

**Table 2-4. Postgraduation plans of research doctorate recipients with definite commitments, by sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, and race: Selected years, 1994–2024**

(Number and percent)

Definite commitment, plan, and year	Total <sup>a</sup>	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 <sup>c</sup>	
							American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian <sup>b</sup>	Black or African American	White	More than one race		
All definite commitments (number)													
1994	24,946	15,001	9,942	19,951	4,990	670	95	1,786	799	16,472	na	51	78
1999	26,007	15,167	10,838	20,356	5,624	801	126	1,573	1,074	16,461	na	224	97
2004	26,561	14,652	11,909	19,257	7,263	884	85	1,286	1,225	15,048	257	238	234
2009	31,208	16,887	14,319	21,853	9,300	1,207	74	1,551	1,299	16,608	438	205	471
2014	29,605	16,193	13,412	20,684	8,842	1,221	60	1,529	1,133	15,959	531	147	104
2019	35,103	19,285	15,817	23,081	11,901	1,777	77	2,123	1,538	16,506	763	200	97
2024	36,761	19,113	17,648	23,508	13,109	2,301	66	2,436	1,866	15,508	931	277	123
Reported type of plan (number)													
1994	24,781	14,912	9,866	19,827	4,949	660	94	1,778	790	16,377	na	50	78
1999	25,776	15,056	10,719	20,181	5,577	793	125	1,561	1,063	16,324	na	220	95
2004	25,874	14,262	11,612	18,746	7,094	854	81	1,234	1,182	14,693	248	232	222
2009	30,401	16,484	13,915	21,257	9,090	1,157	72	1,504	1,247	16,185	429	202	461
2014	27,144	14,910	12,234	18,811	8,256	1,082	52	1,411	998	14,554	478	137	99
2019	35,059	19,258	15,800	23,057	11,882	1,774	77	2,120	1,538	16,489	762	200	97
2024	36,718	19,096	17,622	23,478	13,099	2,297	66	2,429	1,864	15,493	930	276	123
Employment plans (%)													
1994	70.6	68.2	74.4	72.5	63.0	73.6	74.5	51.1	82.3	74.5	na	56.0	59.0
1999	69.9	68.0	72.5	72.4	60.6	73.5	76.0	59.8	81.5	73.0	na	70.5	73.7
2004	64.8	62.2	68.0	68.6	54.5	66.2	79.0	56.2	76.7	69.1	66.5	67.2	73.9
2009	62.1	60.5	64.0	65.6	54.0	62.8	65.3	58.4	74.6	65.9	59.2	66.3	65.9
2014	60.6	60.5	60.7	62.6	55.8	59.1	67.3	58.6	71.6	62.8	59.0	56.2	68.7
2019	61.7	61.4	62.0	63.3	58.4	59.1	66.2	61.3	75.9	62.8	59.2	71.5	73.2
2024	60.4	60.5	60.3	63.0	55.7	58.0	62.1	61.8	73.9	62.8	58.1	68.1	71.5
Postdoctoral training plans (%)													
1994	29.4	31.8	25.6	27.5	37.0	26.4	25.5	48.9	17.7	25.5	na	44.0	41.0
1999	30.1	32.0	27.5	27.6	39.4	26.5	24.0	40.2	18.5	27.0	na	29.5	26.3
2004	35.2	37.8	32.0	31.4	45.5	33.8	21.0	43.8	23.3	30.9	33.5	32.8	26.1
2009	37.9	39.5	36.0	34.4	46.0	37.2	34.7	41.6	25.4	34.1	40.8	33.7	34.1
2014	39.4	39.5	39.3	37.4	44.2	40.9	32.7	41.4	28.4	37.2	41.0	43.8	31.3
2019	38.3	38.6	38.0	36.7	41.6	40.9	33.8	38.7	24.1	37.2	40.8	28.5	26.8
2024	39.6	39.5	39.7	37.0	44.3	42.0	37.9	38.2	26.1	37.2	41.9	31.9	28.5

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

<sup>a</sup> Total includes doctorate recipients who did not report sex or citizenship status.

<sup>b</sup> Asian includes Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders through 2000 but excludes them since 2001.

<sup>c</sup> 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.

**Note(s):**

Percentages are based on the number of definite postgraduation commitments and the type of plan (employment or postdoctoral study [postdoc]). A definite postgraduation commitment includes accepting new employment or a 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.