Table 2-1. Distribution of graduate students, postdoctoral appointees, and doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers across science, engineering, and health fields: 2025

(Number and percent)

Detailed field	Graduate students						Postdoctoral appointees		Doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers	
	All graduate students		Master's		Doctoral					
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All detailed fields	796,304	100.0	481,206	100.0	315,098	100.0	68,324	100.0	36,021	100.0
Science	547,280	68.7	327,669	68.1	219,611	69.7	39,233	57.4	20,797	57.7
Agricultural and veterinary sciences	11,760	1.5	6,692	1.4	5,068	1.6	2,067	3.0	1,276	3.5
Agricultural sciences	10,595	1.3	6,020	1.3	4,575	1.5	1,356	2.0	896	2.5
Veterinary biomedical and clinical sciences	1,165	0.1	672	0.1	493	0.2	711	1.0	380	1.1
Biological and biomedical sciences	110,060	13.8	47,776	9.9	62,284	19.8	20,467	30.0	9,132	25.4
Biochemistry	5,874	0.7	891	0.2	4,983	1.6	1,747	2.6	960	2.7
Biology	16,178	2.0	8,373	1.7	7,805	2.5	1,999	2.9	706	2.0
Biomedical sciences	12,803	1.6	7,053	1.5	5,750	1.8	2,008	2.9	725	2.0
Biophysics	998	0.1	13	*	985	0.3	144	0.2	51	0.1
Biostatistics and bioinformatics	8,854	1.1	4,565	0.9	4,289	1.4	901	1.3	407	1.1
Biotechnology	4,458	0.6	4,289	0.9	169	0.1	208	0.3	160	0.4
Botany and plant biology	1,645	0.2	395	0.1	1,250	0.4	493	0.7	209	0.6
Cell, cellular biology, and anatomical sciences	6,701	0.8	1,116	0.2	5,585	1.8	1,497	2.2	795	2.2
Ecology and population biology	3,842	0.5	1,041	0.2	2,801	0.9	489	0.7	207	0.6
Epidemiology	5,910	0.7	3,734	0.8	2,176	0.7	403	0.6	150	0.4
Genetics	3,191	0.4	700	0.1	2,491	0.8	1,271	1.9	629	1.7
Microbiological sciences and immunology	6,635	0.8	2,019	0.4	4,616	1.5	2,013	2.9	863	2.4
Molecular biology	1,625	0.2	403	0.1	1,222	0.4	472	0.7	246	0.7
Neurobiology and neuroscience	7,009	0.9	716	0.1	6,293	2.0	2,006	2.9	780	2.2
Nutrition science	4,353	0.5	3,304	0.7	1,049	0.3	153	0.2	110	0.3
Pathology and experimental pathology	1,197	0.2	161	*	1,036	0.3	907	1.3	400	1.1
Pharmacology and toxicology	3,306	0.4	896	0.2	2,410	0.8	988	1.4	504	1.4
Physiology	7,035	0.9	3,573	0.7	3,462	1.1	1,606	2.4	813	2.3
Zoology and animal biology	2,061	0.3	877	0.2	1,184	0.4	385	0.6	143	0.4
Biological and biomedical sciences nec	6,385	0.8	3,657	0.8	2,728	0.9	777	1.1	274	0.8
Computer and information sciences	141,085	17.7	115,892	24.1	25,193	8.0	1,006	1.5	580	1.6
Super Intelligence, informatics, and computer and information science topics[a]	12,408	1.6	10,942	2.3	1,466	0.5	76	0.1	65	0.2
Computer and information sciences	42,387	5.3	34,586	7.2	7,801	2.5	260	0.4	186	0.5
Computer and information systems security	12,068	1.5	11,115	2.3	953	0.3	13	*	11	*
Computer science	44,197	5.6	31,509	6.5	12,688	4.0	508	0.7	193	0.5
Information science and studies	13,901	1.7	12,314	2.6	1,587	0.5	67	0.1	33	0.1
Information technology	8,852	1.1	8,252	1.7	600	0.2	3	*	16	*
Computer and information sciences nec	7,272	0.9	7,174	1.5	98	*	79	0.1	76	0.2
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	11,732	1.5	4,898	1.0	6,834	2.2	2,060	3.0	2,245	6.2
Atmospheric sciences and meteorology	1,427	0.2	445	0.1	982	0.3	270	0.4	456	1.3

Table 2-1. Distribution of graduate students, postdoctoral appointees, and doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers across science, engineering, and health fields: 2025

(Number and percent)

