

## First Release

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# DOCTORS OF SCIENCE, 2025

According to the data of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, a total of **800** persons obtained their degrees of doctors of science in 2025. The share of women in that number amounted to **463**, that is, **57.9%**.

## More women than men among doctors of science

Out of the total of 800 doctors of science, **64.9%** of them obtained their degree at the University of Zagreb, 11.9% at the University of Rijeka, 10.0% at the University of Split, 7.7% at the University of Osijek, 4.1% at the University of Zadar, 0.5% both at the Catholic University of Croatia, Zagreb and at the University North, Koprivnica, and 0.4% at the University of Pula.

The highest share of female doctors of science obtained their degree at the University North, Koprivnica (**100%**), followed by the Catholic University of Croatia, Zagreb, with 75.0%, the University of Zadar with 69.7%, the University of Osijek with 66.1%, the University of Split with 63.8%, the University of Rijeka with 58.9%, the University of Zagreb with 54.7%, and the University of Pula with 3.3%.

## Biomedicine and health – the most often chosen field for doctoral theses

The majority of doctoral theses in 2025 were from the field of Biomedicine and health (**27.9%**), followed by the fields of Engineering (21.1%), Social sciences (17.7%), Natural sciences (17.6%), Humanities (7.9%), and Biotechnical sciences (5.9%). The smallest number of doctoral theses were from Interdisciplinary fields of science (1.9%).

There were 3.3% of doctors of science who had already obtained a master of science degree before the defence of their doctoral thesis.

## The largest number of doctors of science in the 30 to 34 age group

Regarding age, the largest number of doctors of science was classified in the 30 – 34 age group (36.4%). There were 12.1% of doctors of science in the up-to-29 age group, 18.9% in the 35 – 39 age group, 13.0% in the 40 – 44 age group, 8.7% in the 45 – 49 age group and 10.9% in the 50-and-over age group.

## The largest number of doctors of science employed in Education

The largest number of doctors of science were employed in the following activities: **42.4%** in Education, 17.0% in Human health and social welfare, 15.9% in Professional, scientific and technical activities, 7.0% in Public administration and defence; compulsory social security, and 3.8% in Telecommunication, computer programming, consulting, computer infrastructure and other information service activities. There were 13.1% of doctors of science employed in all other activities, while 0.8% of them were unemployed.

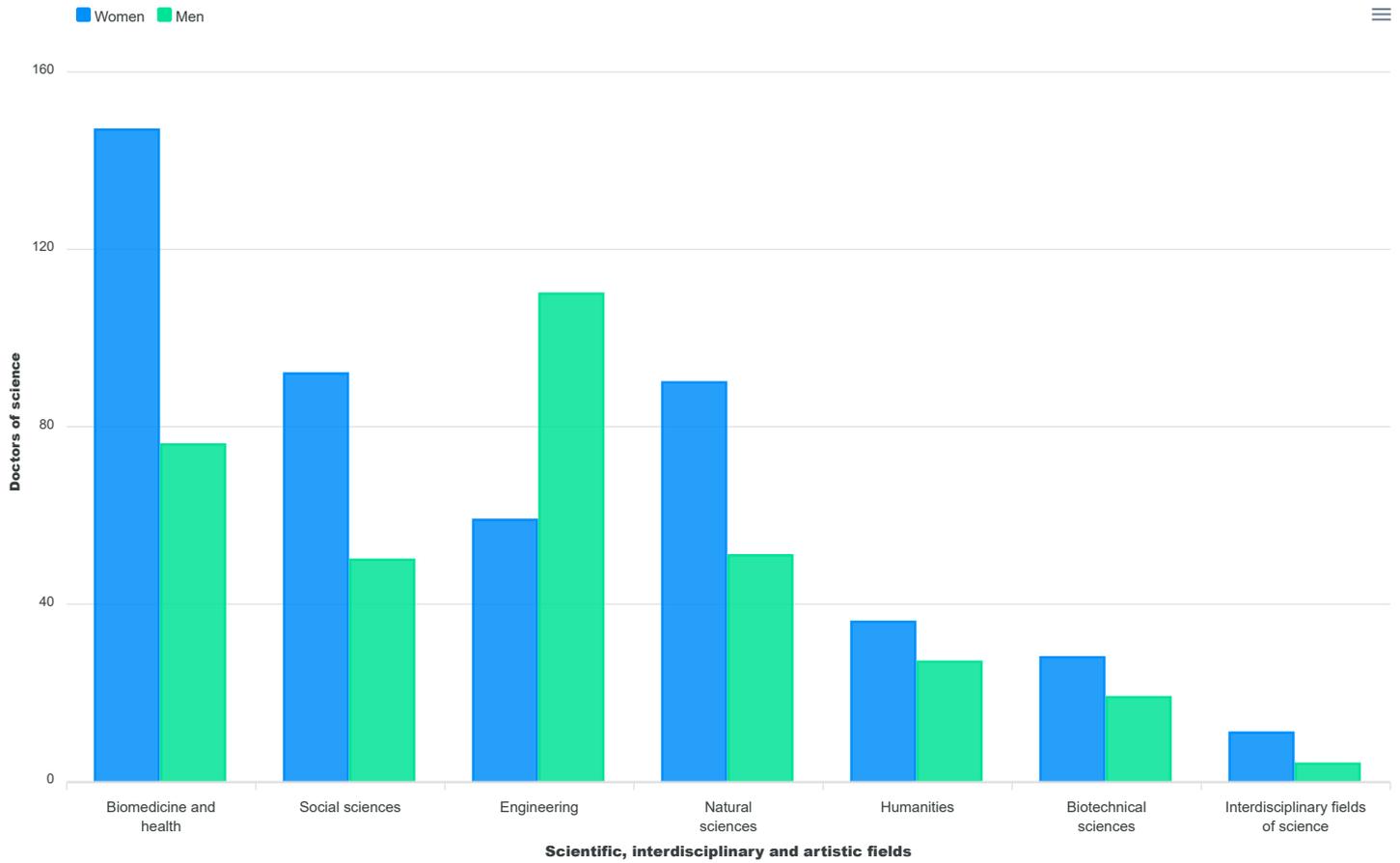
## The costs of studies mostly paid by employers

