

**Table 2-4**  
**Postgraduation plans of research doctorate recipients with definite commitments, by sex, citizenship status, ethnicity, and race: Selected years, 1992–2022**

(Number and percent)

Definite commitment, plan, and year	Total <sup>a</sup>	Sex		Citizenship status		U.S. citizens and permanent residents							Ethnicity not reported
		Male	Female	U.S. citizen or permanent resident	Temporary visa holder	Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino						
							American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian <sup>b</sup>	Black or African American	White	More than one race	Other race or race not reported <sup>c</sup>	
All definite commitments (number)													
1992	24,795	15,378	9,412	19,284	5,506	577	99	981	709	16,700	na	85	133
1997	25,541	15,307	10,227	20,044	5,463	749	116	1,810	924	16,023	na	308	114
2002	26,144	14,578	11,565	19,574	6,545	939	106	1,391	1,090	15,363	183	250	252
2007	29,812	16,417	13,394	20,116	9,629	1,092	88	1,436	1,176	15,581	353	189	201
2012	30,656	16,819	13,834	21,308	9,238	1,271	69	1,716	1,115	16,258	549	151	179
2017	33,008	18,091	14,916	22,495	10,385	1,603	64	2,016	1,424	16,457	664	193	74
2022	38,219	20,478	17,738	24,300	13,706	2,311	68	2,346	1,781	16,606	881	189	118
Reported type of plan													
1992	24,635	15,306	9,324	19,150	5,480	565	99	974	689	16,607	na	85	131
1997	24,987	15,008	9,975	19,609	5,346	727	113	1,782	886	15,691	na	301	109
2002	26,037	14,514	11,522	19,512	6,502	938	106	1,388	1,084	15,315	183	250	248
2007	29,399	16,210	13,188	19,804	9,534	1,071	86	1,417	1,144	15,354	349	184	199
2012	28,749	15,799	12,947	19,881	8,763	1,177	68	1,609	1,023	15,185	501	144	174
2017	32,227	17,687	14,539	21,898	10,210	1,539	62	1,969	1,352	16,074	644	188	70
2022	38,147	20,437	17,707	24,251	13,686	2,307	67	2,339	1,776	16,582	877	187	116
Employment plans (%)													
1992	72.0	69.2	76.7	75.3	60.5	76.6	80.8	63.9	83.3	75.6	na	77.6	68.7
1997	71.6	69.8	74.4	74.4	61.4	77.2	88.5	63.1	81.8	75.1	na	73.8	67.0
2002	69.5	67.2	72.5	72.3	61.4	72.9	82.1	61.2	77.0	72.9	67.2	70.0	77.0
2007	63.8	61.8	66.3	67.1	57.0	64.6	74.4	57.3	76.6	67.5	61.6	62.0	71.9
2012	59.8	59.0	60.8	62.3	54.2	59.9	75.0	55.3	71.8	62.8	54.5	56.9	65.5
2017	60.9	60.3	61.8	62.9	56.8	59.6	67.7	59.3	70.4	63.2	57.9	61.2	68.6
2022	61.5	61.7	61.4	62.7	59.3	60.8	64.2	61.9	73.9	62.1	57.2	65.8	72.4
Postdoctoral training plans (%)													
1992	28.0	30.8	23.3	24.7	39.5	23.4	19.2	36.1	16.7	24.4	na	22.4	31.3
1997	28.4	30.2	25.6	25.6	38.6	22.8	11.5	36.9	18.2	24.9	na	26.2	33.0
2002	30.5	32.8	27.5	27.7	38.6	27.1	17.9	38.8	23.0	27.1	32.8	30.0	23.0
2007	36.2	38.2	33.7	32.9	43.0	35.4	25.6	42.7	23.4	32.5	38.4	38.0	28.1
2012	40.2	41.0	39.2	37.7	45.8	40.1	25.0	44.7	28.2	37.2	45.5	43.1	34.5
2017	39.1	39.7	38.2	37.1	43.2	40.4	32.3	40.7	29.6	36.8	42.1	38.8	31.4
2022	38.5	38.3	38.6	37.3	40.7	39.2	35.8	38.1	26.1	37.9	42.8	34.2	27.6

na = not applicable; doctorate recipients were instructed to indicate only one race.

<sup>a</sup> Includes doctorate recipients who did not report sex or citizenship status.

<sup>b</sup> Includes Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders through 2000 but excludes them since 2001.

<sup>c</sup> Before 2001, this category included doctorate recipients who selected more than one race. Since 2001, this category has included Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders, who previously had been included in the category Asian.

**Note(s):**

Percentages based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation commitments and the type of plan (employment or postdoctoral study). A definite postgraduation commitment includes accepting new employment or a postdoctoral study (postdoc) position or returning to predoctoral employment.

**Source(s):**

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