



Table 5-19

Full-time S&E graduate students and graduate research assistants at universities and colleges, by degree field: Selected years, 1973–2013

Group and degree field	1973		1983		1993		2003		2013 ^a	
	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent
Graduate students	161.6	100	252.0	100	329.6	100	397.4	100	457.4	100
Computer sciences	2.9	2	10.6	4	17.4	5	30.7	8	39.3	9
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	7.8	5	12.0	5	11.3	3	11.5	3	12.3	3
Life sciences	40.6	25	69.2	27	91.6	28	122.7	31	124.3	27
Mathematical sciences	10.3	6	11.0	4	14.5	4	14.6	4	19.5	4
Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary studies ^b	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	3.9	1
Physical sciences	21.1	13	25.2	10	30.6	9	30.4	8	36.0	8
Psychology	15.2	9	26.6	11	34.8	11	35.8	9	38.2	8
Social sciences	32.4	20	43.5	17	55.6	17	61.4	15	71.1	16
Engineering	31.3	19	53.9	21	73.8	22	90.2	23	112.8	25
Graduate research assistants	35.9	100	54.9	100	90.2	100	114.3	100	114.9	100
Computer sciences	0.7	2	1.4	3	3.8	4	7.5	7	7.7	7
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	2.6	7	3.5	6	4.7	5	4.6	4	4.5	4
Life sciences	9.4	26	16.5	30	28.0	31	35.5	31	35.8	31
Mathematical sciences	0.7	2	0.8	1	1.4	2	1.8	2	2.0	2
Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary studies ^b	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	1.0	1
Physical sciences	6.3	18	9.1	17	12.3	14	13.5	12	13.3	12



Group and degree field	1973		1983		1993		2003		2013 ^a	
	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Percent
Psychology	1.9	5	3.0	5	4.6	5	5.6	5	4.9	4
Social sciences	4.0	11	5.0	9	7.4	8	8.4	7	7.2	6
Engineering	10.4	29	15.6	28	28.0	31	37.3	33	38.6	34

na = not available.

^a Totals exclude fields that were added or reclassified in the 2007 survey (communication, family and consumer sciences, and architecture).

^b Includes study fields with a science or engineering component.

NOTES: Graduate research assistants are full-time graduate students with research assistantships as their primary mechanism of support. Physical sciences include astronomy, chemistry, and physics; in prior *Science and Engineering Indicators*, physical sciences also included earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences in this table. Life sciences include biological, agricultural, and health sciences and, in 2013, the field of neurosciences, which was reclassified as a separate field in the 2007 survey. Detail may not add to total due to rounding.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, special tabulations (2015) of the 2013 Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering.
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