

TABLE A-4

## Item response rates: 2009–18

(Percent)

Variable name	Variable description	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
AAEMONTH <sup>a</sup>	First associate's degree start month	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	96.9	99.2
AAEYEAR <sup>a</sup>	First associate's degree start year	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	97.6	99.3
AAFIELDA	First associate's degree field	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	85.0	97.4
AAINST <sup>a</sup>	First associate's degree institution	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	93.4	94.9
AAMONTH <sup>a</sup>	First associate's degree month	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	97.6	99.7
AANID <sup>a</sup>	First associate's degree institution (NCSES institution identification)	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	93.0	94.9
AAYEAR <sup>a</sup>	First associate's degree year	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	98.3	100.0
AADEGRN <sup>a</sup>	Number of associate's degrees received	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	90.3	93.4
AGEDOC <sup>b</sup>	Age at doctorate	na	na	na	na	na	na	92.1	94.1	94.6	95.0
AMERIND	American Indian or Alaska Native race indicator	91.9	91.6	91.6	91.5	91.9	90.2	91.0	93.0	92.8	93.1
ASIAN	Asian race indicator	91.9	91.6	91.6	91.5	91.9	90.2	91.0	93.0	92.8	93.1
AUDIDIS <sup>c</sup>	Deaf or hearing disability indicator	90.8	89.7	89.8	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
BA2EMONTH <sup>a</sup>	Most recent baccalaureate start month	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	89.9	92.3
BA2EYEAR <sup>a</sup>	Most recent baccalaureate start year	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	90.2	92.4
BA2FIELD <sup>a</sup>	Most recent baccalaureate degree field	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	89.7	91.7
BA2INST <sup>a</sup>	Most recent baccalaureate institution	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	88.4	90.6
BA2MONTH <sup>a</sup>	Most recent baccalaureate month	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	90.0	92.4
BA2NID <sup>a</sup>	Most recent baccalaureate institution (NCSES institution identification)	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	88.4	90.6
BA2YEAR <sup>a</sup>	Most recent baccalaureate year	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	90.4	92.6
BADEGRN <sup>a</sup>	Number of bachelor's degrees received	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	91.1	98.3
BADBLFIELD <sup>a</sup>	First baccalaureate double major field	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	96.4	98.4
BADBLMAJ <sup>a</sup>	First baccalaureate double major indicator	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	89.5	90.9
BAEMONTH <sup>d</sup>	First baccalaureate start month	na	na	na	na	na	86.9	87.0	89.0	89.6	90.6
BAEYEAR <sup>e</sup>	First baccalaureate start year	86.3	86.9	87.6	88.2	88.8	87.3	87.3	89.4	89.7	90.6
BAFIELD	First baccalaureate field	88.8	89.3	89.8	89.3	90.4	89.3	89.2	91.0	91.3	91.2
BAINST	First baccalaureate institution	92.9	92.5	93.4	92.3	93.2	91.6	92.3	94.2	94.5	95.0
BAMONTH	First baccalaureate month	88.0	88.5	89.1	89.7	90.2	89.0	88.9	90.7	90.6	91.3
BANID	First baccalaureate institution (NCSES institution identification)	92.1	91.6	92.5	91.5	92.2	90.2	91.0	92.9	93.6	94.3
BANONE <sup>f</sup>	No bachelor's and/or master's degree indicator	13.6	14.6	16.4	18.2	20.4	21.4	21.7	22.4	22.0	91.6
BAPLACE	First baccalaureate institution location	92.9	92.5	93.4	92.3	93.2	91.6	92.3	94.2	94.5	95.0
BAYEAR	First baccalaureate year	93.1	92.6	93.2	92.8	93.2	91.7	92.2	94.4	95.3	95.5
BIRTHMO	Month of birth	93.4	92.3	92.2	92.1	92.5	90.7	91.6	93.2	93.9	94.6
BIRTHPL	Place of birth	93.7	93.4	94.3	94.2	93.5	91.9	92.1	94.5	95.0	95.9
BIRTHYR	Year of birth	94.3	93.0	93.0	92.8	93.1	91.3	92.1	94.1	94.5	95.0
BLACK	Black race indicator	91.9	91.6	91.6	91.5	91.9	90.2	91.0	93.0	92.8	93.1
CITIZ	Type of citizenship	95.0	94.2	94.0	93.8	94.2	92.3	93.3	95.2	95.4	96.0
CNTRYCIT <sup>g</sup>	Country of citizenship	94.7	93.8	93.7	93.6	93.8	92.1	93.1	94.8	95.0	95.0
COGNDIS <sup>c</sup>	Learning or cognitive disability indicator	90.8	89.7	89.8	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
DDSDEG <sup>h</sup>	Earned a professional dental degree	na	87.7	88.6	88.9	88.8	87.6	87.9	88.3	88.0	89.6
DDSSTUDY <sup>h</sup>	Earning a professional dental degree	na	87.7	88.6	88.9	88.8	87.6	87.9	88.3	88.0	89.6
DEPEND18	Number of dependents-ages 6–18	88.2	88.3	89.2	89.9	89.5	88.4	88.3	89.7	90.1	90.7
DEPEND19	Number of dependents-ages 19 and older	88.2	88.3	89.2	89.9	89.5	88.4	88.3	89.7	90.1	90.7
DEPEND5	Number of dependents-ages 5 or younger	88.2	88.3	89.2	89.9	89.5	88.4	88.3	89.7	90.1	90.7
DIFAGE <sup>i</sup>	Earliest age experienced difficulties	na	na	na	90.4	90.8	89.4	89.4	90.9	89.9	90.3

