

TABLE 63

Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in psychology and social sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2017

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All psychology and social sciences fields	Psychology	Anthropology	Economics	Political science and government	Sociology	Other social sciences
All doctorate recipients (number) ^a	9,079	3,960	455	1,237	752	689	1,986
Postgraduation status (number) ^b							
Definite postgraduation study	2,194	1,507	105	116	144	105	217
Definite employment	3,476	1,054	129	794	332	312	855
Seeking employment or study	2,039	714	153	167	189	189	627
Other ^c	198	84	12	22	13	19	48
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d							
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	90.7	87.8	96.2	96.6	98.6	97.1	96.8
Other or unknown ^e	9.3	12.2	3.8	3.4	1.4	2.9	3.2
Definite employment (%) ^f							
Academe	58.3	48.7	68.2	53.0	74.1	76.6	60.9
Government	11.9	11.5	8.5	13.0	9.3	7.7	14.3
Industry or business ^g	18.1	24.6	11.6	25.6	8.4	7.1	11.9
Nonprofit organization	8.3	9.6	8.5	6.2	5.4	7.1	10.2
Other or unknown ^h	3.4	5.7	3.1	2.3	2.7	1.6	2.7
Primary activity ⁱ							
R&D	35.7	26.0	18.7	58.2	32.6	35.4	30.1
Teaching	35.5	28.5	54.5	22.8	49.5	49.3	42.6
Management or administration	8.4	5.7	11.4	2.6	10.0	8.6	15.8
Professional services	16.0	35.1	7.3	13.3	3.4	3.3	6.4
Other	4.4	4.7	8.1	3.1	4.4	3.3	5.1
Secondary activity ^j							
R&D	32.4	28.1	39.0	26.2	40.8	38.1	37.4
Teaching	20.5	16.0	13.0	29.3	26.0	21.2	16.6
Management or administration	10.7	12.8	12.2	8.5	5.0	9.6	12.6
Professional services	5.6	7.4	5.7	5.7	2.8	3.0	5.3
Other	2.0	2.6	4.1	1.2	0.6	2.3	2.2
No secondary activity	28.8	33.1	26.0	29.3	24.8	25.8	26.1
Activity unknown	3.7	5.1	4.7	2.3	3.9	3.2	3.2
Postgraduation location (%) ^k							
United States ^l	88.9	96.8	82.9	72.2	85.7	89.0	86.9
New England	9.0	8.9	9.0	8.4	10.3	8.9	9.1
Middle Atlantic	14.0	15.0	16.2	11.9	14.9	15.3	12.2
East North Central	12.0	14.4	D	9.3	D	12.9	9.0
West North Central	5.3	6.9	4.7	2.6	4.2	3.8	4.9
South Atlantic	17.5	16.3	9.8	17.4	20.4	20.1	19.9
East South Central	3.1	3.4	D	2.2	D	2.4	3.7
West South Central	6.5	7.5	4.7	3.4	5.9	5.3	8.0
Mountain	5.2	6.1	8.5	2.4	3.4	5.0	5.4
Pacific and insular	15.6	17.5	14.1	14.3	13.0	14.6	14.2
Not in United States	11.1	3.2	17.1	27.7	14.3	11.0	13.1

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Characteristic	All psychology and social sciences fields	Psychology	Anthropology	Economics	Political science and government	Sociology	Other social sciences
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Male doctorate recipients (number)	3,693	1,135	158	812	454	267	867
Postgraduation status (number) ^b							
Definite postgraduation study	732	384	33	87	83	51	94
Definite employment	1,614	343	43	534	200	119	375
Seeking employment or study	858	228	57	100	128	68	277
Other ^c	71	17	6	16	5	8	19
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d							
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	92.3	87.5	100.0	97.7	98.8	98.0	95.7
Other or unknown ^e	7.7	12.5	0.0	2.3	1.2	2.0	4.3
Definite employment (%) ^f							
Academe	57.7	49.3	72.1	51.9	72.5	77.3	58.1
Government	12.8	11.1	11.6	14.8	8.0	9.2	15.5
Industry or business ^g	19.6	26.8	D	D	11.0	6.7	14.4
Nonprofit organization	7.1	9.0	D	D	5.5	5.0	8.8
Other or unknown ^h	2.7	3.8	2.3	1.7	3.0	1.7	3.2
Primary activity ⁱ							
R&D	40.8	27.8	25.0	60.4	32.1	35.0	32.5
Teaching	33.9	29.0	D	20.4	48.7	D	41.3
Management or administration	7.6	6.5	D	D	D	8.5	14.0
Professional services	12.8	30.6	D	D	D	D	5.8
Other	4.9	6.2	7.5	3.3	5.2	2.6	6.3
Secondary activity ^j							
R&D	31.9	29.9	45.0	25.0	38.9	39.3	36.1
Teaching	23.1	15.1	12.5	31.2	26.9	23.1	17.6
Management or administration	9.2	11.7	D	8.5	D	6.8	11.8
Professional services	5.8	9.9	0.0	5.2	D	D	5.8
Other	1.5	1.5	2.5	1.5	0.0	0.9	2.5
No secondary activity	28.5	31.8	D	28.7	27.5	D	26.4
Activity unknown	3.5	5.5	7.0	2.6	3.5	1.7	2.9
Postgraduation location (%) ^k							
United States ^l	83.3	95.9	77.6	68.6	84.8	83.5	83.4
New England	8.3	8.8	7.9	6.4	9.9	8.8	9.0
Middle Atlantic	13.0	14.6	14.5	12.1	11.3	17.1	11.3
East North Central	11.2	14.0	D	9.8	D	14.7	8.3
West North Central	5.0	7.0	6.6	2.9	4.2	4.7	5.1
South Atlantic	17.1	16.1	7.9	15.8	21.9	13.5	20.0
East South Central	2.7	2.1	D	2.4	D	D	4.3
West South Central	6.1	7.8	D	3.1	7.1	D	8.1
Mountain	4.9	7.0	D	2.4	3.2	D	5.3
Pacific and insular	14.5	17.7	18.4	13.5	13.4	13.5	11.1

