

TABLE 33

**Educational attainment of doctorate recipients' parents, by sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, race, and broad field of study: 2018**

(Number and percent distribution)

Demographic characteristic and broad field of study	Total (number)	Parental education attainment (%)						
		All	High school or less	Some college <sup>a</sup>	Bachelor's degree	Master's degree	Professional degree <sup>b</sup>	Research doctoral degree
All doctorate recipients								
Father's education <sup>c</sup>	47,823	100.0	22.9	13.5	27.6	17.5	8.4	10.1
Mother's education <sup>d</sup>	48,129	100.0	27.0	17.2	29.1	17.8	4.4	4.5
Sex								
Male								
Father's education	25,815	100.0	23.4	12.6	27.9	17.3	8.2	10.6
Mother's education	25,909	100.0	28.8	16.4	29.2	17.1	4.5	4.0
Female								
Father's education	22,008	100.0	22.3	14.5	27.2	17.8	8.6	9.5
Mother's education	22,220	100.0	24.9	18.1	29.0	18.6	4.4	5.0
Citizenship status								
U.S. citizen or permanent resident								
Father's education	32,205	100.0	20.6	14.2	24.9	19.0	10.3	10.9
Mother's education	32,529	100.0	21.4	18.8	28.4	21.2	5.2	5.1
Temporary visa holder								
Father's education	15,598	100.0	27.5	11.9	33.1	14.5	4.5	8.5
Mother's education	15,579	100.0	38.8	13.8	30.4	10.8	2.9	3.3
Ethnicity and race (U.S. citizens and permanent residents)								
Hispanic or Latino								
Father's education	2,305	100.0	36.0	16.9	18.9	12.5	8.7	7.1
Mother's education	2,354	100.0	35.4	21.5	21.5	13.5	4.0	4.1
Not Hispanic or Latino								
American Indian or Alaska Native								
Father's education	96	100.0	D	30.2	15.6	8.3	6.3	D
Mother's education	97	100.0	41.2	17.5	18.6	18.6	D	D
Asian								
Father's education	3,012	100.0	18.2	9.6	25.2	19.0	7.2	20.9
Mother's education	3,022	100.0	27.0	13.0	28.6	18.9	6.2	6.4
Black or African American								
Father's education	2,062	100.0	39.4	21.6	17.4	12.6	4.3	4.8
Mother's education	2,163	100.0	33.2	24.7	19.2	15.9	3.2	3.8
White								
Father's education	23,321	100.0	17.9	13.8	26.4	20.3	11.3	10.3
Mother's education	23,467	100.0	18.2	18.8	30.1	22.7	5.2	5.0
More than one race								
Father's education	1,045	100.0	18.0	15.3	21.2	19.0	11.2	15.2
Mother's education	1,064	100.0	18.7	18.8	27.2	21.5	D	D
Other race or race not reported								
Father's education	246	100.0	D	14.6	21.5	16.3	16.3	D
Mother's education	242	100.0	20.7	18.2	31.4	17.8	5.8	6.2
Ethnicity not reported								
Father's education	118	100.0	25.4	9.3	22.0	20.3	10.2	12.7

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		All	High school or less	Some college <sup>a</sup>	Bachelor's degree	Master's degree	Professional degree <sup>b</sup>	Research doctoral degree
Mother's education	120	100.0	25.8	20.0	20.0	25.8	5.0	3.3
Field of study								
Life sciences <sup>e</sup>								
Father's education	11,369	100.0	22.5	13.5	27.0	17.8	9.3	9.9
Mother's education	11,441	100.0	25.7	17.5	29.2	18.0	5.0	4.6
Physical sciences and earth sciences								
Father's education	5,630	100.0	22.6	13.3	29.4	17.4	7.0	10.3
Mother's education	5,649	100.0	26.3	17.4	30.1	17.3	4.4	4.4
Mathematics and computer sciences								
Father's education	3,474	100.0	22.5	12.7	29.0	17.0	6.9	11.8
Mother's education	3,489	100.0	29.3	14.3	29.8	17.3	4.1	5.2
Psychology and social sciences								
Father's education	7,527	100.0	22.7	13.4	25.5	17.9	10.2	10.3
Mother's education	7,646	100.0	24.8	17.5	28.0	19.3	5.2	5.2
Engineering								
Father's education	8,859	100.0	20.7	12.2	32.7	18.0	5.8	10.6
Mother's education	8,853	100.0	28.9	15.7	32.4	15.8	3.6	3.6
Education								
Father's education	4,151	100.0	31.8	17.9	22.9	14.8	6.9	5.7
Mother's education	4,198	100.0	34.5	21.1	22.8	16.2	2.2	3.1
Humanities and arts								
Father's education	4,440	100.0	19.5	12.5	24.4	19.3	13.4	10.9
Mother's education	4,459	100.0	21.1	17.1	28.7	21.9	6.1	5.1
Other <sup>f</sup>								
Father's education	2,373	100.0	25.6	13.7	25.7	16.2	7.0	11.8
Mother's education	2,394	100.0	29.5	17.3	27.9	16.9	3.5	4.9

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

<sup>a</sup> Includes those who attended college but did not earn a bachelor's.<sup>b</sup> Includes professional doctorate such as MD, DDS, DVM, JD, PsyD, DDiv.<sup>c</sup> Total count excludes those who did not report father's education and those who reported "not applicable/unknown."<sup>d</sup> Total count excludes those who did not report mother's education and those who reported "not applicable/unknown."<sup>e</sup> Includes agricultural sciences and natural resources; biological and biomedical sciences; and health sciences.<sup>f</sup> Includes other non-science and engineering fields not shown separately.**Note(s)**

Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100.

**Source(s)**

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