

**Academy of Finland
funding statistics on
September 2020 call**



ACADEMY OF FINLAND

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0. Introduction

- This statistics document describes the funding statistics on the applications submitted to and the researchers and projects funded in the Academy of Finland's September 2020 call. The funding instruments include Postdoctoral Researchers, Academy Research Fellows, Academy Projects and Clinical Researchers.
- A few applications that were not processed or reviewed are excluded from the application numbers.
- Each table and figure is briefly described in chapters 1–8. The tables and figures are presented in chapter 9.
- In most of the tables, the results of the September 2020 call are compared to the previous two calls in 2019 and 2018. In the tables, however, the years 2019–2021 refer to the years when the funding decisions were made. The calls were opened in the previous year.
- In terms of Academy Projects, the data for 2019 (i.e. September 2018 call) include the call for Academy Projects and the call for Academy Projects by early-career researchers. By combining these calls for 2019, the data for 2019, 2020 and 2021 are comparable.
- The total number of funded researchers and projects in 2021 may eventually slightly increase if research councils have funding left over from other calls and decide to fund Postdoctoral Researchers, Academy Research Fellows, Academy Projects or Clinical Researchers from the reserve list.
- More information about the funding statistics is available from the Division of Strategic Planning and Analysis at the Academy of Finland.
- The funding statistics on the September 2020 call were published in June 2021.
- The material is available on the [Academy of Finland's website](#).

1. Applications and funded projects by funding instrument and research council

- Tables 1.1–1.3 describe the number of applications, the number of funded researchers/projects and the success rate by research council (Biosciences, Health and the Environment; Culture and Society; Natural Sciences and Engineering) and funding instrument (Postdoctoral Researchers; Academy Research Fellows; Academy Projects) in 2019–2021.

- In 2021, the research councils granted funding to 107 Postdoctoral Researchers (success rate 13%), 67 Academy Research Fellows (success rate 11%), and 211 Academy Projects with a total of 265 subprojects. The success rate for the Academy Projects was 15% (consortium subprojects have been counted as separate projects).

2. Applications and funded projects by organisation

- Table 2 describes the number of applications, the number of funded projects and the success rate by organisation in 2019–2021. The data include Postdoctoral Researchers, Academy Research Fellows, Academy Projects and Clinical Researchers. In the data for Academy Projects, consortium subprojects have been counted as separate projects.
- In the September 2020 call, the Academy of Finland received a total of 3,185 applications and the average success rate was 14%.

3. Applications and funded projects by disciplinary group

- Table 3 describes the number of applications, the number of funded projects and the success rate by disciplinary group in 2019–2021. The data include Postdoctoral Researchers, Academy Research Fellows, Academy Projects and Clinical Researchers. In the data for Academy Projects, consortium subprojects have been counted as separate projects.
- The disciplinary groups are based on the primary research field of the applications (see Appendix table for the detailed classification).
- In the September 2020 call, the Academy of Finland received a total of 3,185 applications and the average success rate was 14%.

4. Applications and funded projects by funding instrument and gender of applicant

- Table 4 describes the proportion of women among applicants (applications) and funded researchers or projects by funding instrument in 2019–2021. The totals include data in the following gender categories: female, male, other/prefer not to answer. In the data for Academy Projects, consortium subprojects have been counted as separate projects.
- For Postdoctoral Researchers in 2021, women accounted for 46% of applicants and 48% of funding recipients.

- For Academy Research Fellows in 2021, women accounted for 42% of applicants and 40% of funding recipients.
- For Academy Projects in 2021, women accounted for 34% of the applications and 36% of the funded projects.

5. Applications and funded projects by funding instrument and nationality of applicant

- Table 5.1 describes the proportion of applications and funded Postdoctoral Researchers by nationality in 2019–2021. In 2021, foreign nationals accounted for 48% of applicants and 41% of funding recipients.
- Table 5.2 describes the proportion of applications and funded Academy Research Fellows by nationality in 2019–2021. In 2021, foreign nationals accounted for 38% of applicants and 37% of funding recipients.
- Table 5.3 describes the proportion of applications and funded Academy Projects by nationality in 2019–2021. In 2021, foreign nationals accounted for 17% of applications and 14% of funded projects. In the data, consortium subprojects have been counted as separate projects.

