TABLE 53

Median annual salaries of U.S. residing full-time employed doctoral scientists and engineers, by field of doctorate and years since doctorate: 2021

(Dollars)

Field of study	All full-time employed		≤ 5		6–10		11–15		16–20		21–25		> 25	
	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE
All fields	122,000	1,500	93,000	1,000	110,000	500	123,000	3,000	133,000	3,500	145,000	3,000	150,000	500
Science	117,000	1,500	87,000	1,500	102,000	1,500	115,000	1,000	126,000	2,500	135,000	2,000	145,000	3,500
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	115,000	1,000	74,000	2,000	100,000	500	114,000	2,000	131,000	4,000	139,000	3,000	150,000	2,500
Agricultural and food sciences	109,000	2,000	75,000	5,000	95,000	4,000	100,000	3,500	117,000	6,000	120,000	7,500	135,000	8,000
Biochemistry and biophysics	122,000	4,000	69,000	3,500	104,000	7,500	125,000	8,000	140,000	9,000	158,000	12,000	155,000	8,500
Cell, cellular biology, and molecular biology	120,000	4,500	70,000	3,500	99,000	6,500	110,000	3,500	146,000	6,500	148,000	6,500	149,000	7,000
Microbiological sciences and immunology	124,000	4,000	69,000	6,000	109,000	4,500	125,000	8,500	139,000	9,500	149,000	7,500	172,000	13,000
Natural resources and conservation	96,000	2,500	75,000	3,000	88,000	3,000	98,000	3,500	109,000	10,000	105,000	10,500	123,000	10,000
Zoology	98,000	4,500	68,000	5,500	67,000	5,000	95,000	5,500	93,000	11,500	105,000	7,500	121,000	10,000
Other biological sciences	114,000	2,000	75,000	1,500	100,000	2,500	119,000	3,000	130,000	3,500	135,000	5,000	159,000	6,000
Computer and information sciences	160,000	1,000	131,000	6,000	165,000	6,500	172,000	11,500	155,000	8,500	186,000	10,000	167,000	12,500
Mathematics and statistics	113,000	4,000	92,000	6,500	107,000	8,500	119,000	5,500	109,000	9,000	121,000	4,000	125,000	5,000
Physical sciences, geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	125,000	500	95,000	3,000	109,000	2,000	120,000	500	137,000	5,500	149,000	4,500	150,000	2,500
Astronomy and astrophysics	120,000	3,500	83,000	8,000	98,000	9,500	124,000	17,500	119,000	14,500	141,000	3,500	152,000	13,500
Chemistry, except biochemistry	123,000	3,000	95,000	2,500	109,000	3,500	113,000	5,500	140,000	4,500	143,000	6,500	151,000	4,500
Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences	107,000	3,000	74,000	2,500	91,000	2,500	109,000	6,500	126,000	4,000	131,000	4,500	129,000	6,500
Physics	140,000	1,500	116,000	6,500	124,000	5,500	139,000	9,000	140,000	5,000	165,000	11,000	159,000	5,000
Psychology	106,000	1,500	90,000	2,000	97,000	3,000	107,000	3,000	110,000	2,500	113,000	4,500	120,000	5,000
Social sciences	109,000	2,000	84,000	1,500	94,000	3,500	100,000	2,000	119,000	3,500	124,000	4,000	140,000	5,500
Economics	149,000	3,000	121,000	9,000	139,000	5,500	146,000	16,500	142,000	6,500	164,000	13,500	175,000	10,000
Political science and government	108,000	3,000	82,000	3,000	94,000	3,500	98,000	10,000	123,000	7,500	139,000	11,000	135,000	11,500

TABLE 53

Median annual salaries of U.S. residing full-time employed doctoral scientists and engineers, by field of doctorate and years since doctorate: 2021

(Dollars)

Field of study	All full-time employed		≤ 5		6–10		11–15		16–20		21–25		> 25	
	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE
Sociology, demography, and population studies	96,000	3,500	77,000	4,000	78,000	5,000	98,000	6,000	105,000	9,500	100,000	8,500	130,000	10,500
Other social sciences	92,000	1,500	72,000	1,500	80,000	1,500	91,000	2,500	100,000	2,500	105,000	5,000	119,000	3,000
Engineering	145,000	1,000	110,000	1,000	130,000	1,500	148,000	4,000	160,000	3,500	172,000	3,000	172,000	3,500
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	149,000	1,000	115,000	7,500	131,000	8,000	158,000	7,500	159,000	11,000	172,000	5,000	171,000	8,000
Chemical engineering	141,000	5,000	108,000	6,000	125,000	5,500	140,000	4,000	150,000	2,500	173,000	13,500	182,000	6,500
Civil engineering	120,000	1,000	90,000	2,000	102,000	4,000	111,000	6,500	130,000	12,000	150,000	10,000	165,000	13,000
Electrical and computer engineering	160,000	2,000	130,000	2,000	155,000	4,500	165,000	5,500	170,000	4,000	180,000	6,500	176,000	5,000
Mechanical engineering	132,000	4,500	103,000	3,500	120,000	3,000	140,000	4,000	159,000	7,000	165,000	8,000	150,000	8,000
Metallurgical and materials engineering	144,000	3,500	109,000	4,500	134,000	5,500	143,000	4,500	159,000	3,000	169,000	9,500	171,000	6,500
Other engineering	138,000	3,500	104,000	2,500	124,000	3,500	140,000	6,000	148,000	6,000	176,000	7,000	164,000	5,000
Health	115,000	2,000	90,000	1,500	103,000	4,000	120,000	6,000	129,000	4,000	149,000	4,000	155,000	6,000

SE = standard error.

Note(s):
Median annual salaries are for principal job and are rounded to nearest $1,000. Standard errors are rounded up to the nearest $500. Full time is based on working 35 or more hours per week. 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.