

Table 16. Doctorate recipients, by subfield of study and sex: 2015

Subfield of study	Total ^a	Male	Female	% female
All fields	55,006	29,596	25,403	46.2
Life sciences	12,520	5,578	6,941	55.4
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	1,439	748	691	48.0
Agricultural economics	102	52	50	49.0
Agronomy, horticulture science, plant breeding, plant pathology, plant sciences-other	326	182	144	44.2
Animal nutrition, poultry science	71	39	32	45.1
Animal sciences, other	90	53	37	41.1
Environmental science	183	85	98	53.6
Fishing and fisheries sciences and management	60	39	21	35.0
Food science, food technology-other	172	71	101	58.7
Forest biology, forest management, wood science, forestry sciences-other	112	62	50	44.6
Natural resources and conservation, wildlife and range management	119	57	62	52.1
Natural resource and environmental policy	57	26	31	54.4
Soil chemistry, soil sciences-other	71	36	35	49.3
Agricultural sciences, aggregated	76	46	30	39.5
Biological and biomedical sciences	8,801	4,112	4,688	53.3
Anatomy, developmental biology	212	82	130	61.3
Bacteriology, parasitology	53	18	35	66.0
Biochemistry (biological sciences)	749	386	363	48.5
Bioinformatics	175	111	64	36.6
Biomedical sciences	416	176	240	57.7
Biometrics and biostatistics	171	92	79	46.2
Biophysics (biological sciences)	181	124	57	31.5
Botany, plant pathology, plant physiology	135	62	73	54.1
Cancer biology	455	191	264	58.0
Cell, cellular biology, and histology	321	144	177	55.1
Computational biology	107	76	31	29.0
Ecology	455	222	233	51.2
Endocrinology, human/animal pathology	109	54	55	50.5
Entomology	110	55	55	50.0
Environmental toxicology, toxicology	140	58	82	58.6
Epidemiology	381	134	247	64.8
Evolutionary biology	209	120	89	42.6
Genetics-human/animal, plant genetics	415	192	223	53.7
Immunology	473	205	268	56.7
Microbiology	480	209	271	56.5
Molecular biology	631	287	344	54.5
Neurosciences, neurobiology	1,091	519	572	52.4
Nutrition sciences	186	55	131	70.4
Pharmacology, human and animal	243	106	136	56.0
Physiology, human and animal	210	108	102	48.6
Structural biology	64	28	36	56.3
Virology	164	80	84	51.2
Wildlife biology	47	22	25	53.2

Table 16. Doctorate recipients, by subfield of study and sex: 2015

Subfield of study	Total ^a	Male	Female	% female
Zoology	46	17	29	63.0
Biological and biomedical sciences, general	261	120	141	54.0
Biotechnology, biology/biomedical sciences-other	111	59	52	46.8
Health sciences	2,280	718	1,562	68.5
Environmental health, public health	518	120	398	76.8
Health and behavior	126	25	101	80.2
Health systems administration	70	31	39	55.7
Kinesiology, exercise science	264	163	101	38.3
Medical physics, radiological science	84	62	22	26.2
Nursing science	536	33	503	93.8
Pharmaceutical sciences	270	148	122	45.2
Rehabilitation, therapeutic services	87	42	45	51.7
Speech-language pathology and audiology	116	24	92	79.3
Health sciences, aggregated	209	70	139	66.5
Physical sciences and earth sciences	5,924	3,935	1,988	33.6
Chemistry	2,675	1,598	1,077	40.3
Analytical chemistry	389	186	203	52.2
Inorganic chemistry	354	220	134	37.9
Medicinal chemistry	79	49	30	38.0
Organic chemistry	627	421	206	32.9
Physical chemistry	368	225	143	38.9
Polymer chemistry	135	81	54	40.0
Theoretical chemistry	111	89	22	19.8
Chemistry, general	401	223	178	44.4
Chemistry, other	211	104	107	50.7
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	1,057	600	457	43.2
Atmospheric science and meteorology	213	138	75	35.2
Atmospheric physics, meteorology	89	62	27	30.3
Atmospheric chemistry, atmospheric sciences-general, atmospheric sciences-other	124	76	48	38.7
Geological sciences	554	317	237	42.8
Geochemistry, mineralogy	115	53	62	53.9
Geology	135	80	55	40.7
Geomorphology, geological sciences-general, geological sciences-other	134	69	65	48.5
Geophysics and seismology	123	85	38	30.9
Paleontology, stratigraphy	47	30	17	36.2
Ocean and marine sciences	290	145	145	50.0
Marine biology and biological oceanography	85	41	44	51.8
Oceanography, chemical and physical	67	32	35	52.2
Ocean/marine sciences, aggregated	138	72	66	47.8
Physics and astronomy	2,192	1,737	454	20.7
Astronomy and astrophysics	269	193	76	28.3
Astronomy	86	51	35	40.7
Astrophysics	174	135	39	22.4
Astronomy and astrophysics, other	9	7	2	22.2
Physics	1,923	1,544	378	19.7

