

Table 6-1

Research doctorate recipients with definite postgraduation commitments, by major field of doctorate: 2021

(Number)

Field of doctorate	All doctorate recipients	Doctorate recipients with definite commitments	Location of definite commitments						
			United States					Abroad	Unknown
			Total	Postdoctoral study	Academic employment	Industry employment ^a	Other ^b		
All fields	52,250	33,170	29,759	12,355	6,241	7,521	3,642	3,380	31
Science and engineering	41,356	26,815	24,147	11,509	3,346	7,013	2,279	2,644	24
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	1,223	746	658	320	100	163	75	87	1
Agricultural, animal, plant, and veterinary sciences	807	510	450	212	70	140	28	59	1
Natural resources and conservation	416	236	208	108	30	23	47	28	0
Biological and biomedical sciences	8,259	5,337	4,997	3,324	375	1,030	268	336	4
Biochemistry, biophysics, and molecular biology	1,348	869	815	569	33	189	24	54	0
Bioinformatics, biostatistics, and computational biology	563	408	377	143	36	169	29	30	1
Cell/ cellular biology and anatomy	657	415	390	277	29	73	11	24	1
Ecology, evolutionary biology, and epidemiology	984	680	624	399	75	71	79	56	0
Genetics and genomics	398	245	229	149	18	57	5	15	1
Microbiology and immunology	974	670	638	442	40	126	30	31	1
Neurobiology and neurosciences	1,014	633	601	457	30	97	17	32	0
Pharmacology and toxicology	311	188	178	121	7	41	9	10	0
Physiology, oncology and cancer biology	713	440	420	283	42	81	14	20	0
Biological and biomedical sciences, other	1,297	789	725	484	65	126	50	64	0
Computer and information sciences	2,195	1,543	1,390	311	251	755	73	149	4
Computer science	1,545	1,082	984	223	158	559	44	96	2
Computer and information sciences, other	650	461	406	88	93	196	29	53	2
Engineering	9,563	5,919	5,355	2,077	395	2,463	420	557	7
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering	1,071	628	597	327	36	213	21	30	1
Chemical and petroleum engineering	1,292	767	700	298	11	365	26	67	0
Civil, environmental, and transportation engineering	1,020	598	510	233	48	166	63	88	0
Electrical and computer engineering	2,047	1,354	1,236	288	95	773	80	116	2

Table 6-1

Research doctorate recipients with definite postgraduation commitments, by major field of doctorate: 2021

(Number)

Field of doctorate	All doctorate recipients	Doctorate recipients with definite commitments	Location of definite commitments						
			United States					Abroad	Unknown
			Total	Postdoctoral study	Academic employment	Industry employment ^a	Other ^b		
Engineering technologies	452	284	239	101	15	109	14	45	0
Industrial engineering and operations research	604	428	379	79	72	185	43	48	1
Materials and mining engineering	672	379	347	171	9	147	20	31	1
Mechanical engineering	1,413	874	788	343	54	318	73	85	1
Engineering, other	992	607	559	237	55	187	80	47	1
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	1,044	723	643	421	60	81	81	80	0
Geological and earth sciences	613	407	358	214	37	64	43	49	0
Ocean/ marine sciences and atmospheric science	431	316	285	207	23	17	38	31	0
Health sciences	2,582	1,695	1,576	556	473	276	271	117	2
Nursing and nursing science	603	423	394	84	191	33	86	29	0
Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences	408	254	235	104	10	107	14	19	0
Public health	696	471	434	190	108	46	90	35	2
Health sciences, other	875	547	513	178	164	90	81	34	0
Mathematics and statistics	1,915	1,279	1,049	438	194	362	55	229	1
Applied mathematics	475	312	275	131	37	93	14	37	0
Mathematics	827	508	361	196	82	63	20	146	1
Statistics	613	459	413	111	75	206	21	46	0
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences	1,299	842	765	280	124	288	73	77	0
Interdisciplinary computer sciences	448	326	303	76	41	166	20	23	0
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences, other	851	516	462	204	83	122	53	54	0
Physical sciences	4,811	3,145	2,809	1,654	136	894	125	333	3
Astronomy and astrophysics	263	194	168	129	11	19	9	26	0
Chemistry	2,369	1,533	1,420	792	77	496	55	111	2
Materials sciences	429	270	239	129	8	88	14	31	0
Physics	1,750	1,148	982	604	40	291	47	165	1
Psychology	3,716	2,484	2,405	1,445	361	299	300	79	0
Clinical psychology	1,256	929	913	759	35	49	70	16	0
Counseling and applied psychology	1,338	889	867	387	173	141	166	22	0

