

TABLE 73-1

Median annual salary of U.S. residing full-time employed doctoral scientists and engineers, by occupation and primary or secondary work activity: 2023

(Dollars and SE)

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	137,000	1,500	160,000	500	158,000	3,500	150,000	500	140,000	1,500	140,000	1,000	100,000	500	120,000	500
Science occupations	125,000	1,500	160,000	1,000	150,000	2,000	137,000	2,000	139,000	5,000	130,000	500	95,000	1,000	109,000	2,500
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	120,000	500	109,000	8,500	127,000	5,000	130,000	500	150,000	7,000	120,000	500	93,000	2,000	116,000	4,500
Agricultural, food scientists	124,000	2,500	126,000	8,500	131,000	7,500	130,000	4,000	150,000	17,500	121,000	3,000	87,000	23,500	128,000	12,500
Biochemists, biophysicists	122,000	4,500	92,000	16,500	117,000	11,500	139,000	7,000	170,000	50,000	120,000	3,000	108,000	22,500	128,000	7,500
Biological scientists	116,000	3,500	92,000	9,500	114,000	7,000	125,000	3,000	136,000	22,500	115,000	3,500	110,000	9,500	108,000	6,000
Forestry, conservation scientists	104,000	6,500	89,000	15,000	118,000	32,500	111,000	9,500	D	D	103,000	6,500	117,000	53,500	97,000	12,500
Medical scientists	143,000	3,500	106,000	11,500	128,000	8,000	150,000	5,500	173,000	13,500	140,000	3,500	129,000	18,000	146,000	6,500
Postsecondary teachers, agricultural, other natural sciences	110,000	2,500	D	D	D	D	104,000	7,000	D	D	111,000	5,000	108,000	4,000	89,000	3,500
Postsecondary teachers, biological sciences	95,000	1,500	185,000	14,000	D	D	98,000	3,500	S	S	106,000	4,500	88,000	2,000	81,000	5,500
Other biological, agricultural, life scientists	129,000	4,000	119,000	9,500	133,000	6,500	139,000	5,500	139,000	19,000	124,000	4,000	118,000	13,000	120,000	4,000
Computer and information scientists	176,000	3,000	180,000	500	189,000	6,500	186,000	4,000	149,000	20,500	180,000	2,000	111,000	3,000	147,000	5,500
Computer and information scientists	185,000	2,500	180,000	2,500	189,000	6,000	194,000	6,500	151,000	20,000	190,000	2,500	146,000	9,500	150,000	10,000
Postsecondary teachers, computer science	112,000	3,000	99,000	2,500	D	D	129,000	4,500	S	S	119,000	3,000	110,000	2,000	92,000	7,000
Mathematical scientists	136,000	2,500	150,000	500	168,000	6,500	156,000	6,000	159,000	10,500	145,000	3,500	90,000	2,000	99,000	3,000
Mathematical scientists	160,000	2,500	150,000	3,000	168,000	6,000	185,000	7,500	162,000	12,500	162,000	5,000	140,000	15,000	134,000	10,000
Postsecondary teachers, mathematics, statistics	95,000	2,000	96,000	7,000	80,000	19,000	100,000	5,500	S	S	102,000	4,000	90,000	1,000	81,000	4,000
Physical scientists	120,000	500	120,000	6,000	139,000	6,000	130,000	1,500	134,000	12,500	127,000	3,500	90,000	1,000	103,000	4,000
Chemists, except biochemists	130,000	2,000	125,000	21,000	125,000	9,500	145,000	4,000	127,000	14,500	132,000	3,500	128,000	13,000	108,000	5,000
Earth, atmospheric, ocean scientists	125,000	4,500	113,000	9,000	129,000	22,000	132,000	6,000	122,000	11,000	120,000	5,500	103,000	9,000	122,000	8,500
Physicists, astronomers	150,000	3,500	121,000	13,000	145,000	5,500	165,000	7,000	256,000	34,500	149,000	1,500	138,000	66,500	119,000	9,000
Postsecondary teachers, chemistry	84,000	2,000	S	S	75,000	14,000	82,000	2,500	D	D	95,000	3,500	82,000	1,500	79,000	4,000
Postsecondary teachers, physics	100,000	5,000	111,000	19,000	D	D	101,000	7,000	S	S	121,000	6,000	98,000	4,500	84,000	3,000
Postsecondary teachers, other physical science	98,000	2,500	82,000	9,500	D	D	98,000	4,000	D	D	100,000	2,000	94,000	2,000	80,000	6,000
Other physical scientists	148,000	4,500	133,000	27,500	149,000	6,000	154,000	6,000	145,000	28,000	148,000	4,500	143,000	26,500	147,000	19,000
Psychologists	108,000	3,000	132,000	8,500	125,000	13,500	113,000	4,000	121,000	5,000	113,000	3,500	90,000	2,000	87,000	4,500
Psychologists	127,000	4,000	137,000	16,500	134,000	16,000	131,000	5,500	123,000	5,000	130,000	4,500	120,000	8,000	109,000	6,000
Postsecondary teachers, psychology	92,000	3,000	D	D	D	D	90,000	3,500	110,000	8,500	100,000	1,000	89,000	2,500	75,000	4,500
Social scientists	110,000	1,000	126,000	3,500	134,000	11,500	125,000	5,000	146,000	11,500	116,000	3,000	95,000	1,500	100,000	1,000
Economists	170,000	5,500	150,000	8,000	144,000	7,000	180,000	6,500	192,000	15,000	170,000	6,500	D	D	183,000	22,500
Political scientists	139,000	11,500	D	D	D	D	137,000	11,500	D	D	135,000	17,500	D	D	118,000	19,000
Postsecondary teachers, economics	124,000	3,000	D	D	D	D	122,000	6,000	D	D	136,000	5,500	121,000	3,500	90,000	6,000
Postsecondary teachers, political science	93,000	4,000	D	D	D	D	88,000	9,500	D	D	98,000	4,000	90,000	2,500	88,000	6,500
Postsecondary teachers, sociology	89,000	2,500	D	D	D	D	96,000	11,000	D	D	97,000	4,500	85,000	3,500	81,000	7,500
Postsecondary teachers, other social sciences	92,000	2,000	S	S	D	D	99,000	5,000	122,000	34,500	95,000	1,500	90,000	500	90,000	5,500

