

Table 15. Doctorate recipients, by sex and major field of study: 2005–15

Sex and major field of study	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% change 2005–15
All doctorate recipients ^a	43,385	45,621	48,132	48,777	49,553	48,031	48,914	50,951	52,707	54,003	55,006	26.8
Life sciences	9,310	9,703	10,702	11,086	11,403	11,319	11,536	11,965	12,209	12,484	12,520	34.5
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	1,160	1,146	1,321	1,198	1,283	1,100	1,206	1,255	1,324	1,338	1,439	24.1
Biological and biomedical sciences	6,367	6,652	7,238	7,797	8,025	8,046	8,153	8,323	8,356	8,867	8,801	38.2
Health sciences	1,783	1,905	2,143	2,091	2,095	2,173	2,177	2,387	2,529	2,279	2,280	27.9
Physical sciences and earth sciences	4,359	4,686	4,956	4,946	5,161	4,995	5,271	5,420	5,584	5,912	5,924	35.9
Chemistry	2,126	2,364	2,318	2,246	2,392	2,304	2,432	2,416	2,484	2,673	2,675	25.8
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	714	757	875	865	877	862	852	941	989	1,099	1,057	48.0
Physics and astronomy	1,519	1,565	1,763	1,835	1,892	1,829	1,987	2,063	2,111	2,140	2,192	44.3
Mathematics and computer sciences	2,334	2,778	3,042	3,187	3,163	3,223	3,273	3,496	3,660	3,863	3,825	63.9
Computer and information sciences	1,129	1,453	1,654	1,787	1,610	1,633	1,667	1,793	1,843	1,989	2,005	77.6
Mathematics and statistics	1,205	1,325	1,388	1,400	1,553	1,590	1,606	1,703	1,817	1,874	1,820	51.0
Psychology and social sciences	7,149	7,231	7,309	7,635	7,945	7,883	8,222	8,501	8,580	8,752	9,095	27.2
Psychology	3,322	3,260	3,276	3,357	3,472	3,421	3,577	3,601	3,592	3,724	3,782	13.8
Anthropology	456	472	512	483	503	507	553	547	550	524	493	8.1
Economics	1,061	1,029	1,004	1,091	1,118	1,073	1,121	1,243	1,183	1,196	1,256	18.4
Political science and government	618	616	588	628	682	728	685	724	803	777	859	39.0
Sociology	536	579	576	601	662	639	657	633	636	679	745	39.0
Other social sciences	1,156	1,275	1,353	1,475	1,508	1,515	1,629	1,753	1,816	1,852	1,960	69.6
Engineering	6,426	7,186	7,749	7,864	7,642	7,578	8,032	8,470	9,001	9,633	9,897	54.0
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	219	238	267	266	297	252	262	307	348	386	361	64.8
Bioengineering and biomedical engineering	417	525	637	762	834	824	898	943	1,039	1,046	1,129	170.7
Chemical engineering	774	799	817	873	807	822	823	840	824	973	1,002	29.5
Civil engineering	622	655	703	713	707	643	634	495	542	622	633	1.8
Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering	1,547	1,786	1,967	1,888	1,693	1,778	1,886	1,939	1,897	1,953	2,004	29.5
Industrial and manufacturing engineering	221	234	279	280	251	215	258	226	241	298	244	10.4
Materials science engineering	493	583	646	636	625	670	662	743	815	833	874	77.3
Mechanical engineering	892	1,045	1,071	1,082	1,095	983	1,084	1,220	1,277	1,331	1,467	64.5
Other engineering	1,241	1,321	1,362	1,364	1,333	1,391	1,525	1,757	2,018	2,191	2,183	75.9
Education	6,227	6,122	6,448	6,561	6,528	5,288	4,670	4,803	4,935	4,791	5,117	-17.8

