

TABLE 3-4

Employed college graduates, by sex assigned at birth, gender identity, major occupation, job satisfaction, and years since highest degree: 2023

(Number)

Sex assigned at birth, gender identity, ^a occupation, and job satisfaction	Total	Years since highest degree ^b							
		< 5	5–9	10–14	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	≥ 35
All sexes and gender identities	56,061,000	8,261,000	10,776,000	8,849,000	7,322,000	5,599,000	4,848,000	3,897,000	6,507,000
Very satisfied	24,708,000	2,983,000	4,217,000	3,653,000	3,076,000	2,703,000	2,266,000	1,987,000	3,823,000
Somewhat satisfied	25,691,000	4,245,000	5,220,000	4,192,000	3,509,000	2,440,000	2,137,000	1,649,000	2,299,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	4,374,000	765,000	1,010,000	750,000	584,000	379,000	354,000	214,000	318,000
Very dissatisfied	1,287,000	268,000	330,000	255,000	153,000	77,000	91,000	47,000	66,000
S&E occupations	8,711,000	1,573,000	2,030,000	1,377,000	1,110,000	766,000	698,000	501,000	655,000
Very satisfied	3,894,000	658,000	856,000	581,000	486,000	369,000	332,000	252,000	360,000
Somewhat satisfied	4,025,000	756,000	941,000	660,000	529,000	351,000	310,000	218,000	260,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	644,000	123,000	192,000	111,000	81,000	37,000	39,000	29,000	32,000
Very dissatisfied	149,000	36,000	41,000	25,000	15,000	9,000	17,000	1,000	3,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	813,000	182,000	195,000	130,000	78,000	61,000	64,000	44,000	59,000
Very satisfied	363,000	91,000	81,000	43,000	26,000	25,000	30,000	30,000	36,000
Somewhat satisfied	382,000	77,000	92,000	76,000	45,000	31,000	27,000	13,000	20,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	53,000	9,000	19,000	9,000	6,000	3,000	5,000	1,000	S
Very dissatisfied	15,000	S	3,000	1,000	1,000	2,000	D	D	D
Computer and mathematical scientists	4,573,000	728,000	1,053,000	739,000	661,000	450,000	382,000	264,000	295,000
Very satisfied	2,004,000	282,000	452,000	307,000	298,000	217,000	182,000	119,000	146,000
Somewhat satisfied	2,141,000	371,000	481,000	355,000	306,000	205,000	172,000	124,000	127,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	363,000	56,000	103,000	69,000	49,000	24,000	21,000	20,000	21,000
Very dissatisfied	65,000	19,000	17,000	8,000	S	3,000	S	D	D
Physical and related scientists	430,000	96,000	101,000	57,000	42,000	35,000	28,000	29,000	43,000
Very satisfied	190,000	39,000	36,000	24,000	18,000	17,000	15,000	14,000	26,000
Somewhat satisfied	205,000	46,000	55,000	28,000	21,000	14,000	12,000	14,000	16,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	27,000	9,000	8,000	4,000	2,000	2,000	S	S	1,000
Very dissatisfied	9,000	S	S	2,000	S	D	D	D	D
Social and related scientists	631,000	157,000	150,000	97,000	75,000	40,000	39,000	29,000	45,000
Very satisfied	285,000	71,000	62,000	38,000	27,000	20,000	20,000	16,000	31,000
Somewhat satisfied	266,000	72,000	62,000	38,000	38,000	17,000	13,000	S	12,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	57,000	12,000	21,000	12,000	S	S	2,000	S	D
Very dissatisfied	24,000	2,000	S	S	D	D	D	D	D
Engineers	2,263,000	410,000	531,000	354,000	255,000	180,000	184,000	135,000	214,000
Very satisfied	1,052,000	176,000	224,000	170,000	116,000	89,000	84,000	73,000	120,000
Somewhat satisfied	1,031,000	189,000	251,000	163,000	119,000	83,000	86,000	54,000	85,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	144,000	38,000	41,000	17,000	17,000	6,000	10,000	6,000	8,000
Very dissatisfied	37,000	7,000	15,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	S	S	S

TABLE 3-4

Employed college graduates, by sex assigned at birth, gender identity, major occupation, job satisfaction, and years since highest degree: 2023

(Number)