Regarding the costs of doctoral studies, **42.0%** of them were paid by employers, 37.4% by doctors of science themselves, the costs for 14.5% of doctors of science were allocated from the State Budget, while the costs for 6.1% of doctors of science belonged to the category Other.

## 1 DOCTORS OF SCIENCE, BY UNIVERSITIES WHERE THEY OBTAINED DOCTOR'S DEGREE, SCIENTIFIC, INTERDISCIPLINARY AND ARTISTIC FIELDS OF DOCTORAL THESIS AND SEX, 2025

	Total		Scientific, interdisciplinary and artistic field of doctoral thesis						
	All	Women	Natural sciences	Engineering	Biomedicine and health	Biotechnical sciences	Social sciences	Humanities	Interdisciplinary fields of science
Total	800	463	141	169	223	47	142	63	15
University of Osijek	62	41	10	5	20	11	11	3	2
University of Pula – Pola	3	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
University of Rijeka	95	56	3	20	40	-	22	3	7
University North, Koprivnica	4	4	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
University of Split	80	51	2	16	51	-	2	6	3
University of Zadar	33	23	-	-	-	-	17	16	-
University of Zagreb	519	284	126	128	112	36	82	34	1
Catholic University of Croatia, Zagreb	4	3	-	-	-	-	3	1	-