Table 16. Doctorate recipients, by subfield of study and sex: 2015

Subfield of study	Total^a	Male	Female	% female
Acoustics, optics/photonics	235	192	43	18.3
Applied physics	145	108	37	25.5
Atomic physics, polymer physics	151	117	34	22.5
Biophysics (physics)	127	97	30	23.6
Condensed matter, low-temperature physics	439	363	76	17.3
Elementary particle physics	243	203	40	16.5
Nuclear physics	86	72	14	16.3
Plasma, high-temperature physics	88	82	6	6.8
Physics, general	284	219	64	22.5
Physics, other	125	91	34	27.2
Mathematics and computer sciences	3,825	2,880	943	24.7
Computer and information sciences	2,005	1,582	423	21.1
Computer science	1,661	1,347	314	18.9
Information science, systems	157	100	57	36.3
Computer and information sciences, general	117	84	33	28.2
Computer and information sciences, other	70	51	19	27.1
Mathematics and statistics	1,820	1,298	520	28.6
Algebra	146	111	35	24.0
Analysis and functional analysis	161	134	27	16.8
Applied mathematics, computing theory	461	309	152	33.0
Geometry, geometric analysis	108	91	17	15.7
Logic, topology/foundations	108	90	18	16.7
Number theory	88	74	14	15.9
Operations research, mathematics/statistics-general, mathematics/ statistics-other	365	258	106	29.0
Statistics (mathematics)	383	231	151	39.4
Psychology and social sciences	9,095	3,762	5,332	58.6
Psychology	3,782	1,060	2,722	72.0
Behavioral analysis	63	18	45	71.4
Clinical psychology	1,179	250	929	78.8
Cognitive psychology and psycholinguistics	220	109	111	50.5
Counseling	419	112	307	73.3
Developmental and child psychology	190	33	157	82.6
Educational psychology (psychology)	60	14	46	76.7
Experimental psychology	143	68	75	52.4
Family psychology, human development and family studies	191	43	148	77.5
Health, medical psychology	101	23	78	77.2
Industrial and organizational psychology	221	86	135	61.1
Neuropsychology, physiological psychology	129	52	77	59.7
School psychology (psychology)	115	19	96	83.5
Social psychology	219	72	147	67.1
Psychology, general	292	85	207	70.9
Psychology, aggregated	240	76	164	68.3
Social sciences	5,313	2,702	2,610	49.1
Anthropology	493	186	307	62.3
Anthropology, cultural	317	122	195	61.5

Table 16. Doctorate recipients, by subfield of study and sex: 2015

Subfield of study	Total^a	Male	Female	% female
Anthropology, general	100	39	61	61.0
Anthropology, physical and biological	76	25	51	67.1
Economics	1,256	820	436	34.7
Econometrics, economics	1,209	794	415	34.3
Natural resources and environmental economics (social sciences)	47	26	21	44.7
Political science and government	859	527	332	38.6
Sociology	745	284	461	61.9
Other social sciences	1,960	885	1,074	54.8
American, U.S. studies	130	50	80	61.5
Area, ethnic, cultural, and gender studies	115	38	77	67.0
Criminal justice and corrections	111	52	59	53.2
Criminology	105	41	64	61.0
Demography, gerontology, statistics, urban affairs, social sciences-general, social sciences-other	300	116	184	61.3
Geography	302	175	127	42.1
Health policy analysis	82	26	55	67.1
International relations, international affairs	104	64	40	38.5
Linguistics	288	128	160	55.6
Public policy analysis	295	134	161	54.6
Urban, city, community and regional planning	128	61	67	52.3
Engineering	9,897	7,596	2,301	23.2
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	361	308	53	14.7
Bioengineering and biomedical engineering	1,129	701	428	37.9
Chemical engineering	1,002	685	317	31.6
Civil engineering	633	458	175	27.6
Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering	2,004	1,711	293	14.6
Industrial and manufacturing engineering	244	154	90	36.9
Materials science engineering	874	651	223	25.5
Mechanical engineering	1,467	1,265	202	13.8
Other engineering	2,183	1,663	520	23.8
Computer engineering	412	350	62	15.0
Environmental, environmental health engineering	283	151	132	46.6
Nuclear engineering	130	117	13	10.0
Robotics	82	71	11	13.4
Structural engineering	125	104	21	16.8
Systems engineering	105	84	21	20.0
Other engineering, aggregated	1,046	786	260	24.9
Education	5,117	1,614	3,502	68.4
Education administration	922	345	577	62.6
Educational administration and supervision	169	64	105	62.1
Educational and human resource studies, development	68	28	40	58.8
Educational leadership	622	238	384	61.7
Urban education and leadership	63	15	48	76.2
Education research	2,783	855	1,927	69.2
Counseling education, counseling and guidance	294	69	225	76.5
Curriculum and instruction	589	161	427	72.5

