

**Table A-4. Item response rates: 2005–15  
(Percent)**

Variable name	Variable description	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
AGEDOC <sup>a</sup>	Age at doctorate	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	92.1
AMERIND	American Indian or Alaska Native race indicator	91.7	92.7	90.4	91.2	91.9	91.6	91.6	91.5	91.9	90.2	91.0
ASIAN	Asian race indicator	91.7	92.7	90.4	91.2	91.9	91.6	91.6	91.5	91.9	90.2	91.0
AUDIDIS <sup>b</sup>	Deaf or hearing disability indicator	90.8	91.7	90.2	90.7	90.8	89.7	89.8	na	na	na	na
BAEMONTH <sup>c</sup>	Month of bachelor's entry	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	86.9	86.9
BAEYEAR <sup>d</sup>	Year of bachelor's entry	85.9	86.7	85.8	85.5	86.3	86.9	87.6	88.2	88.8	87.3	87.2
BAFIELD	Baccalaureate field	87.0	89.5	87.5	88.2	88.8	89.3	89.8	89.3	90.4	89.3	89.1
BAINST	Baccalaureate institution	93.1	93.6	91.6	92.3	92.9	92.4	93.4	92.3	93.2	91.6	92.3
BAMONTH	Month of baccalaureate	83.9	86.4	86.1	87.3	88.0	88.5	89.1	89.7	90.2	89.0	88.8
BANID	Baccalaureate institution (NCSES institution identification)	92.5	92.7	90.8	91.4	92.1	91.6	92.5	91.5	92.2	90.2	90.9
BANONE <sup>e</sup>	No baccalaureate or master's indicator	11.6	11.7	12.2	12.7	13.6	14.6	16.4	18.2	20.4	21.4	21.7
BAPLACE	Place of baccalaureate institution	93.1	93.6	91.6	92.3	92.9	92.4	93.4	92.3	93.2	91.6	92.3
BAYEAR	Year of baccalaureate	90.5	91.8	91.4	92.4	93.1	92.6	93.2	92.8	93.2	91.7	92.1
BIRTHMO	Month of birth	92.8	93.2	92.0	93.0	93.4	92.3	92.2	92.1	92.5	90.7	91.5
BIRTHPL	Place of birth	94.8	96.6	92.5	93.6	93.7	93.4	94.3	94.2	93.5	91.9	92.0
BIRTHYR	Year of birth	93.5	93.5	92.4	93.7	94.3	93.0	93.0	92.7	93.1	91.3	92.1
BLACK	Black race indicator	91.7	92.7	90.4	91.2	91.9	91.6	91.6	91.5	91.9	90.2	91.0
CITIZ	Type of citizenship	94.0	94.8	92.7	94.5	95.0	94.2	94.0	93.8	94.2	92.3	93.2
CNTRYCIT <sup>f</sup>	Country of citizenship	93.8	94.7	92.5	94.2	94.7	93.8	93.7	93.6	93.8	92.1	93.0
COGNDIS <sup>b</sup>	Learning or cognitive disability indicator	90.8	91.7	90.2	90.7	90.8	89.7	89.8	na	na	na	na
DDSDEG <sup>g</sup>	Earned a professional dental degree	na	na	na	na	na	na	88.6	88.9	88.8	87.6	87.8
DDSSTUDY <sup>g</sup>	Earning a professional dental degree	na	na	na	na	na	na	88.6	88.9	88.8	87.6	87.8
DEPEND5	Number of dependents-ages 5 or younger	89.1	90.7	88.5	88.7	88.2	88.3	89.2	89.9	89.5	88.4	88.2
DEPEND18	Number of dependents-ages 6-18	89.1	90.7	88.5	88.7	88.2	88.3	89.2	89.9	89.5	88.4	88.2
DEPEND19	Number of dependents-ages 19 and older	89.1	90.7	88.5	88.7	88.2	88.3	89.2	89.9	89.5	88.4	88.2
DIFAGE <sup>h</sup>	Earliest age experienced difficulties	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	90.8	89.4	89.3
DIFCOGN <sup>h</sup>	Degree of difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	91.0	89.6	89.5
DIFLIFT <sup>h</sup>	Degree of difficulty lifting	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	91.0	89.6	89.5
DIFHEAR <sup>h</sup>	Degree of difficulty hearing	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	91.0	89.6	89.5

