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

TABLE 72
Statistical profile of doctorate recipients, by ethnicity, race, and citizenship status: 2017 (Number, percent, and median years)

					Not Hispanic or Latino														
				Hispanic or Latino		American Indian or Alaska Native		Asian		Black or African American		White		More than one race		Other race or race not reported		Ethnicity not reported	
Characteristics	Totala	U.S. citizen	Non-U.S. citizen	U.S. citizen	Non-U.S. citizen	U.S. citizen	Non-U.S. citizen	U.S. citizen	Non-U.S. citizen	U.S. citizen	Non-U.S. citizen	U.S. citizen	Non-U.S. citizen	U.S. citizen	Non-U.S. citizen	U.S. citizen	Non-U.S. citizen	U.S. citizen	Non-U.S. citizen
All doctorate recipients (number)	54,664	35,791	16,323	2,540	996	109	D	3,502	10,752	2,409	532	24,880	3,438	1,016	D	471	279	864	229
Primary source of support (%) ^b																			
Teaching assistantships	20.6	19.7	22.6	16.4	22.3	14.1	D	17.8	22.5	12.3	24.3	20.9	22.4	20.7	27.5	21.9	D	19.3	24.2
Research or other assistantships or traineeships ^c	33.3	26.3	47.9	21.0	24.8	9.8	0.0	34.5	54.2	13.6	38.1	27.1	38.0	24.3	33.0	23.0	29.7	21.1	37.9
Fellowships or grants ^d	25.0	27.6	19.7	35.6	31.5	40.2	D	32.0	15.9	27.4	24.5	26.0	26.4	33.1	D	29.9	28.8	29.8	25.8
Own resources	16.0	21.6	4.0	23.2	2.8	30.4	0.0	12.6	3.9	41.5	10.5	20.9	3.7	19.1	D	20.9	D	22.8	6.1
Employer	3.2	4.5	0.5	3.3	1.2	5.4	0.0	2.7	0.4	5.1	1.0	4.8	0.4	2.7	D	4.3	D	5.3	0.0
Other source	1.9	0.2	5.4	0.5	17.4	0.0	0.0	0.3	3.1	0.2	1.6	0.2	9.2	0.2	8.8	0.0	19.5	1.8	6.1
Postgraduation status (number) ^e																			
Definite postgraduation study	12,604	8,144	4,420	623	277	20	0	801	2,968	401	88	5,933	1,006	271	35	73	31	22	15
Definite employment	19,635	13,764	5,793	916	365	42	D	1,169	3,919	950	182	10,152	1,229	373	D	114	49	48	21
Seeking employment or study	14,806	9,742	5,026	711	316	29	D	1,007	3,405	793	220	6,783	995	299	D	90	35	30	25
Other status ^f	1,769	1,326	432	89	19	7	0	171	268	78	18	892	113	52	1	22	5	15	8
Postgraduation study plans (%) ^g	39.1	37.2	43.3	40.5	43.1	32.3	0.0	40.7	43.1	29.7	32.6	36.9	45.0	42.1	56.5	39.0	38.8	31.4	41.7
Postgraduation employment plans (%) ^h																			
Academe	48.2	51.0	41.6	55.6	59.5	50.0	D	40.5	35.4	51.8	58.2	51.8	52.9	48.5	D	49.1	57.1	54.2	28.6
Government	7.7	9.2	4.1	10.3	10.4	D	0.0	7.1	3.4	13.1	4.9	8.9	4.3	D	D	12.3	D	12.5	0.0
Industry or business ⁱ	32.9	26.0	49.3	22.5	22.2	28.6	0.0	43.5	57.3	14.1	23.1	25.3	37.3	29.2	25.9	26.3	28.6	22.9	52.4
Nonprofit	6.2	7.3	3.7	5.2	5.5	D	0.0	6.5	3.0	8.8	10.4	7.4	4.3	D	D	6.1	D	6.3	9.5
Other or unknown plans ^j	5.0	6.6	1.2	6.4	2.5	D	0.0	2.5	1.0	12.2	3.3	6.6	1.2	D	0.0	6.1	2.0	4.2	9.5
Employment location (%) ^k																			
United States	90.4	98.0	72.2	98.0	47.1	D	D	95.9	78.5	99.4	64.8	98.2	62.7	97.9	37.0	D	44.9	95.8	61.9
Not United States	9.6	2.0	27.7	2.0	52.9	D	D	4.1	21.4	0.6	35.2	1.8	37.3	2.1	D	D	55.1	2.1	38.1
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	D	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0
Age at doctorate (median years)	31.6	31.9	31.1	32.4	33.4	37.9	D	31.3	30.5	35.4	34.5	31.7	31.8	31.3	31.6	32.2	31.3	32.3	31.7
Time to degree (median years)																			
From bachelor's	8.8	9.0	8.3	9.1	9.5	12.1	D	8.8	8.0	11.6	10.5	8.9	8.9	8.4	8.8	9.9	9.0	9.3	9.0
From graduate school start	7.5	7.3	7.7	7.7	8.0	8.8	D	7.3	7.3	9.8	7.9	7.3	8.0	6.9	7.7	7.9	7.9	8.7	8.7
From doctoral program start ^l	5.8	5.9	5.7	6.0	5.8	6.5	D	5.8	5.7	6.3	5.8	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.8

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

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Statistical profile of doctorate recipients, by ethnicity, race, and citizenship status: 2017

(Number, percent, and median years)

- ^a Includes respondents who did not report their citizenship.
- b Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients who reported a primary source of financial support during graduate school.
- ^c Includes research assistantships, other assistantships, traineeships, and internships or clinical residencies.
- d In 2017, survey response option was changed from "grant" to "dissertation grant."
- ^e Includes only respondents who reported postgraduation status.
- function includes respondents who indicated having no plans to work or study, respondents indicating another type of postgraduation plan, and respondents indicating definite plans for another full-time degree program.
- ^g Excludes respondents who indicated plans for another full-time degree program. Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans and type of plans.
- h Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients who reported definite postgraduation plans for employment.
- ¹ Includes doctorate recipients who indicated self-employment.
- j "Other" is mainly composed of elementary and secondary schools.
- k Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients who reported definite postgraduation plan for employment and the location of employment.
- Time to doctorate from doctoral program start is based on master's program 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.

Note(s)

U.S. citizen refers to U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Non-U.S. citizen refers to temporary visa holders. 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.