

Table 1-1. Research doctorate recipients from U.S. colleges and universities: 1958–2025

(Number and percent)

Year	Doctorate recipients (number)	% change from previous year
1958	8,773	-
1959	9,213	5.0
1960	9,733	5.6
1961	10,413	7.0
1962	11,500	10.4
1963	12,728	10.7
1964	14,325	12.5
1965	16,340	14.1
1966	17,949	9.8
1967	20,403	13.7
1968	22,937	12.4
1969	25,743	12.2
1970	29,498	14.6
1971	31,867	8.0
1972	33,041	3.7
1973	33,755	2.2
1974	33,047	-2.1
1975	32,952	-0.3
1976	32,946	*
1977	31,716	-3.7
1978	30,875	-2.7
1979	31,238	1.2
1980	31,019	-0.7
1981	31,355	1.1
1982	31,108	-0.8
1983	31,280	0.6
1984	31,334	0.2
1985	31,295	-0.1
1986	31,897	1.9
1987	32,365	1.5
1988	33,497	3.5
1989	34,325	2.5
1990	36,065	5.1
1991	37,530	4.1
1992	38,886	3.6
1993	39,800	2.4
1994	41,034	3.1
1995	41,747	1.7
1996	42,437	1.7
1997	42,539	0.2
1998	42,636	0.2
1999	41,101	-3.6
2000	41,369	0.7
2001	40,744	-1.5
2002	40,031	-1.7
2003	40,762	1.8
2004	42,122	3.3
2005	43,385	3.0
2006	45,620	5.2
2007	48,132	5.5
2008	48,776	1.3
2009	49,552	1.6
2010	48,028	-3.1

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2011	48,909	1.8
2012	50,943	4.2
2013	52,703	3.5
2014	53,986	2.4
2015	54,886	1.7
2016	54,809	-0.1
2017	54,550	-0.5
2018	55,077	1.0
2019	55,597	0.9
2020	55,200	-0.7
2021	52,158	-5.5
2022	57,435	10.1
2023	57,801	0.6
2024	58,013	0.4
2025	59,015	1.7

* = value between -0.05% and 0.05% and not equal to 0.0%.

Source(s):
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates.