

TABLE 1-1

College graduates, by level of highest degree, minor field of highest degree, and labor force status: 2021

(Number)

Level and field of highest degree	Total	Employed			Unemployed ^a	Not in labor force ^b	
		Total	S&E occupations	S&E-related occupations			Non-S&E occupations
All degrees	68,593,000	51,764,000	7,894,000	9,522,000	34,349,000	3,160,000	13,669,000
S&E fields	21,357,000	16,408,000	6,059,000	2,405,000	7,944,000	939,000	4,011,000
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	3,433,000	2,570,000	768,000	667,000	1,136,000	150,000	714,000
Agricultural and food sciences	406,000	308,000	73,000	40,000	195,000	12,000	86,000
Biological sciences	2,612,000	1,937,000	610,000	591,000	737,000	120,000	555,000
Environmental life sciences	416,000	325,000	85,000	36,000	204,000	18,000	74,000
Computer and mathematical sciences	3,897,000	3,147,000	1,795,000	463,000	889,000	166,000	584,000
Computer and information sciences	2,991,000	2,493,000	1,556,000	324,000	614,000	136,000	362,000
Mathematics and statistics	906,000	654,000	239,000	140,000	276,000	30,000	222,000
Physical and related sciences	1,172,000	906,000	461,000	148,000	297,000	41,000	225,000
Chemistry, except biochemistry	493,000	376,000	189,000	75,000	113,000	16,000	101,000
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	328,000	263,000	120,000	31,000	112,000	9,000	56,000
Physics and astronomy	315,000	240,000	146,000	34,000	61,000	15,000	60,000
Other physical sciences	35,000	26,000	6,000	8,000	11,000	S	8,000
Social and related sciences	7,913,000	5,774,000	758,000	486,000	4,529,000	410,000	1,730,000
Economics	1,143,000	869,000	123,000	37,000	708,000	38,000	236,000
Political and related sciences	1,415,000	1,039,000	115,000	67,000	858,000	83,000	293,000
Psychology	3,232,000	2,336,000	337,000	238,000	1,761,000	165,000	731,000
Sociology and anthropology	1,315,000	929,000	112,000	73,000	744,000	74,000	312,000
Other social sciences	807,000	600,000	71,000	71,000	458,000	49,000	158,000
Engineering	4,942,000	4,011,000	2,277,000	641,000	1,093,000	173,000	759,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	189,000	145,000	84,000	18,000	43,000	5,000	39,000
Chemical engineering	331,000	269,000	148,000	37,000	84,000	10,000	52,000
Civil and architectural engineering	663,000	543,000	296,000	96,000	151,000	11,000	110,000
Electrical and computer engineering	1,723,000	1,409,000	885,000	245,000	278,000	63,000	251,000
Industrial engineering	305,000	230,000	82,000	41,000	107,000	12,000	62,000
Mechanical engineering	1,014,000	848,000	500,000	110,000	238,000	36,000	130,000
Other engineering	717,000	567,000	283,000	93,000	191,000	35,000	115,000
S&E-related fields	9,841,000	7,822,000	439,000	5,519,000	1,863,000	265,000	1,754,000
Health	7,912,000	6,364,000	190,000	4,983,000	1,191,000	212,000	1,335,000
Science and mathematics teacher education	637,000	429,000	30,000	223,000	175,000	11,000	197,000
Technology and technical fields	638,000	488,000	170,000	92,000	226,000	22,000	128,000
Other S&E-related fields	654,000	541,000	48,000	221,000	271,000	19,000	94,000
Non-S&E fields	37,395,000	27,535,000	1,396,000	1,597,000	24,541,000	1,956,000	7,904,000
Management and administration fields	12,410,000	9,480,000	647,000	527,000	8,305,000	663,000	2,268,000
Education, except science and math teacher education	7,473,000	5,019,000	94,000	441,000	4,484,000	179,000	2,275,000
Social service and related fields	1,996,000	1,466,000	77,000	65,000	1,324,000	113,000	418,000
Sales and marketing fields	1,652,000	1,293,000	61,000	62,000	1,169,000	69,000	290,000
Art and humanities fields	6,317,000	4,526,000	273,000	299,000	3,954,000	452,000	1,340,000
Other non-S&E fields	7,546,000	5,752,000	244,000	203,000	5,305,000	480,000	1,314,000
Bachelor's	42,870,000	31,688,000	4,438,000	5,031,000	22,219,000	2,349,000	8,832,000

