Several MIT offices publish important information about the graduate population, including Admissions, the Alumni Association, the International Students Office, Office of the Registrar, and Institutional Research in the Office of the Provost. The following Q&A relies on their research. We hope that these serve as useful facts to have at your fingertips and encourage you to explore the sources for further details.

Updated November 2013

**How many graduate students are enrolled at MIT?**
For fall term 2013, there were 6,773 graduate students enrolled at MIT, or 60 percent of the total student population of 11,301.

Of those 6,773 graduate students, 3,843 (57%) are doctoral students, 2,766 (41%) are pursuing masters degrees, and 164 (2%) are not seeking a degree.

*Source: Office of the Registrar, October 2013*

**How does that compare with undergraduate students?**
For fall term 2013, there were 4,528 undergraduate students enrolled at MIT, or 40 percent of the total student population of 11,301.

*Source: Office of the Registrar, October 2013*

**Is there a cap on the number of graduate students?**
No, there is no cap on the number of grad students admitted to MIT. Departments admit as many students as they can support based on their RA, TA, and fellowship resources, as well as the number of faculty available to advise on research.

*Source: Office of the Dean for Graduate Education*

**What are the demographics for the graduate population?**
There are 4,652 men (69%) and 2,121 women (31%). Of the total 6,773 students, 2,796 are international students (41%).

*Source: Office of the Registrar, October 2013*
How diverse is the graduate student body?
Of the 6,773 graduate students enrolled, 2,796 (41% of the total graduate student population) are self-identified international students. Of the graduate students that are U.S. citizens or permanent residents, there are 101 African-Americans (2.5% of the domestic graduate student body); 750 Asian-Americans (18.8%); 330 Hispanic-Americans (8.3%); 15 Native Americans (less than 1%); 2,173 Caucasian students (54.6%); and 144 (3.6%) who are classified as two or more races. The remaining 464 (11.7%) are “ethnicity unknown.”

Source: Institutional Research, Office of the Provost, 2013-14

Which five countries have the largest representation of international graduate students?
China (579 students)
India (291 students)
Canada (238 students)
South Korea (225 students)
Singapore (89 students)

Source: Office of the Registrar, October 2013

When did graduate students first outnumber undergraduates?
Graduate students first outnumbered undergraduates in 1980 with a headcount of 4,536 graduates vs. 4,517 undergraduates, a difference of 19 students. Over the past decade, the graduate population has increased at an average rate of 1 percent per year. Today’s graduate students outnumber undergraduates by 2,245 students (6,773 graduates vs. 4,528 undergraduates).

Source: Institutional Research, Office of the Provost, 2013
What’s the tuition charge for graduate students?
By Institute policy, tuition and fees are the same for both undergraduate and standard graduate programs; for the 2013 fall and spring terms they are:

Tuition $43,210
Student Activity Fee $288
MIT Student Extended Insurance Plan $2,088

Summer session tuition is $14,395.

Source: Office of the Registrar, November 2013

What are the primary sources of doctoral support?
Doctoral students are supported in the following ways:

Graduate fellowships or traineeships, 32%
Graduate research assistantships (RA), 48%
Graduate teaching assistantships (TA), 11%
Other types of support, including students with no support, 9%

Source: Institutional Research, Office of the Provost, 2012

How many graduate students live on campus?
Currently, there are 2,336 students living on campus (34%) and 4,437 students living off campus (66%).

Total capacity in graduate residence halls is as follows:

Single graduate housing
Ashdown House, 541
Edgerton House, 184
Sidney & Pacific, 681
Tang Hall, 404
The Warehouse (NW30), 120

Family graduate housing apartments
Eastgate, 201
Westgate, 208

Approximately 91 graduate students serve as Graduate Resident Tutors and live in undergraduate residences.

Source: MIT Graduate Housing, 2012-13
What percentage of current alumni received a graduate degree as their first degree from MIT?
Of the 128,583 living alumni, 66,223 alumni (51%) received a graduate degree as their first degree from MIT. Representation by School is as follows:

Engineering, 25,642 (39%)
Management, 18,253 (28%)
Science, 10,408 (16%)
Architecture and Planning, 6,449 (10%)
Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, 2,992 (4%)
Health Sciences and Technology, 311 (less than 1%)
Other, 2,168 (3%)

Total, 66,223

Source: MIT Alumni Association, 2013

What services does the Alumni Association provide to graduate students?
Graduate students may access the Online Alumni Directory and the Institute Career Assistance Network, or ICAN, by registering for a free Infinite Connection account. The directory provides access to over 100,000 alumni worldwide. Through ICAN, a subset of the directory, students have access to more than 3,000 career advisers. Graduate students are also welcome to join the official MIT Alumni LinkedIn group.

