

TABLE 9-15

Humanities research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and major field of doctorate: 2023

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All humanities fields	English language and literature, letters	Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics	History	Philosophy and religious studies	Humanities, other
Doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	2,950	916	501	665	555	313
Definite postdoctoral training plans	16.7	12.1	13.8	23.2	24.7	7.3
Definite employment plans	49.9	53.8	49.7	43.9	44.1	62.0
Seeking employment or study	29.9	31.6	32.1	28.6	28.6	26.8
Other status ^a	3.2	2.4	4.4	4.1	2.3	3.5
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b						
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	95.5	90.1	95.7	96.1	99.3	95.7
Other training or unknown ^c	4.5	9.9	4.3	3.9	0.7	4.3
Definite employment plans (%) ^d						
Academe	67.2	73.8	75.1	61.3	66.9	49.5
In tenure track faculty position (%)	33.3	34.1	29.4	34.6	36.0	31.3
Not in tenure track position (%)	64.5	64.8	67.9	62.0	62.8	64.6
Government	3.9	D	D	9.2	4.1	3.1
Industry or business ^e	8.7	D	D	7.9	6.9	8.2
Nonprofit organization	11.5	5.1	3.2	12.0	14.3	34.5
Other or unknown ^f	8.6	7.9	12.9	9.6	7.8	4.6
Primary activity ^g						
Research and development	10.4	7.3	6.8	18.4	12.9	7.6
Teaching	63.9	65.3	79.7	56.4	61.8	53.8
Management or administration	5.8	6.1	2.5	5.3	7.7	7.6
Professional services and other	19.9	21.3	11.0	19.9	17.6	31.0
Secondary activity ^g						
Research and development	37.8	33.7	50.6	35.8	42.1	29.3
Teaching	10.4	9.0	3.8	8.5	14.2	20.7
Management or administration	9.8	11.3	8.9	11.0	8.2	7.6
Professional services and other	6.4	6.3	4.6	5.7	5.6	11.4
No secondary activity	35.6	39.7	32.1	39.0	30.0	31.0
Activity unknown	4.0	3.0	4.8	3.4	4.9	5.2
Postgraduation location (%) ^h						
United States ⁱ	89.5	93.7	88.1	89.7	84.8	88.0
Midwest	18.9	19.0	19.2	20.6	16.2	19.4
Northeast	22.8	21.9	28.3	22.6	24.9	14.3
South	30.8	35.9	22.0	30.5	24.9	40.6
West	16.2	16.1	16.7	15.7	17.8	13.8
Outside the United States	10.3	6.1	11.6	10.1	14.9	12.0
Location unknown	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	39.3	43.2	38.1	42.8	31.2	37.8
Male doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	1,501	366	206	358	362	209
Definite postdoctoral training plans	17.7	12.0	14.1	23.5	26.5	6.2
Definite employment plans	49.4	54.9	46.6	42.5	42.5	66.5
Seeking employment or study	30.6	32.0	35.4	31.3	29.0	24.9
Other status ^a	2.2	1.1	3.9	2.5	1.9	2.4

TABLE 9-15

Humanities research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and major field of doctorate: 2023

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All humanities fields	English language and literature, letters	Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics	History	Philosophy and religious studies	Humanities, other
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b						
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	97.0	95.5	93.1	97.6	99.0	92.3
Other training or unknown ^c	3.0	4.5	6.9	2.4	1.0	7.7
Definite employment plans (%) ^d						
Academe	62.5	71.1	77.1	58.6	63.0	43.9
In tenure track faculty position (%)	31.0	32.2	28.4	29.2	30.9	34.4
Not in tenure track position (%)	67.0	67.8	68.9	67.4	67.0	62.3
Government	5.0	2.5	0.0	13.8	D	D
Industry or business ^e	8.8	11.4	D	5.9	D	D
Nonprofit organization	13.3	5.0	D	8.6	D	39.6
Other or unknown ^f	10.4	10.0	15.6	13.2	8.4	6.5
Primary activity ^g						
Research and development	9.6	4.1	6.5	19.2	11.6	6.8
Teaching	64.6	67.7	82.6	61.6	61.0	54.5
Management or administration	4.5	4.6	0.0	3.4	6.8	6.1
Professional services and other	21.4	23.6	10.9	15.8	20.5	32.6
Secondary activity ^g						
Research and development	35.7	33.8	56.5	29.5	39.7	26.5
Teaching	10.4	6.2	D	8.2	D	19.7
Management or administration	9.0	9.7	D	10.3	8.2	D
Professional services and other	7.7	7.7	D	6.2	D	D
No secondary activity	37.1	42.6	28.3	45.9	31.5	31.8
Activity unknown	4.2	3.0	4.2	3.9	5.2	5.0
Postgraduation location (%) ^h						
United States ⁱ	87.8	91.8	D	89.4	83.2	D
Midwest	19.2	18.4	24.0	21.6	16.4	17.8
Northeast	19.6	21.6	22.4	19.5	22.4	9.9
South	31.9	34.3	23.2	32.6	24.0	47.4
West	16.0	16.3	D	15.3	19.6	D
Outside the United States	12.1	7.8	D	10.6	16.8	D
Location unknown	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	37.9	41.2	39.2	44.1	30.4	34.2
Female doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	1,449	550	295	307	193	104
Definite postdoctoral training plans	15.7	12.2	13.6	22.8	21.2	9.6
Definite employment plans	50.4	53.1	51.9	45.6	47.2	52.9
Seeking employment or study	29.3	31.3	29.8	25.4	28.0	30.8
Other status ^a	4.3	3.3	4.7	5.9	3.1	5.8
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b						
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	93.9	86.6	97.5	94.3	D	D

