

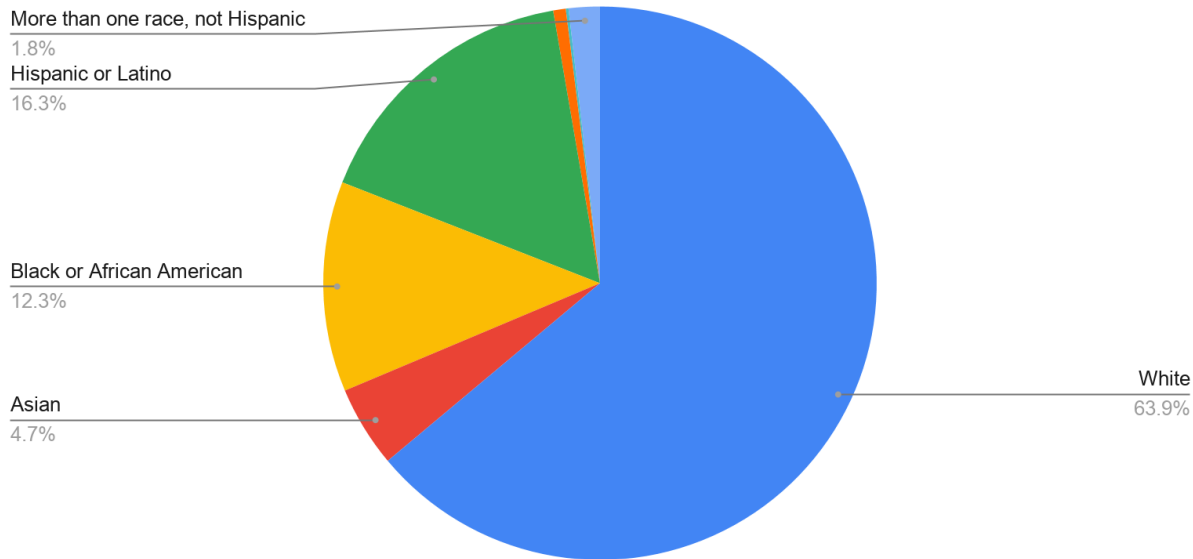
Racial Diversity in the Field of Biological Sciences

[Data adapted from the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics \(part of the National Science Foundation\)](#)

“Data Tables.” NSF. National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, 2017.

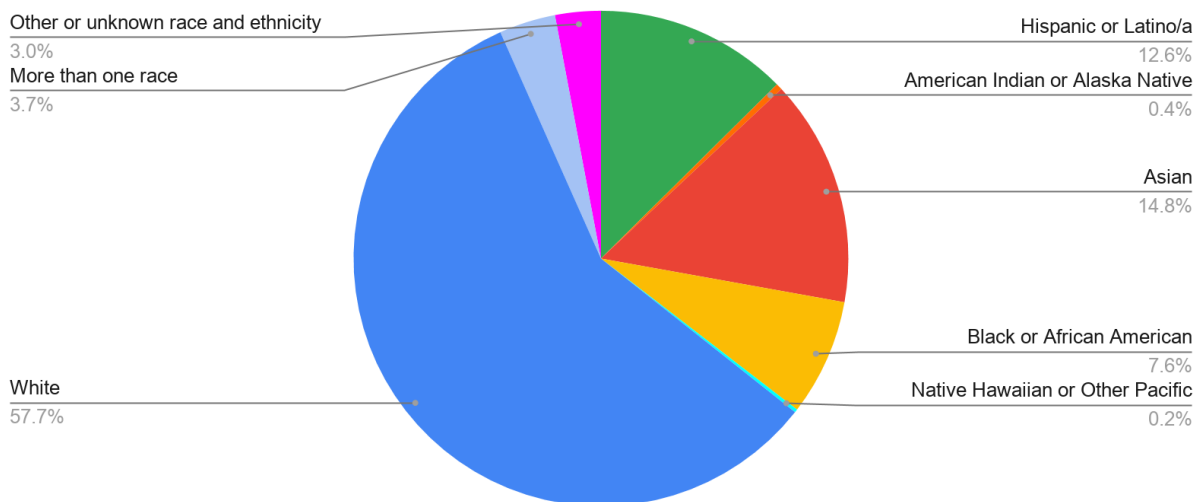
<https://nces.nsf.gov/pubs/nsf19304/data>.

Resident Population of the United States by Race in 2017



Resident population is defined as individuals living permanently in the United States at the time of data collection. These individuals include documented immigrants, citizens, civilians, and non-civilians, as well as incarcerated residents.