Detailed field	Graduate students						Postdoctoral appointees		Doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers	
	All graduate students		Master's		Doctoral					
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Geological and earth sciences	7,377	0.9	2,996	0.6	4,381	1.4	1,001	1.5	1,102	3.1
Ocean and marine sciences	2,928	0.4	1,457	0.3	1,471	0.5	477	0.7	366	1.0
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences nec	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	312	0.5	321	0.9
Mathematics and statistics	32,997	4.1	18,790	3.9	14,207	4.5	1,243	1.8	208	0.6
Applied mathematics	10,844	1.4	8,656	1.8	2,188	0.7	247	0.4	73	0.2
Mathematics	12,057	1.5	3,643	0.8	8,414	2.7	812	1.2	92	0.3
Statistics	10,096	1.3	6,491	1.3	3,605	1.1	184	0.3	43	0.1
Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary sciences	31,848	4.0	26,282	5.5	5,566	1.8	1,018	1.5	889	2.5
Biological and physical sciences	1,832	0.2	812	0.2	1,020	0.3	59	0.1	44	0.1
Computational science	2,811	0.4	2,388	0.5	423	0.1	34	*	70	0.2
Data science and data analytics	15,588	2.0	15,113	3.1	475	0.2	123	0.2	81	0.2
International and global studies	917	0.1	770	0.2	147	*	46	0.1	14	*
Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary sciences nec	10,700	1.3	7,199	1.5	3,501	1.1	756	1.1	680	1.9
Natural resources and conservation	13,179	1.7	8,946	1.9	4,233	1.3	1,000	1.5	707	2.0
Environmental science and studies	6,351	0.8	4,264	0.9	2,087	0.7	408	0.6	301	0.8
Forestry, natural resources, and conservation	6,828	0.9	4,682	1.0	2,146	0.7	592	0.9	406	1.1
Physical sciences	45,711	5.7	6,217	1.3	39,494	12.5	7,343	10.7	3,095	8.6
Astronomy and astrophysics	1,764	0.2	116	*	1,648	0.5	755	1.1	674	1.9
Chemistry	23,643	3.0	2,797	0.6	20,846	6.6	3,296	4.8	841	2.3
Materials sciences	1,724	0.2	506	0.1	1,218	0.4	265	0.4	83	0.2
Physics	17,613	2.2	2,411	0.5	15,202	4.8	2,732	4.0	1,163	3.2
Physical sciences nec	967	0.1	387	0.1	580	0.2	295	0.4	334	0.9
Psychology	76,697	9.6	51,695	10.7	25,002	7.9	1,184	1.7	836	2.3
Applied psychology	25,870	3.2	21,252	4.4	4,618	1.5	107	0.2	122	0.3
Clinical psychology	8,599	1.1	4,665	1.0	3,934	1.2	78	0.1	12	*
Counseling psychology	16,368	2.1	13,512	2.8	2,856	0.9	10	*	3	*
Human development	1,896	0.2	1,218	0.3	678	0.2	103	0.2	197	0.5
Psychology, general	15,008	1.9	8,056	1.7	6,952	2.2	594	0.9	318	0.9
Research and experimental psychology	8,956	1.1	2,992	0.6	5,964	1.9	292	0.4	184	0.5
Social sciences	72,211	9.1	40,481	8.4	31,730	10.1	1,845	2.7	1,829	5.1
Agricultural and natural resource economics	550	0.1	355	0.1	195	0.1	76	0.1	52	0.1
Anthropology	5,760	0.7	2,139	0.4	3,621	1.1	154	0.2	76	0.2
Area, ethnic, cultural, gender, and group studies	4,556	0.6	2,228	0.5	2,328	0.7	269	0.4	150	0.4
Criminal justice and safety studies	6,560	0.8	4,943	1.0	1,617	0.5	10	*	8	*
Criminology	1,446	0.2	1,075	0.2	371	0.1	12	*	13	*
Economics (except agricultural and natural resource)	14,297	1.8	6,244	1.3	8,053	2.6	172	0.3	173	0.5

Table 2-1. Distribution of graduate students, postdoctoral appointees, and doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers across science, engineering, and health fields: 2025

(Number and percent)

