

TABLE R-3

Reasons for working after retiring of doctoral scientists and engineers, by select characteristics: 2023

(Number, percent, and SE)

| Characteristic | Reasons for working after retiring | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|---|------|--------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|------|----------------------------|-------|
| | Working after retirement | | Wanted a professional identity | | Wanted additional income | | Wanted social connection | | Was asked to continue or return to work | | Needed additional income | | Health insurance ^a | | Other reasons ^b | |
| | Total | SE | Percent | SE | Percent | SE | Percent | SE | Percent | SE | Percent | SE | Percent | SE | Percent | SE |
| U.S. residing, reported working after retiring | 85,200 | 1,450 | 65.7 | 0.75 | 57.5 | 0.95 | 49.9 | 1.00 | 38.8 | 0.90 | 23.2 | 0.75 | 15.5 | 0.75 | 20.3 | 0.70 |
| Employment status in 2023 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Employed, full time | 27,250 | 850 | 66.0 | 1.45 | 65.6 | 1.85 | 46.5 | 1.80 | 34.8 | 1.60 | 39.4 | 1.65 | 31.3 | 1.55 | 23.7 | 1.50 |
| Employed, part time | 42,600 | 925 | 69.6 | 1.15 | 57.9 | 1.30 | 54.4 | 1.25 | 38.9 | 1.20 | 17.9 | 1.10 | 8.8 | 0.75 | 18.1 | 1.00 |
| Not employed | 15,350 | 600 | 54.4 | 1.95 | 42.0 | 1.90 | 43.6 | 2.10 | 45.6 | 2.10 | 9.3 | 1.20 | 5.9 | 1.10 | 20.2 | 1.80 |
| Sex | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Male | 57,900 | 1,200 | 64.3 | 0.95 | 58.2 | 1.15 | 48.3 | 1.15 | 37.6 | 1.15 | 22.7 | 0.95 | 16.5 | 0.95 | 19.4 | 0.90 |
| Female | 27,300 | 700 | 68.7 | 1.25 | 55.9 | 1.60 | 53.3 | 1.55 | 41.4 | 1.50 | 24.3 | 1.30 | 13.3 | 1.15 | 22.2 | 1.25 |
| Ethnicity and race | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino ^c | 3,150 | 275 | 62.4 | 4.00 | 60.7 | 3.85 | 53.2 | 3.95 | 33.7 | 3.95 | 34.1 | 2.95 | 19.8 | 3.40 | 27.1 | 3.65 |
| Not Hispanic or Latino ^d | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 250 | 75 | 56.6 | 11.05 | 48.9 | 11.10 | 37.2 | 10.75 | 24.6 | 9.30 | 36.5 | 11.50 | S | S | 33.8 | 11.80 |
| Asian | 10,300 | 675 | 64.8 | 2.95 | 51.5 | 3.35 | 55.5 | 3.70 | 38.5 | 3.15 | 29.4 | 3.20 | 23.4 | 2.90 | 20.2 | 2.60 |
| Black or African American | 2,900 | 275 | 58.0 | 3.95 | 61.3 | 3.45 | 44.3 | 4.15 | 28.7 | 3.70 | 35.2 | 4.45 | 13.1 | 2.65 | 17.5 | 3.05 |
| White | 67,550 | 1,250 | 66.4 | 0.90 | 58.2 | 1.00 | 49.4 | 1.05 | 39.6 | 0.90 | 21.3 | 0.85 | 14.3 | 0.80 | 19.9 | 0.80 |