6. Rating distribution by funding instrument

- Tables 6.1–6.3 describe the distribution of final ratings of applications (%) in the September 2020 call by funding instrument. The funding decisions were made in 2021.
- The number of Academy Project applications reflects the total number of reviewed projects, not subprojects.
- Applications were reviewed based on a scale from 6 (outstanding) to 1 (poor). In the data, the score is the overall rating of an application given by a panel of international experts, or the average of the overall ratings if the application was reviewed in more than one panel. The average of the ratings given by independent experts was used if the application was not reviewed in a panel.

7. Academy Projects: Average funding per project by organisation

- Table 7 describes the number of funded projects, total funding and the average funding per funded Academy Project by organisation in

2019–2021. Consortium subprojects have been counted as separate projects. Academy Project funding is typically granted for four years.

- In case the principal investigator has changed organisations, the granted funding by organisation is reported according to the original funding decision.
- In the 2021 funding decisions, the average funding granted per project was around 427,881 euros.

8. Reviewers by country of their organisation

- Table 8 and figure 1 describe the number of reviewers by country. Country refers to the country of the reviewer's home organisation.
- A total of 722 reviewers (of which 36% were women) from 31 countries participated in the review of applications submitted to the September 2020 call.
- The total number of reviewers comprises 631 panel members and 91 independent experts.
- Some of the 70 panels also reviewed applications that had been submitted to other calls than the ones included in the funding statistics on the September 2020 call. This slightly increases the total number of reviewers.
- In the September 2020 call, the five most typical countries where the reviewers worked were the United Kingdom, Germany, Sweden, the Netherlands, and Norway.

9. Tables and figures

Table 1.1. Postdoctoral Researchers: Applications, funded researchers and success rate by research council in 2019–2021.

Source: Academy of Finland.

Research Council	Applications in 2019	Applications in 2020	Applications in 2021	Funded researchers in 2019	Funded researchers in 2020	Funded researchers in 2021	Success rate in 2019	Success rate in 2020	Success rate in 2021
Biosciences, Health and the Environment	255	207	222	38	35	33	15%	17%	15%
Culture and Society	249	235	267	38	31	30	15%	13%	11%
Natural Sciences and Engineering	267	277	312	42	44	44	16%	16%	14%
Total	771	719	801	118	110	107	15%	15%	13%

Table 1.2. Academy Research Fellows: Applications, funded researchers and success rate by research council in 2019–2021.
Source: Academy of Finland.

Research Council	Applications in 2019	Applications in 2020	Applications in 2021	Funded researchers in 2019	Funded researchers in 2020	Funded researchers in 2021	Success rate in 2019	Success rate in 2020	Success rate in 2021
Biosciences, Health and the Environment	144	164	174	25	24	24	17%	15%	14%
Culture and Society	166	171	187	20	21	21	12%	12%	11%
Natural Sciences and Engineering	203	203	233	20	22	22	10%	11%	9%
Total	513	538	594	65	67	67	13%	12%	11%

Table 1.3. Academy Research Projects: Applications, funded projects and success rate by research council in 2019–2021.
Consortium subprojects have been counted as separate projects. Source: Academy of Finland.

Research Council	Applications in 2019	Applications in 2020	Applications in 2021	Funded projects in 2019	Funded projects in 2020	Funded projects in 2021	Success rate in 2019	Success rate in 2020	Success rate in 2021
Biosciences, Health and the Environment	536	474	509	117	90	94	22%	19%	18%
Culture and Society	478	535	531	83	75	71	17%	14%	13%
Natural Sciences and Engineering	679	687	706	121	103	100	18%	15%	14%
Total	1,693	1,696	1,746	321	268	265	19%	16%	15%

Table 2. Applications, funded projects and success rate by organisation in 2019–2021. The table only includes organisations with at least 10 applications in 2019, 2020 or 2021. The data include Postdoctoral Researchers, Academy Research Fellows, Academy Projects and Clinical Researchers. In the data for Academy Projects, consortium subprojects have been counted as separate projects. A star (*) in the application column indicates that the organisation had less than 10 applications that year. In the funded projects or success rate column, a star (*) indicates that the organisation had less than 5 funded projects that year. The organisations are listed in alphabetical order. Source: Academy of Finland.

