

TABLE A-3

Survey item response rates: 2017–23

(Percent)

Survey item	Item description	Item source	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Demographics									
Age									
AGEDOC	Age at doctorate	A1, C6	94.6	95.1	94.8	94.4	93.4	93.3	93.5
BIRTHMO	Month of birth	C6 or Institution	93.9	94.6	94.4	93.9	92.8	92.7	93.0
BIRTHYR	Year of birth	C6 or Institution	94.5	95.1	94.8	94.4	93.4	93.3	93.5
Citizenship									
BIRTHPLCD	Place of birth	C5	94.4	95.2	95.3	95.1	94.1	94.2	93.7
CITIZ	Type of citizenship	C7 or Institution	95.4	96.1	96.3	95.9	95.1	95.4	95.0
CITIZPLCD	Country of citizenship	C8 or Institution; BIRTHPLCD or HSPLCD	96.4	96.9	97.0	96.7	95.9	96.4	95.8
Degree of difficulty									
DIFCOGN	Degree of difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions	C12	88.1	88.8	88.6	88.2	87.1	87.6	87.2
DIFHEAR	Degree of difficulty hearing	C12	88.1	88.8	88.6	88.2	87.1	87.6	87.2
DIFLIFT	Degree of difficulty lifting	C12	88.1	88.8	88.6	88.2	87.1	87.6	87.2
DIFSEE	Degree of difficulty seeing	C12	88.1	88.8	88.6	88.2	87.1	87.6	87.2
DIFWALK	Degree of difficulty walking	C12	88.1	88.8	88.6	88.2	87.1	87.6	87.2
DISABILITY2	Moderate or greater degree of difficulty in any domain	C12	88.1	88.8	88.6	88.2	87.1	87.6	87.2
Dependents and marital status									
MARITAL	Marital status	C2	88.3	89.1	88.7	88.5	87.9	88.4	88.0
DEPEND5	Number of dependents - ages 5 and younger	C3	88.2	89.0	88.6	88.5	87.8	88.4	87.9
DEPEND18	Number of dependents - ages 6-18	C3	88.1	89.0	88.6	88.5	87.8	88.4	87.9
DEPEND19	Number of dependents - ages 19 and older	C3	88.1	89.0	88.6	88.5	87.8	88.4	87.9
Parental education									
EDFATHER	Father/ male guardian's education	C4	87.9	87.6	86.6	86.3	85.2	85.9	82.6
EDMOTHER	Mother/ female guardian's education	C4	88.0	88.0	87.3	86.9	85.8	86.5	77.3
Race and ethnicity									
AMERIND	American Indian/ Alaska Native race indicator	C11	92.8	93.2	93.3	93.2	92.2	92.3	91.5
ASIAN	Asian race indicator	C11	92.8	93.2	93.3	93.2	92.2	92.3	91.5
BLACK	Black/ African American race indicator	C11	92.8	93.2	93.3	93.2	92.2	92.3	91.5
HAWAIIAN	Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander race indicator	C11	92.8	93.2	93.3	93.2	92.2	92.3	91.5
HISPANIC	Hispanic origin indicator	C10	93.7	94.7	94.7	94.6	93.6	93.4	93.0
WHITE	White race indicator	C11	92.8	93.2	93.3	93.2	92.2	92.3	91.5
RACE	Edited race/ ethnic code	C10, C11 or Institution	94.6	95.5	95.7	95.5	95.1	95.0	94.4
SEX	Sex of doctorate recipient	C1 or Institution	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Doctoral field and institution									
DOCCODE	Type of doctorate	A1 or Institution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDFIELD	Doctoral field – SED historical FOS code	PHDFIELDCIP	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDFIELDCIP	Doctorate field – SED-CIP code	A3 or Institution	na	na	na	na	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDMONTH	Month of doctorate granted	A1 or Institution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDFY	Fiscal (academic) year of doctorate	A1 or Institution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDCY	Calendar year of doctorate	A1 or Institution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PHDINST	Doctoral institution (IPEDS code)	Institution	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Educational background									
Bachelor's degrees									
BADEGRN	Number of bachelor's degrees received	A8	95.9	96.3	96.7	96.1	97.0	96.5	96.0
BASAME	Baccalaureate field same as doctorate	BAFIELDCIP, PHDFIELDCIP	na	na	na	na	91.9	91.6	91.1

