TABLE 73-1

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

(Dollars)

Occupation	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 occupations	122,000	1,500	141,000	3,500	144,000	3,000	140,000	500	125,000	500	122,000	2,000	94,000	1,000	119,000	2,500
Science occupations	110,000	1,000	140,000	3,500	138,000	3,500	120,000	500	112,000	3,500	113,000	1,500	90,000	500	108,000	4,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	105,000	500	88,000	3,500	109,000	6,500	120,000	2,000	135,000	7,000	106,000	2,000	87,000	2,500	105,000	4,500
Agricultural, food scientists	116,000	5,000	94,000	18,000	137,000	8,000	124,000	5,000	66,000	17,500	111,000	4,000	100,000	6,500	124,000	7,500
Biochemists, biophysicists	100,000	2,500	109,000	35,500	96,000	12,500	129,000	6,500	S	S	100,000	2,000	95,000	25,000	82,000	4,000
Biological scientists	97,000	4,000	75,000	4,500	72,000	5,500	111,000	3,000	127,000	21,500	92,000	3,500	94,000	6,000	106,000	14,000
Forestry, conservation scientists	93,000	5,500	80,000	9,000	117,000	10,500	103,000	11,000	105,000	16,500	90,000	4,500	80,000	4,000	112,000	44,000
Medical scientists	125,000	2,000	94,000	6,000	115,000	7,000	135,000	6,500	149,000	6,000	120,000	2,000	119,000	7,500	135,000	12,000
Postsecondary teachers, agricultural, other natural sciences	100,000	3,500	D	D	D	D	110,000	9,000	110,000	9,500	99,000	5,000	94,000	4,000	87,000	5,000
Postsecondary teachers, biological sciences	90,000	2,000	100,000	19,500	D	D	98,000	3,000	86,000	18,500	100,000	1,500	82,000	2,500	79,000	5,500
Other biological, agricultural, life scientists	115,000	4,500	105,000	14,500	121,000	9,500	125,000	4,000	117,000	13,000	115,000	4,500	97,000	24,500	105,000	8,000
Computer and information scientists	150,000	500	156,000	3,000	159,000	3,500	160,000	3,000	126,000	12,000	153,000	4,500	100,000	2,500	140,000	8,000
Computer and information scientists	160,000	500	159,000	3,000	159,000	3,500	168,000	5,000	129,000	13,000	162,000	4,000	129,000	6,000	143,000	8,500
Postsecondary teachers, computer science	101,000	3,500	90,000	8,000	D	D	111,000	6,500	S	S	109,000	5,000	100,000	500	100,000	17,500
Mathematical scientists	120,000	1,500	139,000	5,000	156,000	4,500	139,000	7,000	139,000	14,000	125,000	3,000	90,000	2,500	115,000	11,000