TABLE 9-15

Humanities research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans by sex and major field of doctorate: 2023

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All humanities fields	English language and literature, letters	Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics	History	Philosophy and religious studies	Humanities, other
Other training or unknown ^c	6.1	13.4	2.5	5.7	D	D
Definite employment plans (%) ^d						
Academe	72.0	75.7	73.9	64.3	73.6	63.6
In tenure track faculty position (%)	35.4	35.3	30.1	40.0	43.3	25.7
Not in tenure track position (%)	62.4	62.9	67.3	56.7	56.7	68.6
Government	2.9	D	D	4.3	D	D
Industry or business ^e	8.6	D	8.5	10.0	D	D
Nonprofit organization	9.7	5.1	D	15.7	D	21.8
Other or unknown ^f	6.8	6.5	11.1	5.7	6.6	0.0
Primary activity ^g						
Research and development	11.2	9.5	6.9	17.6	14.9	9.6
Teaching	63.2	63.6	77.9	50.7	63.2	51.9
Management or administration	7.1	7.1	4.1	7.4	9.2	11.5
Professional services and other	18.5	19.8	11.0	24.3	12.6	26.9
Secondary activity ^g						
Research and development	39.8	33.6	46.9	42.6	46.0	36.5
Teaching	10.4	11.0	D	8.8	D	23.1
Management or administration	10.7	12.4	D	11.8	8.0	D
Professional services and other	5.1	5.3	D	5.1	D	D
No secondary activity	34.0	37.8	34.5	31.6	27.6	28.8
Activity unknown	3.8	3.1	5.2	2.9	4.4	5.5
Postgraduation location (%) ^h						
United States ⁱ	91.3	95.0	D	90.0	87.9	D
Midwest	18.6	19.5	16.1	19.5	15.9	23.1
Northeast	26.2	22.0	32.1	26.2	29.5	24.6
South	29.6	37.0	21.2	28.1	26.5	24.6
West	16.4	15.9	D	16.2	14.4	D
Outside the United States	8.3	5.0	D	9.5	11.4	D
Location unknown	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	40.9	44.6	37.3	41.4	32.6	46.2

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

^a Other status includes doctorate recipients reporting: no plans to work or study, some other type of postgraduation plans, or definite plans for other full-time degree program.^b Definite postdoctoral training plans excludes doctorate recipients reporting plans for other full-time degree program. Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postdoctoral plans for study.^c Other training includes doctorate recipients who reported definite postdoctoral plans for traineeship, internship or clinical residency, or other study.^d Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment.^e Industry or business includes doctorate recipients reporting self-employment.^f Other is mainly composed of elementary and secondary schools.^g Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment and primary or secondary work activity.^h Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans and type of plans.ⁱ United States includes doctorate recipients with an unknown U.S. region of employment after doctorate; thus, the percentages by regions will not sum to the value for United States. See the "Technical Notes" for states or territories included in regions.

Note(s):

A definite postgraduation commitment includes accepting new employment or a postdoctoral study (postdoc) position or returning to predoctoral employment, while postgraduation employment includes accepting new employment or returning to predoctoral employment that is not a postdoctoral study (postdoc) position. 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.