

TABLE 8-12

Psychology research doctorate recipients, statistical profile by sex and major field of doctorate: 2023

(Number, percent, and median years)

Characteristic	All psychology fields	Clinical psychology	Counseling and applied psychology	Research and experimental psychology	Psychology, other
All doctorate recipients (number) ^a	3,793	1,203	1,293	803	494
Sex (%)					
Male	23.3	20.1	22.3	30.5	22.3
Female	76.6	79.9	77.7	69.5	77.5
Unknown	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Citizenship status (%)					
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	83.8	89.6	85.0	81.6	70.0
Temporary visa holder	8.8	3.4	9.4	15.7	9.5
Unknown	7.4	7.0	5.6	2.7	20.4
Marital status (%)					
Never married	30.7	28.9	30.3	39.4	22.3
Married	35.3	35.8	38.4	32.6	30.2
Marriage-like relationship	13.4	15.5	11.2	16.7	9.1
Separated, divorced, widowed	4.0	3.1	6.3	1.6	3.8
Unknown	16.6	16.7	13.8	9.7	34.6
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	18.7	17.7	21.6	14.2	22.3
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	17.1	16.0	17.4	17.5	18.6
Age at doctorate (median years)	31.3	31.1	32.3	30.4	31.5
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	70.9	80.8	65.8	68.9	62.3
Master's earned (%)	89.0	90.4	91.2	84.2	88.1
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	65.4	77.3	54.2	69.1	59.5
Time to doctorate (median years)					
Years since earning bachelor's degree	8.6	8.6	9.3	8.0	8.6
From graduate school start	6.9	6.8	7.4	6.2	6.9
From doctoral program start ^c	5.9	6.0	5.8	5.7	5.8
Received tuition remission (%)	81.5	80.0	76.1	93.3	78.4
Male doctorate recipients (number)	885	242	288	245	110
Citizenship status (%)					
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	82.3	90.1	84.0	81.6	61.8
Temporary visa holder	8.9	1.7	8.7	17.1	7.3
Unknown	8.8	8.3	7.3	1.2	30.9
Marital status (%)					
Never married	31.5	29.3	30.9	39.6	20.0
Married	35.5	33.9	42.0	33.1	27.3
Marriage-like relationship	12.8	16.1	6.9	D	D
Separated, divorced, widowed	3.1	3.3	4.2	D	D
Unknown	17.2	17.4	16.0	7.8	40.9
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	20.6	20.5	24.8	16.3	20.0
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	15.5	15.0	16.0	16.1	12.5
Age at doctorate (median years)	32.3	31.8	33.4	31.2	33.3

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Psychology research doctorate recipients, statistical profile by sex and major field of doctorate: 2023

(Number, percent, and median years)

Characteristic	All psychology fields	Clinical psychology	Counseling and applied psychology	Research and experimental psychology	Psychology, other
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	66.0	76.6	61.1	64.7	55.7
Master's earned (%)	87.1	89.9	88.5	84.1	82.9
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	62.6	76.0	49.1	66.0	60.0
Time to doctorate (median years)					
Years since earning bachelor's degree	8.9	9.0	9.7	8.0	9.0
From graduate school start	7.0	7.0	7.8	6.5	7.6
From doctoral program start ^c	5.9	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.8
Received tuition remission (%)	81.5	77.6	74.9	93.4	77.6
Female doctorate recipients (number)	2,907	961	1,005	558	383
Citizenship status (%)					
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	84.2	89.5	85.3	81.5	72.3
Temporary visa holder	8.8	3.9	9.6	15.1	10.2
Unknown	6.9	6.7	5.2	3.4	17.5
Marital status (%)					
Never married	30.5	28.8	30.1	39.2	23.0
Married	35.2	36.3	37.3	32.4	30.8
Marriage-like relationship	13.7	15.3	12.4	D	D
Separated, divorced, widowed	4.3	3.0	7.0	D	D
Unknown	16.4	16.5	13.1	10.6	32.9
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	18.2	17.0	20.8	13.2	22.6
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	17.5	16.2	17.7	18.2	19.8
Age at doctorate (median years)	31.1	31.0	32.0	30.0	31.3
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	72.4	81.9	67.2	70.8	64.2
Master's earned (%)	89.6	90.5	91.9	84.3	89.4
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	66.2	77.6	55.6	70.5	59.6
Time to doctorate (median years)					
Years since earning bachelor's degree	8.4	8.3	9.3	7.7	8.6
From graduate school start	6.8	6.3	7.3	6.0	6.8
From doctoral program start ^c	5.9	6.0	5.7	5.7	5.7
Received tuition remission (%)	81.5	80.6	76.5	93.2	78.6

* = value between 0.00% and 0.05%; D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

^a All doctorate recipients includes doctorate recipients who did not report sex.^b A bachelor's and doctoral degree are considered to be in the same field if doctorate recipient's first or most recent bachelor's degree is in the same broad field as their doctoral degree.^c Time to doctorate from doctoral program start is based on master's degree entry if the master's degree was at the same doctoral institution in the same field of study or was a prerequisite to the doctorate; otherwise, it is based on doctoral program entry.

Note(s):

Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100. Beginning in 2021, a modified version of the 2020 Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes was used in the survey data collection, and new broad, major, and detailed fields are used in tables reporting data from 2021 to the present; see the field list in table A-4. Therefore, the field of doctorate data prior to 2021 may not be comparable to subsequent years. For more information about the 2021 taxonomy change, see the "Technical Notes."

Source(s):

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