

TABLE 3-1

Employed college graduates, by level of highest degree, minor occupation, and primary work activity: 2023

(Number)

Level of highest degree and occupation	Total	Primary work activity					
		Computer applications	Design ^a	Management and administration ^b	Research and development ^c	Teaching	Other ^d
All degrees	56,061,000	3,263,000	1,692,000	24,369,000	4,519,000	6,878,000	15,339,000
S&E occupations	8,711,000	2,421,000	910,000	1,974,000	2,020,000	444,000	942,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	813,000	18,000	14,000	158,000	432,000	89,000	102,000
Agricultural and food scientists	74,000	S	S	22,000	33,000	D	12,000
Biological and medical scientists	552,000	12,000	11,000	97,000	354,000	6,000	71,000
Environmental life scientists	60,000	D	D	29,000	20,000	S	7,000
Postsecondary teachers - life and related sciences	127,000	D	D	9,000	26,000	79,000	12,000
Computer and mathematical scientists	4,573,000	2,185,000	315,000	968,000	610,000	119,000	377,000
Computer and information scientists	4,154,000	2,105,000	292,000	907,000	460,000	40,000	350,000
Mathematical scientists	318,000	78,000	23,000	58,000	130,000	S	26,000
Postsecondary teachers - computer and math sciences	101,000	2,000	D	3,000	19,000	76,000	1,000
Physical and related scientists	430,000	10,000	6,000	78,000	214,000	46,000	75,000
Chemists, except biochemists	129,000	*	S	28,000	65,000	*	34,000
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean scientists	143,000	6,000	2,000	31,000	79,000	D	25,000
Physicists	45,000	3,000	2,000	5,000	32,000	D	3,000
Other physical and related scientists, including astronomers	45,000	1,000	1,000	9,000	23,000	D	11,000
Postsecondary teachers - physical and related sciences	69,000	D	D	6,000	15,000	45,000	3,000
Social and related scientists	631,000	5,000	6,000	112,000	238,000	150,000	121,000
Economists	47,000	3,000	D	5,000	27,000	D	12,000
Political scientists	38,000	D	D	12,000	12,000	D	14,000
Psychologists	132,000	D	D	14,000	48,000	S	67,000
Anthropologists	14,000	D	D	3,000	9,000	D	2,000
Sociologists ^e	20,000	D	D	S	12,000	D	D
Other social and related scientists	178,000	S	6,000	59,000	87,000	S	23,000
Postsecondary teachers - social and related sciences	202,000	D	D	15,000	43,000	142,000	S
Engineers	2,263,000	204,000	570,000	658,000	525,000	39,000	267,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineers	181,000	20,000	46,000	36,000	57,000	D	20,000
Chemical engineers	80,000	4,000	22,000	21,000	16,000	D	16,000
Civil, architectural, and sanitary engineers	324,000	11,000	110,000	117,000	32,000	D	53,000
Electrical and computer hardware engineers	501,000	106,000	124,000	87,000	142,000	D	41,000
Industrial engineers	107,000	5,000	21,000	44,000	S	D	19,000
Mechanical engineers	424,000	7,000	176,000	109,000	93,000	D	39,000
Other engineers	581,000	47,000	70,000	238,000	147,000	3,000	76,000
Postsecondary teachers - engineering	66,000	D	D	6,000	21,000	34,000	S
S&E-related occupations	11,253,000	538,000	343,000	2,219,000	818,000	1,046,000	6,288,000

