

Table SK12-28

Among fall 2009 students in grade 9 who enrolled in postsecondary education after high school, percentage who reported that their current or most recent major was in a STEM field, by perception of mathematics and science ability, sex, and race or ethnicity: 2016

(Percent)

Perception of mathematics and science ability	All students	Sex		Race or ethnicity				
		Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic <sup>a</sup>	Asian	Other or Two or more races
Total	37	39	35	37	35	36	50	32
I see myself as a math person.								
Agreed	43	45	40	45	34	40	53	36
Disagreed	31	32	31	29	36	33	47	29
Others see me as a math person.								
Agreed	43	46	40	44	37	43	55	37
Disagreed	30	29	30	29	33	31	39	27
I am confident in my ability to do an excellent job on math tests.								
Agreed	39	42	37	40	35	38	56	34
Disagreed	31	29	32	30	35	31	39	27
I am certain that I can understand the most difficult material presented in math textbooks.								
Agreed	41	44	38	42	35	41	55	37
Disagreed	32	31	32	31	35	31	45	27
I am certain that I can master math skills.								
Agreed	40	43	37	40	35	39	55	38
Disagreed	28	26	30	28	36	28	35	22
I am confident in my ability to do an excellent job on math assignments.								
Agreed	39	42	37	39	38	39	54	34
Disagreed	28	26	29	29	24	26	36	27
I see myself as a science person.								
Agreed	46	48	44	46	45	44	59	41
Disagreed	26	26	27	25	28	29	40	23
Others see me as a science person.								
Agreed	47	50	44	47	46	45	59	40
Disagreed	27	27	28	26	28	30	43	23
I am confident in my ability to do an excellent job on science tests.								
Agreed	39	42	37	40	36	38	52	36
Disagreed	30	28	32	29	35	28	50	25
I am certain that I can understand the most difficult material presented in science textbooks.								
Agreed	41	42	39	41	37	40	54	37
Disagreed	31	30	31	31	33	29	46	23
I am certain that I can master science skills.								
Agreed	40	43	38	40	36	42	53	37

Table SK12-28

**Among fall 2009 students in grade 9 who enrolled in postsecondary education after high school, percentage who reported that their current or most recent major was in a STEM field, by perception of mathematics and science ability, sex, and race or ethnicity: 2016**

(Percent)

Perception of mathematics and science ability	All students	Sex		Race or ethnicity				
		Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic <sup>a</sup>	Asian	Other or Two or more races
Disagreed I am confident in my ability to do an excellent job on science assignments.	27	24	28	27	34	22	46	18
Agreed	40	42	37	40	38	38	51	35
Disagreed	28	25	30	26	29	29	52	19

<sup>a</sup> Hispanic may be any race; race categories exclude Hispanic origin.

STEM = science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

**Note(s):**

About 79% of fall 2009 students in grade 9 had enrolled in postsecondary education as of 2016. STEM majors include mathematics, biological and life sciences, physical sciences, computer and information sciences, engineering and related technologies, science technologies, social sciences, and psychology and are based on the first major declared by students for their current or most recent undergraduate degree or certificate program as of February 2016.

**Source(s):**

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, special tabulations (2020) of the High School Longitudinal Study of 2009 (HSL:09), First Follow-Up and Second Follow-Up.

*Science and Engineering Indicators*