

Appendix table 2-7
Freshmen intending to major in selected S&E fields, by sex and race/ethnicity: Selected years, 1971–2002
 (Percent)

Sex, race/ethnicity, and field	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1977	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	
Male	65.7	66.6	65.2	65.8	65.1	65.3	62.8	63.1	63.1	62.5	62.5	61.7	61.4	60.3	59.2	56.6	57.3	57.1	57.9	57.1	56.1	55.0	54.5	55.6	55.6	55.3	56.2	55.9	55.8	55.5	
Female	34.3	33.4	34.8	34.2	34.9	34.7	37.2	36.9	36.9	37.5	37.5	38.3	38.6	39.7	40.8	43.4	42.7	42.9	42.1	42.9	43.9	45.0	45.5	44.4	44.4	44.7	43.8	44.1	44.2	44.4	
White.....	92.1	90.6	91.0	90.5	89.4	87.9	86.5	86.2	87.5	85.3	85.4	85.7	83.7	84.0	83.1	80.0	81.8	78.8	76.9	78.8	79.1	76.3	76.2	75.4	76.3	75.9	74.4	72.4	71.2	72.1	
Physical sciences ^a	94.9	94.1	93.2	92.4	92.5	91.9	91.2	90.5	91.7	89.3	90.5	90.2	86.3	88.5	88.3	88.1	87.6	87.6	85.0	86.5	85.7	82.4	84.7	83.7	84.6	83.8	84.9	82.5	80.8	80.6	
Biological/agricultural sciences.....	94.3	93.6	92.3	92.0	91.2	90.7	90.0	89.9	89.5	87.6	86.3	85.6	84.2	84.2	82.9	80.3	81.9	79.1	77.5	79.0	79.4	77.3	76.6	76.4	77.0	76.3	75.3	71.5	68.9	68.3	
Social/behavioral sciences.....	89.2	87.9	88.5	87.8	85.2	84.3	84.4	84.7	87.7	85.5	86.4	87.0	88.2	85.6	85.6	80.3	83.5	79.6	79.0	80.8	81.3	78.4	78.6	78.6	78.5	76.5	76.9	74.3	71.9	73.0	
Mathematics/statistics.....	93.9	92.2	91.5	92.0	92.1	92.1	90.1	89.9	90.1	87.7	90.8	91.6	89.7	89.1	89.1	86.2	89.8	86.6	84.7	84.9	86.9	82.2	83.5	83.6	82.9	83.6	82.7	82.8	81.4	80.0	
Computer sciences.....	88.0	81.4	86.1	86.0	84.1	83.1	79.8	81.3	83.4	81.7	79.0	76.3	71.2	73.9	73.4	68.7	68.5	62.9	61.3	66.4	66.3	67.3	65.2	65.2	68.0	66.1	63.7	64.0	62.6	68.8	
Engineering.....	93.2	91.1	92.2	91.5	90.7	87.9	86.6	86.1	87.5	85.7	87.2	87.7	83.3	84.0	81.5	80.1	81.1	79.2	76.1	77.1	77.2	73.8	74.3	73.1	75.2	78.0	74.5	73.3	74.1	72.6	
Asian American.....	0.9	1.2	1.2	1.5	1.8	1.8	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.4	2.7	2.6	4.2	4.6	4.7	5.1	4.7	5.2	5.9	5.8	5.7	8.0	7.2	7.9	8.1	7.9	9.4	9.7	9.6	10.2	
Physical sciences ^a	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.9	1.9	2.2	2.3	2.1	2.2	3.1	3.2	3.5	5.4	5.0	4.5	5.1	4.0	4.7	5.2	5.1	4.6	7.0	5.5	5.6	5.4	6.4	6.2	6.5	6.9	7.3	
Biological/agricultural sciences.....	0.5	1.0	1.5	1.6	2.1	1.8	1.8	2.1	2.1	2.7	3.7	3.3	5.6	6.3	6.9	7.7	6.2	6.9	8.2	7.7	7.4	9.6	8.5	8.2	8.3	8.7	9.4	10.8	10.9	12.7	
Social/behavioral sciences.....	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.5	1.5	1.4	2.4	2.3	2.5	3.1	3.0	3.5	3.8	3.7	4.0	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.8	4.4	5.0	5.6	5.8	6.4	
Mathematics/statistics.....	0.8	1.2	1.2	1.7	2.1	1.6	2.6	1.3	1.8	1.6	2.6	1.8	2.8	3.7	3.1	3.7	3.3	3.7	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.8	4.5	5.3	5.1	4.7	6.3	6.9	8.0	8.3	
Computer sciences.....	0.9	2.9	1.5	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.0	2.0	1.5	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9	4.0	4.5	4.7	3.4	4.7	6.2	4.7	5.5	10.0	9.3	11.4	11.4	11.0	16.1	14.8	14.4	11.8	
Engineering.....	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.7	2.1	2.4	3.1	2.9	2.6	3.0	3.4	3.5	5.7	5.8	6.0	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.7	6.9	6.3	10.5	8.9	10.2	10.3	9.8	10.8	11.1	10.9	12.8	
Black.....	6.2	6.9	6.6	6.3	7.3	7.9	8.8	9.5	8.6	10.4	10.0	9.7	10.0	8.8	9.6	11.7	10.5	12.1	13.1	11.3	11.4	11.1	11.6	11.7	11.4	11.6	10.4	11.5	11.0	10.7	
Physical sciences ^a	3.4	3.9	4.5	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.9	5.7	4.7	6.2	5.2	4.8	6.9	4.8	5.3	5.0	6.1	4.9	7.0	5.9	7.2	7.8	7.2	7.8	6.5	6.5	6.3	7.4	6.6	6.5	
