

Table A-3

## Item response rates: 2012–21

(Percent)

Variable name	Variable description	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
AADEGRN	Number of associate's degrees received	na	na	na	na	na	90.3	93.5	93.6	93.7	93.6
AAEMONTH	First associate's degree start month	na	na	na	na	na	96.9	96.2	95.2	96.0	97.1
AAEYEAR	First associate's degree start year	na	na	na	na	na	97.6	96.3	95.8	96.5	98.2
AAFIELDCIP	First associate's degree field - SED historical FOS code	na	na	na	na	na	85.0	94.4	95.1	95.0	98.7
AAFIELD	First associate's degree field – SED CIP code	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	98.7
AAINST	First associate's degree institution (IPEDS code)	na	na	na	na	na	93.4	92.0	97.6	98.4	95.7
AAMONTH	First associate's degree month	na	na	na	na	na	97.6	96.7	95.9	96.5	96.9
AANID	First associate's degree institution (NCSES institution code)	na	na	na	na	na	93.3	92.0	97.6	98.4	95.7
AAYEAR	First associate's degree year	na	na	na	na	na	98.3	97.0	96.7	97.1	99.5
AGEDOC	Age at doctorate	na	na	na	92.1	94.1	94.6	95.1	94.8	94.4	92.6
AMERIND	American Indian or Alaska Native race indicator	91.5	91.9	90.2	91.0	93.0	92.8	93.2	93.3	93.2	91.5
ASIAN	Asian race indicator	91.5	91.9	90.2	91.0	93.0	92.8	93.2	93.3	93.2	91.5
BA2EMONTH	Most recent baccalaureate start month	na	na	na	na	na	89.9	92.3	94.4	94.4	98.6
BA2EYEAR	Most recent baccalaureate start year	na	na	na	na	na	90.2	92.3	94.6	94.4	99.1
BA2FIELD	Most recent baccalaureate degree field - SED historical FOS code	na	na	na	na	na	89.7	91.6	94.4	94.2	98.2
BA2FIELDDCIP	Most recent baccalaureate field – SED CIP code	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	98.2
BA2INST	Most recent baccalaureate institution (IPEDS code)	na	na	na	na	na	88.5	90.5	94.5	95.0	96.9
BA2MONTH	Most recent baccalaureate month	na	na	na	na	na	90.0	92.4	94.4	94.5	98.6
BA2NID	Most recent baccalaureate institution (NCSES institution code)	na	na	na	na	na	88.5	90.5	94.5	95.0	96.9
BA2YEAR	Most recent baccalaureate year	na	na	na	na	na	90.4	92.6	94.7	94.6	99.7
BADBLFIELD	First baccalaureate double major field - SED historical FOS code	na	na	na	na	na	96.4	98.4	98.7	98.6	99.6
