

Appendix Table 3-10
**Postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients with definite commitments, by broad field of study:
Selected years, 1973–2013**

Definite commitment and plan	All fields	Life sciences ^a	Physical sciences ^b	Social sciences ^c	Engineering	Education	Humanities	Other ^d
	Number							
All definite commitments								
1973	24,091	3,766	3,587	4,467	2,323	5,261	3,471	1,216
1983	21,186	3,943	3,120	3,963	1,850	4,978	1,974	1,358
1993	24,480	5,087	3,884	4,078	2,876	4,464	2,372	1,719
1998	26,644	5,609	4,333	4,342	3,722	4,266	2,812	1,560
2003	26,300	5,669	3,974	4,570	3,148	4,354	3,045	1,540
2008	30,467	6,675	5,273	4,877	4,619	4,315	2,759	1,949
2013	29,943	6,618	5,614	5,213	4,804	2,920	2,787	1,987
Reported type of plan								
1973	23,931	3,746	3,578	4,438	2,317	5,217	3,432	1,203
1983	21,139	3,939	3,114	3,956	1,844	4,966	1,968	1,352
1993	24,362	5,075	3,876	4,058	2,867	4,429	2,347	1,710
1998	26,141	5,545	4,296	4,263	3,693	4,096	2,726	1,522
2003	26,214	5,653	3,965	4,561	3,138	4,325	3,038	1,534
2008	29,533	6,511	5,158	4,710	4,484	4,122	2,669	1,879
2013	27,666	6,219	5,348	4,771	4,485	2,637	2,462	1,744
	Percent ^e							
Employment								
1973	83.8	58.4	60.6	92.0	87.1	98.0	96.3	98.6
1983	79.3	45.1	61.7	86.2	87.5	97.4	95.7	97.2
1993	71.0	36.2	49.8	80.0	74.7	96.9	93.5	97.1



Definite commitment and plan	All fields	Life sciences ^a	Physical sciences ^b	Social sciences ^c	Engineering	Education	Humanities	Other ^d
1998	71.0	39.1	54.2	75.7	80.3	95.5	91.7	95.7
2003	67.2	37.3	47.1	72.0	68.4	94.0	89.5	93.9
2008	64.2	34.5	47.2	67.5	69.7	94.9	86.6	93.2
2013	60.6	35.8	46.5	63.8	64.7	92.1	84.2	92.2
Postdoctoral study								
1973	16.2	41.6	39.4	8.0	12.9	2.0	3.7	1.4
1983	20.7	54.9	38.3	13.8	12.5	2.6	4.3	2.8
1993	29.0	63.8	50.2	20.0	25.3	3.1	6.5	2.9
1998	29.0	60.9	45.8	24.3	19.7	4.5	8.3	4.3
2003	32.8	62.7	52.9	28.0	31.6	6.0	10.5	6.1
2008	35.8	65.5	52.8	32.5	30.3	5.1	13.4	6.8
2013	39.4	64.2	53.5	36.2	35.3	7.9	15.8	7.8

^a Life sciences includes agricultural sciences and natural resources, biological and biomedical sciences, and health sciences.

^b Physical sciences includes mathematics and computer and information sciences.

^c Social sciences includes psychology.

^d Non-S&E fields are not shown separately.

^e Percentages are based on the number reporting definite postgraduation commitments with response to type of plan (employment or postdoctoral study).

SOURCE: National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), *Doctorate Recipients from U.S. Universities: 2013*, table 44, http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/sed/2013/data_table.cfm and special tabulations.

Science and Engineering Indicators 2016