

TABLE 8-13

Social sciences research doctorate recipients, statistical profile by sex and major field of doctorate: 2023

(Number and percent)

Characteristic	All social sciences fields	Anthropology	Area, ethnic, cultural, gender, and group studies	Economics	Political science and government	Public policy analysis	Sociology, demography, and population studies	Social sciences, other
Never married	33.5	35.1	31.4	40.0	34.2	28.9	32.0	31.2
Married	39.7	35.5	36.8	37.3	38.8	46.3	40.3	42.1
Marriage-like relationship	12.2	16.3	13.5	10.7	10.0	8.5	15.5	11.3
Separated, divorced, widowed	5.2	4.5	7.4	1.4	5.7	6.9	4.9	6.6
Unknown	9.4	8.6	10.8	10.5	11.4	9.3	7.2	8.7
Has dependent age 18 or younger (%)	21.4	17.3	22.8	13.8	21.3	34.1	20.6	23.8
Has one or more functional limitations (%)	17.5	21.4	27.0	9.3	17.1	11.1	20.5	18.6
Age at doctorate (median years)	33.0	33.6	34.1	31.7	31.9	36.2	32.8	34.0
Bachelor's in same field as doctorate (%) ^b	51.7	61.3	30.1	61.9	67.7	37.1	68.6	38.6
Master's earned (%)	90.8	90.0	90.3	85.5	89.3	91.6	93.4	94.2
Master's earned at same doctorate institution (%)	48.6	57.3	46.4	43.0	58.0	40.3	65.2	39.1
Time to doctorate (median years)								
Years since earning bachelor's degree	10.3	11.0	11.2	9.2	9.3	13.0	10.2	11.0
From graduate school start	8.8	8.9	9.3	7.9	7.9	10.8	8.1	9.1
From doctoral program start ^c	6.0	7.1	6.8	5.8	6.0	5.8	6.8	6.0
Received tuition remission (%)	90.0	95.2	90.7	92.4	95.7	71.2	93.1	88.7

* = value between 0.00% and 0.05%.

^a All doctorate recipients includes doctorate recipients who did not report sex.^b A bachelor's and doctoral degree are considered to be in the same field if doctorate recipient's first or most recent bachelor's degree is in the same broad field as their doctoral degree.^c Time to doctorate from doctoral program start is based on master's degree entry if the master's degree was at the same doctoral institution in the same field of study or was a prerequisite to the doctorate; otherwise, it is based on doctoral program entry.**Note(s):**

Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100. Beginning in 2021, a modified version of the 2020 Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes was used in the survey data collection, and new broad, major, and detailed fields are used in tables reporting data from 2021 to the present; see the field list in table A-4. Therefore, the field of doctorate data prior to 2021 may not be comparable to subsequent years. For more information about the 2021 taxonomy change, see the "Technical Notes."

Source(s):

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