



## Survey of Planetary Scientists

Thank you for helping us learn more about the demographics and career paths of planetary scientists. Aggregated results will be shared with the community to be used to inform the Planetary Science Decadal Survey which is including workforce issues for the first time.

If you have any questions or concerns about this study, please contact Susan White at [swhite@aip.org](mailto:swhite@aip.org). All emails will be confidential

Proceed to Questionnaire

**q1: (1) Are you currently a student?**

- Yes
- No

**q2: (2) In which program are you currently enrolled?**

- Undergraduate
- Graduate

**(3) What is your current major at the institution you are attending?**

- q3a: Astronomy or Astrophysics  
 q3b: Geoscience  
 q3c: Physics  
 q3d: Planetary Science  
 q3e: Other (please specify)

**q4: (4) What is the highest degree you intend to receive?**

- Bachelor's  
 Master's  
 Doctorate or PhD  
 Other (please specify)

**q5: (5) In which field do you plan to pursue your highest intended degree?**

- Astronomy or Astrophysics  
 Geoscience  
 Physics  
 Planetary Science  
 Other (please specify)

**q6: (6) What is the highest degree you have received?**

- Four-year college or university degree/Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)  
 Some postgraduate or professional schooling, no postgraduate degree (e.g. some graduate school)  
 Master's degree  
 Doctorate degree  
 Other professional degree (please specify)

**earndeg: (7) In what year did you earn your highest degree?**

Choose one

**q8: (8) What type of department awarded your highest degree?**

- Astronomy or Astrophysics
- Geoscience
- Physics
- Planetary Science
- Other (please specify)

**q9: (9) What is your current employment status?**

- Employed full-time (35 hours or more a week)
- Employed part-time
- Not working for pay

**q10: (10) You indicated that you were not working for pay, are you:**

- Retired
- Looking for employment
- Not looking for employment

**q11: (11) Are you seeking a full-time position?**

- Yes
- No

**separate file (12) When did you start the position you currently hold?  
(If you have more than one position, please indicate  
the start date from your primary employment.)**

Month:  Year:

**q13: (13) Which of the following employment sectors best  
describes your primary employer?**

- University or four-year college
- University affiliated observatory or research institute\*\***
- Two-year college
- Museum or planetarium
- Telescope or observatory
- NASA lab (e.g. GSFC, MSFC, ARC, etc.)
- Federally funded research & development center\*\*** (e.g. JPL)
- Other federal lab (e.g. NRL, USNO, etc.)
- Other federal agency
- Non-profit organization\*\*** (e.g. SwRI, SSI, PSI, LPI, etc.)
- Other corporation
- Self-employed
- Other (please specify)

\*\* These three are combined.

**q14: (14) What is your current employment status at your  
primary employer?**

- Tenured or tenured-equivalent
- Tenure-track or equivalent
- Hard Money/permanent/regular employee
- Soft Money
- Limited Term/postdoctoral appointment
- Freelance
- Other (please specify)

**q15: (15) In your current employment, are you able to apply for  
US government grants or contracts?**

- Yes
- No

**(16) Please indicate what percentage of your salary is funded by the following sources:**

	None	1-19%	20-39%	40-59%	60-79%	80-99%	All
<b>q16a: NASA mission support</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>q16b: NASA grants</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>q16c: NSF grants</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>q16d: Administrative burden accounts</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>q16e: Endowment</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>q16f: State support</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>q16g: Other (please specify)</b> <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**(17) Please indicate what percentage of your time is allocated to the following activities:**

	None	1-10%	11-25%	26-50%	More than 50%
<b>q17a: Teaching</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>q17b: Mission support</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>q17c: Service activities</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>q17d: Research</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>q17e: Personnel mgt</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>q17f: Project management</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>q17g: E/PO activities</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>q17h: Writing proposals</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>q17i: Other (please specify)</b> <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**(18) What are your primary planetary research interests?**  
***Please check all that apply.***

