

Table 2-2. Postgraduation commitment of research doctorate recipients, by sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, and race: Selected years, 1995–2025

(Number and percent)

Commitment status and year	Total ^a	Sex		Citizenship status		U.S. citizens and permanent residents							
		Male	Female	U.S. citizen or permanent resident	Temporary visa holder	Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino						Ethnicity not reported
							American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian ^b	Black or African American	White	More than one race	Other race or race not reported ^c	
All doctorate recipients (number)													
1995	41,747	25,160	16,416	32,062	8,831	1,065	147	4,297	1,461	24,683	na	170	239
2000	41,369	23,165	18,131	29,952	9,667	1,310	169	2,274	1,749	23,714	na	370	366
2005	43,385	23,737	19,582	27,945	12,832	1,435	137	2,155	1,741	21,208	395	306	568
2010	48,028	25,524	22,488	31,602	13,636	1,842	117	2,738	1,939	23,100	654	272	940
2015	54,886	29,532	25,347	35,071	16,129	2,449	131	3,072	2,275	25,375	903	249	617
2020	55,200	29,844	25,350	34,458	18,473	2,850	97	3,212	2,453	23,925	1,134	353	434
2025	59,015	30,214	28,801	36,235	19,340	3,781	108	4,230	2,990	22,410	1,396	611	709
All postgraduation commitments (number)													
1995	37,977	22,959	15,013	29,963	8,005	982	138	3,895	1,299	23,363	na	134	152
2000	37,743	21,175	16,568	28,602	9,101	1,236	162	2,161	1,632	22,895	na	347	169
2005	38,913	21,319	17,590	26,680	12,167	1,357	132	2,084	1,646	20,591	384	277	209
2010	43,833	23,339	20,493	30,597	13,008	1,782	113	2,678	1,881	22,698	650	253	542
2015	49,002	26,424	22,578	33,609	15,278	2,327	121	3,006	2,161	24,708	896	219	171
2020	50,464	27,333	23,131	32,863	17,440	2,719	84	3,100	2,313	23,109	1,126	267	145
2025	52,607	27,015	25,592	34,172	18,136	3,568	92	4,044	2,840	21,478	1,386	506	258
Definite commitment for employment or postdoctoral training (%)													
1995	65.8	65.2	66.7	67.6	58.9	66.0	68.1	56.8	67.9	69.5	na	61.2	66.4
2000	71.2	72.5	69.5	72.3	67.7	71.4	72.8	66.4	67.7	73.4	na	64.3	65.1
2005	70.5	71.3	69.5	72.4	66.2	69.9	68.2	65.9	66.8	73.9	64.6	69.7	70.8
2010	68.1	69.6	66.3	68.8	66.3	66.1	66.4	61.8	63.4	70.4	69.4	65.6	66.1
2015	62.0	63.2	60.6	63.5	58.7	57.2	57.9	56.8	55.5	65.7	62.3	66.7	62.6
2020	70.0	70.6	69.2	69.8	70.1	68.0	75.0	66.6	65.3	71.1	67.1	64.4	66.9
2025	67.2	67.8	66.5	65.7	69.8	63.1	73.9	60.6	62.1	67.5	66.5	63.0	71.3
No definite commitment for employment or postdoctoral training (%) ^d													
1995	34.2	34.8	33.3	32.4	41.1	34.0	31.9	43.2	32.1	30.5	na	38.8	33.6
2000	28.8	27.5	30.5	27.7	32.3	28.6	27.2	33.6	32.3	26.6	na	35.7	34.9
2005	29.5	28.7	30.5	27.6	33.8	30.1	31.8	34.1	33.2	26.1	35.4	30.3	29.2
2010	31.9	30.4	33.7	31.2	33.7	33.9	33.6	38.2	36.6	29.6	30.6	34.4	33.9
2015	38.0	36.8	39.4	36.5	41.3	42.8	42.1	43.2	44.5	34.3	37.7	33.3	37.4
2020	30.0	29.4	30.8	30.2	29.9	32.0	25.0	33.4	34.7	28.9	32.9	35.6	33.1
2025	32.8	32.2	33.5	34.3	30.2	36.9	26.1	39.4	37.9	32.5	33.5	37.0	28.7

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.

^d No definite commitment for employment or postdoctoral training includes doctorate recipients who indicated "other" in all years, doctorate recipients who indicated "do not plan to work or study" in 2004 and later years, and doctorate recipients who indicated definite plans for "other full-time degree program" in 2007 and later years.

Note(s):

A definite postgraduation commitment includes accepting new employment or a postdoctoral study (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.