



**Table 55. Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients, by sex and broad field of study: 2016**

Characteristic	All fields	Life sciences <sup>a</sup>	Physical sciences and earth sciences	Mathematics and computer sciences	Psychology and social sciences	Engineering	Education	Humanities and arts	Other <sup>b</sup>
United States <sup>n</sup>	90.5	92.3	89.1	89.7	88.6	90.7	94.5	89.0	87.8
New England	8.5	10.8	9.8	7.2	8.6	7.4	4.6	9.0	6.2
Middle Atlantic	12.6	11.8	11.9	15.0	13.0	11.0	10.5	17.6	12.9
East North Central	12.0	10.3	10.9	9.7	12.5	12.6	15.1	12.9	14.4
West North Central	5.2	6.7	3.5	3.4	4.9	3.8	7.8	5.1	7.0
South Atlantic	16.3	18.2	13.9	12.9	19.1	13.1	19.3	13.9	17.2
East South Central	3.7	3.7	2.5	1.8	3.0	2.4	8.4	5.1	4.7
West South Central	7.4	7.3	6.3	5.6	6.9	7.3	10.3	8.0	8.5
Mountain	5.7	4.9	7.2	4.0	4.9	6.5	7.4	4.7	6.1
Pacific and insular	19.1	18.5	22.9	29.9	15.6	26.6	11.1	12.8	10.8
Not in United States	9.4	7.6	10.9	10.2	11.2	8.9	5.5	10.9	12.1
Location unknown	0.2	0.1	*	0.2	0.2	0.4	*	0.1	0.1
Male doctorate recipients (number)	29,616	5,643	4,286	2,998	3,749	7,277	1,550	2,639	1,474
Postgraduation status (number) <sup>d</sup>									
Definite postgraduation study	6,353	1,982	1,509	577	661	1,262	58	254	50
Definite employment	9,834	1,096	920	1,210	1,534	2,541	830	892	811
Seeking employment or study	8,814	1,631	1,337	770	948	2,378	397	1,035	318
Other <sup>e</sup>	1,243	397	119	108	141	274	55	99	50
Definite postgraduation study (%) <sup>f</sup>									
Postdoc fellowship	47.9	54.1	38.2	42.3	67.3	33.9	58.6	81.9	66.0
Postdoc research associateship	49.7	40.8	61.4	56.3	29.3	64.8	41.4	17.7	34.0
Other or unknown <sup>g</sup>	2.4	5.1	0.4	1.4	3.3	1.3	0.0	0.4	0.0
Definite employment (%) <sup>h</sup>									
Academe	40.4	37.0	18.4	28.6	55.8	16.0	59.9	73.0	78.7
Government	8.5	10.9	9.3	3.6	16.2	8.6	4.9	3.5	5.4
Industry or business <sup>i</sup>	41.2	40.5	67.7	63.1	16.8	70.6	4.7	5.0	11.1
Nonprofit organization	4.4	7.6	2.2	2.9	6.4	2.8	3.7	9.0	2.2
Other or unknown <sup>i</sup>	5.5	4.0	2.4	1.9	4.8	1.9	26.7	9.5	2.6
Primary activity <sup>k</sup>									
R&D	51.8	54.6	67.7	67.1	42.6	75.0	11.3	11.0	39.7