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BAFIELD	First baccalaureate field – SED historical FOS code	BAFIELD CIP	91.3	91.3	91.4	91.5	92.0	91.8	91.1
BAFIELD CIP	First baccalaureate field – SED-CIP code	A17 or Institution	na	na	na	na	92.0	91.8	91.1
BA2FIELD	Most recent baccalaureate degree field – SED historical FOS code	BA2FIELD CIP	88.6	89.7	89.5	89.3	89.8	90.6	90.3
BA2FIELD CIP	Most recent baccalaureate field – SED-CIP code	A17	na	na	na	na	89.8	90.6	90.3
BAINST	First baccalaureate institution (IPEDS code)	A16	94.5	95.0	96.0	95.2	95.5	95.6	95.3
BAPLCD	First baccalaureate institution location	A16, BAINST	94.5	95.0	96.0	95.2	95.4	95.5	95.3
BAHBCU	First baccalaureate institution HBCU indicator	A16, BAINST	94.5	95.0	96.0	95.2	95.4	95.5	95.2
BAPUBPRV	First baccalaureate institution public/private indicator	A16, BAINST	94.5	95.0	96.0	95.2	95.4	95.5	95.2
High school and community college									
JRCOLL	Community college attendance indicator	A10	91.2	91.9	91.9	92.0	91.0	90.9	90.3
HSPLCD	Place of high school	C9	88.2	88.7	88.6	94.9	93.9	94.0	93.6
Master's and professional degrees									
MADEGRN	Number of master's degrees received	A8	91.6	91.7	91.8	91.8	92.3	92.1	91.6
MASAME	Master's degree field same as doctorate	MAFIELD CIP, PHDFIELD CIP	na	na	na	na	91.3	91.1	90.6
MAFIELD	Most recent master's degree field – SED historical FOS code	MAFIELD CIP	90.5	91.2	91.3	91.3	91.9	91.8	91.1
MAFIELD CIP	Most recent master's degree field – SED-CIP code	A22	na	na	na	na	91.9	91.8	91.1
PROFEARN	Earned or earning a professional doctoral degree	A8, A9	83.7	89.5	89.4	89.2	88.8	89.5	89.3
Educational debt									
GDEBTLVL	Graduate debt level	A40	90.2	90.9	91.2	91.2	90.6	90.4	89.8
UDEBTLVL	Undergraduate debt level	A40	90.6	91.2	91.3	91.2	90.6	90.5	89.9
Postgraduation plans									
PDOCPLAN	Postgraduation plans	B2, B3, B10	85.3	88.0	88.3	88.4	87.6	87.8	88.7
PDOCSTAT	Postgraduation status	B2	90.8	91.4	91.5	91.4	90.9	90.7	90.1
PDPLCD	Postgraduation location	B1, B5, B12	92.4	93.1	93.2	92.8	92.5	91.9	91.6
PDUSFOR	Postgraduation location: U.S. or foreign	B1, B5, B12	92.4	93.1	93.2	92.8	92.5	91.9	91.6
PDREGION	Postgraduation U.S. region	B1, B5, B12	89.0	89.6	90.1	90.2	89.8	89.7	89.1
PDSAMEST	Postgraduation location in the same state as doctoral institution	B1, PHDINST	92.4	93.1	93.2	92.8	92.5	91.9	91.6
PDEMPLOY	Postgraduation employer type	B4, B11	85.3	87.0	87.3	87.3	86.8	86.8	87.7
PDEMPSECTOR	Postgraduation employment sector	PDEMPLOY	85.3	87.0	87.3	87.3	86.8	86.8	87.7
PDFACULTY	Employment in faculty position	B12, B13	na	73.8	85.8	86.3	86.8	85.4	83.2
PDSTDSUP	Postdoctoral study support	B7	84.3	87.4	86.4	84.9	85.1	86.4	88.2
PDWKPRIM	Edited primary work activity	B6, B14	87.5	88.9	88.8	88.5	88.2	88.5	88.0
PDWKSEC	Edited secondary work activity	B6, B14	84.8	88.3	88.1	88.0	87.8	88.2	82.6
SALARYV	Expected basic annual salary	B8, B15	82.3	82.1	82.4	82.7	81.4	81.8	82.7
Sources of financial support									
SRCEA	Source of financial support: Fellowship, scholarship	A38	88.5	89.3	89.0	88.8	88.4	89.0	88.5
SRCEB	Source of financial support: Dissertation/research grant	A38	88.6	89.3	89.1	88.9	88.5	89.1	88.5
SRCEC	Source of financial support: Teaching assistantship	A38	88.5	89.3	88.9	88.8	88.4	89.0	88.5
SRCED	Source of financial support: Research assistantship	A38	88.5	89.2	88.9	88.8	88.4	89.0	88.5

