

**Table 33. Educational attainment of doctorate recipients' parents, by sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, race, and broad field of study: 2015
(Percent distribution)**

Demographic characteristic and broad field of study	Total (number)	Parental education attainment (%)				
		All	High school or less	Some college ^a	Bachelor's degree	Advanced degree
All doctorate recipients						
Father's education ^b	47,326	100.0	24.8	12.8	27.2	35.2
Mother's education ^c	47,540	100.0	30.0	15.8	28.6	25.6
Sex						
Male						
Father's education	25,505	100.0	25.3	11.9	27.8	34.9
Mother's education	25,544	100.0	31.8	14.8	28.9	24.5
Female						
Father's education	21,821	100.0	24.1	13.9	26.5	35.6
Mother's education	21,996	100.0	28.0	16.9	28.3	26.8
Citizenship status						
U.S. citizen or permanent resident						
Father's education	32,551	100.0	22.1	13.7	24.8	39.4
Mother's education	32,797	100.0	23.8	17.7	28.6	30.0
Temporary visa holder						
Father's education	14,738	100.0	30.6	10.9	32.5	25.9
Mother's education	14,708	100.0	43.9	11.5	28.8	15.8
Ethnicity and race (U.S. citizens and permanent residents)						
Hispanic or Latino						
Father's education	2,235	100.0	36.1	15.4	21.7	26.8
Mother's education	2,273	100.0	38.1	17.0	22.6	22.3
Not Hispanic or Latino						
American Indian or Alaska Native						
Father's education	115	100.0	42.6	19.1	14.8	23.5
Mother's education	119	100.0	39.5	21.8	19.3	19.3
Asian						
Father's education	2,916	100.0	21.6	9.6	23.5	45.3
Mother's education	2,922	100.0	30.9	11.6	31.3	26.2
Black or African American						
Father's education	1,983	100.0	42.5	20.4	16.1	21.1
Mother's education	2,056	100.0	37.3	22.0	18.8	21.9
White						
Father's education	24,130	100.0	19.1	13.4	26.2	41.3
Mother's education	24,239	100.0	20.4	18.1	29.7	31.9
More than one race						
Father's education	866	100.0	22.6	15.2	18.5	43.6
Mother's education	874	100.0	22.8	18.2	28.7	30.3
Other race or race not reported						
Father's education	191	100.0	17.8	14.1	30.4	37.7
Mother's education	197	100.0	23.9	16.8	27.4	32.0
Ethnicity not reported						
Father's education	115	100.0	27.0	11.3	14.8	47.0

**Table 33. Educational attainment of doctorate recipients' parents, by sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, race, and broad field of study: 2015
(Percent distribution)**

Demographic characteristic and broad field of study	Total (number)	Parental education attainment (%)				
		All	High school or less	Some college ^a	Bachelor's degree	Advanced degree
Mother's education	117	100.0	25.6	19.7	27.4	27.4
Field of study						
Life sciences ^d						
Father's education	11,059	100.0	23.3	12.5	27.8	36.4
Mother's education	11,102	100.0	28.1	15.9	29.7	26.3
Physical sciences and earth sciences						
Father's education	5,172	100.0	25.0	13.1	28.5	33.4
Mother's education	5,181	100.0	30.1	14.9	30.0	25.0
Mathematics and computer sciences						
Father's education	3,246	100.0	24.2	11.8	29.7	34.4
Mother's education	3,246	100.0	32.2	13.2	30.3	24.3
Psychology and social sciences						
Father's education	7,591	100.0	23.4	14.1	24.8	37.8
Mother's education	7,657	100.0	26.3	16.9	27.7	29.1
Engineering						
Father's education	8,595	100.0	24.0	11.4	31.5	33.0
Mother's education	8,599	100.0	33.5	14.1	30.7	21.7
Education						
Father's education	4,339	100.0	35.6	15.9	20.7	27.8
Mother's education	4,385	100.0	37.8	19.0	22.2	20.9
Humanities and arts						
Father's education	4,806	100.0	20.9	11.8	24.6	42.8
Mother's education	4,842	100.0	23.6	16.4	28.0	32.0
Other ^e						
Father's education	2,518	100.0	27.0	12.7	27.6	32.7
Mother's education	2,528	100.0	33.4	16.1	27.4	23.1

^a Includes those who attended college but did not earn a bachelor's.

^b Total count excludes 7,129 who did not report father's education and 551 (1.0%) who reported "not applicable/unknown."

^c Total count excludes 7,098 who did not report mother's education and 368 (0.7%) who reported "not applicable/unknown."

^d Includes agricultural sciences and natural resources; biological and biomedical sciences; and health sciences.

^e Non-science and engineering fields not shown separately.

NOTE: Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates, 2015.