

TABLE 4-3

Full-time employed scientists and engineers and their median salary, by major field of highest degree, employment sector, and primary work activity: 2019

(Number and dollars)

| Field of highest degree and employment sector | Number | Salary | Primary work activity | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---------|-----------------------|---------|--|---------|---------------------------------------|---------|----------|--------|--------------------|---------|
| | | | Computer applications | | Management and administration ^a | | Research and development ^b | | Teaching | | Other ^c | |
| | | | Number | Salary | Number | Salary | Number | Salary | Number | Salary | Number | Salary |
| All fields | 6,784,000 | 95,000 | 1,894,000 | 105,000 | 1,547,000 | 100,000 | 1,548,000 | 85,000 | 275,000 | 70,000 | 1,520,000 | 88,000 |
| Business or industry | 5,069,000 | 100,000 | 1,692,000 | 106,000 | 1,213,000 | 104,000 | 900,000 | 100,000 | 25,000 | 65,000 | 1,239,000 | 90,000 |
| 4-year educational institution | 796,000 | 65,000 | 83,000 | 77,000 | 63,000 | 79,000 | 402,000 | 50,000 | 194,000 | 72,000 | 54,000 | 67,000 |
| 2-year college or precollege educational institution | 155,000 | 64,000 | 16,000 | 59,000 | 16,000 | 71,000 | 23,000 | 63,000 | 49,000 | 66,000 | 51,000 | 62,000 |
| Government | 764,000 | 89,000 | 103,000 | 93,000 | 255,000 | 98,000 | 223,000 | 80,000 | S | S | 176,000 | 82,000 |
| S&E fields | 5,211,000 | 96,000 | 1,500,000 | 105,000 | 1,034,000 | 105,000 | 1,291,000 | 86,000 | 207,000 | 72,000 | 1,178,000 | 88,000 |
| Business or industry | 3,865,000 | 102,000 | 1,347,000 | 110,000 | 801,000 | 106,000 | 746,000 | 100,000 | 13,000 | 67,000 | 958,000 | 90,000 |
| 4-year educational institution | 664,000 | 63,000 | 68,000 | 75,000 | 37,000 | 101,000 | 364,000 | 48,000 | 152,000 | 73,000 | 42,000 | 68,000 |
| 2-year college or precollege educational institution | 110,000 | 65,000 | 9,000 | 59,000 | 9,000 | 62,000 | 13,000 | 72,000 | 36,000 | 68,000 | 43,000 | 64,000 |
| Government | 572,000 | 92,000 | 75,000 | 98,000 | 188,000 | 100,000 | 168,000 | 85,000 | S | S | 136,000 | 87,000 |
| Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences | 620,000 | 69,000 | 32,000 | 96,000 | 108,000 | 75,000 | 325,000 | 64,000 | 41,000 | 69,000 | 114,000 | 68,000 |
| Business or industry | 292,000 | 80,000 | 21,000 | 99,000 | 60,000 | 79,000 | 128,000 | 81,000 | 3,000 | D | 80,000 | 66,000 |
| 4-year educational institution | 194,000 | 52,000 | 8,000 | 65,000 | 8,000 | 82,000 | 141,000 | 48,000 | 27,000 | 64,000 | 11,000 | 70,000 |
| 2-year college or precollege educational institution | 14,000 | 71,000 | D | D | D | D | D | D | 11,000 | 71,000 | D | D |
| Government | 120,000 | 68,000 | 2,000 | 86,000 | 40,000 | 70,000 | 55,000 | 68,000 | D | D | 22,000 | 64,000 |
| Computer and mathematical sciences | 1,561,000 | 103,000 | 877,000 | 105,000 | 233,000 | 116,000 | 193,000 | 98,000 | 49,000 | 66,000 | 208,000 | 92,000 |
| Business or industry | 1,311,000 | 108,000 | 788,000 | 108,000 | 200,000 | 120,000 | 147,000 | 104,000 | S | S | 174,000 | 100,000 |
| 4-year educational institution | 110,000 | 76,000 | 35,000 | 77,000 | 9,000 | 100,000 | 27,000 | 80,000 | 31,000 | 64,000 | 7,000 | 79,000 |
| 2-year college or precollege educational institution | 38,000 | 58,000 | 6,000 | 54,000 | S | S | 7,000 | D | 12,000 | 65,000 | 10,000 | 54,000 |
| Government | 102,000 | 97,000 | 47,000 | 97,000 | 22,000 | 110,000 | 12,000 | 99,000 | D | D | 18,000 | 81,000 |

TABLE 4-3

Full-time employed scientists and engineers and their median salary, by major field of highest degree, employment sector, and primary work activity: 2019

(Number and dollars)

