

TABLE 34

Highest educational attainment of either parent of doctorate recipients: Selected years, 1987–2017

(Percent)

Year	High school or less	Some college <sup>a</sup>	Bachelor's degree	Advanced degree
1987	36.4	14.5	22.6	26.6
1992	31.4	15.4	20.9	32.3
1997	26.5	13.9	22.6	37.0
2002	23.6	13.5	22.9	40.1
2007	21.2	13.4	25.9	39.1
2012	18.9	12.4	25.6	42.5
2017	17.4	13.3	26.1	42.7

<sup>a</sup> Includes those who attended college but did not earn a bachelor's.

**Note(s)**

Percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding and because 201 doctorate recipients (0.47%) reported "not applicable/unknown" for both father's and mother's education in 2007, 278 doctorate recipients (0.61%) reported "not applicable/unknown" for both father's and mother's education in 2012, and 249 doctorate recipients (0.52%) reported "not applicable/unknown" for both father's and mother's education in 2017.

**Source(s)**

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