

TABLE 3-2

Employed college graduates, by employment sector, minor occupation, and job satisfaction: 2017

(Number)

Sector and occupation	Total	Job satisfaction			
		Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
All sectors	48,223,000	21,878,000	20,857,000	4,294,000	1,195,000
S&E occupations	6,769,000	3,002,000	3,137,000	526,000	104,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	610,000	288,000	260,000	51,000	11,000
Agricultural and food scientists	41,000	14,000	23,000	2,000	S
Biological and medical scientists	455,000	216,000	192,000	39,000	8,000
Environmental life scientists	27,000	9,000	15,000	S	D
Postsecondary teachers - life and related sciences	87,000	49,000	30,000	6,000	2,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	3,419,000	1,427,000	1,640,000	296,000	56,000
Computer and information scientists	3,096,000	1,276,000	1,497,000	269,000	53,000
Mathematical scientists	209,000	92,000	94,000	21,000	2,000
Postsecondary teachers - computer and math sciences	114,000	58,000	48,000	7,000	D
Physical and related scientists	366,000	163,000	170,000	22,000	11,000
Chemists, except biochemists	109,000	45,000	53,000	8,000	3,000
Earth scientists, geologists and oceanographers	69,000	31,000	32,000	5,000	S
Physicists and astronomers	42,000	22,000	17,000	2,000	D
Other physical and related scientists	65,000	31,000	25,000	4,000	5,000
Postsecondary teachers - physical and related sciences	81,000	34,000	43,000	3,000	D
Social and related scientists	646,000	347,000	255,000	39,000	5,000
Economists	47,000	32,000	13,000	2,000	S
Political scientists	33,000	19,000	12,000	S	D
Psychologists	199,000	122,000	67,000	10,000	D
Sociologists and anthropologists	24,000	11,000	9,000	S	D
Other social and related scientists	159,000	70,000	74,000	14,000	1,000
Postsecondary teachers - social and related sciences	183,000	93,000	80,000	9,000	1,000
Engineers	1,728,000	776,000	813,000	118,000	21,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineers	132,000	59,000	56,000	16,000	S
Chemical engineers	93,000	40,000	46,000	6,000	S
Civil, architectural, and sanitary engineers	264,000	123,000	121,000	16,000	4,000
Electrical and computer hardware engineers	374,000	181,000	165,000	26,000	3,000
Industrial engineers	88,000	36,000	45,000	6,000	D
Mechanical engineers	313,000	132,000	153,000	24,000	3,000
Other engineers	406,000	179,000	199,000	21,000	7,000
Postsecondary teachers - engineering	59,000	27,000	29,000	3,000	D
S&E-related occupations	8,271,000	4,095,000	3,471,000	576,000	129,000
Health-related occupations	5,181,000	2,623,000	2,125,000	344,000	89,000
S&E managers	1,048,000	541,000	432,000	64,000	12,000
S&E precollege teachers	961,000	429,000	437,000	88,000	7,000
S&E technicians and technologists	837,000	374,000	378,000	68,000	18,000
Other S&E-related occupations	244,000	129,000	99,000	13,000	D
Non-S&E occupations	33,183,000	14,781,000	14,249,000	3,192,000	961,000
Non-S&E managers	4,510,000	2,657,000	1,558,000	237,000	59,000
Management-related occupations	6,428,000	2,615,000	3,083,000	561,000	169,000
Non-S&E precollege teachers	4,093,000	1,836,000	1,846,000	362,000	49,000
Non-S&E postsecondary teachers	634,000	354,000	224,000	50,000	6,000
Social services and related occupations	1,908,000	881,000	831,000	154,000	42,000

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(Number)

