

Table 9-18. Other non-science and engineering research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and major field of doctorate: 2025

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All other non-science and engineering fields	Communication and journalism	Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary studies	Public administration and social services	Non-science and engineering, other
Doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	1,918	519	290	469	640
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%)	12.7	11.0	15.2	12.2	13.3
Definite employment plans (%)	56.0	54.7	55.2	57.6	56.4
Seeking employment or study (%)	27.1	30.8	27.2	24.9	25.6
Other status (%) ^a	4.1	3.5	2.4	5.3	4.5
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b					
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	94.7	96.5	97.7	94.7	91.8
Other training or unknown ^c	5.3	3.5	2.3	5.3	8.2
Definite employment plans (%) ^d					
Academe	64.2	80.6	63.8	51.1	61.2
In tenure track faculty position	52.9	59.8	19.6	65.2	53.4
Not in tenure track position	43.9	38.9	76.5	29.7	43.0
Government	11.0	5.6	6.3	17.8	12.2
Industry or business ^e	12.3	7.4	8.1	15.2	15.8
Nonprofit organization	8.3	3.5	11.3	11.1	8.6
Other or unknown ^f	4.3	2.8	10.6	4.8	2.2
Primary activity ^g					
Research and development	26.0	28.2	8.4	33.1	27.0
Teaching	41.7	55.6	51.6	22.6	40.3
Management or administration	15.2	7.2	32.3	18.7	11.4
Professional services and other	17.1	9.0	7.7	25.7	21.3
Secondary activity ^g					
Research and development	33.5	38.6	29.7	21.8	39.8
Teaching	25.6	25.6	17.4	33.9	23.0
Management or administration	10.2	8.3	8.4	11.7	11.4
Professional services and other	8.6	6.1	11.0	10.9	8.0
No secondary activity	22.1	21.3	33.5	21.8	17.9
Activity unknown	3.2	2.5	3.1	4.8	2.5
Postgraduation location (%) ^h					
United States ⁱ	89.2	89.7	86.8	95.1	85.7
Midwest	19.9	22.0	17.6	22.0	17.7
Northeast	16.5	12.0	21.6	18.7	16.1
South	36.5	38.1	29.9	37.9	37.2
West	15.6	16.4	17.2	15.9	14.1
Outside the United States	10.5	9.7	12.7	4.9	14.3
Location unknown	0.2	0.6	0.5	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	36.8	29.6	44.1	46.2	32.1
Male doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	734	173	121	144	296

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(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All other non-science and engineering fields	Communication and journalism	Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary studies	Public administration and social services	Non-science and engineering, other
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%)	12.3	11.0	14.0	9.7	13.5
Definite employment plans (%)	58.4	60.7	51.2	58.3	60.1
Seeking employment or study (%)	25.3	26.0	32.2	26.4	21.6
Other status (%) ^a	4.0	2.3	2.5	5.6	4.7
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b					
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	94.4	94.7	D	D	90.0
Other training or unknown ^c	5.6	5.3	D	D	10.0
Definite employment plans (%) ^d					
Academe	64.8	81.0	62.9	54.8	60.7
In tenure track faculty position	53.2	62.4	20.5	60.9	54.6
Not in tenure track position	43.2	37.6	74.4	30.4	41.7
Government	11.7	D	D	D	13.5
Industry or business ^e	14.5	9.5	9.7	15.5	18.5
Nonprofit organization	5.4	D	D	D	5.1
Other or unknown ^f	3.7	2.9	9.7	3.6	2.2
Primary activity ^g					
Research and development	24.9	D	D	34.2	24.9
Teaching	43.6	D	D	24.1	39.9
Management or administration	14.3	5.9	28.8	19.0	12.1
Professional services and other	17.2	7.8	8.5	22.8	23.1
Secondary activity ^g					
Research and development	34.4	41.2	28.8	16.5	40.5
Teaching	26.6	28.4	20.3	31.6	25.4
Management or administration	11.9	10.8	8.5	13.9	12.7
Professional services and other	8.2	4.9	11.9	12.7	6.9
No secondary activity	18.9	14.7	30.5	25.3	14.5
Activity unknown	3.7	2.9	4.8	6.0	2.8
Postgraduation location (%) ^h					
United States ⁱ	86.7	85.5	88.6	90.8	84.9
Midwest	18.9	25.0	21.5	14.3	16.5
Northeast	15.6	8.1	19.0	19.4	17.0
South	38.0	35.5	31.6	44.9	38.5
West	13.9	16.1	16.5	12.2	12.4
Outside the United States	13.3	14.5	11.4	9.2	15.1
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	33.5	29.8	39.2	45.9	28.0

