TABLE 73-2

Median annual salaries of U.S. residing full-time employed doctoral scientists and engineers, by occupation and primary 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	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 occupations	110,000	1,000	150,000	2,000	149,000	5,000	134,000	2,500	114,000	3,500	120,000	500	80,000	1,500	118,000	2,500
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	105,000	500	102,000	15,000	133,000	8,500	130,000	1,500	134,000	9,000	106,000	2,000	78,000	2,000	119,000	7,000
Agricultural, food scientists	116,000	5,000	77,000	15,500	141,000	16,000	136,000	9,500	100,000	41,000	108,000	3,500	104,000	5,500	132,000	7,000
Biochemists, biophysicists	100,000	2,500	134,000	63,000	105,000	38,500	143,000	11,000	114,000	44,000	100,000	5,000	D	D	83,000	5,000
Biological scientists	97,000	4,000	85,000	9,500	83,000	10,000	116,000	4,500	116,000	19,000	89,000	2,500	87,000	6,500	114,000	6,500
Forestry, conservation scientists	93,000	5,500	D	D	D	D	89,000	13,500	94,000	13,500	93,000	5,500	82,000	3,000	125,000	57,000
Medical scientists	125,000	2,000	105,000	31,500	185,000	23,500	143,000	5,500	150,000	6,500	120,000	4,500	105,000	16,000	143,000	14,500
Postsecondary teachers, agricultural, other natural sciences	100,000	3,500	D	D	D	D	114,000	17,500	117,000	9,500	100,000	3,500	92,000	2,500	S	S
Postsecondary teachers, biological sciences	90,000	2,000	D	D	D	D	119,000	3,000	125,000	43,000	119,000	4,000	75,000	1,000	99,000	2,000
Other biological, agricultural, life scientists	115,000	4,500	106,000	30,000	129,000	16,500	134,000	5,500	109,000	12,000	109,000	3,000	D	D	127,000	12,500
Computer and information scientists	150,000	500	156,000	3,000	165,000	10,500	173,000	7,000	140,000	10,500	159,000	6,000	97,000	4,000	139,000	9,500
Computer and information scientists	160,000	500	156,000	3,000	165,000	10,000	180,000	4,000	142,000	8,500	160,000	3,500	98,000	6,000	137,000	9,500
Postsecondary teachers, computer science	101,000	3,500	94,000	19,000	D	D	111,000	9,000	D	D	130,000	9,500	96,000	4,000	D	D
Mathematical scientists	120,000	1,500	151,000	5,500	159,000	10,000	150,000	7,500	154,000	17,500	130,000	3,500	80,000	500	127,000	5,500
Mathematical scientists	150,000	1,000	153,000	5,500	159,000	10,000	161,000	6,500	156,000	15,500	149,000	7,500	119,000	18,000	129,000	12,000
Postsecondary teachers, mathematics, statistics	90,000	500	D	D	D	D	120,000	13,000	D	D	105,000	1,500	80,000	500	94,000	14,000
Physical scientists	108,000	2,500	112,000	15,500	130,000	10,000	134,000	4,000	140,000	22,500	120,000	1,500	78,000	2,500	107,000	6,500
Chemists, except biochemists	124,000	4,000	112,000	17,000	110,000	15,500	140,000	3,500	108,000	18,000	125,000	3,500	92,000	11,000	108,000	6,500
Earth, atmospheric, ocean scientists	116,000	4,500	100,000	19,500	107,000	19,500	143,000	6,500	112,000	7,000	110,000	5,500	92,000	10,000	127,000	24,000
Physicists, astronomers	138,000	5,000	122,000	14,500	138,000	10,500	160,000	10,000	213,000	18,000	133,000	5,000	115,000	22,500	132,000	18,000
Postsecondary teachers, chemistry	80,000	2,000	D	D	D	D	115,000	11,000	D	D	109,000	7,000	73,000	2,500	96,000	18,500
Postsecondary teachers, physics	96,000	3,500	D	D	D	D	134,000	18,000	D	D	110,000	7,000	83,000	4,000	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, other physical science	91,000	3,000	D	D	D	D	108,000	11,000	D	D	105,000	5,000	86,000	2,000	63,000	15,000
Other physical scientists	131,000	4,000	S	S	D	D	118,000	13,500	S	S	133,000	6,000	90,000	16,000	129,000	4,500
Psychologists	101,000	1,500	60,000	9,500	151,000	13,000	109,000	4,500	109,000	1,000	110,000	2,000	80,000	500	83,000	9,000
Psychologists	109,000	1,000	D	D	151,000	13,000	109,000	5,000	109,000	1,000	110,000	4,000	93,000	13,000	82,000	17,500
Postsecondary teachers, psychology	88,000	1,500	D	D	D	D	100,000	10,500	100,000	10,500	109,000	3,000	80,000	1,000	84,000	4,500
Social scientists	100,000	2,000	100,000	33,000	106,000	17,000	123,000	5,500	151,000	15,000	119,000	2,000	85,000	1,500	116,000	8,000
Economists	154,000	7,500	145,000	19,500	133,000	16,500	164,000	10,000	177,000	17,500	147,000	5,000	S	S	160,000	28,000
Political scientists	129,000	16,000	D	D	D	D	159,000	26,000	D	D	124,000	22,500	S	S	126,000	22,000
Postsecondary teachers, economics	118,000	2,500	D	D	D	D	139,000	3,000	D	D	135,000	6,000	100,000	3,000	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, political science	92,000	2,500	D	D	D	D	116,000	13,000	D	D	110,000	6,500	84,000	4,500	D	D