BADBLFIELDDCIP	First baccalaureate double major field – SED CIP code	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.6
BADBLMAJ	First baccalaureate double major indicator	na	na	na	na	na	89.5	91.0	91.1	91.1	89.9
BADEGRN	Number of bachelor's degrees received	na	na	na	na	na	91.1	98.4	99.0	98.6	98.5
BAEMONTH	First baccalaureate start month	na	na	87.0	87.0	89.0	89.6	90.7	90.7	90.8	89.6
BAEYEAR <sup>a</sup>	First baccalaureate start year	88.2	88.8	87.3	87.3	89.4	89.7	90.7	90.7	90.7	90.0
BAFIELD	First baccalaureate field - SED historical FOS code	88.5	89.5	87.9	87.9	89.7	90.4	90.7	90.9	90.9	90.4
BAFIELDDCIP	First baccalaureate field – SED CIP code	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	90.4
BAINST	First baccalaureate institution (IPEDS code)	91.5	92.2	90.2	91.0	92.9	93.6	94.4	95.5	94.6	93.2
BAMONTH	First baccalaureate month	88.9	89.2	87.7	87.6	89.4	89.7	90.8	90.8	90.9	89.6
BANID	First baccalaureate institution (NCSES institution code)	91.5	92.2	90.2	91.0	92.9	93.6	94.4	95.5	94.6	93.2
BANONE <sup>b</sup>	No bachelor's and/ or master's degree indicator	18.2	20.4	21.4	21.7	22.4	85.5	91.7	91.8	91.8	92.2
BAPLACE	First baccalaureate institution location	91.5	92.2	90.2	91.0	92.9	93.6	94.4	95.5	94.6	93.2
BAYEAR	First baccalaureate year	92.0	92.3	90.3	90.8	93.1	94.4	94.9	95.4	94.9	94.4
BIRTHMO	Month of birth	92.1	92.5	90.7	91.6	93.2	93.9	94.6	94.4	93.9	92.0
BIRTHPL	Place of birth	94.2	93.5	91.9	92.1	94.5	95.1	96.0	96.5	96.7	94.4
BIRTHYR	Year of birth	92.8	93.1	91.3	92.1	94.1	94.5	95.1	94.8	94.4	92.6
BLACK	Black race indicator	91.5	91.9	90.2	91.0	93.0	92.8	93.2	93.3	93.2	91.5
CITIZ	Type of citizenship	93.8	94.2	92.3	93.3	95.2	95.4	96.1	96.3	95.9	94.4
CNTRYCIT <sup>c</sup>	Country of citizenship	93.6	93.8	92.1	93.1	94.8	95.0	95.2	95.2	95.2	93.6
DDSDG	Earned a professional dental degree	88.9	88.8	87.6	87.9	88.3	88.6	89.7	89.4	89.2	88.7
DDSDUDY	Earning a professional dental degree	88.9	88.8	87.6	87.9	88.3	88.6	89.7	89.4	89.2	88.7
DEPEND18	Number of dependents-ages 6–18	89.9	89.5	88.4	88.3	89.7	90.1	90.8	90.7	90.8	89.7

