

Table 32

Median years to doctorate, by sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, race, and broad field of study: 2020

(Median years and number)

Time to degree and demographic characteristic	All fields		Life sciences ^a		Physical sciences and earth sciences		Mathematics and computer sciences		Psychology and social sciences		Engineering		Education		Humanities and arts		Other ^b	
	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number
Years since bachelor's																		
All doctorate recipients ^c	8.7	52,403	8.3	11,993	7.0	6,002	7.9	4,181	9.3	8,384	7.5	10,005	15.0	4,486	11.1	4,593	11.3	2,759
Sex																		
Male	8.3	28,332	8.2	5,283	7.0	3,998	7.9	3,138	9.4	3,384	7.6	7,528	14.6	1,380	11.1	2,325	11.0	1,296
Female	9.2	24,071	8.3	6,710	6.7	2,004	7.8	1,043	9.3	5,000	7.3	2,477	15.0	3,106	11.0	2,268	11.5	1,463
Citizenship status																		
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	9.0	33,943	8.0	8,563	6.6	3,699	7.6	1,721	9.3	6,508	7.0	4,108	15.3	3,816	11.0	3,841	13.0	1,687
Temporary visa holder	8.4	17,938	8.7	3,312	7.4	2,253	8.0	2,409	9.5	1,782	7.9	5,809	12.4	630	11.2	705	9.5	1,038
Ethnicity and race (U.S. citizens and permanent residents)																		
Hispanic or Latino	9.0	2,796	8.0	695	6.4	242	8.2	100	9.2	639	6.7	287	14.3	368	11.3	340	12.0	125
Not Hispanic or Latino																		
American Indian or Alaska Native	11.1	94	10.0	21	D	D	D	D	D	D	7.1	5	16.6	14	11.3	16	12.6	11
Asian	8.5	3,160	8.4	937	6.8	309	7.5	259	9.3	433	7.3	662	14.3	196	12.9	204	10.7	160
Black or African American	12.1	2,404	10.3	545	7.6	77	8.3	56	11.4	525	9.1	176	15.3	611	12.0	173	16.2	241
White	8.8	23,699	8.0	5,925	6.6	2,870	7.4	1,189	9.3	4,510	7.0	2,780	15.6	2,440	11.0	2,913	12.7	1,072
More than one race	8.3	1,129	7.7	310	6.3	140	7.0	77	9.2	235	6.4	126	14.5	99	11.8	105	11.0	37
Other race or race not reported	9.7	327	8.3	68	D	D	D	D	D	D	7.6	41	13.1	40	10.6	45	15.5	16
Ethnicity not reported	10.1	334	8.3	62	6.8	27	9.7	17	10.0	79	8.6	31	14.3	48	11.0	45	13.6	25
Years since entering graduate school																		
All doctorate recipients ^d	7.5	50,873	6.9	11,780	6.3	5,844	7.0	4,072	7.9	8,077	6.8	9,738	12.0	4,319	9.6	4,417	9.3	2,626
Sex																		
Male	7.3	27,546	6.9	5,218	6.3	3,896	7.0	3,053	7.9	3,261	6.9	7,331	12.0	1,318	9.7	2,238	9.0	1,231
Female	7.8	23,327	7.0	6,562	6.0	1,948	6.9	1,019	7.9	4,816	6.6	2,407	12.0	3,001	9.6	2,179	9.8	1,395
Citizenship status																		
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	7.3	32,912	6.8	8,412	6.0	3,595	6.8	1,679	7.8	6,257	6.3	4,001	12.5	3,680	9.3	3,695	10.3	1,593
Temporary visa holder	7.7	17,497	7.8	3,281	7.0	2,211	7.0	2,343	8.8	1,733	7.1	5,647	9.8	598	10.3	686	8.5	998
Ethnicity and race (U.S. citizens and permanent residents)																		
Hispanic or Latino	7.6	2,721	6.8	696	5.8	234	7.3	99	7.7	611	6.2	278	12.0	352	9.3	328	10.0	123
Not Hispanic or Latino																		
American Indian or Alaska Native	9.7	85	7.8	19	D	D	D	D	9.7	21	D	D	12.5	13	10.8	14	14.8	9
Asian	7.3	3,107	7.0	935	6.0	305	7.0	257	7.9	419	6.6	644	11.0	196	10.3	198	9.0	153
Black or African American	10.2	2,317	8.6	536	6.8	73	7.8	56	9.8	509	7.8	171	12.8	580	9.8	165	13.4	227
White	7.3	23,138	6.5	5,830	6.0	2,802	6.8	1,158	7.3	4,382	6.1	2,734	12.8	2,381	9.3	2,831	10.0	1,020