The Alumni Association’s Externship Program gives graduate and undergraduate students the opportunity to explore a specific career path, gain marketable job experience, and make professional connections, by working with alumni during MIT’s Independent Activities Period (IAP).

The Alumni Association also helps graduate student groups connect with their group’s alumni: send a newsletter, create an email list, or find an alumnus speaker for an event.

For more information on all the student services offered by the Alumni Association, please visit alum.mit.edu/students.

Source: MIT Alumni Association, 2013
How many graduate degrees are awarded each year?
For the academic year 2012-13, the number of graduate degrees awarded was 2,347, in the following categories:

Master of Science (SM), 752
Master of Architecture (MArch), Master in City Planning (MCP), Master of Engineering (MEng), Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Finance (MFin), 997
Engineer, 11
PhD, 576
ScD, 11

This represents an 11 percent increase in degrees awarded over a 10-year period.

Source: Office of the Registrar, 2012-13
Source: Institutional Research, Office of the Provost, 2012-13

What is the average number of years to degree?
Degree type (average years to degree)

Engineer (3 years)
Master of Architecture (3 years)
Master of Science (2 years)
Master of Business Administration (2 years)
Master in City Planning (2 years)
Master of Engineering (1 year)
PhD (6 years)
ScD (6 years)

Source: Institutional Research, Office of the Provost, 2013

How many applicants does MIT attract?
For the spring, summer, and fall of 2013, the Admissions Office received 24,029 applications for admission to MIT for graduate study.

Source: Institutional Research, Office of the Provost, 2013
Of those who apply for admissions, how many are admitted? What is the yield?
For 2013, MIT departments admitted 3,320 new graduate students – an admit rate of 14 percent.

When the departments and programs are grouped by School, the School of Engineering had the most admits with 1,305 (39%), followed by Sloan School of Management with 1,112 (33%); School of Science with 442 (13%); School of Architecture and Planning with 310 (9%); the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences with 151 (5%).

Of the 3,320 graduate admits, 2,163 will enroll at MIT (65% yield).

Source: Institutional Research, Office of the Provost, 2013

Who makes the decisions about graduate admissions?
Applicants apply directly to the academic department, or degree-granting program of interest, where the admission decisions are made.

Each department or program determines admission through deliberations of its faculty graduate admissions committee. This committee receives and reviews applications, selects students, and determines the type and amount of financial support to be offered. Departmental admissions decisions are final, in that there is no central administrative review, oversight, or appeal.

The Admissions Office provides central administrative support to departments and degree-granting programs. Their web site provides details on graduate admissions, including information on the application process, degree requirements, and how to order a course catalogue.

For details on unique requirements for the online application process by department, visit the admissions website at web.mit.edu/admissions/graduate.

Persons interested in taking graduate courses may apply for special student status. A special graduate student is one whose intended program of study is essentially graduate in nature, but who is not a candidate for an advanced degree.

Source: Office of the Dean for Graduate Education
**Where do graduate students go after earning their degree?**

For students graduating from MIT with an SM, MEng, or MBA degree, 11.8 percent go on to graduate school, 82.6 percent enter the work sector, and 5.5 percent include those continuing studies, pursuing an internship, taking time off, traveling, deciding between fields, doing public service, still looking for a job, and who are undecided.

Overall, 90 percent of PhD students plan to work after graduation, 2 percent are continuing their education, and 8 percent have other plans. More than 46 percent of those working are in postdoctoral positions.

The most popular industries for MIT PhD recipients include:


*Source: Global Education and Career Development Center, 2012*
What fellowships are available to graduate students?
A list of fellowships available to MIT graduate students can be viewed online at odge.mit.edu/finances/fellowships. Among the external graduate fellowships currently utilized by MIT students are:

• National Science Foundation (434 fellows)
• National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship Program (78 fellows)
• Fannie and John Hertz Foundation Graduate Fellowship Program (26 fellows)
• Department of Energy Computational Science Graduate Fellowship (9 fellows)
• Howard Hughes Medical Institute International Student Research Fellowship (6 fellows)
• National Consortium for Graduate Degrees for Minorities in Engineering and Science, inc. (4 fellows)
• Howard Hughes Medical Institute Research Fellows Program (3 fellows)
• Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowships (1 fellow)

Source: Office of the Dean for Graduate Education