TABLE 63

Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in psychology and social sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2017

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All psychology and social sciences fields	Psychology	Anthropology	Economics	Political science and government	Sociology	Other social sciences
Not in United States	16.6	4.1	22.4	31.2	15.2	16.5	16.6
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Female doctorate recipients (number)	5,381	2,824	297	423	298	421	1,118
Postgraduation status (number) ^b							
Definite postgraduation study	1,462	1,123	72	29	61	54	123
Definite employment	1,862	711	86	260	132	193	480
Seeking employment or study	1,181	486	96	67	61	121	350
Other ^c	127	67	6	6	8	11	29
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d							
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	89.9	87.9	94.4	93.1	98.4	96.3	97.6
Other or unknown ^e	10.1	12.1	5.6	6.9	1.6	3.7	2.4
Definite employment (%) ^f							
Academe	58.9	48.4	66.3	55.4	76.5	76.2	63.1
Government	11.0	11.7	7.0	9.2	11.4	6.7	13.3
Industry or business ^g	16.8	23.5	D	D	4.5	7.3	10.0
Nonprofit organization	9.3	9.8	D	D	5.3	8.3	11.3
Other or unknown ^h	4.1	6.6	3.5	3.5	2.3	1.6	2.3
Primary activity ⁱ							
R&D	31.3	25.1	15.7	53.9	33.3	35.7	28.2
Teaching	36.9	28.3	D	27.7	50.8	D	43.5
Management or administration	9.1	5.3	D	D	D	8.6	17.2
Professional services	18.8	37.3	D	D	D	D	6.9
Other	4.0	4.0	8.4	2.7	3.2	3.8	4.1
Secondary activity ^j							
R&D	32.9	27.2	36.1	28.5	43.7	37.3	38.4
Teaching	18.3	16.4	13.3	25.4	24.6	20.0	15.7
Management or administration	12.0	13.3	D	8.6	D	11.4	13.1
Professional services	5.4	6.2	8.4	6.6	D	D	5.0
Other	2.4	3.1	4.8	0.4	1.6	3.2	1.9
No secondary activity	29.0	33.7	D	30.5	20.6	D	25.9
Activity unknown	3.9	4.9	3.5	1.5	4.5	4.1	3.3
Postgraduation location (%) ^k							
United States ^l	92.8	97.1	85.4	79.9	87.0	92.7	89.7
New England	9.4	8.9	9.5	12.5	10.9	8.9	9.3
Middle Atlantic	14.7	15.2	17.1	11.4	20.2	14.2	12.9
East North Central	12.6	14.6	15.2	8.3	9.8	11.7	9.5
West North Central	5.5	6.8	3.8	2.1	4.1	3.2	4.8
South Atlantic	17.8	16.4	10.8	20.8	18.1	24.7	19.7
East South Central	3.4	3.9	D	1.7	3.1	D	3.3
West South Central	6.8	7.4	D	4.2	4.1	D	8.0
Mountain	5.4	5.8	D	2.4	3.6	D	5.5

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Characteristic	All psychology and social sciences fields	Psychology	Anthropology	Economics	Political science and government	Sociology	Other social sciences
Pacific and insular	16.4	17.3	12.0	15.9	12.4	15.4	16.6
Not in United States	7.2	2.9	14.6	20.1	13.0	7.3	10.3
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

^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.