| Other race ^e | 1,050 | 200 | 63.5 | 8.25 | 54.4 | 8.30 | 37.7 | 8.15 | 40.6 | 8.65 | 19.6 | 6.90 | 8.1 | 3.30 | 26.3 | 7.90 |
| Age | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Under 55 | 5,550 | 400 | 67.1 | 3.35 | 68.7 | 3.40 | 55.7 | 4.40 | 25.1 | 3.05 | 43.4 | 3.60 | 21.4 | 2.65 | 30.0 | 3.50 |
| 55–60 | 8,250 | 525 | 62.5 | 3.00 | 66.3 | 3.15 | 49.6 | 2.80 | 38.7 | 2.75 | 34.6 | 2.55 | 27.0 | 2.65 | 19.6 | 2.30 |
| 61–65 | 16,200 | 625 | 63.6 | 1.85 | 62.0 | 2.00 | 50.2 | 2.15 | 36.8 | 2.00 | 29.8 | 1.75 | 24.9 | 2.15 | 19.4 | 1.60 |
| 66–70 | 26,050 | 825 | 67.4 | 1.30 | 54.5 | 1.50 | 49.8 | 1.65 | 40.9 | 1.60 | 19.5 | 1.35 | 12.3 | 1.20 | 20.8 | 1.25 |
| 71–75 | 29,150 | 925 | 66.0 | 1.45 | 53.0 | 1.65 | 48.8 | 1.70 | 40.7 | 1.80 | 15.8 | 1.35 | 8.7 | 1.10 | 18.7 | 1.30 |
| Disability status | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| With disability | 14,250 | 700 | 67.3 | 2.45 | 62.2 | 2.40 | 49.8 | 2.50 | 40.5 | 2.35 | 28.4 | 2.35 | 20.6 | 1.90 | 20.0 | 1.75 |
| Without disability | 70,950 | 1,500 | 65.4 | 0.90 | 56.6 | 1.05 | 50.0 | 1.05 | 38.5 | 1.00 | 22.2 | 0.95 | 14.4 | 0.85 | 20.3 | 0.70 |
| Field of study | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Science | 65,200 | 1,250 | 66.2 | 0.90 | 57.6 | 1.05 | 50.2 | 1.10 | 38.0 | 1.00 | 23.3 | 0.85 | 14.5 | 0.85 | 21.0 | 0.85 |
| Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences | 18,350 | 625 | 66.6 | 1.75 | 55.1 | 2.00 | 50.2 | 1.85 | 40.5 | 2.00 | 23.8 | 1.65 | 16.5 | 1.55 | 20.9 | 1.80 |
| Computer and information sciences | 2,050 | 200 | 56.7 | 5.10 | 45.0 | 5.30 | 49.8 | 5.40 | 29.4 | 4.85 | 22.2 | 4.25 | 23.3 | 4.95 | 30.0 | 5.60 |
| Mathematics and statistics | 3,200 | 275 | 57.5 | 4.10 | 50.5 | 4.75 | 46.1 | 4.20 | 38.7 | 4.05 | 24.1 | 3.45 | 20.0 | 3.65 | 24.8 | 4.25 |
| Physical sciences, geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences | 12,800 | 625 | 58.9 | 2.35 | 53.7 | 2.40 | 47.2 | 2.40 | 40.7 | 2.35 | 18.8 | 2.05 | 15.4 | 2.00 | 20.5 | 1.90 |
| Psychology | 17,150 | 725 | 75.4 | 2.00 | 65.6 | 1.70 | 54.4 | 2.05 | 36.1 | 2.10 | 26.1 | 1.95 | 10.7 | 1.25 | 17.1 | 1.60 |
| Social sciences | 11,550 | 575 | 64.4 | 2.05 | 58.6 | 2.60 | 48.6 | 2.60 | 34.9 | 2.35 | 23.5 | 2.20 | 13.1 | 1.65 | 25.0 | 2.70 |
| Engineering | 14,400 | 650 | 60.3 | 2.55 | 57.1 | 2.50 | 47.2 | 2.55 | 40.6 | 2.60 | 24.2 | 2.10 | 20.4 | 2.20 | 17.8 | 1.90 |

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Reasons for working after retiring of doctoral scientists and engineers, by select characteristics: 2023

(Number, percent, and SE)

| Characteristic | Reasons for working after retiring | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------|------|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|---|-------|--------------------------|------|-------------------------------|------|----------------------------|------|
| | Working after retirement | | Wanted a professional identity | | Wanted additional income | | Wanted social connection | | Was asked to continue or return to work | | Needed additional income | | Health insurance ^a | | Other reasons ^b | |
| | Total | SE | Percent | SE | Percent | SE | Percent | SE | Percent | SE | Percent | SE | Percent | SE | Percent | SE |
| Health | 5,600 | 325 | 73.8 | 2.55 | 56.7 | 3.25 | 53.5 | 3.65 | 44.2 | 3.45 | 19.8 | 2.60 | 13.9 | 2.05 | 18.1 | 2.50 |
| Non-U.S. residing, reported working after retiring | 14,250 | 725 | 65.4 | 2.25 | 52.3 | 2.95 | 48.6 | 2.75 | 39.2 | 2.85 | 26.8 | 2.05 | 16.4 | 2.25 | 14.1 | 1.85 |
| Employment status in 2023 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Employed, full time | 6,250 | 475 | 71.7 | 3.35 | 58.9 | 4.70 | 48.9 | 4.25 | 36.4 | 3.95 | 34.4 | 3.65 | 20.2 | 3.45 | 14.3 | 2.55 |
| Employed, part time | 6,300 | 550 | 62.6 | 3.30 | 47.5 | 3.90 | 50.3 | 4.05 | 40.2 | 4.00 | 22.4 | 3.00 | 15.5 | 3.10 | 12.9 | 2.50 |
| Not employed | 1,700 | 225 | 53.0 | 6.95 | 46.1 | 6.45 | 41.4 | 7.10 | 45.8 | 7.85 | 14.8 | 4.55 | D | D | 17.4 | 5.85 |
| Sex | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Male | 11,200 | 650 | 64.1 | 2.70 | 50.3 | 3.55 | 45.5 | 3.00 | 36.9 | 3.45 | 27.7 | 2.45 | 16.7 | 2.55 | 12.8 | 1.95 |
| Female | 3,050 | 300 | 70.4 | 4.00 | 59.7 | 4.90 | 59.7 | 4.80 | 47.5 | 5.15 | 23.3 | 4.30 | 15.6 | 3.65 | 18.8 | 4.00 |
| Age | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Under 55 | 2,100 | 350 | 61.3 | 7.55 | 70.0 | 6.70 | 49.4 | 6.70 | 22.7 | 5.05 | 48.3 | 7.45 | 16.9 | 5.10 | 15.1 | 4.95 |
| 55–60 | 1,450 | 250 | 50.1 | 8.35 | 56.2 | 8.90 | 30.0 | 7.15 | 63.4 | 8.00 | 24.5 | 7.60 | 10.6 | 4.55 | 13.3 | 4.95 |
| 61–65 | 2,900 | 350 | 75.3 | 3.90 | 58.1 | 5.75 | 53.8 | 5.75 | 36.0 | 5.30 | 25.0 | 4.90 | 18.7 | 4.85 | 12.6 | 2.60 |
| 66–70 | 4,700 | 475 | 66.9 | 4.45 | 47.7 | 4.25 | 48.2 | 4.35 | 40.7 | 5.10 | 24.1 | 3.70 | 16.8 | 3.90 | 11.1 | 2.85 |
| 71–75 | 3,100 | 325 | 63.8 | 4.85 | 40.1 | 4.90 | 52.4 | 5.45 | 39.7 | 5.45 | 18.9 | 4.40 | 16.1 | 4.45 | 19.6 | 4.25 |
| Field of study | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Science | 9,900 | 600 | 64.9 | 2.55 | 51.3 | 2.75 | 49.9 | 3.10 | 39.5 | 3.10 | 27.5 | 2.25 | 13.2 | 2.10 | 14.5 | 2.10 |
| Engineering | 3,750 | 400 | 63.2 | 5.30 | 52.5 | 6.35 | 46.0 | 5.80 | 37.8 | 5.85 | 23.4 | 5.10 | 23.4 | 5.10 | 11.4 | 3.65 |
| Health | 650 | 175 | 86.3 | 6.05 | 66.9 | 12.25 | 44.1 | 11.50 | 42.6 | 13.15 | S | S | D | D | S | S |

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information. S = suppressed for reliability; coefficient of variation exceeds publication standards.

SE = standard error.

^a Health insurance for self or for family.^b Other reasons for working after retirement include spouse or partner changed their work status and other reasons.^c Hispanic or Latino may be of any race.^d American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, and White are single race.^e Other race includes individuals who reported being Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, single race, and those who reported being more than one race.**Note(s):**

Numbers are rounded to the nearest 50. Standard errors of numbers are rounded up to the nearest 25. Percentages are rounded to the nearest 0.1%. Standard errors of unrounded percentages (based on unrounded counts) are rounded up to the nearest multiple of 0.05%. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Working after retiring includes individuals not employed in 2023 and reported last worked after the year retired as well as those currently working. Designation of full-time and part-time employment status is based on principal job only, not on all jobs held in labor force. For example, an individual could work part time in their principal job but full time in the labor force. 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.