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(Percent)

Variable name	Variable description	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
DIFCOGN <sup>i</sup>	Degree of difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions	na	na	na	91.1	91.0	89.6	89.6	91.1	90.1	90.5
DIFHEAR <sup>i</sup>	Degree of difficulty hearing	na	na	na	91.1	91.0	89.6	89.6	91.1	90.1	90.5
DIFLIFT <sup>i</sup>	Degree of difficulty lifting	na	na	na	90.5	91.0	89.6	89.6	91.1	90.1	90.5
DIFSEE <sup>i</sup>	Degree of difficulty seeing	na	na	na	91.1	91.0	89.6	89.6	91.1	90.1	90.5
DIFWALK <sup>i</sup>	Degree of difficulty walking	na	na	na	90.5	91.0	89.6	89.6	91.1	90.1	90.5
DISABILITY1 <sup>c</sup>	Disability status	90.8	89.7	89.8	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
DISABILITY2 <sup>i</sup>	Moderate or greater degree of difficulty in any domain	na	na	na	91.1	91.0	89.6	89.6	91.1	90.1	90.5
DOCCODE	Type of doctorate (since 2004)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
EDFATHER	Father/male guardian's education	90.7	90.8	90.8	90.7	90.0	88.6	88.4	89.9	89.9	89.3
EDMOTHER	Mother/female guardian's education	90.9	90.9	90.9	90.8	90.1	88.6	88.5	89.9	90.0	89.7
GDEBTLVL	Graduate debt level	92.6	92.7	93.2	92.9	89.7	88.2	90.1	93.1	92.3	92.6
GEMONTH	Month of graduate program entry	89.7	87.4	88.0	88.4	88.5	90.1	89.7	90.7	90.3	91.9
GEYEAR	Year of graduate program entry	90.4	87.8	88.3	88.6	88.7	90.2	89.9	90.9	90.3	91.9
HAWAIIAN	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander race indicator	91.9	91.6	91.6	91.5	91.9	90.2	91.0	93.0	92.8	93.1
HISPANIC	Hispanic origin indicator	92.0	91.4	92.2	92.0	92.1	90.3	91.5	93.0	93.7	94.7
HSPLACE	Place of high school	91.1	90.8	91.8	91.7	91.2	89.7	89.5	91.6	90.1	90.4
JRCOLL	Junior college indicator	90.5	91.2	93.1	93.0	92.6	91.0	90.8	93.4	93.2	93.7
MA1CRED <sup>a</sup>	Credits from first master's degree counted toward doctoral degree	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	97.6	99.5
MA1EMONTH <sup>a</sup>	First master's degree start month	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.6	99.0
MA1EYEAR <sup>a</sup>	First master's degree start year	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.7	99.1
MA1FIELD <sup>a</sup>	First master's degree field	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.4	99.0
MA1INST <sup>a</sup>	First master's degree institution	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	97.9	98.0
MA1MONTH <sup>a</sup>	First master's degree month	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.8	99.0
MA1NID <sup>a</sup>	First master's degree institution (NCSES institution identification)	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	97.9	98.0
MA1PART <sup>a</sup>	First master's degree was required for doctoral program	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	98.4	99.5
MA1YEAR <sup>a</sup>	First master's degree year	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.9	99.1
MACRED <sup>a</sup>	Credits from most recent master's degree counted toward doctoral degree	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.2	99.8
MADEGRN <sup>a</sup>	Number of master's degrees received	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.3	93.7
MAEMONTH <sup>d</sup>	Most recent master's degree start month	na	na	na	na	na	67.8	67.5	68.7	69.0	69.1
MAEYEAR <sup>d</sup>	Most recent master's degree start year	na	na	na	na	na	68.0	67.7	68.9	69.1	69.1
MAFIELD	Most recent master's degree field	84.1	84.9	86.5	88.1	89.8	89.2	89.2	90.9	90.5	91.1
MAINST	Most recent master's degree institution	85.2	85.5	87.1	88.4	89.7	89.1	89.0	90.8	90.7	90.7
MAMONTH	Most recent master's degree month	83.5	84.1	85.7	87.8	89.6	88.9	88.9	90.7	90.5	91.1
MANID	Most recent master's degree institution (NCSES institution identification)	72.2	71.6	71.5	70.8	70.0	68.5	68.0	69.2	69.3	68.8
MAPART <sup>a</sup>	Most recent master's degree was required for doctoral program	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	69.1	69.0
MARITAL	Marital status	90.9	91.0	91.0	91.0	90.4	88.9	88.9	90.5	90.3	90.8
MAYEAR	Most recent master's degree year	85.1	85.5	86.9	88.5	90.0	89.2	89.1	91.0	91.2	91.2
MDDEG <sup>h</sup>	Earned a professional medical degree	na	87.7	88.6	88.9	88.8	87.6	87.9	88.3	88.0	89.6
MDSTUDY <sup>h</sup>	Earning a professional medical degree	na	87.7	88.6	88.9	88.8	87.6	87.9	88.3	88.0	89.6
MEDDENT	Additional professional medical or dental degree	88.6	89.9	90.3	90.5	90.4	89.1	89.2	90.5	90.0	91.4
MSPREREQ	Prerequisite master's degree for doctoral program	90.5	91.5	91.5	91.1	90.7	89.2	89.1	90.8	91.0	91.7