- q181: Geology or Geomorphology  
 q182: Geophysics  
 q183: Geochemistry  
 q184: Atmospheric science  
 q185: Dynamics or Celestial mechanics  
 q186: Magnetospheric science  
 q187: Astrobiology  
 q188: Solar System Origins  
 q189: Extrasolar planets  
 q1810: Other (please specify)

**(19) What are your primary research techniques? *Please check all that apply.***

- q191: Analysis of Earth-based or near-Earth telescopic observations  
 q192: Analysis of spacecraft observations  
 q193: Laboratory work  
 q194: Extra-terrestrial sample analysis  
 q195: Theory or Numerical modeling  
 q196: Terrestrial (analog) field studies  
 q197: Other (please specify)

**(20) How many times have you been a principal investigator (PI, or "science PI" if you were/are at institutions that prohibit postdocs from being PIs) on any of the following?**

	Never	Once	Twice	Three times	Four times or more
q20a: Observing proposals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
q20b: Research proposal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
q20c: Mission proposal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
q20d: Instrument proposal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
q20e: Other major proposal (please specify) <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**(21) How often have you been a co-investigator on any of the following?**

	Never	Once	Twice	Three times	Four times or more
q21a: Observing proposals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
q21b: Research proposal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
q21c: Mission proposal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
q21d: Instrument proposal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
q21e: Other major proposal (please specify) <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**(22) Which of the following negatively impacts your career satisfaction most? Please check two or three.**

- q221: Balance between different work activities
- q222: Current level of funding for your research
- q223: Level of success in obtaining funding for your work
- q224: Limited opportunities to progress in your career
- q225: Limited access to career development opportunities
- q226: Limited opportunities to mentor a more junior colleague
- q227: Lack of mentoring from a more senior colleague
- q228: Limited opportunities to interact with early career scientists
- q229: Limited opportunities to interact with your colleagues
- q2210: Limited opportunities to interact with your managers
- q2211: Limited interactions with well-established scientists
- q2212: Balance between work and personal life

**(23) Which of the following positively impacts your career satisfaction most? Please check two or three.**

- q231: Balance between different work activities
- q232: Current level of funding for your research
- q233: Level of success in obtaining funding for your work

- q234: Opportunities to progress in your career
- q235: Accessibility of career development opportunities
- q236: Access to opportunities to mentor a more junior colleague
- q237: Access to mentoring from a more senior colleague
- q238: Opportunities to interact with early career scientists
- q239: Opportunities to interact with your colleagues
- q2310: Opportunities to interact with your managers
- q2311: Interactions with well-established scientists
- q2312: Balance between work and personal life

**q24: (24) Have you ever relocated because of a spouse or partner?**

- Yes
- No

**q25: (25) Do you maintain a residence in a different location from your spouse, partner, or children in order to work or study?**

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

**q26: (26) Are you currently a member of the American Astronomical Society Division for Planetary Sciences (DPS)?**

- Yes
- No

**(27) If not, why? Please check all that apply.**



- q271: I do not consider myself an astronomer
- q272: Membership is too expensive
- q273: I do not attend DPS meetings
- q274: It is not a priority
- q275: I forgot to renew
- q276: Other (please specify)

**(28) Which of these do you think should be top priorities of the DPS over the next five years? Please check up to four.**

- q281: Organize annual meeting
- q282: Distribute community news (via DPS newsletter)
- q283: Assess and mitigate the DPS impact on the terrestrial climate
- q284: Support publications for communication within the scientific community (e.g. Icarus, PSJ)
- q285: Provide job services (e.g. employment opportunity notifications)
- q286: Advocate for planetary science priorities in US government policies
  
