

TABLE 1-1

Employment setting of early career doctorates, by position type, doctoral degree characteristics, and demographic characteristics: 2017

(Percent distribution)

Selected characteristic	All employment settings	All academic institutions ^a				FFRDC
		All academic institutions	Very high research activity university	High research activity university	Other college or university	
Number of early career doctorates	186,700	178,900	83,000	27,500	68,500	7,800
Percentage of early career doctorates	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Position type ^b						
Faculty	67.3	69.9	51.9	81.2	87.3	6.3
Tenured faculty	14.6	15.2	8.5	16.3	22.9	1.2
Tenure-track faculty	31.3	32.6	25.5	38.5	38.9	1.8
Non-tenure track faculty with rank	7.0	7.1	6.4	9.5	7.0	2.9
Other faculty, no rank or tenure	14.4	15.0	11.4	16.9	18.5	D
Postdoctoral scholar	19.5	18.8	34.8	8.6	3.4	36.9
Research scientist or nonfaculty researcher	5.8	3.8	6.8	2.0	0.9	52.1
Other positions	7.4	7.5	6.5	8.2	8.4	4.8
Doctoral degree type						
Professional degree or doctoral equivalent ^c	8.4	8.7	4.7	9.1	13.4	D
Research degree	91.6	91.3	95.3	90.9	86.6	99.4
Years since doctoral degree						
1 year or less	19.8	19.6	22.6	17.6	16.8	23.8
2–5 years	44.3	44.4	45.1	44.1	43.8	42.0
6–10 years	35.9	36.0	32.3	38.2	39.5	34.2
Origin of doctoral degree						
U.S. degree	86.6	87.1	79.2	92.2	94.7	75.7
Non-U.S. degree	13.4	12.9	20.8	7.8	5.3	24.3
Field of doctoral degree						
Science and engineering	60.3	58.7	74.0	50.7	43.3	98.3
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	15.5	15.9	23.1	10.9	9.1	5.8
Agricultural and environmental life sciences	2.1	2.1	3.1	2.3	0.9	1.3
Biological and biomedical sciences	13.4	13.7	20.0	8.5	8.2	4.5
Engineering	9.2	8.4	11.8	8.1	4.3	29.2
Mathematics and computer sciences	6.5	6.3	7.0	5.9	5.5	11.3
Computer and information sciences	3.1	2.9	3.3	3.1	2.3	9.0
Mathematics and statistics	3.3	3.4	3.7	2.8	3.3	2.3
Multidisciplinary fields and science and engineering related fields	1.4	1.4	1.8	1.0	1.0	2.1
Physical sciences, geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	11.1	9.6	14.6	6.4	4.7	44.8
Psychology and social sciences	16.7	17.2	15.7	18.4	18.5	5.1
Psychology	4.7	4.8	4.5	5.8	4.8	S
Social sciences	12.0	12.4	11.1	12.6	13.8	4.1
Health	7.2	7.5	5.6	7.7	9.7	D
Non-science and engineering	32.5	33.9	20.5	41.6	47.0	1.4
Education	11.3	11.8	6.1	14.7	17.5	D

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(Percent distribution)

Selected characteristic	All employment settings	All academic institutions ^a				FFRDC
		All academic institutions	Very high research activity university	High research activity university	Other college or university	
Humanities	8.4	8.8	6.5	11.3	10.6	D
Other non-science and engineering	12.8	13.3	7.9	15.6	19.0	1.3
Position tenure						
1 year or less	13.8	14.0	11.7	15.1	16.4	7.6
More than 1 year but less than 5 years	58.2	57.6	67.3	53.8	47.4	70.7
5 years or more	28.1	28.3	21.0	31.0	36.2	21.7
Sex						
Female	47.9	49.0	44.1	49.6	54.8	21.9
Male	52.1	51.0	55.9	50.4	45.2	78.1
Citizenship and sex						
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	83.6	84.2	75.6	89.0	92.7	70.3
Female	42.8	43.9	36.6	46.4	51.8	16.1
Male	40.8	40.3	39.0	42.6	40.9	54.2
Temporary visa holder	16.4	15.8	24.4	11.0	7.3	29.7
Female	5.1	5.1	7.5	3.2	3.0	5.8
Male	11.3	10.7	17.0	7.8	4.3	23.9
Ethnicity and race						
Hispanic or Latino	7.3	7.4	7.8	8.4	6.5	4.1
Not Hispanic or Latino						
Asian	20.1	19.6	25.6	16.5	13.6	31.6
Black or African American	5.4	5.6	4.1	3.7	8.2	0.8
White	64.7	64.8	60.0	68.9	69.1	61.5
Other race and ethnicity	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.6	2.0
Age quartile						
32 years and under	20.6	20.1	28.5	15.5	11.6	32.3
33–35 year	27.4	27.0	30.6	25.6	23.1	36.4
36–40 years	22.4	22.6	21.8	25.0	22.4	19.7
41 years or older	29.6	30.4	19.0	33.9	42.8	11.6
Disability status						
With disability	27.7	28.0	25.3	26.2	32.0	20.2
Without disability	72.3	72.0	74.7	73.8	68.0	79.8

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information. S = suppressed for reliability; coefficient of variation exceeds publication standards.

FFRDC = federally funded research and development center.

^a Academic institutions include U.S. academic institutions in the Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering that grant master's and doctorate degrees in science, engineering, and health-related fields.^b Other faculty, no rank or tenure, positions includes all other faculty positions such as instructors, lecturers, and adjuncts. Postdoctoral scholar positions are temporary positions in academe, industry, government, or a nonprofit organization primarily for gaining additional education and training in research. Other positions are diverse but are typically university administrators and staff.^c Includes medical and related degrees, such as Medical Doctors (MD), Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD), and other professional degrees such as Doctor of Education (EdD).**Note(s):**

Counts are rounded to the nearest 100. Percentages are calculated from unrounded counts and rounded to the nearest 10th of a percent. Details may not add to totals because of rounding.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Early Career Doctorates Survey, 2017.