

**Table 23. Primary reason for holding postdoc for doctoral scientists and engineers,
by selected field of doctorate: 2001**

Reason	Field of doctorate		
	All fields	Biological and agricultural sciences	Other fields
Total postdocs (number).....	21,900	12,900	9,000
Primary reason for holding postdoc:	Percent		
Additional training in field.....	21	20	22
Training out of field.....	12	12	12
Work with specific person or place.....	21	19	25
No other employment available.....	12	11	13
Postdoc generally expected for career in this field.....	30	34	24
Other reason.....	5	5	S

KEY: S = Suppressed due to too few cases (fewer than 500 weighted cases).

NOTES: Postdoc is a temporary position awarded in academe, industry or government primarily for gaining additional education and training in research. Numbers are rounded to nearest hundred. Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number. Details may not add to total because of rounding. Survey of Doctorate Recipients includes persons who had earned a science or engineering research doctorate from an U.S. institution and resided in U.S. as of April 2001.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation/Division of Science Resources Statistics, 2001 Survey of Doctorate Recipients