

TABLE 1-4

Employment sector of employed college graduates, by level of highest degree and minor field of highest degree: 2023

(Number)

Level and field of highest degree	Total	Business or industry				Education			Government		
		Total	For-profit business or industry	Nonprofit business or industry	Self-employed, not incorporated	Total	4-year educational institution ^a	2-year college or precollege educational institution	Total	Federal government ^b	State or local government
All degrees	56,061,000	39,308,000	30,562,000	5,563,000	3,182,000	10,688,000	3,569,000	7,119,000	6,065,000	2,308,000	3,757,000
S&E fields	17,566,000	13,141,000	11,031,000	1,235,000	875,000	2,328,000	1,340,000	988,000	2,097,000	928,000	1,169,000
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	2,721,000	1,843,000	1,367,000	288,000	187,000	521,000	371,000	150,000	357,000	141,000	216,000
Agricultural and food sciences	370,000	291,000	209,000	13,000	69,000	45,000	22,000	23,000	34,000	23,000	11,000
Biological sciences	2,012,000	1,317,000	1,000,000	233,000	84,000	449,000	332,000	116,000	247,000	87,000	160,000
Environmental life sciences	338,000	234,000	159,000	42,000	34,000	27,000	17,000	S	76,000	32,000	44,000
Computer and mathematical sciences	3,563,000	2,867,000	2,632,000	141,000	94,000	369,000	194,000	175,000	327,000	168,000	159,000
Computer and information sciences	2,781,000	2,340,000	2,164,000	116,000	60,000	188,000	111,000	78,000	252,000	130,000	123,000
Mathematics and statistics	782,000	527,000	468,000	25,000	34,000	181,000	83,000	97,000	75,000	38,000	37,000
Physical and related sciences	953,000	621,000	525,000	56,000	40,000	206,000	154,000	52,000	125,000	70,000	55,000
Chemistry, except biochemistry	370,000	256,000	225,000	20,000	12,000	78,000	60,000	18,000	36,000	15,000	20,000
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	301,000	199,000	153,000	24,000	23,000	44,000	36,000	7,000	58,000	32,000	26,000
Physics and astronomy	257,000	151,000	137,000	8,000	5,000	83,000	56,000	26,000	23,000	19,000	4,000
Other physical sciences	26,000	15,000	10,000	S	D	2,000	1,000	1,000	9,000	4,000	5,000
Social and related sciences	6,059,000	4,182,000	3,129,000	633,000	420,000	988,000	432,000	556,000	889,000	325,000	564,000
Economics	971,000	824,000	731,000	43,000	51,000	72,000	41,000	30,000	75,000	38,000	37,000
Political and related sciences	1,032,000	747,000	579,000	113,000	55,000	98,000	48,000	50,000	188,000	125,000	62,000
Psychology	2,511,000	1,642,000	1,110,000	321,000	211,000	495,000	187,000	308,000	374,000	91,000	283,000
Sociology and anthropology	948,000	596,000	460,000	77,000	59,000	185,000	88,000	97,000	168,000	45,000	122,000
Other social sciences	597,000	375,000	250,000	80,000	45,000	138,000	68,000	71,000	84,000	25,000	59,000
Engineering	4,270,000	3,628,000	3,378,000	116,000	134,000	243,000	190,000	53,000	399,000	224,000	175,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	175,000	120,000	113,000	4,000	4,000	9,000	8,000	S	46,000	S	S
Chemical engineering	275,000	242,000	225,000	10,000	7,000	19,000	15,000	S	14,000	9,000	5,000
Civil and architectural engineering	553,000	418,000	393,000	6,000	19,000	26,000	23,000	3,000	109,000	30,000	79,000
Electrical and computer engineering	1,458,000	1,300,000	1,210,000	59,000	31,000	71,000	57,000	14,000	88,000	61,000	27,000
Industrial engineering	275,000	246,000	228,000	6,000	12,000	13,000	5,000	7,000	16,000	9,000	S
Mechanical engineering	916,000	803,000	757,000	13,000	33,000	42,000	32,000	9,000	72,000	44,000	28,000
Other engineering	617,000	498,000	453,000	18,000	27,000	64,000	50,000	14,000	55,000	29,000	26,000
S&E-related fields	8,556,000	6,267,000	4,010,000	1,850,000	407,000	1,597,000	867,000	730,000	692,000	258,000	434,000
Health	6,858,000	5,117,000	3,037,000	1,793,000	287,000	1,149,000	805,000	344,000	593,000	238,000	354,000
Science and mathematics teacher education	546,000	166,000	124,000	15,000	27,000	372,000	25,000	347,000	8,000	S	S
Technology and technical fields	563,000	489,000	433,000	13,000	S	35,000	12,000	24,000	38,000	12,000	26,000
Other S&E-related fields	589,000	495,000	416,000	29,000	50,000	40,000	26,000	15,000	54,000	6,000	47,000
Non-S&E fields	29,939,000	19,900,000	15,521,000	2,479,000	1,901,000	6,763,000	1,362,000	5,401,000	3,276,000	1,122,000	2,154,000
Management and administration fields	10,153,000	8,455,000	7,143,000	762,000	550,000	631,000	306,000	325,000	1,067,000	467,000	599,000

