



Tracking PhD Graduates in Computing

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Computing Research Association

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Computing Research Association

- Institutional members, not individuals
 - PhD-granting departments of Computer Science, Computer Engineering, and Information in North America
 - Government and Industry Research Labs
 - Affiliated professional societies
- No single professional association exists for individuals in these intersecting field(s)



Primary Source of Information: CRA Taulbee Survey

- Conducted since 1974
- Surveys Departments/Academic Units
 - Members and PhD-granting nonmembers in the US and Canada
- Response rate current survey (fall 2010)
74% overall, 82% of US CS




For each PhD awarded,
department is asked to indicate

- Gender, ethnicity, citizenship, CS/CE/I
- Area of research specialization
- Employment type and location
 - In PhD department, non-PhD, or industry
 - If academic, tenure-track, teaching, research, postdoc
 - Inside North America or out
- About 15% unknown in most recent survey



From the other direction

- Departments give stats on faculty new hires and on total numbers of postdocs in the department (new and continuing)
- These numbers are not completely disconnected from the destinations reported for graduates, but don't line up as well as one might wish
- A project within computing is currently looking more closely at postdocs and sees things we'd like to know more about



A few peeks at the individual view are in process

- Computing Innovation Fellows. Following to see where they go afterward. But, relatively small group, and nonrepresentative.
- Project on Measuring Outcomes for Computing Students and Faculty; surveying individuals at a sample of departments