

# SSEER Network: Reports on the Status of the Workforce

Lori Peek and Brigid Mark  
 Department of Sociology and Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado Boulder



Department of Sociology and Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado Boulder

## What is SSEER?

SSEER is a **global network of social scientists** who study hazards and disasters. SSEER identifies researchers to develop the social science workforce and **coordinates** social science research teams in large-scale disasters to **advance scholarship** on the root causes and human consequences of extreme events.

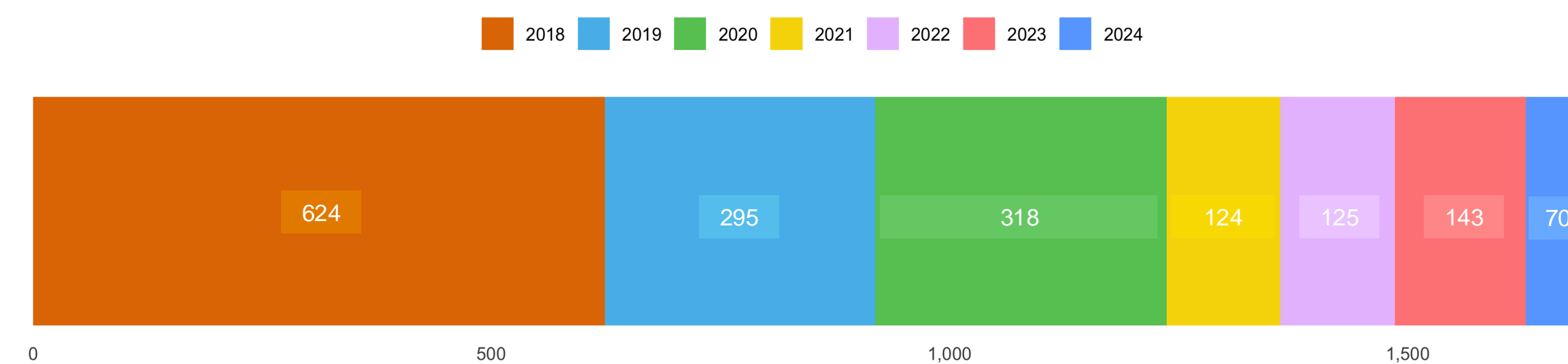
Are you a social scientist who studies disasters?