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		Computer applications	Design ^a	Management and administration ^b	Research and development ^c	Teaching	Other ^d
Health-related occupations	7,102,000	37,000	15,000	807,000	340,000	259,000	5,644,000
S&E managers	1,485,000	87,000	59,000	1,006,000	78,000	S	253,000
S&E precollege teachers	793,000	D	D	21,000	3,000	764,000	5,000
S&E technicians and technologists	1,581,000	403,000	160,000	315,000	368,000	7,000	327,000
Other S&E-related occupations	291,000	11,000	108,000	70,000	29,000	D	59,000
Non-S&E occupations	36,097,000	303,000	439,000	20,176,000	1,681,000	5,389,000	8,109,000
Non-S&E managers	6,016,000	74,000	87,000	5,137,000	169,000	32,000	517,000
Management-related occupations	6,165,000	86,000	81,000	4,682,000	344,000	84,000	889,000
Non-S&E precollege teachers	4,083,000	D	D	176,000	26,000	3,799,000	70,000
Non-S&E postsecondary teachers	601,000	D	S	39,000	42,000	480,000	32,000
Social services and related occupations	2,462,000	S	S	612,000	120,000	205,000	1,510,000
Sales and marketing occupations	4,560,000	14,000	21,000	3,840,000	158,000	21,000	508,000
Art, humanities, and related occupations	1,671,000	14,000	139,000	554,000	258,000	55,000	651,000
Other non-S&E occupations	10,539,000	107,000	87,000	5,136,000	564,000	713,000	3,932,000
Bachelor's	34,311,000	2,192,000	1,154,000	17,020,000	2,391,000	3,280,000	8,274,000
S&E occupations	5,052,000	1,595,000	621,000	1,259,000	903,000	73,000	603,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	314,000	9,000	6,000	85,000	135,000	14,000	64,000
Agricultural and food scientists	36,000	D	D	15,000	8,000	D	9,000
Biological and medical scientists	227,000	S	3,000	49,000	119,000	S	47,000
Environmental life scientists	35,000	D	D	20,000	5,000	S	5,000
Postsecondary teachers - life and related sciences	16,000	D	D	D	3,000	9,000	D
Computer and mathematical scientists	2,989,000	1,445,000	226,000	649,000	357,000	39,000	272,000
Computer and information scientists	2,855,000	1,423,000	211,000	626,000	313,000	28,000	255,000
Mathematical scientists	123,000	22,000	15,000	24,000	42,000	D	18,000
Postsecondary teachers - computer and math sciences	11,000	D	D	D	D	9,000	D
Physical and related scientists	185,000	3,000	3,000	37,000	87,000	6,000	49,000
Chemists, except biochemists	78,000	D	S	17,000	32,000	D	28,000
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean scientists	65,000	S	1,000	12,000	35,000	D	15,000
Physicists	10,000	D	D	S	7,000	D	D
Other physical and related scientists, including astronomers	22,000	D	D	5,000	11,000	D	6,000
Postsecondary teachers - physical and related sciences	10,000	D	D	D	3,000	6,000	D
Social and related scientists	165,000	3,000	D	51,000	70,000	S	29,000
Economists	11,000	S	D	*	4,000	D	S
Political scientists	14,000	D	D	S	S	D	D
Psychologists	34,000	D	D	S	17,000	D	14,000

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		Computer applications	Design ^a	Management and administration ^b	Research and development ^c	Teaching	Other ^d
Anthropologists	4,000	D	D	S	3,000	D	*
Sociologists ^e	S	D	D	D	S	D	D
Other social and related scientists	84,000	D	D	35,000	37,000	D	10,000
Postsecondary teachers - social and related sciences	12,000	D	D	D	S	S	D
Engineers	1,400,000	134,000	385,000	436,000	254,000	4,000	188,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineers	111,000	13,000	29,000	19,000	S	D	12,000
Chemical engineers	56,000	4,000	17,000	14,000	7,000	D	14,000
Civil, architectural, and sanitary engineers	210,000	9,000	69,000	83,000	13,000	D	34,000
Electrical and computer hardware engineers	293,000	66,000	81,000	51,000	66,000	D	29,000
Industrial engineers	77,000	4,000	18,000	26,000	S	D	14,000
Mechanical engineers	303,000	5,000	132,000	83,000	53,000	D	31,000
Other engineers	342,000	30,000	39,000	159,000	62,000	D	51,000
Postsecondary teachers - engineering	7,000	D	D	D	S	S	D
S&E-related occupations	5,852,000	361,000	224,000	1,325,000	449,000	439,000	3,053,000
Health-related occupations	3,485,000	26,000	6,000	486,000	182,000	116,000	2,669,000
S&E managers	751,000	55,000	33,000	549,000	26,000	D	89,000
S&E precollege teachers	317,000	D	D	10,000	S	304,000	D
S&E technicians and technologists	1,114,000	272,000	118,000	232,000	226,000	S	261,000
Other S&E-related occupations	184,000	8,000	66,000	49,000	14,000	D	34,000
Non-S&E occupations	23,407,000	236,000	309,000	14,437,000	1,039,000	2,768,000	4,618,000
Non-S&E managers	3,531,000	51,000	46,000	3,027,000	62,000	7,000	337,000
Management-related occupations	4,149,000	66,000	52,000	3,207,000	207,000	56,000	561,000
Non-S&E precollege teachers	2,145,000	D	D	97,000	2,000	2,004,000	34,000
Non-S&E postsecondary teachers	86,000	D	D	S	S	73,000	D
Social services and related occupations	1,039,000	D	D	363,000	47,000	80,000	539,000
Sales and marketing occupations	3,822,000	12,000	S	3,209,000	124,000	S	451,000
Art, humanities, and related occupations	1,309,000	14,000	115,000	436,000	206,000	41,000	497,000
Other non-S&E occupations	7,327,000	88,000	68,000	4,090,000	390,000	495,000	2,197,000
Master's	15,719,000	943,000	482,000	6,293,000	1,325,000	2,938,000	3,737,000
S&E occupations	2,593,000	731,000	251,000	600,000	601,000	152,000	258,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	205,000	6,000	7,000	39,000	109,000	24,000	20,000
Agricultural and food scientists	20,000	D	D	4,000	12,000	D	S
Biological and medical scientists	139,000	3,000	7,000	28,000	85,000	S	14,000
Environmental life scientists	21,000	D	D	8,000	11,000	D	1,000
Postsecondary teachers - life and related sciences	24,000	D	D	D	*	21,000	D

