

Table 9-3. Agricultural sciences and natural resources research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and major field of doctorate: 2025

(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)	1,192	788	404
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%)	33.5	33.8	32.9
Definite employment plans (%)	35.0	34.5	35.9
Seeking employment or study (%)	29.2	29.3	29.0
Other status (%) ^a	2.2	2.3	2.0
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b			
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	96.0	95.1	97.7
Other training or unknown ^c	4.0	4.9	2.3
Definite employment plans (%) ^d			
Academe	42.4	46.0	35.9
In tenure track faculty position	40.1	43.2	32.7
Not in tenure track position	57.1	55.2	61.5
Government	12.9	4.8	28.3
Industry or business ^e	34.3	41.2	21.4
Nonprofit organization	7.7	4.4	13.8
Other or unknown ^f	2.6	3.7	0.7
Primary activity ^g			
Research and development	49.0	51.5	44.4
Teaching	22.4	25.0	17.6
Management or administration	8.8	7.1	12.0
Professional services and other	19.8	16.4	26.1
Secondary activity ^g			
Research and development	26.8	26.9	26.8
Teaching	13.2	16.4	7.0
Management or administration	18.8	16.4	23.2
Professional services and other	10.7	10.1	12.0
No secondary activity	30.5	30.2	31.0
Activity unknown	1.7	1.5	2.1
Postgraduation location (%) ^h			
United States ⁱ	91.3	90.5	92.8
Midwest	25.1	30.1	15.5
Northeast	11.5	10.0	14.4
South	33.3	34.6	30.9
West	20.6	15.2	30.9
Outside the United States	8.7	9.5	7.2
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	49.3	49.3	49.3
Male doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	551	383	168
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%)	34.8	35.5	33.3
Definite employment plans (%)	36.8	35.8	39.3
Seeking employment or study (%)	26.1	26.9	24.4
Other status (%) ^a	2.2	1.8	3.0
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b			
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	96.4	96.3	96.4
Other training or unknown ^c	3.6	3.7	3.6

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Characteristic	All agricultural sciences and natural resources fields	Agricultural, animal, plant, and veterinary sciences	Natural resources and conservation
Definite employment plans (%) ^d			
Academe	D	43.1	D
In tenure track faculty position	D	49.2	D
Not in tenure track position	52.8	50.8	56.7
Government	12.3	5.8	25.8
Industry or business ^e	36.9	43.8	22.7
Nonprofit organization	D	4.4	D
Other or unknown ^f	2.0	2.9	0.0
Primary activity ^g			
Research and development	54.2	60.3	41.5
Teaching	19.4	17.6	23.1
Management or administration	6.5	5.1	9.2
Professional services and other	19.9	16.9	26.2
Secondary activity ^g			
Research and development	27.4	26.5	29.2
Teaching	15.4	19.1	7.7
Management or administration	18.4	16.9	21.5
Professional services and other	8.5	5.9	13.8
No secondary activity	30.3	31.6	27.7
Activity unknown	1.0	0.7	1.5
Postgraduation location (%) ^h			
United States ⁱ	90.6	90.1	91.8
Midwest	27.1	30.0	20.5
Northeast	9.6	9.2	10.7
South	34.2	33.3	36.1
West	19.2	16.8	24.6
Outside the United States	9.4	9.9	8.2
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	50.6	50.5	50.8
Female doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	641	405	236
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%)	32.3	32.1	32.6
Definite employment plans (%)	33.4	33.3	33.5
Seeking employment or study (%)	31.8	31.6	32.2
Other status (%) ^a	2.2	2.7	1.3
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b			
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	95.7	93.8	98.7
Other training or unknown ^c	4.3	6.2	1.3
Definite employment plans (%) ^d			
Academe	D	48.9	D
In tenure track faculty position	D	37.9	D
Not in tenure track position	61.4	59.1	68.2
Government	13.6	3.7	30.4
Industry or business ^e	31.8	38.5	20.3
Nonprofit organization	D	4.4	D
Other or unknown ^f	3.3	4.4	1.3
Primary activity ^g			
Research and development	44.0	42.4	46.8

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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	25.4	32.6	13.0
Management or administration	11.0	9.1	14.3
Professional services and other	19.6	15.9	26.0
Secondary activity ^g			
Research and development	26.3	27.3	24.7
Teaching	11.0	13.6	6.5
Management or administration	19.1	15.9	24.7
Professional services and other	12.9	14.4	10.4
No secondary activity	30.6	28.8	33.8
Activity unknown	2.3	2.2	2.5
Postgraduation location (%) ^h			
United States ⁱ	91.9	90.9	93.6
Midwest	23.3	30.2	11.5
Northeast	13.3	10.9	17.3
South	32.5	35.8	26.9
West	21.9	13.6	35.9
Outside the United States	8.1	9.1	6.4
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	48.0	47.9	48.1

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. 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.