

TABLE 32-2

Involuntarily out-of-field rate among U.S. residing doctoral scientists and engineers, by occupation: 2019

(Percent and SE)

Occupation	Involuntarily out-of-field rate	
	Percent	SE
All occupations	2.8	0.10
Science occupations	1.7	0.10
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientist	0.9	0.15
Agricultural, food scientist	1.0	0.40
Biochemists, biophysicist	1.3	0.35
Biological scientist	0.7	0.20
Forestry, conservation scientist	D	D
Medical scientist	1.2	0.30
Postsecondary teachers, agricultural, other natural sciences	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, biological sciences	S	S
Other biological, agricultural, life scientist	1.7	0.55
Computer and information scientist	7.5	0.55
Computer and information scientist	8.8	0.65
Postsecondary teachers, computer science	D	D
Mathematical scientist	2.4	0.35
Mathematical scientist	4.0	0.60
Postsecondary teachers, mathematics, statistics	0.6	0.25
Physical scientist	1.1	0.20
Chemists, except biochemist	1.5	0.35
Earth, atmospheric, ocean scientist	1.0	0.50
Physicists, astronomers	1.3	0.50
Postsecondary teachers, chemistry	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, physics	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, other physical science	D	D
Other physical scientist	3.4	1.45
Psychologist	D	D
Psychologist	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, psychology	D	D
Social scientist	0.5	0.15
Economist	S	S
Political scientist	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, economics	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, political science	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, sociology	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, other social sciences	D	D
Sociologist, anthropologist	D	D
Other social scientist	2.0	0.65
Engineering occupations	1.8	0.25
Aerospace, aeronautical, astronautical engineer	2.1	0.80
Chemical engineer	1.4	0.55
Civil, architectural, sanitary engineer	0.9	0.45
Electrical engineer	1.9	0.45
Industrial engineers	D	D
Mechanical engineer	3.7	1.00
Postsecondary teacher, engineering	S	S
Other engineer	2.4	0.45
S&E-related occupations	4.2	0.35
Health occupations, except postsecondary teachers and managers	6.4	0.75
Postsecondary teacher, health and related science	S	S
S&E managers, including health	3.5	0.60

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	Percent	SE
S&E precollege teachers	6.7	1.35
S&E technicians/ technologists	6.1	1.20
Other S&E-related occupation	25.4	7.70
Non-S&E occupations	6.3	0.35
Arts, humanities-related occupation	8.4	1.35
Management-related occupation	9.0	0.80
Non-S&E managers	2.9	0.40
Non-S&E postsecondary teachers	0.9	0.35
Non-S&E precollege/ other teachers	11.4	2.75
Sales, marketing occupation	14.1	1.70
Social service-related occupation	4.1	0.95
Other non-S&E occupation	14.2	1.40

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information. S = suppressed for reliability; coefficient of variation exceeds publication standards.

S&E = science and engineering; SE = standard error.

Note(s):

Involuntarily out-of-field rate is the percentage of employed individuals who reported, for their principal job, working in an area not related to their first doctoral degree at least partially because a job in their doctoral degree field was not available. Residence location is based on reported living location on 1 February 2019.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Doctorate Recipients: 2019.