

Table 304.—Statistical profile of persons receiving doctor’s degrees in the social sciences: 1979–80 to 1999–2000

Item	1979–80	1980–81	1985–86	1988–89	1989–90	1990–91	1991–92	1992–93	1993–94	1994–95	1995–96	1996–97	1997–98	1998–99	1999–2000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Number of doctorates ...	6,253	6,505	5,893	5,961	6,093	6,152	6,216	6,545	6,613	6,635	6,814	6,917	7,075	7,036	7,115
Sex (percent)															
Men	65.4	64.4	57.6	54.8	53.7	50.6	52.6	50.7	50.6	49.2	48.4	47.3	45.5	45.5	45.4
Women	34.6	35.6	42.4	45.2	46.3	49.4	47.4	49.3	49.4	50.8	51.6	52.7	54.5	54.5	54.6
Racial/ethnic group (percent)															
American Indian	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.8	1.1	0.7
Asian	2.8	2.5	2.6	3.1	3.0	3.3	3.6	4.0	6.1	7.3	6.4	6.2	5.5	5.4	5.5
Black	4.2	4.0	4.1	4.4	4.4	4.9	4.5	4.7	4.7	5.2	5.0	5.5	5.6	6.0	6.6
Hispanic	2.0	2.3	3.3	3.3	3.9	4.2	3.8	4.1	3.6	4.2	4.6	4.8	5.8	5.4	5.1
White	90.7	91.0	89.7	88.7	88.2	87.2	87.7	86.9	85.0	82.8	83.3	82.9	82.4	82.0	82.0
Citizenship (percent)															
United States	84.7	84.0	77.9	70.4	73.8	73.4	74.3	75.5	75.5	76.0	76.2	72.5	75.1	76.1	76.4
Foreign	11.6	11.9	15.3	17.3	18.0	19.8	21.2	21.3	21.7	21.4	20.7	17.8	17.1	17.5	18.1
Unknown	3.7	4.2	6.9	12.2	8.2	6.8	4.4	3.1	2.8	2.6	3.1	9.7	7.8	6.5	5.5
Median age at doctorate (years)	31.6	32.0	33.4	33.9	34.2	34.1	34.3	34.3	34.1	34.1	33.7	33.4	33.2	33.2	33.0
Percent with bachelor's degree in same field as doctorate	58.6	59.1	57.0	52.3	55.4	54.2	53.1	53.7	53.2	52.2	53.4	55.2	56.2	55.8	58.3
Median time lapse from bachelor's to doctorate (years)															
Total time	8.7	9.0	10.0	10.3	10.6	10.5	10.6	10.4	10.5	10.5	10.3	10.0	9.9	9.9	9.8
Registered time	6.4	6.5	7.2	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5

NOTE: Longitudinal comparisons by race/ethnicity should be done with extreme care, due to periodic changes in the survey. In particular, large numbers of Asians converted from temporary visas to permanent visas in the mid 1990s. Distribution by race/ethnicity based on U.S. citizens and those with permanent visas only. The National Research Council's classification of degrees by field differs somewhat from that in most publications of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). The major differences are that history is included under humanities rather than social sciences and that psychology is included under social sciences. Includes anthropology, area studies, criminology, demographic/population studies, economics, econometrics, geography, international relations/affairs, political science, public policy, psychology, sociology, statistics, and urban

affairs/studies. The number of degrees also differs slightly from that reported in the NCES "Completions" survey. Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Education, National Endowment for the Humanities, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, *Doctorate Recipients from United States Universities*, various years. (This table was prepared May 2002.)