

TABLE 20. Distribution of definite postgraduation commitments of U.S. citizen and permanent resident doctorate recipients, by sex and major field: 2008

(Percent distribution)

Sex and field	Recipients with definite commitments	Location of definite commitments						
		United States					Abroad	Unknown
		Total	Postdoctoral study	Academic employment	Industry employment ^a	Other ^b		
All fields	100.0	96.3	29.6	34.8	11.6	20.3	3.7	0.1
Science and engineering	100.0	95.3	44.0	21.6	16.3	13.4	4.6	0.1
Science	100.0	95.2	47.6	23.0	11.7	12.9	4.7	0.1
Agricultural sciences	100.0	94.9	36.7	21.7	14.7	21.7	4.8	0.3
Biological sciences	100.0	95.8	71.9	9.7	7.9	6.4	4.1	0.1
Computer sciences	100.0	93.1	17.8	29.8	36.1	9.4	6.7	0.2
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	100.0	90.5	46.0	17.1	14.8	12.6	9.5	0.0
Mathematics	100.0	92.6	35.5	33.6	13.2	10.3	7.4	0.0
Physical sciences	100.0	92.7	55.1	9.0	19.6	9.0	7.3	0.0
Chemistry	100.0	94.9	52.6	8.8	25.3	8.2	5.1	0.0
Physics and astronomy	100.0	89.8	58.4	9.1	12.4	9.9	10.2	0.0
Psychology	100.0	98.3	47.8	21.5	8.9	20.0	1.7	0.0
Social sciences	100.0	95.5	16.1	53.3	7.3	18.9	4.4	0.1
Engineering	100.0	95.8	24.8	14.3	40.4	16.3	4.0	0.2
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	100.0	100.0	D	D	39.8	25.8	D	0.0
Chemical engineering	100.0	94.7	31.6	4.9	49.8	8.4	5.3	0.0
Civil engineering	100.0	95.8	13.3	26.6	33.6	22.4	4.2	0.0
Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering	100.0	97.5	14.7	15.0	51.7	16.1	2.5	0.0
Industrial and manufacturing engineering	100.0	D	D	36.2	34.5	17.2	D	1.7
Materials science engineering	100.0	D	27.5	D	43.3	13.5	D	0.0
Mechanical engineering	100.0	96.0	20.7	16.3	37.8	21.1	4.0	0.0
Other engineering	100.0	95.4	34.1	13.8	31.6	16.0	4.2	0.3
Non-science and engineering	100.0	97.7	8.7	53.9	4.7	30.3	2.3	*
Male, all fields	100.0	95.7	31.2	31.0	15.2	18.3	4.3	0.1
Science and engineering	100.0	94.9	42.1	19.6	20.1	13.1	5.0	0.1
Science	100.0	94.6	47.3	21.4	13.9	12.0	5.4	0.1
Agricultural sciences	100.0	96.3	35.3	22.9	16.1	22.0	3.2	0.5
Biological sciences	100.0	95.8	74.2	7.6	8.6	5.3	4.1	0.1
Computer sciences	100.0	92.8	19.0	26.7	38.0	9.1	6.9	0.3
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	100.0	91.0	44.5	15.9	15.5	15.1	9.0	0.0
Mathematics	100.0	91.0	37.5	31.0	13.6	9.0	9.0	0.0
Physical sciences	100.0	92.2	55.5	8.3	19.4	8.9	7.8	0.0
Chemistry	100.0	94.2	53.2	7.6	25.6	7.8	5.8	0.0
Physics and astronomy	100.0	90.0	57.9	9.1	12.8	10.2	10.0	0.0
Psychology	100.0	98.1	44.9	22.1	10.5	20.5	1.9	0.0
Social sciences	100.0	95.5	14.2	53.5	7.8	20.0	4.4	0.1

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Engineering	100.0	96.3	23.5	13.4	42.3	17.0	3.6	0.1
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	100.0	100.0	D	13.3	37.3	D	D	0.0
Chemical engineering	100.0	94.9	31.1	D	49.5	D	5.1	0.0
Civil engineering	100.0	94.3	D	22.6	35.8	D	5.7	0.0
Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering	100.0	D	D	13.1	53.5	16.8	D	0.0
Industrial and manufacturing engineering	100.0	D	D	35.1	29.7	24.3	D	0.0
Materials science engineering	100.0	95.4	28.5	7.7	44.6	14.6	4.6	0.0
Mechanical engineering	100.0	D	20.7	D	40.4	21.7	D	0.0
Other engineering	100.0	96.0	30.8	14.2	35.1	15.9	3.6	0.5
Non-science and engineering	100.0	97.2	8.3	54.8	5.0	29.1	2.8	0.0
Female, all fields	100.0	96.9	28.2	38.3	8.2	22.2	3.1	0.1
Science and engineering	100.0	95.9	46.2	24.1	11.6	13.9	4.1	0.1
Science	100.0	96.0	47.9	24.8	9.5	13.8	4.0	*
Agricultural sciences	100.0	92.9	38.7	20.0	12.9	21.3	7.1	0.0
Biological sciences	100.0	95.8	69.7	11.6	7.1	7.4	4.1	0.1
Computer sciences	100.0	93.9	14.0	39.5	29.8	10.5	6.1	0.0
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	100.0	89.5	48.4	19.0	13.7	8.5	10.5	0.0
Mathematics	100.0	95.7	31.5	38.9	12.3	13.0	4.3	0.0
Physical sciences	100.0	94.1	54.0	10.8	20.3	9.0	5.9	0.0
Chemistry	100.0	96.3	51.3	11.4	24.5	9.2	3.7	0.0
Physics and astronomy	100.0	88.8	60.3	9.5	10.3	8.6	11.2	0.0
Psychology	100.0	98.3	49.0	21.3	8.3	19.8	1.7	0.0
Social sciences	100.0	95.5	17.8	53.1	6.8	17.8	4.4	0.1
Engineering	100.0	94.5	29.1	17.1	34.3	14.1	5.3	0.2
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	100.0	100.0	D	D	60.0	D	D	0.0
Chemical engineering	100.0	94.4	32.6	D	50.6	D	5.6	0.0
Civil engineering	100.0	100.0	D	37.8	27.0	D	D	0.0
Electrical, electronics, and communications engineering	100.0	D	D	24.6	42.1	12.3	D	0.0
Industrial and manufacturing engineering	100.0	D	D	38.1	42.9	4.8	D	4.8
Materials science engineering	100.0	D	24.4	D	39.0	9.8	D	0.0

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		Total	Postdoctoral study	Academic employment	Industry employment ^a	Other ^b		
Mechanical engineering	100.0	D	20.8	D	28.3	18.9	D	0.0
Other engineering	100.0	94.0	42.5	12.6	22.8	16.2	6.0	0.0
Non-science and engineering	100.0	97.9	9.0	53.4	4.5	31.1	2.0	0.1

^{*} = less than 0.05%; 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: Data exclude non-U.S. citizens with temporary visas and those of unknown citizenship. 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.