

Table 2-5

## Doctorate recipients, by selected field and disability status: 2021

(Number and percent)

| Field  | All recipients (number) <sup>a</sup> | All disability respondents (number) | Without disability |         | With disability |         |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---------|-----------------|---------|
|  |                                      |                                     | Number             | Percent | Number          | Percent |
| All fields   | 52,250                               | 45,477                              | 40,351             | 88.7    | 5,126           | 11.3    |
| S&E  | 41,356                               | 36,297                              | 32,394             | 89.2    | 3,903           | 10.8    |
| Science <sup>b</sup>                                 | 31,793                               | 27,943                              | 24,726             | 88.5    | 3,217           | 11.5    |
| Agricultural sciences and natural resources          | 1,223                                | 1,056                               | 939                | 88.9    | 117             | 11.1    |
| Biological and biomedical sciences                   | 8,259                                | 7,478                               | 6,591              | 88.1    | 887             | 11.9    |
| Computer and information sciences                    | 2,195                                | 1,867                               | 1,683              | 90.1    | 184             | 9.9     |
| Geosciences, atmospheric, and ocean sciences         | 1,044                                | 945                                 | 840                | 88.9    | 105             | 11.1    |
| Health sciences <sup>c</sup>                         | 2,582                                | 2,229                               | 1,994              | 89.5    | 235             | 10.5    |
| Mathematics and statistics                           | 1,915                                | 1,701                               | 1,530              | 89.9    | 171             | 10.1    |
| Multidisciplinary/ interdisciplinary sciences        | 1,299                                | 1,135                               | 1,012              | 89.2    | 123             | 10.8    |
| Physical sciences                                    | 4,811                                | 4,308                               | 3,864              | 89.7    | 444             | 10.3    |
| Astronomy and astrophysics                           | 263                                  | 249                                 | 218                | 87.6    | 31              | 12.4    |
| Chemistry  | 2,369                                | 2,089                               | 1,868              | 89.4    | 221             | 10.6    |
| Materials sciences                                   | 429                                  | 403                                 | 361                | 89.6    | 42              | 10.4    |
| Physics  | 1,750                                | 1,567                               | 1,417              | 90.4    | 150             | 9.6     |
| Psychology   | 3,716                                | 2,989                               | 2,597              | 86.9    | 392             | 13.1    |
| Social sciences                                      | 4,749                                | 4,235                               | 3,676              | 86.8    | 559             | 13.2    |
| Anthropology   | 388                                  | 352                                 | 297                | 84.4    | 55              | 15.6    |
| Area, ethnic, cultural and group studies             | 383                                  | 327                                 | 271                | 82.9    | 56              | 17.1    |
| Economics  | 1,317                                | 1,162                               | 1,057              | 91.0    | 105             | 9.0     |
| Political science and government                     | 581                                  | 499                                 | 431                | 86.4    | 68              | 13.6    |
| Public policy analysis                               | 399                                  | 363                                 | 318                | 87.6    | 45              | 12.4    |
| Sociology, demography, and population studies        | 578                                  | 526                                 | 446                | 84.8    | 80              | 15.2    |
| Social sciences, other                               | 1,103                                | 1,006                               | 856                | 85.1    | 150             | 14.9    |
| Engineering  | 9,563                                | 8,354                               | 7,668              | 91.8    | 686             | 8.2     |
| Biological, biomedical, and biosystems engineering   | 1,071                                | 976                                 | 893                | 91.5    | 83              | 8.5     |
| Chemical and petroleum engineering                   | 1,292                                | 1,146                               | 1,056              | 92.1    | 90              | 7.9     |
| Civil, environmental, and transportation engineering | 1,020                                | 902                                 | 819                | 90.8    | 83              | 9.2     |
| Electrical and computer engineering                  | 2,047                                | 1,782                               | 1,658              | 93.0    | 124             | 7.0     |
| Engineering technologies                             | 452                                  | 421                                 | 369                | 87.6    | 52              | 12.4    |
| Industrial engineering and operations research       | 604                                  | 537                                 | 496                | 92.4    | 41              | 7.6     |
| Materials and mining engineering                     | 672                                  | 566                                 | 514                | 90.8    | 52              | 9.2     |
| Mechanical engineering                               | 1,413                                | 1,206                               | 1,116              | 92.5    | 90              | 7.5     |
| Engineering, other                                   | 992                                  | 818                                 | 747                | 91.3    | 71              | 8.7     |

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|---------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---------|-----------------|---------|
|         |                                      |                                     | Number             | Percent | Number          | Percent |
| Non-S&E | 10,894                               | 9,180                               | 7,957              | 86.7    | 1,223           | 13.3    |

S&amp;E = science and engineering.

<sup>a</sup> Includes doctorate recipients for whom disability status is unknown.<sup>b</sup> The fields presented under science contain both broad and selected subordinate fields of study. As a result, detail does not sum to the total.<sup>c</sup> In previous years, health sciences was classified as non-S&E.**Note(s):**

Percentages are based on doctorate recipients who answered the disability question. Doctorate recipients could report more than one disability. Survey asks degree of difficulty—none, slight, moderate, severe, or unable to do—an individual has in seeing (with glasses), hearing (with hearing aid), walking without assistance, lifting 10 pounds, or concentrating, remembering, or making decisions. Those respondents who answered "moderate," "severe," or "unable to do" for any activity were classified as having a disability. Data in this table are based on research doctorates only and differ from doctoral degree data in this report that are based on the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System Completions Survey. The greatest differences are in psychology, education, and medical or other health sciences, which are fields with many professional doctorates.

**Source(s):**

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, special tabulations (2022) of the 2021 Survey of Earned Doctorates.