TABLE 32. Postdoctoral appointees in science, engineering, and health in all institutions, by detailed field: 2004–10

Field	2004	2005	2006	2007old[a]	2007new[a]	2008	2009	2010[b]
All surveyed fields	47,240	48,555	49,343	50,712	50,840	54,164	57,805	63,415
Science and engineering	34,065	34,456	34,887	35,894	36,223	38,203	40,804	44,051
Science	30,116	30,290	30,245	30,986	31,281	32,741	34,388	37,095
Agricultural sciences	959	1,007	927	948	985	1,147	1,083	1,195
Biological sciences	18,716	18,747	18,807	19,218	19,109	19,827	20,159	21,537
Anatomy	477	417	377	364	341	350	371	437
Biochemistry	2,526	2,553	2,416	2,365	2,305	2,314	2,351	2,533
Biology	1,962	2,011	2,319	2,438	2,341	2,506	2,430	2,555
Biometry/epidemiology	238	259	300	337	349	330	395	466
Biophysics	218	191	224	187	186	165	180	240
Botany	571	590	636	612	610	625	640	603
Cell biology	2,333	2,445	2,407	2,387	2,429	2,382	2,638	2,796
Ecology	170	187	192	208	200	221	233	238
Entomology/parasitology	289	281	241	246	246	222	248	233
Genetics	941	1,031	851	934	940	989	1,054	1,389
Microbiology/immunology/virology	2,151	2,258	2,150	2,340	2,258	2,204	2,265	2,374
Nutrition	280	306	259	324	298	243	214	219
Pathology	1,827	1,400	1,587	1,573	1,576	1,791	1,791	1,797
Pharmacology	1,530	1,514	1,436	1,345	1,349	1,411	1,523	1,656
Physiology	1,279	1,296	1,261	1,188	1,319	1,329	1,427	1,448
Zoology	100	134	103	103	101	68	78	76
Biological sciences, nec	1,824	1,874	2,048	2,267	2,261	2,677	2,321	2,477
Communication[a]	ne	ne	ne	ne	30	32	38	60
Computer sciences	384	406	467	516	456	493	594	748
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	1,263	1,364	1,495	1,322	1,250	1,339	1,424	1,760
Atmospheric sciences	128	123	128	117	119	116	124	184
Geosciences	507	521	542	511	515	540	536	601
Oceanography	300	347	346	337	337	330	410	332
Earth/atmospheric/ocean sciences, nec	328	373	479	357	279	353	354	643
Family and consumer sciences/human sciences[a]	ne	ne	ne	ne	8	19	22	30
Mathematical sciences	468	500	579	621	624	723	737	756
Mathematics/applied mathematics	420	443	512	579	571	643	675	680
Statistics	48	57	67	42	53	80	62	76
Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary studies[a]	ne	ne	ne	ne	244	348	459	765
Neuroscience[a]	na	na	na	na	285	343	645	818
Physical sciences	7,059	7,011	6,703	6,760	6,719	6,885	7,447	7,703
Astronomy	367	388	360	400	401	432	507	532
Chemistry	4,338	4,216	4,045	3,997	3,952	3,943	4,219	4,241
Physics	2,138	2,208	2,130	2,203	2,206	2,327	2,517	2,628
Physical sciences, nec	216	199	168	160	160	183	204	302
Psychology	902	884	873	1,106	1,088	1,077	1,219	1,077
Clinical psychology	67	64	62	72	72	65	130	123
Psychology, general	598	579	537	698	686	732	755	634
Psychology, nec	237	241	274	336	330	280	334	320
Social sciences	365	371	394	495	483	508	561	646
Agricultural economics	34	40	36	48	44	45	43	44
Anthropology (cultural/social)	54	65	61	80	80	88	77	83
Economics (except agricultural)	20	13	16	33	37	35	65	47
Geography	31	42	63	40	40	40	58	62
History and philosophy of science	6	9	8	13	9	9	9	13
Linguistics	29	24	25	26	20	21	14	27
Political science	44	42	62	44	44	55	77	85

TABLE 32. Postdoctoral appointees in science, engineering, and health in all institutions, by detailed field: 2004–10

