

TABLE 3-9

S&E highest degree holders who are working involuntarily out of field, by S&E degree field: Selected years, 2003–17

(Percent)

S&E degree field	2003	2006	2008	2010	2013	2015	2017
Highest degree in S&E field	7.8	8.1	7.1	8.4	8.3	7.9	7.5
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	10.1	9.7	10.1	10.1	9.4	10.4	8.5
Computer and mathematical sciences	4.9	5.7	4.5	5.1	4.1	4.0	4.4
Physical sciences	8.8	8.6	7.1	8.2	8.3	9.3	8.7
Social sciences	10.1	10.6	9.2	11.3	11.8	11.4	11.0
Engineering	4.2	4.5	3.6	4.9	4.6	3.2	3.6

Note(s)

The involuntarily out-of-field rate is the proportion of all employed individuals who report that their job is not related to their field of highest degree because a job in their highest degree field was not available.

Source(s)

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Science Foundation, Scientists and Engineers Statistical Data System (SESTAT), 2003–13, and the National Survey of College Graduates (NSCG), 2015, 2017.

Science and Engineering Indicators