Mathematical scientists	150,000	1,000	145,000	6,500	159,000	5,000	164,000	5,000	140,000	20,500	150,000	1,000	121,000	12,000	146,000	21,000
Postsecondary teachers, mathematics, statistics	90,000	500	88,000	12,500	91,000	11,000	92,000	5,500	D	D	96,000	2,000	88,000	2,500	80,000	3,500
Physical scientists	108,000	2,500	110,000	6,000	125,000	5,000	120,000	1,000	121,000	10,000	114,000	3,500	85,000	1,000	100,000	6,500
Chemists, except biochemists	124,000	4,000	119,000	20,500	124,000	5,500	138,000	3,500	107,000	8,500	125,000	2,500	98,000	7,500	109,000	6,500
Earth, atmospheric, ocean scientists	116,000	4,500	100,000	6,000	107,000	4,500	129,000	4,000	113,000	7,500	116,000	4,500	101,000	5,500	115,000	23,000
Physicists, astronomers	138,000	5,000	123,000	6,000	138,000	7,500	156,000	6,000	196,000	22,500	135,000	5,500	123,000	12,000	120,000	11,500
Postsecondary teachers, chemistry	80,000	2,000	D	D	45,000	11,000	80,000	3,000	D	D	88,000	3,000	77,000	2,500	70,000	6,000
Postsecondary teachers, physics	96,000	3,500	89,000	13,500	D	D	100,000	5,500	S	S	105,000	4,500	93,000	3,000	65,000	2,500
Postsecondary teachers, other physical science	91,000	3,000	108,000	15,000	D	D	97,000	4,500	D	D	92,000	4,500	89,000	2,500	90,000	18,000
Other physical scientists	131,000	4,000	135,000	18,000	138,000	23,000	125,000	12,500	158,000	15,000	134,000	4,500	131,000	13,500	126,000	15,000
Psychologists	101,000	1,500	87,000	9,500	120,000	4,500	104,000	2,000	109,000	2,000	100,000	1,000	90,000	1,500	90,000	9,500
Psychologists	109,000	1,000	87,000	10,000	120,000	5,500	109,000	2,500	109,000	1,000	107,000	3,000	115,000	3,500	99,000	12,000
Postsecondary teachers, psychology	88,000	1,500	S	S	D	D	88,000	4,000	85,000	7,000	94,000	2,500	85,000	1,500	87,000	4,500
Social scientists	100,000	2,000	124,000	5,000	121,000	6,000	115,000	4,500	126,000	9,000	105,000	2,500	91,000	1,500	99,000	7,500
Economists	154,000	7,500	139,000	9,000	137,000	13,000	165,000	6,500	170,000	11,500	150,000	4,500	191,000	35,500	154,000	30,000
Political scientists	129,000	16,000	D	D	D	D	148,000	13,000	123,000	21,000	131,000	18,500	S	S	123,000	10,500
Postsecondary teachers, economics	118,000	2,500	120,000	24,500	D	D	128,000	15,000	D	D	119,000	2,500	115,000	4,500	87,000	9,000
Postsecondary teachers, political science	92,000	2,500	D	D	D	D	106,000	11,500	D	D	90,000	2,000	90,000	2,500	76,000	10,000

