TABLE 36

U.S. residing doctoral scientists and engineers employed as postdocs, by occupation: 2021

(Number and SE)

Occupation	Number	SE
All occupations	27,150	750
Science occupations	23,250	700
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	16,250	600
Agricultural, food scientists	800	150
Biochemists, biophysicists	4,050	350
Biological scientists	4,200	325
Forestry, conservation scientists	150	50
Medical scientists	4,050	325
Postsecondary teachers, agricultural, other natural sciences	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, biological sciences	250	75
Other biological, agricultural, life scientists	2,750	250
Computer and information scientists	450	100
Computer and information scientists	400	100
Postsecondary teachers, computer science	D	D
Mathematical scientists	1,000	175
Mathematical scientists	750	150
Postsecondary teachers, mathematics, statistics	250	75
Physical scientists	3,850	300
Chemists, except biochemists	1,050	175
Earth, atmospheric, ocean scientists	800	125
Physicists, astronomers	1,800	225
Postsecondary teachers, chemistry	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, physics	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, other physical science	D	D
Other physical scientists	150	50
Psychologists	700	150
Psychologists	650	150
Postsecondary teachers, psychology	D	D
Social scientists	1,000	125
Economists	100	50
Political scientists	100	75
Postsecondary teachers, economics	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, political science	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, sociology	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, other social sciences	50	25
Sociologists, anthropologists	150	50
Other social scientists	350	75
Engineering occupations	2,400	250
Aerospace, aeronautical, astronautical engineers	100	50
Chemical engineers	250	100
Civil, architectural, sanitary engineers	100	50
Electrical engineers	200	75
Industrial engineers	D	D
Mechanical engineers	450	125
Postsecondary teachers, engineering	D	D
Other engineers	1,200	200
S&E-related occupations	1,250	175
Health occupations, except postsecondary teachers and managers	600	150
Postsecondary teachers, health and related science	100	50
S&E managers, including health	250	75
S&E precollege teachers	D	D

TABLE 36

U.S. residing doctoral scientists and engineers employed as postdocs, by occupation: 2021

(Number and SE)

Occupation	Number	SE
S&E technicians/ technologists	300	100
Other S&E-related occupations	D	D
Non-S&E occupations	200	75
Arts, humanities-related occupations	D	D
Management-related occupations	D	D
Non-S&E managers	D	D
Non-S&E postsecondary teachers	50	25
Non-S&E precollege/ other teachers	D	D
Sales, marketing occupations	D	D
Social service-related occupations	D	D
Other non-S&E occupations	D	D

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

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

Note(s):
Numbers are rounded to the nearest 50. Standard errors are rounded up to the nearest 25. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. A postdoc is a temporary position awarded in academe, industry, nonprofit organizations, or government primarily for gaining additional education and training in research. Postdoc status is reported for principal job as of survey reference date (1 February 2021). Residence location is based on reported living location on 1 February 2021.

Source(s):
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Doctorate Recipients, 2021.