

TABLE 3-4

Employed college graduates, by sex, major occupation, job satisfaction, and years since highest degree: 2017

(Number)

Sex, occupation, and job satisfaction	Total	Years since highest degree							
		< 5	5–9	10–14	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	≥ 35
All sexes	48,223,000	7,482,000	8,984,000	7,102,000	5,680,000	4,865,000	4,150,000	3,788,000	6,171,000
Very satisfied	21,878,000	3,058,000	3,503,000	3,116,000	2,588,000	2,180,000	1,974,000	1,927,000	3,532,000
Somewhat satisfied	20,857,000	3,258,000	4,174,000	3,197,000	2,554,000	2,163,000	1,755,000	1,515,000	2,240,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	4,294,000	900,000	995,000	617,000	442,000	419,000	334,000	269,000	317,000
Very dissatisfied	1,195,000	266,000	312,000	173,000	96,000	102,000	87,000	77,000	82,000
S&E occupations	6,769,000	1,246,000	1,366,000	1,060,000	800,000	686,000	607,000	456,000	548,000
Very satisfied	3,002,000	572,000	558,000	453,000	356,000	298,000	267,000	207,000	290,000
Somewhat satisfied	3,137,000	540,000	652,000	514,000	385,000	324,000	288,000	211,000	223,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	526,000	106,000	140,000	78,000	49,000	52,000	44,000	29,000	28,000
Very dissatisfied	104,000	27,000	16,000	15,000	10,000	12,000	8,000	9,000	7,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	610,000	157,000	144,000	79,000	68,000	46,000	36,000	30,000	50,000
Very satisfied	288,000	85,000	59,000	37,000	28,000	21,000	18,000	15,000	24,000
Somewhat satisfied	260,000	59,000	67,000	31,000	35,000	21,000	12,000	12,000	23,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	51,000	10,000	15,000	10,000	4,000	4,000	5,000	2,000	S
Very dissatisfied	11,000	4,000	2,000	S	D	1,000	S	D	D
Computer and mathematical scientists	3,419,000	521,000	695,000	618,000	433,000	377,000	349,000	207,000	218,000
Very satisfied	1,427,000	223,000	279,000	262,000	182,000	153,000	143,000	83,000	103,000
Somewhat satisfied	1,640,000	227,000	329,000	301,000	218,000	191,000	173,000	103,000	97,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	296,000	55,000	81,000	44,000	28,000	27,000	29,000	16,000	17,000
Very dissatisfied	56,000	16,000	6,000	11,000	5,000	7,000	4,000	5,000	D
Physical and related scientists	366,000	98,000	58,000	41,000	43,000	35,000	21,000	30,000	40,000
