

Table 2-2

## Postgraduation commitment of research doctorate recipients, by sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, and race: Selected years, 1991–2021

(Number and percent)

Commitment status and year	Total <sup>a</sup>	Sex		Citizenship status		U.S. citizens and permanent residents							
		Male	Female	U.S. citizen or permanent resident	Temporary visa holder	Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino						Ethnicity not reported
							American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian <sup>b</sup>	Black or African American	White	More than one race	Other race or race not reported <sup>c</sup>	
All doctorate recipients (number)													
1991	37,530	23,521	13,873	27,437	9,374	869	132	1,529	1,166	23,184	na	127	430
1996	42,437	25,288	16,956	31,548	9,740	1,115	186	3,674	1,446	24,668	na	192	267
2001	40,744	22,780	17,887	28,894	9,812	1,266	142	2,134	1,640	22,179	301	355	877
2006	45,620	25,020	20,559	29,028	14,198	1,532	113	2,391	1,789	21,923	464	287	529
2011	48,909	26,188	22,699	31,725	14,235	1,989	127	2,832	1,899	23,278	722	248	630
2016	54,809	29,572	25,222	35,678	16,477	2,548	128	3,084	2,358	25,502	1,033	272	753
2021	52,250	28,082	24,156	31,674	17,638	2,856	100	3,022	2,431	21,333	1,088	376	468
All postgraduation commitments													
1991	34,350	21,490	12,855	26,013	8,332	820	127	1,422	1,050	22,252	na	105	237
1996	38,634	23,124	15,505	29,695	8,909	1,051	171	3,447	1,299	23,429	na	183	115
2001	37,127	20,817	16,309	27,780	9,303	1,210	135	2,078	1,569	21,722	296	334	436
2006	42,069	23,037	19,030	28,307	13,682	1,457	109	2,359	1,743	21,674	455	267	243
2011	44,703	23,965	20,737	30,802	13,660	1,880	117	2,767	1,849	22,886	718	222	363
2016	49,818	26,965	22,852	34,158	15,526	2,422	121	3,016	2,239	24,953	1,021	222	164
2021	47,433	25,662	21,769	30,374	16,814	2,729	91	2,937	2,328	20,717	1,074	306	192
Definite commitment for employment or postdoctoral training (%) <sup>d</sup>													
1991	70.5	70.3	70.8	72.8	63.4	68.8	67.7	61.7	68.6	73.9	na	68.6	71.7
1996	67.5	67.6	67.4	69.3	61.5	70.9	69.6	61.9	67.9	70.4	na	65.0	71.3
2001	72.9	74.2	71.1	73.4	71.4	74.0	68.9	69.3	69.5	74.2	70.9	65.0	70.9
2006	71.6	72.8	70.1	73.5	67.5	71.7	67.9	68.5	68.8	74.7	72.1	69.7	72.4
2011	65.5	67.1	63.7	66.3	63.8	60.7	63.2	60.5	59.7	68.3	62.3	61.7	60.1
2016	61.8	62.7	60.6	63.2	58.6	59.0	62.0	57.6	53.5	65.1	63.3	63.5	59.1
2021	70.0	70.3	69.7	70.3	69.4	70.0	76.9	68.3	67.5	71.0	71.5	67.6	64.1
No definite commitment for employment or postdoctoral training (%) <sup>d,e</sup>													
1991	29.5	29.7	29.2	27.2	36.6	31.2	32.3	38.3	31.4	26.1	na	31.4	28.3
1996	32.5	32.4	32.6	30.7	38.5	29.1	30.4	38.1	32.1	29.6	na	35.0	28.7
2001	27.1	25.8	28.9	26.6	28.6	26.0	31.1	30.7	30.5	25.8	29.1	35.0	29.1
2006	28.4	27.2	29.9	26.5	32.5	28.3	32.1	31.5	31.2	25.3	27.9	30.3	27.6
2011	34.5	32.9	36.3	33.7	36.2	39.3	36.8	39.5	40.3	31.7	37.7	38.3	39.9

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(Number and percent)

Commitment status and year	Total <sup>a</sup>	Sex		Citizenship status		U.S. citizens and permanent residents							Ethnicity not reported
		Male	Female	U.S. citizen or permanent resident	Temporary visa holder	Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino					Other race or race not reported <sup>c</sup>	
							American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian <sup>b</sup>	Black or African American	White	More than one race		
2016	38.2	37.3	39.4	36.8	41.4	41.0	38.0	42.4	46.5	34.9	36.7	36.5	40.9
2021	30.0	29.7	30.3	29.7	30.6	30.0	23.1	31.7	32.5	29.0	28.5	32.4	35.9

na = not applicable; respondents were instructed to indicate only one race.

<sup>a</sup> Includes respondents who did not report sex and respondents who did not report citizenship status.<sup>b</sup> Includes Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders through 2000 but excludes them since 2001.<sup>c</sup> Before 2001, this category included respondents who selected More than one race. Since 2001, this category has included Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders, who previously had been included in the category Asian.<sup>d</sup> Percentages based on number responding to the survey item on postgraduation commitment.<sup>e</sup> Includes respondents who indicated "other" in all years, respondents who indicated "do not plan to work or study" in 2004 and later years, and respondents who indicated definite plans for "other full-time degree program" in 2007 and later years.**Note(s):**

Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100.

**Source(s):**

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