

TABLE 57-2

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

(Dollars)

| Field of study | All full-time employed | | Computer applications | | Design | | Management, sales, or administration ^a | | Professional services | | Any R&D ^b | | Teaching | | Other ^c | |
|--|------------------------|-------|-----------------------|--------|---------------|--------|---|--------|-----------------------|--------|----------------------|--------|---------------|--------|--------------------|--------|
| | Median salary | SE | 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 | 150,000 | 500 | 147,000 | 5,500 | 151,000 | 2,000 | 125,000 | 1,500 | 125,000 | 1,000 | 85,000 | 1,000 | 120,000 | 500 |
| Science | 117,000 | 1,500 | 150,000 | 2,500 | 140,000 | 3,500 | 148,000 | 3,500 | 122,000 | 4,500 | 120,000 | 500 | 81,000 | 1,500 | 117,000 | 3,500 |
| Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences | 115,000 | 1,000 | 129,000 | 4,500 | 137,000 | 2,000 | 143,000 | 3,500 | 158,000 | 10,500 | 111,000 | 2,000 | 78,000 | 2,000 | 119,000 | 3,000 |
| Agricultural and food sciences | 109,000 | 2,000 | 127,000 | 8,000 | 133,000 | 8,000 | 139,000 | 5,500 | 103,000 | 11,500 | 106,000 | 4,000 | 91,000 | 3,500 | 102,000 | 15,500 |
| Biochemistry and biophysics | 122,000 | 4,000 | 147,000 | 9,500 | 139,000 | 12,500 | 153,000 | 4,500 | 197,000 | 9,000 | 115,000 | 5,000 | 72,000 | 4,500 | 123,000 | 14,500 |
| Cell, cellular biology, and molecular biology | 120,000 | 4,500 | 114,000 | 21,500 | 178,000 | 25,000 | 148,000 | 4,500 | 180,000 | 19,500 | 111,000 | 5,000 | 74,000 | 3,500 | 130,000 | 14,500 |
| Microbiological sciences and immunology | 124,000 | 4,000 | 89,000 | 32,500 | 94,000 | 21,500 | 145,000 | 5,500 | 169,000 | 29,500 | 119,000 | 3,000 | 73,000 | 2,500 | 125,000 | 11,000 |
| Natural resources and conservation | 96,000 | 2,500 | 97,000 | 7,000 | 113,000 | 24,000 | 119,000 | 7,000 | 97,000 | 13,000 | 100,000 | 2,000 | 75,000 | 4,500 | 103,000 | 8,500 |
| Zoology | 98,000 | 4,500 | D | D | D | D | 119,000 | 6,000 | 84,000 | 9,500 | 100,000 | 5,000 | 79,000 | 4,500 | 93,000 | 14,000 |
| Other biological sciences | 114,000 | 2,000 | 127,000 | 5,000 | 137,000 | 3,500 | 139,000 | 4,500 | 149,000 | 10,500 | 110,000 | 3,500 | 80,000 | 1,500 | 119,000 | 4,000 |
| Computer and information sciences | 160,000 | 1,000 | 179,000 | 5,000 | 198,000 | 18,500 | 200,000 | 2,500 | 157,000 | 50,500 | 157,000 | 5,500 | 92,000 | 3,500 | 152,000 | 23,000 |
| Mathematics and statistics | 113,000 | 4,000 | 155,000 | 7,000 | 159,000 | 15,000 | 170,000 | 10,500 | 151,000 | 14,500 | 128,000 | 3,000 | 80,000 | 1,000 | 117,000 | 19,000 |
| Physical sciences, geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences | 125,000 | 500 | 144,000 | 7,000 | 138,000 | 4,500 | 160,000 | 4,500 | 162,000 | 9,500 | 125,000 | 1,500 | 79,000 | 2,000 | 119,000 | 3,000 |
| Astronomy and astrophysics | 120,000 | 3,500 | 121,000 | 16,000 | 165,000 | 18,000 | 159,000 | 10,000 | 192,000 | 35,500 | 119,000 | 7,500 | 80,000 | 6,000 | 143,000 | 34,500 |
| Chemistry, except biochemistry | 123,000 | 3,000 | 140,000 | 9,000 | 133,000 | 13,000 | 153,000 | 5,000 | 166,000 | 11,500 | 124,000 | 3,000 | 75,000 | 1,500 | 119,000 | 7,500 |
| Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences | 107,000 | 3,000 | 105,000 | 13,500 | 125,000 | 18,000 | 130,000 | 4,000 | 116,000 | 4,000 | 110,000 | 2,000 | 85,000 | 3,000 | 100,000 | 10,000 |
| Physics | 140,000 | 1,500 | 150,000 | 3,500 | 139,000 | 4,500 | 180,000 | 2,500 | 179,000 | 17,500 | 139,000 | 4,000 | 84,000 | 4,500 | 119,000 | 7,000 |
| Psychology | 106,000 | 1,500 | 146,000 | 11,500 | 134,000 | 9,000 | 127,000 | 5,500 | 109,000 | 2,000 | 115,000 | 2,500 | 81,000 | 1,500 | 90,000 | 7,500 |
| Social sciences | 109,000 | 2,000 | 136,000 | 7,500 | 138,000 | 12,500 | 144,000 | 5,500 | 149,000 | 7,500 | 123,000 | 3,500 | 85,000 | 1,500 | 118,000 | 4,000 |
| Economics | 149,000 | 3,000 | 155,000 | 13,500 | 164,000 | 19,500 | 185,000 | 12,000 | 190,000 | 16,500 | 149,000 | 4,500 | 103,000 | 4,500 | 174,000 | 24,000 |
| Political science and government | 108,000 | 3,000 | D | D | 180,000 | 64,500 | 146,000 | 12,000 | 105,000 | 26,500 | 124,000 | 10,500 | 86,000 | 3,500 | 130,000 | 20,000 |
| Sociology, demography, and population studies | 96,000 | 3,500 | 98,000 | 19,000 | 128,000 | 24,000 | 134,000 | 9,000 | 100,000 | 16,000 | 105,000 | 5,000 | 78,000 | 2,500 | 115,000 | 14,000 |
| Other social sciences | 92,000 | 1,500 | 119,000 | 13,000 | 80,000 | 11,000 | 119,000 | 1,500 | 116,000 | 12,000 | 97,000 | 2,500 | 80,000 | 500 | 91,000 | 3,500 |
| Engineering | 145,000 | 1,000 | 150,000 | 500 | 149,000 | 4,500 | 170,000 | 2,500 | 157,000 | 11,500 | 140,000 | 1,000 | 100,000 | 500 | 135,000 | 6,500 |
| Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering | 149,000 | 1,000 | 148,000 | 2,500 | 135,000 | 8,500 | 170,000 | 4,500 | 168,000 | 45,000 | 146,000 | 5,500 | 101,000 | 18,000 | 144,000 | 28,000 |
| Chemical engineering | 141,000 | 5,000 | 129,000 | 7,500 | 157,000 | 16,500 | 165,000 | 6,500 | 156,000 | 57,500 | 138,000 | 3,500 | 95,000 | 5,000 | 146,000 | 9,000 |
| Civil engineering | 120,000 | 1,000 | 123,000 | 10,500 | 109,000 | 15,000 | 149,000 | 5,500 | 119,000 | 19,000 | 118,000 | 6,500 | 100,000 | 4,000 | 88,000 | 7,000 |
| Electrical and computer engineering | 160,000 | 2,000 | 165,000 | 6,500 | 168,000 | 4,500 | 192,000 | 6,500 | 173,000 | 19,000 | 159,000 | 2,500 | 100,000 | 1,500 | 140,000 | 6,500 |
| Mechanical engineering | 132,000 | 4,500 | 139,000 | 12,000 | 129,000 | 9,500 | 166,000 | 5,000 | 123,000 | 11,500 | 130,000 | 6,000 | 97,000 | 5,000 | 110,000 | 31,000 |