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(Number)

Level and field of highest degree	Total	Employed			Unemployed ^a	Not in labor force ^b	
		Total	S&E occupations	S&E-related occupations			Non-S&E occupations
S&E fields	15,014,000	11,377,000	3,499,000	1,692,000	6,187,000	719,000	2,918,000
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	2,440,000	1,773,000	371,000	489,000	913,000	125,000	542,000
Agricultural and food sciences	320,000	239,000	39,000	33,000	167,000	S	69,000
Biological sciences	1,824,000	1,301,000	281,000	433,000	587,000	100,000	422,000
Environmental life sciences	297,000	232,000	51,000	23,000	159,000	14,000	51,000
Computer and mathematical sciences	2,623,000	2,133,000	1,137,000	321,000	675,000	106,000	384,000
Computer and information sciences	1,994,000	1,694,000	1,024,000	214,000	456,000	85,000	216,000
Mathematics and statistics	628,000	440,000	113,000	107,000	219,000	21,000	168,000
Physical and related sciences	692,000	517,000	199,000	99,000	218,000	31,000	144,000
Chemistry, except biochemistry	301,000	221,000	93,000	55,000	73,000	12,000	68,000
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	213,000	172,000	54,000	24,000	94,000	5,000	37,000
Physics and astronomy	154,000	106,000	49,000	16,000	40,000	12,000	35,000
Other physical sciences	23,000	17,000	S	4,000	11,000	S	S
Social and related sciences	5,858,000	4,229,000	321,000	353,000	3,554,000	326,000	1,303,000
Economics	937,000	714,000	67,000	34,000	613,000	34,000	189,000
Political and related sciences	1,088,000	777,000	52,000	53,000	671,000	72,000	239,000
Psychology	2,112,000	1,521,000	108,000	146,000	1,267,000	113,000	478,000
Sociology and anthropology	1,132,000	800,000	54,000	66,000	680,000	64,000	268,000
Other social sciences	589,000	417,000	39,000	55,000	323,000	43,000	128,000
Engineering	3,402,000	2,725,000	1,470,000	428,000	827,000	131,000	546,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	114,000	86,000	47,000	9,000	30,000	4,000	23,000
Chemical engineering	248,000	202,000	112,000	25,000	65,000	7,000	38,000
Civil and architectural engineering	497,000	395,000	194,000	73,000	128,000	9,000	93,000
Electrical and computer engineering	1,145,000	924,000	569,000	156,000	198,000	50,000	171,000
Industrial engineering	209,000	154,000	46,000	26,000	82,000	S	45,000
Mechanical engineering	799,000	660,000	372,000	85,000	203,000	29,000	110,000
Other engineering	391,000	304,000	130,000	52,000	121,000	23,000	64,000
S&E-related fields	5,017,000	3,821,000	203,000	2,494,000	1,123,000	149,000	1,048,000
Health	3,814,000	2,912,000	57,000	2,187,000	669,000	114,000	788,000
Science and mathematics teacher education	270,000	171,000	S	90,000	70,000	S	95,000
Technology and technical fields	512,000	393,000	117,000	77,000	198,000	17,000	102,000
Other S&E-related fields	421,000	344,000	18,000	141,000	186,000	13,000	63,000
Non-S&E fields	22,838,000	16,491,000	736,000	845,000	14,909,000	1,481,000	4,866,000
Management and administration fields	8,222,000	6,113,000	292,000	263,000	5,558,000	488,000	1,621,000
Education, except science and math teacher education	3,067,000	1,960,000	32,000	140,000	1,788,000	86,000	1,021,000
Social service and related fields	790,000	542,000	26,000	18,000	498,000	59,000	189,000
Sales and marketing fields	1,338,000	1,078,000	44,000	51,000	982,000	50,000	210,000
Art and humanities fields	5,089,000	3,626,000	231,000	251,000	3,145,000	409,000	1,055,000
Other non-S&E fields	4,332,000	3,172,000	112,000	122,000	2,938,000	390,000	771,000