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(Percent)

Variable name	Variable description	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
DEPEND19	Number of dependents-ages 19 and older	89.9	89.5	88.4	88.3	89.7	90.1	90.8	90.7	90.8	89.7
DEPEND5	Number of dependents-ages 5 or younger	89.9	89.5	88.4	88.3	89.7	90.1	90.8	90.7	90.8	89.7
DIFAGE	Earliest age experienced difficulties	90.4	90.8	89.4	89.4	90.9	89.9	90.4	90.5	90.3	88.7
DIFCOGN	Degree of difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions	91.1	91.0	89.6	89.6	91.1	90.1	90.6	90.7	90.5	89.0
DIFHEAR	Degree of difficulty hearing	91.1	91.0	89.6	89.6	91.1	90.1	90.6	90.7	90.5	89.0
DIFLIFT	Degree of difficulty lifting	90.5	91.0	89.6	89.6	91.1	90.1	90.6	90.7	90.5	89.0
DIFSEE	Degree of difficulty seeing	91.1	91.0	89.6	89.6	91.1	90.1	90.6	90.7	90.5	89.0
DIFWALK	Degree of difficulty walking	90.5	91.0	89.6	89.6	91.1	90.1	90.6	90.7	90.5	89.0
DISABILITY2	Moderate or greater degree of difficulty in any domain	91.1	91.0	89.6	89.6	91.1	90.1	90.6	90.7	90.5	89.0
DOCCODE	Type of doctorate	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
EDFATHER	Father/ male guardian's education	90.7	90.0	88.6	88.4	89.9	89.9	89.4	88.7	88.5	87.1
EDMOTHER	Mother/ female guardian's education	90.8	90.1	88.6	88.5	89.9	90.0	89.8	89.3	89.1	87.6
GDEBTLVL	Graduate debt level	92.9	89.7	88.2	90.1	93.1	92.3	92.7	93.4	93.5	92.6
GEMONTH	Month of graduate program entry	88.4	88.5	90.1	89.7	90.7	90.3	92.0	92.0	92.0	91.8
GEYEAR	Year of graduate program entry	88.6	88.7	90.3	89.9	90.9	90.4	92.0	92.0	92.1	91.8
HAWAIIAN	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander race indicator	91.5	91.9	90.2	91.0	93.0	92.8	93.2	93.3	93.2	91.5
HISPANIC	Hispanic origin indicator	92.0	92.1	90.3	91.5	93.0	93.7	94.7	94.7	94.6	93.0
HSPLACE	Place of high school	91.7	91.2	89.7	89.5	91.6	90.1	90.5	90.7	97.3	95.4
JRCOLL	Junior college indicator	93.0	92.6	91.1	90.8	93.4	93.2	93.8	94.1	94.3	93.0
MA1CRED	Credits from first master's degree counted toward doctoral degree	na	na	na	na	na	97.6	99.5	99.4	99.9	99.7
MA1EMONTH	First master's degree start month	na	na	na	na	na	99.6	98.9	98.5	98.3	98.5
MA1EYEAR	First master's degree start year	na	na	na	na	na	99.7	99.0	98.7	98.3	99.2
MA1FIELD	First master's degree field - SED historical FOS code	na	na	na	na	na	99.4	98.8	98.8	98.5	99.5
MA1FIELDCIP	First master's degree field - SED CIP code	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.5
MA1INST	First master's degree institution (IPEDS code)	na	na	na	na	na	97.9	97.8	98.8	98.4	94.1
MA1MONTH	First master's degree month	na	na	na	na	na	99.8	98.9	98.7	98.4	98.2
MA1NID	First master's degree institution (NCSES institution code)	na	na	na	na	na	97.9	97.8	98.8	98.4	94.1
MA1PART	First master's degree was required for doctoral program	na	na	na	na	na	98.4	99.4	99.1	98.6	99.4
MA1YEAR	First master's degree year	na	na	na	na	na	99.9	99.0	98.9	98.4	99.9
MACRED	Credits from most recent master's degree counted toward doctoral degree	na	na	na	na	na	99.2	99.8	99.9	99.9	99.9
MADEGRN	Number of master's degrees received	na	na	na	na	na	99.3	93.8	94.0	94.1	94.3
MAEMONTH	Most recent master's degree start month	na	na	67.8	67.5	68.7	87.8	88.6	88.8	88.8	88.6
MAEYEAR <sup>b</sup>	Most recent master's degree start year	na	na	68.0	67.7	68.9	87.9	88.7	88.8	88.8	89.1
MAFIELD	Most recent master's degree field - SED historical FOS code	70.5	70.1	68.6	68.3	69.3	87.9	88.7	88.8	89.0	89.3
MAFIELDCIP	Most recent master's degree field - SED CIP code	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	89.3
MAINST	Most recent master's degree institution (IPEDS code)	70.8	70.0	68.5	68.0	69.2	88.2	88.3	88.9	89.0	88.8
MAMONTH	Most recent master's degree month	70.2	69.9	68.3	68.0	69.1	87.9	88.7	88.9	88.9	88.4
MANID <sup>b</sup>	Most recent master's degree institution (NCSES institution code)	70.8	70.0	68.5	68.0	69.2	88.2	88.3	88.9	89.0	88.8
MAPART	Most recent master's degree was required for doctoral program	na	na	na	na	na	87.6	88.5	88.8	88.9	88.9
MARITAL	Marital status	91.0	90.4	89.0	88.9	90.5	90.3	90.9	90.8	90.8	89.8

