

Table 9-2. Non-science and engineering research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and broad field of doctorate: 2024

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All fields	Non-science and engineering					
		Total	Business	Education	Humanities	Visual and performing arts	Other non-science and engineering
Doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	52,265	10,263	1,171	3,480	2,895	770	1,947
Definite postdoctoral training plans	27.8	10.6	5.8	5.9	16.1	9.4	14.4
Definite employment plans	42.4	60.3	73.2	68.8	49.6	48.8	57.8
Seeking employment or study	26.7	25.9	18.2	22.1	30.8	38.8	25.0
Other status ^a	3.0	3.1	2.7	3.2	3.5	3.0	2.8
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b							
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	95.2	95.4	97.1	94.1	95.9	94.4	95.4
Other training or unknown ^c	4.8	4.6	2.9	5.9	4.1	5.6	4.6
Definite employment plans (%) ^d							
Academe	40.9	63.8	77.7	55.5	69.0	62.0	64.8
In tenure track faculty position (%)	43.0	43.7	83.5	27.8	34.1	32.6	53.2
Not in tenure track position (%)	53.3	53.2	14.3	68.5	62.1	64.4	45.1
Government	7.8	4.5	3.5	3.7	3.4	3.5	8.6
Industry or business ^e	39.1	10.7	14.4	8.2	9.0	14.1	14.4
Nonprofit organization	6.4	7.6	2.0	7.4	10.4	12.2	7.4
Other or unknown ^f	5.8	13.3	2.5	25.1	8.3	8.2	4.8
Primary activity ^g							
Research and development	43.1	20.1	49.9	12.1	12.5	13.3	26.7
Teaching	25.6	45.0	31.8	39.6	61.7	57.1	40.9
Management or administration	9.8	20.5	9.3	34.1	10.8	11.6	15.5
Professional services and other	21.4	14.4	8.9	14.3	15.0	18.0	16.8
Secondary activity ^g							
Research and development	24.5	30.2	31.1	25.1	34.5	34.9	33.2
Teaching	13.5	21.5	46.9	17.2	16.1	11.4	21.8
Management or administration	12.2	10.1	5.4	11.5	10.8	9.7	9.9
Professional services and other	11.6	7.0	5.3	8.1	5.3	4.7	8.7
No secondary activity	38.2	31.2	11.2	38.1	33.3	39.3	26.4
Activity unknown	3.2	3.5	3.5	3.6	2.8	4.0	4.0
Postgraduation location (%) ^h							
United States ⁱ	92.0	91.2	86.4	94.4	90.6	88.2	90.2
Midwest	16.5	18.4	16.8	18.4	18.6	17.6	19.3
Northeast	21.7	18.9	18.2	15.1	22.5	25.9	19.5
South	28.9	36.2	33.8	42.1	32.0	29.0	34.7
West	24.5	17.2	16.8	18.6	17.1	15.0	15.9
Outside the United States	8.0	8.7	13.4	5.6	9.2	11.8	9.7
Location unknown	0.1	0.1	0.2	*	0.2	0.0	0.1

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(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All fields	Non-science and engineering					
		Total	Business	Education	Humanities	Visual and performing arts	Other non-science and engineering
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	40.1	43.9	21.0	62.7	38.0	36.6	34.6
Male doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	26,908	4,042	625	940	1,412	334	731
Definite postdoctoral training plans	28.0	10.7	5.6	5.6	15.7	9.0	12.9
Definite employment plans	42.9	60.1	74.6	70.5	50.2	47.9	59.2
Seeking employment or study	26.2	26.2	17.4	21.3	31.2	37.7	24.8
Other status ^a	2.7	2.9	2.2	2.4	2.8	5.4	3.1
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b							
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	95.8	93.5	97.1	90.6	94.1	93.3	92.6
Other training or unknown ^c	4.2	6.5	2.9	9.4	5.9	6.7	7.4
Definite employment plans (%) ^d							
Academe	35.1	64.7	75.5	57.6	64.2	61.9	65.8
In tenure track faculty position (%)	44.9	47.0	86.6	24.1	33.0	33.3	55.8
Not in tenure track position (%)	51.3	50.3	11.6	71.7	63.5	63.6	43.5
Government	8.0	5.3	3.9	3.2	4.8	3.8	11.8
Industry or business ^e	47.7	10.9	15.9	8.1	7.8	13.8	13.6
Nonprofit organization	4.8	7.5	2.1	6.2	13.4	10.0	4.6
Other or unknown ^f	4.3	11.6	2.6	24.9	9.9	10.6	4.2
Primary activity ^g							
Research and development	49.9	21.7	51.7	10.4	12.0	9.3	27.5
Teaching	21.5	45.4	31.2	36.2	61.2	59.6	43.1
Management or administration	7.2	19.2	7.6	41.3	10.6	13.9	14.5
Professional services and other	21.4	13.6	9.4	12.0	16.2	17.2	14.9
Secondary activity ^g							
Research and development	23.3	31.1	30.8	26.6	33.7	31.1	33.7
Teaching	12.5	24.2	47.6	18.5	18.4	12.6	21.4
Management or administration	12.4	9.2	6.5	9.5	10.7	8.6	9.4
Professional services and other	13.2	6.3	4.3	9.0	4.6	4.0	8.0
No secondary activity	38.7	29.3	10.8	36.4	32.6	43.7	27.5
Activity unknown	3.4	4.0	4.5	4.7	2.5	5.6	4.2
Postgraduation location (%) ^h							
United States ⁱ	90.5	89.2	85.6	93.0	90.0	90.0	85.8
Midwest	15.9	18.3	17.0	18.3	18.3	20.5	18.8
Northeast	21.6	19.5	17.4	16.8	22.4	21.6	19.5
South	27.0	34.0	36.1	37.2	31.8	31.6	32.4
West	25.6	16.9	14.2	20.5	17.2	15.8	14.6
Outside the United States	9.4	10.8	14.4	7.0	9.9	10.0	14.2