Very satisfied	163,000	35,000	21,000	17,000	26,000	15,000	11,000	14,000	25,000
Somewhat satisfied	170,000	56,000	31,000	21,000	13,000	14,000	8,000	13,000	13,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	22,000	5,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	S	1,000
Very dissatisfied	11,000	1,000	2,000	D	S	3,000	D	D	D
Social and related scientists	646,000	159,000	136,000	95,000	73,000	49,000	49,000	33,000	51,000
Very satisfied	347,000	88,000	60,000	44,000	38,000	27,000	28,000	22,000	39,000
Somewhat satisfied	255,000	59,000	63,000	45,000	28,000	18,000	21,000	9,000	11,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	39,000	9,000	12,000	5,000	6,000	3,000	S	S	1,000
Very dissatisfied	5,000	S	S	D	D	D	D	D	D
Engineers	1,728,000	310,000	333,000	228,000	182,000	179,000	150,000	155,000	190,000
Very satisfied	776,000	141,000	139,000	93,000	82,000	82,000	67,000	73,000	100,000
Somewhat satisfied	813,000	138,000	162,000	116,000	90,000	80,000	73,000	74,000	79,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	118,000	27,000	29,000	16,000	8,000	15,000	8,000	7,000	7,000
Very dissatisfied	21,000	4,000	3,000	3,000	S	2,000	S	S	3,000
S&E-related occupations	8,271,000	1,588,000	1,624,000	1,186,000	951,000	817,000	593,000	567,000	944,000
Very satisfied	4,095,000	751,000	694,000	564,000	470,000	393,000	326,000	327,000	569,000
Somewhat satisfied	3,471,000	649,000	753,000	526,000	411,000	354,000	225,000	207,000	347,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	576,000	148,000	150,000	76,000	61,000	61,000	34,000	23,000	22,000
Very dissatisfied	129,000	41,000	27,000	20,000	8,000	8,000	9,000	S	S
Non-S&E occupations	33,183,000	4,648,000	5,994,000	4,856,000	3,930,000	3,361,000	2,951,000	2,766,000	4,678,000
Very satisfied	14,781,000	1,735,000	2,251,000	2,098,000	1,761,000	1,489,000	1,382,000	1,393,000	2,672,000
Somewhat satisfied	14,249,000	2,070,000	2,769,000	2,156,000	1,758,000	1,485,000	1,243,000	1,098,000	1,670,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	3,192,000	646,000	704,000	464,000	332,000	306,000	256,000	217,000	266,000
Very dissatisfied	961,000	198,000	269,000	137,000	78,000	81,000	70,000	58,000	69,000
Female	24,900,000	4,353,000	5,135,000	3,825,000	2,915,000	2,448,000	1,948,000	1,766,000	2,510,000
Very satisfied	10,944,000	1,698,000	1,997,000	1,677,000	1,290,000	1,069,000	950,000	883,000	1,381,000

