TABLE 5-2

College graduates, by broad occupation, labor force status, labor force status characteristics, sex, ethnicity, race, and disability status: 2021

(Number)

Occupation, labor force status, and labor force status characteristics	Total	Female	Male	Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino						Without disability	With disability
					American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	White	More than one race		
All occupations	67,925,000	35,839,000	32,086,000	6,532,000	188,000	6,721,000	5,260,000	162,000	47,485,000	1,576,000	57,934,000	9,991,000
Full-time employment status	44,153,000	21,594,000	22,559,000	4,608,000	107,000	4,772,000	3,618,000	128,000	29,833,000	1,087,000	39,002,000	5,151,000
Part-time employment status	7,611,000	4,899,000	2,711,000	699,000	19,000	703,000	491,000	7,000	5,540,000	151,000	6,424,000	1,187,000
Preference for full-time status												
Did not want full-time employment	5,874,000	3,855,000	2,019,000	419,000	15,000	473,000	279,000	6,000	4,570,000	112,000	5,011,000	863,000
Wanted full-time employment	1,737,000	1,044,000	693,000	280,000	5,000	230,000	212,000	2,000	969,000	39,000	1,413,000	324,000
Reason for part-time status												
Reason worked part time: did not need or want to work more hours	3,308,000	2,263,000	1,046,000	199,000	S	202,000	134,000	D	2,679,000	83,000	2,828,000	481,000
Reason worked part time: family responsibilities	2,493,000	1,942,000	551,000	260,000	S	264,000	143,000	S	1,772,000	43,000	2,191,000	302,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	454,000	331,000	123,000	99,000	D	50,000	30,000	S	269,000	5,000	407,000	47,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	1,184,000	960,000	224,000	72,000	D	114,000	60,000	D	918,000	19,000	1,048,000	136,000
Reason worked part time: full-time job not available	1,611,000	1,037,000	574,000	206,000	10,000	164,000	140,000	1,000	1,047,000	44,000	1,337,000	274,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	581,000	333,000	249,000	80,000	S	70,000	72,000	S	328,000	28,000	497,000	84,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	807,000	555,000	252,000	105,000	S	73,000	53,000	D	558,000	12,000	663,000	144,000
Reason worked part time: held another job	982,000	666,000	316,000	106,000	S	92,000	55,000	D	710,000	17,000	859,000	122,000
Reason worked part time: hours or work reduced	2,413,000	1,494,000	920,000	226,000	9,000	220,000	192,000	1,000	1,706,000	58,000	2,009,000	404,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	1,311,000	851,000	460,000	163,000	6,000	97,000	106,000	1,000	895,000	44,000	1,088,000	223,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	812,000	459,000	353,000	35,000	D	87,000	39,000	D	640,000	8,000	677,000	135,000
Reason worked part time: previously retired or semiretired	1,828,000	849,000	979,000	94,000	S	67,000	92,000	D	1,554,000	13,000	1,434,000	394,000
Reason worked part time: student	762,000	462,000	299,000	107,000	S	136,000	123,000	S	372,000	21,000	632,000	130,000
Reason worked part time: other	955,000	604,000	351,000	113,000	*	132,000	82,000	D	613,000	14,000	713,000	242,000
Not working, not looking for work	13,821,000	8,173,000	5,648,000	946,000	48,000	937,000	824,000	23,000	10,810,000	233,000	10,569,000	3,252,000
Not working, looking for work	2,340,000	1,173,000	1,167,000	279,000	S	310,000	327,000	S	1,303,000	104,000	1,939,000	401,000
Reason for not working												
Reason for not working: illness or disability	1,160,000	612,000	548,000	112,000	22,000	60,000	157,000	D	761,000	48,000	273,000	887,000
Reason for not working: did not need or want to work	3,293,000	2,154,000	1,138,000	196,000	9,000	209,000	180,000	S	2,622,000	65,000	2,646,000	647,000
Reason for not working: family responsibilities	2,700,000	2,192,000	508,000	324,000	S	270,000	194,000	S	1,822,000	75,000	2,293,000	407,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	661,000	510,000	151,000	136,000	S	68,000	86,000	S	355,000	12,000	537,000	124,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	1,592,000	1,361,000	231,000	141,000	D	147,000	66,000	D	1,189,000	48,000	1,403,000	189,000
Reason for not working: layoff from a job	2,205,000	1,081,000	1,124,000	333,000	S	249,000	277,000	S	1,275,000	56,000	1,785,000	420,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	1,517,000	790,000	727,000	246,000	S	163,000	184,000	D	885,000	34,000	1,225,000	292,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	585,000	234,000	351,000	76,000	S	66,000	71,000	D	342,000	20,000	495,000	90,000
Reason for not working: retired	9,628,000	4,967,000	4,661,000	468,000	36,000	471,000	559,000	16,000	7,944,000	135,000	7,224,000	2,404,000
Reason for not working: student	681,000	363,000	318,000	110,000	S	110,000	62,000	D	368,000	19,000	585,000	96,000
Reason for not working: suitable job not available	1,677,000	1,015,000	662,000	168,000	S	206,000	193,000	D	986,000	111,000	1,351,000	326,000