Table 9-2. Non-science and engineering research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and broad field of doctorate: 2024

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All fields	Non-science and engineering					
		Total	Business	Education	Humanities	Visual and performing arts	Other non-science and engineering
Location unknown	0.1	*	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	37.9	38.3	19.0	59.2	36.3	40.5	31.1
Female doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	25,357	6,221	546	2,540	1,483	436	1,216
Definite postdoctoral training plans	27.6	10.5	6.0	6.0	16.4	9.6	15.3
Definite employment plans	41.9	60.4	71.6	68.1	49.1	49.5	57.0
Seeking employment or study	27.1	25.8	19.0	22.4	30.4	39.7	25.2
Other status ^a	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.4	4.1	1.1	2.5
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b							
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	94.6	96.6	97.0	95.4	97.5	95.2	96.8
Other training or unknown ^c	5.4	3.4	3.0	4.6	2.5	4.8	3.2
Definite employment plans (%) ^d							
Academe	47.3	63.2	80.3	54.7	73.6	62.0	64.2
In tenure track faculty position (%)	41.4	41.6	79.9	29.3	35.1	32.1	51.5
Not in tenure track position (%)	54.8	55.1	17.2	67.3	60.8	64.9	46.1
Government	7.5	3.9	3.1	3.9	2.1	3.2	6.6
Industry or business ^e	29.7	10.6	12.5	8.3	10.2	14.4	14.9
Nonprofit organization	8.1	7.7	1.8	7.9	7.4	13.9	9.1
Other or unknown ^f	7.5	14.5	2.3	25.2	6.7	6.5	5.2
Primary activity ^g							
Research and development	35.7	19.1	47.9	12.7	13.0	16.2	26.3
Teaching	30.1	44.7	32.5	40.9	62.2	55.2	39.5
Management or administration	12.7	21.3	11.3	31.3	11.0	10.0	16.2
Professional services and other	21.5	14.9	8.4	15.1	13.7	18.6	18.0
Secondary activity ^g							
Research and development	25.9	29.6	31.4	24.5	35.3	37.6	32.9
Teaching	14.7	19.8	46.1	16.7	13.9	10.5	22.1
Management or administration	12.1	10.7	4.2	12.2	10.9	10.5	10.2
Professional services and other	9.8	7.4	6.5	7.8	5.9	5.2	9.2
No secondary activity	37.6	32.5	11.8	38.8	34.0	36.2	25.7
Activity unknown	3.1	3.2	2.3	3.2	3.0	2.8	3.9
Postgraduation location (%) ^h							
United States ⁱ	93.6	92.5	87.3	94.9	91.2	86.8	92.8
Midwest	17.1	18.4	16.5	18.4	18.8	15.5	19.7
Northeast	21.7	18.5	19.1	14.4	22.5	29.1	19.5
South	30.9	37.6	31.1	44.0	32.2	27.1	36.1
West	23.4	17.4	19.8	17.8	17.0	14.3	16.6

Table 9-2. Non-science and engineering research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and broad field of doctorate: 2024

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All fields	Non-science and engineering					
		Total	Business	Education	Humanities	Visual and performing arts	Other non-science and engineering
Outside the United States	6.4	7.4	12.3	5.0	8.5	13.2	6.9
Location unknown	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	42.5	47.5	23.3	64.0	39.5	33.7	36.6

* = value between 0.00% and 0.05%.

^a Other status includes doctorate recipients reporting: no plans to work or study, some other type of postgraduation plans, or definite plans for other full-time degree program.^b Definite postdoctoral training plans excludes doctorate recipients reporting plans for other full-time degree program. Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postdoctoral plans for study.^c Other training includes doctorate recipients who reported definite postdoctoral plans for traineeship, internship or clinical residency, or other study.^d Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment.^e Industry or business includes doctorate recipients reporting self-employment.^f Other is mainly composed of elementary and secondary schools.^g Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment and primary or secondary work activity.^h Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans and type of plans.ⁱ United States includes doctorate recipients with an unknown U.S. region of employment after doctorate; thus, the percentages by regions will not sum to the value for United States. See the "Technical Notes" for states or territories included in regions.**Note(s):**

A definite postgraduation commitment includes accepting new employment or a postdoctoral study (postdoc) position or returning to predoctoral employment, while postgraduation employment includes accepting new employment or returning to predoctoral employment that is not a postdoctoral study (postdoc) position. 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.