

Table 1-6. Research doctorate recipients, by trend broad field of doctorate and citizenship status: Selected years, 1979–2024

(Number)

Field and citizenship status	1979	1984	1989	1994	1999	2004	2009	2014	2019	2024
All fields	31,238	31,334	34,325	41,034	41,101	42,122	49,552	53,986	55,598	58,131
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	26,814	25,296	25,057	30,904	30,313	28,040	32,327	34,003	35,218	36,062
Temporary visa holder	3,622	4,897	6,677	9,421	9,060	11,628	14,736	15,839	18,324	19,371
Unknown citizenship	802	1,141	2,591	709	1,728	2,454	2,489	4,144	2,056	2,698
Science and engineering	18,241	19,309	22,585	27,331	27,198	27,842	35,369	40,708	42,897	45,929
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	15,054	14,801	15,284	19,107	18,515	16,921	21,146	23,943	25,673	27,204
Temporary visa holder	2,737	3,817	5,535	7,734	7,509	9,499	12,581	13,743	15,777	16,738
Unknown citizenship	450	691	1,766	490	1,174	1,422	1,642	3,022	1,447	1,987
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	1,103	1,247	1,368	1,357	1,266	1,209	1,343	1,380	1,538	1,478
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	723	813	832	764	657	635	747	770	849	800
Temporary visa holder	356	405	437	584	591	509	531	522	668	635
Unknown citizenship	24	29	99	9	18	65	65	88	21	43
Biological and biomedical sciences	3,646	3,983	4,223	5,371	5,760	6,185	8,335	8,868	8,678	9,700
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	3,264	3,496	3,387	4,238	4,268	4,389	5,775	5,993	6,368	6,996
Temporary visa holder	303	373	628	1,076	1,317	1,523	2,238	2,229	2,129	2,374
Unknown citizenship	79	114	208	57	175	273	322	646	181	330
Computer and information sciences	210	295	612	903	856	948	1,610	1,988	2,220	2,982
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	175	195	397	544	493	448	734	807	799	1,103
Temporary visa holder	32	90	178	343	330	459	791	1,029	1,328	1,731
Unknown citizenship	3	10	37	16	33	41	85	152	93	148
Engineering	2,490	2,912	4,543	5,820	5,330	5,776	7,642	9,626	10,298	11,169
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	1,615	1,515	2,232	3,054	2,892	2,190	3,166	4,066	4,251	4,910
Temporary visa holder	819	1,289	1,946	2,652	2,191	3,311	4,221	4,961	5,680	5,733
Unknown citizenship	56	108	365	114	247	275	255	599	367	526
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	593	569	672	791	723	686	877	1,098	1,272	1,229
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	517	462	505	586	471	439	559	722	808	834
Temporary visa holder	69	100	115	190	220	225	295	326	429	352
Unknown citizenship	7	7	52	15	32	22	23	50	35	43
Health sciences	527	573	819	1,072	1,179	1,419	1,725	2,236	2,532	2,509
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	470	500	645	869	886	1,058	1,281	1,627	1,818	1,811
Temporary visa holder	36	47	101	189	229	284	328	418	598	537
Unknown citizenship	21	26	73	14	64	77	116	191	116	161
Mathematics and statistics	769	698	859	1,118	1,083	1,076	1,553	1,874	2,010	2,093
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	603	444	428	657	605	511	772	931	986	975
Temporary visa holder	149	238	346	451	445	528	713	821	975	1,035
Unknown citizenship	17	16	85	10	33	37	68	122	49	83
Physical sciences	2,674	2,845	3,244	3,949	3,562	3,337	4,283	4,812	5,306	5,401
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	2,207	2,194	2,124	2,774	2,265	1,861	2,355	2,578	3,092	3,121

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(Number)

Field and citizenship status	1979	1984	1989	1994	1999	2004	2009	2014	2019	2024
Temporary visa holder	423	571	891	1,102	1,123	1,348	1,733	1,870	2,055	2,107
Unknown citizenship	44	80	229	73	174	128	195	364	159	173
Psychology	3,091	3,255	3,208	3,379	3,668	3,327	3,472	3,724	3,909	4,083
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	2,903	2,989	2,741	3,137	3,297	2,796	2,908	3,042	3,326	3,450
Temporary visa holder	71	89	106	151	153	189	258	249	339	363
Unknown citizenship	117	177	361	91	218	342	306	433	244	270
Social sciences	3,138	2,932	3,037	3,571	3,771	3,879	4,529	5,102	5,134	5,285
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	2,577	2,193	1,993	2,484	2,681	2,594	2,849	3,407	3,376	3,204
Temporary visa holder	479	615	787	996	910	1,123	1,473	1,318	1,576	1,871
Unknown citizenship	82	124	257	91	180	162	207	377	182	210
Non-science and engineering	12,997	12,025	11,740	13,703	13,903	14,280	14,183	13,278	12,701	12,202
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	11,760	10,495	9,773	11,797	11,798	11,119	11,181	10,060	9,545	8,858
Temporary visa holder	885	1,080	1,142	1,687	1,551	2,129	2,155	2,096	2,547	2,633
Unknown citizenship	352	450	825	219	554	1,032	847	1,122	609	711
Business	715	869	1,066	1,283	1,109	1,256	1,405	1,584	1,528	1,400
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	578	644	734	904	769	647	780	849	744	655
Temporary visa holder	123	188	260	360	289	475	530	589	689	659
Unknown citizenship	14	37	72	19	51	134	95	146	95	86
Education	7,384	6,808	6,280	6,711	6,554	6,635	6,528	4,789	4,628	4,534
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	6,693	6,051	5,411	6,066	5,817	5,452	5,584	3,934	3,843	3,714
Temporary visa holder	484	548	458	537	517	627	567	478	615	605
Unknown citizenship	207	209	411	108	220	556	377	377	170	215
Humanities and arts	4,066	3,488	3,500	4,668	5,223	5,197	4,848	5,446	5,051	4,491
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	3,773	3,098	2,939	4,007	4,445	4,190	3,850	4,301	3,988	3,344
Temporary visa holder	177	226	304	581	573	746	718	713	826	884
Unknown citizenship	116	164	257	80	205	261	280	432	237	263
Other non-science and engineering	832	860	894	1,041	1,017	1,192	1,402	1,459	1,494	1,777
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	716	702	689	820	767	830	967	976	970	1,145
Temporary visa holder	101	118	120	209	172	281	340	316	417	485
Unknown citizenship	15	40	85	12	78	81	95	167	107	147

Note(s):

Beginning in 2021, a modified version of the 2020 Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes was used in the survey data collection; the trend fields were constructed using the SED-CIP code crosswalk in table A-6. Therefore, the field of doctorate data prior to 2021 may not be comparable to subsequent years. For more information about the field taxonomy changes, see the "Technical Notes."

Source(s):

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