TABLE 5-2

College graduates, by broad occupation, labor force status, labor force status characteristics, sex, ethnicity, race, and disability status: 2021

(Number)

Occupation, labor force status, and labor force status characteristics	Total	Female	Male	Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino						Without disability	With disability
					American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	White	More than one race		
Reason for not working: other	822,000	480,000	342,000	102,000	S	126,000	80,000	D	484,000	24,000	663,000	159,000
S&E occupations	9,640,000	2,908,000	6,732,000	796,000	13,000	1,939,000	464,000	21,000	6,206,000	201,000	8,407,000	1,233,000
Full-time employment status	7,230,000	1,998,000	5,232,000	636,000	9,000	1,536,000	369,000	15,000	4,505,000	161,000	6,438,000	792,000
Part-time employment status	664,000	302,000	361,000	56,000	S	129,000	30,000	S	438,000	9,000	567,000	96,000
Preference for full-time status												
Did not want full-time employment	481,000	224,000	257,000	39,000	D	77,000	15,000	D	344,000	6,000	411,000	70,000
Wanted full-time employment	183,000	79,000	104,000	17,000	D	52,000	15,000	D	94,000	3,000	157,000	26,000
Reason for part-time status												
Reason worked part time: did not need or want to work more hours	243,000	116,000	127,000	14,000	D	19,000	5,000	D	200,000	4,000	207,000	36,000
Reason worked part time: family responsibilities	164,000	110,000	54,000	17,000	D	27,000	11,000	D	107,000	2,000	139,000	26,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	38,000	27,000	12,000	6,000	D	6,000	S	D	23,000	*	30,000	8,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	70,000	45,000	25,000	5,000	D	12,000	S	D	46,000	1,000	64,000	6,000
Reason worked part time: full-time job not available	99,000	44,000	55,000	10,000	D	19,000	7,000	D	60,000	1,000	87,000	13,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	28,000	11,000	17,000	3,000	D	4,000	D	D	20,000	D	24,000	4,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	57,000	28,000	29,000	6,000	D	11,000	5,000	D	33,000	D	49,000	7,000
Reason worked part time: held another job	78,000	41,000	37,000	6,000	D	7,000	S	D	61,000	S	60,000	18,000
Reason worked part time: hours or work reduced	152,000	72,000	80,000	11,000	D	19,000	7,000	D	112,000	2,000	129,000	24,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	84,000	41,000	43,000	6,000	D	8,000	5,000	D	63,000	*	73,000	10,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	48,000	21,000	26,000	3,000	D	5,000	S	D	37,000	S	37,000	11,000
Reason worked part time: previously retired or semiretired	146,000	35,000	111,000	4,000	D	8,000	4,000	D	128,000	2,000	115,000	31,000
Reason worked part time: student	182,000	82,000	100,000	29,000	D	59,000	10,000	D	79,000	4,000	158,000	24,000
Reason worked part time: other	89,000	38,000	50,000	6,000	D	29,000	5,000	D	46,000	2,000	77,000	12,000
Not working, not looking for work	1,472,000	521,000	951,000	78,000	3,000	205,000	47,000	4,000	1,109,000	26,000	1,179,000	293,000
Not working, looking for work	275,000	87,000	188,000	26,000	D	70,000	18,000	D	154,000	6,000	222,000	52,000
Reason for not working												
Reason for not working: illness or disability	114,000	44,000	69,000	S	D	14,000	5,000	D	79,000	7,000	20,000	94,000
Reason for not working: did not need or want to work	293,000	119,000	174,000	23,000	S	33,000	18,000	D	208,000	9,000	237,000	56,000
Reason for not working: family responsibilities	212,000	138,000	74,000	32,000	D	48,000	12,000	D	112,000	6,000	175,000	37,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	54,000	24,000	30,000	10,000	D	16,000	S	D	21,000	S	40,000	14,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	130,000	98,000	32,000	19,000	D	28,000	S	D	73,000	S	113,000	17,000
Reason for not working: layoff from a job	231,000	66,000	165,000	16,000	D	55,000	17,000	D	136,000	5,000	204,000	26,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	121,000	32,000	88,000	11,000	D	34,000	12,000	D	62,000	S	108,000	13,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	97,000	29,000	68,000	5,000	D	15,000	5,000	D	68,000	S	86,000	11,000
Reason for not working: retired	1,057,000	300,000	757,000	36,000	2,000	89,000	27,000	3,000	882,000	19,000	827,000	230,000
Reason for not working: student	89,000	37,000	52,000	8,000	D	32,000	4,000	D	41,000	3,000	81,000	8,000

