TABLE 6-3

Employed college graduates, by sex, level of highest degree, and major occupation: 2003–21

(Number)

Sex, level of highest degree, and occupation	2003	2010	2013	2015	2017	2019	2021
Both sexes	32,574,000	40,623,000	43,839,000	45,941,000	48,223,000	50,524,000	51,764,000
S&E occupations	4,588,000	5,374,000	5,766,000	6,407,000	6,769,000	7,466,000	7,894,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	421,000	602,000	638,000	631,000	610,000	698,000	794,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	1,930,000	2,396,000	2,653,000	3,156,000	3,419,000	3,774,000	4,031,000
Physical and related scientists	298,000	327,000	324,000	331,000	366,000	409,000	408,000
Social and related scientists	477,000	518,000	596,000	570,000	646,000	663,000	712,000
Engineers	1,463,000	1,531,000	1,554,000	1,719,000	1,728,000	1,921,000	1,949,000
S&E-related occupations	5,155,000	6,966,000	7,508,000	7,867,000	8,271,000	8,893,000	9,522,000
Non-S&E occupations	22,831,000	28,282,000	30,566,000	31,667,000	33,183,000	34,165,000	34,349,000
Bachelor's	20,365,000	25,354,000	27,802,000	28,509,000	30,131,000	31,373,000	31,688,000
S&E occupations	2,529,000	2,980,000	3,288,000	3,518,000	3,846,000	4,176,000	4,438,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	146,000	233,000	264,000	241,000	230,000	277,000	295,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	1,243,000	1,564,000	1,785,000	1,978,000	2,219,000	2,403,000	2,574,000
Physical and related scientists	119,000	126,000	128,000	126,000	164,000	189,000	177,000
Social and related scientists	101,000	96,000	124,000	90,000	172,000	147,000	170,000
Engineers	920,000	960,000	988,000	1,083,000	1,061,000	1,158,000	1,222,000
S&E-related occupations	2,779,000	3,784,000	4,065,000	4,222,000	4,338,000	4,794,000	5,031,000
Non-S&E occupations	15,057,000	18,589,000	20,449,000	20,769,000	21,946,000	22,403,000	22,219,000
Master's	8,677,000	11,118,000	11,728,000	12,888,000	13,260,000	14,158,000	14,688,000
S&E occupations	1,406,000	1,644,000	1,689,000	2,076,000	2,069,000	2,286,000	2,411,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	94,000	152,000	158,000	169,000	149,000	152,000	188,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	581,000	717,000	744,000	1,048,000	1,039,000	1,168,000	1,251,000
Physical and related scientists	82,000	87,000	83,000	85,000	98,000	97,000	105,000
Social and related scientists	205,000	218,000	249,000	249,000	235,000	249,000	283,000
Engineers	443,000	472,000	456,000	525,000	548,000	619,000	584,000
S&E-related occupations	1,208,000	1,765,000	1,945,000	2,064,000	2,262,000	2,332,000	2,578,000
Non-S&E occupations	6,063,000	7,709,000	8,093,000	8,749,000	8,929,000	9,540,000	9,699,000
Doctorate	1,271,000	1,500,000	1,551,000	1,641,000	1,796,000	2,090,000	2,141,000
S&E occupations	605,000	692,000	724,000	751,000	786,000	938,000	962,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	164,000	199,000	202,000	207,000	217,000	254,000	291,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	95,000	108,000	112,000	117,000	150,000	189,000	185,000
Physical and related scientists	94,000	114,000	112,000	119,000	101,000	121,000	125,000
Social and related scientists	154,000	173,000	190,000	201,000	201,000	235,000	221,000
Engineers	97,000	97,000	108,000	107,000	116,000	139,000	141,000
S&E-related occupations	123,000	224,000	236,000	229,000	267,000	387,000	374,000
Non-S&E occupations	543,000	584,000	590,000	662,000	743,000	765,000	805,000
Professional	2,261,000	2,651,000	2,758,000	2,903,000	3,036,000	2,903,000	3,246,000
S&E occupations	49,000	58,000	64,000	63,000	67,000	67,000	82,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	17,000	17,000	14,000	14,000	15,000	14,000	20,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	11,000	7,000	11,000	13,000	11,000	14,000	22,000
Physical and related scientists	2,000	*	1,000	*	2,000	2,000	1,000
Social and related scientists	17,000	31,000	35,000	30,000	37,000	32,000	38,000
Engineers	2,000	1,000	2,000	5,000	2,000	5,000	S
S&E-related occupations	1,045,000	1,193,000	1,262,000	1,353,000	1,404,000	1,380,000	1,538,000
Non-S&E occupations	1,167,000	1,399,000	1,433,000	1,487,000	1,565,000	1,456,000	1,626,000
Female	15,111,000	19,978,000	22,052,000	23,218,000	24,900,000	26,341,000	26,493,000
S&E occupations	1,203,000	1,486,000	1,681,000	1,818,000	1,966,000	2,193,000	2,300,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	164,000	292,000	311,000	302,000	292,000	337,000	367,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	552,000	602,000	673,000	833,000	919,000	975,000	1,053,000
Physical and related scientists	83,000	98,000	100,000	92,000	107,000	142,000	135,000
Social and related scientists	251,000	295,000	363,000	341,000	379,000	428,000	433,000

TABLE 6-3

Employed college graduates, by sex, level of highest degree, and major occupation: 2003–21

(Number)

Sex, level of highest degree, and occupation	2003	2010	2013	2015	2017	2019	2021
Engineers	154,000	200,000	235,000	250,000	269,000	310,000	312,000
S&E-related occupations	2,814,000	3,877,000	4,223,000	4,558,000	4,764,000	5,109,000	5,494,000
Non-S&E occupations	11,094,000	14,615,000	16,147,000	16,842,000	18,170,000	19,040,000	18,699,000
Bachelor's	9,522,000	12,592,000	13,904,000	14,206,000	15,524,000	16,021,000	15,827,000
S&E occupations	605,000	720,000	832,000	818,000	979,000	1,034,000	1,099,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	62,000	136,000	139,000	127,000	119,000	129,000	140,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	363,000	383,000	435,000	456,000	570,000	568,000	612,000
Physical and related scientists	40,000	43,000	49,000	39,000	49,000	78,000	62,000
Social and related scientists	50,000	51,000	74,000	53,000	92,000	95,000	106,000
Engineers	89,000	106,000	134,000	143,000	149,000	163,000	179,000
S&E-related occupations	1,719,000	2,335,000	2,494,000	2,567,000	2,654,000	2,845,000	3,044,000
Non-S&E occupations	7,198,000	9,538,000	10,579,000	10,821,000	11,891,000	12,142,000	11,685,000
Master's	4,431,000	5,838,000	6,479,000	7,196,000	7,359,000	8,141,000	8,314,000
S&E occupations	407,000	516,000	575,000	708,000	670,000	757,000	816,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	41,000	74,000	84,000	80,000	75,000	83,000	100,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	166,000	192,000	211,000	340,000	298,000	340,000	384,000
Physical and related scientists	27,000	33,000	28,000	33,000	39,000	37,000	43,000
Social and related scientists	119,000	141,000	170,000	164,000	155,000	171,000	180,000
Engineers	54,000	77,000	82,000	91,000	104,000	126,000	108,000
S&E-related occupations	729,000	1,043,000	1,156,000	1,338,000	1,405,000	1,469,000	1,580,000
Non-S&E occupations	3,295,000	4,279,000	4,748,000	5,150,000	5,284,000	5,915,000	5,918,000
Doctorate	422,000	521,000	597,000	646,000	734,000	900,000	887,000
S&E occupations	170,000	215,000	239,000	261,000	279,000	365,000	343,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	55,000	74,000	80,000	88,000	90,000	118,000	118,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	20,000	24,000	25,000	30,000	46,000	61,000	51,000
Physical and related scientists	15,000	22,000	22,000	20,000	19,000	28,000	30,000
Social and related scientists	70,000	79,000	94,000	107,000	108,000	139,000	120,000
Engineers	10,000	17,000	18,000	15,000	16,000	20,000	25,000
S&E-related occupations	51,000	86,000	100,000	107,000	126,000	188,000	197,000
Non-S&E occupations	200,000	220,000	258,000	278,000	328,000	346,000	347,000
Professional	736,000	1,027,000	1,072,000	1,170,000	1,283,000	1,280,000	1,466,000
S&E occupations	21,000	35,000	35,000	31,000	37,000	36,000	42,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	6,000	8,000	7,000	6,000	7,000	7,000	9,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	3,000	S	S	S	S	6,000	6,000
Physical and related scientists	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Social and related scientists	11,000	23,000	24,000	17,000	25,000	22,000	27,000
Engineers	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
S&E-related occupations	314,000	413,000	474,000	546,000	579,000	607,000	674,000
Non-S&E occupations	401,000	578,000	563,000	594,000	667,000	637,000	750,000
Male	17,463,000	20,644,000	21,787,000	22,723,000	23,323,000	24,183,000	25,271,000
S&E occupations	3,385,000	3,888,000	4,084,000	4,590,000	4,803,000	5,274,000	5,594,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	257,000	310,000	328,000	329,000	319,000	361,000	427,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	1,378,000	1,795,000	1,980,000	2,323,000	2,500,000	2,799,000	2,979,000
Physical and related scientists	215,000	229,000	224,000	239,000	259,000	267,000	273,000
Social and related scientists	226,000	223,000	234,000	229,000	266,000	235,000	279,000
Engineers	1,309,000	1,331,000	1,319,000	1,469,000	1,459,000	1,612,000	1,636,000
S&E-related occupations	2,341,000	3,089,000	3,285,000	3,309,000	3,507,000	3,785,000	4,028,000
Non-S&E occupations	11,736,000	13,667,000	14,418,000	14,824,000	15,013,000	15,125,000	15,649,000
Bachelor's	10,843,000	12,761,000	13,898,000	14,303,000	14,606,000	15,353,000	15,861,000
S&E occupations	1,925,000	2,260,000	2,457,000	2,700,000	2,867,000	3,142,000	3,339,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	84,000	98,000	125,000	114,000	110,000	148,000	155,000

TABLE 6-3

Employed college graduates, by sex, level of highest degree, and major occupation: 2003–21

(Number)

Sex, level of highest degree, and occupation	2003	2010	2013	2015	2017	2019	2021
Computer and mathematical scientists	880,000	1,181,000	1,350,000	1,522,000	1,649,000	1,835,000	1,961,000
Physical and related scientists	79,000	83,000	79,000	87,000	115,000	112,000	116,000
Social and related scientists	51,000	44,000	49,000	37,000	80,000	52,000	64,000
Engineers	831,000	854,000	853,000	940,000	912,000	995,000	1,043,000
S&E-related occupations	1,060,000	1,450,000	1,571,000	1,655,000	1,685,000	1,949,000	1,988,000
Non-S&E occupations	7,858,000	9,052,000	9,871,000	9,948,000	10,055,000	10,262,000	10,534,000
Master's	4,247,000	5,280,000	5,249,000	5,692,000	5,901,000	6,017,000	6,375,000
S&E occupations	999,000	1,129,000	1,114,000	1,367,000	1,399,000	1,529,000	1,595,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	54,000	78,000	74,000	88,000	74,000	69,000	88,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	415,000	525,000	533,000	708,000	741,000	828,000	867,000
Physical and related scientists	55,000	54,000	55,000	53,000	59,000	60,000	61,000
Social and related scientists	86,000	77,000	79,000	85,000	80,000	78,000	102,000
Engineers	389,000	395,000	374,000	434,000	445,000	493,000	476,000
S&E-related occupations	479,000	721,000	790,000	726,000	857,000	864,000	998,000
Non-S&E occupations	2,769,000	3,430,000	3,346,000	3,599,000	3,645,000	3,625,000	3,781,000
Doctorate	849,000	979,000	954,000	996,000	1,062,000	1,190,000	1,254,000
S&E occupations	434,000	477,000	485,000	490,000	507,000	573,000	619,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	109,000	125,000	122,000	119,000	127,000	137,000	173,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	75,000	85,000	87,000	87,000	104,000	128,000	134,000
Physical and related scientists	79,000	92,000	90,000	99,000	82,000	94,000	95,000
Social and related scientists	84,000	94,000	95,000	94,000	93,000	95,000	101,000
Engineers	88,000	81,000	90,000	92,000	101,000	119,000	116,000
S&E-related occupations	72,000	138,000	136,000	122,000	140,000	199,000	177,000
Non-S&E occupations	343,000	364,000	333,000	384,000	415,000	419,000	458,000
Professional	1,524,000	1,624,000	1,686,000	1,732,000	1,754,000	1,623,000	1,781,000
S&E occupations	27,000	23,000	29,000	32,000	30,000	30,000	41,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	11,000	9,000	7,000	8,000	8,000	7,000	11,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	8,000	4,000	9,000	7,000	7,000	8,000	15,000
Physical and related scientists	S	*	D	D	2,000	1,000	S
Social and related scientists	5,000	8,000	11,000	13,000	12,000	10,000	12,000
Engineers	1,000	S	2,000	4,000	1,000	5,000	S
S&E-related occupations	730,000	780,000	788,000	807,000	825,000	773,000	865,000
Non-S&E occupations	767,000	821,000	870,000	893,000	898,000	819,000	876,000

* = 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.

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