

TABLE 9-8

Health sciences research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and major field of doctorate: 2023

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All health sciences fields	Nursing and nursing science	Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences	Public health	Health sciences, other
Doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	2,413	576	384	716	737
Definite postdoctoral training plans	22.6	12.0	29.7	28.9	21.2
Definite employment plans	51.8	62.2	43.0	45.1	54.8
Seeking employment or study	22.6	23.1	24.7	23.5	20.2
Other status ^a	2.9	2.8	2.3	2.5	3.5
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b					
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	89.0	95.7	93.9	79.2	95.5
Other training or unknown ^c	11.0	4.3	6.1	20.8	4.5
Definite employment plans (%) ^d					
Academe	47.6	62.3	10.3	40.2	55.7
In tenure track faculty position (%)	42.0	40.4	70.6	33.8	46.2
Not in tenure track position (%)	52.6	52.5	D	D	51.6
Government	8.7	8.4	4.8	16.7	4.2
Industry or business ^e	28.6	12.3	81.2	22.6	26.5
Nonprofit organization	11.9	13.7	D	17.6	D
Other or unknown ^f	3.1	3.4	D	2.8	D
Primary activity ^g					
Research and development	32.7	8.1	80.0	45.2	24.5
Teaching	33.9	56.1	6.3	17.5	39.1
Management or administration	7.0	9.6	0.0	8.6	6.3
Professional services and other	26.4	26.2	13.8	28.7	30.1
Secondary activity ^g					
Research and development	31.7	37.8	10.0	29.3	37.5
Teaching	11.8	13.7	4.4	11.5	13.5
Management or administration	16.6	12.8	21.3	20.7	14.8
Professional services and other	9.9	11.0	6.3	9.2	11.1
No secondary activity	29.9	24.7	58.1	29.3	23.2
Activity unknown	4.2	3.9	3.0	2.8	6.2
Postgraduation location (%) ^h					
United States ⁱ	92.5	90.9	91.0	92.8	94.1
Midwest	17.7	15.2	19.4	13.8	22.5
Northeast	23.1	28.6	32.6	18.1	18.8
South	33.0	31.6	21.1	40.2	33.2
West	18.2	15.0	17.2	20.0	19.5
Outside the United States	7.5	9.1	9.0	7.2	5.9
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	46.4	53.2	32.6	46.8	47.7
Male doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	693	64	189	201	239
Definite postdoctoral training plans	28.7	7.8	31.2	35.8	26.4
Definite employment plans	47.6	65.6	45.5	40.8	50.2
Seeking employment or study	20.2	23.4	20.1	19.9	19.7
Other status ^a	3.5	3.1	3.2	3.5	3.8
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b					
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	85.4	D	94.9	69.4	93.7

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Health sciences research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and major field of doctorate: 2023

