

TABLE 35. Postdoctoral appointees in science, engineering, and health in public institutions, by detailed field: 2005–11

Field	2005	2006	2007old ^a	2007new ^a	2008	2009	2010 ^b	2011
All surveyed fields	27,218	27,719	28,069	28,187	29,686	32,467	35,279	34,455
Science and engineering	20,917	21,355	21,539	21,687	22,866	24,622	26,180	25,741
Science	18,311	18,476	18,538	18,653	19,402	20,533	21,893	21,657
Agricultural sciences	920	857	886	923	1,097	1,033	1,141	1,178
Biological sciences	10,428	10,541	10,677	10,600	10,844	11,270	11,632	11,240
Anatomy	283	257	244	220	231	230	290	286
Biochemistry	1,466	1,468	1,393	1,386	1,310	1,418	1,484	1,316
Biology	998	1,203	1,136	1,119	1,217	1,209	1,276	1,190
Biometry/epidemiology	139	179	184	193	161	197	227	197
Biophysics	44	75	49	49	37	57	41	55
Botany	574	627	601	599	611	625	589	530
Cell biology	1,064	1,061	1,107	1,124	1,151	1,363	1,390	1,277
Ecology	145	145	157	149	158	157	156	118
Entomology/parasitology	268	232	235	235	210	242	223	249
Genetics	373	378	349	346	344	385	442	536
Microbiology/immunology/virology	1,188	1,180	1,179	1,143	1,111	1,161	1,284	1,305
Nutrition	253	222	294	268	224	200	193	186
Pathology	601	538	507	498	587	674	708	714
Pharmacology	930	905	874	874	895	988	1,009	1,002
Physiology	793	796	734	792	770	842	830	868
Zoology	132	103	103	101	68	78	76	85
Biological sciences, nec	1,177	1,172	1,531	1,504	1,759	1,444	1,414	1,326
Communication ^a	ne	ne	ne	14	9	11	27	28
Computer sciences	256	290	294	247	266	319	426	410
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	1,045	1,164	993	921	953	1,004	1,326	1,316
Atmospheric sciences	119	124	109	111	105	116	173	135
Geosciences	290	310	300	304	294	271	324	323
Oceanography	280	264	243	243	224	296	267	324
Earth/atmospheric/ocean sciences, nec	356	466	341	263	330	321	562	534
Family and consumer sciences/human sciences ^a	ne	ne	ne	8	19	20	24	41
Mathematical sciences	283	369	423	418	450	446	434	497
Mathematics/applied mathematics	262	329	398	391	410	418	392	441
Statistics	21	40	25	27	40	28	42	56
Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary studies ^a	ne	ne	ne	208	308	393	627	564
Neuroscience ^a	na	na	na	92	97	277	337	621
Physical sciences	4,684	4,502	4,383	4,341	4,453	4,856	4,998	4,827
Astronomy	217	220	241	241	243	289	287	282
Chemistry	2,828	2,725	2,608	2,563	2,552	2,802	2,743	2,597
Physics	1,491	1,433	1,412	1,415	1,519	1,622	1,787	1,775
Physical sciences, nec	148	124	122	122	139	143	181	173
Psychology	474	513	583	582	586	584	567	569
Clinical psychology	46	35	46	46	42	52	52	58
Psychology, general	291	328	338	331	376	333	320	276
Psychology, nec	137	150	199	205	168	199	195	235
Social sciences	221	240	299	299	320	320	354	366
Agricultural economics	39	32	46	42	44	41	41	42
Anthropology (cultural/social)	39	40	53	53	63	57	56	44
Economics (except agricultural)	6	8	19	23	22	22	18	13
Geography	37	51	34	34	36	50	53	50
History and philosophy of science	5	2	3	3	2	3	4	2
Linguistics	7	7	12	12	13	8	13	16
Political science	20	26	22	22	23	31	29	64
Sociology	27	23	18	18	13	26	45	44
Sociology/anthropology	2	5	0	0	1	0	0	2
Social sciences, nec	39	46	92	92	103	82	95	89

TABLE 35. Postdoctoral appointees in science, engineering, and health in public institutions, by detailed field: 2005–11

Field	2005	2006	2007old ^a	2007new ^a	2008	2009	2010 ^b	2011
Engineering	2,606	2,879	3,001	3,034	3,464	4,089	4,287	4,084
Aerospace engineering	102	117	111	111	96	114	118	127
Agricultural engineering	80	108	128	128	128	110	110	101
Architecture ^a	na	na	na	2	7	18	7	14
Biomedical engineering	231	260	273	273	306	438	475	504
Chemical engineering	479	498	502	534	602	744	719	749
Civil engineering ^a	241	319	278	279	322	382	391	368
Electrical engineering	459	490	570	569	692	708	727	675
Engineering science	22	51	31	22	69	74	61	48
Industrial engineering	41	43	50	45	90	83	113	73
Mechanical engineering	350	386	466	463	493	586	617	537
Metallurgical/materials engineering	402	386	359	368	394	500	567	603
Mining engineering	8	11	4	5	5	4	6	4
Nuclear engineering	32	45	47	43	51	60	66	58
Petroleum engineering	7	12	13	13	15	23	27	17
Engineering, nec	152	153	169	179	194	245	283	206
Health	6,301	6,364	6,530	6,500	6,820	7,845	9,099	8,714
Clinical medicine	4,757	4,795	4,873	4,746	5,041	5,812	6,751	6,687
Anesthesiology	112	110	143	143	139	161	150	165
Cardiology	132	132	118	118	171	185	311	318
Endocrinology	131	157	136	136	145	163	160	152
Gastroenterology	98	119	73	73	90	116	150	160
Hematology	165	177	150	150	192	241	173	157
Neurology ^a	521	509	490	387	393	514	467	375
Obstetrics/gynecology	91	113	97	97	114	142	163	162
Oncology/cancer research	605	558	657	670	590	691	851	809
Ophthalmology	114	124	116	112	162	175	186	186
Otorhinolaryngology	61	77	65	65	70	69	75	66
Pediatrics	414	399	429	429	427	441	505	744
Preventive medicine/community health	169	180	216	219	239	264	414	389
Psychiatry	341	346	333	307	329	386	441	444
Pulmonary disease	74	85	104	104	113	110	148	159
Radiology	152	181	208	208	220	299	313	331
Surgery	437	465	448	435	473	554	612	517
Clinical medicine, nec	1,140	1,063	1,090	1,093	1,174	1,301	1,632	1,553
Other health	1,544	1,569	1,657	1,754	1,779	2,033	2,348	2,027
Dental sciences	142	149	153	187	179	189	261	253
Nursing	45	45	52	52	66	50	47	63
Pharmaceutical sciences	722	713	731	773	779	931	1,062	1,014
Speech pathology/audiology	32	45	53	53	44	41	39	33
Veterinary sciences	370	368	319	379	414	427	399	384
Other health, nec	233	249	349	310	297	395	540	280

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.