TABLE 1-4

Employment sector of employed college graduates, by level of highest degree and minor field of highest degree: 2023

(Number)

Level and field of highest degree	Total	Business or industry				Education			Government		
		Total	For-profit business or industry	Nonprofit business or industry	Self-employed, not incorporated	Total	4-year educational institution ^a	2-year college or precollege educational institution	Total	Federal government ^b	State or local government
Education, except science and math teacher education	5,245,000	1,191,000	763,000	303,000	125,000	3,845,000	249,000	3,596,000	208,000	50,000	158,000
Social service and related fields	1,526,000	1,003,000	453,000	449,000	101,000	288,000	89,000	199,000	236,000	35,000	200,000
Sales and marketing fields	1,448,000	1,283,000	1,163,000	55,000	65,000	56,000	18,000	38,000	109,000	S	49,000
Art and humanities fields	4,937,000	3,463,000	2,472,000	441,000	549,000	1,220,000	365,000	855,000	255,000	102,000	153,000
Other non-S&E fields	6,630,000	4,506,000	3,526,000	468,000	512,000	723,000	335,000	388,000	1,401,000	407,000	994,000
Bachelor's	34,400,000	25,967,000	20,861,000	3,031,000	2,076,000	4,739,000	1,315,000	3,425,000	3,693,000	1,243,000	2,450,000
S&E fields	12,216,000	9,598,000	8,119,000	836,000	643,000	1,161,000	508,000	652,000	1,458,000	558,000	900,000
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	1,912,000	1,409,000	1,036,000	213,000	161,000	258,000	151,000	107,000	245,000	85,000	160,000
Agricultural and food sciences	300,000	247,000	172,000	8,000	67,000	29,000	8,000	21,000	24,000	18,000	6,000
Biological sciences	1,368,000	980,000	743,000	176,000	62,000	213,000	136,000	77,000	175,000	48,000	126,000
Environmental life sciences	244,000	182,000	121,000	28,000	32,000	16,000	7,000	S	46,000	19,000	27,000
Computer and mathematical sciences	2,437,000	2,006,000	1,830,000	98,000	78,000	196,000	81,000	115,000	235,000	107,000	128,000
Computer and information sciences	1,904,000	1,617,000	1,490,000	79,000	47,000	103,000	45,000	58,000	184,000	83,000	101,000
Mathematics and statistics	533,000	389,000	340,000	19,000	31,000	92,000	36,000	57,000	51,000	25,000	S
Physical and related sciences	543,000	384,000	315,000	39,000	30,000	84,000	51,000	33,000	75,000	33,000	43,000
Chemistry, except biochemistry	210,000	150,000	130,000	13,000	7,000	35,000	27,000	8,000	24,000	7,000	17,000
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	197,000	148,000	110,000	S	S	11,000	7,000	S	38,000	19,000	19,000
Physics and astronomy	123,000	76,000	67,000	4,000	4,000	38,000	16,000	21,000	9,000	7,000	3,000
Other physical sciences	15,000	10,000	8,000	D	D	*	*	D	S	D	S
Social and related sciences	4,417,000	3,245,000	2,569,000	408,000	269,000	534,000	173,000	361,000	637,000	195,000	442,000
Economics	822,000	724,000	651,000	30,000	43,000	44,000	16,000	28,000	54,000	27,000	27,000
Political and related sciences	741,000	591,000	472,000	76,000	43,000	51,000	17,000	34,000	99,000	60,000	39,000
Psychology	1,629,000	1,115,000	825,000	197,000	93,000	241,000	74,000	167,000	274,000	55,000	219,000
Sociology and anthropology	813,000	545,000	428,000	64,000	54,000	121,000	40,000	82,000	146,000	41,000	105,000
Other social sciences	411,000	270,000	193,000	41,000	37,000	77,000	26,000	51,000	64,000	13,000	51,000
Engineering	2,908,000	2,554,000	2,370,000	79,000	105,000	88,000	53,000	36,000	266,000	138,000	128,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	115,000	82,000	79,000	D	D	1,000	1,000	D	S	S	D
Chemical engineering	210,000	191,000	178,000	9,000	4,000	7,000	4,000	S	12,000	8,000	5,000
Civil and architectural engineering	393,000	306,000	287,000	3,000	16,000	9,000	S	3,000	78,000	21,000	57,000
Electrical and computer engineering	955,000	868,000	799,000	45,000	25,000	31,000	22,000	8,000	56,000	35,000	22,000
Industrial engineering	193,000	180,000	165,000	3,000	12,000	7,000	D	7,000	6,000	4,000	S
Mechanical engineering	700,000	630,000	592,000	9,000	29,000	13,000	5,000	8,000	56,000	32,000	24,000
Other engineering	341,000	296,000	270,000	9,000	17,000	20,000	13,000	S	25,000	9,000	16,000
S&E-related fields	4,045,000	3,107,000	2,065,000	877,000	165,000	614,000	297,000	317,000	324,000	97,000	227,000
Health	2,986,000	2,305,000	1,389,000	846,000	70,000	416,000	278,000	139,000	264,000	87,000	177,000