## G-1 DOCTORS OF SCIENCE, BY SCIENTIFIC, INTERDISCIPLINARY AND ARTISTIC FIELDS OF DOCTORAL THESIS AND SEX, 2025

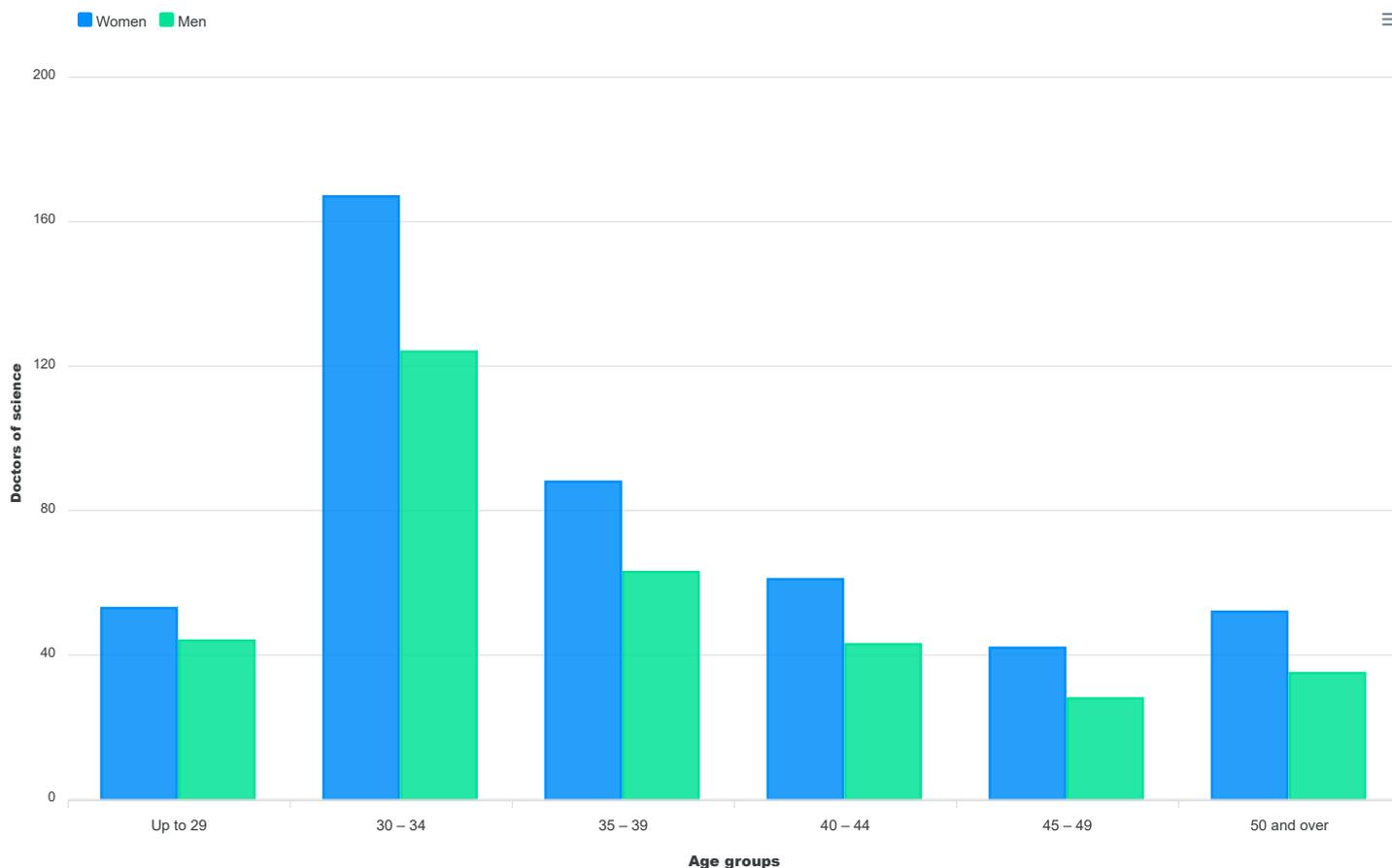


## 2 DOCTORS OF SCIENCE, BY SCIENTIFIC, INTERDISCIPLINARY AND ARTISTIC FIELDS OF DOCTORAL THESIS, AGE GROUPS AND SEX, 2025

	Total		Age groups					
	All	Women	Up to 29	30 – 34	35 – 39	40 – 44	45 – 49	50 and over
Total	800	463	97	291	151	104	70	87
Natural sciences	141	90	30	71	21	12	6	1
Mathematics	8	2	3	3	2	-	-	-
Physics	23	9	4	13	2	3	1	-
Geological science	4	2	-	2	1	1	-	-
Chemistry	40	30	9	25	2	2	1	1
Biology	43	34	8	17	11	5	2	-
Geophysics	4	2	2	2	-	-	-	-
Geography	4	3	-	3	1	-	-	-
Interdisciplinary natural sciences	15	8	4	6	2	1	2	-
Engineering	169	59	36	78	26	9	9	11
Architecture and town planning	8	5	-	4	1	-	1	2
Naval architecture	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Electrical engineering	38	13	10	17	7	4	-	-
Geodesy	4	1	-	3	-	-	-	1
Civil engineering	20	9	5	7	3	2	1	2
Graphic technology	2	1	-	1	-	-	1	-
Chemical engineering	17	9	5	8	3	-	1	-
Metallurgy	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Computer science	22	6	10	7	2	1	1	1
Mining, petroleum and geological engineering	4	2	1	2	1	-	-	-
Mechanical engineering	18	3	1	12	2	1	1	1
Technology of transport and traffic	16	3	-	7	2	1	3	3
Textile technology	8	5	-	4	3	-	-	1
Basic technical sciences	6	-	3	3	-	-	-	-
Interdisciplinary technical sciences	4	1	1	2	1	-	-	-
Biomedicine and health	223	147	11	63	48	45	22	34
Basic medical sciences	40	22	10	16	4	5	1	4
Clinical medicine	117	78	1	25	30	25	20	16
Public health and health care	16	14	-	3	2	3	-	8
Veterinary medicine	11	9	-	7	1	2	-	1
Dental medicine	21	14	-	6	6	5	1	3
Pharmacy	18	10	-	6	5	5	-	2
Biotechnical sciences	47	28	5	20	11	2	3	6
Agronomy	28	15	3	9	7	1	2	6
Forestry	6	2	-	4	2	-	-	-
Biotechnology	5	4	-	3	-	1	1	-
Food technology	6	5	2	3	1	-	-	-
Nutrition	2	2	-	1	1	-	-	-
Social sciences	142	92	7	34	35	24	22	20
Economics	42	28	2	12	14	7	6	1
Law	11	6	-	-	4	2	2	3
Political science	4	1	-	1	1	-	1	1

