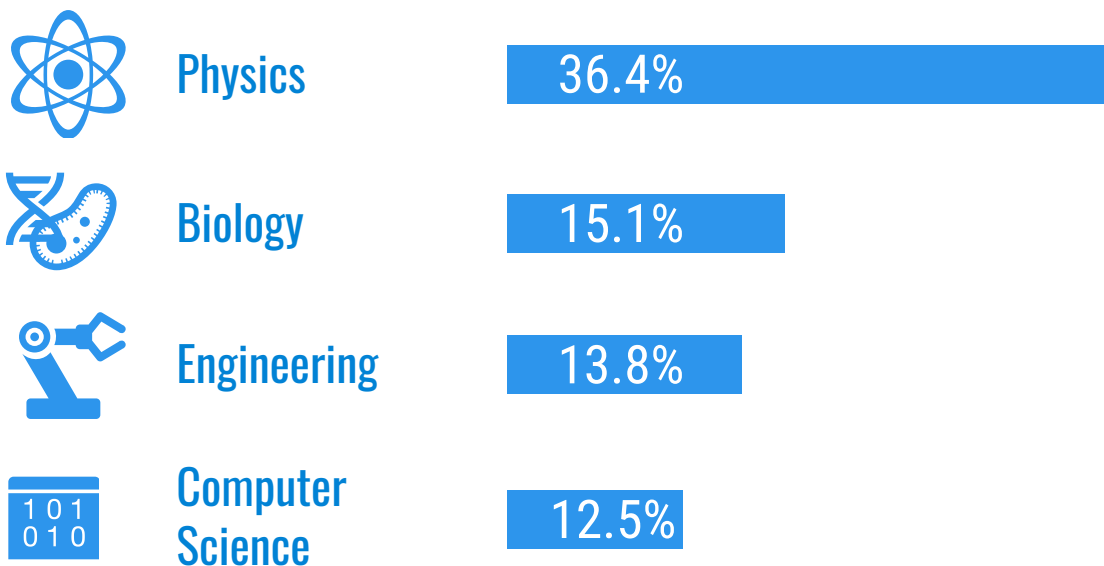# Should I apply to the INSIGHT data science program?

Since finishing my doctoral degree in biostatistics in 2015, I have wanted to transition from traditional statistics and data analysis to become a data scientist working for a top company. I've recently considered entering a program to focus on honing my data science portfolio and to get some help facilitating this career transition.

Unlike other data science incubators and bootcamps, Insight provides informnation on past fellows that gives a unique glimpse into what they are looking for in selecting Fellows. Using Python, I scraped the program's web page to assemble a structured data set with information on more than 700 past data science fellows. I summarized the data to compare fellows' information to my own background and interests.

Some of the results of my findings are presented here; these discoveries helped me make a decision about applying for the program. The exercise of putting together this summary presented an interesting and insightful data challenge!

INTERESTING FINDINGS

Fellows' fields of graduate study

Field	Percentage
Physics	36.4%
Biology	15.1%
Engineering	13.8%
Computer Science	12.5%
Statistics	*

*Only about 3% of past fellows studied a statistics-related major.

Fellow Project Titles

Many past fellows created projects focused on using public data for finding information, discovering insights, making predictions, or making recommendations.

My data projects focus on:

*Combining disparate data sets
* Creating compelling visualizations
* Influencing decision-makers

Global representation

While the majority of Insight Data Science Fellows studied or work in the USA, about 12% of Fellows work or completed graduate studies in other countries spanning five continents.

The Final Verdict

I have a PhD in Biostatistics from UNC Chapel Hill	Self-taught R and Python programmer, with a passion for data visualization	Skilled oral/written communicator	Available for a 7-week focus on honing my projects	Diverse work experience and skill set	I will apply for the program!