**JOIN SSEER** →

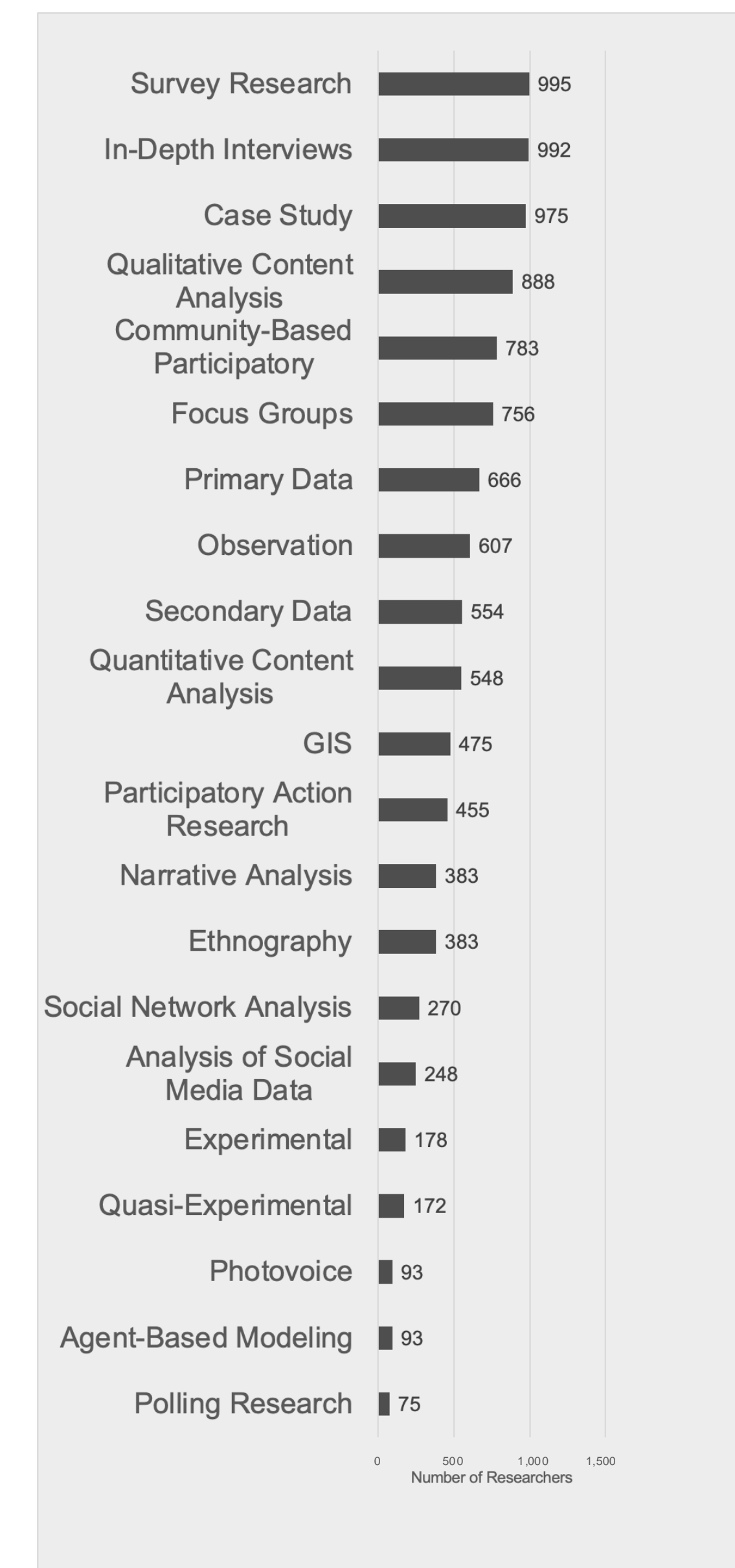


## SSEER Network Growth