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(Percent)

Variable name	Variable description	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
MAYEAR	Most recent master's degree year	70.9	70.3	68.7	68.2	69.4	88.8	88.8	89.1	89.0	89.8
MDDEG	Earned a professional medical degree	88.9	88.8	87.6	87.9	88.3	83.7	89.6	89.4	89.2	88.7
MDSTUDY	Earning a professional medical degree	88.9	88.8	87.6	87.9	88.3	83.7	89.6	89.4	89.2	88.7
MEDDENT	Additional professional medical or dental degree	90.5	90.4	89.1	89.2	90.5	90.6	91.5	91.5	91.5	90.7
MSPREREQ	Prerequisite master's degree for doctoral program	91.1	90.7	89.2	89.1	90.8	88.0	89.0	89.0	89.0	89.0
PDEMPLOY	Postgraduation employer type	98.5	99.0	99.5	99.3	98.1	99.7	98.8	98.8	98.8	99.0
PDFACULTY	Employment in faculty position	na	na	na	na	na	na	61.2	63.9	63.3	57.7
PDFORGN <sup>b</sup>	Postgraduation affiliation with a non-U.S. college or university	3.5	3.7	3.4	3.1	3.2	89.0	90.5	90.6	90.6	90.1
PDLOC	Postgraduation location	92.5	91.6	90.0	90.0	92.2	92.4	93.1	93.2	92.8	92.1
PDOCCODE <sup>b</sup>	Postgraduation institution affiliation in the U.S. (IPEDS code)	30.6	28.4	26.7	26.1	26.4	78.9	87.1	89.2	90.2	89.3
PDOCNID <sup>b</sup>	Postgraduation institution affiliation in the U.S. (NCSES institution identification code)	30.6	28.4	26.7	26.1	26.4	78.9	87.1	89.2	90.2	89.3
PDOCPLAN	Postgraduation plans	93.9	92.5	91.7	91.5	95.2	97.6	99.8	99.9	99.9	99.9
PDOCSTAT	Postgraduation status	91.4	90.8	89.3	89.3	90.9	90.8	91.4	91.4	91.4	90.8
PDSAMEEMP <sup>b</sup>	Postgraduation employer was employer before or during doctoral studies	na	na	na	na	na	6.9	51.3	55.4	55.2	52.7
PDSAMEPOSEMP	Employment in same position with same employer worked during doctoral studies	na	na	na	na	na	na	95.4	99.8	99.7	na
PDSEEKNEWEMP	Postgraduation plan to seek new employment	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.5	99.1	99.5	na
PDSTDSUP	Postdoctoral study support	95.8	96.7	97.5	97.8	95.5	96.9	97.0	96.5	96.8	96.8
PDUSFOR	Postgraduation location: U.S. or foreign	92.5	91.6	90.0	90.0	92.2	92.4	93.1	93.2	92.8	92.1
PDWK1ED	Edited primary work activity	91.5	90.7	90.8	90.5	91.3	97.7	98.6	98.8	98.7	98.8
PDWK2ED	Edited secondary work activity	50.8	50.2	49.8	49.4	50.6	93.2	96.5	96.8	96.9	97.5
PDWKPRIM	Primary work activity	91.5	90.7	90.8	90.5	91.3	97.7	98.6	98.8	98.7	98.8
PDWKSEC	Secondary work activity	50.8	50.2	49.8	49.4	50.6	93.2	96.5	96.8	96.9	97.5
PHDCY	Calendar year of doctorate	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDDISS	Dissertation field - SED historical FOS code	91.8	91.6	90.2	90.0	91.6	91.1	91.6	91.4	91.5	91.5
PHDDISS2 <sup>b</sup>	Secondary dissertation field - SED historical FOS code	34.7	36.2	35.0	35.0	41.0	86.7	89.9	90.1	90.2	90.6
PHDDISS2CIP	Secondary dissertation field - SED CIP code	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	90.6
PHDDISSCIP	Dissertation field - SED CIP code	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	91.5
PHDEMONTH	Doctoral program start month	na	na	89.6	89.6	91.2	91.3	91.7	91.8	91.7	91.6
PHDEYEAR <sup>d</sup>	Doctoral program start year	90.8	90.9	89.9	89.7	91.4	91.3	91.7	91.8	91.8	91.5
PHDFIELD	Doctoral field - SED historical FOS code	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDFIELDCIP	Doctoral field - SED CIP code	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	100.0
PHDFY	Fiscal year of doctorate	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDINST	Doctoral institution (IPEDS code)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDMONTH	Month of doctorate	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDNID	Doctoral institution (NCSES institution code)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
POSTDOC	Intention to take postdoc position	91.6	91.1	89.6	89.6	91.5	na	na	na	na	na
PROFDEG <sup>b</sup>	Type of professional doctorate	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	96.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PROFEARN	Earned or earning a professional doctoral degree	na	na	na	na	na	90.7	91.5	91.5	91.5	90.7
PROFEMONTH	Professional doctorate start month	na	na	na	na	na	99.7	99.3	99.4	99.6	90.1
PROFEYEAR	Professional doctorate start year	na	na	na	na	na	99.8	99.1	99.4	99.7	90.2
PROFINST	Professional doctorate institution (IPEDS code)	na	na	na	na	na	98.0	98.2	98.5	99.6	94.8
PROFMONTH	Professional doctorate month	na	na	na	na	na	99.8	99.2	99.4	99.5	98.5
PROFNID	Professional doctorate institution (NCSES institution code)	na	na	na	na	na	99.2	98.2	98.5	99.6	94.8

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(Percent)