TABLE 57-2

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

(Dollars)

| Field of study | All full-time employed | | Computer applications | | Design | | Management, sales, or administration ^a | | Professional services | | Any R&D ^b | | Teaching | | Other ^c | |
|----------------------|------------------------|-------|-----------------------|--------|---------------|--------|---|-------|-----------------------|--------|----------------------|-------|---------------|--------|--------------------|--------|
| | Median salary | SE | Median salary | SE | Median salary | SE | Median salary | SE | Median salary | SE | Median salary | SE | Median salary | SE | Median salary | SE |
| Industrial engineers | 144,000 | 3,500 | 141,000 | 11,000 | 135,000 | 6,000 | 169,000 | 4,000 | 190,000 | 16,500 | 140,000 | 3,500 | 81,000 | 10,500 | 116,000 | 15,500 |
| Other engineering | 138,000 | 3,500 | 140,000 | 6,500 | 154,000 | 10,000 | 167,000 | 4,500 | 176,000 | 22,000 | 130,000 | 2,500 | 101,000 | 4,500 | 132,000 | 13,500 |
| Health | 115,000 | 2,000 | 99,000 | 10,500 | 174,000 | 9,500 | 140,000 | 5,000 | 135,000 | 6,000 | 120,000 | 2,500 | 87,000 | 3,500 | 126,000 | 11,000 |

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

SE = standard error.

^a Administration includes accounting, finance, contracts, and human resources.^b R&D includes basic research, applied research, and experimental development.^c Includes production, operations, maintenance, and other activities not broken out separately.**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. Primary and secondary work activities were self-defined by respondent in response to the question: "On which two activities...did you work the most hours during a typical week on this job?" 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.