

APPENDIX TABLE 3-21 
Plans of foreign recipients of U.S. doctorates to stay in the United States, by field of doctorate and place of origin: 2004–15

(Number and percent)

Field and place of origin	Foreign S&E doctorate recipients			Plans to stay (%)			Definite plans to stay (%)		
	2004–07	2008–11	2012–15	2004–07	2008–11	2012–15	2004–07	2008–11	2012–15
All S&E fields	49,857	55,506	59,922	76.7	75.5	75.4	51.0	49.6	45.2
China	15,561	16,120	19,078	91.0	85.6	83.4	58.9	54.9	49.4
India	5,774	8,936	9,113	89.1	86.6	86.5	61.9	57.8	50.9
South Korea	4,735	4,836	4,303	69.5	68.1	65.7	43.7	44.7	40.5
Taiwan	1,925	2,275	2,430	65.0	69.9	74.6	38.1	41.8	42.3
Iran	513	773	2,100	92.0	90.3	89.9	62.4	59.1	53.0
Turkey	1,486	1,920	1,632	68.0	67.1	65.9	47.0	46.3	41.5
Canada	1,603	1,749	1,545	66.9	66.2	66.3	50.0	47.1	44.5
Thailand	1,064	959	877	26.4	31.6	27.3	14.6	14.2	14.6
Germany	723	802	764	69.2	66.8	61.6	52.4	51.7	43.7
Japan	894	902	752	58.4	57.6	58.4	40.4	39.4	35.8
Mexico	771	739	744	49.9	56.0	63.0	37.2	39.9	37.2
Colombia	384	599	710	62.0	64.3	65.8	40.1	42.2	41.1
Nepal	96	319	635	84.4	87.8	88.0	60.4	55.8	49.0
Brazil	594	580	586	47.0	52.2	55.3	33.3	37.2	35.8
Sri Lanka	241	342	541	80.5	84.2	80.0	51.0	54.7	42.5
Other	13,493	13,655	14,112	69.3	68.3	66.5	47.0	45.5	40.4
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	2,120	2,093	2,309	59.9	63.4	65.5	36.9	38.4	36.2
China	414	380	567	85.7	78.7	78.1	52.4	48.2	42.3
India	152	276	269	88.8	85.1	82.9	56.6	45.7	42.4
South Korea	181	181	110	72.9	69.1	60.0	43.1	42.5	36.4
Thailand	98	73	96	17.3	19.2	20.8	7.1	9.6	10.4

Field and place of origin	Foreign S&E doctorate recipients			Plans to stay (%)			Definite plans to stay (%)		
	2004-07	2008-11	2012-15	2004-07	2008-11	2012-15	2004-07	2008-11	2012-15
Brazil	68	61	84	27.9	45.9	50.0	19.1	27.9	32.1
Mexico	108	94	81	31.5	36.2	55.6	21.3	21.3	33.3
Nepal	19	37	68	84.2	86.5	85.3	57.9	45.9	45.6
Taiwan	68	64	53	54.4	62.5	83.0	36.8	40.6	34.0
Canada	64	66	39	56.3	57.6	74.4	40.6	40.9	53.8
Colombia	30	39	37	53.3	59.0	59.5	26.7	48.7	40.5
Kenya	25	39	34	72.0	56.4	67.6	44.0	25.6	41.2
Sri Lanka	16	14	32	75.0	57.1	62.5	31.3	35.7	37.5
Philippines	24	38	31	50.0	52.6	67.7	37.5	42.1	41.9
Turkey	44	28	31	56.8	57.1	64.5	34.1	35.7	48.4
Ecuador	16	21	29	68.8	57.1	55.2	62.5	28.6	37.9
Other	793	682	748	49.7	55.9	56.3	30.0	34.8	30.6
Biological and biomedical sciences	8,135	10,092	10,204	84.7	82.7	81.0	58.6	54.9	47.7
China	2,859	3,277	3,155	93.9	88.6	84.6	62.3	56.6	49.6
India	1,073	1,807	2,101	92.3	90.4	89.1	65.6	58.8	49.5
Taiwan	344	508	569	82.3	80.9	83.8	53.8	53.7	50.3
South Korea	581	650	503	90.2	85.8	88.5	67.8	61.5	55.7
Canada	338	426	314	75.1	73.7	73.6	57.4	53.3	39.8
Turkey	135	164	170	79.3	79.3	79.4	60.0	59.8	50.6
Japan	112	153	154	78.6	77.1	76.0	59.8	54.9	44.2
Germany	125	151	146	81.6	72.8	72.6	64.8	52.3	39.0
Colombia	74	128	134	54.1	70.3	71.6	32.4	49.2	41.8
Brazil	116	135	129	53.4	58.5	64.3	39.7	43.0	37.2
Thailand	106	106	126	17.9	33.0	34.9	15.1	20.8	23.8
Mexico	104	108	114	61.5	64.8	70.2	51.9	45.4	38.6
Nepal	8	44	114	87.5	86.4	89.5	s	54.5	50.9

