

Table 8-15. Humanities research doctorate recipients, statistical profile by sex and major field of doctorate: 2025

(Number, percent, and median years)

Characteristic	All humanities fields	English language and literature, letters	Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics	History	Philosophy and religious studies	Humanities, other
All doctorate recipients (number) ^a	3,355	984	542	779	628	422
Sex (%)						
Male	49.5	34.7	42.1	54.7	61.6	66.1
Female	50.5	65.3	57.9	45.3	38.4	33.9
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Citizenship status (%)						
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	73.2	82.4	52.6	78.3	72.6	69.4
Temporary visa holder	20.2	11.7	41.0	17.7	19.3	19.2
Unknown	6.6	5.9	6.5	4.0	8.1	11.4
Marital status (%)						
Never married	28.9	31.9	31.9	30.0	28.7	16.1
Married	43.0	38.4	40.8	44.8	39.8	58.3
Marriage-like relationship	10.0	12.0	7.9	11.9	11.9	1.7
Separated, divorced, widowed	4.1	5.0	4.4	3.0	4.3	3.1
Unknown	14.0	12.7	14.9	10.3	15.3	20.9
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	24.5	19.4	20.0	23.8	23.5	46.5
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	19.6	24.1	19.5	16.4	18.7	16.3
Age at doctorate (median years)	34.6	33.9	34.8	34.4	34.4	38.9
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	69.9	80.8	67.4	69.7	68.9	47.6
Master's earned (%)	91.0	91.4	90.0	92.3	86.1	96.6
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	38.9	30.0	45.8	41.8	40.8	43.3
Time to doctorate (median years)						
Years since earning bachelor's degree	11.4	11.0	11.4	11.3	11.0	15.0
From graduate school start	9.7	9.0	9.6	9.7	9.5	11.8
From doctoral program start ^c	6.8	6.0	6.9	7.0	6.8	7.0
Received tuition remission (%)	88.4	90.6	92.7	90.8	91.5	67.5
Male doctorate recipients (number)	1,661	341	228	426	387	279
Citizenship status (%)						
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	72.7	79.2	53.1	77.0	73.6	73.1
Temporary visa holder	20.5	13.5	41.7	20.2	18.1	15.4
Unknown	6.8	7.3	5.3	2.8	8.3	11.5
Marital status (%)						
Never married	27.0	28.2	34.2	28.6	31.3	11.1
Married	46.3	40.8	36.8	48.4	41.1	64.9
Marriage-like relationship	9.0	D	8.8	10.6	9.8	D
Separated, divorced, widowed	2.9	D	4.4	2.3	3.4	D
Unknown	14.8	14.7	15.8	10.1	14.5	21.9
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	30.1	22.8	20.0	28.7	26.3	57.1

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Characteristic	All humanities fields	English language and literature, letters	Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics	History	Philosophy and religious studies	Humanities, other
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	16.6	19.4	16.9	14.3	17.2	15.6
Age at doctorate (median years)	35.4	34.7	35.7	35.0	34.4	40.0
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	68.7	79.1	66.5	69.2	70.9	52.8
Master's earned (%)	91.8	90.3	89.1	95.1	87.9	96.5
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	38.9	27.3	44.2	39.4	39.8	46.6
Time to doctorate (median years)						
Years since earning bachelor's degree	12.0	11.3	12.0	11.6	11.3	16.0
From graduate school start	9.9	9.0	10.0	9.8	9.8	12.8
From doctoral program start ^c	6.8	6.0	6.9	7.0	6.8	7.0
Received tuition remission (%)	86.3	91.5	91.8	89.9	91.1	61.3
Female doctorate recipients (number)	1,694	643	314	353	241	143
Citizenship status (%)						
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	73.6	84.1	52.2	79.9	71.0	62.2
Temporary visa holder	19.9	10.7	40.4	14.7	21.2	26.6
Unknown	6.5	5.1	7.3	5.4	7.9	11.2
Marital status (%)						
Never married	30.8	33.9	30.3	31.7	24.5	25.9
Married	39.8	37.2	43.6	40.5	37.8	45.5
Marriage-like relationship	11.0	D	7.3	13.6	15.4	D
Separated, divorced, widowed	5.2	D	4.5	3.7	5.8	D
Unknown	13.2	11.7	14.3	10.5	16.6	18.9
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	19.0	17.6	20.0	17.8	18.8	26.7
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	22.5	26.4	21.3	19.0	21.2	17.7
Age at doctorate (median years)	34.0	33.3	34.3	33.5	34.2	36.5
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	71.0	81.7	68.0	70.3	65.7	37.7
Master's earned (%)	90.2	92.0	90.5	89.0	83.2	96.7
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	39.0	31.3	47.0	44.8	42.4	37.1
Time to doctorate (median years)						
Years since earning bachelor's degree	11.0	10.6	11.2	10.9	10.8	13.0
From graduate school start	9.1	8.9	9.1	9.3	9.2	10.8
From doctoral program start ^c	6.8	6.0	6.9	7.0	6.9	7.0
Received tuition remission (%)	90.5	90.1	93.4	91.9	92.2	79.2

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.