

Number of People Involved in NSF Activities

NSF estimates that in FY 2012 more than 302,600 people will be directly involved in NSF programs and activities, receiving salaries, stipends, or participant support. Also, NSF programs indirectly impact millions of people. These programs reach K-12 students and teachers, the general public, and researchers through activities including workshops; informal science activities such as museums, television, videos, and journals; outreach efforts; and dissemination of improved curriculum and teaching methods.

FY 2012 Request

Number of People Involved in NSF Activities

PEOPLE DATA	FY 2010	FY 2010	FY 2010	FY 2012
	Actual Estimate	ARRA Estimate	Enacted/ Annualized FY 2011 CR Estimate	Estimate
Senior Researchers	53,161	1,726	44,675	54,560
Other Professionals	14,194	301	13,010	14,020
Postdoctoral Associates	6,923	58	6,755	8,510
Graduate Students	39,559	259	41,265	44,160
Undergraduate Students	33,234	300	24,775	32,730
K-12 Teachers	59,312	-	62,807	60,680
K-12 Students	85,319	-	84,758	88,030
TOTAL, PEOPLE	291,702	2,644	278,045	302,690

Senior Researchers include scientists, mathematicians, engineers, and educators receiving funding through NSF awards. These include both researchers who are principal or co-principal investigators on research and education projects, and researchers working at NSF-supported centers and facilities.

Other Professionals are individuals who may or may not hold a doctoral degree or its equivalent, are considered professionals but are not reported as senior researchers, postdoctoral associates, or students. Examples are technicians, systems experts, etc.

Postdoctoral Associates are individuals who have received Ph.D., M.D., D.Sc., or equivalent and are not faculty members of the performing institution. About 98 percent are supported through funds included in research projects, centers, or facilities awards. Others are recipients of postdoctoral fellowships.

Graduate Students include those compensated from NSF grant funds. About 13 percent receive support through programs such as NSF Graduate Research Fellowship and NSF Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship. The balance assists senior researchers or postdoctoral associates in performing research and is provided through awards for research projects, centers, or facilities. NSF provides support for about 5 percent of the science and engineering graduate students in the U.S.

Undergraduate Students include students compensated from NSF grant funds who are enrolled in technical colleges or baccalaureate programs. They may be assisting senior researchers or postdoctoral

associates in performing research, or participating in NSF programs aimed at undergraduate students, such as Research Experiences for Undergraduates.

K-12 Teachers include teachers at elementary, middle, and secondary schools. These individuals actively participate in intensive professional development experiences in the sciences and mathematics.

K-12 Students are those attending elementary, middle, and secondary schools. They are supported through program components that directly engage students in science and mathematics experiences.