- q287: Furnish education opportunities (e.g. teacher workshops)
- q288: Provide public outreach materials for members
- q289: Encourage professional development (e.g. early career workshops)
- q2810: Support diversity in the community
- q2811: Disseminate results in the press
- q2812: Award prizes to those who excel in our field
- q2813: Enhance partnerships and interactions with the international planetary science community
- q2814: Represent planetary science to the parent organization AAS
- q2815: Other (please explain)

**q29: (29) How often do you think DPS should hold joint meetings with the European Planetary Science Congress (EPSC)?**

- Every 3 years
- Every 5 years
- Other (please specify)

**(30) Which of the following specific environmental actions should the DPS take? Please check all that apply.**

- q301: Encourage voluntary contributions to buy renewable energy credits to offset the carbon footprint of our meetings, especially travel to meetings
- q302: Incorporate the cost of buying renewable energy to offset the carbon footprint of our meetings into the meeting registration fee
- q303: Encourage remote participation in meetings to reduce travel
- q304: Make total travel distance to meetings an important factor in deciding meeting locations
- q305: Reduce the use of resources
- q306: Hold DPS meetings less frequently
- q307: Consider holding some annual DPS meetings virtually
- q308: Other (please specify)

**(31) Have you ever used the childcare facilities or grants for any meeting? Please check all that apply.**

- q311: Yes (please specify which meeting)
- q312: No, I have never needed it
- q313: No, it has not been offered when I needed it
- q314: No, other (please specify)

**q32: (32) Would you consider using childcare at upcoming DPS meetings?**

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

**see age1 (33) Please indicate your birth year:**

**q34: (34) What is your gender identity?**

- Woman
- Man
- Another identity - (please specify if you wish)
- 
- Prefer not to answer

**q35: (35) Do you identify as transgender?**

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

**q36: (36) Do you identify as:**

- Heterosexual
- Gay or Lesbian
- Bisexual
- Other (please specify if you wish)
- 
- Prefer not to answer

**(37) Which of the following racial/ethnic designations best describes you? *Please select all that apply.***

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- q371: Hispanic/Latinx
- q372: American Indian or Alaska Native
- q373: Asian or Asian American
- q374: Black or African American
- q375: Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- q376: White

q377: Additional (please specify if you wish)

q378: Prefer not to answer

**(38) Please indicate which of the following apply to you.  
Please check all that apply.**

- q381: I am deaf or hard-of-hearing
- q382: I have difficulty seeing even when wearing glasses
- q383: I have serious difficulty standing, walking, or climbing stairs
- q384: I have a cognitive or learning disability
- q385: I have a mental illness
- q386: I am neuroatypical
- q387: I have an autoimmune or pain disorder, or other chronic condition
- q388: I have disabling allergies, asthma, or other environmental sensitivities
- q389: Other (please specify if you wish)

- q3810: None of the above
- q3811: Prefer not to answer

**(39) Which of the following accessibility aids do you use?  
Please check all that apply.**

- q391: Sign language, American or other
- q392: Hearing aids, headphones, and other audio devices
- q393: Closed-captioning
- q394: Screen readers
- q395: Braille
- q396: Speech transcription
- q397: Mobility aids
- q398: Note takers
- q399: Quiet spaces
- q3910: Dietary accommodation
- q3911: Environmental adjustments - For example lighting, air, noise, etc.
- q3912: Service animal
- q3913: Other accessibility aid (please specify)

- q3914: None of the above
- q3915: Prefer not to respond

**(40) Have you requested or utilized accessibility accommodations at work or school? *Please check all that apply.***

- q401: Yes
- q402: Yes, but accommodations were not available
- q403: No
- q404: No, but I would benefit from accessibility accommodations
- q405: No, and I am afraid of disclosing my disability or chronic condition
  
- q406: Not applicable

**(41) What are barriers to your success?**

**(42) What has helped you succeed?**

**(43) Do you have any further comments on any aspect of this survey?**



***Thank You***

***Your information has been submitted.***

[www.aip.org/statistics](http://www.aip.org/statistics)