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SRCEE	Source of financial support: Other assistantship	A38	88.6	89.3	89.1	88.9	88.5	89.1	88.5
SRCEF	Source of financial support: Traineeship	A38	88.6	89.4	89.1	88.9	88.5	89.1	88.5
SRCEG	Source of financial support: Internship, clinical residency	A38	88.6	89.3	89.1	88.9	88.5	89.1	88.5
SRCEH	Source of financial support: Loans (from any source)	A38	88.6	89.3	89.0	88.9	88.5	89.1	88.5
SRCEI	Source of financial support: Personal savings	A38	88.5	89.3	89.0	88.8	88.4	89.0	88.5
SRCEJ	Source of financial support: Personal earnings during graduate school	A38	88.5	89.3	89.0	88.8	88.5	89.0	88.5
SRCEK	Source of financial support: Spouse's, partner's, or family's earnings or savings	A38	88.5	89.3	89.0	88.8	88.4	89.1	88.5
SRCEL	Source of financial support: Employer reimbursement/ assistance	A38	88.6	89.3	89.1	88.9	88.5	89.1	88.5
SRCEM	Source of financial support: Foreign (non-U.S.) support	A38	88.6	89.4	89.1	88.9	88.5	89.1	88.5
SRCEN	Source of financial support: Other source of support	A38	88.6	89.4	89.1	88.9	88.5	89.1	88.5
SRCEPRIM	Primary source of financial support	A39	88.0	88.9	88.6	88.5	88.2	88.9	88.4
SRCESEC	Secondary source of financial support	A39	82.8	84.1	84.0	84.0	86.6	87.1	86.8
TUITREMS	Tuition remission - full or partial	A7	89.0	89.9	89.5	89.4	89.3	89.9	89.6
Time to degree									
BAYEAR	First baccalaureate year	A8	95.3	95.6	95.9	95.4	96.6	96.2	95.7
GEMONTH	Month of graduate program entry	A11	90.3	92.0	92.0	92.0	91.8	91.9	91.3
GEYEAR	Year of graduate program entry	A11	90.4	92.0	92.1	92.1	91.9	91.9	91.3
MAEYEAR	Entered most recent master's degree year	A8	88.9	89.8	89.6	89.5	90.1	90.7	90.3
TTDBAPHD	Total elapsed time from baccalaureate to doctorate	PHDMONTH, PHDCY, BAMONTH, BAYEAR	95.3	95.5	95.9	95.4	96.6	96.2	95.7
TTDDOC	Total elapsed time in doctorate	PHDMONTH, PHDCY, PHDEMONTH, PHDEYEAR	89.3	89.8	89.6	89.5	89.5	90.3	90.0
TTDGEPHD	Total elapsed time from graduate school entry to doctorate	PHDMONTH, PHDCY, GEMONTH, GEYEAR	90.3	92.0	92.1	92.1	91.9	91.9	91.3

na = not applicable; data either were not collected or derived in that year.

CIP = Classification of Instructional Program; FOS = field of study; HBCU = historically Black college and university; IPEDS = Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System.

Note(s):

Survey items listed above are those utilized in the data tables. Survey item response rate is the percentage of cases providing data on an item divided by the universe of doctorate recipients eligible to answer that item, consistent with American Association of Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) response rate calculation 3. For most data items, all doctorate recipient respondents are in the universe of eligible respondents. Institution-provided data may be used for some items when respondents do not provide the data; thus response rates for those items are higher than the survey response rate. The item source refers to the question numbers in the SED questionnaire for the most recent survey year in this table: <https://nces.nsf.gov/surveys/earned-doctorates-2023.pdf>

Source(s):

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