

## SIDEBAR

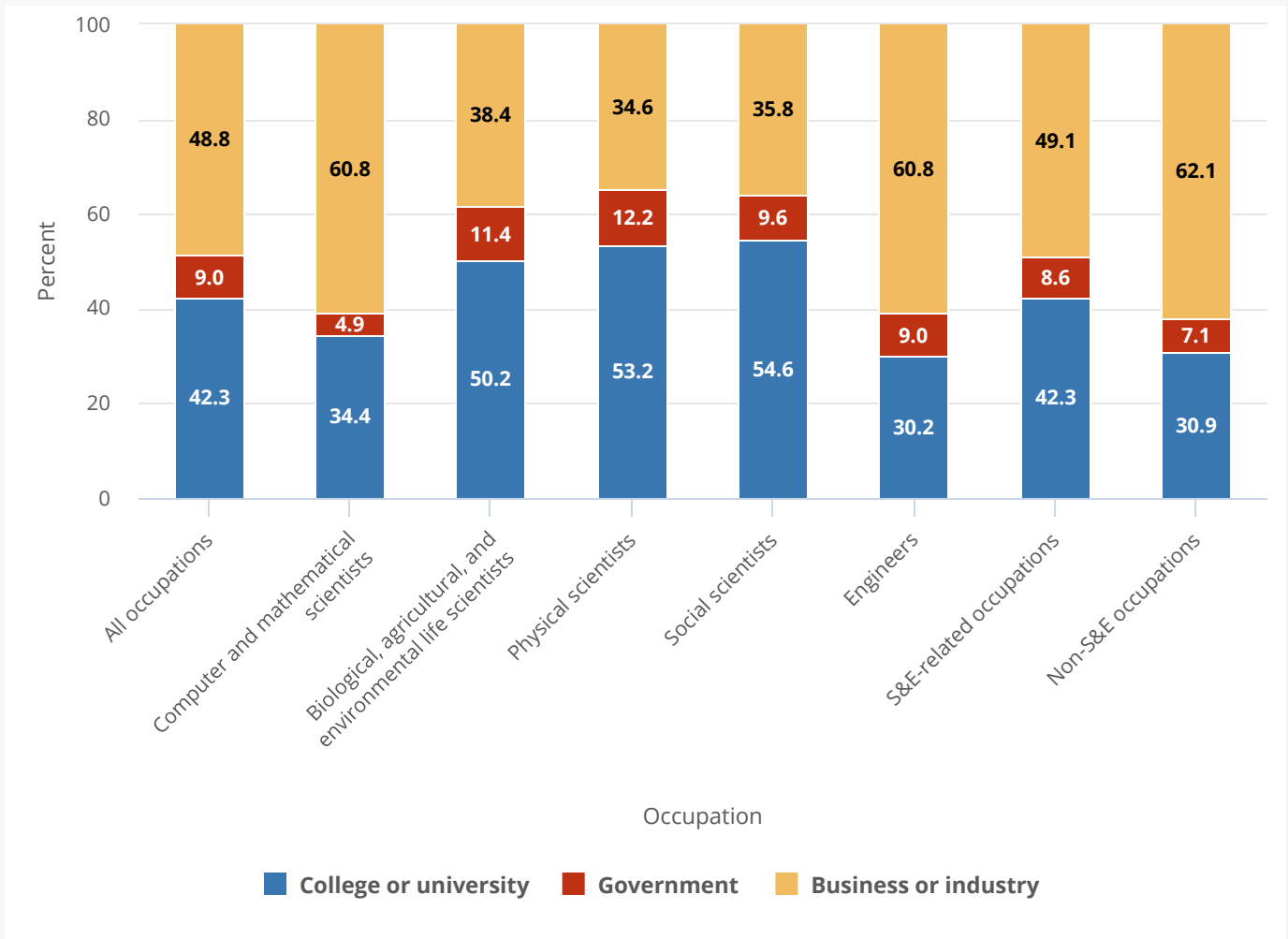
**Science, Engineering, and Health Doctorate Holders in STEM Occupations**

Doctorate holders in science, engineering, and health (SEH) fields represent the individuals in the labor market with the most training specific to their respective fields—particularly, research skills. The 2021 Survey of Doctorate Recipients estimated that there were 872,100 U.S.-trained SEH research doctorates living and working in the United States (NCSES *SDR 2021: Table 42*), of which 725,000 were working in S&E or S&E-related occupations (Table SLBR-D).

The fields in which SEH doctorate recipients work vary by occupation type (Figure LBR-C; Table SLBR-D). Within this population, 17% (or 146,600) worked in non-S&E occupations. Overall, 42% of S&E doctorate recipients worked in educational institutions, and 49% worked in business or industry, with variations by occupation. Over half of SEH doctorate recipients with occupations in biological, agricultural, or environmental life sciences (50%), physical sciences (53%), and social sciences (55%) occupations worked in educational institutions. For SEH doctorate recipients with occupations in computer and mathematical sciences and engineering fields, over half worked in for-profit businesses (55% and 56%, respectively). Within this population, those in social science occupations had the highest proportion of self-employed workers (13%), whereas those in S&E-related occupations had the highest proportion (11%) of doctorate recipients working in nonprofit organizations. For more information on doctorate recipients working in higher education research and development, please see the *Indicators 2024* report “**Academic Research and Development.**”

Figure LBR-C

**Sector of employed science, engineering, and health research doctorate recipients living in the United States, by occupation: 2021**



S&E = science and engineering; STEM = science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

**Note(s):**

Data include employed doctorate holders ages 16–75 living in the United States in 2021. Non-S&E occupations includes doctorate holders working in both non-STEM and STEM middle-skill occupations. Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

**Source(s):**

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR), Public-Use File, 2021.

Science and Engineering Indicators