Sex assigned at birth, gender identity, ^a occupation, and job satisfaction	Total	Years since highest degree ^b							
		< 5	5–9	10–14	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	≥ 35
S&E-related occupations	11,253,000	2,192,000	2,436,000	1,799,000	1,232,000	1,022,000	833,000	663,000	1,075,000
Very satisfied	4,965,000	787,000	982,000	760,000	536,000	474,000	428,000	352,000	646,000
Somewhat satisfied	5,229,000	1,144,000	1,206,000	852,000	572,000	456,000	344,000	286,000	368,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	847,000	211,000	186,000	145,000	108,000	86,000	51,000	22,000	38,000
Very dissatisfied	212,000	50,000	61,000	43,000	16,000	5,000	10,000	S	24,000
Non-S&E occupations	36,097,000	4,496,000	6,310,000	5,673,000	4,980,000	3,811,000	3,317,000	2,733,000	4,776,000
Very satisfied	15,850,000	1,537,000	2,379,000	2,312,000	2,055,000	1,860,000	1,506,000	1,383,000	2,818,000
Somewhat satisfied	16,437,000	2,346,000	3,072,000	2,680,000	2,408,000	1,633,000	1,483,000	1,145,000	1,670,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	2,883,000	431,000	632,000	494,000	394,000	256,000	264,000	163,000	248,000
Very dissatisfied	926,000	182,000	227,000	187,000	122,000	62,000	64,000	42,000	40,000
Female at birth	29,603,000	4,759,000	5,918,000	4,855,000	3,947,000	2,909,000	2,495,000	1,846,000	2,874,000
Very satisfied	12,721,000	1,703,000	2,308,000	2,007,000	1,656,000	1,358,000	1,065,000	934,000	1,690,000
Somewhat satisfied	13,783,000	2,478,000	2,877,000	2,306,000	1,880,000	1,305,000	1,138,000	784,000	1,016,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	2,338,000	423,000	535,000	387,000	323,000	207,000	218,000	101,000	145,000
Very dissatisfied	761,000	156,000	198,000	155,000	88,000	39,000	74,000	28,000	24,000
S&E occupations	2,586,000	547,000	634,000	407,000	325,000	202,000	187,000	130,000	154,000
Very satisfied	1,158,000	229,000	276,000	177,000	134,000	101,000	88,000	69,000	84,000
Somewhat satisfied	1,164,000	264,000	288,000	184,000	153,000	84,000	78,000	52,000	61,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	203,000	41,000	57,000	34,000	28,000	12,000	12,000	9,000	S
Very dissatisfied	61,000	13,000	13,000	S	10,000	4,000	S	D	D
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	405,000	104,000	94,000	67,000	40,000	29,000	24,000	22,000	24,000
Very satisfied	186,000	51,000	40,000	23,000	15,000	14,000	12,000	17,000	14,000
Somewhat satisfied	186,000	45,000	42,000	40,000	22,000	12,000	10,000	5,000	10,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	24,000	4,000	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	S	D	D
Very dissatisfied	9,000	S	S	D	D	D	D	D	D
Computer and mathematical scientists	1,214,000	185,000	297,000	192,000	177,000	105,000	104,000	62,000	92,000
Very satisfied	531,000	69,000	130,000	83,000	72,000	54,000	43,000	30,000	50,000
Somewhat satisfied	555,000	99,000	135,000	89,000	81,000	45,000	48,000	24,000	35,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	104,000	S	26,000	17,000	18,000	6,000	S	S	S
Very dissatisfied	24,000	S	6,000	3,000	S	D	D	D	D
Physical and related scientists	160,000	39,000	40,000	28,000	19,000	10,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
Very satisfied	65,000	14,000	14,000	12,000	9,000	4,000	6,000	2,000	4,000
Somewhat satisfied	78,000	20,000	21,000	11,000	8,000	5,000	3,000	6,000	5,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	12,000	4,000	3,000	S	S	S	D	D	D
Very dissatisfied	5,000	D	S	S	D	D	D	D	D

TABLE 3-4

Employed college graduates, by sex assigned at birth, gender identity, major occupation, job satisfaction, and years since highest degree: 2023

(Number)

Sex assigned at birth, gender identity, ^a occupation, and job satisfaction	Total	Years since highest degree ^b							
		< 5	5–9	10–14	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	≥ 35
Social and related scientists	398,000	106,000	93,000	68,000	51,000	23,000	22,000	22,000	13,000
Very satisfied	177,000	42,000	43,000	30,000	21,000	11,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Somewhat satisfied	171,000	54,000	35,000	22,000	26,000	10,000	9,000	S	3,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	35,000	8,000	12,000	9,000	S	S	S	D	D
Very dissatisfied	16,000	2,000	3,000	D	D	D	D	D	D
Engineers	409,000	112,000	111,000	53,000	38,000	34,000	28,000	16,000	17,000
Very satisfied	200,000	53,000	48,000	29,000	17,000	18,000	17,000	10,000	7,000
Somewhat satisfied	174,000	46,000	54,000	22,000	16,000	13,000	9,000	6,000	9,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	28,000	S	6,000	2,000	3,000	2,000	D	D	D
Very dissatisfied	7,000	D	S	D	D	D	D	D	D
S&E-related occupations	6,669,000	1,442,000	1,559,000	1,094,000	677,000	558,000	440,000	358,000	540,000
Very satisfied	2,839,000	468,000	636,000	448,000	295,000	250,000	229,000	192,000	320,000
Somewhat satisfied	3,149,000	766,000	762,000	530,000	313,000	258,000	172,000	152,000	196,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	551,000	170,000	116,000	94,000	60,000	50,000	31,000	11,000	19,000
Very dissatisfied	130,000	38,000	44,000	23,000	S	D	S	D	D
Non-S&E occupations	20,349,000	2,770,000	3,725,000	3,354,000	2,946,000	2,149,000	1,868,000	1,358,000	2,180,000
Very satisfied	8,724,000	1,006,000	1,397,000	1,382,000	1,227,000	1,007,000	748,000	672,000	1,286,000
Somewhat satisfied	9,470,000	1,448,000	1,826,000	1,593,000	1,414,000	963,000	887,000	579,000	759,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	1,584,000	212,000	361,000	259,000	235,000	144,000	176,000	81,000	117,000
Very dissatisfied	570,000	105,000	141,000	120,000	70,000	34,000	S	25,000	18,000
Male at birth	26,458,000	3,502,000	4,858,000	3,994,000	3,375,000	2,691,000	2,353,000	2,051,000	3,634,000
Very satisfied	11,987,000	1,280,000	1,908,000	1,646,000	1,420,000	1,344,000	1,201,000	1,053,000	2,134,000
Somewhat satisfied	11,909,000	1,767,000	2,343,000	1,886,000	1,629,000	1,136,000	999,000	865,000	1,284,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	2,036,000	342,000	475,000	362,000	261,000	173,000	136,000	113,000	173,000
Very dissatisfied	526,000	112,000	131,000	100,000	65,000	38,000	17,000	20,000	43,000
S&E occupations	6,126,000	1,027,000	1,396,000	970,000	786,000	565,000	511,000	370,000	501,000
Very satisfied	2,736,000	429,000	580,000	404,000	352,000	268,000	244,000	183,000	276,000
Somewhat satisfied	2,861,000	492,000	653,000	476,000	376,000	267,000	232,000	166,000	200,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	441,000	82,000	135,000	76,000	53,000	24,000	27,000	20,000	23,000
Very dissatisfied	88,000	23,000	28,000	13,000	6,000	6,000	8,000	1,000	2,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	408,000	78,000	101,000	63,000	37,000	32,000	40,000	21,000	35,000
Very satisfied	177,000	40,000	41,000	20,000	12,000	11,000	19,000	13,000	23,000
Somewhat satisfied	196,000	32,000	50,000	36,000	23,000	19,000	16,000	8,000	11,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	29,000	5,000	9,000	5,000	2,000	1,000	S	*	S
Very dissatisfied	6,000	*	1,000	S	D	S	D	D	D

TABLE 3-4

Employed college graduates, by sex assigned at birth, gender identity, major occupation, job satisfaction, and years since highest degree: 2023

(Number)