Table 32**Median years to doctorate, by sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, race, and broad field of study: 2020**

(Median years and number)

Time to degree and demographic characteristic	All fields		Life sciences ^a		Physical sciences and earth sciences		Mathematics and computer sciences		Psychology and social sciences		Engineering		Education		Humanities and arts		Other ^b	
	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number
More than one race	7.0	1,127	6.6	309	5.8	139	6.8	77	7.8	233	5.8	126	11.3	99	9.7	106	9.0	38
Other race or race not reported	8.3	267	6.8	60	D	D	D	D	10.0	49	D	D	10.0	37	9.5	36	12.0	12
Ethnicity not reported	9.6	150	6.8	27	7.1	11	9.3	13	9.5	33	8.0	16	13.5	22	10.8	17	9.3	11
Years since entering doctoral program ^e																		
All doctorate recipients ^f	5.8	49,422	5.5	11,474	5.5	5,683	5.6	3,962	6.0	7,815	5.3	9,467	5.8	4,191	6.8	4,298	5.3	2,532
Sex																		
Male	5.7	26,718	5.5	5,059	5.7	3,781	5.7	2,958	5.8	3,168	5.3	7,122	5.6	1,276	6.8	2,179	5.0	1,175
Female	5.8	22,704	5.4	6,415	5.3	1,902	5.3	1,004	6.0	4,647	5.2	2,345	5.8	2,915	6.8	2,119	5.3	1,357
Citizenship status																		
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	5.8	31,894	5.7	8,184	5.7	3,488	5.8	1,630	6.0	6,039	5.3	3,875	5.8	3,562	6.8	3,591	5.7	1,525
Temporary visa holder	5.3	17,078	5.3	3,204	5.3	2,159	5.3	2,283	5.8	1,693	5.0	5,504	5.3	589	6.7	673	5.0	973
Ethnicity and race (U.S. citizens and permanent residents)																		
Hispanic or Latino	5.8	2,621	5.8	674	5.3	226	6.0	95	6.0	577	5.3	270	5.9	343	6.8	319	5.8	117
Not Hispanic or Latino																		
American Indian or Alaska Native	5.8	84	5.8	19	D	D	D	D	7.6	21	D	D	4.6	13	7.9	13	5.0	9
Asian	5.8	3,007	5.8	909	5.7	296	5.8	249	6.0	408	5.6	622	6.0	185	7.0	191	5.7	147
Black or African American	5.9	2,207	5.8	516	5.8	70	5.9	53	6.0	485	5.3	165	6.0	550	6.3	159	5.7	209
White	5.8	22,488	5.7	5,682	5.7	2,726	5.8	1,127	6.0	4,249	5.3	2,648	5.7	2,316	6.8	2,755	5.5	985
More than one race	5.8	1,099	5.8	304	5.3	130	6.0	77	6.0	224	5.3	124	5.3	98	6.8	105	5.3	37
Other race or race not reported	6.0	251	5.6	57	D	D	D	D	6.3	44	D	D	5.7	35	7.3	36	6.3	10
Ethnicity not reported	5.8	137	5.8	23	6.7	10	6.2	12	6.8	31	5.3	15	5.0	22	7.3	13	5.8	11

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

^a Includes agricultural sciences and natural resources; biological and biomedical sciences; and health sciences.^b Includes other non-science and engineering fields not shown separately.^c Includes only cases with valid year of bachelor's award.^d Includes only cases with valid year of entry into graduate school.^e Years since entering doctoral program is based on master's degree program entry if the master's degree was at the doctoral institution in the same fine field of study or was a prerequisite to the doctorate; otherwise, it is based on doctoral program entry.^f Includes only cases with valid year of entry into master's program if master's degree was at the doctoral institution in the same fine field of study or was a prerequisite to the doctorate; otherwise, includes only cases with valid year of doctoral program entry.**Source(s):**

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates.