

Table 59. Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in physical sciences and earth sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2016

Characteristic	All physical sciences and earth sciences fields	Chemistry	Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	Physics and astronomy
All doctorate recipients (number) ^a	6,252	2,704	1,227	2,321
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				
Definite postgraduation study	2,116	835	473	808
Definite employment	1,350	601	265	484
Seeking employment or study	1,988	894	364	730
Other ^c	198	91	37	70
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship	38.4	38.0	42.5	36.4
Postdoc research associateship	60.9	61.3	56.9	62.9
Other or unknown ^e	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	21.0	19.8	32.5	16.3
Government	9.1	4.5	22.3	7.6
Industry or business ^g	64.3	72.7	38.5	68.0
Nonprofit organization	3.2	1.5	3.8	5.0
Other or unknown ^h	2.4	1.5	3.0	3.1
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	65.3	68.7	51.7	68.6
Teaching	16.6	15.5	25.6	13.1
Management or administration	3.2	3.8	2.9	2.5
Professional services	10.4	8.6	15.1	10.1
Other	4.5	3.5	4.6	5.7
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	14.3	11.5	28.2	10.3
Teaching	3.2	2.0	7.6	2.3
Management or administration	19.8	23.7	18.9	15.4
Professional services	9.1	8.7	11.3	8.3
Other	2.4	2.2	1.7	3.0
No secondary activity	51.3	51.9	32.4	60.8
Activity unknown	9.4	8.7	10.2	9.9
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	89.1	92.2	87.5	86.5
New England	9.8	11.8	6.6	9.5
Middle Atlantic	11.9	12.6	8.8	12.8
East North Central	10.9	12.5	7.3	11.2
West North Central	3.5	4.9	3.7	1.9
South Atlantic	13.9	14.2	15.0	12.8
East South Central	2.5	3.2	1.8	2.0
West South Central	6.3	6.3	10.8	3.8
Mountain	7.2	4.6	10.2	8.5
Pacific and insular	22.9	21.9	23.2	23.9
Not in United States	10.9	7.8	12.5	13.4
Location unknown	*	0.0	0.0	0.1

Table 59. Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in physical sciences and earth sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2016

Characteristic	All physical sciences and earth sciences fields	Chemistry	Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	Physics and astronomy
Male doctorate recipients (number)	4,286	1,713	716	1,857
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				
Definite postgraduation study	1,509	575	279	655
Definite employment	920	364	164	392
Seeking employment or study	1,337	550	204	583
Other ^c	119	45	19	55
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship	38.2	39.3	41.2	36.0
Postdoc research associateship	61.4	60.2	58.4	63.7
Other or unknown ^e	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	18.4	17.6	27.4	15.3
Government	9.3	3.8	25.6	7.7
Industry or business ^g	67.7	76.6	42.1	70.2
Nonprofit organization	2.2	D	D	3.6
Other or unknown ^h	2.4	D	D	3.3
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	67.7	71.6	54.4	69.8
Teaching	13.4	12.7	19.5	11.4
Management or administration	2.6	2.7	D	D
Professional services	11.9	10.0	18.8	10.8
Other	4.3	3.0	D	D
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	13.1	10.6	26.2	10.0
Teaching	3.2	1.8	D	D
Management or administration	20.6	26.3	18.1	16.2
Professional services	8.7	7.9	11.4	8.3
Other	2.4	2.1	D	D
No secondary activity	52.0	51.4	33.6	60.4
Activity unknown	9.7	9.1	9.1	10.5
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	88.7	91.5	86.5	87.1
New England	10.0	12.9	5.4	9.4
Middle Atlantic	11.7	11.1	9.3	13.3
East North Central	11.4	13.3	6.5	11.7
West North Central	3.5	5.2	3.6	1.9
South Atlantic	13.1	12.9	14.7	12.5
East South Central	2.4	3.3	1.6	2.0
West South Central	6.5	6.2	13.3	3.8
Mountain	7.7	4.9	11.5	8.6
Pacific and insular	22.4	21.5	20.5	24.0
Not in United States	11.3	8.5	13.5	12.8

Table 59. Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in physical sciences and earth sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2016

Characteristic	All physical sciences and earth sciences fields	Chemistry	Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	Physics and astronomy
Location unknown	*	0.0	0.0	0.1
Female doctorate recipients (number)	1,963	991	510	462
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				
Definite postgraduation study	607	260	194	153
Definite employment	430	237	101	92
Seeking employment or study	651	344	160	147
Other ^c	79	46	18	15
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship	38.7	35.0	44.3	37.9
Postdoc research associateship	59.8	63.8	54.6	59.5
Other or unknown ^e	1.5	1.2	1.0	2.6
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	26.7	23.2	40.6	20.7
Government	8.6	5.5	16.8	7.6
Industry or business ^g	57.0	66.7	32.7	58.7
Nonprofit organization	5.3	D	D	10.9
Other or unknown ^h	2.3	D	D	2.2
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	60.2	64.2	47.2	63.5
Teaching	23.5	19.7	36.0	20.0
Management or administration	4.3	5.5	D	D
Professional services	7.1	6.4	9.0	7.1
Other	4.8	4.1	D	D
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	16.8	12.8	31.5	11.8
Teaching	3.1	2.3	D	D
Management or administration	18.1	19.7	20.2	11.8
Professional services	9.9	10.1	11.2	8.2
Other	2.3	2.3	D	D
No secondary activity	49.7	52.8	30.3	62.4
Activity unknown	8.8	8.0	11.9	7.6
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	90.1	93.6	89.2	84.1
New England	9.5	9.7	8.5	10.2
Middle Atlantic	12.2	15.5	8.1	10.6
East North Central	9.9	11.1	8.5	9.4
West North Central	3.7	4.4	3.7	2.0
South Atlantic	15.8	16.7	15.6	14.3
East South Central	2.5	3.0	2.0	2.0
West South Central	6.1	6.6	7.1	3.7
Mountain	6.2	4.0	8.1	8.2
Pacific and insular	24.1	22.5	27.1	23.7

Table 59. Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in physical sciences and earth sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2016

Characteristic	All physical sciences and earth sciences fields	Chemistry	Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	Physics and astronomy
Not in United States	9.9	6.4	10.8	15.9
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

* = value < 0.05%; D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

^a Includes respondents who did not report sex.

^b Includes only respondents who reported postgraduation status.

^c 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.

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

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

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

^g Includes doctorate recipients who indicated self-employment.

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

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

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

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

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

NOTES: Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100. 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, 2016.