

TABLE 75

U.S. residing doctoral scientists and engineers employed as postdocs, by field of doctorate: 2021

(Number and SE)

| Field of study | Number | SE |
|--|--------|-----|
| Total in postdoc | 27,150 | 750 |
| Science | 22,100 | 675 |
| Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences | 13,650 | 575 |
| Agricultural and food sciences | 500 | 100 |
| Biochemistry and biophysics | 2,000 | 225 |
| Cell, cellular biology, and molecular biology | 2,150 | 275 |
| Microbiological sciences and immunology | 1,250 | 150 |
| Natural resources and conservation | 250 | 50 |
| Zoology | 250 | 75 |
| Other biological sciences | 7,250 | 375 |
| Computer and information sciences | 300 | 100 |
| Mathematics and statistics | 850 | 175 |
| Physical sciences, geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences | 5,550 | 375 |
| Astronomy and astrophysics | 450 | 75 |
| Chemistry, except biochemistry | 2,250 | 250 |
| Geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences | 1,000 | 125 |
| Physics | 1,900 | 225 |
| Psychology | 850 | 150 |
| Social sciences | 900 | 150 |
| Economics | 150 | 75 |
| Political science and government | 250 | 100 |
| Sociology, demography, and population studies | 100 | 50 |
| Other social sciences | 400 | 75 |
| Engineering | 3,950 | 325 |
| Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering | 100 | 50 |
| Chemical engineering | 650 | 175 |
| Civil engineering | 350 | 100 |
| Electrical and computer engineering | 500 | 150 |
| Mechanical engineering | 700 | 125 |
| Industrial engineers | 550 | 125 |
| Other engineering | 1,150 | 150 |
| Health | 1,100 | 150 |

SE = standard error.

Note(s):

Numbers are rounded to the nearest 50. Standard errors are rounded up to the nearest 25. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. A postdoc is a temporary position awarded in academe, industry, nonprofit organizations, or government primarily for gaining additional education and training in research. Postdoc status is reported for principal job as of survey reference date (1 February 2021). 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.