Organisation	Applications in 2019	Applications in 2020	Applications in 2021	Funded projects in 2019	Funded projects in 2020	Funded projects in 2021	Success rate in 2019	Success rate in 2020	Success rate in 2021
Aalto University	356	346	380	56	61	51	16%	18%	13%
Finnish Environment Institute	32	30	20	7	7	5	22%	23%	25%
Finnish Geospatial Research Institute (FGI) in the National Land Survey of Finland	15	13	16	*	*	*	*	*	*
Finnish institute for health and welfare	26	19	19	5	*	*	19%	*	*
Finnish Meteorological Institute	63	63	60	7	6	10	11%	10%	17%
Folkhälsan Research Center	*	*	10	*	*	*	*	*	*
Geological Survey of Finland	11	10	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hanken School of Economics	11	10	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
HUS Helsinki University Hospital	30	25	26	6	*	6	20%	*	*
Lappeenranta-Lahti University of Technology LUT	65	64	73	11	5	6	17%	8%	8%
Natural Resources Institute Finland	62	55	56	8	10	6	13%	18%	11%
Tampere University	305	291	336	57	42	49	19%	14%	15%
University of Eastern Finland	226	227	247	35	41	30	15%	18%	12%
University of Helsinki	760	810	791	147	147	138	19%	18%	17%
University of Jyväskylä	219	216	242	38	29	34	17%	13%	14%
University of Lapland	23	24	26	*	*	*	*	*	*
University of Oulu	273	250	284	42	22	28	15%	9%	10%
University of the Arts Helsinki	13	15	13	*	*	*	*	*	*
University of Turku	291	287	313	48	42	48	16%	15%	15%
University of Vaasa	11	18	20	*	*	*	*	*	*
VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ltd.	73	78	66	11	14	6	15%	18%	9%
Åbo Akademi University	80	78	95	9	8	9	11%	10%	9%
Total (incl. organisations not listed above)	3,022	2,993	3,185	517	457	449	17%	15%	14%

Table 3. Applications, funded projects and success rate by disciplinary group in 2019–2021. The data include Postdoctoral Researchers, Academy Research Fellows, Academy Projects and Clinical Researchers. In the data for Academy Projects, consortium subprojects have been counted as separate projects. The disciplinary groups are based on the primary research field of the applications. Source: Academy of Finland.

Disciplinary group	Applica- tions in 2019	Applica- tions in 2020	Applica- tions in 2021	Funded projects in 2019	Funded projects in 2020	Funded projects in 2021	Success rate in 2019	Success rate in 2020	Success rate in 2021
Natural sciences	707	740	762	106	102	110	15%	14%	14%
Engineering	488	474	549	82	73	62	17%	15%	11%
Biosciences	400	374	385	90	74	73	23%	20%	19%
Environmental, agricultural and forest sciences	138	122	131	23	14	18	17%	11%	14%
Medical and health sciences	396	364	405	70	72	65	18%	20%	16%
Social sciences	558	588	646	97	73	79	17%	12%	12%
Humanities	324	322	302	44	48	40	14%	15%	13%
All fields (incl. applications not indicating a primary research field)	3,022	2,993	3,185	517	457	449	17%	15%	14%

Table 4. Proportion of female applicants among applications and funded researchers or projects by funding instrument in 2019–2021. The totals include data in the following gender categories: female, male, other/prefer not to answer. In the data for Academy Projects, consortium subprojects have been counted as separate projects. Source: Academy of Finland.

Funding instrument	Applications in 2019	Applications in 2020	Applications in 2021	Funded researchers in 2019	Funded researchers in 2020	Funded researchers in 2021
Postdoctoral researchers, %	48%	49%	46%	49%	55%	48%
Number of applications and funded researchers	771	719	801	118	110	107
Academy Research Fellows, %	40%	38%	42%	43%	39%	40%
Number of applications and funded researchers	513	538	594	65	67	67
Academy Projects, %	33%	34%	34%	36%	39%	36%
Number of applications and funded projects	1,693	1,696	1,746	321	268	265

Table 5.1. Postdoctoral Researchers: proportion of applications and funded researchers by applicant's nationality in 2019–2021. Source: Academy of Finland.

Nationality of applicant	Applications in 2019	Applications in 2020	Applications in 2021	Funded researchers in 2019	Funded researchers in 2020	Funded researchers in 2021
Finnish, %	58%	53%	52%	65%	58%	59%
Foreign, %	42%	47%	48%	35%	42%	41%
Number of applications and funded researchers	771	719	801	118	110	107

Table 5.2. Academy Research Fellows: proportion of applications and funded researchers by applicant's nationality in 2019–2021. Source: Academy of Finland.

