

Table 3-7. Median age and age distribution of research doctorate recipients, by broad field of doctorate, sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, and race: 2025

(Median years, number, and percent)

Field and demographic characteristic	Age at doctorate (median years)	Doctorate recipients (number)	25 and under (%)	26–30 (%)	31–35 (%)	36–40 (%)	41–45 (%)	Over 45 (%)
Doctorate recipients reporting birth year	31.4	54,277	0.8	45.4	30.4	11.2	5.3	6.8
Science and engineering	30.7	43,640	0.9	52.2	30.1	9.2	3.6	4.0
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	31.7	1,238	1.1	42.6	31.7	14.8	5.5	4.3
Biological and biomedical sciences	30.4	9,402	0.6	56.3	32.1	7.3	2.2	1.6
Computer and information sciences	30.6	2,660	1.6	52.2	29.6	8.6	3.7	4.3
Engineering	30.1	9,994	1.2	58.9	29.1	6.7	2.1	2.0
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	30.4	1,125	0.9	55.6	29.1	8.7	3.3	2.5
Health sciences	34.8	2,625	0.5	27.4	27.2	17.5	10.4	17.1
Mathematics and statistics	29.6	1,911	2.2	64.2	24.9	5.5	2.0	1.2
Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary sciences	31.2	1,628	1.0	47.1	28.8	12.2	4.9	6.0
Physical sciences	29.2	5,013	1.0	70.4	22.0	4.4	1.2	0.9
Psychology	31.4	3,506	0.6	45.3	32.0	10.7	4.8	6.6
Social sciences	33.3	4,538	0.2	27.5	40.4	17.3	6.9	7.6
Non-science and engineering	36.1	10,637	0.3	17.3	31.7	19.7	12.4	18.6
Business	34.3	1,158	D	24.6	35.6	15.5	D	16.1
Education	39.8	3,709	0.2	9.7	23.5	20.8	17.7	28.0
Humanities	34.6	3,054	D	20.5	38.4	19.5	D	11.4
Visual and performing arts	34.4	726	D	23.1	36.5	21.9	D	9.0
Other non-science and engineering	35.4	1,990	0.6	20.1	32.9	19.5	10.2	16.7
Sex								
Male	31.2	27,907	0.8	47.1	31.7	10.7	4.5	5.1
Female	31.7	26,370	0.7	43.6	29.1	11.8	6.2	8.6
Citizenship status, ethnicity, and race								
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	31.6	35,329	0.8	44.6	27.2	11.6	6.3	9.5
Hispanic or Latino	31.6	3,729	0.4	44.7	29.2	11.7	5.9	8.2
Not Hispanic or Latino								
American Indian or Alaska Native	36.3	106	0.0	28.3	20.8	15.1	11.3	24.5
Asian	31.1	4,144	0.9	48.3	30.1	10.8	4.5	5.4
Black or African American	36.0	2,912	0.7	26.9	22.4	15.6	11.1	23.4
White	31.3	22,129	0.9	46.3	26.7	11.3	6.2	8.7
More than one race	30.9	1,386	0.9	49.8	28.8	9.2	5.1	6.1
Other race or race not reported	32.4	513	1.4	35.9	30.0	13.5	6.6	12.7
Ethnicity not reported	32.1	410	1.2	38.8	28.5	12.4	7.1	12.0
Temporary visa holder	31.2	18,719	0.7	47.0	36.7	10.5	3.3	1.8

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

Note(s):

Hispanic or Latino may be of any race; race categories exclude Hispanic origin. 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.