

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	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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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	34,400,000	2,195,000	1,157,000	17,051,000	2,395,000	3,289,000	8,313,000
S&E occupations	5,069,000	1,598,000	623,000	1,263,000	904,000	76,000	606,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	315,000	9,000	6,000	85,000	136,000	15,000	64,000
Agricultural and food scientists	36,000	D	D	15,000	8,000	D	9,000
Biological and medical scientists	228,000	S	3,000	49,000	120,000	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	10,000	D
Computer and mathematical scientists	2,999,000	1,448,000	227,000	653,000	357,000	39,000	275,000
Computer and information scientists	2,865,000	1,426,000	212,000	630,000	313,000	28,000	257,000
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	186,000	3,000	3,000	37,000	87,000	7,000	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	23,000	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	168,000	3,000	D	51,000	70,000	13,000	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	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	15,000	D	D	D	S	S	D
Engineers	1,402,000	134,000	386,000	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	211,000	9,000	70,000	83,000	13,000	D	34,000
Electrical and computer hardware engineers	294,000	67,000	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	304,000	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	5,881,000	362,000	225,000	1,328,000	450,000	440,000	3,076,000
Health-related occupations	3,508,000	26,000	6,000	487,000	182,000	116,000	2,690,000
S&E managers	753,000	55,000	33,000	550,000	26,000	D	89,000
S&E precollege teachers	317,000	D	D	10,000	S	305,000	D
S&E technicians and technologists	1,117,000	273,000	118,000	232,000	226,000	S	262,000
Other S&E-related occupations	185,000	8,000	67,000	49,000	14,000	D	34,000
Non-S&E occupations	23,449,000	236,000	309,000	14,459,000	1,041,000	2,773,000	4,631,000
Non-S&E managers	3,541,000	51,000	46,000	3,035,000	62,000	7,000	338,000
Management-related occupations	4,157,000	66,000	52,000	3,214,000	207,000	56,000	562,000
Non-S&E precollege teachers	2,147,000	D	D	97,000	2,000	2,007,000	34,000
Non-S&E postsecondary teachers	86,000	D	D	S	S	74,000	D
Social services and related occupations	1,042,000	D	D	363,000	48,000	80,000	542,000
Sales and marketing occupations	3,824,000	12,000	S	3,210,000	126,000	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	7,343,000	88,000	68,000	4,096,000	390,000	496,000	2,205,000
Master's	15,780,000	942,000	481,000	6,307,000	1,335,000	2,949,000	3,767,000
S&E occupations	2,599,000	729,000	250,000	600,000	608,000	156,000	256,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	211,000	6,000	7,000	39,000	113,000	26,000	20,000
Agricultural and food scientists	20,000	D	D	4,000	12,000	D	S
Biological and medical scientists	143,000	3,000	7,000	28,000	89,000	S	14,000
Environmental life scientists	21,000	D	D	8,000	11,000	D	1,000
Postsecondary teachers - life and related sciences	27,000	D	D	D	1,000	24,000	D

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Computer and mathematical scientists	1,347,000	658,000	80,000	293,000	174,000	47,000	95,000
Computer and information scientists	1,170,000	613,000	74,000	265,000	118,000	11,000	89,000
Mathematical scientists	135,000	43,000	5,000	27,000	54,000	D	5,000
Postsecondary teachers - computer and math sciences	41,000	D	D	D	3,000	36,000	D
Physical and related scientists	119,000	4,000	1,000	24,000	61,000	13,000	17,000
Chemists, except biochemists	22,000	D	D	6,000	12,000	D	4,000
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean scientists	58,000	3,000	S	14,000	32,000	D	8,000
Physicists	13,000	1,000	D	1,000	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	15,000	D	D	D	S	12,000	D
Social and related scientists	242,000	1,000	3,000	43,000	86,000	52,000	56,000
Economists	25,000	1,000	D	2,000	16,000	D	6,000
Political scientists	14,000	D	D	2,000	5,000	D	6,000
Psychologists	53,000	D	D	7,000	16,000	D	29,000
Anthropologists	7,000	D	D	2,000	4,000	D	1,000
Sociologists	11,000	D	D	D	6,000	D	D
Other social and related scientists	73,000	D	S	23,000	34,000	D	11,000
Postsecondary teachers - social and related sciences	59,000	D	D	D	6,000	47,000	S
Engineers	680,000	60,000	159,000	200,000	174,000	19,000	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	17,000
Electrical and computer hardware engineers	168,000	34,000	38,000	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	189,000	15,000	27,000	73,000	54,000	D	18,000
Postsecondary teachers - engineering	18,000	D	D	D	2,000	15,000	D
S&E-related occupations	3,096,000	158,000	109,000	693,000	213,000	519,000	1,404,000
Health-related occupations	1,684,000	8,000	6,000	227,000	89,000	88,000	1,265,000
S&E managers	486,000	30,000	23,000	361,000	21,000	S	50,000
S&E precollege teachers	442,000	D	D	9,000	S	427,000	4,000
S&E technicians and technologists	379,000	116,000	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	10,085,000	55,000	123,000	5,014,000	513,000	2,274,000	2,107,000
Non-S&E managers	2,047,000	19,000	35,000	1,791,000	67,000	23,000	112,000

