

Table 1-4

Research doctorate recipients, by historical broad field of doctorate and sex: Selected years, 1991–2021

(Number and percent)

Field and sex	1991		1996		2001		2006		2011		2016		2021	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All fields ^a	37,530	100.0	42,437	100.0	40,744	100.0	45,620	100.0	48,909	100.0	54,809	100.0	52,250	100.0
Male	23,521	62.7	25,288	59.6	22,780	55.9	25,020	54.8	26,188	53.5	29,572	54.0	28,082	53.7
Female	13,873	37.0	16,956	40.0	17,887	43.9	20,559	45.1	22,699	46.4	25,222	46.0	24,156	46.2
Life sciences ^b	6,967	100.0	8,337	100.0	8,369	100.0	9,703	100.0	11,535	100.0	12,539	100.0	11,814	100.0
Male	4,242	60.9	4,688	56.2	4,417	52.8	4,690	48.3	5,243	45.5	5,628	44.9	5,236	44.3
Female	2,701	38.8	3,616	43.4	3,926	46.9	5,006	51.6	6,289	54.5	6,908	55.1	6,576	55.7
Physical sciences and earth sciences	4,406	100.0	4,550	100.0	4,024	100.0	4,686	100.0	5,271	100.0	6,251	100.0	5,757	100.0
Male	3,545	80.5	3,525	77.5	2,992	74.4	3,321	70.9	3,629	68.8	4,285	68.5	3,737	64.9
Female	845	19.2	991	21.8	1,026	25.5	1,360	29.0	1,640	31.1	1,963	31.4	2,018	35.1
Mathematics and computer sciences	1,838	100.0	2,042	100.0	1,840	100.0	2,778	100.0	3,273	100.0	3,954	100.0	4,373	100.0
Male	1,514	82.4	1,656	81.1	1,407	76.5	2,074	74.7	2,456	75.0	2,994	75.7	3,230	73.9
Female	316	17.2	370	18.1	431	23.4	704	25.3	813	24.8	959	24.3	1,143	26.1
Psychology and social sciences	6,470	100.0	7,167	100.0	7,151	100.0	7,231	100.0	8,220	100.0	9,037	100.0	8,675	100.0
Male	3,247	50.2	3,452	48.2	3,234	45.2	3,072	42.5	3,332	40.5	3,741	41.4	3,488	40.2
Female	3,208	49.6	3,696	51.6	3,907	54.6	4,154	57.4	4,887	59.5	5,295	58.6	5,184	59.8
Engineering	5,213	100.0	6,309	100.0	5,512	100.0	7,186	100.0	8,032	100.0	9,459	100.0	10,240	100.0
Male	4,702	90.2	5,491	87.0	4,572	82.9	5,729	79.7	6,242	77.7	7,267	76.8	7,582	74.0
Female	467	9.0	777	12.3	930	16.9	1,452	20.2	1,782	22.2	2,189	23.1	2,656	25.9
Education	6,454	100.0	6,785	100.0	6,356	100.0	6,122	100.0	4,670	100.0	5,146	100.0	4,252	100.0
Male	2,696	41.8	2,579	38.0	2,251	35.4	2,130	34.8	1,432	30.7	1,545	30.0	1,239	29.1
Female	3,748	58.1	4,187	61.7	4,100	64.5	3,985	65.1	3,234	69.3	3,601	70.0	3,012	70.8
Humanities and arts	4,053	100.0	4,982	100.0	5,430	100.0	5,332	100.0	5,225	100.0	5,482	100.0	4,137	100.0
Male	2,249	55.5	2,561	51.4	2,775	51.1	2,680	50.3	2,571	49.2	2,639	48.1	2,115	51.1
Female	1,795	44.3	2,404	48.3	2,647	48.7	2,647	49.6	2,654	50.8	2,842	51.8	2,020	48.8
Other ^c	2,129	100.0	2,265	100.0	2,062	100.0	2,582	100.0	2,683	100.0	2,941	100.0	3,002	100.0
Male	1,326	62.3	1,336	59.0	1,132	54.9	1,324	51.3	1,283	47.8	1,473	50.1	1,455	48.5
Female	793	37.2	915	40.4	920	44.6	1,251	48.5	1,400	52.2	1,465	49.8	1,547	51.5

^a Includes respondents who did not report sex.^b Includes agricultural sciences and natural resources, biological and biomedical sciences, and health sciences.^c Includes other non-science and engineering fields not shown separately.**Note(s):**

Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100. Beginning in 2021, a modified version of the 2020 Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes was used in the survey data collection; the historical fields were constructed using the SED-CIP code crosswalk in table A-6. Therefore, the field of doctorate data in 2021 may not be comparable to prior years; see the "Technical Notes" for more information, table A-4 for a summary of SED-CIP codes in the new SED field taxonomy, and table A-5 for a full list of SED-CIP codes in the new field taxonomy.

Source(s):

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