

**Freshmen intending to major in selected S&E fields, by sex and race/ethnicity: Selected years, 1985–2006**

(Percent)

Sex, race/ethnicity, and field	1985	1987	1989	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Male .....	61.4	59.2	57.3	57.9	56.1	54.5	55.6	56.2	55.9	55.8	55.5	54.8	55.0	53.5	53.2
Female .....	38.6	40.8	42.7	42.1	43.9	45.5	44.4	43.8	44.1	44.2	44.4	45.2	45.0	46.5	46.8
White.....	83.7	83.1	81.8	76.9	79.1	76.2	76.3	74.4	72.4	71.2	72.1	71.6	72.1	70.6	72.0
Physical sciences .....	86.3	88.3	87.6	85.0	85.7	84.7	84.6	84.9	82.5	80.8	80.6	78.6	79.7	78.8	79.0
Biological/agricultural sciences.....	84.2	82.9	81.9	77.5	79.4	76.6	77.0	75.3	71.5	68.9	68.3	65.1	65.1	64.5	65.8
Mathematics/statistics.....	89.7	89.1	89.8	84.7	86.9	83.5	82.9	82.7	82.8	81.4	80.0	78.6	80.8	79.2	78.5
Computer sciences.....	71.2	73.4	68.5	61.3	66.3	65.2	68.0	63.7	64.0	62.6	68.8	71.7	71.6	69.9	74.7
Social/behavioral sciences.....	88.2	85.6	83.5	79.0	81.3	78.6	78.5	76.9	74.3	71.9	73.0	73.2	74.1	72.3	72.3
Engineering .....	83.3	81.5	81.1	76.1	77.2	74.3	75.2	74.5	73.3	74.1	72.6	72.8	73.6	71.3	74.8
Asian American.....	4.2	4.7	4.7	5.9	5.7	7.2	8.1	9.4	9.7	9.6	10.2	11.6	11.9	11.8	12.0
Physical sciences .....	5.4	4.5	4.0	5.2	4.6	5.5	5.4	6.2	6.5	6.9	7.3	9.5	9.2	9.4	10.5
Biological/agricultural sciences.....	5.6	6.9	6.2	8.2	7.4	8.5	8.3	9.4	10.8	10.9	12.7	16.4	16.8	16.7	17.0
Mathematics/statistics.....	2.8	3.1	3.3	4.3	4.2	4.5	5.1	6.3	6.9	8.0	8.3	10.3	9.0	9.5	11.4
Computer sciences.....	1.9	4.5	3.4	6.2	5.5	9.3	11.4	16.1	14.8	14.4	11.8	10.6	9.2	9.1	8.6
Social/behavioral sciences.....	2.4	2.5	3.0	3.8	4.0	4.3	4.8	5.0	5.6	5.8	6.4	7.2	7.8	7.4	8.5
Engineering .....	5.7	6.0	6.4	6.7	6.3	8.9	10.3	10.8	11.1	10.9	12.8	13.3	13.4	13.8	12.6
Black.....	10.0	9.6	10.5	13.1	11.4	11.6	11.4	10.4	11.5	11.0	10.7	9.8	10.1	11.6	11.0
Physical sciences .....	6.9	5.3	6.1	7.0	7.2	7.2	6.5	6.3	7.4	6.6	6.5	7.0	7.8	8.6	7.6
Biological/agricultural sciences.....	7.8	7.3	9.0	10.0	9.3	10.6	10.5	9.6	11.3	11.4	11.3	10.9	11.3	12.2	11.2
Mathematics/statistics.....	6.2	6.6	5.3	8.7	7.3	10.0	10.0	8.5	6.6	5.5	6.7	5.6	5.3	6.5	6.8
Computer sciences.....	24.9	19.3	25.1	27.5	24.1	20.8	17.0	15.3	15.6	15.7	14.4	12.7	15.1	17.4	14.0
Social/behavioral sciences.....	7.7	9.2	10.3	13.0	10.3	11.4	12.2	11.9	12.1	13.3	12.1	11.3	11.4	13.3	12.7
Engineering .....	8.5	9.8	9.4	13.4	12.7	10.9	10.3	7.9	9.7	6.9	8.7	7.5	7.6	9.0	9.3
Hispanic .....	1.5	1.9	2.1	2.6	3.9	5.1	5.0	6.4	7.1	7.6	6.9	7.4	8.1	8.8	9.1
Physical sciences .....	1.1	1.3	1.7	1.8	2.6	2.8	3.6	3.8	5.3	5.1	5.3	5.3	5.5	5.4	6.5
Biological/agricultural sciences.....	1.7	2.1	2.1	2.6	3.6	4.6	5.0	6.1	7.4	7.6	7.0	7.3	8.1	8.0	9.2
Mathematics/statistics.....	0.7	1.0	1.5	1.1	1.9	2.6	3.3	5.2	4.7	6.4	6.1	6.7	6.9	7.3	7.8
Computer sciences.....	1.4	1.8	1.9	3.3	3.6	4.5	4.1	4.9	5.9	6.1	5.2	6.0	7.0	6.2	6.5
Social/behavioral sciences.....	1.7	2.1	2.4	2.8	5.0	5.9	6.1	7.5	9.1	9.2	8.7	9.0	9.5	10.8	11.6
Engineering .....	1.5	1.9	2.2	2.5	3.7	5.9	4.9	7.0	6.1	7.1	5.8	6.7	7.6	8.4	7.0
American Indian.....	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.6	1.7	2.1	3.1	2.3	1.9	1.3	1.2	1.3	2.0	1.8	2.4
Physical sciences .....	0.8	1.1	0.9	1.6	1.1	2.1	3.5	3.3	2.5	1.2	1.1	1.1	2.0	1.8	2.6
Biological/agricultural sciences.....	1.1	1.1	0.8	1.7	1.8	2.2	3.1	2.5	1.8	1.4	1.3	1.5	2.0	1.8	2.5
Mathematics/statistics.....	0.5	1.1	0.6	0.6	1.6	1.1	2.1	2.4	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.1
Computer sciences.....	1.3	1.1	0.9	2.1	1.9	2.2	3.7	1.9	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.1	2.2	1.8	2.4
Social/behavioral sciences.....	1.2	0.9	1.2	1.7	2.1	2.4	3.7	2.6	2.4	1.6	1.5	1.7	2.4	2.1	2.6
Engineering .....	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.5	1.5	1.8	2.3	2.0	1.7	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.6	1.4	2.1