Education and rehabilitation sciences	6	6	-	3	1	1	1	-
Information sciences	15	7	-	5	2	1	4	3
Communication sciences	8	8	-	2	1	3	1	1
Sociology	8	6	2	2	2	1	1	-
Psychology	9	8	2	3	1	2	1	-
Pedagogy	6	6	-	1	3	1	-	1
Kinesiology	22	8	1	4	4	4	3	6
Social work	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Interdisciplinary social sciences	10	7	-	-	2	2	2	4
Humanities	63	36	4	20	8	10	8	13
Philosophy	8	4	2	2	2	-	2	-
Theology	3	2	-	-	1	1	-	1
Philology	16	11	-	8	1	2	3	2
History	13	3	1	5	1	2	1	3
History of arts	5	5	-	-	-	2	-	3
Science of arts	3	1	-	1	-	1	-	1
Archaeology	6	2	1	2	1	1	-	1
Ethnology and anthropology	2	2	-	1	1	-	-	-
Croatology	2	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
Interdisciplinary humanities	5	5	-	-	-	1	2	2
Interdisciplinary fields of science	15	11	4	5	2	2	-	2
Educational sciences	8	6	1	1	2	2	-	2
Biotechnology in biomedicine	7	5	3	4	-	-	-	-

## G-2 DOCTORS OF SCIENCE, BY AGE GROUPS AND SEX, 2025



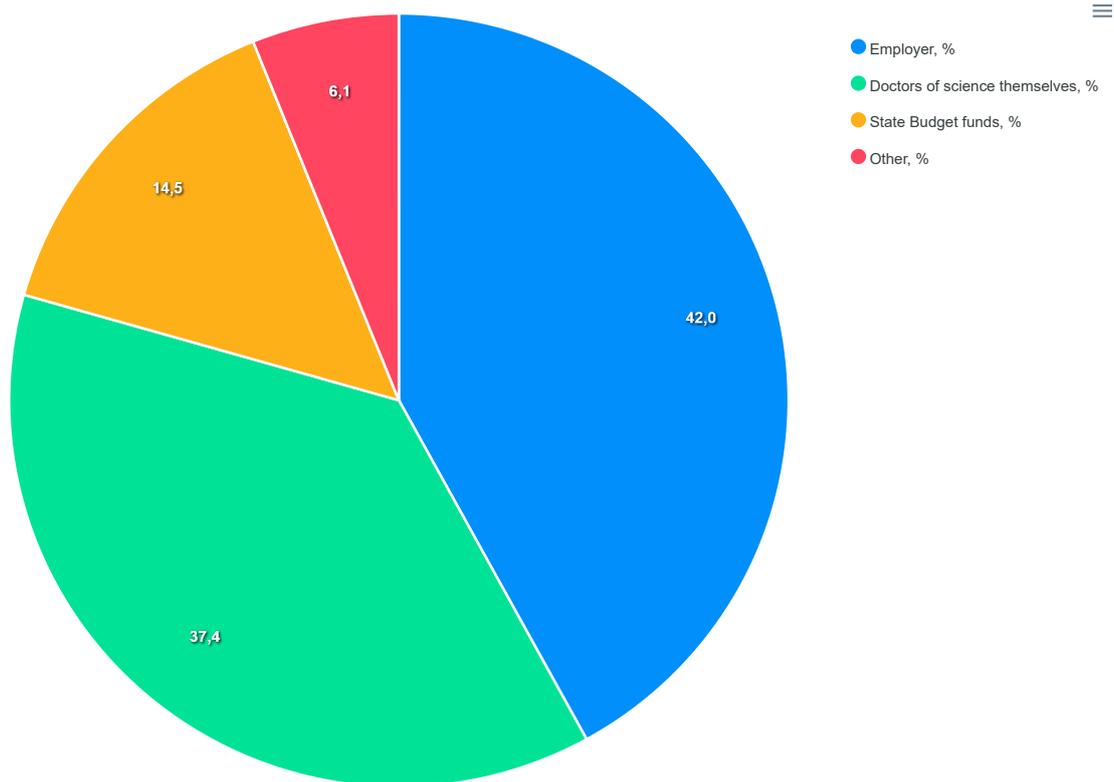
## 3 DOCTORS OF SCIENCE, BY SCIENTIFIC, INTERDISCIPLINARY AND ARTISTIC FIELDS OF DOCTORAL THESIS AND MASTER'S THESIS, 2025

