

Table 7-1

Doctoral degrees awarded, by sex and field: 2008–18

(Number)

Sex and field	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Both sexes											
All fields	61,716	61,730	57,405	59,847	62,181	64,887	67,591	69,115	69,836	71,142	72,332
S&E	33,359	33,284	32,649	34,205	35,359	36,928	38,939	39,178	39,053	39,528	40,057
Science	25,249	25,369	24,837	25,727	26,486	27,439	28,804	28,772	28,695	28,981	29,106
Agricultural sciences	1,080	1,143	982	1,053	1,144	1,218	1,228	1,381	1,343	1,364	1,345
Biological sciences	7,319	7,429	7,571	7,596	7,817	7,825	8,207	7,890	7,858	8,003	8,096
Computer sciences	1,696	1,574	1,561	1,562	1,690	1,809	1,935	1,951	1,936	1,934	1,974
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	683	724	713	687	737	794	861	827	912	890	933
Atmospheric sciences	106	110	100	120	125	137	126	146	142	153	174
Earth sciences	469	503	496	467	497	530	606	575	631	629	648
Ocean sciences	108	111	117	100	115	127	129	106	139	108	111
Mathematics and statistics	1,362	1,536	1,594	1,590	1,670	1,824	1,864	1,802	1,855	1,925	2,013
Physical sciences	4,205	4,416	4,326	4,560	4,589	4,703	4,947	4,971	5,078	5,086	5,204
Astronomy	163	143	160	166	170	174	179	153	169	196	211
Chemistry	2,495	2,652	2,564	2,685	2,630	2,730	2,921	2,906	3,002	2,990	3,059
Physics	1,507	1,580	1,570	1,670	1,752	1,740	1,768	1,840	1,833	1,826	1,879
Other	40	41	32	39	37	59	79	72	74	74	55
Psychology	4,600	4,046	3,606	3,952	3,867	4,280	4,574	4,533	4,526	4,486	4,325
Social sciences	4,304	4,501	4,484	4,727	4,972	4,986	5,188	5,417	5,187	5,293	5,216
Anthropology	491	527	534	596	585	595	606	577	591	581	573
Area and ethnic studies	246	226	237	257	274	272	316	309	302	323	316
Economics	1,172	1,172	1,120	1,152	1,271	1,227	1,212	1,283	1,298	1,325	1,326
History of science	34	19	31	27	24	29	41	31	31	30	27
Linguistics	215	240	203	235	249	237	240	266	259	229	258
Political science and public administration	1,104	1,244	1,312	1,314	1,402	1,507	1,537	1,622	1,518	1,557	1,489
Sociology	594	635	612	671	635	626	692	733	658	697	707
Other	448	438	435	475	532	493	544	596	530	551	520
Engineering	8,110	7,915	7,812	8,478	8,873	9,489	10,135	10,406	10,358	10,547	10,951
Aerospace engineering	232	257	228	237	275	310	336	310	332	342	347
Chemical engineering	950	886	929	951	969	1,001	1,169	1,197	1,181	1,169	1,211
Civil engineering	909	902	851	894	922	1,036	1,154	1,230	1,166	1,246	1,232
Electrical engineering	2,279	2,090	2,169	2,352	2,475	2,469	2,642	2,651	2,620	2,669	2,720
Industrial engineering	346	333	290	319	348	389	400	354	375	380	397
Materials engineering	665	661	653	651	715	757	734	810	842	877	891
Mechanical engineering	1,149	1,186	1,022	1,172	1,277	1,384	1,454	1,586	1,534	1,498	1,665
Other	1,580	1,600	1,670	1,902	1,892	2,143	2,246	2,268	2,308	2,366	2,488
Non-S&E	28,357	28,446	24,756	25,642	26,822	27,959	28,652	29,937	30,783	31,614	32,275
Female											
All fields	31,115	31,225	28,397	29,513	30,859	32,148	33,831	34,660	35,026	35,851	36,444
S&E	13,578	13,689	13,411	14,013	14,523	15,237	16,195	16,264	15,876	16,151	16,482
Science	11,830	11,977	11,596	12,115	12,517	13,060	13,884	13,838	13,447	13,641	13,796
Agricultural sciences	445	506	455	491	540	570	593	665	628	676	639
Biological sciences	3,707	3,894	4,007	3,987	4,152	4,167	4,375	4,179	4,136	4,180	4,308
Computer sciences	373	351	336	311	361	351	403	439	389	437	426
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	244	288	289	267	319	365	374	359	373	380	411
Atmospheric sciences	21	33	34	36	49	58	41	55	51	68	66
Earth sciences	174	195	204	186	215	232	261	249	252	254	283
Ocean sciences	49	60	51	45	55	75	72	55	70	58	62
Mathematics and statistics	423	476	476	454	471	531	539	503	528	522	563

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(Number)