**Table 55. Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients, by sex and broad field of study: 2016**

Characteristic	All fields	Life sciences <sup>a</sup>	Physical sciences and earth sciences	Mathematics and computer sciences	Psychology and social sciences	Engineering	Education	Humanities and arts	Other <sup>b</sup>
Teaching	27.3	20.6	13.4	21.7	34.5	8.2	39.8	70.2	46.6
Management or administration	9.2	9.2	2.6	3.0	9.0	4.5	40.6	8.6	8.4
Professional services	9.1	13.3	11.9	4.5	12.6	9.0	6.6	7.7	4.8
Other	2.6	2.3	4.3	3.7	1.3	3.2	1.6	2.6	0.5
Secondary activity <sup>l</sup>									
R&D	25.1	24.3	13.1	19.5	33.1	12.4	29.2	47.6	43.1
Teaching	13.5	12.1	3.2	8.6	22.8	6.5	18.3	11.8	34.4
Management or administration	14.4	20.4	20.6	9.1	11.6	19.5	9.5	9.8	6.7
Professional services	7.6	9.5	8.7	6.5	7.2	7.8	10.9	6.3	3.4
Other	1.8	1.1	2.4	1.5	1.7	1.7	2.8	2.4	1.2
No secondary activity	37.7	32.6	52.0	54.8	23.6	52.1	29.3	22.0	11.3
Activity unknown	10.2	10.4	9.7	10.5	9.8	11.1	8.7	11.0	9.2
Postgraduation location (%) <sup>m</sup>									
United States <sup>n</sup>	89.0	91.3	88.7	89.3	84.0	90.7	91.6	87.4	85.6
New England	8.3	11.1	10.0	6.9	7.9	7.1	4.8	7.9	6.6
Middle Atlantic	12.2	11.3	11.7	14.4	12.9	10.7	11.8	16.7	12.0
East North Central	11.7	10.4	11.4	9.8	10.1	13.0	14.4	14.0	14.3
West North Central	4.9	7.1	3.5	3.0	4.4	3.8	7.9	6.0	6.5
South Atlantic	14.9	16.5	13.1	11.9	19.3	12.9	17.5	14.7	16.6
East South Central	3.3	3.7	2.4	1.7	3.0	2.4	8.1	5.8	4.5
West South Central	6.8	7.3	6.5	5.5	6.4	7.0	8.2	6.6	8.1
Mountain	5.8	5.1	7.7	3.9	4.4	6.7	8.6	4.4	5.7
Pacific and insular	20.9	18.7	22.4	32.1	15.6	27.0	10.2	11.3	11.3
Not in United States	10.9	8.7	11.3	10.5	15.9	9.0	8.4	12.4	14.3
Location unknown	0.1	0.1	*	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.1
Female doctorate recipients (number)	25,278	6,923	1,963	959	5,329	2,192	3,603	2,843	1,466
Postgraduation status (number) <sup>d</sup>									
Definite postgraduation study	5,006	2,124	607	166	1,250	356	161	262	80
Definite employment	8,107	1,458	430	377	1,730	687	1,738	978	709
Seeking employment or study	7,787	2,279	651	243	1,352	796	1,013	1,098	355
Other <sup>e</sup>	1,212	416	79	47	198	91	159	140	82