TABLE 3-4

Employed college graduates, by sex, major occupation, job satisfaction, and years since highest degree: 2017

(Number)

Sex, occupation, and job satisfaction	Total	Years since highest degree							
		< 5	5–9	10–14	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	≥ 35
Somewhat satisfied	11,052,000	1,993,000	2,410,000	1,725,000	1,356,000	1,122,000	789,000	718,000	939,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	2,321,000	531,000	560,000	338,000	226,000	219,000	163,000	138,000	145,000
Very dissatisfied	585,000	131,000	168,000	86,000	43,000	37,000	47,000	27,000	46,000
S&E occupations	1,966,000	400,000	441,000	313,000	238,000	182,000	172,000	108,000	112,000
Very satisfied	835,000	156,000	167,000	129,000	113,000	74,000	80,000	58,000	57,000
Somewhat satisfied	930,000	191,000	219,000	153,000	110,000	89,000	80,000	41,000	48,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	171,000	44,000	49,000	25,000	13,000	15,000	12,000	6,000	S
Very dissatisfied	31,000	9,000	7,000	5,000	S	5,000	S	S	D
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	292,000	80,000	73,000	41,000	32,000	19,000	18,000	12,000	17,000
Very satisfied	139,000	44,000	31,000	18,000	15,000	7,000	10,000	7,000	8,000
Somewhat satisfied	122,000	30,000	32,000	16,000	16,000	10,000	6,000	4,000	9,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	26,000	4,000	9,000	6,000	S	2,000	S	1,000	D
Very dissatisfied	4,000	S	1,000	D	D	D	D	D	D
Computer and mathematical scientists	919,000	152,000	190,000	151,000	108,000	107,000	98,000	55,000	58,000
Very satisfied	358,000	51,000	65,000	54,000	50,000	42,000	45,000	26,000	25,000
Somewhat satisfied	450,000	68,000	97,000	79,000	53,000	54,000	46,000	26,000	27,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	96,000	28,000	25,000	14,000	6,000	8,000	7,000	S	S
Very dissatisfied	14,000	4,000	2,000	S	D	S	D	D	D
Physical and related scientists	107,000	28,000	23,000	14,000	13,000	9,000	6,000	6,000	8,000
Very satisfied	48,000	14,000	8,000	7,000	7,000	2,000	3,000	2,000	3,000
Somewhat satisfied	46,000	11,000	12,000	6,000	5,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	4,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	8,000	2,000	1,000	S	1,000	D	D	D	D
Very dissatisfied	6,000	D	S	D	D	D	D	D	D
Social and related scientists	379,000	79,000	92,000	68,000	46,000	28,000	28,000	19,000	19,000
Very satisfied	180,000	25,000	38,000	36,000	25,000	15,000	13,000	14,000	15,000
Somewhat satisfied	169,000	45,000	44,000	29,000	16,000	11,000	15,000	4,000	4,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	26,000	7,000	9,000	S	5,000	S	D	D	D
Very dissatisfied	4,000	S	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Engineers	269,000	61,000	64,000	39,000	38,000	20,000	21,000	15,000	11,000
Very satisfied	110,000	22,000	25,000	14,000	17,000	8,000	10,000	8,000	6,000
Somewhat satisfied	142,000	36,000	33,000	22,000	20,000	11,000	10,000	5,000	4,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	14,000	3,000	4,000	2,000	1,000	S	D	D	D
Very dissatisfied	3,000	D	1,000	D	D	D	D	D	D
S&E-related occupations	4,764,000	1,061,000	1,055,000	698,000	545,000	396,000	281,000	280,000	447,000
Very satisfied	2,310,000	513,000	463,000	301,000	258,000	192,000	159,000	164,000	259,000
Somewhat satisfied	2,046,000	451,000	463,000	328,000	265,000	169,000	99,000	103,000	168,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	347,000	88,000	114,000	54,000	18,000	32,000	16,000	10,000	15,000
Very dissatisfied	62,000	10,000	15,000	15,000	S	S	S	D	S
Non-S&E occupations	18,170,000	2,892,000	3,638,000	2,814,000	2,132,000	1,870,000	1,495,000	1,378,000	1,951,000
Very satisfied	7,799,000	1,029,000	1,367,000	1,246,000	918,000	803,000	710,000	661,000	1,065,000
Somewhat satisfied	8,076,000	1,351,000	1,728,000	1,244,000	982,000	865,000	610,000	573,000	723,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	1,803,000	400,000	397,000	258,000	195,000	172,000	135,000	122,000	124,000
Very dissatisfied	492,000	112,000	146,000	66,000	37,000	30,000	39,000	22,000	40,000
Male	23,323,000	3,130,000	3,850,000	3,277,000	2,765,000	2,417,000	2,202,000	2,022,000	3,660,000
Very satisfied	10,934,000	1,360,000	1,506,000	1,439,000	1,298,000	1,112,000	1,025,000	1,044,000	2,151,000
Somewhat satisfied	9,805,000	1,266,000	1,764,000	1,472,000	1,197,000	1,041,000	967,000	797,000	1,302,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	1,973,000	369,000	435,000	280,000	217,000	200,000	171,000	131,000	171,000

TABLE 3-4

Employed college graduates, by sex, major occupation, job satisfaction, and years since highest degree: 2017

(Number)

