

Appendix table 3-11

Postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients with definite commitments, by broad field of study: Selected years, 1991–2011

Definite commitment and plan	All fields	Life sciences ^a	Physical sciences ^b	Social sciences ^c	Engineering	Education	Humanities	Other ^d
All definite commitments								
1991	24,217	4,798	4,034	4,041	2,871	4,462	2,306	1,705
1996	26,077	5,435	4,081	4,175	3,654	4,484	2,625	1,623
2001	27,052	5,630	4,133	4,631	3,642	4,215	3,231	1,570
2006	30,105	6,473	5,081	4,835	4,353	4,226	3,263	1,874
2011	29,332	6,635	5,556	5,042	4,667	2,901	2,733	1,798
Reported type of plan								
1991	24,114	4,788	4,029	4,032	2,861	4,419	2,289	1,696
1996	26,031	5,427	4,075	4,166	3,648	4,477	2,619	1,619
2001	26,906	5,612	4,122	4,607	3,628	4,183	3,197	1,557
2006	29,500	6,333	5,020	4,742	4,292	4,107	3,174	1,832
2011	27,750	6,315	5,351	4,763	4,411	2,724	2,527	1,659
Percent^e								
Employment								
1991	72.5	37.6	51.5	82.6	78.9	96.1	93.0	97.1
1996	70.5	35.2	50.1	77.8	77.5	97.2	92.7	96.4
2001	71.0	39.1	55.3	73.8	81.1	94.1	90.3	93.7
2006	66.1	35.5	48.1	71.0	70.4	95.1	89.1	94.2
2011	57.3	30.7	41.8	63.0	59.0	92.1	82.7	92.3
Postdoctoral study								
1991	27.5	62.4	48.5	17.4	21.1	3.9	7.0	2.9
1996	29.5	64.8	49.9	22.2	22.5	2.8	7.3	3.6
2001	29.0	60.9	44.7	26.2	18.9	5.9	9.7	6.3
2006	33.9	64.5	51.9	29.0	29.6	4.9	10.9	5.8
2011	42.7	69.3	58.2	37.0	41.0	7.9	17.3	7.7

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

^b Includes mathematics and computer and information sciences.

^c Includes psychology.

^d Non-S&E fields are not shown separately.

^e Percentages are based on the number reporting definite postgraduation commitments with response to type of plan (employment or postdoctoral study).

SOURCE: National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), *Doctorate Recipients from U.S. Universities: 2011*, http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/sed/2011/data_table.cfm.