

TABLE 7-2

Satisfaction with position and early career doctorates who would take position again, by position type, employment setting, and position characteristics: 2017

(Percent and percent distribution)

Selected characteristic	Number of early career doctorates	Satisfaction with position					Would take position again if starting over
		Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neither dissatisfied nor satisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied	
All early career doctorates	186,700	3.6	7.1	12.5	45.4	31.4	78.7
Position type ^a							
Faculty	125,600	3.5	7.2	12.5	46.3	30.5	79.6
Tenured faculty	27,300	3.7	5.3	11.3	46.8	32.9	79.2
Tenure-track faculty	58,500	3.2	6.1	11.5	47.7	31.5	80.4
Non-tenure track faculty with rank	13,000	4.0	6.7	13.3	46.9	29.0	79.5
Other faculty, no rank or tenure	26,800	4.0	11.7	15.3	42.3	26.8	78.2
Postdoctoral scholar	36,400	3.6	7.1	13.1	42.9	33.3	74.3
Research scientist or nonfaculty researcher	10,900	4.2	6.4	10.1	50.5	28.8	82.1
Other positions	13,800	3.4	6.4	13.3	40.6	36.3	79.8
Employment setting							
Academic institution ^b	178,900	3.6	7.1	12.6	45.5	31.2	78.5
Very high research activity university	83,000	3.4	6.7	12.2	45.3	32.3	78.3
High research activity university	27,500	3.8	8.5	12.7	48.1	26.9	74.6
Other college or university	68,500	3.6	7.2	13.1	44.5	31.6	80.4
FFRDC	7,800	4.0	5.6	9.4	45.3	35.7	82.8
Position tenure							
1 year or less	25,700	4.1	4.5	12.9	46.9	31.6	81.4
More than 1 year but less than 5 years	108,600	3.4	8.0	12.6	44.5	31.5	77.9
5 years or more	52,400	3.7	6.5	12.2	46.7	31.0	79.1
First-position status							
First position held after doctoral award	89,500	3.5	7.4	12.6	44.4	32.1	77.9
Not the first position	97,300	3.7	6.8	12.4	46.4	30.8	79.4
Position related to doctoral degree							
Closely	146,800	3.4	6.2	11.5	45.6	33.4	80.8
Somewhat	36,200	4.0	10.5	14.9	46.0	24.5	72.2
Not at all	3,700	6.9	9.9	28.3	35.1	19.9	59.9
Hours worked per week							
Less than 35 hours	16,300	3.8	7.0	13.5	43.1	32.6	82.9
35–44 hours	59,600	3.2	6.0	10.8	47.2	32.8	80.2
45–54 hours	62,400	2.9	6.5	11.4	46.3	32.8	79.5
55 hours or more	48,500	4.8	9.1	15.6	43.0	27.5	74.4

FFRDC = federally funded research and development center.

^a 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.

^b 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.

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.