Sector and occupation	Total	Job satisfaction			
		Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Sales and marketing occupations	4,353,000	1,728,000	1,898,000	543,000	184,000
Art, humanities, and related occupations	1,439,000	625,000	654,000	133,000	27,000
Other non-S&E occupations	9,818,000	4,085,000	4,155,000	1,153,000	425,000
Business or industry	33,510,000	14,932,000	14,542,000	3,066,000	970,000
S&E occupations	4,888,000	2,124,000	2,281,000	401,000	81,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	266,000	122,000	113,000	26,000	5,000
Agricultural and food scientists	26,000	9,000	14,000	1,000	S
Biological and medical scientists	232,000	111,000	96,000	21,000	4,000
Environmental life scientists	8,000	2,000	3,000	D	D
Postsecondary teachers - life and related sciences	D	D	D	D	D
Computer and mathematical scientists	2,827,000	1,174,000	1,355,000	248,000	51,000
Computer and information scientists	2,676,000	1,106,000	1,279,000	240,000	51,000
Mathematical scientists	151,000	68,000	76,000	7,000	D
Postsecondary teachers - computer and math sciences	D	D	D	D	D
Physical and related scientists	154,000	66,000	71,000	13,000	4,000
Chemists, except biochemists	73,000	29,000	36,000	6,000	S
Earth scientists, geologists and oceanographers	41,000	16,000	20,000	4,000	D
Physicists and astronomers	12,000	8,000	4,000	D	D
Other physical and related scientists	27,000	13,000	11,000	2,000	S
Postsecondary teachers - physical and related sciences	D	D	D	D	D
Social and related scientists	253,000	141,000	93,000	17,000	S
Economists	20,000	11,000	7,000	S	D
Political scientists	12,000	9,000	3,000	D	D
Psychologists	107,000	70,000	32,000	4,000	D
Sociologists and anthropologists	10,000	4,000	3,000	S	D
Other social and related scientists	103,000	S	47,000	9,000	*
Postsecondary teachers - social and related sciences	D	D	D	D	D
Engineers	1,387,000	621,000	649,000	98,000	19,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineers	105,000	44,000	44,000	15,000	S
Chemical engineers	80,000	36,000	37,000	5,000	S
Civil, architectural, and sanitary engineers	175,000	86,000	76,000	10,000	3,000
Electrical and computer hardware engineers	326,000	154,000	145,000	25,000	2,000
Industrial engineers	77,000	32,000	39,000	6,000	D
Mechanical engineers	288,000	122,000	140,000	22,000	3,000
Other engineers	337,000	147,000	167,000	15,000	7,000
Postsecondary teachers - engineering	D	D	D	D	D
S&E-related occupations	5,869,000	2,903,000	2,486,000	373,000	107,000
Health-related occupations	4,128,000	2,061,000	1,736,000	253,000	78,000
S&E managers	843,000	428,000	353,000	51,000	11,000
S&E precollege teachers	D	D	D	D	D
S&E technicians and technologists	679,000	303,000	301,000	58,000	16,000
Other S&E-related occupations	219,000	111,000	95,000	11,000	D
Non-S&E occupations	22,753,000	9,905,000	9,775,000	2,293,000	781,000
Non-S&E managers	3,607,000	2,122,000	1,219,000	211,000	54,000

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Sector and occupation	Total	Job satisfaction			
		Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Management-related occupations	5,310,000	2,091,000	2,580,000	499,000	139,000
Non-S&E precollege teachers	D	D	D	D	D
Non-S&E postsecondary teachers	D	D	D	D	D
Social services and related occupations	1,190,000	589,000	481,000	89,000	30,000
Sales and marketing occupations	4,230,000	1,677,000	1,839,000	532,000	182,000
Art, humanities, and related occupations	1,284,000	564,000	585,000	115,000	21,000
Other non-S&E occupations	7,133,000	2,862,000	3,070,000	846,000	355,000
Education	9,905,000	4,582,000	4,343,000	862,000	118,000
S&E occupations	1,096,000	504,000	509,000	72,000	11,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	240,000	117,000	98,000	20,000	5,000
Agricultural and food scientists	10,000	3,000	7,000	D	D
Biological and medical scientists	142,000	64,000	61,000	14,000	3,000
Environmental life scientists	2,000	*	S	D	D
Postsecondary teachers - life and related sciences	87,000	49,000	30,000	6,000	2,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	300,000	126,000	152,000	20,000	3,000
Computer and information scientists	169,000	61,000	96,000	11,000	D
Mathematical scientists	16,000	6,000	8,000	2,000	D
Postsecondary teachers - computer and math sciences	114,000	58,000	48,000	7,000	D
Physical and related scientists	136,000	59,000	68,000	6,000	S
Chemists, except biochemists	21,000	9,000	10,000	S	S
Earth scientists, geologists and oceanographers	12,000	6,000	5,000	D	D
Physicists and astronomers	18,000	8,000	8,000	2,000	D
Other physical and related scientists	4,000	1,000	S	D	D
Postsecondary teachers - physical and related sciences	81,000	34,000	43,000	3,000	D
Social and related scientists	297,000	147,000	130,000	18,000	2,000
Economists	5,000	2,000	3,000	D	D
Political scientists	S	S	S	D	D
Psychologists	73,000	40,000	27,000	5,000	D
Sociologists and anthropologists	8,000	3,000	S	D	D
Other social and related scientists	22,000	7,000	13,000	2,000	D
Postsecondary teachers - social and related sciences	183,000	93,000	80,000	9,000	1,000
Engineers	122,000	55,000	60,000	8,000	D
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineers	2,000	1,000	S	D	D
Chemical engineers	10,000	3,000	S	D	D
Civil, architectural, and sanitary engineers	5,000	1,000	3,000	D	D
Electrical and computer hardware engineers	15,000	8,000	7,000	D	D
Industrial engineers	2,000	S	D	D	D
Mechanical engineers	8,000	3,000	5,000	D	D
Other engineers	21,000	9,000	8,000	4,000	D
Postsecondary teachers - engineering	59,000	27,000	29,000	3,000	D
S&E-related occupations	1,759,000	859,000	743,000	143,000	14,000
Health-related occupations	662,000	359,000	249,000	47,000	6,000
S&E managers	65,000	41,000	21,000	S	D
S&E precollege teachers	961,000	429,000	437,000	88,000	7,000

