

Table 32. Median years to doctorate, by sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, race, and broad field of study: 2016

Time to degree and demographic characteristic	All fields		Life sciences ^a		Physical sciences and earth sciences		Mathematics and computer sciences		Psychology and social sciences		Engineering		Education		Humanities and arts		Other ^b	
	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number
Years since bachelor's																		
All doctorate recipients ^c	8.8	51,081	8.2	11,793	6.9	5,873	7.9	3,680	9.5	8,380	7.3	8,797	15.0	4,796	11.0	5,083	11.2	2,679
Sex																		
Male	8.3	27,563	8.0	5,263	7.0	4,024	7.8	2,790	9.6	3,489	7.4	6,755	14.6	1,456	11.0	2,439	11.0	1,347
Female	9.3	23,518	8.3	6,530	6.8	1,849	7.9	890	9.5	4,891	7.0	2,042	15.0	3,340	11.0	2,644	11.5	1,332
Citizenship status																		
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	9.1	34,941	8.0	8,508	6.6	3,620	7.4	1,688	9.6	6,626	6.8	4,101	15.4	4,222	11.0	4,371	12.3	1,805
Temporary visa holder	8.3	15,683	8.4	3,200	7.4	2,201	8.0	1,967	9.4	1,665	7.6	4,613	11.7	533	11.1	653	9.9	851
Ethnicity and race (U.S. citizens and permanent residents)																		
Hispanic or Latino	9.3	2,511	7.7	648	6.7	183	7.0	95	9.9	569	7.0	269	13.7	318	11.0	311	13.4	118
Not Hispanic or Latino																		
American Indian or Alaska Native	13.4	122	11.0	26	5.7	6	D	D	12.3	29	15.4	8	16.8	29	15.2	18	D	D
Asian	8.8	3,006	8.3	890	7.0	297	8.7	208	10.1	411	7.2	629	13.9	206	12.3	177	11.0	188
Black or African American	12.0	2,304	10.3	497	8.1	90	10.1	77	11.3	482	9.6	171	15.4	630	12.0	168	16.0	189
White	9.0	25,220	8.0	6,040	6.6	2,861	7.3	1,196	9.3	4,758	6.6	2,776	16.0	2,862	10.9	3,496	12.0	1,231
More than one race	8.6	1,025	7.9	260	6.7	110	6.1	64	9.3	216	7.0	120	13.3	101	11.0	111	12.0	43
Other race or race not reported	10.3	246	8.8	45	7.0	17	D	D	10.9	64	7.2	34	15.6	31	10.9	26	D	D

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	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number
Ethnicity not reported	9.0	507	8.0	102	6.8	56	6.9	30	9.2	97	6.8	94	16.0	45	14.3	64	13.7	19
Years since entering graduate school																		
All doctorate recipients ^d	7.3	49,842	6.7	11,649	6.1	5,754	6.9	3,598	7.9	8,087	6.5	8,574	11.7	4,621	9.3	4,953	9.0	2,606
Sex																		
Male	7.1	26,969	6.7	5,217	6.2	3,942	6.9	2,739	7.8	3,377	6.7	6,603	11.7	1,409	9.2	2,373	8.7	1,309
Female	7.7	22,873	6.7	6,432	6.0	1,812	7.0	859	7.9	4,710	6.3	1,971	11.9	3,212	9.3	2,580	9.2	1,297
Citizenship status																		
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	7.5	34,087	6.7	8,399	6.0	3,552	6.7	1,643	7.7	6,411	6.0	3,978	12.3	4,076	9.3	4,271	9.6	1,757
Temporary visa holder	7.3	15,497	7.3	3,193	6.7	2,174	7.0	1,937	8.2	1,631	6.7	4,554	9.2	520	9.7	654	8.3	834
Ethnicity and race (U.S. citizens and permanent residents)																		
Hispanic or Latino	7.7	2,413	6.7	635	6.0	173	6.7	89	8.0	532	6.3	266	11.0	305	9.7	300	10.0	113
Not Hispanic or Latino																		
American Indian or Alaska Native	10.3	121	9.5	25	6.1	8	D	D	8.8	30	11.2	8	D	D	13.7	19	D	D
Asian	7.3	2,996	7.0	894	6.0	296	7.0	207	8.3	412	6.3	624	11.0	198	10.3	179	9.0	186
Black or African American	9.8	2,240	8.0	499	6.7	91	8.7	73	9.7	469	7.7	165	12.7	597	9.7	164	11.8	182
White	7.3	24,898	6.4	6,020	6.0	2,833	6.6	1,182	7.5	4,658	6.0	2,743	12.5	2,805	9.0	3,451	9.3	1,206

