

TABLE 6-1

Research doctorate recipients with definite postgraduation commitments, by major field of doctorate: 2023

(Number)

Field of doctorate	All doctorate recipients	Doctorate recipients with definite commitments	Location of definite commitments						
			United States					Abroad	Unknown
			Total	Postdoctoral study	Academic employment	Industry employment ^a	Other ^b		
All fields	57,862	38,328	35,280	12,818	7,672	10,495	4,295	3,022	26
Science and engineering	45,973	30,767	28,391	11,811	4,074	9,838	2,668	2,360	16
Agricultural sciences and natural resources	1,278	828	771	341	135	187	108	57	0
Agricultural, animal, plant, and veterinary sciences	856	549	506	227	84	146	49	43	0
Natural resources and conservation	422	279	265	114	51	41	59	14	0
Biological and biomedical sciences	9,724	6,165	5,877	3,428	551	1,506	392	286	2
Biochemistry, biophysics, and molecular biology	1,509	931	897	506	65	293	33	33	1
Bioinformatics, biostatistics, and computational biology	735	498	476	155	51	224	46	22	0
Biological and biomedical sciences, general	907	498	474	290	43	108	33	24	0
Cell/ cellular biology and anatomy	761	440	423	261	46	107	9	17	0
Ecology, evolutionary biology, and epidemiology	1,144	818	758	442	99	90	127	60	0
Genetics and genomics	477	290	273	173	17	68	15	17	0
Microbiology and immunology	1,092	690	663	433	42	160	28	26	1
Neurobiology and neurosciences	1,200	771	742	494	53	164	31	29	0
Pharmacology and toxicology	409	258	251	128	9	100	14	7	0
Physiology, oncology, and cancer biology	821	529	510	294	68	127	21	19	0
Biological and biomedical sciences, other	669	442	410	252	58	65	35	32	0
Computer and information sciences	2,297	1,589	1,449	276	245	832	96	136	4
Computer science	1,605	1,127	1,028	194	156	624	54	98	1
Computer and information sciences, other	692	462	421	82	89	208	42	38	3
Engineering	10,724	7,077	6,569	1,971	459	3,634	505	505	3
Aerospace, aeronautical, astronautical, and space engineering	584	409	391	97	45	172	77	18	0
Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering	1,313	795	765	347	40	344	34	30	0
Chemical and petroleum engineering	1,245	829	764	228	19	495	22	65	0

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Civil, environmental, and transportation engineering	1,279	823	747	280	64	328	75	76	0
Electrical and computer engineering	2,119	1,479	1,353	246	79	934	94	125	1
Engineering technologies	402	269	240	71	17	143	9	29	0
Industrial engineering and operations research	627	427	391	71	64	212	44	35	1
Materials and mining engineering	912	617	573	198	18	323	34	44	0
Mechanical engineering	1,552	1,002	939	294	75	501	69	63	0
Engineering, other	691	427	406	139	38	182	47	20	1
Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	1,216	872	809	518	78	122	91	61	2
Geological and earth sciences	682	481	442	253	54	87	48	37	2
Ocean, marine, and atmospheric sciences	534	391	367	265	24	35	43	24	0
Health sciences	2,746	1,796	1,661	519	521	351	270	135	0
Nursing and nursing science	638	427	388	66	192	44	86	39	0
Pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences	442	279	254	109	7	130	8	25	0
Public health	766	530	492	193	118	71	110	38	0
Health sciences, other	900	560	527	151	204	106	66	33	0
Mathematics and statistics	2,056	1,459	1,283	516	214	477	76	175	1
Applied mathematics	490	359	330	155	32	122	21	29	0
Mathematics	890	578	477	254	114	90	19	101	0
Statistics	676	522	476	107	68	265	36	45	1
Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary sciences	1,704	1,201	1,114	330	198	495	91	86	1
Interdisciplinary computer sciences	583	438	413	91	67	229	26	24	1
Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary sciences, other	1,121	763	701	239	131	266	65	62	0
Physical sciences	5,443	3,649	3,345	1,529	199	1,449	168	304	0
Astronomy and astrophysics	323	249	212	155	19	27	11	37	0
Chemistry	2,731	1,807	1,709	680	100	842	87	98	0
Materials sciences	389	261	247	83	10	138	16	14	0
Physics	2,000	1,332	1,177	611	70	442	54	155	0
Psychology	3,793	2,625	2,563	1,535	398	308	322	62	0
Clinical psychology	1,203	931	D	793	42	D	66	D	0
Counseling and applied psychology	1,293	918	892	438	165	133	156	26	0

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Research and experimental psychology	803	533	508	208	136	103	61	25	0
Psychology, other	494	243	D	96	55	D	39	D	0
Social sciences	4,992	3,506	2,950	848	1,076	477	549	553	3
Anthropology	379	228	190	85	67	17	21	38	0
Area, ethnic, cultural, gender, and group studies	452	275	246	88	121	7	30	29	0
Economics	1,393	1,087	822	164	241	241	176	263	2
Political science and government	665	467	408	148	157	49	54	59	0
Public policy analysis	407	285	265	56	74	33	102	19	1
Sociology, demography, and population studies	627	470	422	133	190	40	59	48	0
Social sciences, other	1,069	694	597	174	226	90	107	97	0
Non-science and engineering	11,889	7,561	6,889	1,007	3,598	657	1,627	662	10
Business	1,510	1,115	938	86	644	136	72	175	2
Business administration and management	493	298	253	23	153	47	30	44	1
Business, other	1,017	817	685	63	491	89	42	131	1
Education	3,988	2,663	2,547	216	1,191	212	928	114	2
Education leadership and administration	1,179	862	837	44	399	42	352	25	0
Education research	1,253	792	754	65	336	113	240	37	1
Teacher education and teaching fields	1,098	733	688	75	332	41	240	45	0
Education, other	458	276	268	32	124	16	96	7	1
Humanities	3,358	1,967	1,761	417	906	113	325	202	4
English language and literature, letters	1,039	604	566	101	344	50	71	37	1
Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics	571	318	280	59	165	15	41	37	1
History	733	446	400	129	165	18	88	45	1
Philosophy and religious studies	619	382	324	109	146	15	54	57	1
Humanities, other	396	217	191	19	86	15	71	26	0
Visual and performing arts	824	434	388	62	229	39	58	46	0
Performing arts	487	249	228	19	147	28	34	21	0
Visual arts, media studies, and design	337	185	160	43	82	11	24	25	0
Other non-science and engineering	2,209	1,382	1,255	226	628	157	244	125	2
Communications and journalism	635	401	371	58	239	32	42	30	0

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Multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary studies	380	228	209	31	106	28	44	19	0
Public administration and social services	505	349	320	64	124	42	90	28	1
Non-science and engineering, other	689	404	355	73	159	55	68	48	1

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

^a Industry employment includes doctorate recipients reporting self-employment.^b Other includes doctorate recipients reporting government, nonprofit, elementary or secondary school, or other employment and those with unknown employment.**Note(s):**

A definite postgraduation commitment includes accepting new employment or a postdoctoral study (postdoc) position or returning to predoctoral employment. 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.