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Management-related occupations	1,838,000	18,000	28,000	1,354,000	120,000	20,000	298,000
Non-S&E precollege teachers	1,857,000	D	D	75,000	S	1,721,000	34,000
Non-S&E postsecondary teachers	235,000	D	D	16,000	16,000	188,000	S
Social services and related occupations	1,329,000	D	4,000	230,000	66,000	103,000	925,000
Sales and marketing occupations	663,000	S	S	564,000	29,000	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	1,800,000	11,000	19,000	884,000	146,000	200,000	541,000
Doctorate	2,420,000	110,000	48,000	532,000	690,000	578,000	461,000
S&E occupations	973,000	86,000	35,000	104,000	490,000	202,000	56,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	264,000	3,000	1,000	32,000	176,000	42,000	10,000
Agricultural and food scientists	17,000	D	D	3,000	13,000	D	*
Biological and medical scientists	172,000	3,000	1,000	20,000	138,000	S	9,000
Environmental life scientists	5,000	D	D	S	3,000	D	D
Postsecondary teachers - life and related sciences	71,000	D	D	8,000	22,000	40,000	D
Computer and mathematical scientists	207,000	70,000	7,000	19,000	71,000	33,000	7,000
Computer and information scientists	105,000	57,000	5,000	10,000	29,000	S	3,000
Mathematical scientists	53,000	13,000	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	123,000	4,000	2,000	16,000	66,000	27,000	9,000
Chemists, except biochemists	28,000	D	D	5,000	21,000	D	2,000
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean scientists	18,000	S	D	4,000	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	D	7,000	D	S
Postsecondary teachers - physical and related sciences	44,000	D	D	4,000	10,000	27,000	3,000
Social and related scientists	198,000	*	D	15,000	79,000	83,000	21,000
Economists	10,000	D	D	2,000	7,000	D	1,000
Political scientists	4,000	D	D	D	4,000	D	D
Psychologists	36,000	D	D	4,000	15,000	D	17,000
Anthropologists	2,000	D	D	D	2,000	D	D
Sociologists	3,000	D	D	D	2,000	D	D
Other social and related scientists	18,000	D	D	S	15,000	D	2,000
Postsecondary teachers - social and related sciences	123,000	D	D	7,000	34,000	81,000	S
Engineers	181,000	10,000	24,000	22,000	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	49,000	2,000	5,000	6,000	31,000	D	6,000
Postsecondary teachers - engineering	40,000	D	D	5,000	18,000	17,000	D
S&E-related occupations	562,000	14,000	8,000	92,000	101,000	70,000	276,000
Health-related occupations	361,000	D	D	23,000	29,000	42,000	264,000
S&E managers	87,000	S	1,000	60,000	19,000	D	7,000
S&E precollege teachers	30,000	D	D	D	D	28,000	D
S&E technicians and technologists	82,000	13,000	4,000	8,000	54,000	D	3,000
Other S&E-related occupations	S	D	D	D	D	D	D
Non-S&E occupations	885,000	10,000	6,000	335,000	99,000	306,000	129,000
Non-S&E managers	253,000	4,000	4,000	192,000	37,000	S	14,000
Management-related occupations	79,000	S	1,000	48,000	15,000	7,000	8,000
Non-S&E precollege teachers	64,000	D	D	5,000	D	60,000	D
Non-S&E postsecondary teachers	255,000	D	D	14,000	24,000	198,000	19,000
Social services and related occupations	80,000	D	D	16,000	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	98,000	S	D	31,000	8,000	16,000	38,000
Professional	3,461,000	16,000	6,000	479,000	99,000	62,000	2,798,000
S&E occupations	70,000	9,000	S	7,000	18,000	9,000	24,000
S&E-related occupations	1,714,000	4,000	D	104,000	54,000	17,000	1,532,000
Non-S&E occupations	1,677,000	D	D	368,000	27,000	36,000	1,242,000

* = 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.

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.