TABLE 5-2

College graduates, by broad occupation, labor force status, labor force status characteristics, sex, ethnicity, race, and disability status: 2021

(Number)

Occupation, labor force status, and labor force status characteristics	Total	Female	Male	Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino						Without disability	With disability
					American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	White	More than one race		
Reason for not working: suitable job not available	186,000	61,000	125,000	23,000	D	46,000	9,000	D	99,000	9,000	146,000	40,000
Reason for not working: other	107,000	42,000	65,000	9,000	D	39,000	6,000	D	51,000	D	88,000	19,000
S&E-related occupations	11,936,000	6,996,000	4,940,000	1,006,000	30,000	1,484,000	884,000	43,000	8,253,000	236,000	10,402,000	1,534,000
Full-time employment status	7,975,000	4,380,000	3,595,000	712,000	20,000	1,085,000	658,000	35,000	5,311,000	153,000	7,179,000	795,000
Part-time employment status	1,547,000	1,114,000	433,000	131,000	S	179,000	98,000	D	1,101,000	36,000	1,355,000	192,000
Preference for full-time status												
Did not want full-time employment	1,292,000	948,000	344,000	97,000	D	142,000	62,000	D	968,000	22,000	1,153,000	139,000
Wanted full-time employment	255,000	166,000	89,000	34,000	D	36,000	36,000	D	132,000	S	202,000	53,000
Reason for part-time status												
Reason worked part time: did not need or want to work more hours	754,000	584,000	170,000	48,000	D	55,000	37,000	D	598,000	17,000	673,000	81,000
Reason worked part time: family responsibilities	614,000	517,000	97,000	58,000	D	60,000	38,000	D	446,000	12,000	553,000	61,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	87,000	72,000	14,000	16,000	D	12,000	8,000	D	49,000	D	79,000	7,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	308,000	282,000	26,000	15,000	D	28,000	20,000	D	244,000	S	285,000	23,000
Reason worked part time: full-time job not available	218,000	149,000	69,000	28,000	D	22,000	18,000	D	135,000	S	186,000	32,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	90,000	55,000	35,000	7,000	D	12,000	S	D	51,000	S	79,000	11,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	104,000	75,000	28,000	18,000	D	8,000	S	D	65,000	S	87,000	17,000
Reason worked part time: held another job	180,000	127,000	53,000	17,000	D	31,000	10,000	D	119,000	2,000	150,000	30,000
Reason worked part time: hours or work reduced	541,000	386,000	156,000	49,000	D	65,000	44,000	D	359,000	22,000	469,000	72,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	261,000	193,000	68,000	36,000	D	23,000	15,000	D	167,000	S	221,000	40,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	222,000	156,000	66,000	9,000	D	41,000	20,000	D	149,000	S	194,000	28,000
Reason worked part time: previously retired or semiretired	253,000	130,000	123,000	11,000	D	10,000	14,000	D	218,000	D	209,000	44,000
Reason worked part time: student	161,000	112,000	49,000	22,000	D	31,000	24,000	D	75,000	8,000	140,000	21,000
Reason worked part time: other	162,000	101,000	62,000	19,000	D	32,000	S	D	90,000	S	134,000	28,000
Not working, not looking for work	2,190,000	1,365,000	825,000	126,000	7,000	185,000	100,000	S	1,732,000	36,000	1,685,000	505,000
Not working, looking for work	224,000	137,000	87,000	37,000	D	35,000	28,000	D	109,000	10,000	182,000	42,000
Reason for not working												
Reason for not working: illness or disability	196,000	120,000	75,000	16,000	D	11,000	24,000	D	141,000	D	73,000	123,000
Reason for not working: did not need or want to work	470,000	321,000	149,000	17,000	D	39,000	25,000	D	377,000	11,000	373,000	97,000
Reason for not working: family responsibilities	362,000	317,000	46,000	25,000	D	43,000	16,000	D	268,000	S	319,000	43,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	80,000	65,000	15,000	9,000	D	9,000	S	D	55,000	S	69,000	11,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	233,000	211,000	22,000	12,000	D	27,000	3,000	D	191,000	1,000	211,000	22,000
Reason for not working: layoff from a job	200,000	115,000	85,000	31,000	D	30,000	31,000	D	101,000	4,000	157,000	43,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	139,000	94,000	46,000	S	D	16,000	28,000	D	68,000	D	112,000	28,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	46,000	15,000	31,000	2,000	D	8,000	S	D	32,000	S	35,000	12,000
Reason for not working: retired	1,537,000	844,000	694,000	68,000	5,000	90,000	63,000	S	1,281,000	28,000	1,153,000	384,000

TABLE 5-2

College graduates, by broad occupation, labor force status, labor force status characteristics, sex, ethnicity, race, and disability status: 2021

(Number)

Occupation, labor force status, and labor force status characteristics	Total	Female	Male	Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino						Without disability	With disability
					American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	White	More than one race		
Reason for not working: student	186,000	112,000	74,000	31,000	D	36,000	12,000	D	102,000	5,000	168,000	18,000
Reason for not working: suitable job not available	168,000	116,000	53,000	S	D	19,000	19,000	D	91,000	13,000	132,000	37,000
Reason for not working: other	118,000	88,000	29,000	15,000	D	29,000	S	D	63,000	S	101,000	17,000
Non-S&E occupations	46,349,000	25,935,000	20,414,000	4,731,000	144,000	3,298,000	3,912,000	99,000	33,027,000	1,139,000	39,126,000	7,223,000
Full-time employment status	28,948,000	15,216,000	13,732,000	3,260,000	78,000	2,151,000	2,592,000	78,000	20,017,000	773,000	25,384,000	3,564,000
Part-time employment status	5,400,000	3,483,000	1,917,000	512,000	16,000	395,000	363,000	5,000	4,001,000	107,000	4,502,000	898,000
Preference for full-time status												
Did not want full-time employment	4,101,000	2,683,000	1,418,000	283,000	14,000	254,000	202,000	S	3,258,000	84,000	3,447,000	653,000
Wanted full-time employment	1,300,000	800,000	499,000	229,000	S	141,000	161,000	1,000	743,000	23,000	1,055,000	245,000
Reason for part-time status												
Reason worked part time: did not need or want to work more hours	2,311,000	1,563,000	748,000	136,000	S	128,000	92,000	D	1,881,000	62,000	1,948,000	363,000
Reason worked part time: family responsibilities	1,715,000	1,315,000	400,000	185,000	S	177,000	94,000	S	1,218,000	30,000	1,499,000	216,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	329,000	232,000	97,000	77,000	D	31,000	20,000	D	197,000	3,000	297,000	32,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	806,000	633,000	173,000	52,000	D	74,000	33,000	D	627,000	17,000	699,000	107,000
Reason worked part time: full-time job not available	1,294,000	843,000	450,000	168,000	S	123,000	114,000	S	851,000	30,000	1,064,000	230,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	463,000	267,000	196,000	70,000	D	53,000	65,000	S	257,000	17,000	394,000	69,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	646,000	452,000	195,000	80,000	S	54,000	39,000	D	460,000	9,000	526,000	120,000
Reason worked part time: held another job	724,000	498,000	226,000	82,000	S	55,000	43,000	D	530,000	13,000	649,000	75,000
Reason worked part time: hours or work reduced	1,720,000	1,036,000	684,000	167,000	6,000	136,000	141,000	1,000	1,235,000	35,000	1,412,000	308,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	967,000	618,000	349,000	121,000	3,000	65,000	86,000	1,000	664,000	26,000	793,000	173,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	543,000	282,000	261,000	23,000	D	41,000	18,000	D	453,000	5,000	447,000	96,000
Reason worked part time: previously retired or semiretired	1,429,000	684,000	745,000	79,000	D	49,000	74,000	D	1,208,000	11,000	1,110,000	319,000
Reason worked part time: student	418,000	268,000	150,000	57,000	S	46,000	88,000	D	217,000	9,000	334,000	84,000
Reason worked part time: other	705,000	465,000	239,000	89,000	D	71,000	59,000	D	477,000	7,000	502,000	203,000
Not working, not looking for work	10,159,000	6,287,000	3,872,000	742,000	38,000	547,000	677,000	14,000	7,969,000	171,000	7,705,000	2,454,000
