

Table 2-2. Postgraduation commitment of research doctorate recipients, by sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, and race: Selected years, 1994–2024

(Number and percent)

Commitment status and year	Total ^a	Sex		Citizenship status		U.S. citizens and permanent residents							Ethnicity not reported
		Male	Female	U.S. citizen or permanent resident	Temporary visa holder	Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino					Other race or race not reported ^c	
							American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian ^b	Black or African American	White	More than one race		
All doctorate recipients (number)													
1994	41,034	25,058	15,822	30,904	9,421	1,031	142	3,534	1,277	24,574	na	114	232
1999	41,101	23,438	17,486	30,313	9,060	1,328	214	2,497	1,766	23,901	na	352	255
2004	42,122	22,965	19,155	28,040	11,628	1,302	125	2,022	1,897	21,011	386	402	895
2009	49,552	26,331	23,187	32,327	14,736	1,880	132	2,612	2,168	23,616	646	338	935
2014	53,986	29,008	24,813	34,003	15,839	2,190	103	2,881	2,172	24,829	879	272	677
2019	55,598	30,105	25,483	35,218	18,324	2,844	119	3,418	2,511	24,209	1,121	381	615
2024	58,131	29,885	28,245	36,062	19,371	3,682	129	3,980	2,936	22,793	1,377	516	649
All postgraduation commitments (number)													
1994	37,640	23,067	14,566	29,052	8,582	964	133	3,212	1,169	23,355	na	98	121
1999	37,198	21,372	15,823	28,714	8,422	1,169	197	2,366	1,614	22,872	na	340	156
2004	37,931	20,719	17,212	26,882	10,984	1,264	119	1,976	1,824	20,632	384	344	339
2009	44,926	23,936	20,986	31,092	13,747	1,765	124	2,524	2,032	23,043	638	297	669
2014	48,214	25,952	22,262	32,970	15,117	2,107	96	2,836	2,127	24,503	875	247	179
2019	50,847	27,634	23,212	33,450	17,218	2,687	104	3,296	2,377	23,433	1,112	295	146
2024	52,265	26,908	25,357	33,987	18,080	3,456	102	3,834	2,760	21,864	1,355	433	183
Definite commitment for employment or postdoctoral training (%)													
1994	66.3	65.0	68.3	68.7	58.1	69.5	71.4	55.6	68.3	70.5	na	52.0	64.5
1999	69.9	71.0	68.5	70.9	66.8	68.5	64.0	66.5	66.5	72.0	na	65.9	62.2
2004	70.0	70.7	69.2	71.6	66.1	69.9	71.4	65.1	67.2	72.9	66.9	69.2	69.0
2009	69.5	70.6	68.2	70.3	67.7	68.4	59.7	61.5	63.9	72.1	68.7	69.0	70.4
2014	61.4	62.4	60.2	62.7	58.5	57.9	62.5	53.9	53.3	65.1	60.7	59.5	58.1
2019	69.0	69.8	68.1	69.0	69.1	66.1	74.0	64.4	64.7	70.4	68.6	67.8	66.4
2024	70.3	71.0	69.6	69.2	72.5	66.6	64.7	63.5	67.6	70.9	68.7	64.0	67.2
No definite commitment for employment or postdoctoral training (%)^d													
1994	33.7	35.0	31.7	31.3	41.9	30.5	28.6	44.4	31.7	29.5	na	48.0	35.5
1999	30.1	29.0	31.5	29.1	33.2	31.5	36.0	33.5	33.5	28.0	na	34.1	37.8
2004	30.0	29.3	30.8	28.4	33.9	30.1	28.6	34.9	32.8	27.1	33.1	30.8	31.0
2009	30.5	29.4	31.8	29.7	32.3	31.6	40.3	38.5	36.1	27.9	31.3	31.0	29.6
2014	38.6	37.6	39.8	37.3	41.5	42.1	37.5	46.1	46.7	34.9	39.3	40.5	41.9
2019	31.0	30.2	31.9	31.0	30.9	33.9	26.0	35.6	35.3	29.6	31.4	32.2	33.6
2024	29.7	29.0	30.4	30.8	27.5	33.4	35.3	36.5	32.4	29.1	31.3	36.0	32.8

na = not applicable; doctorate recipients were instructed to indicate only one race before 2001.

^a Total includes doctorate recipients who did not report sex or citizenship status.

^b Asian includes Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders through 2000 but excludes them since 2001.

^c Before 2001, other race included doctorate recipients who selected more than one race. Since 2001, other race has included Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders, who previously had been included in the category Asian.

^d No definite commitment for employment or postdoctoral training includes doctorate recipients who indicated "other" in all years, doctorate recipients who indicated "do not plan to work or study" in 2004 and later years, and doctorate recipients who indicated definite plans for "other full-time degree program" in 2007 and later years.

Note(s):

A definite postgraduation commitment includes accepting new employment or a postdoctoral study (postdoc) position or returning to predoctoral employment. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100.

Source(s):

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