

Table 6-1. Research doctorate recipients with definite postgraduation commitments, by major field of doctorate: 2025

(Number)

Field of doctorate	All 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		
All fields	59,015	35,299	32,305	12,893	7,744	7,795	3,873	2,952	42
Science and engineering	47,272	28,284	25,919	12,019	4,355	7,248	2,297	2,332	33
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	1,325	816	745	368	160	133	84	71	0
Agricultural, animal, plant, and veterinary sciences	875	538	487	246	112	103	26	51	0
Natural resources and conservation	450	278	258	122	48	30	58	20	0
Biological and biomedical sciences	9,950	5,460	5,188	3,588	567	761	272	265	7
Biochemistry, biophysics, and molecular biology	1,521	809	774	569	47	132	26	D	D
Bioinformatics, biostatistics, and computational biology	742	451	433	196	62	145	30	17	1
Biological and biomedical sciences, general	968	444	426	308	52	44	22	17	1
Cell/ cellular biology and anatomy	784	393	377	279	46	41	11	16	0
Ecology, evolutionary biology, and epidemiology	1,078	693	643	424	93	47	79	49	1
Genetics and genomics	488	248	232	165	19	43	5	16	0
Microbiology and immunology	1,136	583	556	414	56	64	22	27	0
Neurobiology and neurosciences	1,343	762	727	559	52	95	21	34	1
Pharmacology and toxicology	393	218	214	144	18	46	6	D	D
Physiology, oncology, and cancer biology	845	490	471	313	78	66	14	19	0
Biological and biomedical sciences, other	652	369	335	217	44	38	36	34	0
Computer and information sciences	3,002	1,892	1,738	359	339	949	91	153	1
Computer science	2,027	1,270	1,176	252	215	660	49	94	0
Computer and information sciences, other	975	622	562	107	124	289	42	59	1
Engineering	10,876	6,341	5,844	2,155	526	2,734	429	489	8
Aerospace, aeronautical, astronautical, and space engineering	628	373	341	110	47	150	34	32	0
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering	1,390	677	653	393	35	203	22	24	0
Chemical and petroleum engineering	1,285	711	646	263	22	335	26	64	1
Civil, environmental, and transportation engineering	1,276	772	706	273	66	280	87	65	1
Electrical and computer engineering	2,111	1,353	1,238	272	106	781	79	113	2
Engineering technologies	374	240	218	73	21	111	13	22	0
Industrial engineering and operations research	666	408	369	72	73	174	50	39	0
Materials and mining engineering	867	507	465	229	23	192	21	41	1
Mechanical engineering	1,564	888	826	326	80	361	59	60	2
Engineering, other	715	412	382	144	53	147	38	29	1
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	1,192	775	693	433	77	102	81	82	0
Geological and earth sciences	641	408	355	198	46	74	37	53	0
Ocean, marine, and atmospheric sciences	551	367	338	235	31	28	44	29	0
Health sciences	2,911	1,769	1,662	552	554	265	291	106	1
Nursing and nursing science	659	418	381	78	188	36	79	37	0

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Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences	418	220	211	106	20	70	15	9	0
Public health	796	490	468	201	111	57	99	22	0
Health sciences, other	1,038	641	602	167	235	102	98	38	1
Mathematics and statistics	2,069	1,294	1,094	455	257	321	61	197	3
Applied mathematics	444	275	250	104	65	70	11	25	0
Mathematics	967	575	440	239	113	68	20	134	1
Statistics	658	444	404	112	79	183	30	38	2
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences	1,781	1,101	1,014	315	195	427	77	85	2
Interdisciplinary computer sciences	673	440	406	113	61	208	24	34	0
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences, other	1,108	661	608	202	134	219	53	51	2
Physical sciences	5,332	3,058	2,746	1,538	213	868	127	308	4
Astronomy and astrophysics	337	243	203	168	12	18	5	40	0
Chemistry	2,627	1,411	1,330	669	115	473	73	80	1
Materials sciences	326	183	169	84	7	73	5	14	0
Physics	2,042	1,221	1,044	617	79	304	44	174	3
Psychology	3,941	2,566	2,499	1,471	416	300	312	64	3
Clinical psychology	1,179	904	892	740	41	40	71	11	1
Counseling and applied psychology	1,315	897	875	427	160	133	155	21	1
Research and experimental psychology	874	520	495	208	149	85	53	24	1
Psychology, other	573	245	237	96	66	42	33	8	0
Social sciences	4,893	3,212	2,696	785	1,051	388	472	512	4
Anthropology	433	239	209	100	70	12	27	29	1
Area, ethnic, cultural, gender, and group studies	419	229	205	70	102	10	23	24	0
Economics	1,390	991	758	187	253	203	115	233	0
Political science and government	634	420	342	124	146	29	43	77	1
Public policy analysis	383	268	248	52	73	29	94	20	0
Sociology, demography, and population studies	588	403	366	111	179	24	52	37	0
Social sciences, other	1,046	662	568	141	228	81	118	92	2
Non-science and engineering	11,743	7,015	6,386	874	3,389	547	1,576	620	9
Business	1,350	909	786	49	546	115	76	121	2
Business administration and management	461	248	210	18	124	35	33	38	0
Business, other	889	661	576	31	422	80	43	83	2
Education	4,048	2,552	2,416	190	1,151	174	901	134	2
Education leadership and administration	1,245	848	809	27	423	42	317	37	2
Education research	1,194	720	690	64	318	81	227	30	0
Teacher education and teaching fields	1,124	715	661	72	303	38	248	54	0

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Education, other	485	269	256	27	107	13	109	13	0
Humanities	3,355	1,820	1,637	370	861	109	297	181	2
English language and literature, letters	984	530	500	83	333	38	46	29	1
Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics	542	262	227	41	145	13	28	35	0
History	779	461	416	128	173	30	85	45	0
Philosophy and religious studies	628	331	289	96	142	15	36	41	1
Humanities, other	422	236	205	22	68	13	102	31	0
Visual and performing arts	793	416	371	60	215	26	70	45	0
Performing arts	494	241	215	25	127	19	44	26	0
Visual arts, media studies, and design	299	175	156	35	88	7	26	19	0
Other non-science and engineering	2,197	1,318	1,176	205	616	123	232	139	3
Communication and journalism	584	341	306	48	206	21	31	33	2
Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary studies	349	204	177	32	91	12	42	26	1
Public administration and social services	532	327	311	53	132	40	86	16	0
Non-science and engineering, other	732	446	382	72	187	50	73	64	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.