TABLE 1-4

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(Number)

Level and field of highest degree	Total	Business or industry				Education			Government		
		Total	For-profit business or industry	Nonprofit business or industry	Self-employed, not incorporated	Total	4-year educational institution ^a	2-year college or precollege educational institution	Total	Federal government ^b	State or local government
Science and mathematics teacher education	253,000	101,000	79,000	S	S	S	D	S	S	D	D
Technology and technical fields	437,000	380,000	330,000	10,000	S	26,000	S	22,000	31,000	8,000	23,000
Other S&E-related fields	369,000	321,000	267,000	13,000	41,000	22,000	12,000	11,000	26,000	2,000	24,000
Non-S&E fields	18,138,000	13,263,000	10,677,000	1,317,000	1,268,000	2,965,000	509,000	2,456,000	1,911,000	588,000	1,323,000
Management and administration fields	6,607,000	5,543,000	4,720,000	464,000	359,000	384,000	158,000	226,000	681,000	262,000	418,000
Education, except science and math teacher education	2,013,000	593,000	428,000	107,000	58,000	1,304,000	35,000	1,268,000	116,000	22,000	93,000
Social service and related fields	544,000	347,000	212,000	108,000	27,000	92,000	24,000	68,000	105,000	S	100,000
Sales and marketing fields	1,185,000	1,054,000	954,000	46,000	54,000	34,000	D	30,000	97,000	S	45,000
Art and humanities fields	4,018,000	3,060,000	2,261,000	317,000	482,000	743,000	147,000	597,000	215,000	77,000	138,000
Other non-S&E fields	3,772,000	2,666,000	2,103,000	274,000	288,000	408,000	141,000	267,000	699,000	170,000	529,000
Master's	15,780,000	9,593,000	7,091,000	1,789,000	713,000	4,457,000	1,059,000	3,398,000	1,730,000	730,000	1,000,000
S&E fields	3,939,000	2,798,000	2,329,000	303,000	166,000	629,000	344,000	285,000	512,000	273,000	239,000
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	417,000	245,000	178,000	48,000	19,000	96,000	63,000	34,000	76,000	29,000	47,000
Agricultural and food sciences	45,000	28,000	23,000	S	S	8,000	7,000	1,000	9,000	4,000	S
Biological sciences	288,000	167,000	121,000	31,000	16,000	82,000	51,000	30,000	39,000	14,000	26,000
Environmental life sciences	84,000	50,000	35,000	13,000	S	6,000	5,000	S	28,000	12,000	16,000
Computer and mathematical sciences	985,000	779,000	724,000	40,000	14,000	118,000	60,000	59,000	88,000	57,000	31,000
Computer and information sciences	794,000	668,000	621,000	36,000	12,000	59,000	40,000	19,000	67,000	45,000	21,000
Mathematics and statistics	191,000	110,000	103,000	4,000	S	59,000	20,000	39,000	22,000	12,000	10,000
Physical and related sciences	196,000	119,000	108,000	6,000	5,000	51,000	37,000	14,000	26,000	16,000	10,000
Chemistry, except biochemistry	65,000	45,000	42,000	S	S	16,000	10,000	6,000	4,000	2,000	S
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	69,000	41,000	35,000	S	4,000	15,000	12,000	S	13,000	7,000	6,000
Physics and astronomy	55,000	32,000	30,000	1,000	D	19,000	15,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	D
Other physical sciences	7,000	2,000	2,000	D	D	1,000	D	1,000	4,000	D	D
Social and related sciences	1,272,000	777,000	487,000	183,000	107,000	285,000	121,000	164,000	210,000	100,000	110,000
Economics	115,000	84,000	67,000	11,000	7,000	14,000	12,000	2,000	17,000	8,000	S
Political and related sciences	262,000	148,000	104,000	32,000	11,000	31,000	17,000	14,000	84,000	63,000	21,000
Psychology	656,000	413,000	235,000	101,000	77,000	171,000	51,000	120,000	71,000	15,000	56,000
Sociology and anthropology	96,000	40,000	28,000	8,000	S	36,000	24,000	12,000	20,000	4,000	16,000
Other social sciences	143,000	92,000	53,000	31,000	7,000	33,000	17,000	17,000	18,000	10,000	8,000
Engineering	1,068,000	878,000	832,000	26,000	20,000	78,000	64,000	15,000	112,000	70,000	42,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	48,000	32,000	27,000	3,000	D	S	S	D	12,000	11,000	D
Chemical engineering	34,000	29,000	27,000	S	S	5,000	3,000	D	S	D	D
Civil and architectural engineering	134,000	101,000	96,000	S	3,000	5,000	5,000	D	27,000	8,000	19,000
Electrical and computer engineering	412,000	361,000	347,000	10,000	4,000	21,000	16,000	5,000	29,000	24,000	5,000

