Table 2-3. Graduate students, postdoctoral appointees, and doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers in science, engineering, and health broad fields, by Carnegie classification: 2025

(Number and percent)

2021 Carnegie classification by area of study	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 broad fields	796,304	100.0	481,206	100.0	315,098	100.0	68,324	100.0	36,021	100.0
Doctoral: highest research	544,411	68.4	288,435	59.9	255,976	81.2	56,968	83.4	29,969	83.2
Doctoral: higher research	116,546	14.6	84,028	17.5	32,518	10.3	2,788	4.1	2,138	5.9
Doctoral or professional universities	42,998	5.4	33,373	6.9	9,625	3.1	54	0.1	37	0.1
Master's: larger programs	60,211	7.6	57,300	11.9	2,911	0.9	101	0.1	69	0.2
Master's: medium programs	4,832	0.6	4,003	0.8	829	0.3	60	0.1	29	0.1
Master's: small programs and baccalaureate	3,545	0.4	3,253	0.7	292	0.1	69	0.1	27	0.1
Medical schools and centers	8,697	1.1	5,538	1.2	3,159	1.0	1,192	1.7	527	1.5
Other 4-year special focus	12,626	1.6	3,748	0.8	8,878	2.8	6,195	9.1	2,965	8.2
Not classified	2,438	0.3	1,528	0.3	910	0.3	897	1.3	260	0.7
Science	547,280	100.0	327,669	100.0	219,611	100.0	39,233	100.0	20,797	100.0
Doctoral: highest research	363,520	66.4	187,375	57.2	176,145	80.2	32,716	83.4	17,555	84.4
Doctoral: higher research	80,752	14.8	58,784	17.9	21,968	10.0	1,885	4.8	1,459	7.0
Doctoral or professional universities	34,807	6.4	27,013	8.2	7,794	3.5	24	0.1	31	0.1
Master's: larger programs	45,539	8.3	43,154	13.2	2,385	1.1	42	0.1	29	0.1
Master's: medium programs	3,546	0.6	2,930	0.9	616	0.3	46	0.1	12	0.1
Master's: small programs and baccalaureate	2,881	0.5	2,668	0.8	213	0.1	60	0.2	24	0.1
Medical schools and centers	5,576	1.0	3,083	0.9	2,493	1.1	648	1.7	515	2.5
Other 4-year special focus	8,619	1.6	1,494	0.5	7,125	3.2	2,936	7.5	945	4.5
Not classified	2,040	0.4	1,168	0.4	872	0.4	876	2.2	227	1.1
Engineering	171,878	100.0	95,322	100.0	76,556	100.0	9,489	100.0	4,466	100.0
Doctoral: highest research	140,546	81.8	72,534	76.1	68,012	88.8	8,742	92.1	3,808	85.3
Doctoral: higher research	20,498	11.9	13,364	14.0	7,134	9.3	516	5.4	485	10.9
Doctoral or professional universities	1,887	1.1	1,664	1.7	223	0.3	27	0.3	0	0.0
Master's: larger programs	6,996	4.1	6,604	6.9	392	0.5	36	0.4	39	0.9
Master's: medium programs	901	0.5	688	0.7	213	0.3	11	0.1	17	0.4
Master's: small programs and baccalaureate	493	0.3	414	0.4	79	0.1	8	0.1	2	*
Medical schools and centers	4	*	0	0.0	4	*	1	*	0	0.0
Other 4-year special focus	553	0.3	54	0.1	499	0.7	138	1.5	92	2.1
Not classified	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	10	0.1	23	0.5
Health	77,146	100.0	58,215	100.0	18,931	100.0	19,602	100.0	10,758	100.0
Doctoral: highest research	40,345	52.3	28,526	49.0	11,819	62.4	15,510	79.1	8,606	80.0
Doctoral: higher research	15,296	19.8	11,880	20.4	3,416	18.0	387	2.0	194	1.8
Doctoral or professional universities	6,304	8.2	4,696	8.1	1,608	8.5	3	*	6	0.1
Master's: larger programs	7,676	9.9	7,542	13.0	134	0.7	23	0.1	1	*
Master's: medium programs	385	0.5	385	0.7	0	0.0	3	*	0	0.0

Table 2-3. Graduate students, postdoctoral appointees, and doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers in science, engineering, and health broad fields, by Carnegie classification: 2025

(Number and percent)

2021 Carnegie classification by area of study	Graduate students						Postdoctoral appointees		Doctorate-holding nonfaculty researchers	
	All graduate students		Master's		Doctoral					
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Master's: small programs and baccalaureate	171	0.2	171	0.3	0	0.0	1	*	1	*
Medical schools and centers	3,117	4.0	2,455	4.2	662	3.5	543	2.8	12	0.1
Other 4-year special focus	3,454	4.5	2,200	3.8	1,254	6.6	3,121	15.9	1,928	17.9
Not classified	398	0.5	360	0.6	38	0.2	11	0.1	10	0.1

* = value < 0.05%.

Note(s):
Institutions are designated by 2021 Carnegie classification codes. Percentages may not add to total because of rounding. For more information on the mapping of Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering 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.