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	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number
More than one race	7.0	1,015	6.3	259	6.0	110	5.8	64	8.0	213	6.0	117	10.8	99	9.2	110	8.7	43
Other race or race not reported	8.1	217	6.7	41	6.0	13	D	D	8.7	59	6.5	28	D	D	9.3	23	D	D
Ethnicity not reported	7.7	187	7.6	26	5.7	28	7.3	15	6.9	38	7.0	27	13.2	19	11.6	25	13.8	9
Years since entering doctoral program ^e																		
All doctorate recipients ^f	5.7	48,919	5.7	11,504	5.7	5,662	5.7	3,552	6.0	7,884	5.3	8,392	6.0	4,534	7.0	4,858	5.3	2,533
Sex																		
Male	5.7	26,503	5.7	5,161	5.7	3,875	5.7	2,701	5.9	3,303	5.3	6,471	5.9	1,386	6.9	2,331	5.1	1,275
Female	5.7	22,415	5.7	6,343	5.4	1,787	5.7	851	6.0	4,581	5.3	1,921	6.0	3,148	7.0	2,527	5.7	1,257
Citizenship status																		
U.S. citizen or permanent resident	5.9	33,331	5.7	8,258	5.7	3,482	5.7	1,628	6.0	6,223	5.3	3,880	6.0	3,987	7.0	4,169	5.7	1,704
Temporary visa holder	5.3	15,299	5.3	3,182	5.4	2,151	5.3	1,906	5.7	1,611	5.0	4,464	5.3	520	6.7	652	5.0	813
Ethnicity and race (U.S. citizens and permanent residents)																		
Hispanic or Latino	6.0	2,346	5.7	620	5.7	168	5.7	87	6.3	513	5.3	259	6.5	296	7.3	293	6.0	110
Not Hispanic or Latino																		
American Indian or Alaska Native	6.7	115	6.0	23	6.5	7	D	D	7.0	28	5.8	8	D	D	7.7	19	D	D

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	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number	Median	Number
Asian	5.7	2,928	5.7	878	5.7	291	5.8	206	6.0	402	5.5	602	6.6	194	7.3	176	5.7	179
Black or African American	6.1	2,160	5.7	482	5.9	90	5.7	71	6.6	443	5.9	161	6.3	579	7.0	159	5.9	175
White	5.7	24,393	5.7	5,930	5.7	2,779	5.7	1,171	6.0	4,539	5.3	2,680	6.0	2,753	7.0	3,368	5.3	1,173
More than one race	5.8	986	5.7	254	5.7	106	5.0	63	6.0	206	5.6	115	5.9	94	7.0	108	5.6	40
Other race or race not reported	6.1	213	6.0	44	5.5	14	D	D	6.0	56	5.5	28	D	D	7.9	20	D	D
Ethnicity not reported	6.0	190	6.2	27	5.5	27	6.1	16	5.7	36	5.5	27	6.2	21	8.0	26	7.8	10

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

^a Includes agricultural sciences and natural resources; biological and biomedical sciences; and health sciences.

^b Non-science and engineering fields not shown separately.

^c Includes only cases with valid year of bachelor's award.

^d Includes only cases with valid year of entry into graduate school.

^e Years since entering doctoral program is based on master's degree program entry if the master's degree was at the doctoral institution in the same fine field of study or was a prerequisite to the doctorate; otherwise, it is based on doctoral program entry.

^f Includes only cases with valid year of entry into master's program if master's degree was at the doctoral institution in the same fine field of study or was a prerequisite to the doctorate; otherwise, includes only cases with valid year of entry into graduate school.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates, 2016.