

Appendix table 5-22

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**Age distribution of S&E doctorate holders employed in academia, by type of position: 1973–2006**

| Position                 | Age (years) |        | Age distribution (%) |      |       |       |       |     |
|--------------------------|-------------|--------|----------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
|                          | Mean        | Median | All ages             | <35  | 35–44 | 45–54 | 55–64 | ≥65 |
| <b>All positions</b>     |             |        |                      |      |       |       |       |     |
| 1973 .....               | 42.0        | 40.0   | 100.0                | 28.3 | 35.2  | 23.3  | 10.9  | 2.2 |
| 1975 .....               | 42.4        | 39.9   | 100.0                | 25.9 | 36.8  | 23.7  | 11.7  | 2.0 |
| 1977 .....               | 42.7        | 40.0   | 100.0                | 22.9 | 38.9  | 23.8  | 12.4  | 2.0 |
| 1979 .....               | 43.3        | 40.7   | 100.0                | 20.1 | 40.3  | 23.8  | 13.6  | 2.2 |
| 1981 .....               | 44.0        | 41.5   | 100.0                | 18.3 | 40.5  | 23.7  | 14.5  | 2.9 |
| 1983 .....               | 44.8        | 42.5   | 100.0                | 14.9 | 40.8  | 25.2  | 15.7  | 3.4 |
| 1985 .....               | 45.2        | 43.2   | 100.0                | 14.2 | 39.2  | 26.8  | 15.9  | 3.8 |
| 1987 .....               | 45.6        | 44.2   | 100.0                | 12.9 | 36.5  | 30.6  | 16.5  | 3.5 |
| 1989 .....               | 46.1        | 45.0   | 100.0                | 12.1 | 34.7  | 32.2  | 16.9  | 4.1 |
| 1991 .....               | 46.3        | 45.3   | 100.0                | 11.5 | 33.7  | 34.2  | 16.9  | 3.8 |
| 1993 .....               | 45.8        | 45.0   | 100.0                | 13.3 | 33.3  | 34.4  | 16.1  | 3.0 |
| 1995 .....               | 46.2        | 45.3   | 100.0                | 12.7 | 32.9  | 33.6  | 17.4  | 3.5 |
| 1997 .....               | 46.6        | 45.8   | 100.0                | 13.3 | 30.7  | 32.8  | 19.6  | 3.6 |
| 1999 .....               | 47.0        | 46.3   | 100.0                | 12.2 | 30.5  | 31.0  | 22.5  | 3.8 |
| 2001 .....               | 47.4        | 46.9   | 100.0                | 12.0 | 29.1  | 31.8  | 23.1  | 4.0 |
| 2003 .....               | 47.9        | 48.0   | 100.0                | 11.3 | 28.7  | 30.8  | 24.5  | 4.8 |
| 2006 .....               | 48.2        | 48.2   | 100.0                | 13.1 | 28.4  | 28.2  | 24.0  | 6.2 |
| <b>Full-time faculty</b> |             |        |                      |      |       |       |       |     |
| 1973 .....               | 42.4        | 41.0   | 100.0                | 25.6 | 36.6  | 24.6  | 11.3  | 2.0 |
| 1975 .....               | 42.8        | 40.6   | 100.0                | 22.9 | 38.2  | 25.1  | 12.0  | 1.8 |
| 1977 .....               | 43.3        | 40.9   | 100.0                | 19.2 | 40.1  | 25.7  | 13.3  | 1.7 |
| 1979 .....               | 44.0        | 41.6   | 100.0                | 16.2 | 41.1  | 25.9  | 14.7  | 2.0 |
| 1981 .....               | 44.7        | 42.4   | 100.0                | 14.7 | 41.2  | 25.8  | 15.7  | 2.7 |
| 1983 .....               | 45.5        | 43.4   | 100.0                | 11.3 | 41.2  | 27.5  | 17.2  | 2.8 |
| 1985 .....               | 45.8        | 43.9   | 100.0                | 10.8 | 39.6  | 29.0  | 17.0  | 3.5 |
| 1987 .....               | 46.6        | 45.1   | 100.0                | 9.2  | 35.9  | 33.2  | 18.1  | 3.5 |
| 1989 .....               | 47.1        | 46.0   | 100.0                | 8.3  | 33.8  | 35.4  | 18.8  | 3.8 |
| 1991 .....               | 47.0        | 46.4   | 100.0                | 8.8  | 32.7  | 36.8  | 18.3  | 3.4 |
| 1993 .....               | 46.9        | 46.0   | 100.0                | 9.3  | 32.4  | 36.9  | 18.0  | 3.3 |
| 1995 .....               | 47.5        | 46.9   | 100.0                | 8.0  | 31.9  | 36.6  | 19.8  | 3.8 |
| 1997 .....               | 48.0        | 47.5   | 100.0                | 8.2  | 29.9  | 35.6  | 22.2  | 4.0 |
| 1999 .....               | 48.5        | 48.0   | 100.0                | 7.3  | 29.4  | 33.3  | 25.7  | 4.3 |
| 2001 .....               | 48.8        | 48.3   | 100.0                | 7.6  | 28.0  | 34.1  | 25.9  | 4.4 |
| 2003 .....               | 49.1        | 49.0   | 100.0                | 7.6  | 27.2  | 32.3  | 27.4  | 5.5 |
| 2006 .....               | 49.8        | 49.8   | 100.0                | 8.1  | 27.2  | 30.5  | 26.9  | 7.3 |
| <b>Postdocs</b>          |             |        |                      |      |       |       |       |     |
| 1973 .....               | 32.1        | 31.0   | 100.0                | 81.2 | 15.2  | 3.0   | 0.6   | 0.0 |
| 1975 .....               | 32.7        | 31.2   | 100.0                | 78.0 | 18.7  | 2.0   | 1.1   | 0.2 |
| 1977 .....               | 32.9        | 31.1   | 100.0                | 75.3 | 21.7  | 2.4   | 0.6   | 0.0 |
| 1979 .....               | 33.1        | 31.6   | 100.0                | 71.7 | 25.5  | 2.1   | 0.7   | 0.0 |
| 1981 .....               | 33.1        | 31.6   | 100.0                | 71.9 | 24.6  | 2.6   | 0.6   | 0.3 |
| 1983 .....               | 33.7        | 31.7   | 100.0                | 68.4 | 27.0  | 3.5   | 1.0   | 0.2 |
| 1985 .....               | 33.3        | 31.9   | 100.0                | 70.6 | 27.2  | 2.1   | 0.1   | 0.0 |
| 1987 .....               | 33.8        | 32.0   | 100.0                | 68.4 | 28.3  | 2.4   | 0.5   | 0.4 |
| 1989 .....               | 34.6        | 32.6   | 100.0                | 63.9 | 29.9  | 4.5   | 1.0   | 0.7 |
| 1991 .....               | 34.7        | 33.1   | 100.0                | 57.2 | 39.0  | 2.8   | 1.0   | 0.0 |
| 1993 .....               | 33.9        | 32.7   | 100.0                | 62.3 | 34.7  | 2.5   | 0.5   | 0.0 |
| 1995 .....               | 35.0        | 33.0   | 100.0                | 56.6 | 35.9  | 5.8   | 1.6   | 0.1 |
| 1997 .....               | 35.0        | 33.0   | 100.0                | 60.7 | 32.3  | 4.6   | 2.1   | 0.3 |
| 1999 .....               | 34.5        | 33.0   | 100.0                | 57.6 | 36.8  | 5.3   | 0.3   | 0.0 |
| 2001 .....               | 34.6        | 33.0   | 100.0                | 59.9 | 34.6  | 4.5   | 0.8   | 0.1 |
| 2003 .....               | 35.2        | 34.0   | 100.0                | 56.2 | 36.2  | 6.9   | 0.7   | 0.0 |
| 2006 .....               | 34.7        | 33.6   | 100.0                | 61.9 | 32.9  | 4.6   | 0.6   | 0.0 |
| <b>Other positions</b>   |             |        |                      |      |       |       |       |     |
| 1973 .....               | 41.9        | 39.0   | 100.0                | 34.6 | 30.3  | 18.7  | 10.9  | 5.4 |
| 1975 .....               | 43.3        | 40.0   | 100.0                | 27.5 | 32.0  | 21.8  | 13.4  | 5.4 |
| 1977 .....               | 42.5        | 38.3   | 100.0                | 28.4 | 37.4  | 17.5  | 10.6  | 6.1 |
| 1979 .....               | 42.5        | 38.6   | 100.0                | 25.2 | 41.6  | 17.0  | 10.9  | 5.2 |