Table 15. Doctorate recipients, by sex and major field of study: 2005–15

Sex and major field of study	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% change 2005–15
Education administration	2,167	2,051	2,161	2,238	2,146	1,439	924	1,057	966	893	922	-57.5
Education research	2,674	2,751	2,671	2,640	2,663	2,443	2,438	2,569	2,703	2,560	2,783	4.1
Teacher education	263	250	297	274	332	245	204	156	109	152	155	-41.1
Teaching fields	663	707	873	912	906	800	805	757	892	917	957	44.3
Other education	460	363	446	497	481	361	299	264	265	269	300	-34.8
Humanities and arts	5,187	5,333	5,085	4,736	4,904	5,016	5,227	5,562	5,715	5,526	5,600	8.0
Foreign languages and literature	607	615	607	627	598	601	644	684	701	674	656	8.1
History	924	973	937	971	1,045	1,005	1,065	1,087	1,148	1,186	1,145	23.9
Letters	1,389	1,457	1,340	1,420	1,413	1,516	1,513	1,638	1,606	1,552	1,590	14.5
Other humanities and arts	2,267	2,288	2,201	1,718	1,848	1,894	2,005	2,153	2,260	2,114	2,209	-2.6
Other ^b	2,393	2,582	2,841	2,762	2,807	2,729	2,683	2,734	3,023	3,042	3,028	26.5
Business management and administration	1,171	1,311	1,506	1,421	1,405	1,366	1,327	1,404	1,551	1,583	1,588	35.6
Communication	488	510	560	557	627	638	650	595	645	663	668	36.9
Non-S&E fields not elsewhere classified	733	757	772	784	775	725	706	735	827	796	772	5.3
Unknown field	1	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100.0
Male	23,737	25,021	26,202	26,272	26,332	25,526	26,191	27,365	28,328	29,018	29,596	24.7
Life sciences	4,561	4,690	5,197	5,223	5,183	5,101	5,244	5,335	5,492	5,514	5,578	22.3
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	744	698	802	700	722	609	652	698	702	691	748	0.5
Biological and biomedical sciences	3,253	3,377	3,708	3,861	3,834	3,823	3,879	3,891	3,941	4,087	4,112	26.4
Health sciences	564	615	687	662	627	669	713	746	849	736	718	27.3
Physical sciences and earth sciences	3,141	3,321	3,447	3,505	3,534	3,379	3,629	3,685	3,717	3,969	3,935	25.3
Chemistry	1,403	1,551	1,486	1,479	1,491	1,440	1,508	1,521	1,497	1,642	1,598	13.9
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	470	490	542	548	539	496	522	538	539	623	600	27.7
Physics and astronomy	1,268	1,280	1,419	1,478	1,504	1,443	1,599	1,626	1,681	1,704	1,737	37.0
Mathematics and computer sciences	1,782	2,074	2,307	2,353	2,327	2,409	2,456	2,638	2,792	2,913	2,880	61.6
Computer and information sciences	905	1,142	1,322	1,387	1,260	1,286	1,312	1,419	1,502	1,581	1,582	74.8
Mathematics and statistics	877	932	985	966	1,067	1,123	1,144	1,219	1,290	1,332	1,298	48.0
Psychology and social sciences	3,159	3,072	3,028	3,171	3,297	3,358	3,332	3,539	3,501	3,509	3,762	19.1
Psychology	1,058	936	941	999	991	1,032	1,003	1,040	997	1,063	1,060	0.2
Anthropology	199	203	196	189	195	201	223	187	188	195	186	-6.5
Economics	741	717	684	717	735	703	734	840	767	786	820	10.7

Table 15. Doctorate recipients, by sex and major field of study: 2005–15

Sex and major field of study	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% change 2005–15
Political science and government	373	396	345	367	409	434	389	420	469	434	527	41.3
Sociology	201	216	216	235	263	250	254	230	259	247	284	41.3
Other social sciences	587	604	646	664	704	738	729	822	821	784	885	50.8
Engineering	5,226	5,729	6,141	6,168	6,006	5,829	6,242	6,566	6,947	7,407	7,596	45.4
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	190	212	236	238	255	215	228	268	293	330	308	62.1
Bioengineering and biomedical engineering	306	345	412	477	525	509	563	608	684	660	701	129.1
Chemical engineering	590	583	620	641	591	574	566	583	566	682	685	16.1
Civil engineering	503	538	538	568	559	473	486	388	417	469	458	-8.9
Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering	1,338	1,535	1,662	1,568	1,433	1,462	1,579	1,595	1,616	1,615	1,711	27.9
Industrial and manufacturing engineering	177	167	201	201	186	159	180	164	176	209	154	-13.0
Materials science engineering	380	430	482	482	466	495	496	556	598	618	651	71.3
Mechanical engineering	778	901	940	930	942	858	934	1,042	1,081	1,126	1,265	62.6
Other engineering	964	1,018	1,050	1,063	1,049	1,084	1,210	1,362	1,516	1,698	1,663	72.5
Education	2,065	2,130	2,103	2,158	2,161	1,662	1,432	1,500	1,571	1,469	1,614	-21.8
Education administration	844	839	805	892	838	547	349	389	373	371	345	-59.1
Education research	809	866	816	763	819	706	699	761	826	723	855	5.7
Teacher education	63	63	72	58	92	59	38	43	22	35	36	-42.9
Teaching fields	205	248	281	289	275	234	250	229	275	266	296	44.4
Other education	144	114	129	156	137	116	96	78	75	74	82	-43.1
Humanities and arts	2,600	2,681	2,605	2,308	2,404	2,462	2,573	2,742	2,829	2,760	2,767	6.4
Foreign languages and literature	240	236	237	220	224	218	248	238	271	248	239	-0.4
History	539	575	553	561	608	556	586	603	632	664	632	17.3
Letters	558	618	569	527	524	625	615	659	665	657	650	16.5
Other humanities and arts	1,263	1,252	1,246	1,000	1,048	1,063	1,124	1,242	1,261	1,191	1,246	-1.3
Other ^b	1,203	1,324	1,374	1,386	1,420	1,326	1,283	1,360	1,479	1,477	1,464	21.7
Business management and administration	696	798	863	861	872	814	792	837	909	908	937	34.6
Communication	214	220	209	232	263	247	233	244	244	277	256	19.6
Non-S&E fields not elsewhere classified	293	305	302	293	285	265	258	279	326	292	271	-7.5
Unknown field	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Female	19,582	20,559	21,904	22,494	23,187	22,489	22,701	23,531	24,367	24,822	25,403	29.7
Life sciences	4,735	5,006	5,497	5,859	6,210	6,213	6,289	6,615	6,714	6,931	6,941	46.6