Field and place of origin	Foreign S&E doctorate recipients			Plans to stay (%)			Definite plans to stay (%)		
	2004-07	2008-11	2012-15	2004-07	2008-11	2012-15	2004-07	2008-11	2012-15
Singapore	47	45	107	66.0	44.4	36.4	40.4	31.1	28.0
Iran	30	42	89	100.0	100.0	85.4	63.3	61.9	51.7
Other	2,083	2,348	2,279	77.1	76.7	74.4	s	51.5	45.9
Health sciences	1,941	2,105	2,227	65.8	71.7	70.8	41.3	44.4	40.1
India	308	425	454	91.6	88.2	87.2	58.4	53.9	45.2
China	337	382	439	88.7	83.2	82.9	60.2	54.7	51.0
South Korea	159	187	177	73.0	79.7	72.3	37.7	49.7	37.3
Taiwan	197	186	153	44.2	58.1	62.1	21.8	38.2	37.3
Canada	110	113	110	68.2	68.1	63.6	54.5	45.1	46.4
Thailand	120	89	73	11.7	18.0	11.0	5.8	s	s
Jordan	38	45	58	18.4	37.8	41.4	s	11.1	13.8
Saudi Arabia	31	17	46	s	s	19.6	0.0	0.0	s
Japan	45	51	44	64.4	47.1	68.2	44.4	29.4	34.1
Nigeria	18	25	42	77.8	92.0	85.7	61.1	32.0	33.3
Egypt	39	28	35	53.8	78.6	82.9	33.3	42.9	57.1
Brazil	46	35	34	47.8	45.7	73.5	26.1	31.4	41.2
Ghana	5	7	24	100.0	100.0	70.8	s	s	33.3
Nepal	s	13	21	s	84.6	90.5	0.0	38.5	57.1
Colombia	12	21	20	83.3	81.0	60.0	50.0	47.6	40.0
Germany	19	30	20	63.2	80.0	65.0	31.6	46.7	60.0
United Kingdom	27	28	20	66.7	85.7	70.0	51.9	67.9	45.0
Other	s	423	457	s	s	63.0	37.1	41.4	36.3
Physical and earth sciences	8,051	8,674	9,031	81.1	78.1	76.9	55.7	53.8	46.8
China	2,836	3,064	3,392	90.9	85.8	84.1	59.8	57.3	49.5
India	645	1,109	1,234	86.7	83.3	83.4	61.4	58.7	49.9
South Korea	579	549	450	80.8	74.5	64.4	57.0	57.6	42.0

Field and place of origin	Foreign S&E doctorate recipients			Plans to stay (%)			Definite plans to stay (%)		
	2004-07	2008-11	2012-15	2004-07	2008-11	2012-15	2004-07	2008-11	2012-15
Taiwan	208	241	332	77.9	73.4	73.8	57.2	51.0	49.7
Sri Lanka	94	159	251	81.9	83.6	80.1	53.2	54.1	41.8
Nepal	20	110	200	100.0	87.3	88.5	80.0	60.9	52.5
Canada	283	246	177	66.1	63.8	65.5	50.2	48.8	51.4
Turkey	169	251	169	78.7	77.7	63.3	53.3	52.2	40.2
Russian Federation	330	209	159	81.8	82.3	83.6	57.6	58.9	52.8
Germany	142	143	153	66.9	58.0	57.5	48.6	46.2	42.5
Iran	62	47	136	85.5	83.0	81.6	59.7	48.9	50.0
Mexico	95	106	102	56.8	58.5	65.7	42.1	46.2	42.2
Japan	127	134	100	57.5	64.9	60.0	36.2	47.0	39.0
Colombia	54	72	98	70.4	58.3	72.4	57.4	33.3	46.9
Thailand	84	89	95	35.7	33.7	26.3	22.6	19.1	13.7
Other	2,323	2,145	1,983	74.7	71.8	69.4	52.3	49.1	43.0
Mathematics and computer sciences	5,807	6,700	7,851	78.4	76.9	79.4	56.3	53.3	52.9
China	2,101	2,443	3,300	91.3	86.0	87.0	65.1	58.6	56.9
India	638	976	970	86.4	84.4	84.6	64.7	60.5	58.8
South Korea	445	475	470	75.1	71.4	70.9	47.2	43.4	46.8
Taiwan	171	177	228	63.7	70.1	72.8	40.4	42.4	46.9
Turkey	169	237	206	69.2	62.4	74.3	53.8	46.4	49.0
Iran	60	57	196	83.3	77.2	89.3	60.0	47.4	62.2
Canada	130	141	144	65.4	59.6	68.8	53.8	48.9	59.0
Vietnam	21	62	139	81.0	71.0	79.1	66.7	53.2	51.8
Bangladesh	23	45	105	100.0	88.9	94.3	91.3	60.0	53.3
Thailand	68	104	93	17.6	27.9	28.0	10.3	12.5	16.1
Jordan	35	42	91	37.1	35.7	50.5	20.0	23.8	22.0
Greece	82	70	88	58.5	65.7	78.4	50.0	50.0	59.1

