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