

**Table 52. Definite postgraduation commitments of doctorate recipients, by sex and major field of study: 2015**

Sex and major field of study	All recipients	Recipients with definite commitments	Location of definite commitments						
			United States					Abroad	Unknown
			Total	Postdoctoral study	Academic employment	Industry employment <sup>a</sup>	Other <sup>b</sup>		
All doctorate recipients <sup>c</sup>	55,006	27,787	24,972	9,812	7,356	4,914	2,890	2,765	50
Life sciences	12,520	6,154	5,631	3,609	920	669	433	520	3
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	1,439	711	600	296	130	115	59	111	0
Biological and biomedical sciences	8,801	4,317	3,977	2,984	355	452	186	338	2
Health sciences	2,280	1,126	1,054	329	435	102	188	71	1
Physical sciences and earth sciences	5,924	3,092	2,735	1,705	246	667	117	356	1
Chemistry	2,675	1,304	1,209	760	101	316	32	95	0
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	1,057	627	552	352	70	88	42	74	1
Physics and astronomy	2,192	1,161	974	593	75	263	43	187	0
Mathematics and computer sciences	3,825	2,207	1,961	599	441	804	117	238	8
Computer and information sciences	2,005	1,113	1,009	204	187	552	66	98	6
Mathematics and statistics	1,820	1,094	952	395	254	252	51	140	2
Psychology and social sciences	9,095	4,949	4,350	1,660	1,604	437	649	592	7
Psychology	3,782	2,099	2,019	1,172	389	214	244	78	2
Anthropology	493	192	157	58	72	7	20	35	0
Economics	1,256	829	592	82	270	114	126	236	1
Political science and government	859	454	379	91	220	16	52	75	0
Sociology	745	420	375	95	216	18	46	D	D
Other social sciences	1,960	955	828	162	437	68	161	D	D
Engineering	9,897	4,758	4,269	1,506	399	1,992	372	472	17
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	361	188	173	56	17	55	45	15	0
Bioengineering and biomedical engineering	1,129	519	468	273	32	144	19	51	0
Chemical engineering	1,002	493	451	163	14	256	18	D	D
Civil engineering	633	282	246	100	41	78	27	D	D
Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering	2,004	1,003	921	240	52	554	75	78	4
Industrial and manufacturing engineering	244	115	96	13	24	51	8	19	0

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Materials science engineering	874	415	368	161	18	174	15	46	1
Mechanical engineering	1,467	684	620	226	73	277	44	62	2
Other engineering	2,183	1,059	926	274	128	403	121	126	7
Education	5,117	2,612	2,462	217	1,334	101	810	144	6
Education administration	922	489	467	7	195	14	251	21	1
Education research	2,783	1,444	1,370	154	753	70	393	72	2
Teacher education	155	D	D	D	39	D	22	D	0
Teaching fields	957	492	446	43	279	10	114	43	3
Other education	300	D	D	D	68	D	30	D	0
Humanities and arts	5,600	2,402	2,148	390	1,383	100	275	249	5
Foreign languages and literature	656	290	262	29	203	7	23	D	D
History	1,145	519	447	116	258	17	56	71	1
Letters	1,590	706	659	108	479	31	41	D	D
Other humanities and arts	2,209	887	780	137	443	45	155	106	1
Other <sup>d</sup>	3,028	1,613	1,416	126	1,029	144	117	194	3
Business management and administration	1,588	936	807	37	621	98	51	128	1
Communication	668	321	295	35	232	15	13	24	2
Non-S&E fields not elsewhere classified	772	356	314	54	176	31	53	42	0
Unknown field	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Male	29,596	15,358	13,575	5,369	3,398	3,441	1,367	1,757	26
Life sciences	5,578	2,833	2,548	1,724	329	347	148	284	1
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	748	389	320	154	65	66	35	69	0
Biological and biomedical sciences	4,112	2,089	1,901	1,442	153	237	69	187	1
Health sciences	718	355	327	128	111	44	44	28	0
Physical sciences and earth sciences	3,935	2,125	1,865	1,157	158	473	77	260	0
Chemistry	1,598	822	760	491	53	199	17	62	0
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	600	365	319	204	40	53	22	46	0
Physics and astronomy	1,737	938	786	462	65	221	38	152	0

