

Table 6-4. Female research doctorate recipients with definite postgraduation commitments, by major field of doctorate: 2024

(Number)

Field of doctorate	Female doctorate recipients	Doctorate recipients with definite commitments	Location of definite commitments							
			United States					Abroad	Unknown	
			Total	Postdoctoral study	Academic employment	Industry employment <sup>a</sup>	Other <sup>b</sup>			
Female doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation commitments	28,245	17,622	16,489	6,530	4,584	3,042	2,333	1,119	14	
Science and engineering	21,152	13,207	12,406	5,952	2,415	2,659	1,380	794	7	
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	708	435	402	170	82	90	60	33	0	
Agricultural, animal, plant, and veterinary sciences	472	280	260	105	58	78	19	20	0	
Natural resources and conservation	236	155	142	65	24	12	41	13	0	
Biological and biomedical sciences	5,488	3,142	3,007	1,922	339	532	214	133	2	
Biochemistry, biophysics, and molecular biology	750	411	D	241	D	91	17	D	0	
Bioinformatics, biostatistics, and computational biology	339	219	208	58	31	88	31	11	0	
Biological and biomedical sciences, general	517	243	D	D	37	37	13	D	0	
Cell/ cellular biology and anatomy	449	237	232	148	37	42	5	5	0	
Ecology, evolutionary biology, and epidemiology	745	517	491	295	80	45	71	25	1	
Genetics and genomics	258	149	144	96	11	26	11	5	0	
Microbiology and immunology	656	358	349	256	29	50	14	8	1	
Neurobiology and neurosciences	695	413	399	296	21	62	20	14	0	
Pharmacology and toxicology	239	125	114	D	D	34	5	11	0	
Physiology, oncology, and cancer biology	471	260	250	177	28	34	11	10	0	
Biological and biomedical sciences, other	369	210	201	132	30	23	16	9	0	
Computer and information sciences	673	425	393	112	106	148	27	32	0	
Computer science	422	278	267	85	69	105	8	11	0	
Computer and information sciences, other	251	147	126	27	37	43	19	21	0	
Engineering	2,934	1,764	1,677	641	197	704	135	85	2	
Aerospace, aeronautical, astronautical, and space engineering	104	68	D	17	9	24	D	D	0	
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering	574	294	D	152	28	90	D	D	0	
Chemical and petroleum engineering	398	249	237	86	14	129	8	12	0	
Civil, environmental, and transportation engineering	415	266	251	95	30	99	27	15	0	
Electrical and computer engineering	381	231	221	65	29	123	4	8	2	
Engineering technologies	101	55	49	16	9	20	4	6	0	
Industrial engineering and operations research	194	131	119	20	34	43	22	12	0	
Materials and mining engineering	260	163	158	71	8	66	13	5	0	
Mechanical engineering	296	181	173	68	19	72	14	8	0	
Engineering, other	211	126	120	51	17	38	14	6	0	
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	599	417	380	222	50	54	54	37	0	
Geological and earth sciences	331	237	213	116	28	38	31	24	0	
Ocean, marine, and atmospheric sciences	268	180	167	106	22	16	23	13	0	
Health sciences	2,014	1,231	1,154	389	399	192	174	76	1	
Nursing and nursing science	516	335	311	D	D	33	50	24	0	

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Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences	249	141	131	D	D	52	15	10	0	
Public health	565	347	328	149	80	32	67	18	1	
Health sciences, other	684	408	384	110	157	75	42	24	0	
Mathematics and statistics	620	414	378	158	100	92	28	36	0	
Applied mathematics	158	103	92	47	19	21	5	11	0	
Mathematics	249	158	140	72	48	14	6	18	0	
Statistics	213	153	146	39	33	57	17	7	0	
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences	630	404	365	135	93	104	33	37	2	
Interdisciplinary computer sciences	142	101	94	23	24	41	6	6	1	
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences, other	488	303	271	112	69	63	27	31	1	
Physical sciences	1,824	1,096	1,037	537	95	340	65	59	0	
Astronomy and astrophysics	115	91	85	62	7	8	8	6	0	
Chemistry	1,169	670	645	290	63	254	38	25	0	
Materials sciences	130	74	68	35	6	26	1	6	0	
Physics	410	261	239	150	19	52	18	22	0	
Psychology	2,982	2,066	2,011	1,179	337	225	270	55	0	
Clinical psychology	932	721	D	D	27	21	52	D	0	
Counseling and applied psychology	1,105	790	772	363	161	114	134	18	0	
Research and experimental psychology	569	364	342	145	95	58	44	22	0	
Psychology, other	376	191	D	D	54	32	40	D	0	
Social sciences	2,680	1,813	1,602	487	617	178	320	211	0	
Anthropology	265	155	136	D	49	D	21	19	0	
Area, ethnic, cultural, gender, and group studies	279	166	153	D	73	D	25	13	0	
Economics	497	376	309	81	110	59	59	67	0	
Political science and government	282	200	172	59	76	13	24	28	0	
Public policy analysis	260	171	162	36	48	14	64	9	0	
Sociology, demography, and population studies	422	300	275	97	121	18	39	25	0	
Social sciences, other	675	445	395	111	140	56	88	50	0	
Non-science and engineering	7,093	4,415	4,083	578	2,169	383	953	325	7	
Business	633	424	370	28	270	46	26	52	2	
Business administration and management	210	120	105	7	62	22	14	15	0	
Business, other	423	304	265	21	208	24	12	37	2	
Education	2,868	1,883	1,787	141	882	135	629	95	1	
Education leadership and administration	794	568	551	D	271	D	220	16	1	
Education research	913	572	545	45	271	62	167	27	0	
Teacher education and teaching fields	846	570	525	D	274	D	181	45	0	

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Education, other	315	173	166	25	66	14	61	7	0	
Humanities	1,670	971	886	210	497	70	109	83	2	
English language and literature, letters	652	386	368	D	247	D	34	18	0	
Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics	305	166	141	D	72	D	15	24	1	
History	333	198	178	59	79	9	31	19	1	
Philosophy and religious studies	228	141	127	39	66	11	11	14	0	
Humanities, other	152	80	72	10	33	11	18	8	0	
Visual and performing arts	500	258	224	30	115	31	48	34	0	
Performing arts	237	108	95	D	50	D	18	13	0	
Visual arts, media studies, and design	263	150	129	D	65	D	30	21	0	
Other non-science and engineering	1,422	879	816	169	405	101	141	61	2	
Communication and journalism	431	284	266	66	151	28	21	18	0	
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary studies	220	118	112	18	56	14	24	6	0	
Public administration and social services	367	227	218	35	95	25	63	7	2	
Non-science and engineering, other	404	250	220	50	103	34	33	30	0	

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

<sup>a</sup> Industry employment includes doctorate recipients reporting self-employment.

<sup>b</sup> Other includes doctorate recipients reporting government, nonprofit, elementary or secondary school, or other employment and those with unknown employment.

**Note(s):**

A definite postgraduation commitment includes accepting new employment or a postdoctoral study (postdoc) position or returning to predoctoral employment. 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.