

TABLE 1-2

Position type of early career doctorates, by doctoral degree characteristics and demographic characteristics: 2017

(Percent distribution)

Selected characteristic	Total	Faculty					Postdoctoral scholar ^b	Other position		
		Total	Tenured faculty	Tenure-track faculty	Non-tenure track faculty with rank	Other faculty, no rank or tenure ^a		Total	Research scientist or nonfaculty researcher	All other positions ^c
Number of early career doctorates	186,700	125,600	27,300	58,500	13,000	26,800	36,400	24,700	10,900	13,800
Percentage of early career doctorates	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Doctoral degree type										
Professional degree or doctoral equivalent ^d	8.4	8.3	3.6	3.4	22.2	16.9	1.9	18.6	1.4	32.2
Research degree	91.6	91.7	96.4	96.6	77.8	83.1	98.1	81.4	98.6	67.8
Years since doctoral degree										
1 year or less	19.8	14.0	1.5	16.5	14.4	20.8	43.4	14.5	11.2	17.1
2–5 years	44.3	43.4	17.0	54.5	45.9	44.7	48.6	42.9	44.1	42.0
6–10 years	35.9	42.7	81.5	28.9	39.7	34.5	8.0	42.6	44.7	41.0
Origin of doctoral degree										
U.S. degree	86.6	93.5	95.7	92.7	89.9	94.5	62.1	88.3	77.5	96.9
Non-U.S. degree	13.4	6.5	4.3	7.3	10.1	5.5	37.9	11.7	22.5	3.1
Field of doctoral degree										
Science and engineering	60.3	51.5	49.4	56.1	49.5	44.6	92.6	57.6	89.8	32.1
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	15.5	9.1	5.4	10.5	13.4	7.9	39.2	12.7	19.8	7.0
Agricultural and environmental life sciences	2.1	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.5	S	4.3	1.9	2.5	1.5
Biological and biomedical sciences	13.4	7.6	3.9	8.8	11.9	6.8	34.9	10.7	17.3	5.5
Engineering	9.2	7.3	7.3	8.8	6.0	4.5	13.8	12.5	22.6	4.5
Mathematics and computer sciences	6.5	6.7	7.6	7.3	6.0	4.7	6.5	5.5	8.9	S
Computer and information sciences	3.1	3.2	3.5	3.9	1.7	2.4	2.6	3.4	6.3	S
Mathematics and statistics	3.3	3.4	4.1	3.4	4.2	2.3	3.9	2.1	2.7	S
Multidisciplinary fields and science and engineering related fields	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.1	S	1.3	1.8	1.9	1.1	2.4
Physical sciences, geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	11.1	6.7	3.9	7.3	8.3	7.3	24.9	13.0	25.9	2.8
Psychology and social sciences	16.7	20.6	23.7	21.1	14.8	19.0	6.5	12.0	11.4	12.5
Psychology	4.7	5.1	5.4	5.2	3.2	5.6	2.8	5.2	4.0	6.2
Social sciences	12.0	15.4	18.3	15.9	11.6	13.4	3.7	6.8	7.4	6.3
Health	7.2	8.1	5.3	6.7	22.7	7.1	3.7	7.4	1.6	12.1

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Non-science and engineering	32.5	40.4	45.3	37.3	27.8	48.3	3.7	35.0	8.6	55.9
Education	11.3	11.8	10.4	8.6	14.2	19.2	1.1	23.5	2.7	40.1
Humanities	8.4	11.0	12.7	9.5	S	15.2	1.4	5.9	2.4	8.8
Other non-science and engineering	12.8	17.6	22.3	19.1	8.4	14.0	1.2	5.5	3.6	7.0
Position tenure										
1 year or less	13.8	15.0	3.1	15.9	12.2	26.6	13.4	8.0	8.2	7.8
2–5 years	58.2	50.6	13.3	67.2	54.7	50.3	80.9	63.3	68.8	58.9
6–10 years	28.1	34.4	83.7	16.9	33.1	23.1	5.7	28.7	23.0	33.3
Sex										
Female	47.9	51.2	46.4	48.6	60.8	57.0	36.3	48.4	33.2	60.4
Male	52.1	48.8	53.6	51.4	39.2	43.0	63.7	51.6	66.8	39.6
Citizenship and sex										
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	83.6	92.4	98.0	88.9	92.6	94.2	48.8	90.4	82.6	96.6
Female	42.8	48.3	45.7	44.4	58.6	54.6	22.0	45.1	27.0	59.6
Male	40.8	44.1	52.3	44.5	33.9	39.6	26.8	45.3	55.6	37.1
Temporary visa holder	16.4	7.6	2.0	11.1	7.4	5.8	51.2	9.6	17.4	3.4
Female	5.1	2.8	0.7	4.2	2.1	2.4	14.3	3.2	6.3	0.8
Male	11.3	4.8	1.3	6.9	5.3	3.4	36.9	6.4	11.2	2.6
Ethnicity and race										
Hispanic or Latino	7.3	7.4	6.4	8.1	7.0	7.2	8.5	4.5	3.0	5.7
Not Hispanic or Latino										
Asian	20.1	15.4	15.1	18.7	14.9	9.0	38.8	16.4	28.2	7.0
Black or African American	5.4	6.0	4.5	5.5	7.4	7.9	2.2	7.1	2.5	10.8
White	64.7	68.4	72.1	64.8	69.4	72.2	49.2	68.7	63.8	72.5
Other race and ethnicity	2.5	2.7	1.9	2.9	1.3	3.7	1.3	3.3	2.5	3.9
Age quartile										
32 years and under	20.6	12.2	1.0	18.2	12.5	10.3	54.0	14.0	19.9	9.3
33–35 year	27.4	26.9	17.7	35.2	22.8	20.0	30.8	24.7	33.1	17.9
36–40 years	22.4	25.8	33.2	25.7	21.2	20.5	10.2	23.6	26.8	21.1
41 years or older	29.6	35.2	48.2	20.9	43.5	49.1	5.0	37.8	20.2	51.7
Disability status										
With disability	27.7	29.4	32.8	26.8	25.0	33.6	22.5	26.9	19.5	32.8
Without disability	72.3	70.6	67.2	73.2	75.0	66.4	77.5	73.1	80.5	67.2

S = suppressed for reliability; coefficient of variation exceeds publication standards.

^a Other faculty, no rank or tenure, positions includes all other faculty positions such as instructors, lecturers, and adjuncts.^b Postdoctoral scholar positions are temporary positions in academe, industry, government, or a nonprofit organization primarily for gaining additional education and training in research.^c All other positions are diverse but are typically university administrators and staff.^d 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.