

TABLE 9-12

Psychology research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans 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
Doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	3,254	1,034	1,139	741	340
Definite postdoctoral training plans	48.1	76.9	39.0	30.5	29.4
Definite employment plans	32.6	13.2	41.6	41.4	42.1
Seeking employment or study	16.8	8.6	16.7	25.6	22.9
Other status ^a	2.3	1.0	2.5	2.4	5.6
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b					
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	86.1	84.7	80.6	96.5	98.0
Other training or unknown ^c	13.9	15.3	19.4	3.5	2.0
Definite employment plans (%) ^d					
Academe	39.1	30.9	37.1	45.3	39.9
In tenure track faculty position (%)	42.5	26.2	44.3	46.8	38.6
Not in tenure track position (%)	54.6	64.3	52.3	52.5	59.6
Government	13.4	36.0	10.8	7.8	12.6
Industry or business ^e	30.0	19.1	29.1	34.9	32.9
Nonprofit organization	9.2	9.6	7.8	9.4	12.6
Other or unknown ^f	8.4	4.4	15.2	2.6	2.1
Primary activity ^g					
Research and development	30.0	D	18.6	53.4	D
Teaching	22.2	8.7	21.0	28.0	25.9
Management or administration	4.1	D	6.0	2.0	D
Professional services and other	43.7	80.2	54.4	16.6	33.3
Secondary activity ^g					
Research and development	23.4	22.2	22.6	25.7	22.2
Teaching	11.7	15.1	12.8	9.8	8.9
Management or administration	13.8	13.5	15.5	12.5	11.1
Professional services and other	9.3	5.6	7.7	11.1	14.1
No secondary activity	41.8	43.7	41.4	40.9	43.7
Activity unknown	4.8	7.4	4.6	3.6	5.6
Postgraduation location (%) ^h					
United States ⁱ	97.6	D	97.2	95.3	D
Midwest	20.0	17.6	21.7	21.4	19.8
Northeast	24.5	30.1	18.1	24.2	27.6
South	28.5	23.3	35.9	27.4	23.0
West	24.0	27.9	21.0	21.2	25.9
Outside the United States	2.4	D	2.8	4.7	D
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	37.0	31.6	40.2	40.5	37.9
Male doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	757	209	251	231	66
Definite postdoctoral training plans	40.0	68.9	27.1	30.3	31.8
Definite employment plans	36.7	18.7	50.2	38.1	37.9
Seeking employment or study	20.6	10.0	21.1	28.1	25.8
Other status ^a	2.4	1.4	1.6	3.5	4.5
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b					
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	84.5	79.9	76.5	97.1	100.0

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Psychology research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans 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
Other training or unknown ^c	15.5	20.1	23.5	2.9	0.0
Definite employment plans (%) ^d					
Academe	39.2	D	33.3	46.6	D
In tenure track faculty position (%)	42.2	D	40.5	48.8	D
Not in tenure track position (%)	54.1	35.7	57.1	51.2	75.0
Government	14.0	33.3	14.3	D	D
Industry or business ^e	32.7	20.5	31.7	38.6	36.0
Nonprofit organization	7.2	D	7.9	D	D
Other or unknown ^f	6.8	2.6	12.7	2.3	0.0
Primary activity ^g					
Research and development	28.5	D	19.8	51.2	D
Teaching	23.2	D	18.2	D	25.0
Management or administration	5.7	D	7.4	D	D
Professional services and other	42.6	73.5	54.5	13.1	41.7
Secondary activity ^g					
Research and development	27.8	32.4	26.4	28.6	25.0
Teaching	12.5	D	D	11.9	D
Management or administration	15.2	D	16.5	15.5	D
Professional services and other	9.5	D	D	13.1	D
No secondary activity	35.0	35.3	38.0	31.0	33.3
Activity unknown	5.4	12.8	4.0	4.5	4.0
Postgraduation location (%) ^h					
United States ⁱ	95.9	D	94.8	D	D
Midwest	21.0	D	20.6	D	D
Northeast	23.8	29.0	12.9	24.7	45.7
South	27.9	17.5	40.7	26.6	19.6
West	22.7	30.6	20.6	19.0	13.0
Outside the United States	4.1	D	5.2	D	D
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	34.4	34.4	31.4	37.3	37.0
Female doctorate recipients reporting postgraduation status (number)	2,496	825	888	510	273
Definite postdoctoral training plans	50.6	78.9	42.3	30.6	28.9
Definite employment plans	31.3	11.8	39.2	42.9	42.9
Seeking employment or study	15.7	8.2	15.4	24.5	22.3
Other status ^a	2.3	0.8	2.7	2.0	5.9
Definite postdoctoral training plans (%) ^b					
Postdoc fellowship or research associateship	86.5	85.7	81.4	96.2	97.5
Other training or unknown ^c	13.5	14.3	18.6	3.8	2.5
Definite employment plans (%) ^d					
Academe	38.9	D	38.5	44.7	D
In tenure track faculty position (%)	42.4	D	45.5	45.9	D
Not in tenure track position (%)	54.9	78.6	50.7	53.1	56.8
Government	13.2	37.1	9.5	D	D
Industry or business ^e	29.1	18.6	28.2	33.3	32.5
Nonprofit organization	9.9	D	7.8	D	D

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Psychology research doctorate recipients, postgraduation plans 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
Other or unknown ^f	9.0	5.2	16.1	2.7	2.6
Primary activity ^g					
Research and development	30.5	D	18.1	54.2	D
Teaching	21.9	D	22.1	D	26.4
Management or administration	3.5	D	5.4	D	D
Professional services and other	44.2	82.6	54.4	17.9	31.8
Secondary activity ^g					
Research and development	21.9	18.5	21.1	24.5	21.8
Teaching	11.3	D	D	9.0	D
Management or administration	13.3	D	15.1	11.3	D
Professional services and other	9.3	D	D	10.4	D
No secondary activity	44.3	46.7	42.6	44.8	46.4
Activity unknown	4.6	5.2	4.9	3.2	6.0
Postgraduation location (%) ^h					
United States ⁱ	98.1	D	97.8	D	97.4
Midwest	19.7	D	22.0	D	D
Northeast	24.6	30.3	19.5	24.0	23.0
South	28.7	24.7	34.7	27.7	24.0
West	24.3	27.3	21.1	22.1	29.1
Outside the United States	1.9	D	2.2	D	2.6
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postgraduation location in same state as doctorate institution (%)	37.7	30.9	42.5	41.9	38.3

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.