

Appendix table 5-28

Estimates of academic S&E doctoral researchers and graduate research assistants, by degree field: 1975–2001

(Thousands)

Field	1975	1977	1979	1981	1983	1985	1987	1989	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001
All doctoral researchers and graduate research assistants														
All fields	130.6	128.7	139.0	153.4	159.6	176.2	214.2	230.7	241.8	240.3	243.4	252.7	259.4	272.3
Physical sciences	23.3	23.1	23.2	24.9	25.2	28.0	31.9	33.2	33.0	32.3	32.4	33.1	32.9	32.8
Mathematics	8.1	7.6	7.7	7.6	8.0	8.6	10.8	11.5	12.1	10.9	10.9	11.5	11.2	11.2
Computer sciences.....	0.7	0.7	0.9	1.4	1.8	2.7	3.8	4.6	5.3	5.8	6.3	6.4	7.5	6.7
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	5.6	6.1	6.3	6.7	6.8	7.4	8.2	9.1	9.5	9.7	9.8	9.9	10.0	12.8
Life sciences	40.3	41.8	47.5	53.4	54.8	59.3	69.0	75.0	79.1	79.8	83.1	86.5	89.8	94.0
Psychology	10.7	10.0	10.8	12.8	13.5	13.8	17.5	18.1	19.9	19.5	20.2	20.9	22.0	23.1
Social sciences	21.7	18.7	19.9	22.8	22.8	26.0	34.0	36.7	37.9	36.7	35.3	36.5	38.1	39.2
Engineering.....	20.0	20.7	22.6	23.9	26.7	30.4	39.0	42.2	45.0	45.4	45.5	47.8	48.1	52.4
Doctoral researchers														
All fields	90.6	85.0	90.0	100.7	104.7	115.2	144.0	151.6	156.6	150.1	153.5	164.7	168.1	172.5
Physical sciences.....	16.9	16.3	15.4	16.3	16.1	17.7	20.3	20.8	20.8	20.0	20.6	21.8	21.6	21.0
Mathematics.....	7.5	6.8	6.9	6.8	7.2	7.6	9.7	10.2	10.7	9.5	9.4	10.1	9.9	9.8
Computer sciences.....	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.6	1.0	1.3	1.7	2.0	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.6
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	2.8	2.9	2.7	3.2	3.3	3.7	4.6	4.9	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.6	5.7	6.3
Life sciences.....	29.0	28.7	32.1	37.1	38.3	41.4	48.8	51.8	53.3	51.8	53.8	57.9	60.8	63.1
Psychology.....	8.5	7.7	8.3	9.9	10.5	10.7	14.3	14.3	15.7	14.9	15.6	16.1	17.2	18.2
Social sciences	16.9	13.8	14.7	17.6	17.8	20.9	28.5	30.5	31.1	29.3	28.1	29.8	30.9	31.4
Engineering.....	9.0	8.9	9.8	9.5	11.2	12.5	16.8	17.6	18.2	17.5	18.5	20.9	19.4	20.2
Graduate research assistants														
All fields	40.0	43.7	49.0	52.7	54.9	61.0	70.2	79.1	85.2	90.2	89.9	88.0	91.3	99.7
Physical sciences.....	6.4	6.8	7.8	8.6	9.1	10.3	11.6	12.4	12.2	12.3	11.8	11.3	11.3	11.8
Mathematics.....	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.4
Computer sciences.....	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.1	1.4	2.1	2.8	3.3	3.6	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.9	4.2
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	2.8	3.2	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.6	4.2	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.3	4.3	6.5
Life sciences.....	11.3	13.1	15.4	16.3	16.5	17.9	20.2	23.2	25.8	28.0	29.3	28.6	29.0	31.0
Psychology.....	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.8	4.2	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.8	4.9
Social sciences	4.8	4.9	5.2	5.2	5.0	5.1	5.5	6.2	6.8	7.4	7.2	6.7	7.2	7.8
Engineering.....	11.0	11.8	12.8	14.4	15.5	17.9	22.2	24.6	26.8	27.9	27.0	26.9	28.7	32.2

NOTES: Academic doctoral researchers are those reporting research as their primary or secondary work activity. Graduate research assistants are full-time graduate students with research assistantships as their primary mechanism of support. Details may not add to totals because of rounding.

SOURCES: National Science Foundation, Division of Science Resources Statistics (NSF/SRS), Survey of Doctorate Recipients; and NSF/SRS, Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering, unpublished tabulations.