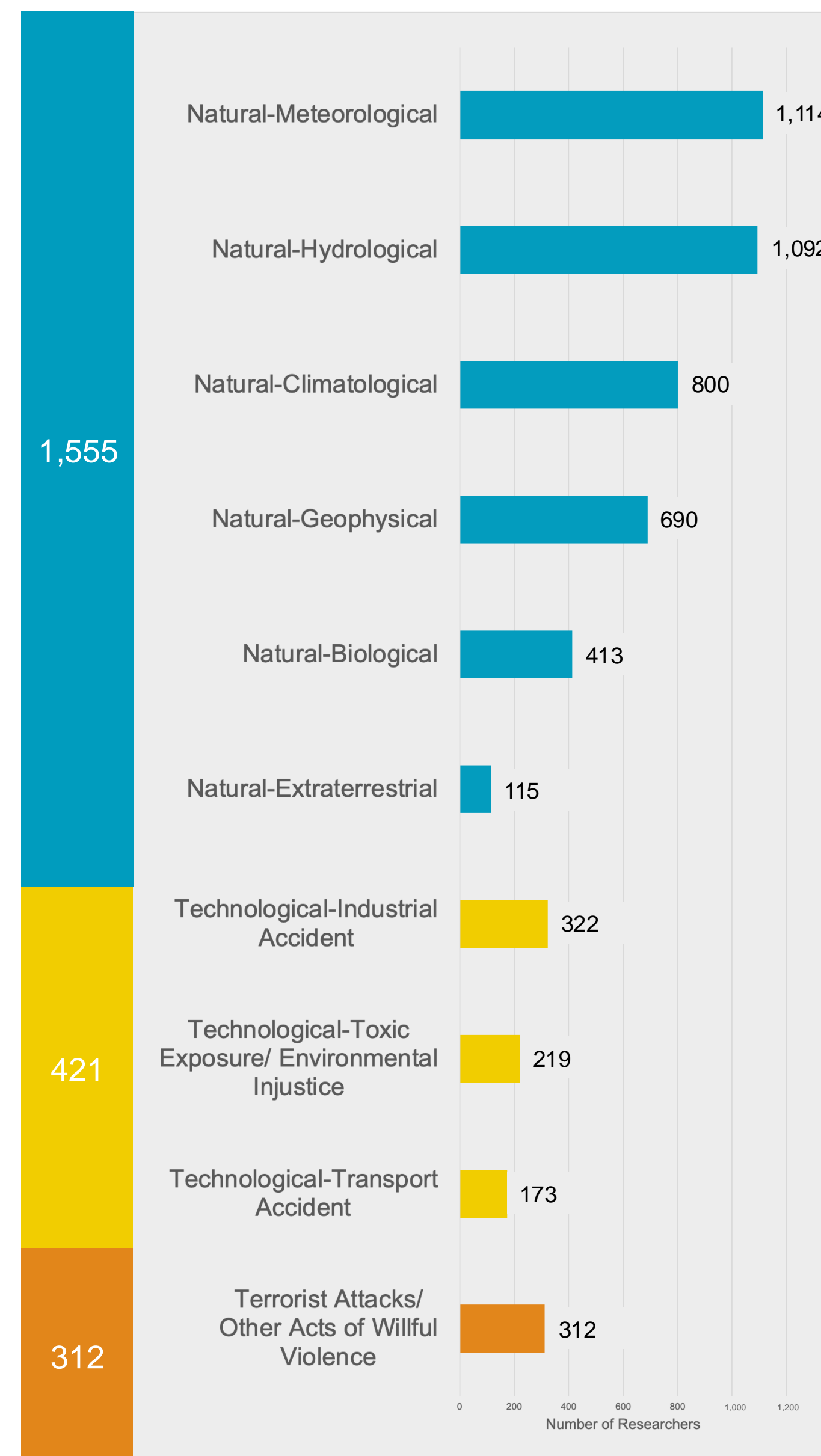
**1,699** SOCIAL SCIENTISTS HAVE JOINED SINCE 2018



