

Table 55. Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients, by sex and broad field of study: 2015

Characteristic	All fields	Life sciences ^a	Physical sciences and earth sciences	Mathematics and computer sciences	Psychology and social sciences	Engineering	Education	Humanities and arts	Other ^b
All doctorate recipients (number) ^c	55,006	12,520	5,924	3,825	9,095	9,897	5,117	5,600	3,028
Postgraduation status (number) ^d									
Definite postgraduation study	11,035	3,896	1,988	746	1,854	1,694	230	484	143
Definite employment	16,752	2,258	1,104	1,461	3,095	3,064	2,382	1,918	1,470
Seeking employment or study	16,505	3,925	1,924	885	2,239	3,359	1,434	2,077	662
Other ^e	2,148	788	159	144	252	358	179	170	98
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^f									
Postdoc fellowship	53.2	55.6	38.8	50.7	73.7	35.2	51.3	82.2	56.6
Postdoc research associateship	44.2	41.2	60.5	48.4	22.1	63.2	43.5	16.1	37.1
Other or unknown ^g	2.5	3.2	0.8	0.9	4.2	1.6	5.2	1.7	6.3
Definite employment (%) ^h									
Academe	49.8	45.9	24.1	33.7	61.0	17.2	60.5	79.1	80.0
Government	7.6	10.5	6.9	5.3	12.2	10.1	3.7	2.1	4.7
Industry or business ⁱ	31.0	31.7	64.4	56.7	15.1	68.7	4.5	5.6	10.5
Nonprofit organization	6.0	9.5	2.8	2.9	8.5	3.1	5.9	8.7	3.7
Other or unknown ^j	5.5	2.4	1.8	1.4	3.2	0.9	25.4	4.5	1.1
Primary activity ^k									
R&D	43.3	46.3	64.5	66.7	37.8	74.6	12.5	10.8	37.6
Teaching	33.7	26.6	18.6	23.0	37.8	8.3	41.2	73.2	46.3
Management or administration	11.0	10.4	5.2	2.8	9.0	4.6	33.8	7.8	9.9
Professional services	9.4	13.6	7.3	3.3	13.7	8.7	11.0	5.3	5.3
Other	2.7	3.0	4.4	4.2	1.7	3.7	1.4	2.8	0.9
Secondary activity ^l									
R&D	27.8	25.4	17.2	19.9	33.7	12.1	26.7	47.1	44.0
Teaching	15.0	12.9	2.8	10.0	22.0	7.3	17.2	11.9	33.5
Management or administration	13.3	18.4	15.8	9.9	12.6	18.6	11.1	9.4	5.8
Professional services	7.6	9.8	8.5	6.2	6.5	7.0	11.3	5.9	5.2
Other	2.2	2.3	2.8	1.5	1.8	2.1	2.9	3.0	1.1
No secondary activity	34.1	31.1	52.8	52.5	23.2	53.0	30.9	22.6	10.4
Activity unknown	4.0	4.3	3.8	4.7	4.2	3.9	4.6	3.2	3.1

Table 55. Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients, by sex and broad field of study: 2015

Characteristic	All fields	Life sciences ^a	Physical sciences and earth sciences	Mathematics and computer sciences	Psychology and social sciences	Engineering	Education	Humanities and arts	Other ^b
Postgraduation location (%) ^m									
United States ⁿ	89.9	91.5	88.5	88.9	87.9	89.7	94.3	89.4	87.8
New England	8.6	10.1	9.0	8.7	9.6	8.1	5.1	9.6	5.5
Middle Atlantic	12.2	11.4	12.6	14.3	13.2	11.0	10.3	14.8	11.8
East North Central	12.0	10.4	10.3	10.3	11.6	12.7	16.0	13.6	13.4
West North Central	5.4	6.6	4.2	3.2	5.3	3.8	8.3	5.0	6.6
South Atlantic	16.5	18.6	12.5	12.5	18.7	14.0	18.5	16.1	19.4
East South Central	3.6	3.8	2.6	1.9	3.4	2.5	6.9	4.5	5.2
West South Central	7.8	7.1	8.0	5.4	7.0	8.1	11.1	8.0	9.5
Mountain	5.4	4.9	6.5	4.4	4.7	5.3	8.0	4.7	5.3
Pacific and insular	18.2	18.5	22.6	28.2	14.3	24.2	10.0	12.9	10.8
Not in United States	10.0	8.4	11.5	10.8	12.0	9.9	5.5	10.4	12.0
Location unknown	0.2	*	*	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2
Male doctorate recipients (number)	29,596	5,578	3,935	2,880	3,762	7,596	1,614	2,767	1,464
Postgraduation status (number) ^d									
Definite postgraduation study	6,158	1,883	1,365	579	644	1,304	74	248	61
Definite employment	9,200	950	760	1,103	1,483	2,412	797	939	756
Seeking employment or study	8,673	1,616	1,219	662	917	2,544	417	1,031	267
Other ^e	1,084	376	93	104	95	257	49	63	47
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^f									
Postdoc fellowship	48.1	53.6	37.5	50.9	67.9	34.0	50.0	78.2	57.4
Postdoc research associateship	49.8	42.9	62.2	47.8	28.7	64.4	47.3	19.8	36.1
Other or unknown ^g	2.1	3.5	0.3	1.2	3.4	1.5	2.7	2.0	6.6
Definite employment (%) ^h									
Academe	43.3	41.5	22.2	30.0	62.2	16.1	58.5	75.4	80.2
Government	8.2	10.7	7.0	5.9	13.8	10.1	3.6	2.4	4.9
Industry or business ⁱ	39.5	39.2	66.4	59.7	14.6	70.1	5.1	6.4	12.6
Nonprofit organization	4.9	6.6	2.5	3.0	6.7	2.8	5.9	11.3	2.1

