National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics | NSF 19-301

TABLE 17

Doctorate recipients, by broad field of study and citizenship status: Selected years, 1987–2017 (Number)

Field of study and citizenship status	1987	1992	1997	2002	2007	2012	2017
All fields	32,365	38,886	42,539	40,031	48,132	50,944	54,664
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	24,585	28,005	31,097	27,737	29,501	32,981	35,791
Temporary visa holder	5,660	9,980	9,194	9,747	15,123	14,784	16,323
Unknown	2,120	901	2,248	2,547	3,508	3,179	2,550
Life sciences ^a	5,783	7,172	8,421	8,478	10,702	11,964	12,592
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	4,529	5,106	5,987	5,850	7,009	8,184	8,857
Temporary visa holder	939	1,956	2,058	2,121	3,039	3,197	3,329
Unknown	315	110	376	507	654	583	406
Physical sciences and earth sciences	3,811	4,517	4,550	3,875	4,956	5,419	6,081
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	2,657	2,857	3,034	2,358	2,567	3,148	3,717
Temporary visa holder	929	1,572	1,297	1,330	2,059	1,959	2,156
Unknown	225	88	219	187	330	312	208
Mathematics and computer sciences	1,189	1,927	2,032	1,729	3,042	3,496	3,843
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	673	997	1,150	868	1,241	1,627	1,746
Temporary visa holder	445	876	771	789	1,591	1,617	1,931
Unknown	71	54	111	72	210	252	166
Psychology and social sciences	6,063	6,562	7,369	6,925	7,309	8,498	9,079
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	4,846	5,189	5,796	5,363	5,272	6,319	6,874
Temporary visa holder	726	1,158	1,080	1,110	1,482	1,601	1,680
Unknown	491	215	493	452	555	578	525
Engineering	3,712	5,438	6,114	5,081	7,749	8,469	9,843
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	1,915	2,521	3,333	2,169	2,546	3,579	4,339
Temporary visa holder	1,539	2,749	2,555	2,650	4,591	4,355	5,070
Unknown	258	168	226	262	612	535	434
Education	6,453	6,677	6,577	6,508	6,448	4,803	4,823
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	5,665	6,018	5,748	5,417	5,358	4,040	4,047
Temporary visa holder	430	559	411	479	601	460	536
Unknown	358	100	418	612	489	303	240
Humanities and arts	3,478	4,387	5,285	5,297	5,085	5,561	5,290
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	2,929	3,745	4,452	4,320	3,894	4,434	4,290
Temporary visa holder	282	542	561	705	797	761	693
Unknown	267	100	272	272	394	366	307
Other ^b	1,876	2,206	2,191	2,138	2,841	2,734	3,113
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	1,371	1,572	1,597	1,392	1,614	1,650	1,921
Temporary visa holder	370	568	461	563	963	834	928
Unknown	135	66	133	183	264	250	264

^a Includes agricultural sciences and natural resources; biological and biomedical sciences; and health sciences.

Source(s)

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

^b Includes other non-science and engineering fields not shown separately.