Field	2004	2005	2006	2007old[a]	2007new[a]	2008	2009	2010[b]
Sociology	64	53	37	60	53	42	59	81
Sociology/anthropology	13	10	6	1	1	2	3	0
Social sciences, nec	70	73	80	150	155	171	156	204
Engineering	3,949	4,166	4,642	4,908	4,942	5,462	6,416	6,956
Aerospace engineering	141	153	165	178	178	154	168	191
Agricultural engineering	79	89	116	139	139	135	110	119
Architecture[a]	na	na	na	na	5	11	22	10
Biomedical engineering	425	477	591	640	640	710	960	1,036
Chemical engineering	689	702	735	758	790	880	1,084	1,092
Civil engineering[a]	313	384	458	419	417	465	535	570
Electrical engineering	654	689	721	885	884	987	1,025	1,097
Engineering science	180	168	224	192	183	214	226	243
Industrial engineering	50	51	51	73	71	115	109	163
Mechanical engineering	514	562	644	725	722	784	948	1,009
Metallurgical/materials engineering	567	578	571	555	564	605	758	835
Mining engineering	9	8	11	4	5	5	4	6
Nuclear engineering	67	41	85	77	73	85	90	107
Petroleum engineering	14	13	18	22	22	28	36	46
Engineering, nec	247	251	252	241	249	284	341	432
Health	13,175	14,099	14,456	14,818	14,617	15,961	17,001	19,364
Clinical medicine	11,477	12,323	12,584	12,805	12,472	13,837	14,601	16,610
Anesthesiology	274	301	335	334	334	395	435	477
Cardiology	364	403	420	394	432	515	532	700
Endocrinology	262	270	287	299	313	334	475	457
Gastroenterology	235	230	247	245	245	236	269	320
Hematology	278	235	243	293	293	344	429	352
Neurology[a]	1,445	1,481	1,565	1,614	1,304	1,363	1,418	1,328
Obstetrics/gynecology	358	347	334	182	182	228	279	333
Oncology/cancer research	876	977	1,156	1,432	1,508	1,571	1,681	1,903
Ophthalmology	384	372	340	375	371	466	462	523
Otorhinolaryngology	146	149	155	125	125	137	137	140
Pediatrics	905	980	937	901	901	985	1,003	1,209
Preventive medicine/community health	291	287	276	342	351	379	395	580
Psychiatry	811	855	812	855	791	888	918	1,066
Pulmonary disease	170	154	136	198	198	237	251	287
Radiology	609	630	837	885	841	845	977	1,034
Surgery	1,142	1,189	1,135	1,243	1,209	1,249	1,342	1,257
Clinical medicine, nec	2,927	3,463	3,369	3,088	3,074	3,665	3,598	4,644
Other health	1,698	1,776	1,872	2,013	2,145	2,124	2,400	2,754
Dental sciences	143	169	192	206	272	270	291	358
Nursing	78	58	61	65	65	92	70	55
Pharmaceutical sciences	723	742	718	756	798	809	977	1,102

TABLE 32. Postdoctoral appointees in science, engineering, and health in all institutions, by detailed field: 2004–10

Field	2004	2005	2006	2007old[a]	2007new[a]	2008	2009	2010[b]
Speech pathology/audiology	38	40	52	84	84	59	58	54
Veterinary sciences	383	432	452	420	498	486	470	464
Other health, nec	333	335	397	482	428	408	534	721

na = not applicable; data were not collected at this level of detail. ne = not eligible; data were not collected for this field prior to 2007.

nec = not elsewhere classified.

[a] In 2007, eligible fields were reclassified, newly eligible fields were added, and 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. "Communication" and "family and consumer sciences/human sciences" are newly eligible; data for these two fields are only in 2007new. "Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary studies" is also newly eligible; data may have been reported under other fields before 2007. "Neuroscience" is reported as separate field of science in 2007new; data were reported under health field "neurology" in 2007old and previous years. "Architecture" is reported as separate field of engineering in 2007new; data were reported under "civil engineering" in 2007old and previous years. See appendix A in http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/nsf10307/ for more detail.

[b] In 2010, postdoc section of survey was expanded, and significant effort was made to ensure that appropriate personnel were providing postdoc data (see appendix A for more information). Thus it is unclear how much of increase reported in 2010 represents growth in postdoctoral appointments and how much results from improved data collection. More information on changes in postdoc data will be available in forthcoming InfoBrief at http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/gradpostdoc.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation/National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, NSF-NIH Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering.