

TABLE 8-2. Definite postgraduation plans of U.S.-citizen and permanent-resident S&E doctorate recipients, by major field, sex, and location: 2008
(Percent distribution)

Major field and sex	All definite plans	All definite plans	United States				Abroad	Location unknown	
			All U.S. plans	Academic employment	Industry employment	Postdoctoral study			Other
Both sexes									
S&E	12,187	100.0	95.3	21.9	16.4	44.0	13.0	4.6	0.1
Science	10,243	100.0	95.2	23.4	11.8	47.6	12.5	4.7	0.1
Agricultural sciences	373	100.0	94.9	21.7	14.7	36.7	21.7	4.8	0.3
Biological sciences	3,108	100.0	95.8	10.0	7.9	71.9	6.0	4.1	0.1
Computer sciences	477	100.0	93.1	30.0	36.1	17.8	9.2	6.7	0.2
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	398	100.0	90.5	17.3	14.8	46.0	12.3	9.5	0.0
Mathematics and statistics	485	100.0	92.6	34.0	13.2	35.5	9.9	7.4	0.0
Physical sciences	1,473	100.0	92.7	9.2	19.7	55.1	8.6	7.3	0.0
Psychology	1,957	100.0	98.3	21.9	9.0	47.8	19.6	1.7	0.0
Social sciences	1,972	100.0	95.5	53.7	7.3	16.1	18.5	4.4	0.1
Engineering	1,944	100.0	95.8	14.4	40.8	24.8	15.8	4.0	0.2
Female									
S&E	5,448	100.0	95.9	24.4	11.8	46.2	13.5	4.1	0.1
Science	4,973	100.0	96.0	25.1	9.5	47.9	13.5	4.0	0.0
Agricultural sciences	155	100.0	92.9	20.0	12.9	38.7	21.3	7.1	0.0
Biological sciences	1,591	100.0	95.8	11.8	7.2	69.7	7.0	4.1	0.1
Computer sciences	114	100.0	93.9	39.5	29.8	14.0	10.5	6.1	0.0
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	153	100.0	89.5	19.0	13.7	48.4	8.5	10.5	0.0
Mathematics and statistics	162	100.0	95.7	39.5	12.3	31.5	12.3	4.3	0.0
Physical sciences	389	100.0	94.1	10.8	20.3	54.0	9.0	5.9	0.0
Psychology	1,387	100.0	98.3	21.6	8.4	49.0	19.4	1.7	0.0
Social sciences	1,022	100.0	95.5	53.6	6.8	17.8	17.3	4.4	0.1
Engineering	475	100.0	94.5	17.3	35.2	29.1	13.1	5.3	0.2
Male									
S&E	6,739	100.0	94.9	19.9	20.1	42.1	12.7	5.0	0.1
Science	5,270	100.0	94.6	21.7	13.9	47.3	11.6	5.4	0.1
Agricultural sciences	218	100.0	96.3	22.9	16.1	35.3	22.0	3.2	0.5
Biological sciences	1,517	100.0	95.8	8.1	8.6	74.2	4.9	4.1	0.1
Computer sciences	363	100.0	92.8	27.0	38.0	19.0	8.8	6.9	0.3
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	245	100.0	91.0	16.3	15.5	44.5	14.7	9.0	0.0
Mathematics and statistics	323	100.0	91.0	31.3	13.6	37.5	8.7	9.0	0.0
Physical sciences	1,084	100.0	92.2	8.7	19.5	55.5	8.5	7.8	0.0

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Psychology	570	100.0	98.1	22.6	10.5	44.9	20.0	1.9	0.0
Social sciences	950	100.0	95.5	53.8	7.8	14.2	19.7	4.4	0.1
Engineering	1,469	100.0	96.3	13.4	42.6	23.5	16.7	3.6	0.1

S&E = science and engineering.

NOTES: Definite postgraduate plans are defined as *Returning to, or continuing in, predoctoral employment* or *Have signed contract or made definite commitment for a "postdoc" or other work* by doctoral degree recipients who responded to the question, *What is the status of your postgraduate plans (in the next year)?* "Other" includes elementary/secondary schools, government, nonprofit, and other/unknown.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation, Division of Science Resources Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates, 2008.