



APPENDIX TABLE 2-9

Full-time S&E graduate students, by field and mechanism of primary support: 2015

(Number and percent)

Field	All mechanisms		Research assistantship		Fellowship		Traineeship		Teaching assistantship		Other		Self-support ^a	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
S&E	495,213	100.0	114,916	23.2	42,935	8.7	11,120	2.2	89,019	18.0	36,110	7.3	201,113	40.6
Engineering	126,733	100.0	38,949	30.7	9,230	7.3	1,110	0.9	14,994	11.8	8,422	6.6	54,028	42.6
Aerospace	4,039	100.0	1,633	40.4	339	8.4	72	1.8	497	12.3	289	7.2	1,209	29.9
Chemical	8,835	100.0	4,044	45.8	1,060	12.0	76	0.9	1,028	11.6	402	4.6	2,225	25.2
Civil	15,443	100.0	4,775	30.9	1,008	6.5	82	0.5	2,070	13.4	1,337	8.7	6,171	40.0
Electrical	40,519	100.0	9,854	24.3	1,865	4.6	122	0.3	4,232	10.4	2,458	6.1	21,988	54.3
Industrial	10,215	100.0	1,480	14.5	406	4.0	83	0.8	1,111	10.9	777	7.6	6,358	62.2
Materials	6,826	100.0	3,545	51.9	757	11.1	50	0.7	648	9.5	246	3.6	1,580	23.1
Mechanical	20,320	100.0	6,100	30.0	1,356	6.7	160	0.8	3,148	15.5	1,472	7.2	8,084	39.8
Other	20,536	100.0	7,518	36.6	2,439	11.9	465	2.3	2,260	11.0	1,441	7.0	6,413	31.2
Science	368,480	100.0	75,967	20.6	33,705	9.1	10,010	2.7	74,025	20.1	27,688	7.5	147,085	39.9
Natural sciences	259,192	100.0	62,940	24.3	21,361	8.2	8,141	3.1	50,653	19.5	17,381	6.7	98,716	38.1
Agricultural sciences	13,071	100.0	6,154	47.1	965	7.4	43	0.3	1,896	14.5	679	5.2	3,334	25.5
Biological sciences ^b	71,122	100.0	23,689	33.3	9,287	13.1	5,563	7.8	10,933	15.4	4,871	6.8	16,779	23.6
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	12,286	100.0	4,362	35.5	1,491	12.1	92	0.7	3,125	25.4	723	5.9	2,493	20.3



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	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Atmospheric sciences	1,201	100.0	726	60.4	67	5.6	28	2.3	220	18.3	21	1.7	139	11.6
Earth sciences	7,053	100.0	2,213	31.4	842	11.9	28	0.4	2,250	31.9	450	6.4	1,270	18.0
Oceanography	2,081	100.0	953	45.8	249	12.0	6	0.3	382	18.4	109	5.2	382	18.4
Other geosciences	1,951	100.0	470	24.1	333	17.1	30	1.5	273	14.0	143	7.3	702	36.0
Mathematics and computer sciences	79,482	100.0	9,968	12.5	3,472	4.4	441	0.6	16,032	20.2	4,447	5.6	45,122	56.8
Computer sciences	58,329	100.0	8,201	14.1	1,762	3.0	258	0.4	6,069	10.4	3,491	6.0	38,548	66.1
Mathematics and statistics	21,153	100.0	1,767	8.4	1,710	8.1	183	0.9	9,963	47.1	956	4.5	6,574	31.1
Medical and other health sciences	46,857	100.0	5,381	11.5	2,191	4.7	1,644	3.5	4,100	8.8	5,493	11.7	28,048	59.9
Medical sciences	24,937	100.0	3,506	14.1	1,405	5.6	1,025	4.1	1,958	7.9	2,863	11.5	14,180	56.9
Other health sciences	21,920	100.0	1,875	8.6	786	3.6	619	2.8	2,142	9.8	2,630	12.0	13,868	63.3
Physical sciences	36,374	100.0	13,386	36.8	3,955	10.9	358	1.0	14,567	40.0	1,168	3.2	2,940	8.1
Astronomy	1,256	100.0	603	48.0	270	21.5	20	1.6	287	22.9	21	1.7	55	4.4
Chemistry	20,584	100.0	6,827	33.2	2,312	11.2	206	1.0	8,985	43.7	564	2.7	1,690	8.2
Physics	14,075	100.0	5,806	41.3	1,344	9.5	109	0.8	5,215	37.1	532	3.8	1,069	7.6
Other physical sciences	459	100.0	150	32.7	29	6.3	23	5.0	80	17.4	51	11.1	126	27.5
Social and behavioral sciences	103,901	100.0	11,930	11.5	11,943	11.5	1,716	1.7	22,594	21.7	9,650	9.3	46,068	44.3
Psychology	35,478	100.0	4,798	13.5	2,241	6.3	789	2.2	6,634	18.7	3,270	9.2	17,746	50.0



Field	All mechanisms		Research assistantship		Fellowship		Traineeship		Teaching assistantship		Other		Self-support ^a	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Social sciences	68,423	100.0	7,132	10.4	9,702	14.2	927	1.4	15,960	23.3	6,380	9.3	28,322	41.4
Anthropology	5,873	100.0	431	7.3	1,337	22.8	117	2.0	1,998	34.0	375	6.4	1,615	27.5
Economics	13,939	100.0	2,243	16.1	2,177	15.6	68	0.5	4,012	28.8	899	6.4	4,540	32.6
History of science	341	100.0	42	12.3	157	46.0	0	0.0	96	28.2	7	2.1	39	11.4
Linguistics	2,540	100.0	230	9.1	369	14.5	47	1.9	898	35.4	189	7.4	807	31.8
Political science and public administration	26,706	100.0	1,969	7.4	3,344	12.5	356	1.3	3,494	13.1	3,173	11.9	14,370	53.8
Sociology	6,532	100.0	880	13.5	1,056	16.2	149	2.3	2,412	36.9	518	7.9	1,517	23.2
Other social sciences	12,492	100.0	1,337	10.7	1,262	10.1	190	1.5	3,050	24.4	1,219	9.8	5,434	43.5
Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary studies	5,387	100.0	1,097	20.4	401	7.4	153	2.8	778	14.4	657	12.2	2,301	42.7

^a Includes any loans (including federal) and support from personal or family financial contributions.

^b Includes neuroscience.

Note(s)

S&E includes health fields (medical sciences and other health sciences) and excludes newly eligible fields (architecture, communication, and family and consumer sciences and human sciences) added starting in 2007. Therefore, the S&E numbers in this table differ from the data used in National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering (annual series), and elsewhere. Percentages may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Source(s)

National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, special tabulations (2016), 2015 Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering.

Science and Engineering Indicators 2018