TABLE 1-1

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(Number)

Level and field of highest degree	Total	Employed			Unemployed ^a	Not in labor force ^b	
		Total	S&E occupations	S&E-related occupations			Non-S&E occupations
Master's	19,296,000	14,688,000	2,411,000	2,578,000	9,699,000	673,000	3,934,000
S&E fields	4,703,000	3,680,000	1,671,000	552,000	1,457,000	180,000	842,000
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	547,000	417,000	157,000	104,000	157,000	16,000	114,000
Agricultural and food sciences	56,000	46,000	20,000	6,000	20,000	D	10,000
Biological sciences	380,000	286,000	107,000	85,000	93,000	12,000	82,000
Environmental life sciences	110,000	86,000	29,000	13,000	43,000	3,000	22,000
Computer and mathematical sciences	1,125,000	888,000	560,000	132,000	195,000	56,000	181,000
Computer and information sciences	918,000	732,000	481,000	102,000	148,000	51,000	136,000
Mathematics and statistics	207,000	156,000	79,000	30,000	47,000	S	46,000
Physical and related sciences	223,000	174,000	106,000	29,000	39,000	4,000	45,000
Chemistry, except biochemistry	73,000	57,000	28,000	11,000	19,000	1,000	14,000
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	73,000	59,000	39,000	6,000	14,000	1,000	13,000
Physics and astronomy	69,000	52,000	37,000	9,000	6,000	2,000	16,000
Other physical sciences	8,000	6,000	S	S	1,000	D	S
Social and related sciences	1,569,000	1,171,000	212,000	109,000	850,000	70,000	327,000
Economics	151,000	114,000	30,000	2,000	81,000	3,000	35,000
Political and related sciences	277,000	231,000	46,000	12,000	173,000	6,000	41,000
Psychology	848,000	602,000	96,000	73,000	433,000	49,000	198,000
Sociology and anthropology	122,000	82,000	22,000	7,000	53,000	8,000	32,000
Other social sciences	171,000	142,000	18,000	15,000	110,000	6,000	23,000
Engineering	1,239,000	1,030,000	635,000	178,000	216,000	34,000	175,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	63,000	48,000	29,000	7,000	12,000	D	14,000
Chemical engineering	46,000	38,000	19,000	7,000	11,000	S	6,000
Civil and architectural engineering	144,000	126,000	85,000	21,000	20,000	2,000	16,000
Electrical and computer engineering	483,000	406,000	262,000	76,000	68,000	11,000	67,000
Industrial engineering	83,000	66,000	31,000	12,000	22,000	2,000	15,000
Mechanical engineering	183,000	159,000	107,000	23,000	30,000	7,000	16,000
Other engineering	238,000	188,000	102,000	32,000	54,000	9,000	41,000
S&E-related fields	2,644,000	2,080,000	156,000	1,327,000	598,000	79,000	484,000
Health	1,960,000	1,561,000	65,000	1,102,000	394,000	63,000	335,000
Science and mathematics teacher education	344,000	244,000	14,000	133,000	97,000	S	95,000
Technology and technical fields	114,000	86,000	48,000	13,000	25,000	S	24,000
Other S&E-related fields	226,000	189,000	28,000	80,000	81,000	6,000	31,000
Non-S&E fields	11,950,000	8,928,000	584,000	699,000	7,644,000	414,000	2,608,000
Management and administration fields	4,118,000	3,311,000	349,000	262,000	2,700,000	169,000	638,000
Education, except science and math teacher education	4,167,000	2,888,000	53,000	285,000	2,550,000	88,000	1,191,000
Social service and related fields	1,084,000	841,000	39,000	45,000	757,000	43,000	200,000
Sales and marketing fields	307,000	210,000	17,000	11,000	183,000	19,000	78,000
Art and humanities fields	1,036,000	740,000	38,000	48,000	654,000	43,000	253,000

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(Number)