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	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE	Median salary	SE
Sociologists, anthropologists	110,000	7,500	D	D	143,000	23,500	111,000	9,500	104,000	12,000	111,000	8,500	S	S	105,000	17,000
Other social scientists	125,000	4,000	103,000	17,000	104,000	14,000	129,000	4,500	123,000	31,000	124,000	4,500	109,000	15,500	128,000	2,500
Engineering occupations	150,000	500	156,000	4,000	160,000	2,000	165,000	3,500	130,000	8,500	150,000	1,000	119,000	3,500	145,000	4,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, astronautical engineers	170,000	2,500	151,000	6,500	166,000	6,000	179,000	5,000	149,000	4,000	170,000	4,000	D	D	180,000	10,500
Chemical engineers	149,000	3,500	143,000	16,500	149,000	8,000	174,000	9,000	D	D	145,000	2,500	D	D	139,000	7,000
Civil, architectural, sanitary engineers	128,000	4,000	106,000	13,500	128,000	6,000	139,000	3,500	120,000	16,500	122,000	8,000	97,000	12,000	121,000	12,500
Electrical engineers	180,000	500	183,000	5,000	179,000	5,500	195,000	8,000	137,000	49,500	180,000	2,000	S	S	158,000	7,500
Industrial engineers	129,000	14,500	D	D	112,000	16,000	149,000	32,500	D	D	123,000	13,500	D	D	141,000	23,000
Mechanical engineers	150,000	1,000	144,000	7,000	150,000	5,000	155,000	9,000	167,000	29,000	150,000	1,500	S	S	149,000	5,000
Postsecondary teachers, engineering	120,000	500	99,000	8,000	101,000	20,000	125,000	4,000	S	S	120,000	1,000	117,000	3,500	117,000	13,000
Other engineers	150,000	1,000	149,000	2,000	153,000	5,000	161,000	5,500	129,000	14,000	150,000	500	130,000	16,500	145,000	4,500
S&E-related occupations	145,000	2,500	170,000	9,500	174,000	9,000	165,000	3,500	135,000	5,000	153,000	5,000	109,000	2,500	120,000	5,000
Health occupations, except postsecondary teachers and managers	130,000	1,000	116,000	12,000	140,000	21,000	135,000	6,000	129,000	3,000	130,000	3,500	130,000	5,500	122,000	7,000
Postsecondary teachers, health and related science	120,000	3,000	122,000	8,000	S	S	124,000	6,000	209,000	20,000	120,000	2,000	110,000	1,500	99,000	3,500
S&E managers, including health	194,000	5,000	227,000	19,000	199,000	5,000	194,000	5,000	201,000	16,000	195,000	5,000	144,000	12,500	170,000	7,500
S&E precollege teachers	74,000	3,000	S	S	S	S	77,000	2,500	S	S	74,000	4,500	74,000	3,000	77,000	10,000
S&E technicians and technologists	159,000	3,000	157,000	7,000	134,000	14,500	171,000	4,500	D	D	159,000	5,500	D	D	104,000	28,500
Other S&E-related occupations	166,000	23,500	182,000	12,000	178,000	26,500	151,000	8,500	156,000	56,000	202,000	70,500	D	D	D	D
Non-S&E occupations	154,000	3,500	168,000	18,000	174,000	7,500	170,000	2,000	149,000	1,500	160,000	2,500	100,000	3,000	125,000	5,000
Arts, humanities-related occupations	99,000	2,000	83,000	33,000	103,000	21,500	109,000	6,500	98,000	7,000	99,000	3,500	70,000	25,500	97,000	5,500
Management-related occupations	160,000	4,000	178,000	7,000	164,000	7,500	158,000	5,500	150,000	7,500	174,000	7,500	124,000	9,000	145,000	5,500
Non-S&E managers	200,000	500	184,000	20,000	214,000	12,500	200,000	1,000	221,000	23,000	204,000	6,500	159,000	16,000	190,000	8,000
Non-S&E postsecondary teachers	101,000	3,000	117,000	22,000	S	S	100,000	7,000	100,000	12,500	110,000	3,000	100,000	2,000	86,000	4,500
Non-S&E precollege and other teachers	74,000	5,000	D	D	D	D	74,000	8,500	75,000	8,500	92,000	6,500	68,000	4,500	67,000	9,000
Sales, marketing occupations	150,000	2,500	149,000	22,500	159,000	20,500	150,000	4,000	144,000	37,000	159,000	3,500	103,000	14,500	102,000	29,500
Social service-related occupations	82,000	4,500	D	D	94,000	14,000	86,000	5,000	83,000	4,500	72,000	8,500	80,000	8,000	78,000	13,500
Other non-S&E occupations	139,000	8,500	83,000	9,000	91,000	18,000	139,000	11,000	198,000	9,000	119,000	8,500	120,000	24,500	71,000	8,500

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 Other work activities include production, operations, maintenance, and other activities broken out separately.

Note(s):

Median annual salary are for principal job and are rounded to nearest \$1,000. Standard errors are rounded up to the nearest \$500. 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. Full time is based on working 35 or more hours per week. Residence location is based on reported living location on 1 February 2023.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Doctorate Recipients, 2023.