Field and place of origin	Foreign S&E doctorate recipients			Plans to stay (%)			Definite plans to stay (%)		
	2004-07	2008-11	2012-15	2004-07	2008-11	2012-15	2004-07	2008-11	2012-15
Romania	213	161	85	87.3	85.1	87.1	67.6	65.2	62.4
Germany	101	107	84	62.4	57.0	65.5	47.5	45.8	46.4
Italy	50	64	81	64.0	62.5	64.2	60.0	45.3	42.0
Mexico	64	77	81	51.6	67.5	63.0	35.9	46.8	39.5
Other	1,436	1,462	1,490	66.9	69.9	69.1	47.3	49.7	46.9
Psychology and social sciences	6,730	7,589	7,578	59.7	57.6	56.1	42.5	39.4	35.8
China	811	1,104	1,320	77.9	69.6	62.7	57.6	47.5	40.5
South Korea	738	780	807	47.3	46.9	48.7	29.8	29.9	29.9
India	371	539	506	77.4	75.5	72.9	55.3	53.2	45.8
Canada	444	454	470	58.8	55.5	55.1	43.7	39.4	37.0
Turkey	307	464	340	49.8	46.1	41.8	36.8	32.1	27.1
Taiwan	278	281	296	42.4	44.8	45.3	24.5	23.8	23.6
Japan	373	373	284	47.7	50.4	47.9	35.7	33.8	30.3
Germany	199	239	213	65.8	65.7	59.6	52.3	54.0	48.4
Mexico	172	160	158	41.3	50.6	53.2	33.1	36.3	26.6
Brazil	133	130	134	44.4	43.1	42.5	34.6	30.8	25.4
Italy	151	130	133	64.9	54.6	55.6	53.6	43.8	43.6
United Kingdom	122	116	133	79.5	71.6	66.9	59.8	54.3	43.6
Argentina	128	122	132	68.0	56.6	59.8	55.5	45.9	50.0
Colombia	74	96	111	43.2	45.8	45.0	27.0	32.3	33.3
Russian Federation	150	107	94	74.0	70.1	61.7	48.7	42.1	37.2
Other	2,279	2,494	2,447	59.3	56.8	56.0	41.2	37.9	34.8
Engineering	17,073	18,253	20,722	80.1	79.1	79.2	49.5	49.5	45.2
China	6,203	5,470	6,905	91.7	87.5	85.2	55.5	52.9	48.0
India	2,587	3,804	3,579	90.4	87.8	88.6	61.4	58.3	52.0
South Korea	2,052	2,014	1,786	66.6	66.8	65.7	37.8	41.6	39.5



Field and place of origin	Foreign S&E doctorate recipients			Plans to stay (%)			Definite plans to stay (%)		
	2004-07	2008-11	2012-15	2004-07	2008-11	2012-15	2004-07	2008-11	2012-15
Iran	321	576	1,581	93.8	91.1	91.5	64.2	61.3	52.5
Taiwan	659	818	799	69.0	73.8	81.5	34.1	38.5	40.7
Turkey	647	768	706	71.7	75.4	72.9	46.4	50.7	44.1
Thailand	465	360	310	33.5	40.3	31.9	17.2	16.1	16.5
Canada	234	303	291	74.8	77.6	75.6	49.6	49.8	48.1
Egypt	232	177	273	70.7	74.6	70.0	46.6	43.5	36.6
Colombia	114	192	260	77.2	71.4	71.9	50.0	41.1	41.9
Bangladesh	120	144	259	87.5	83.3	86.5	50.8	50.0	42.1
Mexico	208	176	191	56.7	59.7	69.1	38.9	41.5	42.4
Pakistan	83	122	184	75.9	61.5	54.3	42.2	40.2	30.4
Jordan	173	181	170	61.8	61.3	54.7	31.8	39.2	27.6
Vietnam	19	95	159	78.9	74.7	76.7	47.4	49.5	45.3
Other	2,956	3,053	3,269	70.2	69.6	67.7	44.4	44.4	38.7

s = suppressed for reasons of confidentiality and/or reliability.

Note(s)

For each broad field of doctorate, data are presented for the source countries with the largest numbers of U.S. doctorate recipients in that field in 2012-15. Data include foreign doctorate recipients who are on permanent or temporary visas and also those whose visa status is unknown. The information on a plan to stay or a definite plan to stay reflects intentions within the year after graduation as reported by the doctoral recipient around the graduation date. Recipients who plan to stay think they will locate in the United States; those with definite plans have a postdoctoral research appointment or a definite employment plan in the United States. Percentages are based on the total number of foreign S&E doctorate recipients, including those who did not report their postgraduate location plans or employment plans. The percentage of foreign S&E doctorate recipients who did not report postgraduate location plans ranged from 1.9% to 4.5% over the 2004-15 period, and the percentage who either did not report postgraduate location plans or did not report employment plans ranged from 3.3% to 6.8% over that period.

Source(s)

National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, special tabulations (2016) of the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED) (2015).

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