245	32.3	135	17.8	114	15.0	28	3.7	23	3.0	146	19.3	8	1.1	59	7.8
Metallurgical, mining, materials and related engineering fields	324	103	31.8	97	29.9	13	4.0	2	0.6	5	1.5	81	25.0	4	1.2	19	5.9
Other engineering	641	137	21.4	146	22.8	94	14.7	21	3.3	6	0.9	113	17.6	45	7.0	79	12.3
Health	9,241	353	3.8	7	0.1	8,011	86.7	298	3.2	5	0.1	63	0.7	19	0.2	485	5.2
Clinical medicine ^a	8,065	282	3.5	6	0.1	7,142	88.6	171	2.1	5	0.1	30	0.4	6	0.1	423	5.2
Other health	1,176	71	6.0	1	0.1	869	73.9	127	10.8	0	0.0	33	2.8	13	1.1	62	5.3

DOD = Department of Defense; DOE = Department of Energy; HHS = Department of Health and Human Services; NASA = National Aeronautics and Space Administration; NIH = National Institutes of Health; NSF = National Science Foundation; USDA = Department of Agriculture.

^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 table A-6.

Source(s):

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