

TABLE 57

Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in life sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2017
(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All life sciences fields	Agricultural sciences and natural resources	Biological and biomedical sciences	Health sciences
All doctorate recipients (number) ^a	12,592	1,606	8,477	2,509
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				
Definite postgraduation study	4,406	376	3,550	480
Definite employment	2,995	496	1,447	1,052
Seeking employment or study	3,515	476	2,412	627
Other ^c	631	41	517	73
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	93.8	97.1	94.0	89.8
Other or unknown ^e	6.2	2.9	6.0	10.2
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	42.6	43.1	33.9	54.4
Government	10.6	16.9	9.3	9.4
Industry or business ^g	35.2	32.1	48.2	18.7
Nonprofit organization	9.8	6.5	7.1	15.0
Other or unknown ^h	1.8	1.4	1.5	2.5
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	44.9	55.4	52.0	30.4
Teaching	24.7	21.4	16.2	37.8
Management or administration	9.4	8.9	7.3	12.6
Professional services	14.7	7.9	16.4	15.5
Other	6.3	6.4	8.1	3.6
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	26.0	25.9	17.2	37.9
Teaching	12.2	21.0	7.6	14.3
Management or administration	13.2	12.2	15.1	11.2
Professional services	7.3	4.6	7.7	8.1
Other	2.0	2.7	2.2	1.3
No secondary activity	39.3	33.6	50.1	27.2
Activity unknown	3.4	2.8	4.1	2.8
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	92.8	85.2	94.2	92.7
New England	10.3	4.5	12.4	6.7
Middle Atlantic	12.8	7.3	13.7	12.8
East North Central	11.4	12.2	10.9	12.5
West North Central	6.6	13.5	5.4	6.7
South Atlantic	17.7	17.0	16.5	21.8
East South Central	4.1	4.5	3.5	5.9
West South Central	6.8	5.0	6.4	8.8
Mountain	4.6	7.3	4.3	4.4
Pacific and insular	17.8	13.2	20.2	12.7
Not in United States	7.2	14.8	5.8	7.3
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Male doctorate recipients (number)	5,629	809	4,014	806
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				
Definite postgraduation study	2,155	206	1,755	194
Definite employment	1,260	264	693	303
Seeking employment or study	1,479	233	1,048	198
Other ^c	309	15	273	21

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Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in life sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2017
(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All life sciences fields	Agricultural sciences and natural resources	Biological and biomedical sciences	Health sciences
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	93.3	97.6	93.6	86.1
Other or unknown ^e	6.7	2.4	6.4	13.9
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	39.6	37.1	33.3	56.1
Government	9.8	14.8	9.1	7.3
Industry or business ^g	41.5	39.8	49.9	23.8
Nonprofit organization	7.5	6.4	6.3	10.9
Other or unknown ^h	1.6	1.9	1.3	2.0
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	53.1	62.0	57.6	35.0
Teaching	20.6	17.4	14.8	36.4
Management or administration	7.8	8.5	7.2	8.5
Professional services	13.2	7.0	13.4	18.0
Other	5.4	5.0	7.0	2.0
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	25.1	25.6	17.8	40.8
Teaching	12.1	19.0	7.8	15.6
Management or administration	13.5	12.8	15.1	10.5
Professional services	6.9	4.7	7.5	7.5
Other	2.0	3.1	2.3	0.3
No secondary activity	40.5	34.9	49.5	25.2
Activity unknown	4.1	2.3	5.3	3.0
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	92.3	85.3	94.0	90.5
New England	9.8	3.6	11.8	6.0
Middle Atlantic	13.0	7.0	14.1	13.3
East North Central	11.6	11.9	11.1	13.7
West North Central	7.1	14.9	5.7	6.4
South Atlantic	15.9	16.2	15.4	17.7
East South Central	4.1	5.5	3.5	6.0
West South Central	7.1	6.0	6.8	9.3
Mountain	4.7	7.2	4.0	5.6
Pacific and insular	18.3	11.9	20.8	11.9
Not in United States	7.7	14.7	6.0	9.5
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Female doctorate recipients (number)	6,958	795	4,461	1,702
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				
Definite postgraduation study	2,251	170	1,795	286
Definite employment	1,735	232	754	749
Seeking employment or study	2,036	243	1,364	429
Other ^c	322	26	244	52
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	94.3	96.5	94.4	92.3
Other or unknown ^e	5.7	3.5	5.6	7.7
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	44.8	50.0	34.5	53.7

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Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in life sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2017
(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All life sciences fields	Agricultural sciences and natural resources	Biological and biomedical sciences	Health sciences
Government	11.2	19.4	9.5	10.3
Industry or business ^g	30.5	23.3	46.6	16.7
Nonprofit organization	11.5	6.5	7.8	16.7
Other or unknown ^h	2.0	0.9	1.6	2.7
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	39.1	47.8	47.0	28.5
Teaching	27.7	25.9	17.5	38.4
Management or administration	10.6	9.4	7.4	14.3
Professional services	15.7	8.9	19.0	14.5
Other	6.9	8.0	9.2	4.3
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	26.6	26.3	16.7	36.8
Teaching	12.3	23.2	7.5	13.7
Management or administration	13.1	11.6	15.0	11.5
Professional services	7.7	4.5	7.9	8.4
Other	2.0	2.2	2.2	1.6
No secondary activity	38.4	32.1	50.7	28.0
Activity unknown	2.9	3.4	2.9	2.7
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	93.3	85.1	94.4	93.7
New England	10.7	5.5	13.0	7.1
Middle Atlantic	12.5	7.7	13.3	12.6
East North Central	11.2	12.4	10.7	11.9
West North Central	6.3	11.9	5.2	6.8
South Atlantic	19.2	17.9	17.6	23.8
East South Central	4.1	3.2	3.6	5.8
West South Central	6.5	4.0	6.0	8.6
Mountain	4.6	7.5	4.5	3.8
Pacific and insular	17.4	14.7	19.5	13.1
Not in United States	6.7	14.9	5.6	6.3
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

^a Includes respondents who did not report sex.

^b Includes only respondents who reported postgraduation status.

^c Includes respondents who indicated that they did not plan to work or study, respondents who indicated some other type of postgraduation plans, and respondents who indicated definite plans for other full-time degree program.

^d Excludes respondents who indicated plans for other full-time degree program. Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for study.

^e "Other" includes respondents who indicated definite postgraduation study plans for traineeship, internship or clinical residency, or other study.

^f Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment.

^g Includes doctorate recipients who indicated self-employment.

^h "Other" is mainly composed of elementary and secondary schools.

ⁱ Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment and primary work activity.

^j Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment and secondary work activity.

^k Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans and type of plans.

^l Includes cases with an unknown U.S. region of employment after doctorate; see technical notes for states or territories included in regions.

Note(s)

Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100. 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.