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Mathematics and computer sciences	2,880	1,682	1,505	462	305	641	97	173	4
Computer and information sciences	1,582	909	834	162	146	467	59	71	4
Mathematics and statistics	1,298	773	671	300	159	174	38	102	0
Psychology and social sciences	3,762	2,127	1,772	550	749	198	275	352	3
Psychology	1,060	597	567	305	123	73	66	30	0
Anthropology	186	82	61	20	29	D	D	21	0
Economics	820	553	397	58	183	66	90	155	1
Political science and government	527	280	231	50	137	D	D	49	0
Sociology	284	155	131	32	80	6	13	24	0
Other social sciences	885	460	385	85	197	36	67	73	2
Engineering	7,596	3,716	3,343	1,163	292	1,601	287	360	13
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	308	165	D	48	D	47	42	D	0
Bioengineering and biomedical engineering	701	330	304	176	19	97	12	26	0
Chemical engineering	685	336	306	116	9	172	9	28	2
Civil engineering	458	211	186	83	28	60	15	25	0
Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering	1,711	873	805	204	41	493	67	65	3
Industrial and manufacturing engineering	154	69	D	7	D	29	D	D	0
Materials science engineering	651	310	277	127	13	129	8	32	1
Mechanical engineering	1,265	591	D	196	58	243	D	D	2
Other engineering	1,663	831	728	206	96	331	95	98	5
Education	1,614	871	792	65	409	39	279	77	2
Education administration	345	D	D	D	58	D	107	D	1
Education research	855	472	434	43	253	22	116	38	0
Teacher education	36	18	18	0	9	0	9	0	0
Teaching fields	296	153	D	16	73	D	37	D	1
Other education	82	D	D	D	16	D	10	D	0
Humanities and arts	2,767	1,187	1,049	197	636	54	162	136	2
Foreign languages and literature	239	116	106	12	82	D	D	D	D

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			Total	Postdoctoral study	Academic employment	Industry employment <sup>a</sup>	Other <sup>b</sup>		
History	632	281	244	63	140	11	30	36	1
Letters	650	276	253	47	171	D	D	D	D
Other humanities and arts	1,246	514	446	75	243	26	102	68	0
Other <sup>d</sup>	1,464	817	701	51	520	88	42	115	1
Business management and administration	937	565	486	19	377	64	26	79	0
Communication	256	127	117	15	92	5	5	9	1
Non-S&E fields not elsewhere classified	271	125	98	17	51	19	11	27	0
Unknown field	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Female	25,403	12,429	11,397	4,443	3,958	1,473	1,523	1,008	24
Life sciences	6,941	3,321	3,083	1,885	591	322	285	236	2
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	691	322	280	142	65	49	24	42	0
Biological and biomedical sciences	4,688	2,228	2,076	1,542	202	215	117	151	1
Health sciences	1,562	771	727	201	324	58	144	43	1
Physical sciences and earth sciences	1,988	967	870	548	88	194	40	96	1
Chemistry	1,077	482	449	269	48	117	15	33	0
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	457	262	233	148	30	35	20	28	1
Physics and astronomy	454	223	188	131	10	42	5	35	0
Mathematics and computer sciences	943	525	456	137	136	163	20	65	4
Computer and information sciences	423	204	175	42	41	85	7	27	2
Mathematics and statistics	520	321	281	95	95	78	13	38	2
Psychology and social sciences	5,332	2,822	2,578	1,110	855	239	374	240	4
Psychology	2,722	1,502	1,452	867	266	141	178	48	2
Anthropology	307	110	96	38	43	D	D	14	0
Economics	436	276	195	24	87	48	36	81	0
Political science and government	332	174	148	41	83	D	D	26	0
Sociology	461	265	244	63	136	12	33	D	D
Other social sciences	1,074	495	443	77	240	32	94	D	D
Engineering	2,301	1,042	926	343	107	391	85	112	4

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Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	53	23	D	8	D	8	3	D	0
Bioengineering and biomedical engineering	428	189	164	97	13	47	7	25	0
Chemical engineering	317	157	145	47	5	84	9	D	D
Civil engineering	175	71	60	17	13	18	12	D	D
Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering	293	130	116	36	11	61	8	13	1
Industrial and manufacturing engineering	90	46	D	6	D	22	D	D	0
Materials science engineering	223	105	91	34	5	45	7	14	0
Mechanical engineering	202	93	D	30	15	34	D	D	0
Other engineering	520	228	198	68	32	72	26	28	2
Education	3,502	1,741	1,670	152	925	62	531	67	4
Education administration	577	D	D	D	137	D	144	D	0
Education research	1,927	972	936	111	500	48	277	34	2
Teacher education	119	D	D	D	30	D	13	D	0
Teaching fields	661	339	D	27	206	D	77	D	2
Other education	218	83	D	7	52	D	20	D	0
Humanities and arts	2,832	1,215	1,099	193	747	46	113	113	3
Foreign languages and literature	417	174	156	17	121	D	D	16	2
History	513	238	203	53	118	6	26	35	0
Letters	940	430	406	61	308	D	D	24	0
Other humanities and arts	962	373	334	62	200	19	53	38	1
Other <sup>d</sup>	1,564	796	715	75	509	56	75	79	2
Business management and administration	651	371	321	18	244	34	25	49	1
Communication	412	194	178	20	140	10	8	15	1
Non-S&E fields not elsewhere classified	501	231	216	37	125	12	42	15	0
Unknown field	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

**Table 52. Definite postgraduation commitments of doctorate recipients, by sex and major field of study: 2015**

S&E = science and engineering.

<sup>a</sup> Includes doctorate recipients who indicated self-employment.

<sup>b</sup> Includes doctorate recipients who indicated government, nonprofit, elementary or secondary school, or other employment and those with unknown employment.

<sup>c</sup> Includes respondents who did not report sex.

<sup>d</sup> Non-science and engineering fields.

NOTES: See table A-6 in the technical notes for a listing of major fields and their constituent subfields. Definite postgraduate commitment includes doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation commitments for employment or postdoctoral study.

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