Table 6-1

Research doctorate recipients with definite postgraduation commitments, by major field of doctorate: 2021

(Number)

Field of doctorate	All doctorate recipients	Doctorate recipients with definite commitments	Location of definite commitments						
			United States					Abroad	Unknown
			Total	Postdoctoral study	Academic employment	Industry employment ^a	Other ^b		
Research and experimental psychology	651	446	415	207	95	77	36	31	0
Psychology, other	471	220	210	92	58	32	28	10	0
Social sciences	4,749	3,102	2,500	683	877	402	538	600	2
Anthropology	388	204	178	84	61	17	16	26	0
Area, ethnic, cultural, gender, and group studies	383	211	188	64	88	10	26	22	1
Economics	1,317	1,009	701	160	194	201	146	307	1
Political science and government	581	364	297	103	106	40	48	67	0
Public policy analysis	399	255	231	41	73	30	87	24	0
Sociology, demography, and population studies	578	395	352	101	150	32	69	43	0
Social sciences, other	1,103	664	553	130	205	72	146	111	0
Non-science and engineering	10,894	6,355	5,612	846	2,895	508	1,363	736	7
Business	1,340	910	704	64	468	114	58	205	1
Business administration and management	456	279	223	17	134	46	26	56	0
Business, other	884	631	481	47	334	68	32	149	1
Education	3,711	2,313	2,172	175	1,068	158	771	140	1
Education leadership and administration	1,082	731	700	23	364	30	283	31	0
Education research	1,204	743	707	70	357	78	202	36	0
Teacher education	1,010	610	546	54	267	34	191	63	1
Education, other	415	229	219	28	80	16	95	10	0
Humanities	3,076	1,664	1,454	355	721	86	292	207	3
English language and literature, letters	933	495	466	91	294	27	54	29	0
Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics	505	252	207	41	120	12	34	44	1
History	672	363	316	109	121	15	71	46	1
Philosophy and religious studies	592	341	289	90	127	19	53	51	1
Humanities, other	374	213	176	24	59	13	80	37	0
Visual and performing arts	771	352	301	60	144	34	63	51	0
Performing arts	491	210	184	24	90	28	42	26	0
Visual arts, media studies/ design	280	142	117	36	54	6	21	25	0
Other non-science and engineering	1,996	1,116	981	192	494	116	179	133	2
Communications and journalism	520	295	262	46	171	26	19	31	2

Table 6-1**Research doctorate recipients with definite postgraduation commitments, by major field of doctorate: 2021**

(Number)

Field of doctorate	All doctorate recipients	Doctorate recipients with definite commitments	Location of definite commitments						
			United States					Abroad	Unknown
			Total	Postdoctoral study	Academic employment	Industry employment ^a	Other ^b		
Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary studies	331	159	143	28	69	19	27	16	0
Public administration and social services	490	288	262	43	121	14	84	26	0
Non-science and engineering, other	655	374	314	75	133	57	49	60	0

^a Includes doctorate recipients who indicated self-employment.^b Includes doctorate recipients who indicated government, nonprofit, elementary or secondary school, or other employment and those with unknown employment.**Note(s):**

Definite postgraduate commitment includes doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation commitments for employment or postdoctoral study. 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.