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Characteristic	All fields	Life sciences <sup>a</sup>	Physical sciences and earth sciences	Mathematics and computer sciences	Psychology and social sciences	Engineering	Education	Humanities and arts	Other <sup>b</sup>
Definite postgraduation study (%) <sup>f</sup>									
Postdoc fellowship	59.6	57.7	38.7	45.2	75.8	43.0	50.3	81.3	66.3
Postdoc research associateship	36.3	37.9	59.8	50.0	18.1	55.6	45.3	16.8	30.0
Other or unknown <sup>g</sup>	4.1	4.4	1.5	4.8	6.1	1.4	4.3	1.9	3.8
Definite employment (%) <sup>h</sup>									
Academe	53.3	41.8	26.7	42.7	55.8	20.4	58.9	79.8	74.2
Government	6.6	10.8	8.6	3.7	10.2	6.0	3.6	1.2	5.4
Industry or business <sup>i</sup>	23.3	32.2	57.0	48.3	18.3	67.4	4.8	5.6	10.3
Nonprofit organization	6.8	10.2	5.3	2.4	8.3	3.5	6.0	6.2	5.2
Other or unknown <sup>j</sup>	10.0	4.9	2.3	2.9	7.4	2.8	26.7	7.2	4.9
Primary activity <sup>k</sup>									
R&D	32.7	39.5	60.2	52.6	34.0	68.1	12.3	10.2	35.6
Teaching	38.8	27.9	23.5	34.3	36.0	11.3	44.6	72.8	45.2
Management or administration	13.6	12.5	4.3	3.1	8.9	3.8	30.3	10.7	10.3
Professional services	12.0	15.4	7.1	7.7	19.3	11.1	10.6	3.9	7.7
Other	2.9	4.6	4.8	2.3	1.8	5.7	2.1	2.4	1.3
Secondary activity <sup>l</sup>									
R&D	30.1	26.8	16.8	29.1	30.0	13.4	28.7	49.1	39.4
Teaching	15.0	10.8	3.1	10.0	19.4	7.5	15.7	12.3	32.2
Management or administration	12.8	17.5	18.1	8.6	13.6	15.7	11.5	8.2	6.7
Professional services	8.5	9.8	9.9	6.3	8.1	7.8	11.0	5.9	5.6
Other	2.2	2.3	2.3	1.7	1.8	1.6	2.7	2.8	1.9
No secondary activity	31.4	32.8	49.7	44.3	27.1	53.9	30.4	21.7	14.1
Activity unknown	10.0	10.8	8.8	7.2	10.6	10.9	8.6	10.0	12.0
Postgraduation location (%) <sup>m</sup>									
United States <sup>n</sup>	92.3	93.2	90.1	90.8	92.0	90.6	95.9	90.5	90.2
New England	8.7	10.6	9.5	8.1	9.2	8.3	4.5	10.1	5.7
Middle Atlantic	13.0	12.3	12.2	16.9	13.1	12.2	9.8	18.5	13.9
East North Central	12.3	10.2	9.9	9.6	14.2	10.8	15.5	11.9	14.4
West North Central	5.7	6.3	3.7	4.6	5.2	3.7	7.7	4.2	7.5

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Characteristic	All fields	Life sciences <sup>a</sup>	Physical sciences and earth sciences	Mathematics and computer sciences	Psychology and social sciences	Engineering	Education	Humanities and arts	Other <sup>b</sup>
South Atlantic	17.9	19.7	15.8	16.0	19.1	14.0	20.1	13.1	17.7
East South Central	4.2	3.8	2.5	2.2	3.1	2.3	8.5	4.4	4.9
West South Central	8.1	7.3	6.1	6.1	7.3	8.3	11.2	9.3	8.9
Mountain	5.5	4.8	6.2	4.2	5.3	5.8	6.9	4.9	6.5
Pacific and insular	17.0	18.3	24.1	22.7	15.6	25.1	11.4	14.1	10.4
Not in United States	7.5	6.6	9.9	9.2	7.7	8.7	4.1	9.5	9.6
Location unknown	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.1

\* = value < 0.05%.

<sup>a</sup> Includes agricultural sciences and natural resources; biological and biomedical sciences; and health sciences.

<sup>b</sup> Non-science and engineering fields not shown separately.

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

<sup>d</sup> Includes only respondents who reported postgraduation status.

<sup>e</sup> Includes respondents who indicated that they did not plan to work or study, respondents who indicated some other type of postgraduation plans, and respondents who indicated definite plans for other full-time degree program.

<sup>f</sup> Excludes respondents who indicated plans for other full-time degree program. Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for study.

<sup>g</sup> "Other" includes respondents who indicated definite postgraduation study plans for traineeship, internship or clinical residency, or other study.

<sup>h</sup> Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment.

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

<sup>j</sup> "Other" is mainly composed of elementary and secondary schools.

<sup>k</sup> Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment and primary work activity.

<sup>l</sup> Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment and secondary work activity.

<sup>m</sup> Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans and type of plans.

<sup>n</sup> Includes cases with an unknown U.S. region of employment after doctorate; see technical notes for states or territories included in regions.

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, 2016.