Nationality of applicant	Applications in 2019	Applications in 2020	Applications in 2021	Funded researchers in 2019	Funded researchers in 2020	Funded researchers in 2021
Finnish, %	67%	65%	62%	69%	63%	63%
Foreign, %	33%	35%	38%	31%	37%	37%
Number of applications and funded researchers	513	538	594	65	67	67

Table 5.3. Academy Projects: proportion of applications and funded projects by applicant’s nationality in 2019–2021. Consortium subprojects have been counted as separate projects. Source: Academy of Finland.

Nationality of applicant	Applications in 2019	Applications in 2020	Applications in 2021	Funded projects in 2019	Funded projects in 2020	Funded projects in 2021
Finnish, %	84%	84%	83%	83%	86%	86%
Foreign, %	16%	16%	17%	17%	14%	14%
Number of applications and funded projects	1,693	1,696	1,746	321	268	265

Table 6.1. Postdoctoral Researchers: distribution of overall ratings of applications in September 2020 call by research council, %. Applications were reviewed based on a scale from 6 (outstanding) to 1 (poor). The funded applications received an overall rating of 5 or 6. Source: Academy of Finland.

Research Council	Not funded 1 or 2	Not funded 3	Not funded 4	Not funded 5 or 6	Funded 5	Funded 6	Total
Biosciences, Health and the Environment (N=222)	8%	22%	39%	17%	8%	7%	100%
Culture and Society (N=267)	10%	22%	33%	22%	3%	9%	100%
Natural Sciences and Engineering (N=312)	3%	21%	41%	22%	4%	10%	100%
Total (N=801)	7%	21%	38%	21%	5%	8%	100%

Table 6.2. Academy Research Fellows: distribution of overall ratings of applications in September 2020 call by research council, %. Applications were reviewed based on a scale from 6 (outstanding) to 1 (poor). The funded applications received an overall rating of 5 or 6. The categorisation differs from Tables 6.1 and 6.3. Source: Academy of Finland.

Research Council	Not funded 1 or 2	Not funded 3	Not funded 4	Not funded 5 or 6	Funded 5 or 6	Total
Biosciences, Health and the Environment (N=174)	5%	25%	38%	18%	14%	100%
Culture and Society (N=187)	7%	25%	35%	21%	11%	100%
Natural Sciences and Engineering (N=233)	3%	12%	43%	33%	9%	100%
Total (N=594)	5%	20%	39%	25%	11%	100%

Table 6.3. Academy Projects: distribution of overall ratings of applications in September 2020 call by research council, %. The number of Academy Project applications reflects the total number of reviewed projects, not subprojects. Applications were reviewed based on a scale from 6 (outstanding) to 1 (poor). The funded applications received an overall rating of 5 or 6. Source: Academy of Finland.

Research Council	Not funded 1 or 2	Not funded 3	Not funded 4	Not funded 5 or 6	Funded 5	Funded 6	Total
Biosciences, Health and the Environment (N=432)	5%	20%	34%	22%	10%	9%	100%
Culture and Society (N=431)	4%	25%	37%	20%	4%	9%	100%
Natural Sciences and Engineering (N=531)	1%	14%	35%	37%	4%	10%	100%
Total (N=1,394)	3%	19%	36%	27%	6%	9%	100%

Table 7. Academy Projects: number of funded projects, total funding and average funding per funded Academy Project by organisation in 2019–2021. The table only includes organisations with at least 5 Academy Project applications in 2019, 2020 or 2021. In the data, consortium subprojects have been counted as separate projects. A star (*) indicates that the organisation had less than 5 funded projects that year. Academy Project funding is typically granted for four years. The organisations are listed in alphabetical order. Source: Academy of Finland.