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Characteristic	All fields	Life sciences ^a	Physical sciences and earth sciences	Mathematics and computer sciences	Psychology and social sciences	Engineering	Education	Humanities and arts	Other ^b
Definite postgraduation study	4,877	2,013	623	167	1,210	390	156	236	82
Definite employment	7,552	1,308	344	358	1,612	652	1,585	979	714
Seeking employment or study	7,832	2,309	705	223	1,322	815	1,017	1,046	395
Other ^e	1,064	412	66	40	157	101	130	107	51
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^f									
Postdoc fellowship	59.7	57.6	41.6	49.7	76.8	39.0	51.9	86.4	56.1
Postdoc research associateship	37.2	39.5	56.7	50.3	18.6	59.2	41.7	12.3	37.8
Other or unknown ^g	3.1	2.9	1.8	0.0	4.6	1.8	6.4	1.3	6.1
Definite employment (%) ^h									
Academe	57.7	49.1	28.2	45.0	59.8	21.3	61.5	82.6	79.8
Government	6.9	10.3	6.7	3.6	10.7	10.0	3.8	1.8	4.5
Industry or business ⁱ	20.6	26.3	59.9	47.8	15.5	63.5	4.1	4.9	8.4
Nonprofit organization	7.4	11.6	3.5	2.5	10.2	4.4	5.9	6.1	5.3
Other or unknown ^j	7.4	2.7	1.7	1.1	3.8	0.8	24.7	4.5	2.0
Primary activity ^k									
R&D	33.0	40.2	60.7	59.8	33.9	67.3	12.2	10.7	36.9
Teaching	40.6	30.8	21.5	30.0	38.3	12.3	43.5	76.5	48.0
Management or administration	12.8	12.1	4.5	2.7	9.0	3.7	30.4	6.8	9.2
Professional services	10.9	13.2	8.2	4.2	17.0	11.5	12.1	3.0	5.1
Other	2.7	3.7	5.1	3.3	1.8	5.1	1.8	3.1	0.9
Secondary activity ^l									
R&D	31.6	27.5	19.3	26.4	33.4	15.1	27.5	48.8	43.9
Teaching	14.9	11.7	2.4	14.1	17.7	6.9	16.5	10.6	30.8
Management or administration	12.7	17.2	11.5	9.0	13.5	19.2	10.8	9.1	7.7
Professional services	8.2	10.1	9.1	7.2	7.3	6.3	11.5	5.5	5.5
Other	2.5	2.6	1.8	1.2	2.3	2.6	3.4	2.8	1.5
No secondary activity	30.0	30.7	55.9	42.0	25.8	50.0	30.3	23.3	10.6
Activity unknown	4.3	4.2	3.8	7.0	4.2	4.3	4.9	3.5	3.6

Table 55. Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients, by sex and broad field of study: 2015

Characteristic	All fields	Life sciences ^a	Physical sciences and earth sciences	Mathematics and computer sciences	Psychology and social sciences	Engineering	Education	Humanities and arts	Other ^b
Postgraduation location (%) ^m									
United States ⁿ	91.7	92.8	90.0	86.9	91.4	88.9	95.9	90.5	89.8
New England	9.1	10.2	8.7	9.7	10.3	8.3	5.2	10.7	6.8
Middle Atlantic	12.6	12.2	12.4	12.6	13.9	10.9	11.3	14.9	12.2
East North Central	11.9	10.0	10.3	10.9	11.5	11.3	15.9	12.5	14.2
West North Central	5.8	6.0	4.1	2.7	5.9	4.2	8.4	4.3	6.9
South Atlantic	18.4	19.7	14.2	14.7	19.1	15.4	19.0	18.1	21.4
East South Central	4.0	4.0	2.0	3.0	3.4	2.3	7.0	4.0	5.0
West South Central	8.0	7.1	8.4	6.1	7.3	8.3	11.3	7.5	7.5
Mountain	5.4	4.7	7.4	4.8	4.7	5.6	7.2	4.9	5.4
Pacific and insular	16.4	18.7	22.3	22.5	15.2	22.3	10.5	13.3	10.3
Not in United States	8.1	7.1	9.9	12.4	8.5	10.7	3.8	9.3	9.9
Location unknown	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3

* = value < 0.05%.

^a Includes agricultural sciences and natural resources; biological and biomedical sciences; and health sciences.

^b Non-science and engineering fields not shown separately.

^c Includes respondents who did not report sex.

^d Includes only respondents who reported postgraduation status.

^e Includes respondents who indicated that they did not plan to work or study, respondents who indicated some other type of postgraduation plans, and respondents who indicated definite plans for other full-time degree program.

^f Excludes respondents who indicated plans for other full-time degree program. Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for study.

^g "Other" includes respondents who indicated definite postgraduation study plans for traineeship, internship or clinical residency, or other study.

^h Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment.

ⁱ Includes doctorate recipients who indicated self-employment.

^j "Other" is mainly composed of elementary and secondary schools.

^k Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment and primary work activity.

^l Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment and secondary work activity.

^m Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans and type of plans.

ⁿ Includes cases with an unknown U.S. region of employment after doctorate; see technical notes for states or territories included in regions.

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

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