

Table 8-7. Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences research doctorate recipients, statistical profile by sex and major field of doctorate: 2025

(Number, percent, and median years)

Characteristic	All geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences fields	Geological and earth sciences	Ocean, marine, and atmospheric sciences
All doctorate recipients (number) ^a	1,192	641	551
Sex (%)			
Male	52.0	54.3	49.4
Female	48.0	45.7	50.6
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0
Citizenship status (%)			
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	69.9	65.5	75.0
Temporary visa holder	25.6	29.2	21.4
Unknown	4.5	5.3	3.6
Marital status (%)			
Never married	42.7	38.4	47.7
Married	32.1	34.5	29.4
Marriage-like relationship	12.9	12.5	13.4
Separated, divorced, widowed	2.6	3.4	1.6
Unknown	9.6	11.2	7.8
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	12.2	15.1	8.9
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	15.9	17.1	14.5
Age at doctorate (median years)	30.4	30.9	29.8
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	52.6	63.3	40.6
Master's earned (%)	63.6	66.6	60.2
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	47.7	39.4	58.0
Time to doctorate (median years)			
Years since earning bachelor's degree	7.8	8.0	7.4
From graduate school start	6.4	6.8	6.3
From doctoral program start ^c	5.7	5.3	5.8
Received tuition remission (%)	89.4	88.4	90.5
Male doctorate recipients (number)	620	348	272
Citizenship status (%)			
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	65.6	59.8	73.2
Temporary visa holder	29.8	34.5	23.9
Unknown	4.5	5.7	2.9
Marital status (%)			
Never married	40.3	35.3	46.7
Married	35.3	37.9	32.0
Marriage-like relationship	11.6	D	D
Separated, divorced, widowed	2.3	D	D
Unknown	10.5	12.6	7.7
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	13.9	17.8	9.2
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	13.5	13.4	13.7
Age at doctorate (median years)	30.8	31.6	30.3
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	52.4	64.4	37.9
Master's earned (%)	67.1	70.7	62.8
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	44.8	35.5	57.3
Time to doctorate (median years)			

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(Number, percent, and median years)

Characteristic	All geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences fields	Geological and earth sciences	Ocean, marine, and atmospheric sciences
Years since earning bachelor's degree	8.0	8.3	7.5
From graduate school start	6.7	7.0	6.3
From doctoral program start ^c	5.7	5.3	5.8
Received tuition remission (%)	87.5	86.9	88.3
Female doctorate recipients (number)	572	293	279
Citizenship status (%)			
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	74.5	72.4	76.7
Temporary visa holder	21.0	22.9	19.0
Unknown	4.5	4.8	4.3
Marital status (%)			
Never married	45.3	42.0	48.7
Married	28.7	30.4	26.9
Marriage-like relationship	14.3	D	D
Separated, divorced, widowed	3.0	D	D
Unknown	8.7	9.6	7.9
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	10.3	12.0	8.6
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	18.4	21.4	15.3
Age at doctorate (median years)	29.9	30.2	29.7
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	52.7	61.9	43.3
Master's earned (%)	59.7	61.7	57.6
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	51.3	44.6	58.7
Time to doctorate (median years)			
Years since earning bachelor's degree	7.6	7.8	7.4
From graduate school start	6.3	6.3	6.3
From doctoral program start ^c	5.7	5.5	5.7
Received tuition remission (%)	91.3	90.0	92.7

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

^a All doctorate recipients includes doctorate recipients who did not report sex.^b A bachelor's and doctoral degree are considered to be in the same field if doctorate recipient's first or most recent bachelor's degree is in the same broad field as their doctoral degree.^c Time to doctorate from doctoral program start is based on master's degree entry if the master's degree was at the same doctoral institution in the same field of study or was a prerequisite to the doctorate; otherwise, it is based on doctoral program entry.**Note(s):**

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.