TABLE 4-3

Employment counts and median annual salaries of full-time employed scientists and engineers, by major field of highest degree, employment sector, and primary work activity: 2021

(Number and dollars)

Field of highest degree and employment sector	Number	Salary	Primary work activity											
			Computer applications		Design		Management and administration[a]		Research and development[b]		Teaching		Other[c]	
			Number	Salary	Number	Salary	Number	Salary	Number	Salary	Number	Salary	Number	Salary
All fields	7,230,000	99,000	2,141,000	108,000	741,000	100,000	1,527,000	101,000	1,663,000	90,000	291,000	74,000	867,000	88,000
Business or industry	5,431,000	105,000	1,923,000	110,000	669,000	101,000	1,177,000	105,000	1,000,000	105,000	26,000	78,000	636,000	90,000
4-year educational institution	825,000	66,000	80,000	75,000	20,000	70,000	66,000	87,000	413,000	54,000	206,000	75,000	40,000	76,000
2-year college or precollege educational institution	165,000	67,000	23,000	67,000	D	D	18,000	65,000	24,000	55,000	48,000	69,000	52,000	71,000
Government	808,000	90,000	115,000	89,000	51,000	100,000	267,000	98,000	226,000	86,000	11,000	85,000	139,000	89,000
S&E fields	5,564,000	100,000	1,712,000	110,000	594,000	100,000	1,055,000	104,000	1,353,000	90,000	224,000	75,000	627,000	89,000
Business or industry	4,177,000	106,000	1,554,000	111,000	538,000	101,000	815,000	107,000	803,000	107,000	11,000	84,000	455,000	93,000
4-year educational institution	685,000	65,000	62,000	78,000	12,000	69,000	47,000	90,000	366,000	52,000	174,000	76,000	24,000	76,000
2-year college or precollege educational institution	108,000	70,000	14,000	53,000	D	D	7,000	73,000	10,000	62,000	34,000	70,000	42,000	74,000
Government	595,000	92,000	83,000	96,000	43,000	93,000	186,000	99,000	173,000	84,000	S	S	105,000	88,000
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	695,000	72,000	51,000	78,000	12,000	76,000	131,000	78,000	360,000	67,000	46,000	69,000	95,000	71,000
Business or industry	347,000	84,000	41,000	78,000	9,000	89,000	86,000	78,000	146,000	90,000	S	S	63,000	72,000
4-year educational institution	210,000	57,000	4,000	S	D	D	13,000	79,000	154,000	52,000	33,000	69,000	5,000	71,000
2-year college or precollege educational institution	13,000	69,000	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	11,000	69,000	D	D
Government	124,000	70,000	5,000	73,000	2,000	57,000	32,000	77,000	58,000	63,000	*	*	27,000	69,000
Computer and mathematical sciences	1,709,000	107,000	1,007,000	110,000	98,000	129,000	223,000	113,000	215,000	105,000	50,000	70,000	116,000	95,000
Business or industry	1,450,000	110,000	914,000	111,000	89,000	129,000	183,000	119,000	169,000	115,000	S	S	92,000	96,000
4-year educational institution	105,000	80,000	29,000	89,000	S	S	12,000	86,000	25,000	70,000	32,000	68,000	4,000	119,000
2-year college or precollege educational institution	37,000	68,000	11,000	52,000	D	D	S	S	S	S	11,000	69,000	8,000	71,000
Government	116,000	96,000	53,000	99,000	S	S	24,000	96,000	17,000	80,000	D	D	13,000	94,000
Physical and related sciences	412,000	92,000	40,000	110,000	19,000	105,000	82,000	105,000	187,000	83,000	35,000	77,000	47,000	76,000
Business or industry	234,000	105,000	33,000	119,000	16,000	105,000	57,000	105,000	92,000	109,000	1,000	D	35,000	78,000
4-year educational institution	107,000	55,000	4,000	44,000	1,000	D	4,000	S	64,000	36,000	31,000	79,000	2,000	51,000
2-year college or precollege educational institution	4,000	68,000	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	3,000	70,000	D	D
Government	66,000	92,000	3,000	77,000	2,000	S	21,000	104,000	31,000	92,000	D	D	10,000	76,000
Social and related sciences	594,000	82,000	91,000	82,000	26,000	95,000	110,000	88,000	145,000	82,000	67,000	77,000	156,000	82,000
Business or industry	327,000	89,000	76,000	87,000	22,000	98,000	80,000	88,000	59,000	86,000	4,000	68,000	86,000	85,000
4-year educational institution	143,000	69,000	S	S	D	D	6,000	62,000	59,000	64,000	56,000	78,000	11,000	75,000
2-year college or precollege educational institution	48,000	75,000	D	D	D	D	3,000	68,000	4,000	83,000	7,000	74,000	33,000	76,000
Government	76,000	96,000	4,000	80,000	S	S	21,000	100,000	22,000	90,000	D	D	26,000	95,000
Engineering	2,155,000	106,000	524,000	115,000	439,000	99,000	508,000	112,000	446,000	105,000	26,000	90,000	212,000	99,000
Business or industry	1,818,000	110,000	489,000	118,000	402,000	99,000	408,000	113,000	336,000	110,000	2,000	88,000	180,000	100,000
4-year educational institution	119,000	77,000	14,000	78,000	6,000	68,000	12,000	129,000	64,000	55,000	20,000	94,000	3,000	81,000
2-year college or precollege educational institution	5,000	70,000	S	S	D	D	D	D	D	D	2,000	70,000	D	D

