

Table 2-4. Postgraduation location and plans of research doctorate recipients with definite commitments, by sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, and race: Selected years, 1995–2025

(Number and percent)

Definite commitment, plan, and year	Total ^a	Sex		Citizenship status		U.S. citizens and permanent residents								Ethnicity not reported
		Male	Female	U.S. citizen or permanent resident	Temporary visa holder	Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino							
							American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian ^b	Black or African American	White	More than one race	Other race or race not reported ^c		
1995	26.4	28.3	23.6	26.2	27.2	25.6	25.8	46.8	17.1	23.9	na	25.6	30.6	
2000	26.2	27.2	24.8	24.9	30.6	27.2	19.8	36.1	18.3	24.3	na	27.8	25.0	
2005	32.4	34.0	30.5	30.3	37.5	33.7	20.5	42.5	25.3	29.5	29.3	35.1	22.9	
2010	38.2	39.1	37.2	36.0	43.6	37.3	32.4	43.4	27.7	35.6	44.9	36.0	34.4	
2015	35.3	34.9	35.7	34.5	37.1	41.4	36.1	38.3	27.1	34.2	35.0	36.1	25.0	
2020	34.8	34.4	35.3	34.6	35.3	37.3	21.0	36.5	24.1	35.0	38.3	30.2	22.7	
2025	36.5	35.7	37.4	35.7	38.1	39.9	22.1	39.7	25.1	35.7	38.7	30.0	33.1	
Abroad or unknown (%)														
1995	12.0	15.2	7.2	4.0	46.2	4.2	2.2	6.4	1.5	3.8	na	8.5	5.1	
2000	9.3	11.5	6.4	3.0	30.4	4.2	5.2	4.3	1.0	2.9	na	6.7	3.7	
2005	9.7	11.8	7.2	2.9	26.1	1.6	2.3	3.8	0.8	2.9	5.3	5.3	6.3	
2010	11.1	13.1	8.6	4.6	26.7	4.4	5.6	6.1	1.1	4.6	5.3	7.3	6.3	
2015	10.1	11.6	8.3	4.5	23.2	3.7	1.6	5.1	2.0	4.6	6.3	7.5	12.5	
2020	9.8	11.4	7.8	3.3	21.8	2.4	3.2	4.8	0.9	3.4	3.2	7.6	2.1	
2025	8.5	10.1	6.7	3.1	17.8	2.4	1.5	3.7	1.4	3.3	4.9	3.8	3.3	
Employment plans (%)														
1995	8.6	10.9	5.2	2.2	36.3	2.8	2.2	4.0	1.2	2.0	na	2.4	0.0	
2000	6.9	8.5	4.7	1.7	24.4	2.9	4.3	2.8	0.9	1.5	na	3.1	3.7	
2005	6.7	8.0	5.1	1.3	19.6	0.9	1.1	2.4	0.6	1.3	2.0	4.3	2.1	
2010	6.4	7.5	5.0	1.7	17.5	1.9	4.2	2.8	0.8	1.6	1.2	3.0	2.3	
2015	5.7	6.5	4.8	1.6	15.4	0.8	0.0	3.0	1.1	1.4	1.4	6.0	6.3	
2020	6.2	7.2	4.9	1.1	15.7	0.9	3.2	2.2	0.5	1.1	1.1	3.5	0.0	
2025	4.7	5.6	3.8	1.0	11.2	0.7	1.5	1.7	0.9	0.9	1.8	1.6	2.8	
Postdoctoral training plans (%)														
1995	3.3	4.3	1.9	1.8	9.9	1.4	0.0	2.4	0.3	1.8	na	6.1	5.1	
2000	2.4	3.0	1.6	1.4	6.0	1.4	0.9	1.5	0.1	1.4	na	3.6	0.0	
2005	3.0	3.8	2.1	1.6	6.5	0.7	1.1	1.4	0.3	1.7	3.3	1.1	4.2	
2010	4.7	5.7	3.6	2.8	9.2	2.5	1.4	3.3	0.3	2.9	4.2	4.3	4.0	
2015	4.4	5.2	3.5	2.9	7.8	2.9	1.6	2.1	0.8	3.1	4.9	1.5	6.3	
2020	3.6	4.2	2.8	2.2	6.1	1.6	0.0	2.5	0.5	2.4	2.1	4.1	2.1	
2025	3.8	4.6	2.9	2.1	6.6	1.8	0.0	2.0	0.6	2.3	3.0	2.2	0.6	

na = not applicable; doctorate recipients were instructed to indicate only one race before 2001.

^a Total includes doctorate recipients who did not report sex or citizenship status.

^b Asian includes Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders through 2000 but excludes them since 2001.

^c Before 2001, other race included doctorate recipients who selected more than one race. Since 2001, other race has included Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders, who previously had been included in the category Asian.

Note(s):

Percentages are based on the number of definite postgraduation commitments and the type of plan (employment or postdoctoral study [postdoc]). A definite postgraduation commitment includes accepting new employment or a postdoc position or returning to predoctoral employment. Hispanic or Latino may be of any race; race categories exclude Hispanic origin. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates.