

TABLE 57

Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in life sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2018

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All life sciences fields	Agricultural sciences and natural resources	Biological and biomedical sciences	Health sciences
All doctorate recipients (number) ^a	12,780	1,445	8,801	2,534
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				
Definite postgraduation study	4,616	384	3,685	547
Definite employment	3,138	481	1,623	1,034
Seeking employment or study	3,434	436	2,362	636
Other ^c	664	27	569	68
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	94.0	97.4	94.5	87.9
Other or unknown ^e	6.0	2.6	5.5	12.1
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	41.0	37.4	32.7	55.9
Government	10.3	20.0	9.3	7.3
Industry or business ^g	35.3	32.4	47.0	18.2
Nonprofit organization	9.9	6.9	7.8	14.5
Other or unknown ^h	3.5	3.3	3.2	4.2
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	46.0	58.1	53.8	28.2
Teaching	25.5	18.4	17.1	41.9
Management or administration	8.7	8.9	6.2	12.6
Professional services	19.0	13.7	22.0	16.7
Other	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.6
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	25.5	23.0	17.6	39.0
Teaching	10.1	16.3	6.6	12.9
Management or administration	16.5	19.1	17.9	13.0
Professional services	8.4	9.1	7.7	9.3
Other	0.4	1.1	0.5	0.1
No secondary activity	39.1	31.5	49.8	25.7
Activity unknown	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.5
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	92.5	81.8	94.1	92.9
New England	10.8	4.6	12.6	8.0
Middle Atlantic	12.4	6.4	13.3	12.7
East North Central	10.5	9.4	10.3	11.8
West North Central	6.4	10.2	6.0	5.6
South Atlantic	18.2	17.9	17.1	22.1
East South Central	3.9	3.9	3.4	5.8
West South Central	6.3	6.7	6.0	7.4
Mountain	5.2	7.2	5.0	5.1
Pacific and insular	17.8	14.8	19.7	13.2
Not in United States	7.5	18.2	5.9	7.1
Location unknown	*	0.0	*	0.0
Male doctorate recipients (number)	5,659	746	4,089	824
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				
Definite postgraduation study	2,229	219	1,796	214
Definite employment	1,282	257	699	326
Seeking employment or study	1,406	207	1,015	184

TABLE 57

Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in life sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2018

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All life sciences fields	Agricultural sciences and natural resources	Biological and biomedical sciences	Health sciences
Other ^c	329	13	293	23
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	93.7	98.2	94.0	86.4
Other or unknown ^e	6.3	1.8	6.0	13.6
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	37.4	36.2	29.6	55.2
Government	11.1	20.2	9.2	8.0
Industry or business ^g	42.0	34.6	51.6	27.0
Nonprofit organization	6.4	5.4	6.4	7.1
Other or unknown ^h	3.1	3.5	3.1	2.8
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	54.2	62.5	60.3	34.6
Teaching	21.3	17.3	14.1	39.7
Management or administration	7.6	8.9	5.7	10.5
Professional services	16.4	10.9	19.2	14.6
Other	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.6
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	23.1	23.4	14.7	40.6
Teaching	11.1	19.0	6.8	14.0
Management or administration	17.8	21.4	18.3	13.7
Professional services	7.8	7.7	8.3	7.0
Other	0.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
No secondary activity	40.0	27.4	51.9	24.8
Activity unknown	4.2	3.5	4.9	3.4
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	90.9	79.2	93.5	89.6
New England	10.9	3.4	12.9	8.0
Middle Atlantic	11.5	6.3	12.8	10.2
East North Central	10.5	9.7	10.3	12.0
West North Central	6.9	11.6	6.2	5.7
South Atlantic	16.8	16.2	16.3	19.6
East South Central	3.5	4.2	2.8	5.9
West South Central	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.9
Mountain	5.7	6.9	5.3	6.1
Pacific and insular	18.1	13.7	19.8	14.3
Not in United States	9.0	20.8	6.5	10.4
Location unknown	*	0.0	*	0.0
Female doctorate recipients (number)	7,114	696	4,709	1,709
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				
Definite postgraduation study	2,387	165	1,889	333
Definite employment	1,856	224	924	708
Seeking employment or study	2,028	229	1,347	452
Other ^c	335	14	276	45
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	94.3	96.4	95.0	88.9
Other or unknown ^e	5.7	3.6	5.0	11.1

TABLE 57

Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in life sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2018

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All life sciences fields	Agricultural sciences and natural resources	Biological and biomedical sciences	Health sciences
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	43.5	38.8	35.0	56.2
Government	9.7	19.6	9.4	6.9
Industry or business ^g	30.7	29.9	43.5	14.1
Nonprofit organization	12.3	8.5	8.9	17.9
Other or unknown ^h	3.8	3.1	3.2	4.8
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	40.4	53.1	48.9	25.1
Teaching	28.4	19.7	19.4	43.0
Management or administration	9.5	8.9	6.6	13.5
Professional services	20.8	16.9	24.0	17.7
Other	1.0	1.4	1.1	0.6
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	27.1	22.5	19.8	38.2
Teaching	9.5	13.1	6.4	12.4
Management or administration	15.6	16.4	17.6	12.6
Professional services	8.9	10.8	7.2	10.4
Other	0.6	0.9	0.8	0.1
No secondary activity	38.4	36.2	48.2	26.2
Activity unknown	4.5	4.9	3.9	5.1
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	93.7	85.1	94.6	94.5
New England	10.7	6.2	12.4	8.1
Middle Atlantic	13.2	6.4	13.8	14.0
East North Central	10.5	9.0	10.3	11.6
West North Central	6.0	8.5	5.8	5.6
South Atlantic	19.4	20.1	17.8	23.3
East South Central	4.3	3.6	3.8	5.8
West South Central	6.1	6.7	5.5	7.7
Mountain	4.9	7.5	4.7	4.6
Pacific and insular	17.6	16.2	19.6	12.7
Not in United States	6.3	14.9	5.4	5.5
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

* = value between 0.00% and 0.05%.

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