

TABLE 32. Postdoctoral appointees in science, engineering, and health in all institutions, by detailed field: 2005–11

Field	2005	2006	2007old ^a	2007new ^a	2008	2009	2010 ^b	2011
All surveyed fields	48,555	49,343	50,712	50,840	54,164	57,805	63,415	62,947
Science and engineering	34,456	34,887	35,894	36,223	38,203	40,804	44,051	44,249
Science	30,290	30,245	30,986	31,281	32,741	34,388	37,095	37,485
Agricultural sciences	1,007	927	948	985	1,147	1,083	1,195	1,257
Biological sciences	18,747	18,807	19,218	19,109	19,827	20,159	21,537	21,342
Anatomy	417	377	364	341	350	371	437	392
Biochemistry	2,553	2,416	2,365	2,305	2,314	2,351	2,533	2,312
Biology	2,011	2,319	2,438	2,341	2,506	2,430	2,555	2,408
Biometry/epidemiology	259	300	337	349	330	395	466	521
Biophysics	191	224	187	186	165	180	240	198
Botany	590	636	612	610	625	640	603	559
Cell biology	2,445	2,407	2,387	2,429	2,382	2,638	2,796	2,678
Ecology	187	192	208	200	221	233	238	200
Entomology/parasitology	281	241	246	246	222	248	233	261
Genetics	1,031	851	934	940	989	1,054	1,389	1,460
Microbiology/immunology/virology	2,258	2,150	2,340	2,258	2,204	2,265	2,374	2,551
Nutrition	306	259	324	298	243	214	219	244
Pathology	1,400	1,587	1,573	1,576	1,791	1,791	1,797	1,747
Pharmacology	1,514	1,436	1,345	1,349	1,411	1,523	1,656	1,628
Physiology	1,296	1,261	1,188	1,319	1,329	1,427	1,448	1,534
Zoology	134	103	103	101	68	78	76	85
Biological sciences, nec	1,874	2,048	2,267	2,261	2,677	2,321	2,477	2,564
Communication ^a	ne	ne	ne	30	32	38	60	65
Computer sciences	406	467	516	456	493	594	748	769
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	1,364	1,495	1,322	1,250	1,339	1,424	1,760	1,771
Atmospheric sciences	123	128	117	119	116	124	184	161
Geosciences	521	542	511	515	540	536	601	583
Oceanography	347	346	337	337	330	410	332	408
Earth/atmospheric/ocean sciences, nec	373	479	357	279	353	354	643	619
Family and consumer sciences/human sciences ^a	ne	ne	ne	8	19	22	30	54
Mathematical sciences	500	579	621	624	723	737	756	805
Mathematics/applied mathematics	443	512	579	571	643	675	680	706
Statistics	57	67	42	53	80	62	76	99
Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary studies ^a	ne	ne	ne	244	348	459	765	697
Neuroscience ^a	na	na	na	285	343	645	818	1,362
Physical sciences	7,011	6,703	6,760	6,719	6,885	7,447	7,703	7,511
Astronomy	388	360	400	401	432	507	532	529
Chemistry	4,216	4,045	3,997	3,952	3,943	4,219	4,241	4,018
Physics	2,208	2,130	2,203	2,206	2,327	2,517	2,628	2,704
Physical sciences, nec	199	168	160	160	183	204	302	260
Psychology	884	873	1,106	1,088	1,077	1,219	1,077	1,079
Clinical psychology	64	62	72	72	65	130	123	93
Psychology, general	579	537	698	686	732	755	634	601
Psychology, nec	241	274	336	330	280	334	320	385
Social sciences	371	394	495	483	508	561	646	773
Agricultural economics	40	36	48	44	45	43	44	47
Anthropology (cultural/social)	65	61	80	80	88	77	83	81
Economics (except agricultural)	13	16	33	37	35	65	47	38
Geography	42	63	40	40	40	58	62	57
History and philosophy of science	9	8	13	9	9	9	13	9
Linguistics	24	25	26	20	21	14	27	31
Political science	42	62	44	44	55	77	85	220
Sociology	53	37	60	53	42	59	81	91

