

Table 308.—Statistical profile of persons receiving doctor’s degrees in the social sciences: 1979–80 to 1998–99

Item	1979–80	1980–81	1985–86	1987–88	1988–89	1989–90	1990–91	1991–92	1992–93	1993–94	1994–95	1995–96	1996–97	1997–98	1998–99
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	5,781	5,961	6,093	6,152	6,216	6,545	6,613	6,635	6,814	6,917	7,075	7,036
Sex (percent)															
Men	65.4	64.4	57.6	55.0	54.8	53.7	50.6	52.6	50.7	50.6	49.2	48.4	47.3	45.5	45.5
Women	34.6	35.6	42.4	45.0	45.2	46.3	49.4	47.4	49.3	49.4	50.8	51.6	52.7	54.5	54.5
Racial/ethnic group (percent)															
American Indian	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.8	1.1
Asian	2.8	2.5	2.6	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.3	3.6	4.0	6.1	7.3	6.4	6.2	5.5	5.4
Black	4.2	4.0	4.1	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.9	4.5	4.7	4.7	5.2	5.0	5.5	5.6	6.0
Hispanic	2.0	2.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.9	4.2	3.8	4.1	3.6	4.2	4.6	4.8	5.8	5.4
White	90.7	91.0	89.7	88.8	88.7	88.2	87.2	87.7	86.9	85.0	82.8	83.3	82.9	82.4	82.0
Citizenship (percent)															
United States	84.7	84.0	77.9	74.8	70.4	73.8	73.4	74.3	75.5	75.5	76.0	76.2	72.5	75.1	76.1
Foreign	11.6	11.9	15.3	16.1	17.3	18.0	19.8	21.2	21.3	21.7	21.4	20.7	17.8	17.1	17.5
Unknown	3.7	4.2	6.9	9.1	12.2	8.2	6.8	4.4	3.1	2.8	2.6	3.1	9.7	7.8	6.5
Median age at doctorate (years)	31.6	32.0	33.4	34.1	33.9	34.2	34.1	34.3	34.3	34.1	34.1	33.7	33.4	33.2	33.2
Percent with bachelor’s degree in same field as doctorate	58.6	59.1	57.0	54.5	52.3	55.4	54.2	53.1	53.7	53.2	52.2	53.4	55.2	56.2	55.8
Median time lapse from bachelor’s to doctorate (years)															
Total time	8.7	9.0	10.0	10.5	10.3	10.6	10.5	10.6	10.4	10.5	10.5	10.3	10.0	9.9	9.9
Registered time	6.4	6.5	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.4	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, de-

mographic/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 Academy of Sciences, National Research Council, Office of Scientific and Engineering Personnel, *Doctorate Records File*. (This table was prepared May 2001.)