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
Metallurgical and materials engineering	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.