Table 1-12. Detailed primary source of federal support for full-time graduate students in science, engineering, and health: 1975–2025

(Number and percent)

Year	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
1975	47,055	5,061	10.8	NA	NA	12,141	25.8	7,836	16.7	NA	NA	8,790	18.7	NA	NA	13,227	28.1
1976	49,036	4,772	9.7	NA	NA	11,307	23.1	8,341	17.0	NA	NA	8,953	18.3	NA	NA	15,663	31.9
1977	50,809	4,971	9.8	NA	NA	10,861	21.4	9,397	18.5	NA	NA	9,018	17.7	NA	NA	16,562	32.6
1978[a]	51,984	NA	NA	NA	NA	10,825	20.8	10,060	19.4	NA	NA	9,007	17.3	NA	NA	22,092	42.5
1979	52,682	4,990	9.5	NA	NA	11,648	22.1	10,482	19.9	NA	NA	9,366	17.8	NA	NA	16,196	30.7
1980	52,959	5,251	9.9	NA	NA	11,499	21.7	7,522	14.2	NA	NA	9,348	17.7	NA	NA	19,339	36.5
1981	50,896	5,664	11.1	NA	NA	11,179	22.0	6,429	12.6	NA	NA	9,143	18.0	NA	NA	18,481	36.3
1982	47,403	5,941	12.5	NA	NA	10,814	22.8	4,975	10.5	NA	NA	9,257	19.5	NA	NA	16,416	34.6
1983	47,752	6,969	14.6	NA	NA	10,810	22.6	4,179	8.8	NA	NA	9,524	19.9	NA	NA	16,270	34.1
1984	47,784	7,125	14.9	NA	NA	10,983	23.0	4,124	8.6	NA	NA	9,848	20.6	NA	NA	15,704	32.9
1985	49,051	7,326	14.9	NA	NA	11,112	22.7	4,740	9.7	NA	NA	10,180	20.8	2,171	4.4	13,522	27.6
1986	51,361	7,940	15.5	NA	NA	11,877	23.1	4,500	8.8	NA	NA	10,826	21.1	2,328	4.5	13,890	27.0
1987	53,538	8,795	16.4	NA	NA	12,944	24.2	4,247	7.9	NA	NA	11,247	21.0	2,684	5.0	13,621	25.4
1988	55,489	9,546	17.2	NA	NA	13,715	24.7	4,186	7.5	NA	NA	11,634	21.0	2,591	4.7	13,817	24.9
1989	57,433	9,140	15.9	NA	NA	14,357	25.0	4,335	7.5	NA	NA	11,900	20.7	2,728	4.7	14,973	26.1
1990	59,258	8,868	15.0	NA	NA	14,996	25.3	4,512	7.6	NA	NA	12,025	20.3	2,722	4.6	16,135	27.2
1991	63,000	9,128	14.5	NA	NA	16,018	25.4	4,461	7.1	NA	NA	12,666	20.1	3,075	4.9	17,652	28.0
1992	65,607	9,247	14.1	NA	NA	17,091	26.1	4,321	6.6	NA	NA	13,366	20.4	3,216	4.9	18,366	28.0
1993	67,673	9,750	14.4	NA	NA	18,135	26.8	3,888	5.7	NA	NA	13,530	20.0	3,324	4.9	19,046	28.1
1994	68,550	9,449	13.8	NA	NA	18,292	26.7	4,374	6.4	NA	NA	13,990	20.4	3,422	5.0	19,023	27.8
1995	67,294	9,339	13.9	NA	NA	18,109	26.9	4,666	6.9	NA	NA	13,661	20.3	3,254	4.8	18,265	27.1
1996	65,240	8,802	13.5	NA	NA	17,929	27.5	4,432	6.8	2,309	3.5	13,412	20.6	3,004	4.6	15,352	23.5
1997	64,522	9,021	14.0	NA	NA	18,087	28.0	4,443	6.9	2,586	4.0	13,362	20.7	2,646	4.1	14,377	22.3
1998	63,759	8,259	13.0	NA	NA	18,215	28.6	4,489	7.0	2,646	4.2	13,459	21.1	2,485	3.9	14,206	22.3
1999	65,796	8,026	12.2	2,749	4.2	19,019	28.9	4,423	6.7	2,579	3.9	13,835	21.0	2,634	4.0	12,531	19.0
2000	67,588	8,141	12.0	2,995	4.4	19,472	28.8	4,018	5.9	2,780	4.1	14,599	21.6	2,630	3.9	12,953	19.2
2001	68,843	7,960	11.6	3,116	4.5	19,904	28.9	4,433	6.4	2,819	4.1	15,429	22.4	2,735	4.0	12,447	18.1
2002	75,538	7,977	10.6	3,548	4.7	22,129	29.3	4,830	6.4	3,082	4.1	17,135	22.7	3,100	4.1	13,737	18.2
2003	81,761	9,204	11.3	4,024	4.9	24,309	29.7	4,922	6.0	3,230	4.0	19,308	23.6	3,468	4.2	13,296	16.3
2004	83,816	9,007	10.7	4,135	4.9	26,689	31.8	4,211	5.0	2,916	3.5	19,975	23.8	3,563	4.3	13,320	15.9
2005	83,723	8,993	10.7	4,392	5.2	26,868	32.1	3,912	4.7	2,691	3.2	20,387	24.4	3,351	4.0	13,129	15.7
2006	83,962	8,867	10.6	4,480	5.3	27,587	32.9	3,662	4.4	2,364	2.8	20,339	24.2	3,000	3.6	13,663	16.3
2007old[b]	81,542	8,874	10.9	4,281	5.3	26,982	33.1	3,067	3.8	2,314	2.8	19,747	24.2	2,796	3.4	13,481	16.5
2007new[b]	81,859	8,885	10.9	4,284	5.2	27,015	33.0	3,086	3.8	2,317	2.8	19,792	24.2	2,810	3.4	13,670	16.7
2008	78,464	8,219	10.5	4,341	5.5	26,003	33.1	2,496	3.2	2,344	3.0	19,882	25.3	2,770	3.5	12,409	15.8
2009	81,565	8,683	10.6	4,608	5.6	26,506	32.5	2,200	2.7	2,426	3.0	21,682	26.6	2,706	3.3	12,754	15.6
2010	86,310	9,233	10.7	5,512	6.4	27,615	32.0	2,255	2.6	2,472	2.9	23,226	26.9	3,061	3.5	12,936	15.0