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All health sciences fields	Nursing and nursing science	Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences	Public health	Health sciences, other
Other training or unknown ^c	14.6	D	5.1	30.6	6.3
Definite employment plans (%) ^d					
Academe	38.8	64.3	14.0	34.1	50.8
In tenure track faculty position (%)	45.3	37.0	D	D	44.3
Not in tenure track position (%)	46.1	40.7	D	D	54.1
Government	10.0	D	D	25.6	4.2
Industry or business ^e	39.7	D	D	26.8	30.8
Nonprofit organization	7.6	D	D	9.8	9.2
Other or unknown ^f	3.9	7.1	1.2	3.7	5.0
Primary activity ^g					
Research and development	43.8	14.6	D	D	30.0
Teaching	22.5	41.5	D	D	31.8
Management or administration	6.0	12.2	0.0	8.8	6.4
Professional services and other	27.6	31.7	10.7	37.5	31.8
Secondary activity ^g					
Research and development	29.8	41.5	10.7	32.5	38.2
Teaching	11.1	D	D	8.8	10.9
Management or administration	18.7	17.1	21.4	18.8	17.3
Professional services and other	9.2	D	D	12.5	11.8
No secondary activity	31.1	7.3	58.3	27.5	21.8
Activity unknown	4.5	2.4	2.3	2.4	8.3
Postgraduation location (%) ^h					
United States ⁱ	90.0	83.0	89.0	90.3	92.3
Midwest	17.0	12.8	19.3	10.4	21.9
Northeast	23.8	27.7	35.2	18.8	18.0
South	29.1	27.7	17.2	40.9	29.0
West	19.5	14.9	17.2	18.2	23.5
Outside the United States	10.0	17.0	11.0	9.7	7.7
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	40.6	55.3	33.1	42.9	41.0
Female doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	1,720	512	195	515	498
Definite postdoctoral training plans	20.2	12.5	28.2	26.2	18.7
Definite employment plans	53.5	61.7	40.5	46.8	57.0
Seeking employment or study	23.5	23.0	29.2	24.9	20.5
Other status ^a	2.6	2.7	1.5	2.1	3.4
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b					
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	91.1	95.3	92.7	84.4	96.8
Other training or unknown ^c	8.9	4.7	7.3	15.6	3.2
Definite employment plans (%) ^d					
Academe	50.8	62.0	6.3	42.3	57.7
In tenure track faculty position (%)	41.1	40.8	D	D	47.0
Not in tenure track position (%)	54.4	54.1	D	D	50.6
Government	8.3	D	D	13.7	4.2
Industry or business ^e	24.7	D	D	21.2	24.6
Nonprofit organization	13.5	D	D	20.3	D
Other or unknown ^f	2.8	2.8	D	2.5	D

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Health sciences research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and major field of doctorate: 2023

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All health sciences fields	Nursing and nursing science	Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences	Public health	Health sciences, other
Primary activity ^g					
Research and development	28.7	7.3	D	D	22.3
Teaching	38.0	58.1	D	D	42.0
Management or administration	7.4	9.2	0.0	8.5	6.3
Professional services and other	26.0	25.4	17.1	25.6	29.4
Secondary activity ^g					
Research and development	32.4	37.3	9.2	28.2	37.2
Teaching	12.0	D	D	12.4	14.5
Management or administration	15.9	12.2	21.1	21.4	13.8
Professional services and other	10.2	D	D	8.1	10.8
No secondary activity	29.5	27.1	57.9	29.9	23.8
Activity unknown	4.1	4.1	3.8	2.9	5.3
Postgraduation location (%) ^h					
United States ⁱ	93.5	91.8	93.3	93.9	95.0
Midwest	18.0	15.5	19.4	15.2	22.8
Northeast	22.7	28.7	29.9	17.8	19.1
South	34.6	32.1	25.4	39.9	35.3
West	17.7	15.0	17.2	20.7	17.5
Outside the United States	6.5	8.2	6.7	6.1	5.0
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	48.8	52.9	32.1	48.4	50.9

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

^a Other status includes doctorate recipients reporting: no plans to work or study, some other type of postgraduation plans, or definite plans for other full-time degree program.

^b Definite postdoctoral training plans excludes doctorate recipients reporting plans for other full-time degree program. Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postdoctoral plans for study.

^c Other training includes doctorate recipients who reported definite postdoctoral plans for traineeship, internship or clinical residency, or other study.

^d Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment.

^e Industry or business includes doctorate recipients reporting self-employment.

^f Other is mainly composed of elementary and secondary schools.

^g Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment and primary or secondary work activity.

^h Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans and type of plans.

ⁱ United States includes doctorate recipients with an unknown U.S. region of employment after doctorate; thus, the percentages by regions will not sum to the value for United States. See the "Technical Notes" for states or territories included in regions.

Note(s):

A definite postgraduation commitment includes accepting new employment or a postdoctoral study (postdoc) position or returning to predoctoral employment, while postgraduation employment includes accepting new employment or returning to predoctoral employment that is not a postdoctoral study (postdoc) position. 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 new broad, major, and detailed fields are used in tables reporting data from 2021 to the present; see the field list in table A-4. Therefore, the field of doctorate data prior to 2021 may not be comparable to subsequent years. For more information about the 2021 taxonomy change, see the "Technical Notes."

Source(s):

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