Detailed field	Graduate students						Postdoctoral appointees		Doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers	
	All graduate students		Master's		Doctoral					
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Geography and cartography	3,280	0.4	2,218	0.5	1,062	0.3	124	0.2	116	0.3
International relations and national security studies	7,634	1.0	7,252	1.5	382	0.1	100	0.1	115	0.3
Linguistics	2,335	0.3	884	0.2	1,451	0.5	59	0.1	59	0.2
Political science and government	7,377	0.9	2,535	0.5	4,842	1.5	160	0.2	87	0.2
Public policy analysis	6,874	0.9	4,384	0.9	2,490	0.8	316	0.5	435	1.2
Sociology and population studies	5,977	0.8	1,899	0.4	4,078	1.3	189	0.3	223	0.6
Urban studies and affairs	892	0.1	603	0.1	289	0.1	18	*	50	0.1
Social sciences, other	4,673	0.6	3,722	0.8	951	0.3	186	0.3	272	0.8
Engineering	171,878	21.6	95,322	19.8	76,556	24.3	9,489	13.9	4,466	12.4
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	9,124	1.1	5,963	1.2	3,161	1.0	261	0.4	188	0.5
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering	16,033	2.0	5,694	1.2	10,339	3.3	1,656	2.4	664	1.8
Chemical, petroleum, and chemical-related engineering	10,489	1.3	2,607	0.5	7,882	2.5	1,520	2.2	341	0.9
Chemical engineering	9,625	1.2	2,214	0.5	7,411	2.4	1,473	2.2	305	0.8
Petroleum engineering	864	0.1	393	0.1	471	0.1	47	0.1	36	0.1
Civil, environmental, transportation and related engineering fields	18,501	2.3	10,735	2.2	7,766	2.5	1,192	1.7	614	1.7
Civil engineering	14,866	1.9	8,247	1.7	6,619	2.1	1,063	1.6	517	1.4
Architectural, environmental, construction and surveying engineering	3,635	0.5	2,488	0.5	1,147	0.4	129	0.2	97	0.3
Electrical, electronics, communications and computer engineering	46,386	5.8	28,746	6.0	17,640	5.6	1,362	2.0	646	1.8
Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering	32,478	4.1	17,984	3.7	14,494	4.6	1,247	1.8	585	1.6
Computer engineering	13,908	1.7	10,762	2.2	3,146	1.0	115	0.2	61	0.2
Industrial, manufacturing, systems engineering and operations research	14,999	1.9	10,853	2.3	4,146	1.3	186	0.3	157	0.4
Industrial and manufacturing engineering	6,427	0.8	4,012	0.8	2,415	0.8	95	0.1	66	0.2
Systems engineering and operations research	8,572	1.1	6,841	1.4	1,731	0.5	91	0.1	91	0.3
Mechanical engineering	27,091	3.4	15,105	3.1	11,986	3.8	1,390	2.0	569	1.6
Metallurgical, mining, materials and related engineering fields	7,534	0.9	2,598	0.5	4,936	1.6	594	0.9	252	0.7
Other engineering	21,721	2.7	13,021	2.7	8,700	2.8	1,328	1.9	1,035	2.9
Agricultural engineering	1,042	0.1	348	0.1	694	0.2	164	0.2	68	0.2
Engineering mechanics, physics, and science	2,391	0.3	739	0.2	1,652	0.5	282	0.4	157	0.4
Nuclear engineering	1,762	0.2	570	0.1	1,192	0.4	119	0.2	58	0.2
Engineering, other	16,526	2.1	11,364	2.4	5,162	1.6	763	1.1	752	2.1
Health	77,146	9.7	58,215	12.1	18,931	6.0	19,602	28.7	10,758	29.9
Clinical medicine	31,820	4.0	25,184	5.2	6,636	2.1	16,874	24.7	9,249	25.7
Medical clinical sciences and clinical and medical laboratory sciences	1,740	0.2	982	0.2	758	0.2	597	0.9	477	1.3
Public health	30,080	3.8	24,202	5.0	5,878	1.9	955	1.4	833	2.3
Anesthesiology	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	449	0.7	185	0.5
Cardiology and cardiovascular disease	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	558	0.8	224	0.6

Table 2-1. Distribution of graduate students, postdoctoral appointees, and doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers across science, engineering, and health fields: 2025

(Number and percent)

Detailed field	Graduate students						Postdoctoral appointees		Doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers	
	All graduate students		Master's		Doctoral					
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Endocrinology, diabetes, and metabolism	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	300	0.4	143	0.4
Gastroenterology	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	239	0.3	71	0.2
Hematology	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	339	0.5	154	0.4
Neurology and neurosurgery	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	1,919	2.8	989	2.7
Obstetrics and gynecology	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	303	0.4	129	0.4
Oncology and cancer research	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	1,710	2.5	718	2.0
Ophthalmology	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	622	0.9	372	1.0
Otorhinolaryngology	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	286	0.4	184	0.5
Pediatrics	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	1,165	1.7	764	2.1
Psychiatry	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	1,263	1.8	481	1.3
Pulmonary disease	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	211	0.3	87	0.2
Radiological sciences	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	1,303	1.9	589	1.6
Surgery	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	1,373	2.0	700	1.9
Clinical medicine nec	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	ne	3,282	4.8	2,149	6.0
Other health	45,326	5.7	33,031	6.9	12,295	3.9	2,728	4.0	1,509	4.2
Communication disorders sciences	18,426	2.3	17,675	3.7	751	0.2	114	0.2	89	0.2
Dental sciences	2,236	0.3	1,408	0.3	828	0.3	313	0.5	145	0.4
Kinesiology and exercise science	4,747	0.6	3,823	0.8	924	0.3	86	0.1	63	0.2
Nursing science	5,632	0.7	2,285	0.5	3,347	1.1	163	0.2	183	0.5
Pharmaceutical sciences	5,272	0.7	2,247	0.5	3,025	1.0	1,513	2.2	524	1.5
Other health nec	9,013	1.1	5,593	1.2	3,420	1.1	539	0.8	505	1.4

* = value < 0.05%; ne = not eligible.

nec = not elsewhere classified.

[a] The detailed field at the time of data collection was listed as artificial intelligence, informatics, and computer and information science topics, now referred to as Super Intelligence, informatics, and computer and information science topics.

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, 2025.