

TABLE 45

Postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients with definite commitments, by sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, and race:  
Selected years, 1997–2017

(Number and percent)

Definite commitment, plan, and year	Total <sup>a</sup>	Sex		Citizenship status		U.S. citizens and permanent residents							Ethnicity not reported	
		Male	Female	U.S. citizen or permanent resident	Temporary visa holder	Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino					More than one race		Other race or race not reported
							American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Black or African American	White				
All definite commitments (number)														
1997	25,541	15,307	10,227	20,044	5,463	749	116	1,810	924	16,023	na	308	114	
2002	26,144	14,578	11,565	19,574	6,545	939	106	1,391	1,090	15,363	183	250	252	
2007	29,812	16,417	13,394	20,116	9,629	1,092	88	1,436	1,176	15,581	353	189	201	
2012	30,656	16,819	13,834	21,308	9,238	1,271	69	1,716	1,115	16,258	549	151	179	
2017	33,023	18,102	14,920	22,507	10,389	1,604	64	2,017	1,423	16,469	664	192	74	
Reported type of plan														
1997	24,987	15,008	9,975	19,609	5,346	727	113	1,782	886	15,691	na	301	109	
2002	26,037	14,514	11,522	19,512	6,502	938	106	1,388	1,084	15,315	183	250	248	
2007	29,399	16,210	13,188	19,804	9,534	1,071	86	1,417	1,144	15,354	349	184	199	
2012	28,749	15,799	12,947	19,881	8,763	1,177	68	1,609	1,023	15,185	501	144	174	
2017	32,239	17,694	14,544	21,908	10,213	1,539	62	1,970	1,351	16,085	644	187	70	
Employment (%) <sup>b</sup>														
1997	71.6	69.8	74.4	74.4	61.4	77.2	88.5	63.1	81.8	75.1	na	73.8	67.0	
2002	69.5	67.2	72.5	72.3	61.4	72.9	82.1	61.2	77.0	72.9	67.2	70.0	77.0	
2007	63.8	61.8	66.3	67.1	57.0	64.6	D	57.3	76.6	67.5	61.6	62.0	71.9	
2012	59.8	59.0	60.8	62.3	54.2	59.9	75.0	55.3	71.8	62.8	54.5	56.9	65.5	
2017	60.9	60.2	61.7	62.8	56.7	59.5	67.7	59.3	70.3	63.1	57.9	61.0	68.6	
Postdoctoral study (%) <sup>b</sup>														
1997	28.4	30.2	25.6	25.6	38.6	22.8	11.5	36.9	18.2	24.9	na	26.2	33.0	
2002	30.5	32.8	27.5	27.7	38.6	27.1	17.9	38.8	23.0	27.1	32.8	30.0	23.0	
2007	36.2	38.2	33.7	32.9	43.0	35.4	D	42.7	23.4	32.5	38.4	38.0	28.1	
2012	40.2	41.0	39.2	37.7	45.8	40.1	25.0	44.7	28.2	37.2	45.5	43.1	34.5	
2017	39.1	39.8	38.3	37.2	43.3	40.5	32.3	40.7	29.7	36.9	42.1	39.0	31.4	

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information. na = not applicable; respondents were instructed to indicate only one race.

<sup>a</sup> Includes respondents who did not report sex and respondents who did not report citizenship status.

<sup>b</sup> Percentages based on number reporting definite commitments and type of plan (employment or postdoctoral study).

**Source(s)**

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