Table 15. Doctorate recipients, by sex and major field of study: 2005–15

Sex and major field of study	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% change 2005–15
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	413	448	516	498	559	490	554	554	622	646	691	67.3
Biological and biomedical sciences	3,106	3,271	3,529	3,934	4,185	4,219	4,272	4,423	4,412	4,748	4,688	50.9
Health sciences	1,216	1,287	1,452	1,427	1,466	1,504	1,463	1,638	1,680	1,537	1,562	28.5
Physical sciences and earth sciences	1,216	1,360	1,508	1,440	1,618	1,615	1,640	1,730	1,864	1,925	1,988	63.5
Chemistry	723	810	832	767	895	864	922	894	985	1,021	1,077	49.0
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	244	266	333	316	338	366	330	403	449	475	457	87.3
Physics and astronomy	249	284	343	357	385	385	388	433	430	429	454	82.3
Mathematics and computer sciences	547	704	734	833	832	814	813	855	868	934	943	72.4
Computer and information sciences	221	311	332	400	349	347	353	374	341	400	423	91.4
Mathematics and statistics	326	393	402	433	483	467	460	481	527	534	520	59.5
Psychology and social sciences	3,985	4,154	4,278	4,464	4,646	4,524	4,889	4,958	5,077	5,220	5,332	33.8
Psychology	2,263	2,322	2,335	2,358	2,481	2,389	2,574	2,560	2,594	2,648	2,722	20.3
Anthropology	256	269	316	294	308	306	330	360	362	329	307	19.9
Economics	318	310	319	374	382	369	387	402	416	404	436	37.1
Political science and government	245	220	242	261	272	294	296	303	333	342	332	35.5
Sociology	335	363	360	366	399	389	403	402	377	432	461	37.6
Other social sciences	568	670	706	811	804	777	899	931	995	1,065	1,074	89.1
Engineering	1,182	1,452	1,605	1,693	1,631	1,746	1,782	1,887	2,052	2,185	2,301	94.7
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	29	25	31	28	41	37	34	39	55	55	53	82.8
Bioengineering and biomedical engineering	111	179	225	285	308	315	335	335	355	384	428	285.6
Chemical engineering	183	216	197	232	216	248	256	256	258	290	317	73.2
Civil engineering	118	117	165	145	148	169	147	106	125	148	175	48.3
Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering	205	250	304	319	260	315	301	336	279	325	293	42.9
Industrial and manufacturing engineering	41	67	78	79	65	55	78	62	65	89	90	119.5
Materials science engineering	112	152	164	154	159	175	166	184	217	211	223	99.1
Mechanical engineering	114	144	131	152	152	125	150	177	196	197	202	77.2
Other engineering	269	302	310	299	282	307	315	392	502	486	520	93.3
Education	4,152	3,985	4,344	4,402	4,366	3,624	3,234	3,299	3,364	3,312	3,502	-15.7
Education administration	1,319	1,211	1,356	1,346	1,308	892	574	665	593	522	577	-56.3
Education research	1,862	1,884	1,854	1,876	1,844	1,736	1,736	1,808	1,877	1,828	1,927	3.5

Table 15. Doctorate recipients, by sex and major field of study: 2005–15

Sex and major field of study	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% change 2005–15
Teacher education	199	186	225	216	240	186	166	113	87	117	119	-40.2
Teaching fields	457	457	592	623	630	566	555	527	617	650	661	44.6
Other education	315	247	317	341	344	244	203	186	190	195	218	-30.8
Humanities and arts	2,581	2,647	2,478	2,428	2,499	2,553	2,654	2,818	2,885	2,762	2,832	9.7
Foreign languages and literature	366	379	370	407	374	382	396	446	430	424	417	13.9
History	384	398	384	410	437	449	479	484	516	521	513	33.6
Letters	831	839	771	893	888	891	898	978	941	895	940	13.1
Other humanities and arts	1,000	1,031	953	718	800	831	881	910	998	922	962	-3.8
Other ^b	1,184	1,251	1,460	1,375	1,385	1,400	1,400	1,369	1,543	1,553	1,564	32.1
Business management and administration	471	507	638	560	533	550	535	564	641	669	651	38.2
Communication	273	290	351	325	364	390	417	350	401	383	412	50.9
Non-S&E fields not elsewhere classified	439	451	468	490	488	460	448	455	501	501	501	14.1
Unknown field	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100.0

- = no value possible; percent change could not be calculated because there were no doctorate recipients with unknown field in 2005.

S&E = science and engineering.

^a Includes respondents who did not report sex.

^b Non-science and engineering fields.

NOTE: See table A-6 in the technical notes for a listing of major fields and their constituent subfields.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates.