

TABLE 73-2

Median annual salary of U.S. residing full-time employed doctoral scientists and engineers, by occupation and primary 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	170,000	3,500	157,000	4,000	170,000	3,000	140,000	2,500	140,000	500	89,000	1,000	125,000	3,000
Science occupations	125,000	1,500	170,000	1,500	155,000	5,000	150,000	500	140,000	7,000	134,000	2,000	85,000	500	122,000	4,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	120,000	500	115,000	6,500	123,000	6,500	141,000	4,000	158,000	8,500	121,000	2,000	83,000	2,000	125,000	2,500
Agricultural, food scientists	124,000	2,500	114,000	18,000	D	D	140,000	7,500	152,000	15,000	120,000	3,500	S	S	138,000	7,500
Biochemists, biophysicists	122,000	4,500	D	D	128,000	8,500	153,000	6,500	S	S	120,000	3,000	D	D	135,000	6,500
Biological scientists	116,000	3,500	98,000	18,500	110,000	5,500	135,000	6,500	143,000	15,500	110,000	2,500	78,000	19,500	104,000	9,000
Forestry, conservation scientists	104,000	6,500	D	D	S	S	112,000	11,000	D	D	95,000	8,500	*	*	109,000	16,000
Medical scientists	143,000	3,500	115,000	14,500	114,000	16,500	160,000	6,500	179,000	15,500	139,000	3,500	S	S	146,000	8,000
Postsecondary teachers, agricultural, other natural sciences	110,000	2,500	D	D	D	D	111,000	10,000	D	D	115,000	5,500	98,000	4,000	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, biological sciences	95,000	1,500	D	D	D	D	120,000	3,500	D	D	121,000	4,000	80,000	500	83,000	12,500
Other biological, agricultural, life scientists	129,000	4,000	129,000	18,500	139,000	20,500	140,000	5,500	128,000	24,500	121,000	4,000	108,000	26,500	124,000	6,500
Computer and information scientists	176,000	3,000	180,000	1,000	189,000	8,000	195,000	7,000	170,000	22,000	182,000	4,000	100,000	3,000	136,000	10,500
Computer and information scientists	185,000	2,500	180,000	1,000	189,000	8,000	200,000	3,000	171,000	22,000	189,000	3,500	126,000	7,500	137,000	11,000
Postsecondary teachers, computer science	112,000	3,000	D	D	D	D	142,000	14,000	D	D	141,000	7,500	100,000	2,000	D	D
Mathematical scientists	136,000	2,500	150,000	4,000	157,000	13,500	189,000	9,000	171,000	22,500	150,000	2,500	84,000	2,500	115,000	11,500
Mathematical scientists	160,000	2,500	150,000	3,500	157,000	13,000	199,000	7,000	171,000	22,500	162,000	5,000	D	D	123,000	12,000
Postsecondary teachers, mathematics, statistics	95,000	2,000	D	D	D	D	116,000	7,500	D	D	115,000	5,000	84,000	2,500	79,000	8,000
Physical scientists	120,000	500	127,000	15,000	144,000	13,500	140,000	2,500	143,000	24,500	134,000	3,500	80,000	1,500	116,000	5,500
Chemists, except biochemists	130,000	2,000	144,000	58,000	115,000	31,000	135,000	6,500	112,000	19,000	132,000	4,500	D	D	105,000	4,500
Earth, atmospheric, ocean scientists	125,000	4,500	127,000	16,000	116,000	17,000	141,000	7,500	123,000	10,000	120,000	4,000	111,000	24,000	123,000	13,000
Physicists, astronomers	150,000	3,500	102,000	23,000	129,000	27,500	177,000	10,500	267,000	19,500	149,000	1,500	S	S	121,000	7,000
Postsecondary teachers, chemistry	84,000	2,000	D	D	D	D	118,000	4,500	D	D	119,000	4,500	77,000	2,000	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, physics	100,000	5,000	D	D	D	D	140,000	26,500	S	S	130,000	11,500	84,000	2,500	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, other physical science	98,000	2,500	D	D	D	D	110,000	9,500	D	D	118,000	4,000	90,000	3,500	79,000	2,500
Other physical scientists	148,000	4,500	133,000	29,000	164,000	10,000	153,000	12,000	132,000	58,500	146,000	6,000	D	D	127,000	14,000
Psychologists	108,000	3,000	D	D	D	D	126,000	6,000	121,000	5,000	125,000	4,500	80,000	2,000	105,000	7,000
Psychologists	127,000	4,000	D	D	S	S	144,000	10,500	124,000	5,000	129,000	5,500	S	S	109,000	5,000
Postsecondary teachers, psychology	92,000	3,000	D	D	D	D	106,000	5,000	111,000	9,000	116,000	5,500	80,000	1,500	92,000	19,000
Social scientists	110,000	1,000	126,000	23,000	106,000	34,500	140,000	5,500	150,000	31,500	129,000	2,000	88,000	2,000	120,000	8,500
Economists	170,000	5,500	153,000	17,500	S	S	201,000	18,000	193,000	11,500	157,000	5,000	D	D	166,000	18,500
Political scientists	139,000	11,500	D	D	D	D	139,000	5,500	D	D	136,000	22,500	D	D	168,000	11,000
Postsecondary teachers, economics	124,000	3,000	D	D	D	D	140,000	15,500	D	D	153,000	11,500	104,000	3,500	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, political science	93,000	4,000	D	D	D	D	124,000	29,000	D	D	111,000	7,500	85,000	1,500	D	D
Postsecondary teachers, sociology	89,000	2,500	D	D	D	D	115,000	17,500	D	D	108,000	4,500	80,000	1,000	89,000	8,500
Postsecondary teachers, other social sciences	92,000	2,000	D	D	D	D	117,000	7,500	D	D	101,000	3,000	85,000	2,000	99,000	10,000

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(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
Sociologists, anthropologists	110,000	7,500	D	D	D	D	100,000	17,500	D	D	114,000	12,000	S	S	92,000	19,000
Other social scientists	125,000	4,000	86,000	5,500	99,000	11,500	150,000	7,000	144,000	45,500	120,000	5,000	D	D	125,000	10,000
Engineering occupations	150,000	500	159,000	3,500	154,000	4,500	170,000	2,000	130,000	13,500	153,000	3,000	107,000	4,000	145,000	5,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, astronautical engineers	170,000	2,500	151,000	9,000	159,000	8,000	178,000	3,000	D	D	170,000	5,000	S	S	169,000	31,500
Chemical engineers	149,000	3,500	D	D	156,000	8,000	164,000	16,500	S	S	144,000	3,000	D	D	139,000	6,500
Civil, architectural, sanitary engineers	128,000	4,000	121,000	39,500	128,000	10,000	150,000	11,000	140,000	22,000	116,000	6,000	D	D	103,000	21,500
Electrical engineers	180,000	500	180,000	14,500	175,000	6,500	185,000	7,000	S	S	181,000	3,500	S	S	149,000	8,500
Industrial engineers	129,000	14,500	D	D	S	S	156,000	32,000	D	D	134,000	6,000	D	D	140,000	23,500
Mechanical engineers	150,000	1,000	142,000	11,500	147,000	9,000	154,000	8,000	D	D	150,000	2,500	D	D	144,000	11,000
Postsecondary teachers, engineering	120,000	500	D	D	D	D	149,000	14,000	D	D	131,000	6,000	107,000	3,500	S	S
Other engineers	150,000	1,000	149,000	7,000	150,000	3,000	169,000	6,500	117,000	27,500	149,000	2,000	138,000	15,500	146,000	6,500
S&E-related occupations	145,000	2,500	170,000	11,500	184,000	14,000	180,000	3,500	130,000	4,500	150,000	4,500	90,000	2,500	134,000	9,000
Health occupations, except postsecondary teachers and managers	130,000	1,000	100,000	49,500	119,000	15,000	146,000	8,000	127,000	3,000	130,000	8,000	130,000	18,000	130,000	8,000
Postsecondary teachers, health and related science	120,000	3,000	D	D	D	D	150,000	7,000	245,000	21,000	125,000	3,500	100,000	1,500	97,000	14,500
S&E managers, including health	194,000	5,000	243,000	26,000	201,000	11,500	198,000	4,000	170,000	35,500	174,000	5,500	D	D	170,000	11,500
S&E precollege teachers	74,000	3,000	D	D	D	D	S	S	D	D	D	D	74,000	3,500	D	D
S&E technicians and technologists	159,000	3,000	156,000	10,000	139,000	41,500	172,000	7,000	D	D	159,000	4,500	D	D	S	S
Other S&E-related occupations	166,000	23,500	197,000	29,500	S	S	135,000	8,000	160,000	59,500	D	D	D	D	D	D
Non-S&E occupations	154,000	3,500	146,000	9,000	179,000	10,000	179,000	3,500	160,000	7,500	157,000	6,000	90,000	1,000	111,000	5,500
Arts, humanities-related occupations	99,000	2,000	D	D	D	D	107,000	7,500	90,000	13,500	100,000	7,000	49,000	20,000	92,000	5,000
Management-related occupations	160,000	4,000	171,000	24,500	179,000	10,500	159,000	7,500	160,000	13,000	179,000	12,000	130,000	25,500	140,000	11,000
Non-S&E managers	200,000	500	141,000	29,500	202,000	29,500	201,000	5,000	240,000	37,500	199,000	5,000	107,000	24,500	164,000	9,000
Non-S&E postsecondary teachers	101,000	3,000	D	D	D	D	128,000	10,500	118,000	37,000	134,000	7,500	90,000	3,000	75,000	14,500
Non-S&E precollege and other teachers	74,000	5,000	D	D	D	D	95,000	16,000	D	D	100,000	8,500	68,000	5,000	S	S
Sales, marketing occupations	150,000	2,500	D	D	D	D	150,000	8,500	S	S	159,000	7,000	S	S	72,000	27,500
Social service-related occupations	82,000	4,500	D	D	D	D	85,000	8,500	88,000	7,500	72,000	14,000	84,000	3,000	52,000	14,000
Other non-S&E occupations	139,000	8,500	D	D	162,000	77,000	110,000	13,000	198,000	7,000	98,000	5,500	138,000	28,000	59,000	11,000

* = suppressed when population estimate < 25. 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 not 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?" 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.