

Table SLBR-37

Plans of noncitizen recipients of U.S. doctorates to stay in the United States, by field of doctorate and place of citizenship: 2008–19

(Number and percent)

Field and place of citizenship	Noncitizen S&E doctorate recipients			Plans to stay (%)			Definite plans to stay (%)		
	2008–11	2012–15	2016–19	2008–11	2012–15	2016–19	2008–11	2012–15	2016–19
All S&E fields	55,505	59,889	65,835	75.5	75.4	76.8	49.6	45.2	50.1
China	16,120	19,068	22,866	85.6	83.4	82.4	54.9	49.4	54.4
India	8,936	9,111	8,321	86.6	86.5	88.4	57.8	50.9	57.3
Iran	773	2,096	3,916	90.3	89.8	93.3	59.1	53.0	57.9
South Korea	4,836	4,300	3,707	68.1	65.8	70.4	44.7	40.5	47.8
Taiwan	2,275	2,429	1,996	69.9	74.6	81.4	41.8	42.3	50.8
Turkey	1,920	1,631	1,590	67.1	65.9	67.5	46.3	41.4	45.7
Canada	1,749	1,546	1,420	66.2	66.3	70.3	47.1	44.5	52.0
Saudi Arabia	304	494	1,024	80.3	86.0	89.4	50.7	45.3	56.4
Bangladesh	319	635	978	87.8	88.0	91.4	55.8	49.0	51.3
Nepal	739	744	754	56.0	63.0	69.9	39.9	37.2	45.0
Mexico	599	710	747	64.3	65.8	63.2	42.2	41.1	41.4
Colombia	580	586	726	52.2	55.3	66.0	37.2	35.8	50.3
Brazil	959	876	630	31.6	27.3	31.1	14.2	14.6	19.8
Thailand	441	392	1,276	49.7	39.5	50.6	29.3	20.4	34.6
Unknown foreign country	143	275	1,157	17.5	17.5	13.8	9.8	6.9	4.7
Other	14,812	14,996	14,727	68.7	67.3	68.6	46.4	41.4	44.3
Life sciences ^a	14,290	14,741	15,356	78.3	77.1	77.7	51.0	44.8	49.1
China	4,039	4,160	4,565	87.1	83.5	84.3	55.7	48.8	54.6
India	2,508	2,825	2,544	89.4	88.2	91.2	56.5	48.1	55.2
South Korea	1,018	790	779	81.7	80.9	79.5	56.0	48.9	53.3
Taiwan	758	775	602	73.7	79.5	87.4	48.8	46.6	56.6
Canada	605	464	406	70.9	71.3	75.9	50.4	42.7	48.3
Nepal	94	203	361	86.2	88.2	92.5	48.9	49.8	54.3
Saudi Arabia	34	77	353	17.6	23.4	13.9	s	11.7	4.5
Brazil	231	247	335	53.2	60.7	69.9	37.2	36.0	49.9
Iran	188	191	245	69.1	68.1	62.9	48.9	41.4	42.9
Colombia	200	211	229	76.5	75.4	73.8	55.0	49.8	50.2
Turkey	268	294	219	24.3	24.5	26.5	11.9	13.9	17.8
Thailand	220	212	210	51.8	63.7	71.0	35.9	37.3	44.8
Mexico	79	112	196	89.9	88.4	86.2	43.0	43.8	44.4
Nigeria	107	93	315	s	43.0	55.6	s	17.2	35.6
Unknown foreign country	61	128	259	s	84.4	90.7	55.7	51.6	52.1
Other	3,880	3,959	3,738	70.7	68.6	68.9	46.9	41.2	43.6

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	2008–11	2012–15	2016–19	2008–11	2012–15	2016–19	2008–11	2012–15	2016–19
Physical and earth sciences	8,673	9,026	10,102	78.1	76.9	77.9	53.8	46.8	50.1
China	3,064	3,390	4,154	85.8	84.0	81.4	57.3	49.4	51.7
India	1,109	1,234	1,104	83.3	83.4	84.7	58.7	49.9	56.9
Iran	47	136	441	83.0	81.6	90.5	48.9	50.0	57.6
South Korea	549	450	338	74.5	64.4	77.5	57.6	42.0	55.0
Taiwan	241	332	319	73.4	73.8	79.6	51.0	49.7	50.8
Sri Lanka	159	251	317	83.6	80.1	83.0	54.1	41.8	43.2
Nepal	110	200	274	87.3	88.5	90.5	60.9	52.5	51.1
Canada	246	177	204	63.8	65.5	70.1	48.8	51.4	56.4
Turkey	251	168	162	77.7	63.1	72.2	52.2	39.9	50.0
Russia	209	159	148	82.3	83.6	75.0	58.9	52.8	51.4
Germany	143	153	110	58.0	57.5	70.9	46.2	42.5	50.9
Mexico	106	102	108	58.5	65.7	71.3	46.2	42.2	46.3
Thailand	89	95	107	33.7	26.3	29.9	19.1	13.7	22.4
Bangladesh	44	39	104	70.5	s	87.5	43.2	48.7	48.1
Unknown foreign country	52	50	162	51.9	s	51.9	34.6	34.0	34.0
Other	2,254	2,090	2,050	71.5	69.3	67.8	48.9	43.1	43.6
Mathematics and computer sciences	6,700	7,842	9,093	76.9	79.4	80.2	53.3	52.9	58.9
China	2,443	3,297	3,846	86.0	87.0	86.3	58.6	56.9	64.5
India	976	969	1,017	84.4	84.6	86.6	60.5	58.7	65.2
Iran	57	195	456	77.2	89.2	92.5	47.4	62.1	62.1
South Korea	475	470	412	71.4	70.9	75.5	43.4	46.8	56.6
Turkey	237	206	244	62.4	74.3	66.8	46.4	49.0	49.6
Taiwan	177	228	219	70.1	72.8	84.0	42.4	46.9	59.4
Saudi Arabia	23	39	214	26.1	s	12.6	s	s	5.6
Bangladesh	45	104	174	88.9	94.2	92.5	60.0	52.9	64.9
Canada	141	144	145	59.6	68.8	74.5	48.9	59.0	57.9
Vietnam	62	139	129	71.0	79.1	87.6	53.2	51.8	72.9
Greece	70	88	106	65.7	78.4	84.9	50.0	59.1	64.2
Sri Lanka	33	77	98	72.7	80.5	85.7	51.5	50.6	54.1
Russia	101	72	80	76.2	79.2	83.8	48.5	55.6	58.8
Italy	64	81	79	62.5	64.2	78.5	45.3	42.0	64.6
Unknown foreign country	64	43	182	43.8	s	50.0	s	s	39.6
Other	1,732	1,690	1,692	68.2	67.4	71.3	49.4	45.1	50.4

