

Appendix table 5-33
Estimates of academic S&E doctoral researchers and graduate research assistants, by degree field: 1973–2003
 (Thousands)

Field	1973	1975	1977	1979	1981	1983	1985	1987	1989	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003
All doctoral researchers and graduate research assistants																
All fields	118.2	130.6	128.7	139.0	153.4	159.6	176.2	214.2	230.6	241.8	240.3	243.4	252.7	259.4	272.4	293.1
Physical sciences	22.6	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	35.4
Mathematics	7.5	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	11.5
Computer sciences.....	NA	NA	NA	0.9	1.4	1.8	2.7	3.8	4.6	5.3	5.8	6.3	6.4	7.5	9.0	11.4
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences.....	5.0	5.6	6.1	6.3	6.7	6.8	7.4	8.2	9.1	9.5	9.7	9.8	9.9	9.9	10.5	11.1
Life sciences	35.4	40.3	41.7	47.5	53.4	54.8	59.3	69.0	74.9	79.1	79.8	83.0	86.5	89.7	94.2	100.7
Psychology.....	9.2	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	23.2	24.5
Social sciences.....	18.3	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	40.3
Engineering.....	19.4	20.0	20.5	22.7	23.9	26.8	30.4	39.0	42.2	45.0	45.5	45.6	47.8	48.1	52.4	58.2
Doctoral researchers																
All fields	82.3	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	178.7
Physical sciences.....	16.3	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	22.0
Mathematics	6.8	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	9.7
Computer sciences.....	NA	NA	NA	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.6	1.0	1.3	1.7	2.0	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.6	3.9
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences.....	2.5	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	6.5
Life sciences	26.0	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	65.1
Psychology.....	7.3	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	18.9
Social sciences	14.3	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	31.9
Engineering.....	9.0	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	20.7
Graduate research assistants																
All fields	35.9	40.0	43.7	49.0	52.7	54.9	61.0	70.2	79.0	85.2	90.2	89.9	88.0	91.3	99.9	114.3
Physical sciences.....	6.3	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	13.5
Mathematics	0.7	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	1.8
Computer sciences.....	0.7	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	6.4	7.5
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences.....	2.6	2.8	3.2	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.6	4.2	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.6
Life sciences	9.4	11.3	13.0	15.4	16.3	16.5	17.9	20.2	23.1	25.8	28.0	29.2	28.6	28.9	31.1	35.5
Psychology.....	1.9	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	5.0	5.6
Social sciences	4.0	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	8.4
Engineering.....	10.4	11.0	11.6	12.9	14.4	15.6	17.9	22.2	24.6	26.8	28.0	27.1	26.9	28.7	32.2	37.4

NOTES: Academic doctoral researchers are those reporting basic or applied research, development, or design as primary or secondary work activity. Graduate research assistants are full-time graduate students with research assistantships as primary mechanism of support. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

SOURCES: National Science Foundation, Division of Science Resources Statistics, Survey of Doctorate Recipients, special tabulations; and Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering, special tabulations.

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