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DIFSEE <sup>h</sup>	Degree of difficulty seeing	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	91.0	89.6	89.5
DIFWALK <sup>h</sup>	Degree of difficulty walking	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	91.0	89.6	89.5
DISABILITY1 <sup>b</sup>	Disability status	90.8	91.7	90.2	90.7	90.8	89.7	89.8	na	na	na	na
DISABILITY2 <sup>h</sup>	Moderate or greater degree of difficulty in any domain	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	91.0	89.6	89.5
DOCCODE	Type of doctorate (since 2004)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
EDFATHER	Father's education	90.7	91.6	89.6	90.3	90.7	90.8	90.8	90.7	90.0	88.6	88.3
EDMOTHER	Mother's education	90.8	91.7	89.8	90.4	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.8	90.1	88.6	88.4
GDEBTLVL	Graduate debt level	90.7	92.3	90.6	92.0	92.6	92.7	93.2	92.9	89.7	88.2	90.0
GEMONTH	Month of graduate entry	65.6	66.3	73.1	87.0	89.7	87.4	88.0	88.4	88.5	90.1	89.6
GEYEAR	Year of graduate entry	90.1	90.8	88.5	87.6	90.4	87.8	88.3	88.6	88.7	90.2	89.8
HAWAIIAN	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander race indicator	91.7	92.7	90.4	91.2	91.9	91.6	91.6	91.5	91.9	90.2	91.0
HISPANIC	Hispanic origin indicator	92.1	93.2	91.5	92.0	92.0	91.4	92.2	92.0	92.1	90.3	91.4
HSPLACE	Place of high school	91.8	93.1	90.0	90.9	91.1	90.8	91.8	91.7	91.2	89.7	88.2
JRCOLL	Junior college indicator	91.1	91.9	89.7	90.0	90.5	91.2	93.1	93.0	92.6	91.0	90.7
MAEMONTH <sup>c</sup>	Month of master's entry	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	67.8	67.4
MAEYEAR <sup>c</sup>	Year of master's entry	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	68.0	67.6
MAFIELD	Master's field	82.7	84.8	83.3	83.7	84.1	84.9	86.5	88.1	89.8	89.2	89.1
MAINST	Master's institution	85.4	85.9	84.7	84.4	85.2	85.5	87.1	88.4	89.7	89.1	88.9
MAMONTH	Month of master's	79.4	81.3	77.9	82.4	83.5	84.1	85.7	87.8	89.6	88.9	88.8
MANID	Master's institution (NCSES institution identification)	74.4	75.1	73.2	72.5	72.2	71.6	71.5	70.8	70.0	68.5	68.0
MARITAL	Marital status	90.8	91.7	90.0	90.4	90.9	91.0	91.0	91.0	90.4	88.9	88.8
MAYEAR	Year of master's	82.6	83.5	81.1	84.1	85.1	85.5	86.9	88.5	90.0	89.2	89.1
MDDEG <sup>g</sup>	Earned a professional medical degree	na	na	na	na	na	87.7	88.6	88.9	88.8	87.6	87.8
MDSTUDY <sup>g</sup>	Earning a professional medical degree	na	na	na	na	na	87.7	88.6	88.9	88.8	87.6	87.8
MEDDENT	Additional professional medical or dental degree	91.0	92.0	88.4	87.8	88.6	89.9	90.3	90.5	90.4	89.1	89.1
MSPREREQ	Prerequisite master's degree for doctoral program	89.6	91.3	89.4	90.1	90.5	91.5	91.5	91.1	90.7	89.2	89.0
ORTHDIS <sup>b</sup>	Physical or orthopedic disability indicator	90.8	91.7	90.2	90.7	90.8	89.7	89.8	na	na	na	na
OTHRDIS <sup>b</sup>	Other or unknown disability indicator	90.8	91.7	90.2	90.7	90.8	89.7	89.8	na	na	na	na
PDEMPLOY	Postgraduation employer type	99.1	96.7	98.4	98.0	98.0	97.8	98.6	98.5	99.0	99.5	99.3