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Computer and mathematical scientists	1,353,000	660,000	80,000	295,000	174,000	47,000	97,000
Computer and information scientists	1,178,000	615,000	74,000	268,000	118,000	11,000	91,000
Mathematical scientists	134,000	43,000	5,000	27,000	53,000	D	5,000
Postsecondary teachers - computer and math sciences	41,000	D	D	D	3,000	36,000	D
Physical and related scientists	117,000	4,000	1,000	24,000	60,000	12,000	17,000
Chemists, except biochemists	22,000	D	D	5,000	12,000	D	4,000
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean scientists	58,000	3,000	S	14,000	32,000	D	8,000
Physicists	12,000	1,000	D	D	9,000	D	S
Other physical and related scientists, including astronomers	12,000	D	D	4,000	5,000	D	3,000
Postsecondary teachers - physical and related sciences	14,000	D	D	D	S	11,000	D
Social and related scientists	239,000	1,000	3,000	43,000	84,000	52,000	56,000
Economists	25,000	1,000	D	2,000	15,000	D	6,000
Political scientists	14,000	D	D	2,000	5,000	D	6,000
Psychologists	52,000	D	D	7,000	16,000	D	29,000
Anthropologists	7,000	D	D	2,000	4,000	D	1,000
Sociologists ^e	9,000	D	D	D	4,000	D	D
Other social and related scientists	73,000	D	S	23,000	34,000	D	11,000
Postsecondary teachers - social and related sciences	58,000	D	D	D	5,000	47,000	D
Engineers	679,000	60,000	160,000	198,000	173,000	18,000	69,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineers	57,000	6,000	14,000	14,000	14,000	D	7,000
Chemical engineers	15,000	*	3,000	6,000	4,000	D	2,000
Civil, architectural, and sanitary engineers	101,000	1,000	36,000	31,000	15,000	D	18,000
Electrical and computer hardware engineers	169,000	35,000	39,000	33,000	51,000	D	12,000
Industrial engineers	27,000	D	3,000	17,000	2,000	D	5,000
Mechanical engineers	106,000	2,000	38,000	25,000	32,000	D	8,000
Other engineers	187,000	15,000	27,000	71,000	54,000	D	18,000
Postsecondary teachers - engineering	17,000	D	D	D	2,000	15,000	D
S&E-related occupations	3,059,000	158,000	110,000	684,000	212,000	517,000	1,378,000
Health-related occupations	1,651,000	8,000	7,000	221,000	88,000	87,000	1,240,000
S&E managers	482,000	29,000	24,000	358,000	21,000	S	49,000
S&E precollege teachers	442,000	D	D	9,000	S	427,000	4,000
S&E technicians and technologists	380,000	117,000	38,000	75,000	88,000	2,000	61,000
Other S&E-related occupations	104,000	4,000	41,000	21,000	15,000	D	24,000
Non-S&E occupations	10,068,000	55,000	121,000	5,010,000	512,000	2,269,000	2,101,000
Non-S&E managers	2,043,000	19,000	35,000	1,790,000	64,000	23,000	112,000