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(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	130,000	22,000	D	D	101,000	4,500	75,000	1,500	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, other social sciences	87,000	1,500	D	D	D	D	105,000	6,500	D	D	98,000	2,500	82,000	2,000	83,000	9,500
Sociologists, anthropologists	98,000	3,500	D	D	S	S	104,000	5,000	D	D	94,000	7,000	D	D	101,000	15,500
Other social scientists	110,000	3,000	D	D	D	D	113,000	6,000	124,000	6,500	109,000	4,500	106,000	22,500	102,000	19,000
Engineering occupations	137,000	2,500	146,000	5,000	140,000	3,000	157,000	3,500	130,000	9,000	140,000	1,000	101,000	2,500	129,000	2,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, astronautical engineers	155,000	5,500	139,000	4,000	142,000	19,500	172,000	5,000	D	D	150,000	7,500	D	D	143,000	20,500
Chemical engineers	139,000	4,500	133,000	13,000	156,000	13,500	147,000	9,000	D	D	135,000	5,000	D	D	142,000	10,500
Civil, architectural, sanitary engineers	115,000	6,000	126,000	15,500	100,000	4,500	127,000	6,000	120,000	7,500	101,000	18,000	92,000	8,500	94,000	15,000
Electrical engineers	159,000	2,000	155,000	15,500	161,000	4,000	170,000	3,000	164,000	28,500	156,000	3,500	101,000	9,000	147,000	4,500
Industrial engineers	125,000	11,000	D	D	S	S	121,000	15,000	D	D	138,000	8,000	110,000	24,500	110,000	15,000
Mechanical engineers	132,000	5,000	153,000	13,000	127,000	5,500	155,000	9,500	D	D	128,000	4,500	97,000	8,000	128,000	13,000
Postsecondary teachers, engineering	110,000	2,000	S	S	D	D	142,000	10,000	S	S	122,000	4,000	101,000	2,500	99,000	27,000
Other engineers	135,000	3,000	144,000	13,000	130,000	9,000	150,000	6,500	144,000	10,000	134,000	3,500	124,000	17,500	122,000	7,500
S&E-related occupations	140,000	1,000	139,000	6,500	170,000	10,500	170,000	2,000	168,000	11,500	140,000	4,000	85,000	1,500	118,000	10,500
Health occupations, except postsecondary teachers and managers	140,000	4,000	94,000	13,500	168,000	8,000	139,000	7,500	155,000	13,500	129,000	4,500	109,000	28,500	100,000	18,000
Postsecondary teachers, health and related science	109,000	2,000	D	D	D	D	130,000	8,000	212,000	20,000	120,000	3,000	93,000	3,000	95,000	12,000
S&E managers, including health	175,000	4,000	159,000	23,500	159,000	11,500	179,000	4,500	159,000	26,000	172,000	4,500	D	D	158,000	20,000
S&E precollege teachers	69,000	1,500	D	D	D	D	S	S	D	D	D	D	69,000	2,000	S	S
S&E technicians/ technologists	140,000	3,000	136,000	6,500	170,000	23,000	170,000	12,500	S	S	138,000	10,000	72,000	18,000	134,000	32,500
Other S&E-related occupations	139,000	18,500	163,000	20,000	171,000	32,000	125,000	6,500	D	D	202,000	48,500	D	D	D	D
Non-S&E occupations	150,000	500	163,000	23,000	152,000	23,500	165,000	1,500	150,000	2,500	150,000	2,000	86,000	4,000	119,000	6,500
Arts, humanities-related occupations	100,000	5,000	D	D	D	D	109,000	8,000	95,000	6,000	99,000	9,500	D	D	99,000	14,500
Management-related occupations	147,000	4,000	180,000	10,500	147,000	15,500	144,000	6,000	175,000	14,500	147,000	7,500	82,000	30,000	131,000	7,000
Non-S&E managers	190,000	3,500	171,000	35,500	241,000	46,000	190,000	6,000	202,000	13,000	185,000	11,500	78,000	7,500	160,000	7,000
Non-S&E postsecondary teachers	100,000	1,500	D	D	D	D	102,000	9,500	121,000	18,500	127,000	6,500	90,000	2,000	90,000	6,500
Non-S&E precollege/ other teachers	69,000	7,000	D	D	D	D	100,000	5,000	D	D	D	D	64,000	4,000	D	D
Sales, marketing occupations	144,000	4,000	D	D	D	D	143,000	6,500	159,000	62,000	144,000	12,000	D	D	S	S
Social service-related occupations	71,000	4,500	D	D	D	D	75,000	7,500	74,000	3,500	91,000	14,000	75,000	18,500	50,000	11,000
Other non-S&E occupations	137,000	10,500	D	D	D	D	89,000	8,500	189,000	12,000	103,000	19,000	58,000	23,000	49,000	10,000

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 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-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?". 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.