**Table A-4. Item response rates: 2005–15  
(Percent)**

Variable name	Variable description	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
PDOCCODE <sup>e</sup>	Postgraduation institution affiliation in the U.S. (IPEDS)	34.8	37.3	32.2	31.7	32.5	31.9	31.1	30.6	28.4	26.7	26.0
PDOCNID <sup>e</sup>	Postgraduation institution affiliation in the U.S. (NCSES institution identification)	34.8	37.3	32.2	31.7	32.5	31.9	31.1	30.6	28.4	26.7	26.0
PDFORGN <sup>e</sup>	Postgraduation affiliation with a non-U.S. college or university	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.4	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.4	3.1
PDLOC	Postgraduation location	92.6	93.2	91.3	91.9	92.6	93.0	92.8	92.5	91.6	89.9	89.9
PDOCPLAN	Postgraduation plans	98.8	97.9	98.5	96.9	97.4	97.2	94.7	93.8	92.4	91.7	91.4
PDOCSTAT	Postgraduation status	91.0	92.2	90.1	90.2	90.7	91.3	91.4	91.4	90.8	89.3	89.2
PDSTDSUP	Postdoctoral study support	97.7	97.7	97.1	95.9	95.1	93.9	94.6	95.8	96.7	97.5	97.8
PDUSFOR	Postgraduation location: U.S. or foreign	92.6	93.2	91.3	91.9	92.6	93.0	92.8	92.5	91.6	89.9	89.9
PDWK1ED	Edited primary work activity	96.5	96.5	95.8	92.4	92.7	92.8	91.8	91.5	90.7	90.8	90.5
PDWK2ED <sup>e</sup>	Edited secondary work activity	59.6	58.4	58.1	53.1	52.6	50.6	50.1	50.8	50.2	49.8	49.4
PDWKPRIM	Primary work activity	96.5	96.5	95.8	92.4	92.7	92.8	91.8	91.5	90.7	90.8	90.5
PDWKSEC <sup>e</sup>	Secondary work activity	59.6	58.4	58.1	53.1	52.6	50.6	50.1	50.8	50.2	49.8	49.4
PHDCY	Calendar year of doctorate	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDDISS	Dissertation field	91.7	92.7	91.4	92.1	92.2	92.5	92.4	91.8	91.6	90.2	89.9
PHDDISS2 <sup>e</sup>	Secondary dissertation field	27.5	25.9	25.9	26.4	26.8	30.2	32.1	34.7	36.2	35.0	35.0
PHDEMONTH <sup>c</sup>	Month of doctoral program entry	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	89.6	89.5
PHDEYEAR <sup>i</sup>	Year of doctoral program entry	90.4	91.3	89.6	89.7	90.0	90.4	90.7	90.8	90.9	89.8	89.6
PHDFIELD	Doctoral field	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDFY	Fiscal year of doctorate	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDINST	Doctoral institution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDMONTH	Month of doctorate	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDNID	Doctoral institution (NCSES institution identification)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
POSTDOC	Intention to take postdoc position	89.9	90.8	89.6	90.4	90.9	91.4	91.5	91.6	91.1	89.5	89.5
PROFDEG <sup>e</sup>	Type of professional doctorate	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9
PROFYEAR <sup>e</sup>	Year of professional doctorate	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9
QUESTMON <sup>a</sup>	Month questionnaire filled out	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	89.9
QUESTYR <sup>j</sup>	Year questionnaire filled out	92.1	93.0	na	na	na	92.1	92.8	92.4	92.0	90.6	90.2
RACE	Edited race or ethnicity code	93.5	94.4	92.8	93.6	94.3	93.4	93.2	93.0	93.2	91.4	92.3
RACE2 <sup>a</sup>	Edited ethnicity or race code (NSF-revised)	93.5	94.4	92.8	93.6	94.3	93.4	93.2	93.0	93.2	91.4	92.3

