

Table 6-4. Female research doctorate recipients with definite postgraduation commitments, by major field of doctorate: 2025

(Number)

Field of doctorate	Female doctorate recipients	Doctorate recipients with definite commitments	Location of definite commitments						
			United States					Abroad	Unknown
			Total	Postdoctoral study	Academic employment	Industry employment ^a	Other sector or unknown ^b		
Female doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation commitments	28,801	16,992	15,852	6,357	4,404	2,832	2,259	1,117	23
Science and engineering	21,722	12,778	11,941	5,854	2,337	2,525	1,225	820	17
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	718	421	387	190	82	64	51	34	0
Agricultural, animal, plant, and veterinary sciences	456	265	241	119	61	48	13	24	0
Natural resources and conservation	262	156	146	71	21	16	38	10	0
Biological and biomedical sciences	5,634	3,065	2,921	1,985	341	437	158	138	6
Biochemistry, biophysics, and molecular biology	731	390	374	266	26	70	12	D	D
Bioinformatics, biostatistics, and computational biology	338	203	194	86	25	70	13	8	1
Biological and biomedical sciences, general	582	268	D	D	44	29	14	D	1
Cell/ cellular biology and anatomy	486	247	239	171	32	28	8	8	0
Ecology, evolutionary biology, and epidemiology	686	435	406	268	57	36	45	28	1
Genetics and genomics	296	152	144	101	11	29	3	8	0
Microbiology and immunology	669	351	333	243	30	44	16	18	0
Neurobiology and neurosciences	783	439	428	313	39	60	16	11	0
Pharmacology and toxicology	248	144	140	96	13	26	5	D	D
Physiology, oncology, and cancer biology	444	237	D	D	37	24	9	D	0
Biological and biomedical sciences, other	371	199	188	123	27	21	17	11	0
Computer and information sciences	764	467	431	108	113	194	16	36	0
Computer science	476	299	277	68	66	131	12	22	0
Computer and information sciences, other	288	168	154	40	47	63	4	14	0
Engineering	3,148	1,716	1,618	646	189	668	115	96	2
Aerospace, aeronautical, astronautical, and space engineering	112	65	D	D	12	28	3	D	0
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering	620	282	273	157	19	86	11	9	0
Chemical and petroleum engineering	438	237	221	89	8	112	12	16	0
Civil, environmental, and transportation engineering	458	264	251	103	32	82	34	12	1
Electrical and computer engineering	432	253	236	62	29	134	11	16	1
Engineering technologies	78	56	D	D	9	17	2	D	0
Industrial engineering and operations research	228	135	126	25	31	55	15	9	0
Materials and mining engineering	263	157	150	73	10	60	7	7	0
Mechanical engineering	334	166	156	67	20	57	12	10	0
Engineering, other	185	101	93	29	19	37	8	8	0
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	572	361	334	205	42	39	48	27	0
Geological and earth sciences	293	178	165	94	25	26	20	13	0
Ocean, marine, and atmospheric sciences	279	183	169	111	17	13	28	14	0
Health sciences	2,048	1,244	1,172	350	434	175	213	71	1
Nursing and nursing science	589	375	344	71	174	31	68	31	0

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Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences	216	112	D	54	12	36	D	D	0
Public health	566	340	D	131	82	38	D	D	0
Health sciences, other	677	417	397	94	166	70	67	19	1
Mathematics and statistics	635	401	352	144	94	94	20	49	0
Applied mathematics	164	99	90	42	26	18	4	9	0
Mathematics	256	161	134	73	42	11	8	27	0
Statistics	215	141	128	29	26	65	8	13	0
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences	717	422	390	147	88	120	35	31	1
Interdisciplinary computer sciences	185	116	109	35	20	46	8	7	0
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences, other	532	306	281	112	68	74	27	24	1
Physical sciences	1,855	1,008	919	454	87	327	51	88	1
Astronomy and astrophysics	121	91	D	57	D	D	1	D	0
Chemistry	1,159	594	567	244	60	223	40	26	1
Materials sciences	125	65	D	28	D	D	1	D	0
Physics	450	258	223	125	19	70	9	35	0
Psychology	3,025	1,981	1,935	1,184	303	212	236	43	3
Clinical psychology	940	730	D	605	32	32	D	D	1
Counseling and applied psychology	1,010	691	675	348	119	87	121	15	1
Research and experimental psychology	620	372	353	156	100	62	35	18	1
Psychology, other	455	188	D	75	52	31	D	D	0
Social sciences	2,606	1,692	1,482	441	564	195	282	207	3
Anthropology	297	169	150	D	47	D	24	18	1
Area, ethnic, cultural, gender, and group studies	269	149	134	41	66	10	17	15	0
Economics	511	351	287	D	94	D	45	64	0
Political science and government	276	191	163	60	65	16	22	28	0
Public policy analysis	239	171	162	29	50	21	62	9	0
Sociology, demography, and population studies	386	263	239	72	115	16	36	24	0
Social sciences, other	628	398	347	93	127	51	76	49	2
Non-science and engineering	7,079	4,214	3,911	503	2,067	307	1,034	297	6
Business	598	392	345	20	241	49	35	46	1
Business administration and management	210	103	91	6	54	17	14	12	0
Business, other	388	289	254	14	187	32	21	34	1
Education	2,993	1,857	1,773	140	830	126	677	83	1
Education leadership and administration	887	593	563	16	297	29	221	29	1
Education research	880	525	508	43	235	58	172	17	0
Teacher education and teaching fields	856	535	D	60	219	D	198	D	0

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Education, other	370	204	D	21	79	D	86	D	0
Humanities	1,694	923	848	173	494	56	125	74	1
English language and literature, letters	643	351	332	D	229	D	29	18	1
Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics	314	158	143	20	96	6	21	15	0
History	353	216	195	62	80	12	41	21	0
Philosophy and religious studies	241	133	123	41	59	7	16	10	0
Humanities, other	143	65	55	D	30	D	18	10	0
Visual and performing arts	449	243	219	37	122	13	47	24	0
Performing arts	254	123	112	D	66	D	24	11	0
Visual arts, media studies, and design	195	120	107	D	56	D	23	13	0
Other non-science and engineering	1,345	799	726	133	380	63	150	70	3
Communication and journalism	383	217	200	34	134	11	21	15	2
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary studies	205	125	107	18	57	6	26	17	1
Public administration and social services	365	229	222	41	91	27	63	7	0
Non-science and engineering, other	392	228	197	40	98	19	40	31	0

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

^a Industry employment includes doctorate recipients reporting self-employment.

^b Other sector or unknown includes doctorate recipients reporting government, nonprofit, elementary or secondary school, or other employment and those with unknown employment in the United States.

Note(s):

A definite postgraduation commitment includes accepting new employment or a postdoctoral study (postdoc) position or returning to predoctoral employment. The survey data collection for the field of study changed in 2021, which may affect the data comparisons across years. This table uses the new field taxonomy based on a modified version of the 2020 Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes and does not match data that uses the trend field taxonomy. For more information about the field taxonomy changes, see the "Technical Notes."

Source(s):

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