Organisation	Funded projects in 2019	Funded projects in 2020	Funded projects in 2021	Granted funding total (MEUR) in 2019	Granted funding total (MEUR) in 2020	Granted funding total (MEUR) in 2021	Average funding per funded project (EUR) in 2019	Average funding per funded project (EUR) in 2020	Average funding per funded project (EUR) in 2021
Aalto University	33	36	29	13.1	16.0	12.4	397,081	443,628	426,290
Finnish Environment Institute	5	6	*	1.3	2.4	*	267,916	397,516	*
Finnish Meteorological Institute	*	*	7	*	*	2.9	*	*	420,113
Lappeenranta-Lahti University of Technology LUT	7	*	*	2.4	*	*	336,752	*	*
Natural Resources Institute Finland	7	5	*	2.4	2.2	*	338,500	435,442	*
Tampere University	34	21	24	14.0	8.7	11.4	410,616	412,387	476,036
University of Eastern Finland	28	25	20	11.2	10.2	8.3	399,538	407,575	412,668
University of Helsinki	80	81	78	36.7	36.5	33.7	459,038	450,480	432,313
University of Jyväskylä	26	14	18	11.2	6.4	7.5	429,803	455,913	418,943
University of Oulu	30	14	17	14.0	6.7	7.5	465,951	476,775	438,929
University of Turku	27	31	29	11.4	13.2	12.2	422,300	427,398	421,953
VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ltd.	8	12	5	3.3	4.8	2.4	410,261	397,454	473,042
Åbo Akademi University	5	*	6	2.0	*	2.4	399,626	*	404,559
Total (incl. organisations not listed above)	321	268	265	134.0	116.5	113.4	417,538	434,676	427,881

Table 8. Number of reviewers by country in the review of applications submitted to September 2020 call. The total number of reviewers comprises 631 panel members and 91 independent experts. Country refers to the country of the reviewers' home organisation, not to their nationality. Source: Academy of Finland.

Country of reviewer's home organisation	Number of reviewers	Proportion of reviewers
United Kingdom	198	27%
Germany	85	12%
Sweden	67	9%
Netherlands	54	7%
Norway	42	6%
France	37	5%
Italy	36	5%
Denmark	36	5%
Spain	32	4%
Belgium	25	3%
Switzerland	19	3%
Austria	15	2%
United States	13	2%
Portugal	11	2%
Ireland	10	1%
Estonia	8	1%
Canada	6	1%
Other countries total (less than 5 reviewers per country)	28	4%
Total	722	100%

Number of reviewers by country in the review of applications submitted to September 2020 call

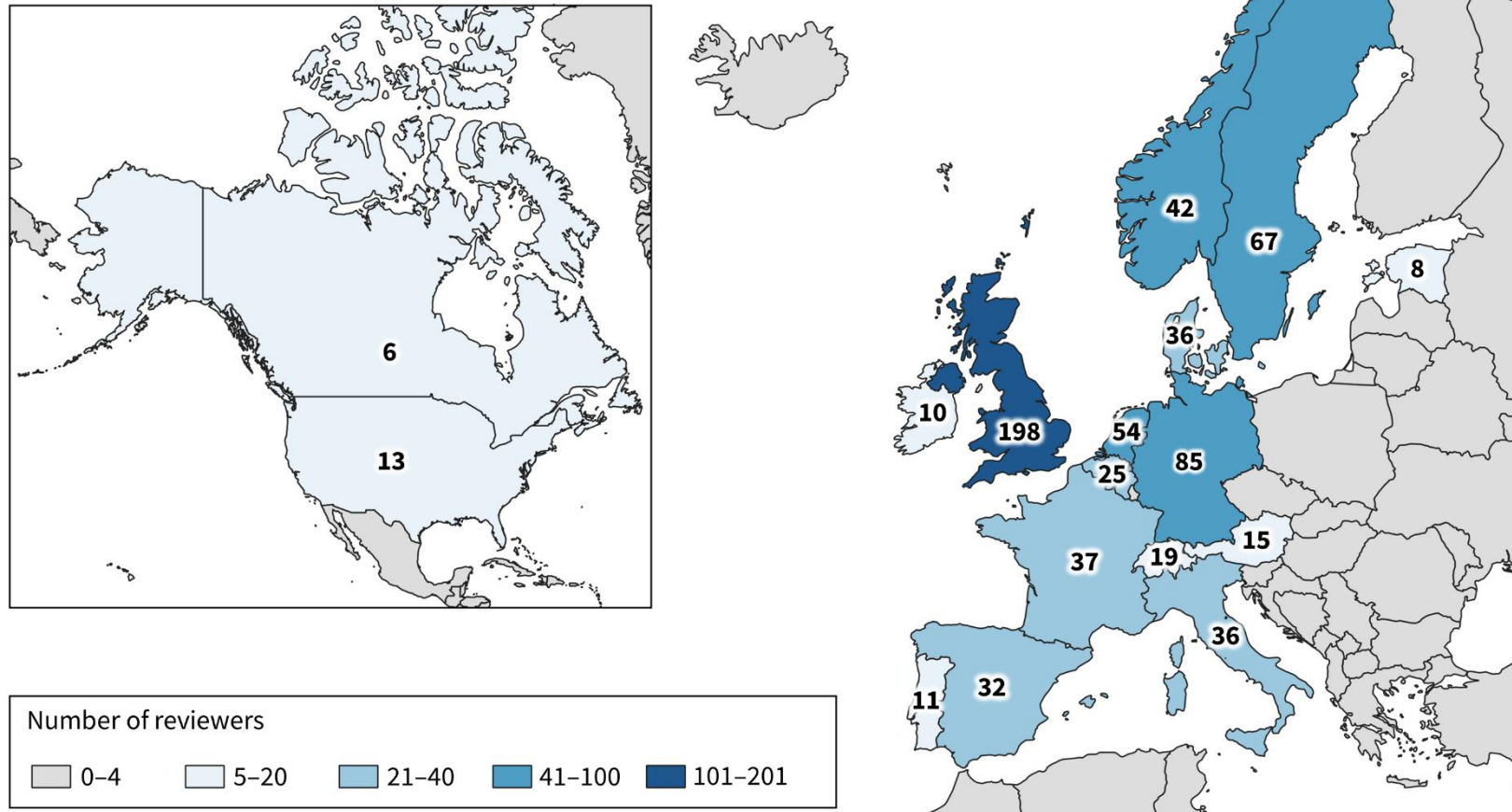


Figure 1. Number of reviewers by country in the review of applications submitted to September 2020 call. Country refers to the country of the reviewer’s home organisation, not to their nationality. The total number of reviewers comprises 631 panel members and 91 independent experts. Source: Academy of Finland.

Appendix table. Disciplinary classification

Appendix table. Disciplinary classification which has been used in the Academy of Finland funding statistics on September calls. Source: Academy of Finland.

Disciplinary group	No	Primary research field
Engineering	101	Architecture
Engineering	102	Food engineering
Engineering	103	Energy engineering
Natural sciences	104	Physics
Natural sciences	105	Geosciences
Natural sciences	106	Chemistry
Engineering	107	Mechanical engineering and manufacturing technology
Natural sciences	108	Computational science
Engineering	109	Medical engineering
Natural sciences	110	Mathematics
Engineering	111	Materials science and technology
Engineering	112	Nanoscience and nanotechnology
Engineering	113	Process technology
Engineering	114	Construction and municipal engineering
Engineering	115	Electrical engineering and electronics
Engineering	116	Industrial biotechnology
Natural sciences	117	Computer science
Natural sciences	118	Statistics
Engineering	119	Industrial management
Natural sciences	120	Astronomy
Engineering	121	Environmental engineering
Biosciences	201	Biochemistry, biophysics
Biosciences	202	Ecology, evolutionary biology and ecophysiology
Biosciences	203	Plant biology
Biosciences	204	Developmental biology and physiology
Biosciences	205	Microbiology
Biosciences	206	Genetics
Biosciences	207	Cellular and molecular biology
Biosciences	208	Systems biology, bioinformatics
Environmental, agricultural and forest sciences	209	Environmental science
Environmental, agricultural and forest sciences	301	Food sciences

Disciplinary group	No	Primary research field
Environmental, agricultural and forest sciences	302	Agricultural sciences
Environmental, agricultural and forest sciences	303	Forest sciences
Medical and health sciences	401	Biomedicine
Medical and health sciences	402	Veterinary medicine
Medical and health sciences	403	Pharmacy
Medical and health sciences	404	Dental science
Medical and health sciences	405	Nursing science
Medical and health sciences	406	Public health research
Medical and health sciences	407	Clinical medicine
Medical and health sciences	408	Sport sciences
Medical and health sciences	409	Nutrition
Medical and health sciences	410	Environmental health research
Medical and health sciences	501	Neuroscience
Social sciences	601	Human geography
Social sciences	602	Economics
Social sciences	603	Education
Social sciences	604	Development research
Social sciences	605	Business administration
Social sciences	606	Women and gender studies
Social sciences	607	Law
Social sciences	608	Psychology
Social sciences	609	Social sciences
Social sciences	610	Science studies
Social sciences	611	Political science
Social sciences	612	Communication
Social sciences	613	Environmental social science research
Humanities	701	Philosophy
Humanities	702	History and archaeology
Humanities	703	Linguistics
Humanities	704	Literature research
Humanities	705	Design research
Humanities	706	Art research
Humanities	707	Theology