Variable name	Variable description	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
PROFYEAR <sup>b</sup>	Professional doctorate year	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	99.7	99.0	99.4	99.6	99.6
QUESTMON	Month of survey completion	na	na	na	90.0	92.0	93.2	92.2	92.2	92.2	91.5
QUESTYR	Year of survey completion	92.4	92.0	90.6	90.3	92.0	93.4	92.2	92.2	92.2	91.5
RACE	Edited race or ethnicity code	93.0	93.2	91.4	92.4	94.3	94.6	95.5	95.7	95.5	94.3
RACE2	Edited ethnicity or race code (NSF-revised)	93.0	93.2	91.4	92.4	94.3	94.9	95.5	95.7	95.5	94.3
SALARYR	Range of expected basic annual salary	89.0	87.6	88.7	88.7	89.3	97.3	96.3	96.3	96.1	96.1
SALARYV	Expected basic annual salary	41.2	36.8	76.9	83.9	85.5	94.2	93.2	93.1	93.5	92.7
SALMONTH	Number of months expected basic annual salary covers	89.5	88.7	89.0	88.9	89.1	95.2	96.5	96.4	96.3	96.9
SEEKEMPBUS	Seeking or negotiating position in business or industry	na	na	na	na	na	na	98.8	98.9	98.8	98.8
SEEKEMPCHOICE	Top choice of employer seeking or negotiating	na	na	na	na	na	na	97.7	97.7	97.5	97.6
SEEKEMPEU	Seeking or negotiating position at an educational institution	na	na	na	na	na	na	98.8	98.9	98.8	98.8
SEEKEMPGOV	Seeking or negotiating position in government	na	na	na	na	na	na	98.8	98.9	98.8	98.8
SEEKEMPPO	Seeking or negotiating position in nonprofit organization	na	na	na	na	na	na	98.8	98.9	98.8	98.8
SEEKEMPOTHR	Seeking or negotiating position in other sector	na	na	na	na	na	na	98.8	98.9	98.8	98.8
SEEKEMPSTAT	Employment status while seeking or negotiating employment	na	na	na	na	na	na	98.9	98.9	98.9	98.8
SEEKPOSEMP	Seeking or negotiating an employment position other than a postdoc	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.0	99.0	99.0	98.9
SEEKPOSOTHR	Seeking or negotiating other position	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.0	99.0	99.0	98.9
SEEKPOSPDOC	Seeking or negotiating a postdoc position	na	na	na	na	na	na	99.0	99.0	99.0	98.9
SEX	Sex of doctorate recipient	99.9	100.0	99.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0
SRCE1ED	Edited primary source of support	91.1	90.7	89.7	89.5	91.2	90.0	90.7	90.6	90.7	90.1
SRCEPRIM	Primary source of support	91.1	90.7	89.7	89.5	91.2	90.0	90.7	90.6	90.7	90.1
SRCESEC	Secondary source of support	80.3	79.6	79.2	78.8	83.0	78.5	80.1	80.4	86.1	88.5
TICEPHD	Time in from college entry to doctorate	88.2	88.8	87.3	87.3	89.4	89.7	90.7	90.7	90.7	90.0
TOBAGE	Time out between baccalaureate to graduate school entry	86.9	87.2	87.2	87.2	88.5	87.4	88.5	88.6	88.5	87.2
TTDBAPHD	Total time elapsed from baccalaureate to doctorate	92.0	92.3	90.3	90.8	93.1	94.4	94.9	95.4	94.8	94.4
TTDDOC	Total elapsed time in doctorate	na	na	89.9	89.8	91.5	91.3	91.6	91.7	91.7	91.5
TTDGEPHD	Total time elapsed from graduate entry to doctorate	88.6	88.7	90.3	89.9	90.9	90.3	92.0	92.0	92.1	91.8
TUITREMS	Tuition remission-full or partial	91.5	91.2	90.0	89.8	91.4	91.0	91.7	91.6	91.6	91.2
UDEBTLVL	Undergraduate debt level	93.3	86.1	84.7	90.9	93.7	92.6	93.1	93.4	93.5	92.6
WHITE	White race indicator	91.5	91.9	90.2	91.0	93.0	92.8	93.2	93.3	93.2	91.5
YRSCOURS	Years of doctoral coursework	90.9	90.4	89.0	89.0	90.5	89.8	na	na	na	na
YRSDISST	Years preparing doctorate dissertation	91.0	90.5	89.0	89.0	90.5	89.7	na	na	na	na
YRSNOTWRK	Years not working on doctoral degree	91.0	90.8	89.2	89.2	90.8	90.9	na	na	na	na

na = not applicable; data either were not collected or derived, or were collected for the first time in that year (see "Notes").

CIP = Classification of Instructional Programs; FOS = field of study; IPEDS = Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System; NCSES = National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics; SED = Survey of Earned Doctorates.

<sup>a</sup> Methodology reports prior to 2014 reported BAEYEAR as CEYEAR.

<sup>b</sup> Logical skip edits to correct the universe of eligible respondents led to higher item response rates in the year it was implemented.

<sup>c</sup> Response rate counts respondents who reported being U.S. citizens or permanent residents or temporary visa holders and provided country of citizenship.

<sup>d</sup> Methodology reports prior to 2014 reported PHDEYEAR as PHDENTRY.

**Note(s):**

Item response rate is the percentage of cases providing data on an item divided by the universe of doctorate recipients eligible to answer that item. For most data items, all doctorate recipient respondents are in the universe of eligible respondents. For some data items introduced in the survey for the first time, not all eligible respondents were able to provide data because they completed earlier versions of the survey, leading to lower response rates.

**Source(s):**

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