

TABLE 56. Statistical profile of doctorate recipients in life sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2014

Characteristic	All life sciences fields	Agricultural sciences and natural resources	Biological, biomedical sciences	Health sciences
All doctorate recipients (number) ^a	12,504	1,303	8,991	2,210
Sex (%)				
Male	43.7	51.7	46.0	29.9
Female	56.0	48.3	53.7	69.9
Unknown	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.2
Citizenship (%)				
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	67.5	55.9	67.8	73.0
Temporary visa holder	25.2	38.2	24.9	18.9
Unknown	7.3	5.9	7.3	8.1
Marital status (%)				
Never married	31.2	27.0	34.4	20.3
Married	45.3	49.6	42.3	55.0
Marriage-like relationship	9.3	9.1	10.2	6.0
Separated, divorced, widowed	3.0	3.4	2.2	6.1
Unknown	11.2	10.9	10.9	12.6
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	50.6	42.1	52.9	46.2
Master's earned (%)	48.6	73.5	37.8	77.8
Age at doctorate (median years)	31.0	32.2	30.3	35.5
Time to doctorate (median years)				
From bachelor's	8.3	9.0	7.7	12.2
From graduate school start	6.7	7.5	6.5	9.5
Male doctorate recipients (number)	5,468	673	4,134	661
Citizenship (%)				
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	64.7	53.6	67.0	62.2
Temporary visa holder	27.9	39.8	25.9	28.1
Unknown	7.4	6.5	7.2	9.7
Marital status (%)				
Never married	31.9	23.5	34.8	22.8
Married	45.4	53.2	43.2	51.3
Marriage-like relationship	8.8	8.9	9.0	7.4
Separated, divorced, widowed	2.2	3.3	1.9	3.0
Unknown	11.6	11.1	11.1	15.4
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	47.8	43.4	50.2	37.7
Master's earned (%)	46.4	74.3	37.8	72.2
Age at doctorate (median years)	31.1	32.8	30.7	33.7
Time to doctorate (median years)				
From bachelor's	8.2	9.4	7.9	10.2
From graduate school start	6.7	7.7	6.7	7.9
Female doctorate recipients (number)	6,998	629	4,825	1,544
Citizenship (%)				
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	70.0	58.3	69.0	77.8
Temporary visa holder	23.3	36.6	24.3	15.0
Unknown	6.7	5.1	6.7	7.2
Marital status (%)				
Never married	30.8	30.8	34.4	19.3
Married	45.4	45.8	41.8	56.7
Marriage-like relationship	9.8	9.4	11.3	5.4
Separated, divorced, widowed	3.7	3.5	2.5	7.4
Unknown	10.4	10.5	10.1	11.1
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	53.1	40.9	55.6	50.1
Master's earned (%)	50.5	72.8	38.1	80.4
Age at doctorate (median years)	30.8	31.6	30.1	37.0

TABLE 56. Statistical profile of doctorate recipients in life sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2014

Characteristic	All life sciences fields	Agricultural sciences and natural resources	Biological, biomedical sciences	Health sciences
Time to doctorate (median years)				
From bachelor's	8.3	8.7	7.6	13.3
From graduate school start	6.8	7.3	6.3	10.3

^a Includes respondents who did not report sex.

^b A bachelor's degree is counted as "in same field as doctorate" if the fields of study for the doctorate recipient's bachelor's degree and doctorate degree are both in the same major field category of the National Science Foundation's field of study taxonomy, except for engineering and education fields where broad field categories need be the same. See table A-6 in the technical notes for a listing of major fields and their constituent subfields.

NOTE: Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100.

SOURCE: NSF, NIH, USED, USDA, NEH, NASA, Survey of Earned Doctorates, 2014.