

TABLE 3-7

R&D activity rate of scientists and engineers employed in S&E occupations, by broad occupational category and highest degree level: 2017

(Percent)

Highest degree level	Biological, agricultural, and environmental life scientists	Computer and mathematical scientists	Physical scientists	Social scientists	Engineers
All degree levels	78.2	48.7	68.0	47.4	67.7
Bachelor's	73.0	46.8	59.1	52.3	65.1
Master's	75.8	48.9	71.4	41.3	69.0
Doctorate	86.2	73.3	81.2	55.7	85.3

Note(s)

R&D activity rate is the proportion of workers who report that basic research, applied research, design, or development is a primary or secondary work activity in their principal job—activities ranking first or second in work hours. Scientists and engineers include those with one or more S&E or S&E-related degrees at the bachelor's level or higher or those who have only a non-S&E degree at the bachelor's level or higher and are employed in an S&E or S&E-related field in 2015. All degree levels includes professional degrees not broken out separately.

Source(s)

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Science Foundation, National Survey of College Graduates (NSCG), 2017.

Science and Engineering Indicators