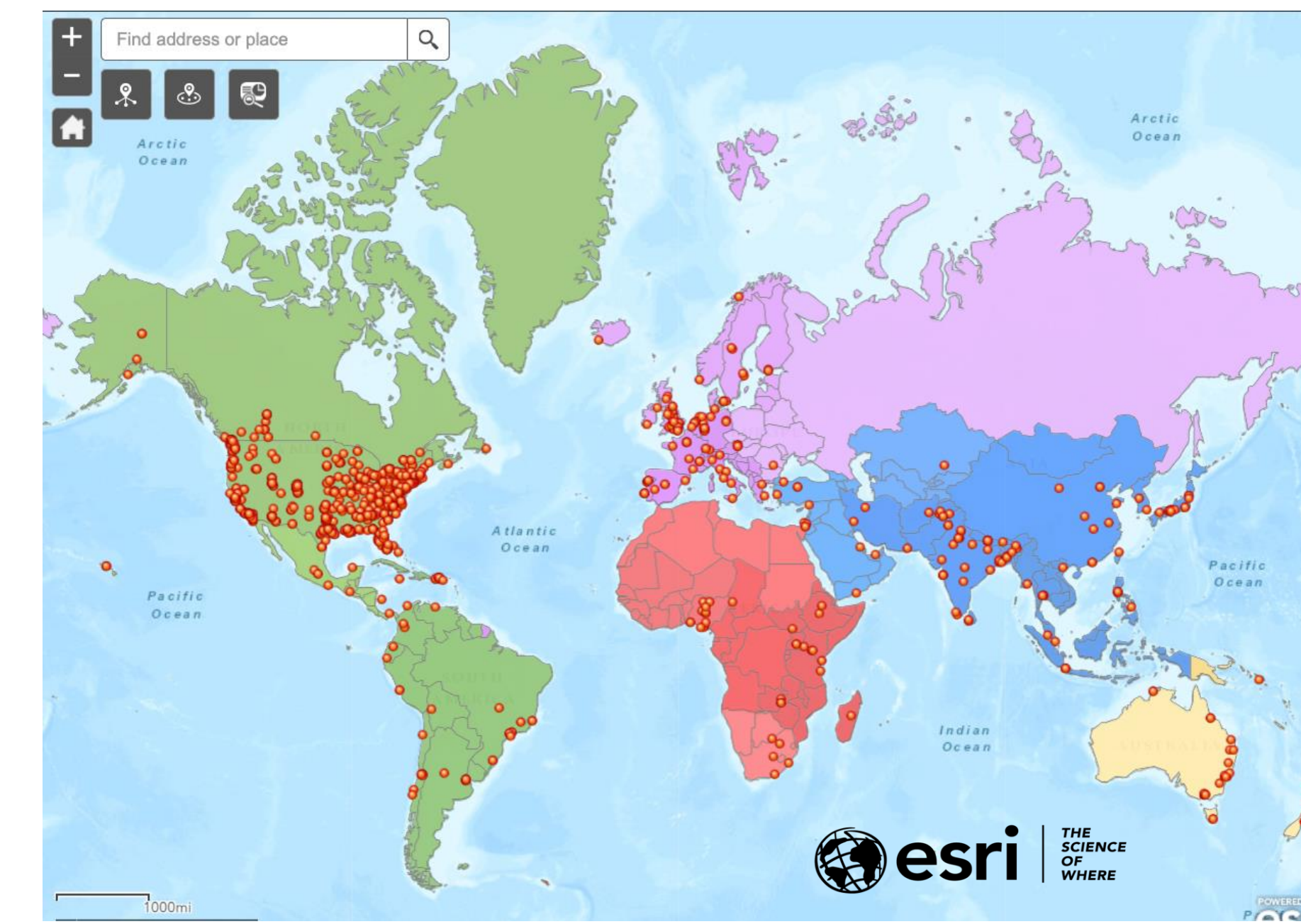
## Research Methods Used



## Hazards/Disasters Studied



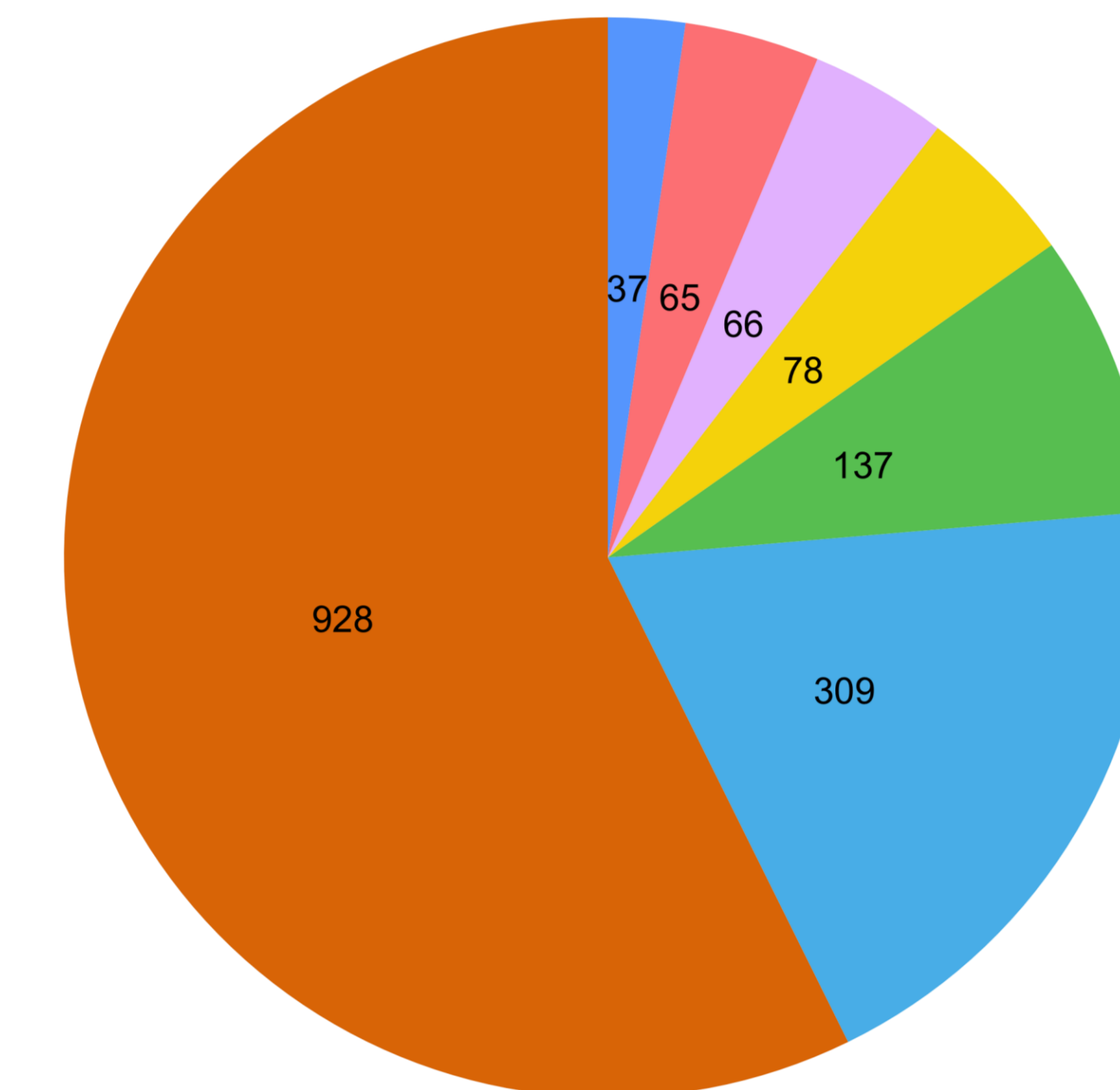
## SSEER Researchers Map



[converge.colorado.edu/researchnetworks/sseer/researchers-map](https://converge.colorado.edu/researchnetworks/sseer/researchers-map)

## Primary Professional Status

Academic Researcher Student  
 Government Researcher Non-Profit Researcher  
 Independent Researcher Private-Sector Researcher  
 Other or Missing



## More Information

**2022 SSEER CENSUS**

**What Methods Do Social Scientists Use to Study Disasters? An Analysis of the Social Science Extreme Events Research Network**

Lori Peek<sup>1</sup>, Heather Champeau<sup>1</sup>, Jessica Austin<sup>1,2</sup>, Mason Mathews<sup>1</sup>, and Haorui Wu<sup>1</sup>

**Abstract**  
 Methods matter. They influence what we know and who we come to know about in the context of hazards and disasters. Research methods are of profound importance to the scholarly advancement of the field and, accordingly, a growing number of publications focus on research methods and ethical practices associated with the study of extreme events. Still, notable gaps exist. The National Science Foundation-funded Social Science Extreme Events Research (SSEER) network was formed, in part, to respond to the need for more specific information about the status and expertise of the social science hazards and disaster research workforce. Drawing on data from 1,013 SSEER members located across five United Nations (UN) regions, this article reports on the demographic characteristics of SSEER researchers; provides a novel inventory of methods used by social science hazards and disaster researchers; and explores how methodological approaches vary by specific researcher attributes including discipline, professional status, researcher type based on level of involvement in the field, hazard/disaster type studied, and disaster phase studied. The results have implications for training, mentoring, and workforce development initiatives geared toward ensuring that a diverse next generation of social science researchers is prepared to study the root causes and social consequences of disasters.

**2021 SSEER CENSUS**

**2020 SSEER CENSUS**

SSEER is funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), Division of Civil, Mechanical, and Manufacturing Innovation, Program on Humans, Disasters, and the Built Environment (NSF Award #1745611 and #1841338). Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the NSF.