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		Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
S&E technicians and technologists	66,000	26,000	35,000	5,000	S
Other S&E-related occupations	S	S	D	D	D
Non-S&E occupations	7,050,000	3,219,000	3,092,000	647,000	92,000
Non-S&E managers	447,000	254,000	174,000	17,000	D
Management-related occupations	346,000	156,000	165,000	11,000	13,000
Non-S&E precollege teachers	4,093,000	1,836,000	1,846,000	362,000	49,000
Non-S&E postsecondary teachers	634,000	354,000	224,000	50,000	6,000
Social services and related occupations	371,000	146,000	193,000	31,000	*
Sales and marketing occupations	77,000	40,000	33,000	3,000	D
Art, humanities, and related occupations	121,000	43,000	54,000	S	D
Other non-S&E occupations	963,000	389,000	402,000	157,000	14,000
Government	4,808,000	2,363,000	1,971,000	366,000	108,000
S&E occupations	785,000	373,000	347,000	53,000	12,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	104,000	48,000	49,000	5,000	2,000
Agricultural and food scientists	5,000	1,000	3,000	D	D
Biological and medical scientists	82,000	40,000	36,000	5,000	S
Environmental life scientists	17,000	6,000	10,000	1,000	D
Postsecondary teachers - life and related sciences	D	D	D	D	D
Computer and mathematical scientists	292,000	128,000	133,000	29,000	2,000
Computer and information scientists	250,000	110,000	122,000	17,000	S
Mathematical scientists	42,000	18,000	11,000	S	1,000
Postsecondary teachers - computer and math sciences	D	D	D	D	D
Physical and related scientists	76,000	38,000	30,000	3,000	5,000
Chemists, except biochemists	15,000	8,000	7,000	1,000	D
Earth scientists, geologists and oceanographers	16,000	9,000	6,000	*	D
Physicists and astronomers	12,000	5,000	6,000	D	D
Other physical and related scientists	34,000	17,000	11,000	S	4,000
Postsecondary teachers - physical and related sciences	D	D	D	D	D
Social and related scientists	95,000	59,000	32,000	4,000	D
Economists	S	S	3,000	S	D
Political scientists	16,000	S	S	D	D
Psychologists	19,000	11,000	7,000	D	D
Sociologists and anthropologists	5,000	4,000	1,000	D	D
Other social and related scientists	33,000	17,000	14,000	S	D
Postsecondary teachers - social and related sciences	D	D	D	D	D
Engineers	218,000	100,000	104,000	12,000	2,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineers	24,000	13,000	11,000	D	D
Chemical engineers	3,000	S	2,000	D	D
Civil, architectural, and sanitary engineers	84,000	36,000	41,000	6,000	1,000
Electrical and computer hardware engineers	34,000	19,000	13,000	S	S
Industrial engineers	8,000	3,000	5,000	D	D
Mechanical engineers	16,000	6,000	9,000	1,000	D
Other engineers	48,000	22,000	24,000	2,000	D
Postsecondary teachers - engineering	D	D	D	D	D

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(Number)

Sector and occupation	Total	Job satisfaction			
		Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
S&E-related occupations	643,000	333,000	242,000	60,000	8,000
Health-related occupations	392,000	203,000	139,000	44,000	S
S&E managers	141,000	71,000	58,000	10,000	D
S&E precollege teachers	D	D	D	D	D
S&E technicians and technologists	92,000	45,000	41,000	5,000	D
Other S&E-related occupations	19,000	15,000	S	D	D
Non-S&E occupations	3,379,000	1,657,000	1,382,000	253,000	88,000
Non-S&E managers	457,000	281,000	165,000	8,000	S
Management-related occupations	773,000	368,000	338,000	51,000	16,000
Non-S&E precollege teachers	D	D	D	D	D
Non-S&E postsecondary teachers	D	D	D	D	D
Social services and related occupations	347,000	146,000	156,000	34,000	12,000
Sales and marketing occupations	46,000	S	26,000	S	D
Art, humanities, and related occupations	35,000	19,000	15,000	S	D
Other non-S&E occupations	1,722,000	833,000	683,000	150,000	56,000

* = 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. Business or industry includes self-employed individuals, nonprofit organizations, and other unspecified types of employers. Education includes 4-year colleges and universities, medical schools, university-affiliated research institutes, 2-year colleges, precollege institutions, and other educational institutions. Government includes federal (civilian), military, state, and local employers.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Survey of College Graduates, 2017.