Table 9-10. Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary sciences research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and major field of doctorate: 2024

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences fields	Interdisciplinary computer sciences	Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences, other
Doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	1,501	520	981
Definite postdoctoral training plans	23.2	17.1	26.4
Definite employment plans	49.4	59.4	44.1
Seeking employment or study	25.3	21.9	27.1
Other status[a]	1.9	1.5	2.1
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%)[b]			
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	96.6	95.5	96.9
Other training or unknown[c]	3.4	4.5	3.1
Definite employment plans (%)[d]			
Academe	30.6	26.2	33.7
In tenure track faculty position (%)	49.8	64.2	41.8
Not in tenure track position (%)	47.6	34.6	54.8
Government	6.1	2.6	8.5
Industry or business[e]	56.9	65.4	50.8
Nonprofit organization	3.8	3.2	4.2
Other or unknown[f]	2.7	2.6	2.8
Primary activity[g]			
Research and development	57.7	64.1	53.1
Teaching	17.7	14.3	20.1
Management or administration	6.5	3.0	9.0
Professional services and other	18.1	18.6	17.8
Secondary activity[g]			
Research and development	21.9	20.3	23.0
Teaching	11.8	12.3	11.4
Management or administration	10.2	6.0	13.3
Professional services and other	16.3	17.9	15.2
No secondary activity	39.8	43.5	37.2
Activity unknown	2.6	2.6	2.5
Postgraduation location (%)[h]			
United States[i]	91.0	91.5	90.8
Midwest	11.7	11.8	11.7
Northeast	23.4	21.4	24.6
South	25.1	17.6	29.5
West	30.5	40.5	24.7
Outside the United States	8.8	8.3	9.1
Location unknown	0.2	0.3	0.1
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	35.9	34.9	36.4
Male doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	923	390	533
Definite postdoctoral training plans	21.1	16.4	24.6
Definite employment plans	53.2	59.7	48.4
Seeking employment or study	24.2	22.8	25.1
Other status[a]	1.4	1.0	1.7
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%)[b]			
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	97.9	95.3	99.2
Other training or unknown[c]	2.1	4.7	0.8

Table 9-10. Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary sciences research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and major field of doctorate: 2024

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences fields	Interdisciplinary computer sciences	Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences, other
Definite employment plans (%)[d]			
Academe	25.5	23.6	27.1
In tenure track faculty position (%)	52.8	65.5	42.9
Not in tenure track position (%)	45.6	32.7	55.7
Government	5.9	3.4	8.1
Industry or business[e]	63.3	68.2	58.9
Nonprofit organization	2.2	2.1	2.3
Other or unknown[f]	3.1	2.6	3.5
Primary activity[g]			
Research and development	62.7	66.7	59.2
Teaching	14.7	12.9	16.4
Management or administration	4.4	D	D
Professional services and other	18.1	17.3	18.8
Secondary activity[g]			
Research and development	19.8	18.7	20.8
Teaching	10.3	12.4	8.4
Management or administration	9.5	5.3	13.2
Professional services and other	17.5	17.8	17.2
No secondary activity	42.9	45.8	40.4
Activity unknown	3.3	3.4	3.1
Postgraduation location (%)[h]			
United States[i]	91.4	90.9	91.8
Midwest	10.5	9.8	11.1
Northeast	23.2	21.9	24.2
South	24.2	18.2	28.8
West	33.2	40.7	27.5
Outside the United States	8.6	9.1	8.2
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	34.5	33.3	35.5
Female doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	578	130	448
Definite postdoctoral training plans	26.5	19.2	28.6
Definite employment plans	43.4	58.5	39.1
Seeking employment or study	27.2	19.2	29.5
Other status[a]	2.8	3.1	2.7
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%)[b]			
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	94.8	96.0	94.5
Other training or unknown[c]	5.2	4.0	5.5
Definite employment plans (%)[d]			
Academe	40.6	34.2	43.4
In tenure track faculty position (%)	46.1	61.5	40.8
Not in tenure track position (%)	50.0	38.5	53.9
Government	6.4	0.0	9.1
Industry or business[e]	44.2	56.6	38.9
Nonprofit organization	6.8	6.6	6.9
Other or unknown[f]	2.0	2.6	1.7
Primary activity[g]			
Research and development	48.0	56.6	44.2

Table 9-10. Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary sciences research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and major field of doctorate: 2024

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences fields	Interdisciplinary computer sciences	Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences, other
Teaching	23.4	18.4	25.6
Management or administration	10.5	D	D
Professional services and other	18.1	22.4	16.3
Secondary activity[g]			
Research and development	25.8	25.0	26.2
Teaching	14.5	11.8	15.7
Management or administration	11.7	7.9	13.4
Professional services and other	14.1	18.4	12.2
No secondary activity	33.9	36.8	32.6
Activity unknown	1.2	0.0	1.7
Postgraduation location (%)[h]			
United States[i]	90.3	93.1	89.4
Midwest	13.9	17.8	12.5
Northeast	23.8	19.8	25.1
South	26.7	15.8	30.4
West	25.7	39.6	21.1
Outside the United States	9.2	5.9	10.2
Location unknown	0.5	1.0	0.3
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	38.1	39.6	37.6

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

[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.