TABLE 73-1

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

(Dollars)

Occupation	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
Postsecondary teachers, sociology	83,000	3,500	D	D	D	D	100,000	2,500	S	S	87,000	5,000	80,000	2,000	68,000	5,000
Postsecondary teachers, other social sciences	87,000	1,500	D	D	D	D	90,000	3,500	111,000	20,500	89,000	1,500	85,000	1,500	79,000	8,000
Sociologists, anthropologists	98,000	3,500	91,000	11,000	120,000	7,000	98,000	7,500	105,000	11,500	98,000	7,000	62,000	17,000	100,000	20,500
Other social scientists	110,000	3,000	99,000	8,000	108,000	6,000	113,000	4,500	118,000	14,000	112,000	3,500	112,000	10,000	104,000	19,000
Engineering occupations	137,000	2,500	140,000	2,000	144,000	3,500	150,000	2,000	130,000	8,500	139,000	2,500	109,000	2,500	130,000	2,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, astronautical engineers	155,000	5,500	143,000	6,000	148,000	9,500	169,000	4,000	D	D	152,000	6,500	119,000	20,000	128,000	12,000
Chemical engineers	139,000	4,500	140,000	14,500	147,000	5,000	150,000	6,000	D	D	138,000	4,000	104,000	25,000	134,000	7,000
Civil, architectural, sanitary engineers	115,000	6,000	108,000	16,500	110,000	10,500	125,000	3,500	120,000	9,000	100,000	6,500	104,000	17,500	97,000	15,500
Electrical engineers	159,000	2,000	150,000	2,000	160,000	4,500	170,000	4,500	171,000	19,500	159,000	2,000	116,000	11,500	149,000	3,500
Industrial engineers	125,000	11,000	D	D	141,000	8,500	132,000	9,500	D	D	138,000	10,000	127,000	20,000	121,000	8,500
Mechanical engineers	132,000	5,000	138,000	16,500	130,000	5,000	149,000	4,500	138,000	20,500	130,000	5,500	109,000	12,000	120,000	9,500
Postsecondary teachers, engineering	110,000	2,000	98,000	10,500	109,000	4,500	118,000	3,000	98,000	5,000	114,000	4,000	107,000	3,000	98,000	5,000
Other engineers	135,000	3,000	130,000	4,000	139,000	6,000	142,000	3,500	144,000	8,000	135,000	1,500	133,000	16,000	129,000	3,000
S&E-related occupations	140,000	1,000	145,000	6,500	170,000	8,000	160,000	2,000	151,000	10,000	140,000	3,500	100,000	3,000	119,000	9,500
Health occupations, except postsecondary teachers and managers	140,000	4,000	121,000	15,500	148,000	23,000	141,000	6,500	150,000	9,500	132,000	6,000	149,000	6,500	122,000	15,500
Postsecondary teachers, health and related science	109,000	2,000	125,000	6,500	110,000	20,000	114,000	3,500	169,000	22,500	110,000	2,500	101,000	3,000	88,000	11,000
S&E managers, including health	175,000	4,000	194,000	12,500	189,000	16,500	175,000	4,000	151,000	22,000	180,000	5,000	148,000	26,500	159,000	10,000
S&E precollege teachers	69,000	1,500	69,000	6,000	65,000	7,000	74,000	2,500	S	S	71,000	4,500	69,000	1,500	64,000	2,500
S&E technicians/ technologists	140,000	3,000	138,000	5,500	155,000	22,000	151,000	11,000	155,000	45,000	140,000	6,000	114,000	17,500	129,000	19,500
Other S&E-related occupations	139,000	18,500	119,000	23,000	140,000	30,000	133,000	7,500	131,000	10,500	173,000	11,500	D	D	D	D
Non-S&E occupations	150,000	500	163,000	13,500	160,000	10,500	160,000	500	149,000	2,500	150,000	1,500	95,000	4,000	121,000	6,000
Arts, humanities-related occupations	100,000	5,000	S	S	125,000	9,000	105,000	3,000	95,000	6,000	103,000	6,000	58,000	10,500	98,000	16,000
Management-related occupations	147,000	4,000	170,000	29,000	156,000	13,000	149,000	4,500	164,000	13,000	148,000	4,000	116,000	22,000	134,000	5,500
Non-S&E managers	190,000	3,500	195,000	20,000	183,000	9,500	190,000	5,500	199,000	6,000	200,000	4,000	129,000	22,000	169,000	10,000
Non-S&E postsecondary teachers	100,000	1,500	D	D	74,000	18,500	93,000	5,000	106,000	11,500	104,000	2,500	99,000	2,500	83,000	6,500
Non-S&E precollege/ other teachers	69,000	7,000	S	S	D	D	90,000	11,500	D	D	61,000	22,500	64,000	5,000	59,000	23,000
Sales, marketing occupations	144,000	4,000	143,000	15,500	147,000	21,000	144,000	3,500	156,000	24,000	143,000	8,500	138,000	26,000	127,000	18,500
Social service-related occupations	71,000	4,500	D	D	D	D	70,000	4,500	74,000	3,500	75,000	4,500	69,000	11,500	50,000	6,500
Other non-S&E occupations	137,000	10,500	93,000	19,500	94,000	26,000	134,000	15,000	184,000	12,500	104,000	7,000	62,000	17,000	54,000	6,000

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information. S = suppressed for reliability; coefficient of variation exceeds publication standards.

S&E = science and engineering; 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 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-described by respondent in response to the question: "On which two activities...did you work the most hours during a typical week on this job?" If respondent reported more than one category of activity as primary or secondary work activity, respondent's salary appears in both categories. 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.