

TABLE 59

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

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All physical sciences and earth sciences fields	Chemistry	Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	Physics and astronomy
All doctorate recipients (number) ^a	6,335	2,810	1,185	2,340
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				
Definite postgraduation study	2,306	924	486	896
Definite employment	1,644	772	265	607
Seeking employment or study	1,819	830	351	638
Other ^c	129	66	19	44
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	97.1	96.1	97.7	97.7
Other or unknown ^e	2.9	3.9	2.3	2.3
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	20.1	19.3	32.5	15.8
Government	7.3	4.9	18.5	5.4
Industry or business ^g	65.6	70.3	39.6	70.8
Nonprofit organization	3.2	1.7	4.9	4.3
Other or unknown ^h	3.8	3.8	4.5	3.6
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	67.6	67.6	56.2	72.6
Teaching	16.2	17.3	21.5	12.5
Management or administration	3.1	3.8	4.8	1.6
Professional services	12.3	10.7	16.7	12.4
Other	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.9
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	13.7	11.6	21.9	12.7
Teaching	3.6	2.9	8.8	2.3
Management or administration	14.3	17.9	15.5	9.1
Professional services	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.6
Other	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.3
No secondary activity	62.6	61.9	47.8	70.0
Activity unknown	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.4
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	88.1	91.4	87.7	84.6
New England	9.9	11.6	8.3	9.0
Middle Atlantic	11.7	13.0	7.9	12.2
East North Central	9.9	12.7	5.1	9.2
West North Central	3.3	4.6	2.8	2.0
South Atlantic	13.1	12.6	16.6	11.8
East South Central	1.9	2.2	1.9	1.7
West South Central	6.4	5.0	11.5	5.4
Mountain	7.1	4.5	11.6	7.7
Pacific and insular	24.5	24.9	21.8	25.3
Not in United States	11.9	8.6	12.3	15.4
Location unknown	*	0.0	0.0	0.1
Male doctorate recipients (number)	4,214	1,743	659	1,812

TABLE 59

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

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All physical sciences and earth sciences fields	Chemistry	Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	Physics and astronomy
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				
Definite postgraduation study	1,559	621	273	665
Definite employment	1,109	466	152	491
Seeking employment or study	1,172	491	185	496
Other ^c	71	28	11	32
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	97.4	96.9	98.5	97.4
Other or unknown ^e	2.6	3.1	1.5	2.6
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	17.4	17.4	27.6	14.3
Government	7.2	4.7	D	D
Industry or business ^g	68.7	72.7	44.7	72.3
Nonprofit organization	3.2	1.5	D	D
Other or unknown ^h	3.4	3.6	3.3	3.3
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	70.3	69.9	55.6	75.3
Teaching	13.8	16.3	16.0	10.8
Management or administration	3.1	D	D	D
Professional services	12.1	10.0	20.8	11.4
Other	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.9
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	12.5	10.0	22.9	11.6
Teaching	3.7	2.7	9.7	2.8
Management or administration	14.2	17.2	D	D
Professional services	6.0	6.1	D	D
Other	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2
No secondary activity	63.6	64.0	44.4	69.0
Activity unknown	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.3
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	87.5	90.7	85.4	85.3
New England	9.7	11.7	6.8	8.9
Middle Atlantic	11.7	12.8	7.8	12.2
East North Central	9.9	12.1	5.2	9.6
West North Central	2.8	3.8	2.8	2.0
South Atlantic	12.4	12.4	16.7	10.9
East South Central	2.0	D	1.6	D
West South Central	6.5	D	12.2	D
Mountain	6.9	4.0	10.4	8.3
Pacific and insular	25.2	25.9	21.4	25.9
Not in United States	12.5	9.3	14.6	14.7
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Female doctorate recipients (number)	2,118	1,067	526	525
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				

TABLE 59

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

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All physical sciences and earth sciences fields	Chemistry	Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	Physics and astronomy
Definite postgraduation study	747	303	213	231
Definite employment	535	306	113	116
Seeking employment or study	647	339	166	142
Other ^c	58	38	8	12
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	96.3	94.4	96.7	98.3
Other or unknown ^e	3.7	5.6	3.3	1.7
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	25.8	22.2	38.9	22.4
Government	7.5	5.2	D	D
Industry or business ^g	59.1	66.7	32.7	64.7
Nonprofit organization	3.0	2.0	D	D
Other or unknown ^h	4.7	3.9	6.2	5.2
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	62.1	64.1	57.0	61.5
Teaching	21.3	19.0	29.0	20.2
Management or administration	3.2	D	D	D
Professional services	12.6	11.7	11.2	16.5
Other	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.9
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	16.2	14.1	20.6	17.4
Teaching	3.4	3.1	7.5	0.0
Management or administration	14.4	19.0	D	D
Professional services	4.9	5.2	D	D
Other	0.4	0.0	0.9	0.9
No secondary activity	60.7	58.6	52.3	74.3
Activity unknown	5.4	5.2	5.3	6.0
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	89.3	92.6	90.8	82.1
New England	10.5	11.3	10.1	9.2
Middle Atlantic	11.7	13.5	8.0	12.1
East North Central	10.0	13.8	4.9	8.1
West North Central	4.1	6.1	2.8	2.0
South Atlantic	14.4	13.0	16.6	14.7
East South Central	1.8	D	2.1	D
West South Central	6.1	D	10.4	D
Mountain	7.5	5.6	13.2	5.5
Pacific and insular	23.0	23.0	22.4	23.6
Not in United States	10.6	7.4	9.2	17.6
Location unknown	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.3

* = value between 0.00% and 0.05%; D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

^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 the 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.