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## Item response rates: 2009–18

(Percent)

Variable name	Variable description	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
ORTHDIS <sup>c</sup>	Physical or orthopedic disability indicator	90.8	89.7	89.8	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
OTHRDIS <sup>c</sup>	Other or unknown disability indicator	90.8	89.7	89.8	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
PDEMPLOY	Postgraduation employer type	98.0	97.8	98.6	98.5	99.0	99.5	99.3	98.1	99.7	98.8
PDFACULTY <sup>j</sup>	Employment in faculty position	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.4
PDFORGN <sup>f</sup>	Postgraduation affiliation with a non-U.S. college or university	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.4	3.1	3.2	3.8	90.4
PDLOC	Postgraduation location	92.6	93.0	92.9	92.5	91.6	89.9	90.0	92.1	92.4	93.0
PDOCCODE <sup>f</sup>	Postgraduation institution affiliation in the U.S. (IPEDS)	32.5	31.9	31.1	30.6	28.4	26.7	26.1	26.4	21.9	83.0
PDOCNID <sup>f</sup>	Postgraduation institution affiliation in the U.S. (NCSES institution identification)	32.5	31.9	31.1	30.6	28.4	26.7	26.1	26.4	21.9	83.0
PDOCPLAN	Postgraduation plans	97.7	97.6	95.0	93.9	92.5	91.7	91.5	95.2	97.6	99.8
PDOCSTAT	Postgraduation status	90.7	91.3	91.4	91.4	90.8	89.3	89.3	90.9	90.8	91.3
PDSAMEEMP <sup>a</sup>	Postgraduation employer was employer before or during doctoral studies	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	91.7	91.8
PDSAMEPOSEMP <sup>j</sup>	Employment in same position with same employer worked during doctoral studies	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	95.4
PDSEEKNEWEMP <sup>j</sup>	Postgraduation plan to seek new employment	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.5
PDSTDSUP	Postdoctoral study support	95.1	93.9	94.6	95.8	96.7	97.5	97.8	95.5	96.9	97.0
PDUSFOR	Postgraduation location: U.S. or foreign	92.6	93.0	92.9	92.5	91.6	89.9	90.0	92.1	92.4	93.0
PDWK1ED	Edited primary work activity	92.7	92.8	91.8	91.5	90.7	90.8	90.5	91.3	97.7	98.6
PDWK2ED <sup>f</sup>	Edited secondary work activity	52.6	50.6	50.1	50.8	50.2	49.8	49.4	50.6	48.9	47.5
PDWKPRIM	Primary work activity	92.7	92.8	91.8	91.5	90.7	90.8	90.5	91.3	97.7	98.6
PDWKSEC <sup>f</sup>	Secondary work activity	52.6	50.6	50.1	50.8	50.2	49.8	49.4	50.6	48.9	47.5
PHDCY	Calendar year of doctorate	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDDISS	Dissertation field	92.2	92.5	92.4	91.8	91.6	90.2	90.0	91.6	91.1	91.5
PHDDISS <sup>f</sup>	Secondary dissertation field	26.8	30.2	32.1	34.7	36.2	35.0	35.0	41.0	34.9	89.8
PHDEMONTH <sup>d</sup>	Doctoral program start month	na	na	na	na	na	89.6	89.6	91.2	91.3	91.6
PHDEYEAR <sup>k</sup>	Doctoral program start year	90.0	90.4	90.7	90.8	90.9	89.8	89.7	91.4	91.3	91.6
PHDFIELD	Doctorate field	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDFY	Fiscal year of doctorate	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDINST	Doctoral institution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDMONTH	Month of doctorate	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDNID	Doctoral institution (NCSES institution identification)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
POSTDOC <sup>l</sup>	Intention to take postdoc position	90.9	91.5	91.5	91.6	91.1	89.6	89.6	91.5	na	na
PROFDEG <sup>f</sup>	Type of professional doctorate	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	96.0	100.0
PROFEARN <sup>a</sup>	Earned or earning a professional doctoral degree	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	90.7	91.4
PROFEMONTH <sup>a</sup>	Professional doctorate start month	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.7	99.3
PROFEYEAR <sup>a</sup>	Professional doctorate start year	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.8	99.1
PROFINST <sup>a</sup>	Professional doctorate institution	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	98.0	98.2
PROFMONTH <sup>a</sup>	Professional doctorate month	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.8	99.2
PROFNID <sup>a</sup>	Professional doctorate institution (NCSES institution identification)	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	94.7	98.2
PROFYEAR <sup>f</sup>	Professional doctorate year	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	99.7	99.2
QUESTMON <sup>b</sup>	Month questionnaire filled out	na	na	na	na	na	na	90.0	92.0	93.2	92.1
QUESTYR <sup>m</sup>	Year questionnaire filled out	na	92.2	92.8	92.4	92.0	90.6	90.3	92.0	93.4	92.1
RACE	Edited race or ethnicity code	94.3	93.4	93.2	93.0	93.2	91.4	92.4	94.3	94.6	95.5
RACE2 <sup>b</sup>	Edited ethnicity or race code (NSF-revised)	94.3	93.4	93.2	93.0	93.2	91.4	92.4	94.3	94.9	95.5

TABLE A-4

## Item response rates: 2009–18

(Percent)

