

Table 9-3. Agricultural sciences and natural resources research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and major field of doctorate: 2024

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All agricultural sciences and natural resources fields	Agricultural, animal, plant, and veterinary sciences	Natural resources and conservation
Doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	1,193	782	411
Definite postdoctoral training plans	30.7	29.3	33.3
Definite employment plans	38.7	39.4	37.5
Seeking employment or study	28.6	29.4	27.0
Other status ^a	1.9	1.8	2.2
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b			
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	97.5	97.4	97.8
Other training or unknown ^c	2.5	2.6	2.2
Definite employment plans (%) ^d			
Academe	37.7	40.3	32.5
In tenure track faculty position (%)	35.6	40.3	24.0
Not in tenure track position (%)	61.5	55.6	76.0
Government	14.7	6.5	31.2
Industry or business ^e	36.6	47.1	15.6
Nonprofit organization	8.7	4.9	16.2
Other or unknown ^f	2.4	1.3	4.5
Primary activity ^g			
Research and development	51.5	54.5	45.3
Teaching	20.8	20.2	22.0
Management or administration	11.4	9.4	15.3
Professional services and other	16.3	15.8	17.3
Secondary activity ^g			
Research and development	24.8	25.6	23.3
Teaching	8.9	9.1	8.7
Management or administration	22.4	23.2	20.7
Professional services and other	12.3	10.8	15.3
No secondary activity	31.5	31.3	32.0
Activity unknown	3.2	3.6	2.6
Postgraduation location (%) ^h			
United States ⁱ	91.2	91.2	91.1
Midwest	25.2	30.9	14.8
Northeast	11.2	10.2	13.1
South	33.2	33.5	32.6
West	21.1	16.2	30.2
Outside the United States	8.7	8.8	8.6
Location unknown	0.1	0.0	0.3
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	45.3	44.9	46.0
Male doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	548	354	194
Definite postdoctoral training plans	33.8	33.9	33.5
Definite employment plans	38.0	38.7	36.6
Seeking employment or study	27.4	26.8	28.4
Other status ^a	0.9	0.6	1.5
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b			
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	97.3	98.3	95.4
Other training or unknown ^c	2.7	1.7	4.6

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(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All agricultural sciences and natural resources fields	Agricultural, animal, plant, and veterinary sciences	Natural resources and conservation
Definite employment plans (%) ^d			
Academe	39.4	43.1	32.4
In tenure track faculty position (%)	37.8	40.7	30.4
Not in tenure track position (%)	61.0	57.6	69.6
Government	14.4	6.6	29.6
Industry or business ^e	35.1	44.5	16.9
Nonprofit organization	7.7	3.6	15.5
Other or unknown ^f	3.4	2.2	5.6
Primary activity ^g			
Research and development	58.1	58.0	58.2
Teaching	19.2	18.3	20.9
Management or administration	9.1	8.4	10.4
Professional services and other	13.6	15.3	10.4
Secondary activity ^g			
Research and development	24.7	28.2	17.9
Teaching	10.6	11.5	9.0
Management or administration	23.7	23.7	23.9
Professional services and other	9.6	6.9	14.9
No secondary activity	31.3	29.8	34.3
Activity unknown	4.8	4.4	5.6
Postgraduation location (%) ^h			
United States ⁱ	89.8	89.5	90.4
Midwest	25.7	30.4	16.9
Northeast	9.7	7.4	14.0
South	32.6	35.0	27.9
West	21.9	16.7	31.6
Outside the United States	9.9	10.5	8.8
Location unknown	0.3	0.0	0.7
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	44.0	42.4	47.1
Female doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	645	428	217
Definite postdoctoral training plans	28.1	25.5	33.2
Definite employment plans	39.4	40.0	38.2
Seeking employment or study	29.6	31.5	25.8
Other status ^a	2.8	2.8	2.8
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b			
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	97.8	96.3	100.0
Other training or unknown ^c	2.2	3.7	0.0
Definite employment plans (%) ^d			
Academe	36.2	38.0	32.5
In tenure track faculty position (%)	33.7	40.0	18.5
Not in tenure track position (%)	62.0	53.8	81.5
Government	15.0	6.4	32.5
Industry or business ^e	37.8	49.1	14.5
Nonprofit organization	9.4	5.8	16.9
Other or unknown ^f	1.6	0.6	3.6
Primary activity ^g			
Research and development	46.2	51.8	34.9

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(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All agricultural sciences and natural resources fields	Agricultural, animal, plant, and veterinary sciences	Natural resources and conservation
Teaching	22.1	21.7	22.9
Management or administration	13.3	10.2	19.3
Professional services and other	18.5	16.3	22.9
Secondary activity ^g			
Research and development	24.9	23.5	27.7
Teaching	7.6	7.2	8.4
Management or administration	21.3	22.9	18.1
Professional services and other	14.5	13.9	15.7
No secondary activity	31.7	32.5	30.1
Activity unknown	2.0	2.9	0.0
Postgraduation location (%) ^h			
United States ⁱ	92.4	92.9	91.6
Midwest	24.8	31.4	12.9
Northeast	12.6	12.9	12.3
South	33.8	32.1	36.8
West	20.5	15.7	29.0
Outside the United States	7.6	7.1	8.4
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	46.4	47.1	45.2

^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.