

Table 34. Highest educational attainment of either parent of doctorate recipients: Selected years, 1986–2016 (Percent)

Year	Parental education attainment (%)			
	High school or less	Some college ^a	Bachelor's degree	Advanced degree
1986	37.1	14.6	22.6	25.7
1991	32.5	15.3	20.3	31.9
1996	28.2	14.3	21.9	35.5
2001	23.9	13.6	22.3	40.1
2006	21.7	13.3	25.5	39.0
2011	19.0	12.9	25.4	42.0
2016	17.6	12.7	25.9	43.2

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

NOTE: Percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding and because 199 doctorate recipients (0.05%) reported "not applicable/unknown" for both father's and mother's education in 2006, 283 doctorate recipients (0.07%) reported "not applicable/unknown" for both father's and mother's education in 2011, and 274 doctorate recipients (0.06%) reported "not applicable/unknown" for both father's and mother's education in 2016.

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