Biological/agricultural sciences.....	4.2	4.5	4.8	4.7	5.1	5.6	5.7	6.1	6.1	7.8	7.7	8.9	7.8	6.4	7.3	8.6	9.0	10.0	10.0	9.1	9.3	9.0	10.6	10.7	10.5	10.2	9.6	11.3	11.4	11.3	
Social/behavioral sciences.....	9.2	9.9	9.5	9.3	11.7	11.7	11.7	11.4	9.4	10.5	10.2	10.0	7.7	9.2	9.2	13.5	10.3	12.8	13.0	10.9	10.3	11.6	11.4	12.0	12.2	13.8	11.9	12.1	13.3	12.1	
Mathematics/statistics.....	4.8	5.6	6.5	5.2	4.6	5.3	6.2	7.7	7.3	8.9	5.1	5.9	6.2	6.0	6.6	8.4	5.3	7.0	8.7	8.2	7.3	10.3	10.0	8.8	10.0	7.6	8.5	6.6	5.5	6.7	
Computer sciences.....	10.0	14.6	11.3	10.2	12.6	11.1	15.7	15.0	13.5	14.9	17.3	18.9	24.9	19.7	19.3	23.1	25.1	28.6	27.5	23.2	24.1	18.9	20.8	18.4	17.0	18.9	15.3	15.6	15.7	14.4	
Engineering.....	4.5	5.4	4.9	5.2	5.9	7.3	7.7	8.7	7.6	9.4	7.6	7.0	8.5	7.4	9.8	10.1	9.4	10.5	13.4	12.2	12.7	11.0	10.9	10.7	10.3	7.6	7.9	9.7	6.9	8.7	
Hispanic ^b	0.5	1.0	0.8	1.2	1.4	1.7	1.8	1.5	1.2	1.8	1.3	1.2	1.5	2.0	1.9	2.3	2.1	2.5	2.6	4.1	3.9	4.9	5.1	5.5	5.0	5.5	6.4	7.1	7.6	6.9	
Physical sciences ^a	0.3	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.2	0.7	1.5	1.1	1.1	1.3	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.8	1.7	2.0	1.8	2.7	2.6	3.7	2.8	3.1	3.6	3.7	3.8	5.3	5.1	5.3	
Biological/agricultural sciences.....	0.5	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.9	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.2	1.7	2.4	2.1	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.6	3.9	3.6	4.2	4.6	4.4	5.0	5.5	6.1	7.4	7.6	7.0	
Social/behavioral sciences.....	0.8	1.4	1.0	1.5	1.8	2.5	2.2	1.7	1.3	2.1	1.4	1.1	1.7	2.3	2.1	2.7	2.4	2.9	2.8	4.8	5.0	5.8	5.9	6.4	6.1	6.4	7.5	9.1	9.2	8.7	
Mathematics/statistics.....	0.4	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.4	1.4	0.9	1.3	0.4	1.6	1.1	0.6	0.7	1.3	1.0	1.4	1.5	2.0	1.1	3.0	1.9	3.5	2.6	3.5	3.3	4.4	5.2	4.7	6.4	6.1	
Computer sciences.....	0.8	1.4	0.8	1.1	1.2	2.5	2.2	1.1	1.2	1.7	1.0	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.8	2.2	1.9	2.0	3.3	4.1	3.6	4.4	4.5	5.0	4.1	4.8	4.9	5.9	6.1	5.2	
Engineering.....	0.5	1.1	0.9	1.2	1.0	1.5	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.7	1.3	1.1	1.5	2.1	1.9	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.5	3.9	3.7	5.3	5.9	5.8	4.9	5.6	7.0	6.1	7.1	5.8	
American Indian.....	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.7	2.0	2.1	2.3	3.1	2.1	2.3	1.9	1.3	1.2	
Physical sciences ^a	0.8	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.6	1.3	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.2	0.5	0.8	1.0	1.1	0.8	0.9	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.1	2.0	2.1	2.9	3.5	2.3	3.3	2.5	1.2	1.1	
Biological/agricultural sciences.....	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.5	1.1	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.8	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.2	2.3	3.1	2.1	2.5	1.8	1.4	1.3		
Social/behavioral sciences.....	1.0	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.1	0.9	1.2	1.0	0.9	1.2	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.4	2.4	2.6	3.7	2.6	2.6	2.4	1.6	1.5
Mathematics/statistics.....	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.2	0.8	0.3	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.7	1.1	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	1.0	1.6	1.9	1.1	1.7	2.1	1.3	2.4	0.9	1.1	1.0	
Computer sciences.....	1.4	0.8	1.5	0.4	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.4	1.1	1.3	0.7	1.1	0.9	0.9	1.3	2.1	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.4	3.7	2.1	1.9	1.4	1.1	1.1	
Engineering.....	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.9	1.0	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.8	2.0	2.3	1.6	2.0	1.7	1.0	1.0	

