

Table 8-8. Health sciences research doctorate recipients, statistical profile by sex and major field of doctorate: 2025

(Number, percent, and median years)

Characteristic	All health sciences fields	Nursing and nursing science	Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences	Public health	Health sciences, other
All doctorate recipients (number) ^a	2,911	659	418	796	1,038
Sex (%)					
Male	29.6	10.6	48.3	28.9	34.8
Female	70.4	89.4	51.7	71.1	65.2
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Citizenship status (%)					
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	72.7	80.6	49.0	76.1	74.5
Temporary visa holder	20.4	11.5	44.5	18.8	17.5
Unknown	6.9	7.9	6.5	5.0	8.0
Marital status (%)					
Never married	26.8	16.5	40.0	30.4	25.1
Married	47.0	57.5	33.5	45.1	47.3
Marriage-like relationship	7.0	3.6	9.6	9.7	6.2
Separated, divorced, widowed	5.3	9.6	1.7	4.8	4.3
Unknown	13.9	12.7	15.3	10.1	17.1
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	33.3	47.8	18.7	31.1	31.4
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	13.7	13.6	12.1	14.9	13.4
Age at doctorate (median years)	34.8	42.1	30.8	34.3	34.3
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	46.2	89.4	38.8	29.0	35.3
Master's earned (%)	80.1	87.5	51.1	90.0	79.2
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	30.9	24.2	34.2	35.4	30.7
Time to doctorate (median years)					
Years since earning bachelor's degree	11.3	15.3	7.8	11.0	11.0
From graduate school start	8.8	10.3	6.3	8.9	9.0
From doctoral program start ^c	5.0	5.0	5.2	5.0	5.0
Received tuition remission (%)	72.0	53.8	90.9	76.9	72.3
Male doctorate recipients (number)	863	70	202	230	361
Citizenship status (%)					
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	65.0	67.1	50.0	69.6	70.1
Temporary visa holder	27.5	18.6	43.6	25.2	21.6
Unknown	7.5	14.3	6.4	5.2	8.3
Marital status (%)					
Never married	31.3	12.9	39.1	32.6	29.6
Married	43.5	58.6	31.2	47.4	44.9
Marriage-like relationship	8.0	0.0	12.9	7.8	6.9
Separated, divorced, widowed	2.7	D	D	2.6	2.8
Unknown	14.6	D	D	9.6	15.8
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	28.3	49.1	18.9	32.5	26.9
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	12.6	11.3	12.0	11.3	14.0
Age at doctorate (median years)	33.6	41.9	31.1	34.3	33.8
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	37.1	91.2	36.9	25.8	35.1
Master's earned (%)	74.2	86.0	48.9	89.7	75.8
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	30.2	31.3	32.1	34.9	25.5

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(Number, percent, and median years)

Characteristic	All health sciences fields	Nursing and nursing science	Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences	Public health	Health sciences, other
Time to doctorate (median years)					
Years since earning bachelor's degree	10.0	12.4	7.8	10.4	10.4
From graduate school start	7.8	8.8	6.3	8.3	8.3
From doctoral program start ^c	5.0	5.5	5.3	5.0	5.0
Received tuition remission (%)	77.7	44.1	90.8	78.4	76.4
Female doctorate recipients (number)	2,048	589	216	566	677
Citizenship status (%)					
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	75.9	82.2	48.1	78.8	76.8
Temporary visa holder	17.4	10.7	45.4	16.3	15.4
Unknown	6.7	7.1	6.5	4.9	7.8
Marital status (%)					
Never married	24.9	17.0	40.7	29.5	22.7
Married	48.5	57.4	35.6	44.2	48.6
Marriage-like relationship	6.6	4.1	6.5	10.4	5.8
Separated, divorced, widowed	6.3	D	D	5.7	5.2
Unknown	13.6	D	D	10.2	17.7
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	35.3	47.7	18.5	30.5	33.9
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	14.1	13.9	12.1	16.3	13.0
Age at doctorate (median years)	35.7	42.1	30.6	34.2	34.6
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	50.0	89.2	40.4	30.3	35.4
Master's earned (%)	82.6	87.6	53.1	90.1	81.1
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	31.2	23.5	36.0	35.5	33.3
Time to doctorate (median years)					
Years since earning bachelor's degree	12.0	15.6	7.8	11.0	11.6
From graduate school start	9.0	10.6	6.3	9.1	9.7
From doctoral program start ^c	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Received tuition remission (%)	69.7	54.9	91.0	76.3	70.2

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.