Table 1-12. Detailed primary source of federal support for full-time graduate students in science, engineering, and health: 1975–2025

(Number and percent)

Year	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
2011	85,220	9,107	10.7	5,738	6.7	25,670	30.1	2,201	2.6	2,394	2.8	24,226	28.4	2,862	3.4	13,022	15.3
2012	80,962	8,748	10.8	5,343	6.6	24,256	30.0	1,921	2.4	2,173	2.7	24,243	29.9	2,664	3.3	11,614	14.3
2013	76,840	8,304	10.8	4,803	6.3	22,372	29.1	1,642	2.1	2,006	2.6	23,307	30.3	2,577	3.4	11,829	15.4
2014old[c]	72,507	7,445	10.3	4,398	6.1	21,153	29.2	1,365	1.9	2,005	2.8	22,791	31.4	2,400	3.3	10,950	15.1
2014new[c]	72,756	7,454	10.2	4,401	6.0	21,191	29.1	1,382	1.9	2,013	2.8	22,899	31.5	2,420	3.3	10,996	15.1
2015	72,393	8,127	11.2	4,309	6.0	20,641	28.5	1,715	2.4	2,036	2.8	22,924	31.7	2,676	3.7	9,965	13.8
2016	71,955	8,291	11.5	4,482	6.2	20,381	28.3	1,635	2.3	2,025	2.8	22,677	31.5	2,535	3.5	9,929	13.8
2017old[d]	69,899	8,365	12.0	4,480	6.4	19,687	28.2	1,727	2.5	1,821	2.6	21,010	30.1	2,444	3.5	10,365	14.8
2017new[d]	69,537	8,323	12.0	4,480	6.4	19,645	28.3	1,719	2.5	1,818	2.6	20,946	30.1	2,415	3.5	10,191	14.7
2018	71,594	7,600	10.6	4,568	6.4	19,903	27.8	2,842	4.0	1,899	2.7	21,711	30.3	2,619	3.7	10,452	14.6
2019	73,605	8,495	11.5	5,119	7.0	21,025	28.6	2,498	3.4	2,057	2.8	21,801	29.6	2,580	3.5	10,030	13.6
2020	76,218	8,635	11.3	5,344	7.0	21,708	28.5	2,761	3.6	2,096	2.8	22,413	29.4	2,689	3.5	10,572	13.9
2021	82,588	9,575	11.6	6,016	7.3	23,088	28.0	2,866	3.5	2,211	2.7	21,743	26.3	3,244	3.9	13,845	16.8
2022	81,773	9,093	11.1	5,870	7.2	23,200	28.4	3,523	4.3	2,174	2.7	21,136	25.8	3,307	4.0	13,470	16.5
2023	82,764	9,171	11.1	5,757	7.0	23,172	28.0	3,314	4.0	2,178	2.6	21,209	25.6	3,332	4.0	14,631	17.7
2024	83,962	9,739	11.6	5,916	7.0	23,836	28.4	2,851	3.4	2,038	2.4	21,355	25.4	3,796	4.5	14,431	17.2
2025	79,472	9,302	11.7	5,735	7.2	21,668	27.3	2,814	3.5	1,856	2.3	20,458	25.7	3,606	4.5	14,033	17.7
Master's students																	
2017new[d]	12,354	2,756	22.3	491	4.0	1,014	8.2	310	2.5	286	2.3	2,212	17.9	962	7.8	4,323	35.0
2018	12,324	2,345	19.0	412	3.3	975	7.9	539	4.4	300	2.4	2,160	17.5	1,059	8.6	4,534	36.8
2019	11,491	2,492	21.7	452	3.9	1,046	9.1	471	4.1	276	2.4	2,054	17.9	977	8.5	3,723	32.4
2020	12,459	2,681	21.5	487	3.9	908	7.3	516	4.1	291	2.3	2,058	16.5	1,067	8.6	4,451	35.7
2021	14,918	2,931	19.6	556	3.7	1,024	6.9	653	4.4	291	2.0	2,012	13.5	1,284	8.6	6,167	41.3
2022	15,823	2,801	17.7	554	3.5	1,107	7.0	630	4.0	322	2.0	2,119	13.4	1,315	8.3	6,975	44.1
2023	15,602	2,815	18.0	550	3.5	1,106	7.1	750	4.8	307	2.0	2,072	13.3	1,187	7.6	6,815	43.7
2024	16,026	3,207	20.0	596	3.7	1,012	6.3	582	3.6	319	2.0	2,126	13.3	1,309	8.2	6,875	42.9
2025	15,206	3,356	22.1	478	3.1	837	5.5	495	3.3	259	1.7	1,927	12.7	1,204	7.9	6,650	43.7
Doctoral students																	
2017new[d]	57,183	5,567	9.7	3,989	7.0	18,631	32.6	1,409	2.5	1,532	2.7	18,734	32.8	1,453	2.5	5,868	10.3
2018	59,270	5,255	8.9	4,156	7.0	18,928	31.9	2,303	3.9	1,599	2.7	19,551	33.0	1,560	2.6	5,918	10.0
2019	62,114	6,003	9.7	4,667	7.5	19,979	32.2	2,027	3.3	1,781	2.9	19,747	31.8	1,603	2.6	6,307	10.2
2020	63,759	5,954	9.3	4,857	7.6	20,800	32.6	2,245	3.5	1,805	2.8	20,355	31.9	1,622	2.5	6,121	9.6
2021	67,670	6,644	9.8	5,460	8.1	22,064	32.6	2,213	3.3	1,920	2.8	19,731	29.2	1,960	2.9	7,678	11.3
2022	65,950	6,292	9.5	5,316	8.1	22,093	33.5	2,893	4.4	1,852	2.8	19,017	28.8	1,992	3.0	6,495	9.8
2023	67,162	6,356	9.5	5,207	7.8	22,066	32.9	2,564	3.8	1,871	2.8	19,137	28.5	2,145	3.2	7,816	11.6
2024	67,936	6,532	9.6	5,320	7.8	22,824	33.6	2,269	3.3	1,719	2.5	19,229	28.3	2,487	3.7	7,556	11.1

