National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics | NSF 19-301

TABLE 68
Statistical profile of doctorate recipients in humanities and arts fields, by sex and field of study: 2017 (Number, percent, and median years)

Characteristic	All humanities and arts fields	Foreign languages and literature	History	Letters	Other humanities and arts
All doctorate recipients (number) ^a	5,290	624	1,066	1,465	2,135
Sex (%)					
Male	48.8	38.3	55.9	40.3	54.1
Female	51.2	61.7	44.1	59.7	45.9
Unknown	*	0	0	0	*
Citizenship (%)					
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	81.1	69.4	84.0	87.0	79.1
Temporary visa holder	13.1	25.6	11.7	8.5	13.3
Unknown	5.8	5.0	4.3	4.5	7.7
Marital status (%)					
Never married	25.7	28.0	26.4	26.2	24.2
Married	47.8	47.1	50.4	45.6	48.2
Marriage-like relationship	10.1	10.3	10.2	11.9	8.8
Separated, divorced, widowed	4.5	4.0	3.8	5.4	4.4
Unknown	11.9	10.6	9.2	10.9	14.4
Bachelor's in same field as	51.5	46.5	58.7	42.6	55.5
doctorate (%) ^b	31.3	40.3	36.7	42.0	
Master's earned (%)	85.1	85.6	87.3	86.2	83.0
Age at doctorate (median years)	34.1	34.2	33.9	33.5	34.4
Time to doctorate (median years)					
From bachelor's	11.0	10.5	11.0	10.7	11.3
From graduate school start	9.4	9.0	9.3	9.0	9.8
From doctoral program start ^c	7.1	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.3
Male doctorate recipients (number)	2,581	239	596	591	1,155
Citizenship (%)					
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	81.3	68.6	84.9	87.0	79.1
Temporary visa holder	14.0	28.0	11.9	9.3	14.6
Unknown	4.7	3.3	3.2	3.7	6.2
Marital status (%)					
Never married	23.6	31.0	23.5	22.5	22.6
Married	52.1	48.5	56.0	49.7	52.0
Marriage-like relationship	9.7	8.4	9.9	12.9	8.2
Separated, divorced, widowed	3.6	3.3	3.0	4.4	3.5
Unknown	11.1	8.8	7.6	10.5	13.7
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	54.0	45.2	59.9	44.8	57.6
Master's earned (%)	85.1	85.8	88.4	85.4	83.0
Age at doctorate (median years)	34.5	34.6	34.4	34.2	34.8
Time to doctorate (median years)					
From bachelor's	11.0	10.4	11.2	10.6	11.4
From graduate school start	9.4	8.7	9.4	8.9	9.9
From doctoral program start ^c	7.0	6.8	7.1	7.0	7.1
Female doctorate recipients (number)	2,708	385	470	874	979
Citizenship (%)					
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	80.9	69.9	82.8	87.0	79.1
Temporary visa holder	12.2	24.2	11.5	8.0	11.6
Unknown	6.8	6.0	5.7	5.0	9.3
Marital status (%)					
Never married	27.7	26.2	30.0	28.7	26.1

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Statistical profile of doctorate recipients in humanities and arts fields, by sex and field of study: 2017 (Number, percent, and median years)

Characteristic	All humanities and arts fields	Foreign languages and literature	History	Letters	Other humanities and arts
Married	43.7	46.2	43.2	42.8	43.7
Marriage-like relationship	10.6	11.4	10.6	11.3	9.5
Separated, divorced, widowed	5.4	4.4	4.9	6.1	5.4
Unknown	12.7	11.7	11.3	11.1	15.2
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	49.1	47.3	57.2	41.1	53.1
Master's earned (%)	85.1	85.5	86.0	86.7	83.1
Age at doctorate (median years)	33.6	33.8	33.3	33.1	34.0
Time to doctorate (median years)					
From bachelor's	11.0	10.7	11.0	10.7	11.1
From graduate school start	9.3	9.2	9.2	9.0	9.8
From doctoral program start ^c	7.3	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.7

^{* =} value < 0.05%.

Note(s)

Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100.

Source(s

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

^a Includes respondents who did not report sex.

^b A bachelor's degree is counted as "in same field as doctorate" if the fields of study of the doctorate recipient's first or most recent bachelor's degree and doctoral degree are both in the same major field category, except for engineering and education fields where broad field categories need to be the same. See table A-6 in the technical notes for a listing of major fields and their constituent subfields based on the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics' field of study taxonomy.

^c Time to doctorate from doctoral program start is based on master's degree entry if the master's degree was at the doctoral institution in the same fine field of study or was a prerequisite to the doctorate; otherwise, it is based on doctoral program entry.