

**Table 9-8. Health sciences research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and major field of doctorate: 2024**

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All health sciences fields	Nursing and nursing science	Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences	Public health	Health sciences, other
Doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	2,526	523	406	746	851
Definite postdoctoral training plans	23.8	15.5	30.0	29.9	20.4
Definite employment plans	46.8	57.2	39.7	38.3	51.1
Seeking employment or study	26.3	24.1	29.3	29.4	23.6
Other status <sup>a</sup>	3.0	3.3	0.7	2.4	4.5
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) <sup>b</sup>					
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	88.8	92.6	95.1	80.3	93.7
Other training or unknown <sup>c</sup>	11.2	7.4	4.9	19.7	6.3
Definite employment plans (%) <sup>d</sup>					
Academe	49.7	65.9	13.7	41.3	57.5
In tenure track faculty position (%)	41.6	35.0	54.5	32.2	50.0
Not in tenure track position (%)	53.2	55.8	40.9	65.3	46.4
Government	8.1	5.7	5.0	17.5	4.8
Industry or business <sup>e</sup>	28.3	13.0	71.4	20.6	27.8
Nonprofit organization	10.1	14.4	6.8	15.0	5.1
Other or unknown <sup>f</sup>	3.8	1.0	3.1	5.6	4.8
Primary activity <sup>g</sup>					
Research and development	32.3	10.7	74.0	44.3	24.0
Teaching	32.2	53.8	8.4	17.7	35.5
Management or administration	10.8	13.4	3.2	13.7	9.8
Professional services and other	24.7	22.1	14.3	24.4	30.6
Secondary activity <sup>g</sup>					
Research and development	30.1	39.7	13.0	24.4	33.6
Teaching	16.6	16.2	6.5	14.0	22.3
Management or administration	17.0	16.2	24.7	17.0	14.7
Professional services and other	10.4	10.0	5.8	17.0	8.1
No secondary activity	25.9	17.9	50.0	27.7	21.3
Activity unknown	4.9	3.0	4.3	5.2	6.2
Postgraduation location (%) <sup>h</sup>					
United States <sup>i</sup>	93.3	92.1	92.2	94.3	93.6
Midwest	20.2	18.9	19.8	17.9	23.2
Northeast	21.1	22.4	30.7	17.5	18.9
South	35.1	36.8	25.4	39.3	35.1
West	16.3	13.9	15.5	19.1	15.9
Outside the United States	6.7	7.9	7.8	5.5	6.4
Location unknown	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	46.0	53.9	35.0	46.2	46.0
Male doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	757	62	199	223	273
Definite postdoctoral training plans	25.9	12.9	29.6	30.5	22.3
Definite employment plans	46.8	59.7	41.7	42.2	51.3
Seeking employment or study	24.7	25.8	28.6	25.1	21.2
Other status <sup>a</sup>	2.5	1.6	0.0	2.2	4.8
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) <sup>b</sup>					
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	84.2	87.5	96.6	63.2	95.1
Other training or unknown <sup>c</sup>	15.8	12.5	3.4	36.8	4.9
Definite employment plans (%) <sup>d</sup>					

**Table 9-8. Health sciences research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and major field of doctorate: 2024**

