

TABLE 42. Postgraduation commitment of doctorate recipients, by broad field of study: Selected years, 1993–2013

Commitment status	All fields	Life sciences <sup>a</sup>	Physical sciences <sup>b</sup>	Social sciences <sup>c</sup>	Engineering	Education	Humanities	Other <sup>d</sup>
All doctorate recipients (number)								
1993	39,800	7,463	6,428	6,759	5,698	6,689	4,267	2,496
1998	42,638	8,612	6,670	7,289	5,922	6,569	5,295	2,281
2003	40,766	8,508	5,831	7,004	5,280	6,651	5,192	2,300
2008	48,778	11,086	8,133	7,515	7,864	6,561	4,719	2,900
2013	52,760	12,305	9,290	8,401	8,963	4,944	5,662	3,195
All responses to postgraduation commitment								
1993	36,546	6,941	5,883	6,208	5,165	6,116	3,960	2,273
1998	38,244	7,817	6,053	6,393	5,335	5,792	4,811	2,043
2003	36,869	7,865	5,398	6,241	4,872	5,749	4,753	1,991
2008	44,018	10,143	7,409	6,708	7,095	5,856	4,259	2,548
2013	47,793	11,320	8,518	7,519	8,096	4,436	5,089	2,815
Definite commitment for employment or postdoctoral study (%) <sup>e</sup>								
1993	67.0	73.3	66.0	65.7	55.7	73.0	59.9	75.6
1998	69.7	71.8	71.6	67.9	69.8	73.7	58.4	76.4
2003	71.3	72.1	73.6	73.2	64.6	75.7	64.1	77.3
2008	69.2	65.8	71.2	72.7	65.1	73.7	64.8	76.5
2013	62.7	58.5	65.9	69.3	59.3	65.8	54.8	70.6
No definite commitment for employment or postdoctoral study (%) <sup>e,f</sup>								
1993	33.0	26.7	34.0	34.3	44.3	27.0	40.1	24.4
1998	30.3	28.2	28.4	32.1	30.2	26.3	41.6	23.6
2003	28.7	27.9	26.4	26.8	35.4	24.3	35.9	22.7
2008	30.8	34.2	28.8	27.3	34.9	26.3	35.2	23.5
2013	37.3	41.5	34.1	30.7	40.7	34.2	45.2	29.4

<sup>a</sup> Includes agricultural sciences and natural resources; biological, biomedical sciences; and health sciences.

<sup>b</sup> Includes mathematics and computer and information sciences.

<sup>c</sup> Includes psychology.

<sup>d</sup> Non-science and engineering fields not shown separately.

<sup>e</sup> Percentages based on number responding to the survey item on postgraduation commitment.

<sup>f</sup> Includes respondents who indicated "other" in all years and respondents who indicated "do not plan to work or study" in 2008 and 2013. Also includes 765 respondents in 2008 and 747 respondents in 2013 who indicated definite plans for "other full-time degree program."

SOURCE: NSF, NIH, USED, USDA, NEH, NASA, Survey of Earned Doctorates.