Appendix table 2-7

Freshmen intending to major in selected S&E fields, by sex and race/ethnicity: Selected years, 1971–2002

(Percent)

Sex, race/ethnicity, and field	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1977	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Unknown	0.9	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.6	1.7	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.9	2.2	1.9	2.3	2.6	1.9	1.9	2.2	2.5	3.0	3.3	3.0	3.9	3.8	3.3	3.2
Physical sciences ^a	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.5	1.8	1.5	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.8	1.4	1.8	2.1	2.1	1.8	1.7	1.7	2.5	3.4	3.4	3.1	4.0	3.2	3.2	2.9
Biological/agricultural sciences.....	0.9	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.9	1.6	2.3	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7	2.0	2.1	2.4	1.9	2.3	2.9	2.2	2.0	2.4	2.9	3.2	3.7	3.3	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.7
Social/behavioral sciences.....	1.0	1.5	1.2	1.6	1.6	1.7	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.6	1.4	1.5	2.1	2.0	2.1	1.9	2.4	3.1	2.1	2.1	2.4	2.5	2.6	3.2	3.4	4.0	4.2	3.5	3.6
Mathematics/statistics.....	0.8	0.9	0.7	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.2	1.3	0.8	1.3	1.0	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.5	2.2	1.2	2.1	1.7	1.3	2.5	2.5	2.3	3.6	3.5	1.7	2.5
Computer sciences.....	0.5	1.0	0.4	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.0	1.5	2.2	2.1	1.6	2.1	2.3	2.5	1.6	2.0	2.2	2.8	2.9	2.6	4.0	4.1	3.4	2.8
Engineering.....	0.8	1.6	1.2	1.6	1.5	1.7	2.2	2.0	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.9	1.8	1.8	2.3	2.0	2.3	2.3	1.5	1.6	2.0	2.5	3.2	3.2	2.6	3.6	3.3	2.9	2.6

^aPhysical sciences include physics, chemistry, astronomy, and earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences.^bHispanic includes three group designations from the freshman norms survey: Mexican American/Chicano, Puerto Rican American, and other Latino.

NOTE: Details may not add to 100 because students may check more than one race/ethnicity, e.g., white and Hispanic.

SOURCE: Higher Education Research Institute, University of California at Los Angeles, Survey of the American Freshman: National Norms, special tabulations, 2003.