Table 1-12. Detailed primary source of federal support for full-time graduate students in science, engineering, and health: 1975–2025

(Number and percent)

Year	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
2025	64,266	5,946	9.3	5,257	8.2	20,831	32.4	2,319	3.6	1,597	2.5	18,531	28.8	2,402	3.7	7,383	11.5

NA = not available; USDA was added in 1985, NASA was added in 1996, and DOE was added in 1999.

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] Master's-granting institutions were not surveyed in 1978; totals represent estimates based on 1977 and 1979 data.

[b] In 2007, eligible fields were reclassified, newly eligible fields were added, and the survey was redesigned to improve coverage and coding of eligible units. "2007new" presents data as collected in 2007; "2007old" shows data as they would have been collected in prior years. See appendix A in https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/nsf10307/ for more detail.

[c] In 2014, the survey frame was updated following a comprehensive frame evaluation study. The study identified potentially eligible but not previously surveyed academic institutions in the United States with master's- or doctorate-granting programs in science, engineering, and health. A total of 151 newly eligible institutions were added, and 2 private for-profit institutions offering mostly practitioner-based graduate degrees were determined to be ineligible. For more information, see https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/2016/nsf16314.

[d] As part of the 2017 Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering (GSS) redesign, the GSS taxonomy was changed to align with the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES) Taxonomy of Disciplines, thus increasing comparability with other NCSES surveys. As a result, some eligible fields were reclassified and a small number of fields became fully or partially ineligible. Comparisons to prior years should use the 2017old estimates and should be limited to broad areas of study—detailed field comparisons are not recommended.

Note(s):
Percentages may not add to total because of rounding. Master's and doctoral students were not reported separately until 2017. Graduate student data in this table include master's students in health sciences. For more information on the comparability of these counts to other NCSES published data, see the "Technical Notes."

Source(s):
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering.