TABLE 6-4

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

(Number)

Nativity, level of highest degree, and occupation	2003	2010	2013	2015	2017	2019	2021
All college graduates, all degrees, all occupations	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
Foreign-born college graduates, all degrees, all occupations	4,347,000	5,990,000	6,704,000	7,371,000	8,126,000	8,602,000	9,311,000
S&E occupations	1,032,000	1,467,000	1,528,000	1,923,000	1,998,000	2,192,000	2,261,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	105,000	178,000	184,000	189,000	199,000	229,000	246,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	490,000	731,000	804,000	1,078,000	1,135,000	1,263,000	1,325,000
Physical and related scientists	65,000	82,000	85,000	101,000	108,000	93,000	99,000

TABLE 6-4

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

(Number)

Nativity, level of highest degree, and occupation	2003	2010	2013	2015	2017	2019	2021
Social and related scientists	61,000	80,000	97,000	117,000	102,000	112,000	129,000
Engineers	312,000	395,000	358,000	438,000	454,000	495,000	462,000
S&E-related occupations	842,000	1,302,000	1,467,000	1,356,000	1,630,000	1,802,000	1,930,000
Non-S&E occupations	2,472,000	3,221,000	3,709,000	4,092,000	4,499,000	4,609,000	5,120,000
Bachelor's	2,418,000	3,294,000	3,807,000	4,072,000	4,464,000	4,672,000	5,036,000
S&E occupations	408,000	609,000	621,000	745,000	829,000	878,000	887,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	16,000	36,000	35,000	37,000	38,000	47,000	46,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	226,000	363,000	397,000	476,000	539,000	591,000	612,000
Physical and related scientists	17,000	16,000	19,000	22,000	45,000	22,000	20,000
Social and related scientists	10,000	18,000	15,000	13,000	22,000	19,000	22,000
Engineers	139,000	175,000	154,000	197,000	184,000	199,000	187,000
S&E-related occupations	422,000	671,000	764,000	656,000	768,000	895,000	981,000
Non-S&E occupations	1,588,000	2,014,000	2,422,000	2,672,000	2,867,000	2,899,000	3,168,000
Master's	1,237,000	1,826,000	1,964,000	2,291,000	2,559,000	2,706,000	2,980,000
S&E occupations	399,000	562,000	580,000	842,000	811,000	873,000	926,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	16,000	43,000	42,000	46,000	46,000	46,000	52,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	217,000	310,000	343,000	533,000	505,000	553,000	599,000
Physical and related scientists	16,000	20,000	21,000	24,000	23,000	20,000	27,000
Social and related scientists	24,000	28,000	33,000	58,000	32,000	40,000	53,000
Engineers	126,000	162,000	141,000	182,000	203,000	214,000	194,000
S&E-related occupations	157,000	273,000	340,000	336,000	443,000	453,000	497,000
Non-S&E occupations	681,000	991,000	1,044,000	1,113,000	1,306,000	1,380,000	1,557,000
Doctorate	351,000	499,000	498,000	536,000	599,000	753,000	770,000
S&E occupations	213,000	279,000	300,000	318,000	339,000	420,000	427,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	65,000	90,000	98,000	97,000	105,000	127,000	139,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	45,000	55,000	59,000	68,000	88,000	114,000	110,000
Physical and related scientists	31,000	46,000	44,000	55,000	40,000	51,000	53,000
Social and related scientists	25,000	32,000	37,000	39,000	41,000	48,000	46,000
Engineers	47,000	57,000	62,000	58,000	65,000	79,000	80,000
S&E-related occupations	34,000	86,000	79,000	87,000	103,000	155,000	127,000
Non-S&E occupations	104,000	133,000	119,000	131,000	157,000	178,000	217,000
Professional	340,000	371,000	435,000	472,000	504,000	471,000	525,000
S&E occupations	12,000	17,000	27,000	18,000	19,000	21,000	21,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	7,000	10,000	10,000	9,000	9,000	8,000	9,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	2,000	S	4,000	2,000	S	5,000	S
Physical and related scientists	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Social and related scientists	2,000	3,000	11,000	6,000	7,000	5,000	8,000
Engineers	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
S&E-related occupations	230,000	271,000	283,000	277,000	316,000	298,000	325,000
Non-S&E occupations	99,000	83,000	124,000	177,000	169,000	152,000	179,000
U.S.-born college graduates, all degrees, all occupations	28,228,000	34,633,000	37,136,000	38,570,000	40,097,000	41,922,000	42,453,000
S&E occupations	3,556,000	3,907,000	4,238,000	4,484,000	4,771,000	5,275,000	5,633,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	316,000	423,000	454,000	442,000	412,000	469,000	548,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	1,440,000	1,665,000	1,849,000	2,078,000	2,284,000	2,512,000	2,707,000
Physical and related scientists	233,000	245,000	239,000	230,000	258,000	316,000	309,000
Social and related scientists	416,000	438,000	499,000	453,000	544,000	551,000	583,000
Engineers	1,150,000	1,136,000	1,196,000	1,281,000	1,274,000	1,427,000	1,487,000
S&E-related occupations	4,313,000	5,665,000	6,041,000	6,511,000	6,642,000	7,092,000	7,592,000
Non-S&E occupations	20,358,000	25,061,000	26,857,000	27,574,000	28,684,000	29,556,000	29,228,000
Bachelor's	17,947,000	22,060,000	23,995,000	24,437,000	25,667,000	26,701,000	26,652,000

TABLE 6-4

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

(Number)

Nativity, level of highest degree, and occupation	2003	2010	2013	2015	2017	2019	2021
S&E occupations	2,121,000	2,372,000	2,667,000	2,773,000	3,018,000	3,298,000	3,551,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	130,000	198,000	229,000	204,000	192,000	230,000	249,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	1,017,000	1,201,000	1,388,000	1,502,000	1,680,000	1,812,000	1,962,000
Physical and related scientists	102,000	110,000	108,000	104,000	119,000	168,000	158,000
Social and related scientists	92,000	78,000	109,000	77,000	150,000	128,000	148,000
Engineers	781,000	785,000	833,000	886,000	876,000	959,000	1,035,000
S&E-related occupations	2,358,000	3,113,000	3,301,000	3,566,000	3,570,000	3,899,000	4,050,000
Non-S&E occupations	13,469,000	16,575,000	18,028,000	18,098,000	19,079,000	19,504,000	19,051,000
Master's	7,440,000	9,292,000	9,764,000	10,597,000	10,701,000	11,452,000	11,708,000
S&E occupations	1,006,000	1,082,000	1,110,000	1,233,000	1,258,000	1,413,000	1,485,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	78,000	109,000	116,000	123,000	102,000	107,000	136,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	364,000	406,000	402,000	515,000	533,000	616,000	653,000
Physical and related scientists	66,000	67,000	62,000	61,000	75,000	77,000	77,000
Social and related scientists	181,000	190,000	215,000	191,000	203,000	209,000	230,000
Engineers	317,000	310,000	315,000	343,000	345,000	405,000	390,000
S&E-related occupations	1,052,000	1,492,000	1,605,000	1,728,000	1,820,000	1,880,000	2,081,000
Non-S&E occupations	5,382,000	6,718,000	7,049,000	7,635,000	7,623,000	8,160,000	8,142,000
Doctorate	920,000	1,001,000	1,053,000	1,105,000	1,197,000	1,337,000	1,371,000
S&E occupations	392,000	412,000	424,000	433,000	447,000	518,000	535,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	99,000	109,000	105,000	110,000	112,000	127,000	152,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	50,000	53,000	53,000	49,000	62,000	75,000	75,000
Physical and related scientists	63,000	68,000	68,000	64,000	61,000	70,000	72,000
Social and related scientists	129,000	142,000	152,000	162,000	160,000	186,000	176,000
Engineers	51,000	40,000	47,000	49,000	51,000	60,000	60,000
S&E-related occupations	89,000	138,000	157,000	141,000	164,000	231,000	247,000
Non-S&E occupations	439,000	451,000	472,000	531,000	586,000	588,000	588,000
Professional	1,920,000	2,280,000	2,323,000	2,431,000	2,532,000	2,432,000	2,722,000
S&E occupations	37,000	41,000	37,000	45,000	48,000	46,000	61,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	10,000	7,000	4,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	11,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	10,000	5,000	7,000	12,000	8,000	9,000	17,000
Physical and related scientists	S	D	D	*	2,000	2,000	1,000
Social and related scientists	14,000	28,000	23,000	23,000	30,000	28,000	30,000
Engineers	2,000	D	2,000	4,000	S	3,000	S
S&E-related occupations	815,000	922,000	978,000	1,076,000	1,088,000	1,082,000	1,214,000
Non-S&E occupations	1,068,000	1,317,000	1,309,000	1,310,000	1,396,000	1,304,000	1,447,000

* = 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.