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(Number)

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Industrial engineering	68,000	57,000	55,000	2,000	1,000	3,000	2,000	D	9,000	S	S
Mechanical engineering	174,000	147,000	143,000	3,000	2,000	15,000	14,000	D	12,000	8,000	3,000
Other engineering	200,000	151,000	138,000	5,000	8,000	26,000	21,000	6,000	23,000	15,000	8,000
S&E-related fields	2,375,000	1,557,000	977,000	475,000	105,000	576,000	195,000	381,000	241,000	85,000	157,000
Health	1,766,000	1,219,000	688,000	450,000	81,000	344,000	167,000	177,000	203,000	75,000	128,000
Science and mathematics teacher education	279,000	64,000	45,000	S	13,000	211,000	11,000	200,000	S	S	S
Technology and technical fields	117,000	103,000	97,000	3,000	S	7,000	5,000	2,000	6,000	S	S
Other S&E-related fields	213,000	171,000	147,000	16,000	8,000	14,000	12,000	S	27,000	4,000	23,000
Non-S&E fields	9,466,000	5,237,000	3,785,000	1,011,000	442,000	3,253,000	520,000	2,732,000	976,000	372,000	604,000
Management and administration fields	3,479,000	2,885,000	2,407,000	291,000	187,000	211,000	113,000	97,000	383,000	204,000	179,000
Education, except science and math teacher education	2,965,000	551,000	318,000	169,000	64,000	2,329,000	149,000	2,181,000	85,000	25,000	60,000
Social service and related fields	889,000	607,000	233,000	308,000	66,000	157,000	32,000	125,000	125,000	25,000	100,000
Sales and marketing fields	257,000	227,000	209,000	8,000	11,000	18,000	S	9,000	S	D	S
Art and humanities fields	735,000	369,000	192,000	116,000	61,000	331,000	107,000	224,000	36,000	22,000	14,000
Other non-S&E fields	1,141,000	598,000	426,000	119,000	54,000	207,000	110,000	97,000	336,000	88,000	248,000
Doctorate	2,420,000	1,116,000	786,000	237,000	94,000	1,121,000	864,000	257,000	183,000	122,000	61,000
S&E fields	1,349,000	705,000	565,000	87,000	54,000	522,000	482,000	40,000	121,000	94,000	27,000
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	392,000	189,000	154,000	28,000	7,000	167,000	157,000	10,000	36,000	27,000	9,000
Agricultural and food sciences	26,000	16,000	14,000	D	S	8,000	7,000	S	2,000	1,000	D
Biological sciences	356,000	170,000	136,000	27,000	7,000	154,000	145,000	9,000	32,000	25,000	8,000
Environmental life sciences	10,000	3,000	3,000	D	D	5,000	5,000	D	2,000	S	D
Computer and mathematical sciences	141,000	82,000	78,000	2,000	2,000	55,000	53,000	2,000	4,000	4,000	S
Computer and information sciences	83,000	55,000	53,000	1,000	S	26,000	26,000	D	2,000	S	D
Mathematics and statistics	58,000	27,000	25,000	1,000	D	29,000	27,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	D
Physical and related sciences	214,000	118,000	102,000	12,000	4,000	72,000	67,000	5,000	24,000	21,000	3,000
Chemistry, except biochemistry	95,000	61,000	54,000	4,000	S	27,000	23,000	3,000	7,000	7,000	S
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences	35,000	11,000	8,000	S	D	18,000	17,000	D	7,000	6,000	S
Physics and astronomy	79,000	43,000	39,000	4,000	S	27,000	25,000	S	9,000	8,000	S
Other physical sciences	4,000	3,000	1,000	D	D	S	S	D	D	D	D
Social and related sciences	309,000	121,000	55,000	34,000	31,000	153,000	132,000	21,000	35,000	26,000	9,000
Economics	34,000	15,000	13,000	1,000	1,000	14,000	13,000	1,000	5,000	3,000	1,000
Political and related sciences	29,000	8,000	2,000	4,000	D	16,000	14,000	2,000	5,000	3,000	S
Psychology	164,000	75,000	32,000	15,000	27,000	66,000	55,000	11,000	23,000	18,000	5,000
Sociology and anthropology	39,000	10,000	4,000	5,000	1,000	28,000	25,000	S	1,000	1,000	D
Other social sciences	43,000	13,000	4,000	8,000	D	28,000	25,000	3,000	2,000	S	D

