

Table 8-8. Health sciences research doctorate recipients, statistical profile by sex and major field of doctorate: 2024

(Number, percent, and median years)

Characteristic	All health sciences fields	Nursing and nursing science	Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences	Public health	Health sciences, other
All doctorate recipients (number) ^a	2,874	583	472	809	1,010
Sex (%)					
Male	29.9	11.5	47.2	30.2	32.3
Female	70.1	88.5	52.8	69.8	67.7
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Citizenship status (%)					
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	72.0	81.3	48.7	75.0	75.0
Temporary visa holder	21.7	12.7	44.3	19.5	18.0
Unknown	6.4	6.0	7.0	5.4	7.0
Marital status (%)					
Never married	26.8	13.9	42.6	31.3	23.4
Married	46.4	59.0	33.7	44.6	46.5
Marriage-like relationship	7.3	4.5	6.8	9.8	7.1
Separated, divorced, widowed	5.3	10.5	1.7	4.3	4.9
Unknown	14.2	12.2	15.3	10.0	18.1
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	32.4	46.6	18.1	29.5	33.1
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	14.6	13.6	14.1	15.9	14.3
Age at doctorate (median years)	34.4	41.3	30.3	33.8	34.4
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	44.4	88.9	40.6	26.4	35.0
Master's earned (%)	80.3	87.2	55.1	89.3	80.1
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	31.2	22.8	32.6	35.5	32.0
Time to doctorate (median years)					
Years since earning bachelor's degree	11.1	15.6	7.6	10.8	11.0
From graduate school start	8.8	10.8	6.3	8.8	9.2
From doctoral program start ^c	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Received tuition remission (%)	74.5	58.2	90.4	77.6	74.2
Male doctorate recipients (number)	860	67	223	244	326
Citizenship status (%)					
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	65.2	74.6	49.8	70.9	69.6
Temporary visa holder	28.7	20.9	45.3	23.8	22.7
Unknown	6.0	4.5	4.9	5.3	7.7
Marital status (%)					
Never married	29.9	19.4	41.3	29.9	24.2
Married	45.0	58.2	38.6	47.1	45.1
Marriage-like relationship	8.4	D	D	D	8.6
Separated, divorced, widowed	3.0	D	D	D	4.0
Unknown	13.7	9.0	11.2	11.5	18.1
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	31.2	47.5	20.3	30.1	36.3
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	15.1	15.0	14.3	14.4	16.4
Age at doctorate (median years)	33.3	40.6	30.7	33.6	34.3
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	34.8	87.3	39.8	24.2	28.1
Master's earned (%)	73.1	90.5	51.2	85.5	74.7
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	32.7	22.8	32.0	33.2	35.4

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(Number, percent, and median years)

Characteristic	All health sciences fields	Nursing and nursing science	Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences	Public health	Health sciences, other
Time to doctorate (median years)					
Years since earning bachelor's degree	10.0	14.3	8.0	10.2	10.1
From graduate school start	8.0	10.0	6.8	8.0	8.8
From doctoral program start ^c	5.0	5.0	5.1	4.9	5.0
Received tuition remission (%)	78.2	43.5	88.9	76.6	79.6
Female doctorate recipients (number)	2,014	516	249	565	684
Citizenship status (%)					
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	74.8	82.2	47.8	76.8	77.5
Temporary visa holder	18.7	11.6	43.4	17.7	15.8
Unknown	6.5	6.2	8.8	5.5	6.7
Marital status (%)					
Never married	25.5	13.2	43.8	31.9	23.0
Married	47.0	59.1	29.3	43.5	47.2
Marriage-like relationship	6.8	D	D	D	6.4
Separated, divorced, widowed	6.3	D	D	D	5.3
Unknown	14.3	12.6	18.9	9.4	18.1
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	33.0	46.4	16.0	29.3	31.6
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	14.4	13.4	14.0	16.5	13.3
Age at doctorate (median years)	35.0	41.4	29.7	34.0	34.5
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	48.5	89.1	41.3	27.3	38.1
Master's earned (%)	83.3	86.8	58.7	91.0	82.6
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	30.6	22.8	33.1	36.4	30.5
Time to doctorate (median years)					
Years since earning bachelor's degree	11.9	15.9	7.3	11.0	11.4
From graduate school start	9.3	11.0	6.0	9.3	9.7
From doctoral program start ^c	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.3	5.0
Received tuition remission (%)	72.9	60.2	91.8	78.0	71.6

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

^a All doctorate recipients includes doctorate recipients who did not report sex.^b A bachelor's and doctoral degree are considered to be in the same field if doctorate recipient's first or most recent bachelor's degree is in the same broad field as their doctoral degree.^c Time to doctorate from doctoral program start is based on master's degree entry if the master's degree was at the same doctoral institution in the same field of study or was a prerequisite to the doctorate; otherwise, it is based on doctoral program entry.**Note(s):**

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.