

Table 3-7**Median age and age distribution of research doctorate recipients, by broad field of doctorate, sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, and race: 2021**

(Median age and percent distribution)

Field and demographic characteristic	Median age at doctorate (years)	All ages	25 and under	26–30	31–35	36–40	41–45	Over 45
Doctorate recipients reporting birth year	31.4	100.0	0.8	44.7	30.9	11.6	5.1	6.9
Science and engineering	30.8	100.0	0.9	51.7	30.3	9.3	3.6	4.2
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	31.7	100.0	0.7	42.5	34.8	11.8	5.8	4.5
Biological and biomedical sciences	30.4	100.0	0.7	55.7	31.8	7.9	2.3	1.5
Computer and information sciences	31.3	100.0	1.2	45.3	35.2	9.4	4.4	4.6
Engineering	30.2	100.0	1.3	58.9	28.0	7.4	2.2	2.2
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	30.7	100.0	0.7	53.4	32.1	7.4	4.2	2.2
Health sciences	34.5	100.0	0.6	26.4	29.2	15.1	9.6	19.1
Mathematics and statistics	29.4	100.0	1.9	64.2	24.7	6.0	1.8	1.6
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences	31.6	100.0	1.0	43.2	31.8	12.6	5.6	5.7
Physical sciences	29.2	100.0	1.1	70.3	22.4	4.4	1.1	0.6
Psychology	31.2	100.0	0.6	46.4	31.2	10.3	4.6	6.9
Social sciences	33.1	100.0	0.2	30.9	38.4	16.8	6.2	7.5
Non-science and engineering	35.8	100.0	0.1	17.6	33.4	20.4	11.1	17.3
Business	33.9	100.0	0.5	26.4	33.3	15.2	7.9	16.7
Education	38.8	100.0	D	11.0	25.6	22.1	D	26.2
Humanities	34.6	100.0	D	19.0	40.5	21.2	D	10.9
Visual and performing arts	33.9	100.0	0.0	22.8	43.0	18.9	8.7	6.7
Other ^a	35.3	100.0	D	19.9	32.9	20.2	D	15.5
Sex								
Male	31.3	100.0	0.7	46.4	32.0	11.2	4.5	5.3
Female	31.7	100.0	0.8	42.8	29.7	12.1	5.9	8.8
Citizenship status, ethnicity, and race								
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	31.7	100.0	0.8	43.1	28.2	12.2	6.3	9.6
Hispanic or Latino	31.8	100.0	0.5	41.4	30.3	12.8	6.3	8.8
Not Hispanic or Latino								
American Indian or Alaska Native	37.3	100.0	D	23.2	20.2	16.2	17.2	D
Asian	31.3	100.0	1.1	46.2	32.2	10.6	5.3	4.6
Black or African American	36.6	100.0	0.3	25.1	23.0	15.9	11.0	24.7
White	31.4	100.0	0.8	45.0	28.0	11.7	5.8	8.7
More than one race	31.1	100.0	0.8	47.6	26.0	13.3	4.6	7.6
Other race or race not reported	32.9	100.0	D	37.5	32.7	16.2	7.9	D
Ethnicity not reported	33.8	100.0	0.0	31.3	28.5	15.2	9.0	16.1
Temporary visa holder	31.1	100.0	0.8	47.8	35.8	10.5	3.1	2.0

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

^a 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, and the new broad, major, and detailed fields were used in tables reporting only the most recent data year. 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, table A-5 for a full list of SED-CIP codes in the new field taxonomy, and table A-6 for the SED-CIP code crosswalk to the historical field taxonomy.

Source(s):

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