Level and field of highest degree	Total	Employed				Unemployed ^a	Not in labor force ^b
		Total	S&E occupations	S&E-related occupations	Non-S&E occupations		
Other non-S&E fields	1,239,000	938,000	89,000	49,000	800,000	53,000	248,000
Doctorate	2,643,000	2,141,000	962,000	374,000	805,000	74,000	429,000
S&E fields	1,582,000	1,302,000	861,000	157,000	285,000	38,000	241,000
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	447,000	380,000	240,000	74,000	66,000	9,000	58,000
Agricultural and food sciences	30,000	23,000	14,000	1,000	8,000	S	6,000
Biological sciences	408,000	350,000	221,000	72,000	56,000	7,000	51,000
Environmental life sciences	9,000	7,000	5,000	*	S	D	D
Computer and mathematical sciences	149,000	127,000	98,000	10,000	19,000	4,000	19,000
Computer and information sciences	78,000	68,000	51,000	7,000	10,000	*	10,000
Mathematics and statistics	71,000	59,000	47,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	9,000
Physical and related sciences	257,000	215,000	155,000	20,000	40,000	6,000	36,000
Chemistry, except biochemistry	119,000	97,000	68,000	9,000	21,000	2,000	19,000
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	42,000	33,000	27,000	S	4,000	D	S
Physics and astronomy	93,000	82,000	59,000	9,000	15,000	1,000	10,000
Other physical sciences	3,000	2,000	1,000	D	D	D	D
Social and related sciences	428,000	325,000	196,000	19,000	110,000	13,000	90,000
Economics	55,000	42,000	26,000	S	15,000	1,000	13,000
Political and related sciences	51,000	32,000	16,000	S	14,000	S	13,000
Psychology	214,000	165,000	105,000	15,000	46,000	3,000	46,000
Sociology and anthropology	61,000	46,000	36,000	D	10,000	S	12,000
Other social sciences	47,000	40,000	14,000	S	26,000	D	6,000
Engineering	301,000	256,000	171,000	34,000	50,000	8,000	38,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	13,000	11,000	7,000	S	S	D	S
Chemical engineering	38,000	30,000	17,000	5,000	8,000	1,000	7,000
Civil and architectural engineering	23,000	22,000	17,000	1,000	3,000	D	1,000
Electrical and computer engineering	94,000	79,000	54,000	13,000	12,000	2,000	13,000
Industrial engineering	13,000	11,000	5,000	S	4,000	D	2,000
Mechanical engineering	33,000	29,000	21,000	2,000	6,000	*	4,000
Other engineering	87,000	75,000	51,000	9,000	16,000	3,000	9,000
S&E-related fields	355,000	304,000	51,000	192,000	61,000	11,000	39,000
Health	312,000	275,000	40,000	189,000	46,000	S	29,000
Science and mathematics teacher education	24,000	14,000	5,000	1,000	8,000	D	8,000
Technology and technical fields	12,000	9,000	5,000	2,000	S	D	S
Other S&E-related fields	7,000	7,000	2,000	D	4,000	D	D
Non-S&E fields	707,000	534,000	50,000	25,000	459,000	24,000	148,000
Management and administration fields	71,000	56,000	6,000	D	48,000	6,000	10,000
Education, except science and math teacher education	239,000	171,000	9,000	17,000	145,000	S	63,000
Social service and related fields	122,000	83,000	13,000	S	68,000	10,000	29,000
Sales and marketing fields	6,000	4,000	D	D	4,000	D	D

TABLE 1-1

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(Number)

Level and field of highest degree	Total	Employed			Unemployed ^a	Not in labor force ^b	
		Total	S&E occupations	S&E-related occupations			Non-S&E occupations
Art and humanities fields	193,000	160,000	5,000	1,000	155,000	D	32,000
Other non-S&E fields	75,000	60,000	18,000	S	38,000	D	14,000
Professional	3,784,000	3,246,000	82,000	1,538,000	1,626,000	63,000	474,000
S&E fields	58,000	49,000	28,000	S	16,000	D	9,000
S&E-related fields	1,825,000	1,616,000	29,000	1,506,000	82,000	26,000	183,000
Non-S&E fields	1,900,000	1,582,000	25,000	28,000	1,528,000	37,000	282,000

* = 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.

^a Unemployed includes individuals who were not working during the survey reference week but had been seeking work in the prior 4 weeks or who were on layoff from their job.

^b Not in the labor force includes individuals who were not working during the survey reference week and had not been seeking work in the prior 4 weeks because of family responsibilities, chronic illness, or other reasons.

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, 2021.