Sex, occupation, and job satisfaction	Total	Years since highest degree							
		< 5	5–9	10–14	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	≥ 35
Very dissatisfied	610,000	135,000	145,000	87,000	53,000	65,000	40,000	50,000	36,000
S&E occupations	4,803,000	846,000	925,000	748,000	562,000	504,000	434,000	348,000	437,000
Very satisfied	2,167,000	416,000	391,000	324,000	243,000	224,000	187,000	149,000	233,000
Somewhat satisfied	2,207,000	349,000	434,000	361,000	275,000	236,000	208,000	169,000	175,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	355,000	62,000	92,000	53,000	36,000	37,000	31,000	23,000	22,000
Very dissatisfied	73,000	18,000	9,000	10,000	8,000	8,000	7,000	6,000	7,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	319,000	78,000	71,000	38,000	36,000	28,000	18,000	17,000	34,000
Very satisfied	149,000	41,000	28,000	19,000	13,000	14,000	9,000	8,000	17,000
Somewhat satisfied	137,000	29,000	36,000	15,000	20,000	11,000	6,000	8,000	14,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	25,000	6,000	7,000	4,000	3,000	1,000	2,000	1,000	D
Very dissatisfied	7,000	3,000	1,000	D	D	1,000	S	D	D
Computer and mathematical scientists	2,500,000	369,000	505,000	467,000	325,000	270,000	251,000	152,000	160,000
Very satisfied	1,070,000	172,000	214,000	208,000	132,000	111,000	98,000	57,000	78,000
Somewhat satisfied	1,189,000	159,000	231,000	222,000	165,000	136,000	127,000	78,000	70,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	200,000	26,000	56,000	30,000	23,000	20,000	21,000	13,000	11,000
Very dissatisfied	42,000	12,000	4,000	7,000	5,000	S	4,000	4,000	D
Physical and related scientists	259,000	70,000	35,000	27,000	30,000	26,000	15,000	24,000	32,000
Very satisfied	116,000	20,000	13,000	9,000	19,000	13,000	8,000	11,000	21,000
Somewhat satisfied	124,000	45,000	19,000	15,000	8,000	11,000	6,000	11,000	9,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	14,000	3,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	1,000	S	S	1,000
Very dissatisfied	5,000	D	1,000	D	S	D	D	D	D
Social and related scientists	266,000	80,000	44,000	26,000	26,000	21,000	21,000	14,000	32,000
Very satisfied	167,000	S	22,000	8,000	13,000	13,000	15,000	8,000	24,000
Somewhat satisfied	86,000	14,000	19,000	15,000	12,000	8,000	6,000	5,000	7,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	13,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	1,000	S	D	D	S
Very dissatisfied	1,000	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Engineers	1,459,000	249,000	269,000	190,000	144,000	159,000	129,000	140,000	179,000
Very satisfied	666,000	119,000	113,000	79,000	66,000	74,000	57,000	65,000	93,000
Somewhat satisfied	671,000	102,000	129,000	94,000	70,000	69,000	63,000	68,000	74,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	104,000	25,000	25,000	14,000	7,000	14,000	6,000	6,000	7,000
Very dissatisfied	18,000	3,000	2,000	2,000	S	2,000	S	S	3,000
S&E-related occupations	3,507,000	527,000	569,000	488,000	406,000	422,000	312,000	286,000	497,000
Very satisfied	1,786,000	238,000	231,000	263,000	212,000	201,000	166,000	163,000	310,000
Somewhat satisfied	1,425,000	198,000	289,000	199,000	146,000	186,000	126,000	103,000	179,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	229,000	60,000	36,000	21,000	44,000	29,000	18,000	13,000	7,000
Very dissatisfied	68,000	31,000	13,000	5,000	4,000	6,000	S	S	*
Non-S&E occupations	15,013,000	1,757,000	2,355,000	2,042,000	1,798,000	1,491,000	1,456,000	1,388,000	2,727,000
Very satisfied	6,982,000	706,000	884,000	852,000	842,000	686,000	672,000	732,000	1,608,000
Somewhat satisfied	6,173,000	718,000	1,041,000	913,000	777,000	620,000	633,000	524,000	948,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	1,389,000	246,000	307,000	206,000	137,000	134,000	121,000	95,000	142,000
Very dissatisfied	470,000	86,000	123,000	71,000	41,000	51,000	31,000	36,000	29,000

* = suppressed when population estimate < 500. D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information. S = suppressed for reliability; coefficient of variation exceeds publication standards.

S&E = science and engineering.

Note(s):

Numbers are rounded to the nearest 1,000. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

Source(s):
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Survey of College Graduates, 2017.