TABLE 4-3

Employment counts and median annual salaries of full-time employed scientists and engineers, by major field of highest degree, employment sector, and primary work activity: 2021

(Number and dollars)

Field of highest degree and employment sector	Number	Salary	Primary work activity											
			Computer applications		Design		Management and administration[a]		Research and development[b]		Teaching		Other[c]	
			Number	Salary	Number	Salary	Number	Salary	Number	Salary	Number	Salary	Number	Salary
Government	213,000	100,000	18,000	92,000	30,000	93,000	88,000	108,000	45,000	95,000	S	S	29,000	98,000
S&E-related fields	400,000	92,000	97,000	105,000	38,000	88,000	81,000	94,000	110,000	91,000	15,000	71,000	59,000	73,000
Business or industry	291,000	95,000	87,000	107,000	35,000	88,000	60,000	96,000	64,000	95,000	4,000	S	42,000	63,000
4-year educational institution	47,000	71,000	3,000	56,000	*	*	4,000	86,000	24,000	62,000	5,000	73,000	10,000	S
2-year college or precollege educational institution	9,000	72,000	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	6,000	64,000	D	D
Government	54,000	90,000	6,000	62,000	S	S	17,000	80,000	21,000	100,000	D	D	7,000	86,000
Non-S&E fields	1,267,000	93,000	332,000	99,000	109,000	110,000	392,000	100,000	200,000	90,000	52,000	71,000	181,000	85,000
Business or industry	964,000	100,000	282,000	101,000	97,000	114,000	303,000	103,000	133,000	101,000	11,000	64,000	139,000	85,000
4-year educational institution	94,000	73,000	16,000	73,000	8,000	77,000	15,000	79,000	24,000	61,000	27,000	73,000	6,000	57,000
2-year college or precollege educational institution	49,000	61,000	8,000	67,000	D	D	10,000	62,000	S	S	8,000	67,000	S	S
Government	160,000	90,000	26,000	74,000	5,000	113,000	64,000	95,000	32,000	85,000	S	S	27,000	92,000

* = suppressed when population estimate < 500. D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information. S = suppressed for reliability; coefficient of variation exceeds publication standards.

S&E = science and engineering.

[a] Management and administration includes respondents who reported the following work activities: accounting, finance, or contracts; human resources; quality or productivity management; sales and marketing; or managing and supervising.

[b] Research and development includes basic research, applied research, or development.

[c] Other work activities includes production, operations, maintenance, professional services, and other activities not broken out separately. "Design" is no longer included in the definition of "Other" and is now its own category.

Note(s):
Population counts are rounded to the nearest 1,000. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Median annual salaries are rounded to the nearest $1,000. Scientists and engineers are bachelor's and higher degreed individuals living in the United States employed in an S&E occupation. Four-year educational institution includes medical schools and university-affiliated research institutes. Government includes federal (civilian), military, state, and local employers.

Source(s):
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Survey of College Graduates, 2021.