

Table 9-17. Visual and performing arts research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and major field of doctorate: 2025

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All visual and performing arts fields	Performing arts	Visual arts, media studies, and design
Doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	692	417	275
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%)	11.3	8.6	15.3
Definite employment plans (%)	48.8	49.2	48.4
Seeking employment or study (%)	38.2	40.3	34.9
Other status (%) ^a	1.7	1.9	1.5
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b			
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	98.7	97.2	D
Other training or unknown ^c	1.3	2.8	D
Definite employment plans (%) ^d			
Academe	67.2	64.9	70.7
In tenure track faculty position	32.6	31.6	34.0
Not in tenure track position	63.9	65.4	61.7
Government	D	0.0	D
Industry or business ^e	9.5	11.7	6.0
Nonprofit organization	D	12.2	D
Other or unknown ^f	7.4	11.2	1.5
Primary activity ^g			
Research and development	10.7	4.0	21.3
Teaching	62.6	67.3	55.1
Management or administration	10.7	12.1	8.7
Professional services and other	16.0	16.6	15.0
Secondary activity ^g			
Research and development	31.3	27.6	37.0
Teaching	12.6	D	D
Management or administration	12.6	9.0	18.1
Professional services and other	9.2	D	D
No secondary activity	34.4	37.7	29.1
Activity unknown	3.6	2.9	4.5
Postgraduation location (%) ^h			
United States ⁱ	89.2	89.2	89.1
Midwest	17.1	17.4	16.6
Northeast	26.4	21.6	33.1
South	26.0	28.6	22.3
West	19.2	21.2	16.6
Outside the United States	10.8	10.8	10.9
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	46.6	48.1	44.6
Male doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	301	207	94
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%)	9.6	7.7	13.8
Definite employment plans (%)	47.8	49.3	44.7
Seeking employment or study (%)	41.5	42.0	40.4
Other status (%) ^a	1.0	1.0	1.1
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b			
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	D	D	D
Other training or unknown ^c	D	D	D
Definite employment plans (%) ^d			
Academe	69.4	64.7	81.0
In tenure track faculty position	31.0	33.3	26.5

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Not in tenure track position	65.0	62.1	70.6
Government	D	0.0	D
Industry or business ^e	10.4	D	D
Nonprofit organization	D	D	D
Other or unknown ^f	8.3	11.8	0.0
Primary activity ^g			
Research and development	7.9	D	D
Teaching	64.7	64.3	65.9
Management or administration	12.2	D	D
Professional services and other	15.1	D	D
Secondary activity ^g			
Research and development	26.6	24.5	31.7
Teaching	12.2	D	D
Management or administration	17.3	13.3	26.8
Professional services and other	10.1	D	D
No secondary activity	33.8	35.7	29.3
Activity unknown	3.5	3.9	2.4
Postgraduation location (%) ^h			
United States ⁱ	87.9	87.3	89.1
Midwest	21.4	20.3	23.6
Northeast	20.8	20.3	21.8
South	26.6	28.0	23.6
West	18.5	17.8	20.0
Outside the United States	12.1	12.7	10.9
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	44.5	44.1	45.5
Female doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	391	210	181
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%)	12.5	9.5	16.0
Definite employment plans (%)	49.6	49.0	50.3
Seeking employment or study (%)	35.5	38.6	32.0
Other status (%) ^a	2.3	2.9	1.7
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b			
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	98.0	95.0	D
Other training or unknown ^c	2.0	5.0	D
Definite employment plans (%) ^d			
Academe	65.5	65.0	65.9
In tenure track faculty position	33.9	29.9	38.3
Not in tenure track position	63.0	68.7	56.7
Government	0.0	0.0	0.0
Industry or business ^e	8.8	D	D
Nonprofit organization	19.1	D	D
Other or unknown ^f	6.7	10.7	2.2
Primary activity ^g			
Research and development	12.8	D	D
Teaching	61.0	70.3	50.0
Management or administration	9.6	D	D
Professional services and other	16.6	D	D
Secondary activity ^g			
Research and development	34.8	30.7	39.5

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(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All visual and performing arts fields	Performing arts	Visual arts, media studies, and design
Teaching	12.8	D	D
Management or administration	9.1	5.0	14.0
Professional services and other	8.6	D	D
No secondary activity	34.8	39.6	29.1
Activity unknown	3.6	1.9	5.5
Postgraduation location (%) ^h			
United States ⁱ	90.1	91.1	89.2
Midwest	14.0	14.6	13.3
Northeast	30.5	22.8	38.3
South	25.5	29.3	21.7
West	19.8	24.4	15.0
Outside the United States	9.9	8.9	10.8
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	48.1	52.0	44.2

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.