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
Metallurgical and materials engineering	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.