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	2008–11	2012–15	2016–19	2008–11	2012–15	2016–19	2008–11	2012–15	2016–19
Psychology and social sciences	7,589	7,575	8,229	57.6	56.1	59.5	39.4	35.8	40.7
China	1,104	1,320	1,829	69.6	62.7	63.3	47.5	40.5	44.7
South Korea	780	805	884	46.9	48.8	55.9	29.9	30.1	37.0
India	539	505	473	75.5	73.1	69.8	53.2	45.9	49.0
Canada	454	470	405	55.5	55.1	60.7	39.4	37.0	47.9
Turkey	464	340	345	46.1	41.8	53.0	32.1	27.1	31.0
Taiwan	281	296	236	44.8	45.3	53.8	23.8	23.6	29.7
Japan	373	285	191	50.4	47.7	44.5	33.8	30.2	30.4
Mexico	160	158	178	50.6	53.2	64.0	36.3	26.6	44.9
Germany	239	213	173	65.7	59.6	66.5	54.0	48.4	45.7
Iran	32	59	154	s	78.0	88.3	62.5	44.1	61.0
Colombia	96	111	144	45.8	45.0	43.1	32.3	33.3	32.6
Italy	130	133	140	54.6	55.6	66.4	43.8	43.6	56.4
Brazil	130	134	128	43.1	42.5	60.9	30.8	25.4	46.9
United Kingdom	116	133	120	71.6	66.9	67.5	54.3	43.6	50.8
Unknown foreign country	86	87	225	s	31.0	46.7	24.4	12.6	30.7
Other	2,605	2,526	2,604	57.3	56.8	57.1	38.6	36.2	37.6
Engineering	18,253	20,705	23,055	79.1	79.2	80.6	49.5	45.2	50.6
China	5,470	6,901	8,472	87.5	85.1	84.3	52.9	48.0	53.1
India	3,804	3,578	3,183	87.8	88.6	90.7	58.3	52.0	58.0
Iran	576	1,578	2,606	91.1	91.5	94.4	61.3	52.5	57.6
South Korea	2,014	1,785	1,294	66.8	65.8	71.5	41.6	39.5	47.3
Taiwan	818	798	620	73.8	81.6	86.1	38.5	40.7	50.0
Turkey	768	706	610	75.4	72.9	72.3	50.7	44.1	49.5
Bangladesh	144	259	539	83.3	86.5	91.8	50.0	42.1	56.4
Saudi Arabia	50	109	401	14.0	19.3	15.2	s	6.4	4.5
Egypt	177	273	310	74.6	70.0	75.8	43.5	36.6	47.4
Canada	303	291	260	77.6	75.6	74.2	49.8	48.1	57.7
Iraq	s	38	238	s	57.9	26.5	s	15.8	12.6
Colombia	192	260	218	71.4	71.9	72.0	41.1	41.9	42.7
Nepal	59	105	194	s	94.3	94.3	54.2	46.7	49.0
Mexico	176	191	190	59.7	69.1	72.1	41.5	42.4	39.5
Unknown foreign country	s	119	392	50.0	39.5	48.7	30.3	19.3	33.9
Other	3,566	3,714	3,528	67.2	65.5	70.3	42.1	37.8	43.8

s = suppressed for reasons of confidentiality and/or reliability.

^a Life sciences include agricultural sciences and natural resources, biological and biomedical sciences, and health sciences.

Note(s):

For each broad field of doctorate, data are presented for the countries with the largest numbers of U.S. doctorate recipients in that field in 2016–19. Data include noncitizen doctorate recipients who are on permanent or temporary visas and also those whose visa status is unknown. The information on a plan to stay or a definite plan to stay reflects intentions within the year after graduation as reported by the doctoral recipient around the graduation date. Recipients who plan to stay think they will locate in the United States; those with definite plans have a postdoctoral research appointment or a definite employment plan in the United States. Percentages are based on the total number of foreign S&E doctorate recipients, including those who did not report their postgraduate location plans or employment plans. The percentage of foreign S&E doctorate recipients who did not report postgraduate location plans ranged from 2.1% to 4.7% over the 2008–19 period, and the percentage who either did not report postgraduate location plans or did not report employment plans ranged from 3.3% to 7.0% over that period.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED).

Science and Engineering Indicators