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Management-related occupations	1,842,000	18,000	28,000	1,357,000	119,000	20,000	298,000
Non-S&E precollege teachers	1,856,000	D	D	74,000	S	1,721,000	34,000
Non-S&E postsecondary teachers	231,000	D	D	15,000	16,000	186,000	S
Social services and related occupations	1,325,000	D	4,000	227,000	66,000	103,000	924,000
Sales and marketing occupations	664,000	S	S	564,000	30,000	D	53,000
Art, humanities, and related occupations	316,000	D	S	102,000	46,000	10,000	135,000
Other non-S&E occupations	1,789,000	11,000	18,000	881,000	146,000	197,000	536,000
Doctorate	2,488,000	112,000	51,000	554,000	700,000	589,000	482,000
S&E occupations	995,000	88,000	35,000	110,000	496,000	209,000	57,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	271,000	3,000	1,000	32,000	180,000	44,000	10,000
Agricultural and food scientists	17,000	D	D	3,000	13,000	D	*
Biological and medical scientists	176,000	3,000	1,000	20,000	141,000	S	9,000
Environmental life scientists	5,000	D	D	S	3,000	D	D
Postsecondary teachers - life and related sciences	73,000	D	D	8,000	23,000	42,000	D
Computer and mathematical scientists	211,000	71,000	8,000	20,000	72,000	33,000	7,000
Computer and information scientists	108,000	58,000	5,000	11,000	29,000	S	3,000
Mathematical scientists	54,000	14,000	S	7,000	28,000	D	3,000
Postsecondary teachers - computer and math sciences	49,000	D	D	3,000	14,000	32,000	D
Physical and related scientists	127,000	4,000	2,000	18,000	66,000	28,000	9,000
Chemists, except biochemists	29,000	D	D	5,000	21,000	D	2,000
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean scientists	18,000	S	D	5,000	11,000	D	D
Physicists	23,000	2,000	1,000	2,000	16,000	D	S
Other physical and related scientists, including astronomers	10,000	D	D	*	7,000	D	S
Postsecondary teachers - physical and related sciences	46,000	D	D	5,000	10,000	28,000	3,000
Social and related scientists	203,000	*	D	15,000	80,000	85,000	22,000
Economists	11,000	D	D	2,000	7,000	D	1,000
Political scientists	4,000	D	D	D	4,000	D	D
Psychologists	37,000	D	D	4,000	15,000	D	17,000
Anthropologists	2,000	D	D	D	2,000	D	D
Sociologists ^e	3,000	D	D	D	2,000	D	D
Other social and related scientists	19,000	D	D	S	16,000	D	2,000
Postsecondary teachers - social and related sciences	127,000	D	D	7,000	35,000	83,000	S
Engineers	184,000	10,000	25,000	24,000	98,000	17,000	10,000
Aerospace, aeronautical, and astronautical engineers	13,000	1,000	3,000	3,000	6,000	D	S
Chemical engineers	9,000	D	2,000	S	5,000	D	D

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Civil, architectural, and sanitary engineers	13,000	D	5,000	3,000	4,000	D	S
Electrical and computer hardware engineers	39,000	6,000	5,000	3,000	25,000	D	1,000
Industrial engineers	3,000	D	D	D	D	D	D
Mechanical engineers	15,000	D	5,000	S	8,000	D	D
Other engineers	51,000	2,000	5,000	8,000	31,000	D	6,000
Postsecondary teachers - engineering	41,000	D	D	5,000	18,000	17,000	D
S&E-related occupations	576,000	15,000	8,000	94,000	103,000	71,000	286,000
Health-related occupations	373,000	D	D	23,000	30,000	43,000	274,000
S&E managers	89,000	1,000	1,000	61,000	19,000	D	7,000
S&E precollege teachers	30,000	D	D	D	D	28,000	D
S&E technicians and technologists	83,000	13,000	4,000	8,000	54,000	D	4,000
Other S&E-related occupations	S	D	D	D	D	D	D
Non-S&E occupations	917,000	10,000	7,000	351,000	101,000	309,000	138,000
Non-S&E managers	265,000	4,000	4,000	199,000	39,000	S	17,000
Management-related occupations	81,000	S	1,000	49,000	15,000	7,000	8,000
Non-S&E precollege teachers	66,000	D	D	6,000	D	60,000	D
Non-S&E postsecondary teachers	258,000	D	D	15,000	24,000	200,000	19,000
Social services and related occupations	83,000	D	D	19,000	S	22,000	36,000
Sales and marketing occupations	21,000	D	D	16,000	3,000	D	1,000
Art, humanities, and related occupations	34,000	D	D	12,000	S	D	13,000
Other non-S&E occupations	108,000	S	D	34,000	8,000	16,000	44,000
Professional	3,543,000	16,000	6,000	501,000	103,000	70,000	2,847,000
S&E occupations	71,000	9,000	S	6,000	20,000	10,000	24,000
S&E-related occupations	1,766,000	4,000	D	116,000	54,000	18,000	1,572,000
Non-S&E occupations	1,705,000	D	D	379,000	29,000	43,000	1,251,000

* = 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 Design is no longer included in the definition of "Other" and is now its own category.

^b Management and administration includes respondents who reported the following work activities: accounting, finance, or contracts; human resources; quality or productivity management; sales and marketing; or managing and supervising.

^c Research and development includes basic research, applied research, and development.

^d Other work activity includes production, operations, and maintenance; professional services; and other activities not broken out separately.

^e Sociologists and anthropologists are in the same minor occupation, but they are presented here disaggregated because sociologists were combined in two different minor occupations in the past due to disclosure avoidance protections.

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.