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All health sciences fields	Nursing and nursing science	Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences	Public health	Health sciences, other
Academe	41.8	59.5	15.7	33.0	58.6
In tenure track faculty position (%)	45.9	D	D	32.3	54.9
Not in tenure track position (%)	45.9	D	D	61.3	40.2
Government	9.3	D	D	21.3	D
Industry or business <sup>e</sup>	38.1	16.2	74.7	28.7	28.6
Nonprofit organization	6.5	D	D	10.6	D
Other or unknown <sup>f</sup>	4.2	0.0	3.6	6.4	4.3
Primary activity <sup>g</sup>					
Research and development	41.7	D	D	50.0	29.8
Teaching	23.7	40.5	8.8	10.0	37.4
Management or administration	8.6	D	D	12.2	5.3
Professional services and other	26.0	29.7	20.0	27.8	27.5
Secondary activity <sup>g</sup>					
Research and development	26.3	37.8	16.3	22.2	32.1
Teaching	16.6	D	D	12.2	23.7
Management or administration	21.9	16.2	31.3	21.1	18.3
Professional services and other	10.4	D	D	14.4	9.9
No secondary activity	24.9	10.8	40.0	30.0	16.0
Activity unknown	4.5	0.0	3.6	4.3	6.4
Postgraduation location (%) <sup>h</sup>					
United States <sup>i</sup>	92.2	86.7	91.5	93.8	92.5
Midwest	22.4	11.1	19.7	25.3	24.4
Northeast	22.0	31.1	33.8	15.4	16.9
South	31.1	24.4	23.2	38.3	32.3
West	16.2	20.0	14.1	14.2	18.4
Outside the United States	7.8	13.3	8.5	6.2	7.5
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	41.3	42.2	34.5	42.6	44.8
Female doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	1,769	461	207	523	578
Definite postdoctoral training plans	22.8	15.8	30.4	29.6	19.6
Definite employment plans	46.7	56.8	37.7	36.7	51.0
Seeking employment or study	27.0	23.9	30.0	31.2	24.7
Other status <sup>a</sup>	3.2	3.5	1.4	2.5	4.3
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) <sup>b</sup>					
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	91.1	93.2	93.7	87.7	92.9
Other training or unknown <sup>c</sup>	8.9	6.8	6.3	12.3	7.1
Definite employment plans (%) <sup>d</sup>					
Academe	53.1	66.8	11.5	45.3	56.9
In tenure track faculty position (%)	40.1	D	D	32.2	47.6
Not in tenure track position (%)	55.6	D	D	66.7	49.4
Government	7.6	D	D	15.6	D
Industry or business <sup>e</sup>	24.1	12.6	67.9	16.7	27.5
Nonprofit organization	11.6	D	D	17.2	D
Other or unknown <sup>f</sup>	3.6	1.1	2.6	5.2	5.1
Primary activity <sup>g</sup>					
Research and development	28.3	D	D	41.4	21.3
Teaching	35.9	55.7	8.1	21.5	34.7
Management or administration	11.7	D	D	14.4	11.9

**Table 9-8. Health sciences research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and major field of doctorate: 2024**

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All health sciences fields	Nursing and nursing science	Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences	Public health	Health sciences, other
Professional services and other	24.1	20.9	8.1	22.7	32.1
Secondary activity <sup>g</sup>					
Research and development	31.7	39.9	9.5	25.4	34.3
Teaching	16.6	D	D	14.9	21.7
Management or administration	14.9	16.2	17.6	14.9	13.0
Professional services and other	10.4	D	D	18.2	7.2
No secondary activity	26.4	19.0	60.8	26.5	23.8
Activity unknown	5.1	3.4	5.1	5.7	6.1
Postgraduation location (%) <sup>h</sup>					
United States <sup>i</sup>	93.7	92.8	92.9	94.5	94.1
Midwest	19.3	20.0	19.9	14.4	22.5
Northeast	20.7	21.2	27.7	18.4	19.9
South	37.0	38.5	27.7	39.8	36.5
West	16.4	13.1	17.0	21.3	14.7
Outside the United States	6.2	7.2	7.1	5.2	5.9
Location unknown	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	48.1	55.5	35.5	47.8	46.6

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

<sup>a</sup> 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.<sup>b</sup> 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.<sup>c</sup> Other training includes doctorate recipients who reported definite postdoctoral plans for traineeship, internship or clinical residency, or other study.<sup>d</sup> Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment.<sup>e</sup> Industry or business includes doctorate recipients reporting self-employment.<sup>f</sup> Other is mainly composed of elementary and secondary schools.<sup>g</sup> Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment and primary or secondary work activity.<sup>h</sup> Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans and type of plans.<sup>i</sup> 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.