

Table LBR-3

Labor market indicators for S&E and S&E-related degree recipients earning their highest degree between 2015 and 2021, by level and field of highest degree: 2021

(Number, percent, and 2021 dollars)

Indicator and highest degree level	All S&E and S&E-related fields	S&E fields						S&E-related fields
		All S&E fields	Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	Computer and mathematical sciences	Physical sciences	Social sciences	Engineering	
Number of new graduates								
All degree levels	7,474,000	4,911,500	968,100	985,900	252,900	1,694,200	1,010,400	2,562,500
Bachelor's	4,555,700	3,307,200	722,800	628,200	151,400	1,178,300	626,500	1,248,500
Master's	2,078,200	1,248,600	146,900	319,300	52,600	423,900	305,900	829,600
Doctorate	470,600	342,800	98,400	38,400	48,900	79,100	77,900	127,800
Professional	369,400	12,900	na	na	na	12,900	na	356,600
Employment rate (%)								
All degree levels	87.0	85.9	78.5	89.1	88.5	84.4	91.8	89.2
Bachelor's	85.1	84.3	74.9	88.7	84.4	83.8	91.5	87.3
Master's	88.4	87.6	85.9	88.8	93.6	83.4	92.1	89.7
Doctorate	93.7	95.0	93.6	96.6	96.0	96.7	93.5	90.2
Professional	94.7	93.8	na	na	na	93.8	na	94.8
Out-of-field rate (%)								
All degree levels	14.4	18.6	24.5	7.1	15.0	29.7	8.4	6.6
Bachelor's	20.0	24.4	32.2	7.3	22.3	37.4	11.5	9.0
Master's	7.4	8.7	7.7	7.5	5.9	14.1	3.9	5.6
Doctorate	4.1	3.3	s	1.4	4.6	5.9	1.8	6.3
Professional	1.1	s	na	na	na	s	na	1.1
Involuntarily out-of-field rate (%)								
All degree levels	5.8	7.7	11.7	3.7	9.2	10.5	3.6	2.3
Bachelor's	8.0	9.8	15.0	3.3	14.8	12.8	5.0	3.5
Master's	3.2	4.2	4.6	4.8	2.0	5.9	1.6	1.7
Doctorate	1.6	1.9	s	s	1.8	3.5	s	s
Professional	s	s	na	na	na	s	na	s
Median annual earnings for employed individuals (\$)								
All degree levels	60,000	54,000	40,000	75,000	43,000	42,000	75,000	65,000
Bachelor's	50,000	48,000	35,000	68,000	37,000	38,000	72,000	58,000
Master's	70,000	65,000	48,000	85,000	42,000	50,000	86,000	74,000
Doctorate	78,000	77,000	61,000	110,000	72,000	75,000	101,000	80,000
Professional	70,000	s	na	na	na	s	na	70,000

na = not applicable; s = suppressed for reasons of confidentiality and/or reliability.

S&E = science and engineering.

Note(s):

Data include the civilian, non-institutionalized population ages 16–75. Data include highest degrees earned between January 2015 and February 2021. The out-of-field rate and involuntarily out-of-field rate are for employed individuals only. 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. Median annual earnings are rounded to the nearest \$1,000. Numbers and percentages may not sum due to rounding.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Survey of College Graduates (NSCG), Public-Use File, 2021.

Science and Engineering Indicators