**Table A-4. Item response rates: 2005–15  
(Percent)**

Variable name	Variable description	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
SALARYR <sup>k,l</sup>	Range of basic annual salary	na	na	na	na	91.9	91.0	89.7	89.0	87.6	88.7	88.7
SALARYV <sup>k</sup>	Basic annual salary	na	na	na	na	52.2	51.5	46.6	41.2	36.8	76.9	84.0
SALMONTH <sup>k</sup>	Number of months covered by basic annual salary	na	na	na	na	90.0	90.9	90.1	89.5	88.7	89.0	88.9
SEX	Sex of student	99.8	99.9	99.9	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	99.7	100.0
SRCE1ED	Edited primary source of support	90.2	91.0	89.1	90.5	90.5	90.9	91.0	91.1	90.7	89.6	89.4
SRCEPRIM	Primary source of support	90.2	91.0	89.1	90.5	90.5	90.9	91.0	91.1	90.7	89.6	89.4
SRCESEC	Secondary source of support	78.4	79.1	76.5	80.6	80.9	80.8	80.8	80.3	79.6	79.2	78.7
TICEPHD	Time in college entry-doctorate	85.9	86.7	85.8	85.5	86.3	86.9	87.6	88.2	88.8	87.3	87.2
TOBAGE	Time out baccalaureate-graduate entry	85.7	86.8	85.7	85.2	88.0	85.8	86.4	86.9	87.2	87.2	87.1
TTDBAPHD <sup>m</sup>	Total time elapsed from baccalaureate to doctorate	89.9	90.9	90.6	91.5	92.3	91.7	92.3	92.0	92.3	90.3	90.8
TTDDOC <sup>c</sup>	Total elapsed time in doctorate	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	89.9	89.7
TTDGEPHD <sup>m</sup>	Total time elapsed from graduate entry to doctorate	90.1	91.0	88.6	87.6	90.4	87.8	88.3	88.6	88.7	90.2	89.8
TUITREMS	Tuition remission-full or partial	89.5	90.5	88.8	89.5	89.9	90.4	91.3	91.5	91.2	90.0	89.7
UDEBTLVL	Undergraduate debt level	90.7	92.3	90.3	91.7	92.5	92.7	93.4	93.3	86.1	84.7	90.8
VISUDIS <sup>b</sup>	Blind or visual disability indicator	90.8	91.7	90.2	90.7	90.8	89.7	89.8	na	na	na	na
VOCLDIS <sup>b</sup>	Vocal or speech disability indicator	90.8	91.7	90.2	90.7	90.8	89.7	89.8	na	na	na	na
WHITE	White race indicator	91.7	92.7	90.4	91.2	91.9	91.6	91.6	91.5	91.9	90.2	91.0
YRSCOURS	Years of doctoral coursework	89.3	91.1	89.4	89.8	90.4	90.9	91.0	90.9	90.4	88.9	88.9
YRSDISST	Years preparing dissertation	89.4	91.3	89.2	89.7	90.2	90.9	91.1	91.0	90.5	89.0	88.9
YRSNOTWRK <sup>n</sup>	Years not working on doctoral degree	na	na	na	90.1	90.6	91.0	91.2	91.0	90.8	89.2	89.1

na = not applicable; data either were not collected or derived, or were collected for the first time in that year (see "NOTES").

IPEDS = Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System; NCSSES = National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics.

<sup>a</sup> Variable added to the Doctorate Records File in 2015.

<sup>b</sup> In 2012, survey stopped collecting data for this item.

<sup>c</sup> Variable added to the Doctorate Records File in 2014.

<sup>d</sup> Methodology reports prior to 2014 reported BAEYEAR as CEYEAR.

<sup>e</sup> Variable has low response rate because although all respondents are considered eligible to provide data for item, only some are able to do so.

<sup>f</sup> Response rate counts respondents who reported being U.S. citizens or permanent residents or temporary visa holders and provided country of citizenship.

<sup>g</sup> Item appeared on survey form for the first time in 2010 (see "NOTES").

**Table A-4. Item response rates: 2005–15  
(Percent)**

<sup>h</sup> Item appeared on survey form for the first time in 2012 (see "NOTES").

<sup>i</sup> Methodology reports prior to 2014 reported PHDEYEAR as PHDENTRY.

<sup>j</sup> Item appeared on all survey forms except 2007–09.

<sup>k</sup> Item appeared on survey form for the first time in 2008 (see "NOTES").

<sup>l</sup> Methodology reports prior to 2011 reported SALARYR as SALARY.

<sup>m</sup> Methodology reports prior to 2007 reported TTDBAPHD as TOTTD and TTDGEPHD as TTDGETOT.

<sup>n</sup> Item appeared on survey form for the first time in 2007 (see "NOTES").

NOTES: Response rate is the percentage of cases providing data on an item divided by the universe of doctorate recipients eligible to answer that item. For most items, the full universe of doctorate recipients establishes the universe of eligible respondents. However, the number of items that appeared on the survey form for the first time were restricted to a subset of the full universe because a high percentage of respondents submitted data on earlier versions of the survey form. Response rates for these variables are not reported in the year that the item appeared on the survey but are reported in subsequent years, when the item became available to the entire respondent universe.

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