Not working, looking for work	1,841,000	949,000	892,000	216,000	S	204,000	280,000	D	1,039,000	88,000	1,534,000	307,000
Reason for not working												
Reason for not working: illness or disability	851,000	447,000	404,000	87,000	19,000	35,000	128,000	D	542,000	40,000	181,000	670,000
Reason for not working: did not need or want to work	2,530,000	1,715,000	815,000	156,000	S	137,000	138,000	D	2,037,000	46,000	2,036,000	494,000
Reason for not working: family responsibilities	2,125,000	1,736,000	389,000	266,000	S	178,000	166,000	D	1,442,000	62,000	1,799,000	326,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	527,000	421,000	107,000	117,000	D	43,000	79,000	D	279,000	7,000	428,000	99,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	1,229,000	1,052,000	177,000	110,000	D	92,000	57,000	D	925,000	44,000	1,079,000	150,000
Reason for not working: layoff from a job	1,775,000	900,000	875,000	286,000	S	164,000	229,000	D	1,037,000	47,000	1,424,000	351,000
Due to the coronavirus pandemic only	1,257,000	664,000	593,000	211,000	D	113,000	145,000	D	754,000	31,000	1,005,000	252,000
Unrelated to the coronavirus pandemic only	441,000	190,000	251,000	69,000	D	43,000	65,000	D	242,000	14,000	374,000	67,000

TABLE 5-2

College graduates, by broad occupation, labor force status, labor force status characteristics, sex, ethnicity, race, and disability status: 2021

(Number)

Occupation, labor force status, and labor force status characteristics	Total	Female	Male	Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino						Without disability	With disability
					American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	White	More than one race		
Reason for not working: retired	7,034,000	3,823,000	3,210,000	364,000	30,000	292,000	469,000	S	5,781,000	88,000	5,244,000	1,790,000
Reason for not working: student	406,000	214,000	192,000	71,000	D	42,000	47,000	D	225,000	12,000	336,000	70,000
Reason for not working: suitable job not available	1,323,000	838,000	485,000	120,000	S	141,000	165,000	D	796,000	89,000	1,074,000	249,000
Reason for not working: other	598,000	350,000	248,000	78,000	D	58,000	67,000	D	370,000	19,000	474,000	123,000

* = 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.

Note(s):
Numbers are rounded to the nearest 1,000. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. This table does not include individuals who have never worked for pay or profit. If respondent was not employed during survey reference period, occupation when last employed was reported. All individuals who report working part time, regardless of their preference for working part time, are asked their reasons for working part time. Full-time employed college graduates are individuals working at least 35 hours in a typical week. All individuals who report not working, regardless of if they are looking for work, are asked their reasons for not working. Hispanic or Latino may be any race; race categories exclude Hispanic origin. The National Survey of College Graduates asks the degree of difficulty—none, slight, moderate, severe, or unable to do—an individual has in seeing (with glasses), hearing (with hearing aid), walking without assistance, lifting 10 pounds, or concentrating, remembering, or making decisions. Those respondents who answered "moderate," "severe," or "unable to do" for an activity were classified as having a disability.

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