Table 16. Doctorate recipients, by subfield of study and sex: 2015

Subfield of study	Total^a	Male	Female	% female
Educational assessment, testing, measurement	65	28	37	56.9
Educational policy analysis	168	65	103	61.3
Educational psychology (education)	286	77	209	73.1
Educational statistics, research methods	92	30	62	67.4
Educational/instructional technology, media design	231	111	120	51.9
Higher education evaluation and research	522	203	319	61.1
International education	55	12	43	78.2
School psychology (education)	133	23	110	82.7
Social and philosophical foundations of education	90	30	60	66.7
Special education	258	46	212	82.2
Teacher education	155	36	119	76.8
Teaching fields	957	296	661	69.1
English as a second or foreign language	94	24	70	74.5
Health education	53	10	43	81.1
Literacy and reading education	123	18	105	85.4
Mathematics education	133	43	90	67.7
Music education	114	47	67	58.8
Physical education and coaching	36	26	10	27.8
Science education	123	44	79	64.2
Teaching fields, aggregated	281	84	197	70.1
Other education	300	82	218	72.7
Education, general	141	32	109	77.3
Other education, aggregated	159	50	109	68.6
Humanities and arts	5,600	2,767	2,832	50.6
Foreign languages and literature	656	239	417	63.6
French, Italian	177	55	122	68.9
Germanic language and literature	72	31	41	56.9
Latin American languages and literature	78	30	48	61.5
Spanish language and literature	187	74	113	60.4
Other aggregated languages	142	49	93	65.5
History	1,145	632	513	44.8
American history, United States and Canada	413	228	185	44.8
Asian history	89	50	39	43.8
European history	198	107	91	46.0
History, science and technology and society	72	38	34	47.2
Latin American history	63	28	35	55.6
Middle, Near East history	82	54	28	34.1
History, general	108	58	50	46.3
History, aggregated	120	69	51	42.5
Letters	1,590	650	940	59.1
American literature, United States and Canada	336	136	200	59.5
Classics	94	58	36	38.3
Comparative literature	167	72	95	56.9
English language	154	63	91	59.1
English literature, British and Commonwealth	412	150	262	63.6
Rhetoric and composition	240	89	151	62.9

Table 16. Doctorate recipients, by subfield of study and sex: 2015

Subfield of study	Total ^a	Male	Female	% female
Speech and rhetorical studies	42	23	19	45.2
Letters, aggregated	145	59	86	59.3
Other humanities and arts	2,209	1,246	962	43.5
Archaeology (humanities)	121	54	67	55.4
Art history, criticism, and conservation	272	55	217	79.8
Drama, theater arts	86	29	57	66.3
Film, cinema, video studies	67	32	35	52.2
Music	54	36	18	33.3
Musicology and ethnomusicology	148	66	82	55.4
Music performance	110	53	57	51.8
Music theory and composition	108	77	31	28.7
Philosophy, ethics	494	367	127	25.7
Religion/religious studies, Jewish/Judaic studies	340	215	124	36.5
Theology, religious education	172	133	39	22.7
Other humanities, aggregated	237	129	108	45.6
Other ^b	3,028	1,464	1,564	51.7
Business management and administration	1,588	937	651	41.0
Accounting	194	110	84	43.3
Business administration and management	232	141	91	39.2
Finance	242	166	76	31.4
Human resources development	51	23	28	54.9
Management information systems, business statistics	101	70	31	30.7
Marketing management and research	183	89	94	51.4
Organizational behavior	190	88	102	53.7
Other aggregated business fields	395	250	145	36.7
Communication	668	256	412	61.7
Communication research	150	53	97	64.7
Mass communication, media studies	242	98	144	59.5
Communication, general	119	42	77	64.7
Communication, aggregated	157	63	94	59.9
Non-S&E fields not elsewhere classified	772	271	501	64.9
Architecture and environmental design	116	61	55	47.4
Family, consumer sciences and human sciences	47	10	37	78.7
Parks, sports, recreation, leisure and fitness	52	27	25	48.1
Public administration	122	55	67	54.9
Social work	308	55	253	82.1
Fields not elsewhere classified, aggregated	127	63	64	50.4

S&E = science and engineering.

^a Includes 7 respondents who did not report sex.

^b Non-science and engineering fields.

NOTE: See table A-5 in the technical notes for a listing of aggregated fields and their constituent fine fields.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates, 2015.