| Field of highest degree and employment sector | Number | Salary | Primary work activity | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|---------|-----------------------|---------|--|---------|---------------------------------------|---------|----------|--------|--------------------|--------|
| | | | Computer applications | | Management and administration ^a | | Research and development ^b | | Teaching | | Other ^c | |
| | | | Number | Salary | Number | Salary | Number | Salary | Number | Salary | Number | Salary |
| Physical and related sciences | 379,000 | 85,000 | 47,000 | 105,000 | 65,000 | 100,000 | 176,000 | 74,000 | 28,000 | 72,000 | 62,000 | 83,000 |
| Business or industry | 225,000 | 97,000 | 37,000 | 119,000 | 48,000 | 98,000 | 91,000 | 90,000 | S | S | 47,000 | 89,000 |
| 4-year educational institution | 99,000 | 50,000 | 6,000 | 45,000 | 4,000 | 108,000 | 62,000 | 35,000 | 24,000 | 76,000 | 2,000 | 58,000 |
| 2-year college or precollege educational institution | 4,000 | 64,000 | D | D | D | D | D | D | 3,000 | 64,000 | D | D |
| Government | 51,000 | 96,000 | 3,000 | 79,000 | 13,000 | 107,000 | 23,000 | 100,000 | D | D | 13,000 | 79,000 |
| Social and related sciences | 610,000 | 80,000 | 94,000 | 84,000 | 117,000 | 85,000 | 168,000 | 72,000 | 69,000 | 75,000 | 163,000 | 75,000 |
| Business or industry | 331,000 | 82,000 | 83,000 | 85,000 | 86,000 | 81,000 | 66,000 | 86,000 | 6,000 | 60,000 | 90,000 | 79,000 |
| 4-year educational institution | 157,000 | 68,000 | 3,000 | 59,000 | 7,000 | 96,000 | 75,000 | 50,000 | 54,000 | 78,000 | 17,000 | 58,000 |
| 2-year college or precollege educational institution | 44,000 | 68,000 | D | D | 4,000 | 72,000 | 2,000 | 71,000 | 8,000 | 72,000 | 30,000 | 67,000 |
| Government | 79,000 | 85,000 | 7,000 | 75,000 | 20,000 | 92,000 | 26,000 | 68,000 | D | D | 25,000 | 89,000 |
| Engineering | 2,041,000 | 103,000 | 451,000 | 112,000 | 511,000 | 110,000 | 429,000 | 100,000 | 20,000 | 89,000 | 631,000 | 93,000 |
| Business or industry | 1,706,000 | 105,000 | 417,000 | 113,000 | 407,000 | 110,000 | 314,000 | 108,000 | 1,000 | 90,000 | 566,000 | 94,000 |
| 4-year educational institution | 105,000 | 75,000 | 16,000 | 75,000 | 7,000 | 103,000 | 60,000 | 50,000 | 16,000 | 90,000 | 6,000 | S |
| 2-year college or precollege educational institution | 10,000 | 66,000 | D | D | 3,000 | D | 2,000 | D | 2,000 | 63,000 | D | D |
| Government | 221,000 | 102,000 | 16,000 | 124,000 | 93,000 | 109,000 | 52,000 | 96,000 | S | S | 58,000 | 92,000 |
| S&E-related fields | 373,000 | 89,000 | 82,000 | 102,000 | 84,000 | 99,000 | 101,000 | 88,000 | 14,000 | 67,000 | 93,000 | 73,000 |
| Business or industry | 272,000 | 95,000 | 72,000 | 104,000 | 67,000 | 99,000 | 57,000 | 98,000 | D | D | 75,000 | 74,000 |
| 4-year educational institution | 40,000 | 62,000 | 2,000 | 58,000 | 4,000 | 53,000 | 24,000 | 60,000 | 7,000 | 71,000 | S | S |
| 2-year college or precollege educational institution | 14,000 | 63,000 | S | S | D | D | S | S | 6,000 | 63,000 | S | S |
| Government | 47,000 | 91,000 | 6,000 | 90,000 | 12,000 | 102,000 | 18,000 | 87,000 | D | D | 11,000 | 73,000 |

TABLE 4-3

Full-time employed scientists and engineers and their median salary, by major field of highest degree, employment sector, and primary work activity: 2019

(Number and dollars)

| Field of highest degree and employment sector | Number | Salary | Primary work activity | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|---------|-----------------------|--------|--|---------|---------------------------------------|--------|----------|--------|--------------------|---------|
| | | | Computer applications | | Management and administration ^a | | Research and development ^b | | Teaching | | Other ^c | |
| | | | Number | Salary | Number | Salary | Number | Salary | Number | Salary | Number | Salary |
| Non-S&E fields | 1,200,000 | 90,000 | 312,000 | 92,000 | 430,000 | 95,000 | 156,000 | 83,000 | 54,000 | 65,000 | 249,000 | 90,000 |
| Business or industry | 932,000 | 100,000 | 273,000 | 99,000 | 346,000 | 100,000 | 97,000 | 98,000 | 10,000 | 54,000 | 206,000 | 100,000 |
| 4-year educational institution | 93,000 | 68,000 | 13,000 | 78,000 | 23,000 | 63,000 | 14,000 | 63,000 | 35,000 | 69,000 | 9,000 | 52,000 |
| 2-year college or precollege educational institution | 31,000 | 60,000 | 6,000 | 45,000 | 6,000 | 66,000 | 9,000 | 59,000 | 7,000 | 62,000 | S | S |
| Government | 144,000 | 74,000 | 22,000 | 75,000 | 55,000 | 88,000 | 37,000 | 73,000 | D | D | 29,000 | 50,000 |

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

S&E = science and engineering.

^a Management and administration includes respondents who reported the following work activities: accounting, finance, or contracts; human resources; quality or productivity management; sales and marketing; or managing and supervising.^b Research and development includes basic research, applied research, and development. "Design" is no longer included in the definition of "research and development"; it is now included as part of "Other work activities."^c Other work activities includes the design of equipment, processes, structures, and models; production, operations, and maintenance; professional services; and other activities not broken out separately.**Note(s):**

Population counts are rounded to the nearest 1,000. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Median salaries are rounded to the nearest \$1,000. Scientists and engineers are bachelor's and higher degreed individuals living in the United States employed in an S&E occupation. Persons are considered to be employed full time if they are working 35 or more hours per week on their principal job. Four-year educational institution includes medical schools and university-affiliated research institutes. Government includes federal (civilian), military, state, and local employers.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Survey of College Graduates: 2019.