

Table 1-6**Research doctorate recipients, by historical broad field of doctorate and citizenship status: Selected years, 1976–2021**

(Number)

Field and citizenship status	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
All fields	32,946	31,355	31,897	37,530	42,437	40,744	45,620	48,909	54,809	52,250
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	28,829	26,362	24,541	27,437	31,548	28,894	29,028	31,725	35,678	31,674
Temporary visa holder	3,566	3,993	5,318	9,374	9,740	9,812	14,198	14,235	16,477	17,638
Unknown	551	1,000	2,038	719	1,149	2,038	2,394	2,949	2,654	2,938
Life sciences ^a	5,087	5,665	5,767	6,967	8,337	8,369	9,703	11,535	12,539	11,814
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	4,300	4,787	4,593	5,096	6,084	5,956	6,506	7,892	8,683	8,214
Temporary visa holder	679	750	881	1,765	2,088	2,050	2,723	3,029	3,352	3,069
Unknown	108	128	293	106	165	363	474	614	504	531
Physical sciences and earth sciences	3,445	3,156	3,644	4,406	4,550	4,024	4,686	5,271	6,251	5,757
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	2,881	2,547	2,567	2,890	3,078	2,447	2,479	3,048	3,669	3,340
Temporary visa holder	528	527	865	1,445	1,326	1,424	1,976	1,955	2,313	2,171
Unknown	36	82	212	71	146	153	231	268	269	246
Mathematics and computer sciences	1,003	960	1,128	1,838	2,042	1,840	2,778	3,273	3,954	4,373
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	804	714	652	968	1,162	957	1,207	1,603	1,729	1,671
Temporary visa holder	186	228	398	849	828	793	1,462	1,449	2,053	2,450
Unknown	13	18	78	21	52	90	109	221	172	252
Psychology and social sciences	6,452	6,404	6,150	6,470	7,167	7,151	7,231	8,220	9,037	8,675
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	5,769	5,574	4,984	5,199	5,834	5,543	5,381	6,070	6,798	6,167
Temporary visa holder	600	597	746	1,117	1,137	1,187	1,485	1,588	1,753	1,888
Unknown	83	233	420	154	196	421	365	562	486	620
Engineering	2,834	2,528	3,375	5,213	6,309	5,512	7,186	8,032	9,459	10,240
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	1,949	1,472	1,727	2,475	3,390	2,458	2,500	3,350	4,181	4,073
Temporary visa holder	824	952	1,383	2,644	2,767	2,790	4,295	4,164	4,842	5,638
Unknown	61	104	265	94	152	264	391	518	436	529
Education	7,725	7,497	6,649	6,454	6,785	6,356	6,122	4,670	5,146	4,252
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	7,246	6,717	5,803	5,788	6,075	5,462	5,171	3,878	4,303	3,431
Temporary visa holder	346	543	475	516	489	504	611	497	562	553
Unknown	133	237	371	150	221	390	340	295	281	268
Humanities and arts	4,833	3,689	3,443	4,053	4,982	5,430	5,332	5,225	5,482	4,137
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	4,539	3,358	2,911	3,491	4,261	4,601	4,240	4,191	4,450	3,142
Temporary visa holder	216	201	278	483	571	592	796	767	712	727
Unknown	78	130	254	79	150	237	296	267	320	268
Other ^b	1,567	1,456	1,741	2,129	2,265	2,062	2,582	2,683	2,941	3,002
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	1,341	1,193	1,304	1,530	1,664	1,470	1,544	1,693	1,865	1,636
Temporary visa holder	187	195	292	555	534	472	850	786	890	1,142

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(Number)

Field and citizenship status	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Unknown	39	68	145	44	67	120	188	204	186	224

^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.

Note(s):

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.