Variable name	Variable description	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
SALARYR <sup>a</sup>	Range of expected basic annual salary	91.9	91.0	89.7	89.0	87.6	88.7	88.7	89.3	97.3	96.3
SALARYV	Expected basic annual salary	52.2	51.5	46.6	41.2	36.8	76.9	83.9	85.5	94.2	93.2
SALMONTH	Number of months expected basic annual salary covers	90.0	90.9	90.1	89.5	88.7	89.0	88.9	89.1	95.2	96.5
SEEKPOSPDOC <sup>j</sup>	Seeking or negotiating a postdoc position	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	85.4
SEEKPOSEMP <sup>j</sup>	Seeking or negotiating an employment position other than a postdoc	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	85.4
SEEKPOSOTHR <sup>j</sup>	Seeking or negotiating other position	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	85.4
SEEKEMPEDU <sup>j</sup>	Seeking or negotiating position at an educational institution	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	85.3
SEEKEMPGOV <sup>j</sup>	Seeking or negotiating position in government	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	85.3
SEEKEMPBUS <sup>j</sup>	Seeking or negotiating position in business or industry	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	85.3
SEEKEMPNPO <sup>j</sup>	Seeking or negotiating position in nonprofit organization	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	85.3
SEEKEMPOTHR <sup>j</sup>	Seeking or negotiating position in other sector	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	85.3
SEEKEMPCHOICE <sup>j</sup>	Top choice of employer seeking or negotiating	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	84.1
SEEKEMPSTAT <sup>j</sup>	Employment status while seeking or negotiating employment	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	85.2
SEX	Sex of doctorate recipient	99.9	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	99.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9
SRCE1ED	Edited primary source of support	90.5	90.9	91.0	91.1	90.7	89.6	89.5	91.2	90.0	90.6
SRCEPRIM	Primary source of support	90.5	90.9	91.0	91.1	90.7	89.6	89.5	91.2	90.0	90.6
SRCESEC	Secondary source of support	80.9	80.8	80.8	80.3	79.6	79.2	78.8	83.0	78.4	80.1
TICEPHD	Time in from college entry to doctorate	86.3	86.9	87.6	88.2	88.8	87.3	87.3	89.4	89.7	90.6
TOBAGE	Time out between baccalaureate to graduate school entry	88.0	85.8	86.4	86.9	87.2	87.2	87.2	88.5	87.4	88.4
TTDBAPHD	Total time elapsed from baccalaureate to doctorate	92.3	91.7	92.3	92.0	92.3	90.3	90.8	93.1	94.4	94.8
TTDDOC <sup>d</sup>	Total elapsed time in doctorate	na	na	na	na	na	89.9	89.8	91.5	91.3	91.5
TTDGEPHD	Total time elapsed from graduate entry to doctorate	90.4	87.9	88.3	88.6	88.7	90.2	89.9	90.9	90.3	91.9
TUITREMS	Tuition remission-full or partial	89.9	90.4	91.3	91.5	91.2	90.0	89.8	91.4	91.0	91.6
UDEBTLVL	Undergraduate debt level	92.5	92.7	93.4	93.3	86.1	84.7	90.9	93.7	92.6	93.0