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Engineering	293,000	195,000	176,000	11,000	9,000	76,000	73,000	3,000	21,000	16,000	6,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineering	12,000	6,000	6,000	D	D	4,000	3,000	D	2,000	2,000	D
Chemical engineering	31,000	23,000	20,000	D	S	7,000	7,000	D	S	D	D
Civil and architectural engineering	27,000	11,000	10,000	D	D	12,000	12,000	D	4,000	1,000	3,000
Electrical and computer engineering	91,000	70,000	64,000	4,000	S	19,000	18,000	D	2,000	2,000	*
Industrial engineering	14,000	9,000	8,000	D	D	3,000	3,000	D	1,000	D	D
Mechanical engineering	43,000	26,000	23,000	D	D	13,000	13,000	D	4,000	4,000	D
Other engineering	76,000	51,000	45,000	4,000	2,000	18,000	16,000	S	7,000	5,000	S
S&E-related fields	372,000	233,000	146,000	68,000	18,000	109,000	88,000	21,000	30,000	12,000	18,000
Health	342,000	222,000	138,000	66,000	18,000	90,000	73,000	17,000	29,000	12,000	17,000
Science and mathematics teacher education	14,000	D	D	D	D	12,000	10,000	S	D	D	D
Technology and technical fields	9,000	6,000	6,000	D	D	3,000	3,000	D	D	D	D
Other S&E-related fields	7,000	3,000	S	D	D	4,000	2,000	D	D	D	D
Non-S&E fields	700,000	178,000	75,000	82,000	21,000	490,000	294,000	195,000	32,000	16,000	16,000
Management and administration fields	67,000	28,000	17,000	S	D	37,000	35,000	2,000	S	S	D
Education, except science and math teacher education	267,000	47,000	18,000	27,000	2,000	212,000	65,000	147,000	8,000	2,000	S
Social service and related fields	93,000	49,000	8,000	32,000	8,000	38,000	33,000	5,000	S	D	D
Sales and marketing fields	7,000	D	D	D	D	S	S	D	D	D	D
Art and humanities fields	184,000	34,000	19,000	9,000	6,000	146,000	111,000	35,000	S	D	D
Other non-S&E fields	82,000	20,000	13,000	6,000	D	52,000	46,000	S	10,000	3,000	S
Professional	3,461,000	2,631,000	1,824,000	507,000	300,000	370,000	331,000	39,000	459,000	214,000	245,000
S&E fields	62,000	39,000	18,000	8,000	13,000	17,000	6,000	S	6,000	S	3,000
S&E-related fields	1,765,000	1,370,000	822,000	430,000	118,000	298,000	287,000	11,000	97,000	65,000	32,000
Non-S&E fields	1,634,000	1,222,000	984,000	69,000	169,000	56,000	38,000	18,000	357,000	146,000	210,000

* = suppressed when population estimate < 500. D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information. S = suppressed for reliability; coefficient of variation exceeds publication standards.

S&E = science and engineering.

^a Four-year educational institution includes medical schools and university-affiliated research institutes.^b Federal government includes civilian and military.**Note(s):**

Numbers are rounded to the nearest 1,000. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Survey of College Graduates, 2023.