

Table 8-13. Social sciences research doctorate recipients, statistical profile by sex and major field of doctorate: 2024

(Number, percent, and median years)

Characteristic	All social sciences fields	Anthropology	Area, ethnic, cultural, gender, and group studies	Economics	Political science and government	Public policy analysis	Sociology, demography, and population studies	Social sciences, other
All doctorate recipients (number) ^a	5,126	395	457	1,385	674	434	638	1,143
Sex (%)								
Male	47.7	32.9	38.9	64.1	58.2	40.1	33.9	40.9
Female	52.3	67.1	61.1	35.9	41.8	59.9	66.1	59.1
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Citizenship status (%)								
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	60.4	76.2	69.1	33.9	64.2	77.4	75.4	66.5
Temporary visa holder	35.6	19.7	26.3	62.4	30.6	16.4	20.5	31.1
Unknown	4.0	4.1	4.6	3.7	5.2	6.2	4.1	2.4
Marital status (%)								
Never married	33.7	30.4	35.7	40.6	33.4	22.6	30.7	31.8
Married	41.3	42.3	34.6	37.9	39.0	51.8	41.1	45.3
Marriage-like relationship	11.6	14.2	14.0	9.7	12.3	9.2	15.5	10.3
Separated, divorced, widowed	3.7	3.3	5.9	1.4	3.0	6.9	4.2	4.5
Unknown	9.7	9.9	9.8	10.4	12.3	9.4	8.5	8.0
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	21.8	19.4	20.0	15.6	20.8	39.4	24.1	23.6
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	17.2	21.0	24.5	11.0	16.6	14.5	21.5	19.4
Age at doctorate (median years)	33.2	34.0	34.5	31.8	32.7	36.3	33.7	34.0
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	54.9	68.9	33.4	63.3	67.8	34.5	67.4	42.1
Master's earned (%)	88.6	88.9	92.5	83.4	86.0	90.5	94.5	90.8
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	44.5	56.1	44.2	37.6	48.8	34.9	57.1	42.2
Time to doctorate (median years)								
Years since earning bachelor's degree	10.3	11.3	11.3	9.0	9.8	13.1	10.6	11.0
From graduate school start	8.8	9.6	9.3	7.8	8.0	11.0	8.8	9.0
From doctoral program start ^c	6.0	7.3	6.8	5.8	6.0	5.7	6.8	5.9
Received tuition remission (%)	88.5	88.9	90.2	91.7	93.0	69.1	94.1	85.7
Male doctorate recipients (number)	2,446	130	178	888	392	174	216	468
Citizenship status (%)								
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	54.6	72.3	66.9	35.2	61.7	74.1	73.1	59.8
Temporary visa holder	41.5	22.3	30.3	61.3	31.9	20.7	23.1	37.6
Unknown	4.0	5.4	2.8	3.5	6.4	5.2	3.7	2.6
Marital status (%)								
Never married	33.9	30.0	36.0	39.3	32.1	24.7	33.8	28.6
Married	41.9	42.3	34.8	38.6	40.1	55.2	37.0	49.6
Marriage-like relationship	11.1	D	15.2	D	10.7	9.2	18.1	9.6
Separated, divorced, widowed	2.5	D	6.2	D	2.3	3.4	2.3	3.0
Unknown	10.6	13.1	7.9	10.7	14.8	7.5	8.8	9.2
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	22.6	24.8	15.2	17.1	22.5	43.5	22.8	27.1

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(Number, percent, and median years)

Characteristic	All social sciences fields	Anthropology	Area, ethnic, cultural, gender, and group studies	Economics	Political science and government	Public policy analysis	Sociology, demography, and population studies	Social sciences, other
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	14.3	16.1	22.8	10.5	16.4	12.4	17.5	15.1
Age at doctorate (median years)	33.3	34.3	34.2	32.1	33.4	36.5	34.1	34.5
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	56.1	66.9	33.9	63.3	64.3	37.0	71.4	41.8
Master's earned (%)	86.9	88.1	92.7	82.0	87.2	90.9	93.1	88.8
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	41.8	52.4	41.8	37.2	49.2	33.3	52.9	38.9
Time to doctorate (median years)								
Years since earning bachelor's degree	10.2	11.0	11.0	9.0	10.2	13.4	10.9	11.3
From graduate school start	8.7	9.1	9.3	7.8	8.4	11.0	8.8	9.2
From doctoral program start ^c	5.9	7.2	6.8	5.8	6.1	5.8	6.3	5.9
Received tuition remission (%)	87.9	92.1	90.9	91.3	92.7	61.3	93.9	82.6
Female doctorate recipients (number)	2,680	265	279	497	282	260	422	675
Citizenship status (%)								
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	65.7	78.1	70.6	31.6	67.7	79.6	76.5	71.1
Temporary visa holder	30.3	18.5	23.7	64.4	28.7	13.5	19.2	26.7
Unknown	4.0	3.4	5.7	4.0	3.5	6.9	4.3	2.2
Marital status (%)								
Never married	33.5	30.6	35.5	42.9	35.1	21.2	29.1	33.9
Married	40.8	42.3	34.4	36.6	37.6	49.6	43.1	42.4
Marriage-like relationship	12.1	D	13.3	D	14.5	9.2	14.2	10.8
Separated, divorced, widowed	4.7	D	5.7	D	3.9	9.2	5.2	5.6
Unknown	8.9	8.3	11.1	9.9	8.9	10.8	8.3	7.3
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	21.2	16.9	23.2	12.9	18.6	36.5	24.7	21.2
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	19.9	23.2	25.6	12.0	16.9	16.0	23.5	22.3
Age at doctorate (median years)	33.2	33.9	34.7	31.1	32.0	35.8	33.4	33.5
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	53.8	69.8	33.1	63.4	72.4	32.8	65.3	42.4
Master's earned (%)	90.2	89.3	92.3	85.8	84.3	90.2	95.3	92.2
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	46.8	57.8	45.8	38.2	48.2	35.9	59.2	44.5
Time to doctorate (median years)								
Years since earning bachelor's degree	10.3	11.3	11.6	8.9	9.3	13.0	10.4	10.7
From graduate school start	8.8	9.8	9.4	7.8	7.9	11.0	8.8	9.0
From doctoral program start ^c	6.0	7.3	6.8	5.8	6.0	5.4	6.8	6.0
Received tuition remission (%)	89.1	87.4	89.8	92.3	93.4	74.4	94.2	87.8

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.