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|------------|-------------|--------|----------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
|            | Mean        | Median | All ages             | <35  | 35–44 | 45–54 | 55–64 | ≥65 |
| 1981 ..... | 43.3        | 39.6   | 100.0                | 21.8 | 43.6  | 17.0  | 11.1  | 6.4 |
| 1983 ..... | 44.1        | 39.9   | 100.0                | 19.3 | 43.6  | 17.5  | 10.6  | 8.9 |
| 1985 ..... | 45.3        | 42.5   | 100.0                | 15.9 | 41.0  | 21.6  | 14.7  | 6.8 |
| 1987 ..... | 43.9        | 41.1   | 100.0                | 16.9 | 43.9  | 23.3  | 10.9  | 5.0 |
| 1989 ..... | 44.9        | 42.2   | 100.0                | 14.2 | 43.3  | 23.5  | 11.2  | 7.8 |
| 1991 ..... | 46.1        | 44.0   | 100.0                | 11.6 | 38.2  | 28.7  | 14.2  | 7.3 |
| 1993 ..... | 44.6        | 43.2   | 100.0                | 14.2 | 37.9  | 33.9  | 11.3  | 2.7 |
| 1995 ..... | 44.8        | 43.5   | 100.0                | 15.0 | 37.0  | 31.7  | 12.4  | 3.8 |
| 1997 ..... | 45.8        | 44.7   | 100.0                | 13.4 | 33.9  | 33.5  | 15.7  | 3.4 |
| 1999 ..... | 46.0        | 45.0   | 100.0                | 13.6 | 33.1  | 32.4  | 17.9  | 3.1 |
| 2001 ..... | 46.8        | 45.6   | 100.0                | 11.5 | 31.8  | 32.6  | 20.2  | 3.9 |
| 2003 ..... | 46.5        | 46.0   | 100.0                | 11.8 | 32.0  | 32.3  | 20.4  | 3.6 |
| 2006 ..... | 48.2        | 48.2   | 100.0                | 9.9  | 31.1  | 30.1  | 23.8  | 5.1 |

NOTES: Academic employment limited to U.S. doctorate holders employed at 2- or 4-year colleges or universities. Full-time faculty includes full, associate, and assistant professors plus instructors. Other positions include full-time nonfaculty appointments such as research associates, adjunct appointments, lecturers, administrative positions, and part-time appointments of all kinds. Part-time employment excludes those employed part time because they are students or retired. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation, Division of Science Resources Statistics, Survey of Doctorate Recipients, special tabulations (preliminary data for 2006).

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