

TABLE 17. Definite postgraduation commitments of doctorate recipients, by citizenship status and major field: 2008

Citizenship and field	All recipients	Recipients with definite commitments	Location of definite commitments						
			United States				Abroad	Unknown	
			Total	Postdoctoral study	Academic employment	Industry employment ^a			Other ^b
All fields	48,802	29,939	27,106	9,403	8,604	4,500	4,599	2,803	30
Science and engineering	32,827	19,977	17,841	8,462	3,401	4,013	1,965	2,110	26
Science	24,965	15,469	13,809	7,268	2,988	2,025	1,528	1,644	16
Agricultural sciences	1,090	627	509	247	93	83	86	117	1
Biological sciences	7,793	4,579	4,242	3,314	353	327	248	332	5
Computer sciences	1,786	1,113	980	211	223	479	67	129	4
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	862	599	515	287	80	91	57	84	0
Mathematics	1,400	908	778	310	255	148	65	129	1
Physical sciences	4,081	2,573	2,288	1,463	177	494	154	283	2
Chemistry	2,247	1,413	1,298	783	96	341	78	113	2
Physics and astronomy	1,834	1,160	990	680	81	153	76	170	0
Psychology	3,361	2,108	2,029	1,002	450	180	397	79	0
Social sciences	4,592	2,962	2,468	434	1,357	223	454	491	3
Engineering	7,862	4,508	4,032	1,194	413	1,988	437	466	10
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	265	166	149	43	18	62	26	17	0
Chemical engineering	872	540	488	166	20	272	30	52	0
Civil engineering	712	403	352	96	64	145	47	50	1
Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering	1,887	1,026	933	189	81	568	95	92	1
Industrial and manufacturing engineering	281	149	132	15	37	68	12	16	1
Materials science engineering	636	379	327	113	20	163	31	50	2
Mechanical engineering	1,079	623	560	167	55	277	61	61	2
Other engineering	2,130	1,222	1,091	405	118	433	135	128	3
Non-science and engineering	15,975	9,962	9,265	941	5,203	487	2,634	693	4
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	30,791	20,556	19,792	6,090	7,151	2,379	4,172	752	12
Science and engineering	18,487	12,187	11,619	5,359	2,637	1,986	1,637	559	9
Science	15,539	10,243	9,756	4,876	2,359	1,201	1,320	481	6
Agricultural sciences	602	373	354	137	81	55	81	18	1
Biological sciences	5,135	3,108	2,978	2,235	301	244	198	128	2
Computer sciences	695	477	444	85	142	172	45	32	1
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	533	398	360	183	68	D	D	38	0
Mathematics	667	485	449	172	163	64	50	36	0
Physical sciences	2,132	1,473	1,365	812	132	289	132	108	0
Chemistry	1,227	827	785	435	73	209	68	42	0
Physics and astronomy	905	646	580	377	59	80	64	66	0
Psychology	2,886	1,957	1,923	935	421	D	D	34	0
Social sciences	2,889	1,972	1,883	317	1,051	143	372	87	2
Engineering	2,948	1,944	1,863	483	278	785	317	78	3
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	121	93	93	D	D	37	24	D	0
Chemical engineering	396	285	270	90	14	142	24	15	0

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Civil engineering	206	143	137	19	38	48	32	6	0
Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering	557	354	345	52	53	183	57	9	0
Industrial and manufacturing engineering	90	58	D	D	21	20	10	D	1
Materials science engineering	264	171	D	47	D	74	23	D	0
Mechanical engineering	368	251	241	52	41	95	53	10	0
Other engineering	946	589	562	201	81	186	94	25	2
Non-science and engineering	12,304	8,369	8,173	731	4,514	393	2,535	193	3
Temporary visa holder	15,246	9,326	7,268	3,295	1,435	2,114	424	2,044	14
Science and engineering	12,613	7,752	6,192	3,088	759	2,020	325	1,546	14
Science	8,127	5,198	4,031	2,381	624	821	205	1,159	8
Agricultural sciences	432	253	154	109	12	28	5	99	0
Biological sciences	2,297	1,462	1,255	1,072	52	82	49	204	3
Computer sciences	1,005	630	533	125	80	306	22	95	2
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	292	200	154	104	11	D	D	46	0
Mathematics	654	421	327	138	91	84	14	93	1
Physical sciences	1,727	1,098	921	650	44	205	22	175	2
Chemistry	877	586	513	348	23	132	10	71	2
Physics and astronomy	850	512	408	302	21	73	12	104	0
Psychology	247	150	105	67	29	D	D	45	0
Social sciences	1,473	984	582	116	305	80	81	402	0
Engineering	4,486	2,554	2,161	707	135	1,199	120	387	6
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	126	72	55	D	D	24	2	17	0
Chemical engineering	437	253	216	75	6	129	6	37	0
Civil engineering	468	259	214	77	26	96	15	44	1
Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering	1,218	671	587	136	28	385	38	83	1
Industrial and manufacturing engineering	176	91	D	D	16	48	2	D	0
Materials science engineering	339	207	D	65	D	89	8	D	2

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Mechanical engineering	650	369	318	114	14	182	8	50	1
Other engineering	1,072	632	528	204	37	246	41	103	1
Non-science and engineering	2,633	1,574	1,076	207	676	94	99	498	0

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

^a Includes doctorate recipients who indicated self-employment.

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

NOTES: Persons of unknown citizenship are included in total but are not shown separately. Categories are grouped according to National Science Foundation taxonomy, which is different from the classification listed in questionnaire and summary reports. That is, the following categories are included in social sciences and not in humanities: American/U.S. studies; history, science and technology, and society; and archaeology. In addition, public administration is included in social sciences and not in professional fields, agricultural economics is included in social sciences and not in biological sciences, and agricultural business and management is included in business management/administration and not in agricultural sciences.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation/Division of Science Resources Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates, 2008.