Scientific, interdisciplinary and artistic field of master's thesis	Total	Scientific, interdisciplinary and artistic field of doctoral thesis						
		Natural sciences	Engineering	Biomedicine and health	Biotechnical sciences	Social sciences	Humanities	Interdisciplinary fields of science
Total	800	141	169	223	47	142	63	15
Natural sciences	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	-
Engineering	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Biomedicine and health	6	1	-	4	-	1	-	-
Biotechnical sciences	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Social sciences	6	-	-	1	-	5	-	-
Humanities	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
Master's degree not obtained	774	136	166	217	46	136	58	15

#### 4 DOCTORS OF SCIENCE, BY ACTIVITY OF EMPLOYMENT, BY WAY OF PAYING FOR DOCTORAL STUDY AND BY SEX, 2025

	Total		Way of paying for doctoral study			
	All	Women	Employer	State Budget funds	Doctors of science themselves	Other
Total	800	463	336	116	299	49
Employees	794	459	336	116	294	48
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	6	-	1	-	5	-
Manufacturing	12	8	4	-	7	1
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	4	1	2	1	1	-
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	4	2	-	1	3	-
Construction	7	2	4	-	3	-
Wholesale and retail trade	11	4	3	1	7	-
Transportation and storage	4	1	1	-	3	-
Accommodation and food service activities	1	1	-	-	1	-
Telecommunication, computer programming, consulting, computer infrastructure and other information service activities	30	9	17	2	11	-
Financial and insurance activities	11	7	4	-	7	-
Real estate activities	14	10	6	5	3	-
Professional, scientific and technical activities	127	78	64	34	17	12
Administrative and support service activities	2	1	-	-	1	1
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	57	33	24	8	20	5
Education	339	196	165	57	100	17
Human health and social work activities	136	90	38	7	84	7
Arts, sports and recreation	16	8	2	-	11	3
Other service activities	12	8	1	-	9	2
Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	1	-	-	-	1	-
Unemployed	6	4	-	-	5	1

### G-3 DOCTORS OF SCIENCE, BY WAY OF PAYING FOR DOCTORAL STUDY, 2025



## NOTES ON METHODOLOGY

### Sources and methods of data collection

The data are the result of the annual processing of Statistical sheets for doctors of science (ŠV-70 form), which are filled in by doctors of science or doctors of arts at obtaining this degree.

### Coverage and comparability

The statistical survey covers all institutions of higher education in the Republic of Croatia that establish and carry out the postgraduate university study for obtaining a doctoral degree or allow for obtaining a doctoral degree in accordance with the Act on Higher Education and Scientific Activity (NN, No. 119/22).

The data are comparable to those from previous years.

### Definitions and explanations

**Doctor of science** is a person who defended a doctoral thesis.

**Institution of higher education** is any institution authorised to organise and implement courses of study as well as scientific research, highly professional or artistic work. Institutions of higher education are divided in the following way: universities, faculties, art academies and polytechnics. Institutions of higher education can be public and private.

**Doctoral study** can be enrolled upon the completion of a university graduate study or a university integrated undergraduate and graduate study or a university specialist study.

A postgraduate university doctoral study lasts for three years. After fulfilling all prescribed conditions and on public defending of a doctoral thesis, a person obtains an academic degree of the doctor of science (Dr. Sc.) or the doctor of arts (Dr. Art.) with a reference to the scientific, interdisciplinary or artistic field and branch, in line with the Ordinance on Scientific and Interdisciplinary Areas, Fields and Branches and Artistic Area, Fields and Branches (NN, No. 3/24).

### **Abbreviations**

NN Narodne novine, official gazette of the Republic of Croatia

### **Symbols**

- no occurrence

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