

TABLE 8-2

## Definite postgraduation plans of U.S. citizen and permanent resident S&amp;E doctorate recipients, by major field, sex, and planned location: 2017

(Percent distribution)

Major field and sex	All definite plans (number)	All definite plans	Plans to stay in the United States					Plans to go abroad	Location unknown	
			All U.S. plans	Academic employment	Industry employment	Postdoctoral study	Other <sup>a</sup>			
All doctorate recipients <sup>b</sup>										
S&E	15,154	100.0	96.0	18.8	20.3	44.1	12.8	3.9	*	
Science	12,581	100.0	95.9	20.6	16.2	46.9	12.1	4.1	*	
Agricultural sciences	455	100.0	96.9	21.5	21.3	35.8	18.2	3.1	0.0	
Biological sciences	3,731	100.0	97.0	10.1	13.8	65.5	7.6	3.0	0.0	
Computer sciences	580	100.0	96.7	24.8	42.4	16.0	13.4	3.3	0.0	
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	471	100.0	92.1	14.6	11.9	49.0	16.6	7.9	0.0	
Mathematics and statistics	596	100.0	93.6	26.7	21.3	35.7	9.9	6.4	0.0	
Physical sciences	1,895	100.0	93.7	11.0	27.9	48.3	6.5	6.3	0.0	
Psychology	2,408	100.0	98.2	18.6	9.9	57.0	12.7	1.8	*	
Social sciences	2,445	100.0	94.5	44.7	9.7	19.2	20.9	5.5	0.0	
Engineering	2,573	100.0	96.9	9.7	40.3	30.5	16.3	3.1	0.0	
Female										
S&E	6,877	100.0	96.7	21.1	14.7	48.1	12.8	3.3	*	
Science	6,247	100.0	96.7	21.8	12.7	49.5	12.7	3.3	*	
Agricultural sciences	227	100.0	D	D	15.9	36.6	19.4	D	0.0	
Biological sciences	1,969	100.0	97.0	10.4	13.3	65.2	8.1	3.0	0.0	
Computer sciences	126	100.0	D	D	32.5	21.4	12.7	D	0.0	
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	197	100.0	90.4	14.7	11.2	50.3	14.2	9.6	0.0	
Mathematics and statistics	160	100.0	93.8	36.9	16.3	29.4	11.3	6.3	0.0	
Physical sciences	577	100.0	95.0	13.2	27.9	45.9	8.0	5.0	0.0	
Psychology	1,727	100.0	98.5	17.3	8.8	59.8	12.6	1.4	0.1	
Social sciences	1,264	100.0	95.6	47.3	7.2	20.3	20.8	4.4	0.0	
Engineering	630	100.0	97.1	14.3	35.2	34.0	13.7	2.9	0.0	
Male										
S&E	8,277	100.0	95.5	16.8	25.0	40.8	12.9	4.5	0.0	
Science	6,334	100.0	95.1	19.5	19.8	44.3	11.6	4.9	0.0	
Agricultural sciences	228	100.0	D	D	26.8	35.1	17.1	D	0.0	
Biological sciences	1,762	100.0	97.0	9.9	14.3	65.8	7.0	3.0	0.0	
Computer sciences	454	100.0	D	D	45.2	14.5	13.7	D	0.0	
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	274	100.0	93.4	14.6	12.4	48.2	18.2	6.6	0.0	
Mathematics and statistics	436	100.0	93.6	22.9	23.2	38.1	9.4	6.4	0.0	
Physical sciences	1,318	100.0	93.1	10.0	27.8	49.3	5.9	6.9	0.0	

TABLE 8-2

Definite postgraduation plans of U.S. citizen and permanent resident S&E doctorate recipients, by major field, sex, and planned location: 2017

(Percent distribution)

Major field and sex	All definite plans (number)	All definite plans	Plans to stay in the United States				Plans to go abroad	Location unknown	
			All U.S. plans	Academic employment	Industry employment	Postdoctoral study			Other <sup>a</sup>
Psychology	681	100.0	97.4	21.9	12.6	49.8	13.1	2.6	0.0
Social sciences	1,181	100.0	93.2	41.8	12.4	18.0	21.1	6.8	0.0
Engineering	1,943	100.0	96.8	8.2	42.0	29.4	17.1	3.2	0.0

\* = value < 0.05%; D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

S&E = science and engineering.

<sup>a</sup> Includes elementary and secondary schools, government, nonprofit organizations, other, and unknown.

<sup>b</sup> Total may include doctorate recipients who did not report sex; as a result, detail may not sum to total.

#### Note(s)

Data in this table refer to research doctorates only and differ from doctoral degree data in this report that are based on the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System Completions Survey. The greatest differences are in psychology, education, and medical or other health sciences. American Indian or Alaska Native doctorate recipients with unknown or refused citizenship status are counted as U.S. citizens and thus are included. Definite postgraduate plans are defined as *Returning to, or continuing in, predoctoral employment or Have signed contract or made definite commitment for a "postdoc" or other work* by doctoral degree recipients who responded to the question, *What is the status of your postgraduate plans (in the next year)?* In 2017, 63% of U.S. citizen and permanent resident S&E doctorate recipients had definite plans.

#### Source(s)

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