Sex and field	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Physical sciences	1,234	1,385	1,371	1,418	1,444	1,516	1,574	1,647	1,571	1,572	1,691
Astronomy	39	54	61	57	57	63	62	52	59	73	82
Chemistry	901	1,024	994	1,047	1,028	1,102	1,150	1,206	1,134	1,154	1,193
Physics	280	293	305	302	350	335	331	367	354	320	402
Other	14	14	11	12	9	16	31	22	24	25	14
Psychology	3,311	2,912	2,537	2,863	2,808	3,118	3,361	3,343	3,293	3,268	3,117
Social sciences	2,093	2,165	2,125	2,324	2,422	2,442	2,665	2,703	2,529	2,606	2,641
Anthropology	301	315	314	358	374	389	378	353	343	364	384
Area and ethnic studies	143	138	131	141	161	142	187	184	174	205	200
Economics	408	419	380	406	421	436	415	466	450	452	427
History of science	17	7	14	8	7	18	18	16	19	17	17
Linguistics	120	152	115	142	133	140	146	149	158	137	163
Political science and public administration	520	546	588	598	652	699	780	766	745	728	714
Sociology	360	380	378	419	402	367	435	441	377	423	448
Other	224	208	205	252	272	251	306	328	263	280	288
Engineering	1,748	1,712	1,815	1,898	2,006	2,177	2,311	2,426	2,429	2,510	2,686
Aerospace engineering	24	33	40	30	40	49	53	47	49	38	42
Chemical engineering	249	237	269	280	293	298	328	361	363	347	348
Civil engineering	232	214	246	239	241	298	314	371	314	393	396
Electrical engineering	388	338	382	387	424	364	413	390	418	456	489
Industrial engineering	97	86	72	100	104	113	122	121	113	119	103
Materials engineering	156	172	166	156	172	202	197	217	216	228	251
Mechanical engineering	160	160	125	162	194	212	217	223	241	238	255
Other	442	472	515	544	538	641	667	696	715	691	802
Non-S&E	17,537	17,536	14,986	15,500	16,336	16,911	17,636	18,396	19,150	19,700	19,962
Male											
All fields	30,601	30,505	29,008	30,334	31,322	32,739	33,760	34,455	34,810	35,291	35,888
S&E	19,781	19,595	19,238	20,192	20,836	21,691	22,744	22,914	23,177	23,377	23,575
Science	13,419	13,392	13,241	13,612	13,969	14,379	14,920	14,934	15,248	15,340	15,310
Agricultural sciences	635	637	527	562	604	648	635	716	715	688	706
Biological sciences	3,612	3,535	3,564	3,609	3,665	3,658	3,832	3,711	3,722	3,823	3,788
Computer sciences	1,323	1,223	1,225	1,251	1,329	1,458	1,532	1,512	1,547	1,497	1,548
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	439	436	424	420	418	429	487	468	539	510	522
Atmospheric sciences	85	77	66	84	76	79	85	91	91	85	108
Earth sciences	295	308	292	281	282	298	345	326	379	375	365
Ocean sciences	59	51	66	55	60	52	57	51	69	50	49
Mathematics and statistics	939	1,060	1,118	1,136	1,199	1,293	1,325	1,299	1,327	1,403	1,450
Physical sciences	2,971	3,031	2,955	3,142	3,145	3,187	3,373	3,324	3,507	3,514	3,513
Astronomy	124	89	99	109	113	111	117	101	110	123	129
Chemistry	1,594	1,628	1,570	1,638	1,602	1,628	1,771	1,700	1,868	1,836	1,866
Physics	1,227	1,287	1,265	1,368	1,402	1,405	1,437	1,473	1,479	1,506	1,477
Other	26	27	21	27	28	43	48	50	50	49	41
Psychology	1,289	1,134	1,069	1,089	1,059	1,162	1,213	1,190	1,233	1,218	1,208
Social sciences	2,211	2,336	2,359	2,403	2,550	2,544	2,523	2,714	2,658	2,687	2,575
Anthropology	190	212	220	238	211	206	228	224	248	217	189
Area and ethnic studies	103	88	106	116	113	130	129	125	128	118	116
Economics	764	753	740	746	850	791	797	817	848	873	899
History of science	17	12	17	19	17	11	23	15	12	13	10
Linguistics	95	88	88	93	116	97	94	117	101	92	95

Table 7-1**Doctoral degrees awarded, by sex and field: 2008–18**

(Number)

Sex and field	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Political science and public administration	584	698	724	716	750	808	757	856	773	829	775
Sociology	234	255	234	252	233	259	257	292	281	274	259
Other	224	230	230	223	260	242	238	268	267	271	232
Engineering	6,362	6,203	5,997	6,580	6,867	7,312	7,824	7,980	7,929	8,037	8,265
Aerospace engineering	208	224	188	207	235	261	283	263	283	304	305
Chemical engineering	701	649	660	671	676	703	841	836	818	822	863
Civil engineering	677	688	605	655	681	738	840	859	852	853	836
Electrical engineering	1,891	1,752	1,787	1,965	2,051	2,105	2,229	2,261	2,202	2,213	2,231
Industrial engineering	249	247	218	219	244	276	278	233	262	261	294
Materials engineering	509	489	487	495	543	555	537	593	626	649	640
Mechanical engineering	989	1,026	897	1,010	1,083	1,172	1,237	1,363	1,293	1,260	1,410
Other	1,138	1,128	1,155	1,358	1,354	1,502	1,579	1,572	1,593	1,675	1,686
Non-S&E	10,820	10,910	9,770	10,142	10,486	11,048	11,016	11,541	11,633	11,914	12,313

S&E = science and engineering.

Note(s):

Data in this table differ from doctoral degree data in this report that are based on the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics' Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED). SED data are for research doctorates only. The greatest differences are in psychology, education, and medical and other health sciences. Before 2008, the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) used two doctoral degree categories: doctor's and first-professional. In 2008 and 2009, NCES allowed optional reporting in three new doctoral degree categories: doctor's—research or scholarship, doctor's—professional practice, and doctor's—other. In 2010, NCES required institutions to use only the three new doctoral degree categories. With the new reporting system, degrees formerly classified as first-professional (e.g., MDs and JDs) can be reported as doctoral degrees, most often as doctor's—professional practice. In this table, data for 2008 and 2009 include only doctorates reported under the old doctor's degree category plus those reported as doctor's—research or scholarship. Data for 2010 and later include only doctorates reported as doctor's—research or scholarship. Data are based on degree-granting institutions eligible to participate in Title IV federal financial aid programs.

Source(s):

Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Completions Survey, unrevised provisional release data, accessed 14 January 2020.