

TABLE 7. Doctoral scientists and engineers employed in postdocs, by field of doctorate: 2003

Field	Number	Percent
Total in postdoc ^a	19,780	100.0
Science	17,970	90.8
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	11,420	57.7
Agricultural/food sciences	500	2.5
Biochemistry/biophysics	1,880	9.5
Cell/molecular biology	2,330	11.8
Environmental life sciences	170	0.9
Microbiology	980	5.0
Zoology	480	2.4
Other biological sciences	5,070	25.6
Computer and information sciences	120	0.6
Mathematics and statistics	500	2.5
Physical sciences	3,460	17.5
Astronomy/astrophysics	330	1.7
Chemistry, except biochemistry	1,360	6.9
Earth/atmospheric/ocean sciences	590	3.0
Physics	1,170	5.9
Psychology	1,780	9.0
Social sciences	690	3.5
Economics	160	0.8
Political sciences	120	0.6
Sociology	S	S
Other social sciences	390	2.0
Engineering	1,330	6.7
Aerospace/aeronautical/astronautical engineering	70	0.4
Chemical engineering	220	1.1
Civil engineering	130	0.7
Electrical/computer engineering	210	1.1
Materials/metallurgical engineering	120	0.6
Mechanical engineering	190	1.0
Other engineering	380	1.9
Health	480	2.4

S = suppressed due to too few cases (fewer than 50 weighted cases).

^a Postdoc is a temporary position awarded in academe, industry, or government primarily for gaining additional education and training in research.

NOTES: Numbers are rounded to nearest 10. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation/Division of Science Resources Statistics, 2003 Survey of Doctorate Recipients.