Table A-4. Response rates for science, engineering, and health organizational units: 1975–2025

(Number and percent)

Year	Total	Total response		Complete response		Partial response		Nonresponse	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1975	9,162	8,998	98.2	8,998	98.2	NA	NA	164	1.8
1976[a]	9,275	9,148	98.6	9,148	98.6	NA	NA	127	1.4
1977	9,513	9,432	99.1	9,432	99.1	NA	NA	81	0.9
1978[b]	8,242	8,077	98.0	8,077	98.0	NA	NA	165	2.0
1979	9,796	9,446	96.4	9,446	96.4	NA	NA	350	3.6
1980	9,930	9,593	96.6	9,593	96.6	NA	NA	337	3.4
1981	9,917	9,207	92.8	8,594	86.7	613	6.2	710	7.2
1982	9,776	8,848	90.5	8,104	82.9	744	7.6	928	9.5
1983	9,663	8,886	92.0	8,070	83.5	816	8.4	777	8.0
1984	8,748	8,133	93.0	7,490	85.6	643	7.4	615	7.0
1985	9,025	8,490	94.1	7,818	86.6	672	7.4	535	5.9
1986	9,097	8,596	94.5	7,817	85.9	779	8.6	501	5.5
1987	9,254	8,745	94.5	8,030	86.8	715	7.7	509	5.5
1988	10,295	9,782	95.0	8,812	85.6	970	9.4	513	5.0
1989	10,318	9,799	95.0	8,908	86.3	891	8.6	519	5.0
1990	10,483	9,937	94.8	8,884	84.7	1,053	10.0	546	5.2
1991	10,705	10,238	95.6	9,052	84.6	1,186	11.1	467	4.4
1992	10,936	10,604	97.0	9,066	82.9	1,538	14.1	332	3.0
1993	11,146	10,711	96.1	9,156	82.1	1,555	14.0	435	3.9
1994	11,411	10,972	96.2	8,863	77.7	2,109	18.5	439	3.8
1995	11,598	11,244	96.9	9,514	82.0	1,730	14.9	354	3.1
1996	11,592	11,373	98.1	9,851	85.0	1,522	13.1	219	1.9
1997	11,597	11,385	98.2	9,720	83.8	1,665	14.4	212	1.8
1998	11,718	11,528	98.4	9,822	83.8	1,706	14.6	190	1.6
1999	11,833	11,685	98.7	9,396	79.4	2,289	19.3	148	1.3
2000	11,899	11,783	99.0	9,818	82.5	1,965	16.5	116	1.0
2001	11,967	11,852	99.0	10,121	84.6	1,731	14.5	115	1.0
2002	12,126	12,001	99.0	10,434	86.0	1,567	12.9	125	1.0
2003	12,261	12,052	98.3	10,343	84.4	1,709	13.9	209	1.7
2004old[c]	12,240	12,035	98.3	10,426	85.2	1,609	13.1	205	1.7
2004new[d]	12,240	11,998	98.0	10,524	86.0	1,474	12.0	242	2.0
2005[d]	12,396	12,053	97.2	10,783	87.0	1,270	10.2	343	2.8
2006[d]	12,320	11,991	97.3	10,814	87.8	1,177	9.6	329	2.7
2007[e]	12,629	12,310	97.5	11,020	87.3	1,290	10.2	319	2.5
2008	13,166	13,010	98.8	11,574	87.9	1,436	10.9	156	1.2
2009	13,285	13,187	99.3	11,709	88.1	1,478	11.1	98	0.7
2010[f]	13,711	13,583	99.1	11,601	84.6	1,982	14.5	128	0.9
2011[f]	13,785	13,627	98.9	11,622	84.3	2,005	14.5	158	1.1
2012	13,952	13,898	99.6	11,914	85.4	1,984	14.2	54	0.4
2013	14,019	13,979	99.7	12,056	86.0	1,923	13.7	40	0.3
2014old[g]	14,369	14,336	99.8	12,413	86.4	1,923	13.4	33	0.2
2014new[g]	14,845	14,798	99.7	12,832	86.4	1,966	13.2	47	0.3
2015	15,202	15,119	99.5	12,714	83.6	2,405	15.8	83	0.5
2016	15,853	15,774	99.5	13,617	85.9	2,157	13.6	79	0.5
2017[h]	18,745	18,293	97.6	15,946	85.1	2,347	12.5	452	2.4
2018	19,592	19,384	98.9	16,410	83.8	2,974	15.2	208	1.1
2019	20,249	19,718	97.4	17,035	84.1	2,683	13.3	531	2.6
2020	21,156	20,486	96.8	17,764	84.0	2,722	12.9	670	3.2
2021	21,365	20,990	98.2	18,186	85.1	2,804	13.1	375	1.8
2022	22,519	22,227	98.7	19,112	84.9	3,115	13.8	292	1.3

Table A-4. Response rates for science, engineering, and health organizational units: 1975–2025

(Number and percent)

Year	Total	Total response		Complete response		Partial response		Nonresponse	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2023	22,802	22,308	97.8	18,891	82.8	3,417	15.0	494	2.2
2024	23,121	22,609	97.8	19,146	82.8	3,463	15.0	512	2.2
2025	23,279	22,770	97.8	19,140	82.2	3,630	15.6	509	2.2

NA = not available; organizational units providing partial responses are included in complete response column prior to 1981 and reported separately beginning in 1981.

[a] The 1976 survey also collected 1975 data from master's-granting institutions.

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

[c] Calculated using response-rate formula used through 2003. See appendix A in https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/nsf10307/ for more detail.

[d] Calculated using response-rate formula used from 2004 to 2006. Schools closed in 2005 because of Hurricane Katrina were counted as nonrespondents.

[e] Calculated using response-rate formula implemented in 2007. See appendix A in https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/nsf10307/ for more detail.

[f] Postdoctoral appointee and doctorate-holding nonfaculty researcher data from 2010 and 2011 were reimputed following the 2012 data collection; these data supersede those contained in previous reports.

[g] 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.

[h] 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. In 2017, the data collection methods changed, substantially increasing the number of added units.

Note(s):
Percentages may not add to total because of rounding. 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.