Appendix table 2-16

**Freshmen intending to major in selected S&E fields, by sex and race/ethnicity: Selected years, 1985–2006**

(Percent)

Sex, race/ethnicity, and field	1985	1987	1989	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Unknown .....	1.6	1.9	1.9	2.6	1.9	2.5	3.3	3.9	3.8	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.1	4.0
Physical sciences .....	1.4	1.8	1.8	2.1	1.7	2.5	3.4	4.0	3.2	3.2	2.9	3.1	3.3	2.8	3.8
Biological/agricultural sciences.....	1.7	2.1	1.9	2.9	2.0	2.9	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.7	4.2	4.0	3.8	4.6
Mathematics/statistics.....	0.8	1.3	1.3	2.2	2.1	1.3	2.5	3.6	3.5	1.7	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.3
Computer sciences.....	1.0	2.2	1.6	2.3	1.6	2.2	2.9	4.0	4.1	3.4	2.8	2.0	2.4	2.5	2.9
Social/behavioral sciences.....	1.5	2.0	1.9	3.1	2.1	2.5	3.2	4.0	4.2	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.5	4.5
Engineering .....	1.9	1.8	2.0	2.3	1.6	2.5	3.2	3.6	3.3	2.9	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.4	3.1

NOTES: Physical sciences include physics; chemistry; astronomy; and earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences. Hispanic includes three group designations from freshman norms survey: Mexican American/Chicano, Puerto Rican American, and other Latino. Detail may not add to total 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 (2007).

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