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Sociology/anthropology	10	6	1	1	2	3	0	2
Social sciences, nec	73	80	150	155	171	156	204	197
Engineering	4,166	4,642	4,908	4,942	5,462	6,416	6,956	6,764
Aerospace engineering	153	165	178	178	154	168	191	195
Agricultural engineering	89	116	139	139	135	110	119	129
Architecture ^a	na	na	na	5	11	22	10	17
Biomedical engineering	477	591	640	640	710	960	1,036	1,076
Chemical engineering	702	735	758	790	880	1,084	1,092	1,137
Civil engineering ^a	384	458	419	417	465	535	570	551
Electrical engineering	689	721	885	884	987	1,025	1,097	1,062
Engineering science	168	224	192	183	214	226	243	233
Industrial engineering	51	51	73	71	115	109	163	121
Mechanical engineering	562	644	725	722	784	948	1,009	896
Metallurgical/materials engineering	578	571	555	564	605	758	835	861
Mining engineering	8	11	4	5	5	4	6	4
Nuclear engineering	41	85	77	73	85	90	107	109
Petroleum engineering	13	18	22	22	28	36	46	35
Engineering, nec	251	252	241	249	284	341	432	338
Health	14,099	14,456	14,818	14,617	15,961	17,001	19,364	18,698
Clinical medicine	12,323	12,584	12,805	12,472	13,837	14,601	16,610	16,279
Anesthesiology	301	335	334	334	395	435	477	405
Cardiology	403	420	394	432	515	532	700	702
Endocrinology	270	287	299	313	334	475	457	416
Gastroenterology	230	247	245	245	236	269	320	341
Hematology	235	243	293	293	344	429	352	339
Neurology ^a	1,481	1,565	1,614	1,304	1,363	1,418	1,328	1,044
Obstetrics/gynecology	347	334	182	182	228	279	333	327
Oncology/cancer research	977	1,156	1,432	1,508	1,571	1,681	1,903	1,875
Ophthalmology	372	340	375	371	466	462	523	466
Otorhinolaryngology	149	155	125	125	137	137	140	160
Pediatrics	980	937	901	901	985	1,003	1,209	1,434
Preventive medicine/community health	287	276	342	351	379	395	580	658
Psychiatry	855	812	855	791	888	918	1,066	995
Pulmonary disease	154	136	198	198	237	251	287	301
Radiology	630	837	885	841	845	977	1,034	987
Surgery	1,189	1,135	1,243	1,209	1,249	1,342	1,257	1,259
Clinical medicine, nec	3,463	3,369	3,088	3,074	3,665	3,598	4,644	4,570
Other health	1,776	1,872	2,013	2,145	2,124	2,400	2,754	2,419
Dental sciences	169	192	206	272	270	291	358	377
Nursing	58	61	65	65	92	70	55	78
Pharmaceutical sciences	742	718	756	798	809	977	1,102	1,059

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Speech pathology/audiology	40	52	84	84	59	58	54	47
Veterinary sciences	432	452	420	498	486	470	464	444
Other health, nec	335	397	482	428	408	534	721	414

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. Science fields "communication" and "family and consumer sciences/human sciences" are newly eligible; data for these two fields are only in 2007new. Science field "multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary studies" is also newly eligible; data may have been reported under other fields before 2007. "Neuroscience" is reported as a separate field of science in 2007new; data were reported under health field "neurology" in 2007old and previous years. "Architecture" is reported as a 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, the postdoc section of the survey was expanded, and significant effort was made to ensure that appropriate personnel were providing postdoc data (see appendix A for more information). Thus, for increases in 2010 or 2011 over 2009 and prior-year data, it is unclear how much is from growth in postdoctoral appointment and how much is from improved data collection. More information on changes in postdoc data will be available in forthcoming InfoBrief at <http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/gradpostdoc/>.

NOTES: For graduate students, "field" refers to the field of the reporting unit in which the student is enrolled. For postdocs, "field" refers to the field of the unit that reports postdocs to the GSS.

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