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(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All other non-science and engineering fields	Communication and journalism	Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary studies	Public administration and social services	Non-science and engineering, other
Female doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	1,184	346	169	325	344
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%)	12.9	11.0	16.0	13.2	13.1
Definite employment plans (%)	54.6	51.7	58.0	57.2	53.2
Seeking employment or study (%)	28.2	33.2	23.7	24.3	29.1
Other status (%) ^a	4.2	4.0	2.4	5.2	4.4
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b					
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	94.8	97.4	96.3	93.0	93.3
Other training or unknown ^c	5.2	2.6	3.7	7.0	6.7
Definite employment plans (%) ^d					
Academe	63.8	80.4	64.3	49.5	61.7
In tenure track faculty position	52.7	58.3	19.0	67.4	52.2
Not in tenure track position	44.4	39.6	77.8	29.3	44.2
Government	10.5	D	D	D	10.9
Industry or business ^e	10.8	6.1	7.1	15.1	13.1
Nonprofit organization	10.2	D	D	D	12.0
Other or unknown ^f	4.6	2.8	11.2	5.4	2.2
Primary activity ^g					
Research and development	26.8	D	D	32.6	29.1
Teaching	40.4	D	D	21.9	40.8
Management or administration	15.8	8.0	34.4	18.5	10.6
Professional services and other	17.0	9.7	7.3	27.0	19.6
Secondary activity ^g					
Research and development	33.0	37.1	30.2	24.2	39.1
Teaching	24.8	24.0	15.6	34.8	20.7
Management or administration	9.1	6.9	8.3	10.7	10.1
Professional services and other	8.9	6.9	10.4	10.1	8.9
No secondary activity	24.2	25.1	35.4	20.2	21.2
Activity unknown	2.8	2.2	2.0	4.3	2.2
Postgraduation location (%) ^h					
United States ⁱ	90.9	92.2	85.6	96.9	86.4
Midwest	20.5	20.3	15.2	25.3	18.9
Northeast	17.1	14.3	23.2	18.3	15.4
South	35.5	39.6	28.8	34.9	36.0
West	16.8	16.6	17.6	17.5	15.8
Outside the United States	8.8	6.9	13.6	3.1	13.6
Location unknown	0.4	0.9	0.8	0.0	0.0

Table 9-18. Other non-science and engineering research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and major field of doctorate: 2025

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All other non-science and engineering fields	Communication and journalism	Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary studies	Public administration and social services	Non-science and engineering, other
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	38.9	29.5	47.2	46.3	36.0

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

^a Other status includes doctorate recipients reporting: no plans to work or study, some other type of postgraduation plans, or definite plans for other full-time degree program.

^b Definite postdoctoral training plans excludes doctorate recipients reporting plans for other full-time degree program. Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postdoctoral plans for study.

^c Other training includes doctorate recipients who reported definite postdoctoral plans for traineeship, internship or clinical residency, or other study.

^d Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment.

^e Industry or business includes doctorate recipients reporting self-employment.

^f Other is mainly composed of elementary and secondary schools.

^g Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment and primary or secondary work activity.

^h Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans and type of plans.

ⁱ United States includes doctorate recipients with an unknown U.S. region of employment after doctorate; thus, the percentages by regions will not sum to the value for United States. See the "Technical Notes" for states or territories included in regions.

Note(s):

A definite postgraduation commitment includes accepting new employment or a postdoctoral study (postdoc) position or returning to predoctoral employment, while postgraduation employment includes accepting new employment or returning to predoctoral employment that is not a postdoctoral study (postdoc) position. 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.