VISUDIS <sup>c</sup>	Blind or visual disability indicator	90.8	89.7	89.8	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
VOCLDIS <sup>c</sup>	Vocal or speech disability indicator	90.8	89.7	89.8	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
WHITE	White race indicator	91.9	91.6	91.6	91.5	91.9	90.2	91.0	93.0	92.8	93.1
YRSCOURS <sup>o</sup>	Years of doctoral coursework	90.4	90.9	91.0	90.9	90.4	88.9	89.0	90.5	89.8	na
YRSDISST <sup>o</sup>	Years preparing doctorate dissertation	90.2	91.0	91.1	91.0	90.5	89.0	89.0	90.6	89.7	na
YRSNOTWRK <sup>o</sup>	Years not working on doctoral degree	90.6	91.0	91.2	91.0	90.8	89.2	89.2	90.8	90.9	na

na = not applicable; data either were not collected or derived, or were collected for the first time in that year (see "Notes").

IPEDES = Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System; NCSES = National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics.

<sup>a</sup> Variable added to the Doctorate Records File in 2017.

<sup>b</sup> Variable added to the Doctorate Records File in 2015.

<sup>c</sup> In 2012, survey stopped collecting data for this item.

<sup>d</sup> Variable added to the Doctorate Records File in 2014.

<sup>e</sup> Methodology reports prior to 2014 reported BAEYEAR as CEYEAR.

<sup>f</sup> Variable has low response rate because although all respondents are considered eligible to provide data for item, not all eligible respondents were able to do so.

<sup>g</sup> Response rate counts respondents who reported being U.S. citizens or permanent residents or temporary visa holders and provided country of citizenship.

<sup>h</sup> Item appeared on survey form for the first time in 2010 (see "Notes").

<sup>i</sup> Item appeared on survey form for the first time in 2012 (see "Notes").

<sup>j</sup> Item appeared on survey form for the first time in 2018 (see "Notes").

<sup>k</sup> Methodology reports prior to 2014 reported PHDEYEAR as PHDENTRY.

<sup>l</sup> In 2017, survey stopped collecting data for this item.

<sup>m</sup> Item appeared on all survey forms except 2007–09.

<sup>n</sup> Methodology reports prior to 2011 reported SALARYR as SALARY.

<sup>o</sup> In 2018, survey stopped collecting data for this item.

**Note(s)**

Response rate is the percentage of cases providing data on an item divided by the universe of doctorate recipients eligible to answer that item. For most data items, all doctorate recipient respondents are in the universe of eligible respondents. However, for some of the new survey data items introduced for the first time, not all eligible respondents were able to provide data due to completing earlier versions of the survey but are reported in subsequent years, when the item became available to the entire respondent universe.

**Source(s)**

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