

2018 Survey of Academic Departments & Programs That Include Planetary Science

The goal of this project is to evaluate the workforce paths of planetary scientists in the US. A companion survey will be sent to PhD planetary scientists via professional organizations (AGU, DPS, LPSC, etc.). This survey will determine the demographics of academic departments – from students to faculty. Please note that we focus on the last two academic years: 2016-17 and 2017-18.

If you have any questions, please let us know. You can also visit our question and answer page at <http://lasp.colorado.edu/home/mop/resources/planetary-science-workforce-survey/frequently-asked-questions/>

What is a planetary scientist?

For the purposes of this survey, we define a planetary scientist as someone who spends at least one-third of their research time studying objects other than Earth that reside within our solar system.

Note

People talk about “pipeline” which rather implies there is a singular path to a successful career. The purpose of these surveys is to gather the demographic statistics of all career paths with no judgement.

Form completed by:

Title:

1. What is the name of your department or program?

2. What is the name of your institution?

3. Are there other departments at your university where graduate students study planetary science?

No

Yes

→ Please specify:

Faculty, Research Staff, & Postdocs in Planetary Science

Faculty – teaching and/or research faculty who are tenured, tenure-track or temporary instructors primarily funded by the university

Research scientist – research associates, scientists, staff, usually > 5 years since PhD

Post-docs – researchers, usually < 5 years since PhD

4. Please indicate the number of faculty positions that involve teaching and/or research in planetary science in your department. Also indicate the number of all faculty members in your department.

	Number of Planetary Scientists	Number of ALL Faculty
Tenured	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Tenure-track, but not yet tenured	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

5. During the 2015-16 and 2016-17 academic years (the previous two years), did any tenure-track, tenured, or permanent faculty members in your department or program who teach and/or do research in planetary science leave, retire, or pass away?

No (continue to question 6)

Yes

↳ How many total?

How many left without getting tenure?

How many retired?

6. Did you recruit for planetary science faculty positions (not part-time) for the 2016-17 and 2017-18 academic years?

No (skip to question 9 on following page)

Yes

↳ How many?

7. In terms of quantity, how do you rate the supply of applicants for open planetary science faculty positions?

- More than enough applicants
 Enough applicants
 Too few applicants
 Far too few applicants

8. In terms of quality, how do you rate the pool of applicants for open planetary science faculty positions?

- Highly qualified
 Qualified
 Not well qualified

9. As of January 1, 2018, how many of the planetary science faculty members, researchers, and postdocs in your department are:

	Number of Men	Number of Women
Tenured	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Tenure track, but not yet tenured	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Research Faculty	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Temporary Faculty	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Research Scientists	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Postdocs	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
TOTAL	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

10. How many of the planetary science faculty members, research scientists, and staff in question 9 (above) identify as Hispanic, African American, Pacific Islander, and/or Native American?

Faculty members

Research Scientists and Staff with Ph.D.s

Postdocs

11. Does your department hire research scientists or postdocs?

No (continue to question 14)

Yes



How many postdocs or research scientists has the department hired over the last two years (2016-17 and 2017-18 academic years)?

Men

Women

How many of these were in planetary science?

Men

Women

12. In terms of quantity, how do you rate the supply of applicants for research scientist or postdoc positions?

- More than enough applicants
- Enough applicants
- Too few applicants
- Far too few applicants

13. In terms of quality, how do you rate the pool of applicants for research scientist or postdoc positions?

- Highly qualified
- Qualified
- Not well qualified

14. Are there other labs, departments, or institutes in your university that hire postdocs or research scientists in planetary science?

No (continue to question 15)

Yes



Please specify the name of the lab, department, or institute where these individuals are hired.

Students in Planetary Science

15. How many undergraduates completed a bachelor's degree in your department with a concentration in planetary science (took 2 or more upper division courses in planetary science) during the last two academic years (2015-16 and 2016-17)?

Men

Women

16. Which of the following does your department offer? [Check all that apply.]

- Master's degree in planetary science (complete questions 17 & 19-22 on following pages)
- Doctorate in planetary science (complete questions 18 & 19-22 on following pages)
- No advanced degrees in planetary science (skip to question 23)

17. How many graduate students completed a terminal master's degree in your department in the area of planetary science during the last two academic years (2015-16 and 2016-17)?

Men

Women

18. How many graduate students completed a PhD in your department in the area of planetary science during the last two academic years (2015-16 and 2016-17)?

Men

Women

How many of these PhD recipients are US citizens or permanent residents?

Men

Women

How many of the US citizens who received a PhD during the last two academic years (2015-16 and 2016-17) identify as Hispanic, African American, Pacific Islander, and/or Native American?

Men

Women

19. In what undergraduate majors have your planetary science graduate students generally earned their degrees?

	Mostly	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Physics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Geology / Geophysics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Chemistry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Astronomy / Astrophysics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Engineering	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Earth science	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Biology	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Planetary Science	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Math	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Atmospheric Science	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

20. Please indicate the inclusion of the following factors in the evaluation process for planetary science graduate admissions.

Factor	Included in the Evaluation of ...				
	Every Applicant	International Applicants Only	Special Cases Only	Applicants with No Work Experience	Not Included at All
A - General GRE Score	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B - Physics GRE Score	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C - Grades in Math & Physics Courses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D - Grades in Topics Related to Proposed Graduate Research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E - Undergraduate Research Projects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F - Applicant's Personal Statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G - Letters of Recommendation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. In terms of quantity, how do you rate the supply of applicants to your graduate program?

- More than enough applicants
- Enough applicants
- Too few applicants
- Far too few applicants

22. In terms of quality, how do you rate the pool of applicants to your graduate program?

- Highly qualified
- Qualified
- Not well qualified

23. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about planetary science in your department?

The Study of Exoplanets

24. How many people in your department study primarily exoplanets (planets in other solar systems) for at least three-fourths of their research time?

Faculty members

Research scientists

Postdocs

Graduate students

Thank you for your help with this project.