

Table 57. Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in life sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2016

Characteristic	All life sciences fields	Agricultural sciences and natural resources	Biological and biomedical sciences	Health sciences
All doctorate recipients (number) ^a	12,568	1,385	8,884	2,299
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				
Definite postgraduation study	4,106	302	3,396	408
Definite employment	2,554	408	1,320	826
Seeking employment or study	3,910	483	2,759	668
Other ^c	813	47	653	113
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship	56.0	35.4	57.6	57.8
Postdoc research associateship	39.3	62.6	38.4	29.4
Other or unknown ^e	4.7	2.0	4.0	12.7
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	39.8	37.5	32.3	52.8
Government	10.8	15.7	10.5	9.1
Industry or business ^g	35.8	36.3	45.5	20.0
Nonprofit organization	9.0	7.1	7.4	12.6
Other or unknown ^h	4.5	3.4	4.2	5.6
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	46.0	56.8	51.7	31.8
Teaching	24.7	19.6	17.6	38.5
Management or administration	11.1	10.6	10.2	12.7
Professional services	14.5	10.3	15.0	16.0
Other	3.6	2.7	5.6	1.1
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	25.8	25.8	19.4	35.7
Teaching	11.3	16.3	7.4	15.0
Management or administration	18.7	17.4	21.1	15.7
Professional services	9.6	11.1	9.5	9.1
Other	1.8	1.6	2.1	1.3
No secondary activity	32.7	27.7	40.4	23.2
Activity unknown	10.6	9.8	11.4	9.7
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	92.3	83.2	93.6	92.6
New England	10.8	4.6	12.6	7.7
Middle Atlantic	11.8	6.6	12.7	11.5
East North Central	10.3	12.7	9.9	10.4
West North Central	6.7	11.0	5.6	8.2
South Atlantic	18.2	17.7	17.3	22.0
East South Central	3.7	3.4	3.5	4.9
West South Central	7.3	7.7	6.9	8.6
Mountain	4.9	5.2	4.9	4.7
Pacific and insular	18.5	13.9	20.1	14.7
Not in United States	7.6	16.6	6.3	7.3
Location unknown	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Male doctorate recipients (number)	5,643	760	4,163	720

Table 57. Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in life sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2016

Characteristic	All life sciences fields	Agricultural sciences and natural resources	Biological and biomedical sciences	Health sciences
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				
Definite postgraduation study	1,982	161	1,675	146
Definite employment	1,096	246	608	242
Seeking employment or study	1,631	246	1,189	196
Other ^c	397	24	334	39
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship	54.1	34.8	56.4	50.0
Postdoc research associateship	40.8	63.4	39.3	32.2
Other or unknown ^e	5.1	1.9	4.3	17.8
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	37.0	37.4	30.9	52.1
Government	10.9	16.7	10.0	7.0
Industry or business ^g	40.5	35.4	47.5	28.1
Nonprofit organization	7.6	6.9	7.6	8.3
Other or unknown ^h	4.0	3.7	3.9	4.5
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	54.6	59.2	58.0	41.2
Teaching	20.6	17.0	16.6	34.3
Management or administration	9.2	11.2	7.7	10.6
Professional services	13.3	9.4	14.7	13.9
Other	2.3	3.1	2.9	0.0
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	24.3	24.7	19.0	37.5
Teaching	12.1	18.4	8.1	15.7
Management or administration	20.4	17.5	24.5	13.0
Professional services	9.5	10.8	8.5	10.6
Other	1.1	0.9	1.3	0.9
No secondary activity	32.6	27.8	38.7	22.2
Activity unknown	10.4	9.3	10.7	10.7
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	91.3	81.6	93.3	89.7
New England	11.1	3.9	13.2	6.4
Middle Atlantic	11.3	6.1	12.4	10.1
East North Central	10.4	11.8	9.9	11.6
West North Central	7.1	11.5	6.1	8.5
South Atlantic	16.5	17.9	15.8	19.1
East South Central	3.7	3.4	3.6	4.1
West South Central	7.3	8.8	6.5	10.3
Mountain	5.1	5.2	5.2	4.1
Pacific and insular	18.7	12.3	20.4	15.5
Not in United States	8.7	18.2	6.7	10.3
Location unknown	0.1	0.2	*	0.0
Female doctorate recipients (number)	6,923	624	4,720	1,579

Table 57. Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in life sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2016

Characteristic	All life sciences fields	Agricultural sciences and natural resources	Biological and biomedical sciences	Health sciences
Postgraduation status (number) ^b				
Definite postgraduation study	2,124	141	1,721	262
Definite employment	1,458	162	712	584
Seeking employment or study	2,279	237	1,570	472
Other ^c	416	23	319	74
Definite postgraduation study (%) ^d				
Postdoc fellowship	57.7	36.2	58.7	62.2
Postdoc research associateship	37.9	61.7	37.5	27.9
Other or unknown ^e	4.4	2.1	3.7	9.9
Definite employment (%) ^f				
Academe	41.8	37.7	33.6	53.1
Government	10.8	14.2	10.8	9.9
Industry or business ^g	32.2	37.7	43.8	16.6
Nonprofit organization	10.2	7.4	7.3	14.4
Other or unknown ^h	4.9	3.1	4.5	6.0
Primary activity ⁱ				
R&D	39.5	53.1	46.2	27.9
Teaching	27.9	23.4	18.5	40.2
Management or administration	12.5	9.7	12.3	13.6
Professional services	15.4	11.7	15.2	16.8
Other	4.6	2.1	7.8	1.5
Secondary activity ^j				
R&D	26.8	27.6	19.8	34.9
Teaching	10.8	13.1	6.9	14.7
Management or administration	17.5	17.2	18.2	16.8
Professional services	9.8	11.7	10.4	8.5
Other	2.3	2.8	2.9	1.5
No secondary activity	32.8	27.6	41.9	23.6
Activity unknown	10.8	10.5	12.1	9.2
Postgraduation location (%) ^k				
United States ^l	93.2	85.5	93.9	94.0
New England	10.6	5.6	12.0	8.3
Middle Atlantic	12.3	7.3	12.9	12.2
East North Central	10.2	13.9	9.8	9.8
West North Central	6.3	10.2	5.2	8.0
South Atlantic	19.7	17.5	18.7	23.3
East South Central	3.8	3.3	3.4	5.2
West South Central	7.3	6.3	7.2	7.8
Mountain	4.8	5.3	4.6	5.0
Pacific and insular	18.3	16.2	19.9	14.4
Not in United States	6.6	14.5	5.8	5.9
Location unknown	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1

* = value < 0.05%.

Table 57. Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in life sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2016

^a Includes respondents who did not report sex.

^b Includes only respondents who reported postgraduation status.

^c Includes respondents who indicated that they did not plan to work or study, respondents who indicated some other type of postgraduation plans, and respondents who indicated definite plans for other full-time degree program.

^d Excludes respondents who indicated plans for other full-time degree program. Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for study.

^e "Other" includes respondents who indicated definite postgraduation study plans for traineeship, internship or clinical residency, or other study.

^f Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment.

^g Includes doctorate recipients who indicated self-employment.

^h "Other" is mainly composed of elementary and secondary schools.

ⁱ Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment and primary work activity.

^j Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment and secondary work activity.

^k Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans and type of plans.

^l Includes cases with an unknown U.S. region of employment after doctorate; see technical notes for states or territories included in regions.

NOTES: Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100. See table A-6 in the technical notes for a listing of major fields and their constituent subfields.

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