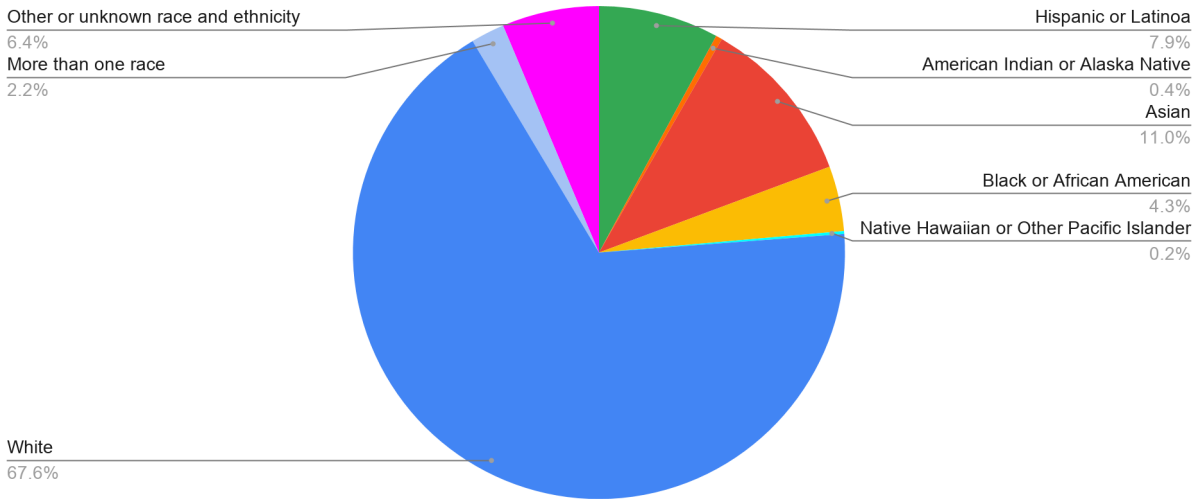
Bachelor's Degrees Awarded in the Biological Sciences to US Residents in 2016 by Race of Recipient



A bachelor's degree is awarded for completing a (typically) 4 year program at a college or university with a particular focus (in this case, biological sciences).

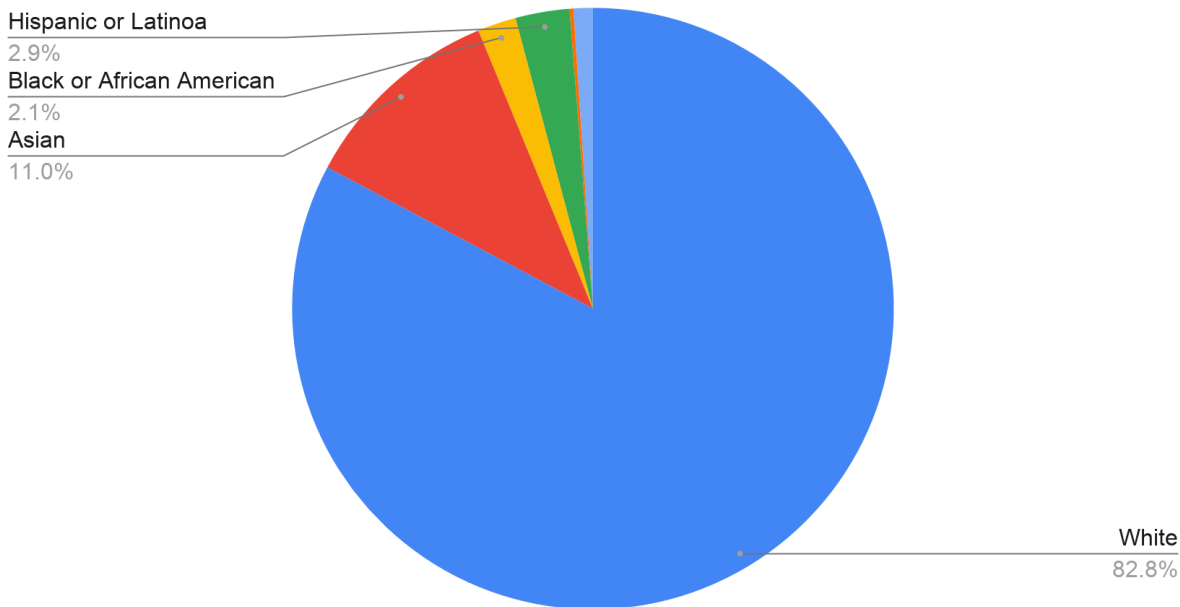
Racial Diversity in the Field of Biological Sciences

Doctoral Degrees Awarded in the Biological Sciences in the United States to Permanent Residents in 2016 by Race of Recipient



A doctoral degree (Ph.D) is the highest level of academic degree awarded for completing a program at a university with a particular focus (in this case, biological sciences). In the case of the biological sciences this includes producing original research. This type of degree takes around 6 years to complete. A bachelor's degree is required to apply for this kind of degree.

Tenured Professors in the Biological Sciences Employed in Universities and 4-year Colleges in the United States in 2017 by Race



A tenured professor will have not only completed a doctoral degree, but also produced several additional years of original research as a post-doctoral researcher before being eligible to apply for the position of professor. Once a professor, only those that perform at the highest level are selected for tenure -- a permanent post as a professor at the university. As a professor, these individuals direct their own research team which encompasses post-doctoral researchers, doctoral students, undergraduates, and sometimes even high school students. They are also responsible for directing the research questions the team pursues and teach classes at the undergraduate and doctoral level.