

Table 57

Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in life sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2019

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All life sciences fields	Agricultural sciences and natural resources	Biological and biomedical sciences	Health sciences
All doctorate recipients (number) ^a	12,781	1,491	8,702	2,588
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				
Definite postgraduation study	4,605	400	3,640	565
Definite employment	3,337	489	1,746	1,102
Seeking employment or study	3,338	458	2,294	586
Other ^c	647	29	546	72
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	93.6	95.3	94.1	89.2
Other or unknown ^e	6.4	4.8	5.9	10.8
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	38.2	41.3	29.0	51.5
Government	9.1	14.5	7.9	8.6
Industry or business ^g	40.0	36.6	52.9	21.1
Nonprofit organization	9.6	6.3	6.7	15.6
Other or unknown ^h	3.0	1.2	3.4	3.2
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	47.4	47.9	55.7	34.0
Teaching	24.0	26.7	15.5	36.3
Management or administration	9.5	11.0	6.6	13.5
Professional services	17.8	13.1	20.9	15.1
Other	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	24.4	28.0	17.1	34.5
Teaching	9.6	12.7	6.1	13.8
Management or administration	15.7	13.8	16.2	15.7
Professional services	8.0	7.8	6.9	10.0
Other	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.3
No secondary activity	41.7	36.9	53.2	25.6
Activity unknown	4.9	3.5	5.0	5.4
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	92.3	84.6	93.8	91.5
New England	10.9	4.2	12.6	9.0
Middle Atlantic	12.5	5.2	13.9	11.9
East North Central	10.6	11.9	10.3	11.1
West North Central	6.2	11.0	5.3	6.5
South Atlantic	17.5	16.6	15.9	23.2
East South Central	3.8	4.2	3.6	4.3
West South Central	6.4	8.7	5.8	7.3
Mountain	5.3	6.2	5.1	5.4
Pacific and insular	18.3	15.7	20.7	11.9
Not in United States	7.7	15.3	6.2	8.5
Location unknown	*	0.1	0.0	0.1
Male doctorate recipients (number)	5,819	761	4,200	858
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				
Definite postgraduation study	2,263	223	1,824	216
Definite employment	1,436	259	828	349
Seeking employment or study	1,405	210	1,011	184

Table 57

Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in life sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2019

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All life sciences fields	Agricultural sciences and natural resources	Biological and biomedical sciences	Health sciences
Other ^c	327	12	297	18
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	92.5	96.0	93.4	81.9
Other or unknown ^e	7.5	4.0	6.6	18.1
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	34.3	38.2	26.0	51.0
Government	9.7	17.4	7.6	9.2
Industry or business ^g	46.0	37.1	57.2	25.8
Nonprofit organization	7.1	5.8	5.6	11.7
Other or unknown ^h	2.9	1.5	3.6	2.3
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	54.4	49.6	62.0	40.2
Teaching	21.5	25.2	13.3	38.1
Management or administration	7.4	10.4	5.9	8.5
Professional services	15.8	12.8	17.9	13.0
Other	1.0	2.0	0.9	0.3
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	22.5	28.0	15.6	34.7
Teaching	8.3	12.8	5.0	12.4
Management or administration	16.7	15.6	17.3	16.0
Professional services	7.8	6.0	7.2	10.6
Other	0.5	0.8	0.5	0.3
No secondary activity	44.2	36.8	54.4	26.0
Activity unknown	5.5	3.5	6.3	5.2
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	91.2	82.0	93.6	88.0
New England	11.0	3.7	12.9	8.1
Middle Atlantic	12.3	3.7	14.2	10.8
East North Central	10.1	10.8	9.8	10.8
West North Central	6.9	12.9	5.9	6.7
South Atlantic	16.3	17.8	14.6	22.7
East South Central	3.3	4.4	3.1	3.5
West South Central	6.1	8.1	5.4	7.8
Mountain	5.0	6.2	4.8	5.0
Pacific and insular	19.4	13.7	22.1	11.5
Not in United States	8.7	17.8	6.4	12.0
Location unknown	*	0.2	0.0	0.0
Female doctorate recipients (number)	6,961	730	4,501	1,730
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				
Definite postgraduation study	2,342	177	1,816	349
Definite employment	1,901	230	918	753
Seeking employment or study	1,933	248	1,283	402
Other ^c	320	17	249	54
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	94.6	94.4	94.8	93.7
Other or unknown ^e	5.4	5.6	5.2	6.3

Table 57**Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in life sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2019**

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All life sciences fields	Agricultural sciences and natural resources	Biological and biomedical sciences	Health sciences
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	41.2	44.8	31.8	51.7
Government	8.6	11.3	8.2	8.4
Industry or business ^g	35.6	36.1	49.0	19.0
Nonprofit organization	11.5	7.0	7.7	17.4
Other or unknown ^h	3.1	0.9	3.3	3.6
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	42.2	45.9	50.2	31.1
Teaching	25.8	28.4	17.4	35.4
Management or administration	11.2	11.7	7.2	15.9
Professional services	19.4	13.5	23.6	16.0
Other	1.4	0.5	1.6	1.5
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	25.8	27.9	18.3	34.5
Teaching	10.6	12.6	7.0	14.5
Management or administration	14.9	11.7	15.2	15.6
Professional services	8.2	9.9	6.6	9.7
Other	0.6	0.9	0.8	0.3
No secondary activity	39.8	36.9	52.1	25.5
Activity unknown	4.5	3.5	3.8	5.6
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	93.2	87.7	94.0	93.3
New England	10.8	4.7	12.3	9.4
Middle Atlantic	12.6	6.9	13.5	12.5
East North Central	11.1	13.3	10.8	11.3
West North Central	5.5	8.8	4.6	6.4
South Atlantic	18.5	15.2	17.1	23.4
East South Central	4.3	3.9	4.2	4.6
West South Central	6.7	9.3	6.1	7.0
Mountain	5.5	6.1	5.4	5.6
Pacific and insular	17.3	18.2	19.3	12.1
Not in United States	6.7	12.3	6.0	6.6
Location unknown	*	0.0	0.0	0.1

* = 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.