

TABLE 48

Median expected basic annual salary for doctorate recipients with definite postgraduation plans in the United States, by field of study, type of postgraduation plans, and sex: 2017

(Dollars)

Field of study	Employment		Postdoctoral study	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
All fields	88,000	70,000	48,000	47,476
Science and engineering	93,000	75,000	48,000	47,476
Life sciences	80,000	75,000	47,484	47,476
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	78,500	70,000	46,100	47,000
Biological and biomedical sciences	80,000	75,000	47,484	47,467
Health sciences	80,000	76,500	47,500	47,844
Physical sciences and earth sciences	85,750	80,000	50,000	50,000
Chemistry	80,000	85,000	47,484	47,476
Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	73,000	68,000	53,000	50,000
Physics and astronomy	100,000	100,000	54,000	55,000
Mathematics and computer sciences	113,000	99,000	60,000	60,000
Psychology and social sciences	75,000	65,000	47,500	45,000
Psychology	69,000	65,000	45,000	45,000
Economics	109,000	100,000	60,000	65,000
Social sciences <sup>a</sup>	66,000	62,000	50,000	48,000
Engineering	100,000	94,000	50,000	48,000
Non-science and engineering	68,000	62,000	47,700	48,000
Education	72,000	65,000	47,000	50,000
Humanities and arts	52,251	50,000	45,000	47,488
Business management and administration	125,000	116,000	70,000	70,000
Other non-S&E fields <sup>b</sup>	65,000	63,000	50,000	47,000

S&E = science and engineering.

<sup>a</sup> Excludes economics, which is usually included within social sciences.

<sup>b</sup> Excludes business management and administration, which is usually included within other non-S&E fields.

**Note(s)**

Basic annual salary is based on the job or postdoctoral study expected to hold in the next year. Median salaries in this table are the exact salary values of respondents at the 50th percentile of their frequency distribution; salary values are rounded to the nearest dollar. See table A-6 in the technical notes for a listing of major fields and their constituent subfields.

**Source(s)**

National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates, 2017.