Sex assigned at birth, gender identity, ^a occupation, and job satisfaction	Total	Years since highest degree ^b							
		< 5	5–9	10–14	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	≥ 35
Computer and mathematical scientists	3,360,000	543,000	756,000	547,000	485,000	345,000	278,000	202,000	204,000
Very satisfied	1,473,000	213,000	322,000	224,000	226,000	164,000	139,000	89,000	97,000
Somewhat satisfied	1,586,000	272,000	346,000	266,000	225,000	161,000	124,000	100,000	92,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	259,000	42,000	77,000	52,000	30,000	18,000	14,000	12,000	14,000
Very dissatisfied	41,000	17,000	11,000	5,000	S	S	D	D	D
Physical and related scientists	270,000	57,000	62,000	30,000	23,000	25,000	19,000	21,000	34,000
Very satisfied	125,000	25,000	22,000	11,000	9,000	13,000	9,000	13,000	23,000
Somewhat satisfied	127,000	26,000	34,000	16,000	13,000	10,000	9,000	7,000	11,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	15,000	5,000	5,000	1,000	1,000	S	S	D	*
Very dissatisfied	4,000	D	D	S	D	D	D	D	D
Social and related scientists	233,000	50,000	57,000	29,000	24,000	17,000	17,000	7,000	31,000
Very satisfied	109,000	29,000	20,000	8,000	6,000	9,000	10,000	6,000	22,000
Somewhat satisfied	95,000	18,000	27,000	16,000	12,000	7,000	4,000	1,000	9,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	22,000	4,000	9,000	3,000	S	D	D	D	D
Very dissatisfied	8,000	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Engineers	1,855,000	298,000	420,000	302,000	217,000	146,000	156,000	119,000	197,000
Very satisfied	853,000	123,000	176,000	141,000	99,000	71,000	68,000	63,000	113,000
Somewhat satisfied	857,000	143,000	197,000	141,000	103,000	70,000	77,000	48,000	77,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	116,000	27,000	35,000	15,000	14,000	4,000	9,000	6,000	7,000
Very dissatisfied	29,000	S	13,000	4,000	2,000	1,000	S	S	S
S&E-related occupations	4,584,000	750,000	877,000	705,000	556,000	464,000	393,000	305,000	536,000
Very satisfied	2,125,000	319,000	346,000	312,000	240,000	224,000	199,000	159,000	325,000
Somewhat satisfied	2,080,000	378,000	444,000	322,000	259,000	199,000	172,000	133,000	173,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	296,000	41,000	70,000	51,000	49,000	36,000	20,000	10,000	19,000
Very dissatisfied	82,000	12,000	17,000	20,000	7,000	S	2,000	S	18,000
Non-S&E occupations	15,748,000	1,726,000	2,585,000	2,319,000	2,034,000	1,662,000	1,450,000	1,376,000	2,597,000
Very satisfied	7,125,000	532,000	982,000	930,000	828,000	852,000	758,000	711,000	1,532,000
Somewhat satisfied	6,967,000	898,000	1,246,000	1,087,000	994,000	670,000	595,000	566,000	911,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	1,299,000	219,000	271,000	235,000	160,000	112,000	89,000	83,000	131,000
Very dissatisfied	356,000	77,000	86,000	67,000	52,000	27,000	7,000	17,000	22,000
Female gender identity	29,454,000	4,706,000	5,864,000	4,842,000	3,946,000	2,899,000	2,480,000	1,852,000	2,867,000
Very satisfied	12,676,000	1,691,000	2,294,000	1,996,000	1,655,000	1,354,000	1,062,000	934,000	1,689,000
Somewhat satisfied	13,706,000	2,458,000	2,839,000	2,306,000	1,881,000	1,299,000	1,125,000	789,000	1,009,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	2,314,000	402,000	532,000	387,000	322,000	206,000	218,000	101,000	145,000
Very dissatisfied	758,000	154,000	199,000	153,000	88,000	39,000	74,000	28,000	24,000

TABLE 3-4

Employed college graduates, by sex assigned at birth, gender identity, major occupation, job satisfaction, and years since highest degree: 2023

(Number)

Sex assigned at birth, gender identity, ^a occupation, and job satisfaction	Total	Years since highest degree ^b							
		< 5	5–9	10–14	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	≥ 35
S&E occupations	2,566,000	532,000	632,000	408,000	324,000	199,000	186,000	130,000	154,000
Very satisfied	1,144,000	221,000	275,000	178,000	133,000	97,000	87,000	69,000	84,000
Somewhat satisfied	1,158,000	258,000	286,000	185,000	153,000	86,000	78,000	51,000	61,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	202,000	40,000	57,000	34,000	29,000	13,000	12,000	9,000	S
Very dissatisfied	61,000	13,000	13,000	S	10,000	4,000	S	D	D
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	400,000	101,000	92,000	67,000	40,000	29,000	24,000	22,000	24,000
Very satisfied	182,000	49,000	39,000	23,000	15,000	14,000	12,000	17,000	14,000
Somewhat satisfied	185,000	44,000	42,000	40,000	22,000	12,000	10,000	5,000	10,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	24,000	4,000	10,000	4,000	3,000	2,000	S	D	D
Very dissatisfied	9,000	S	S	D	D	D	D	D	D
Computer and mathematical scientists	1,206,000	183,000	295,000	192,000	177,000	103,000	103,000	62,000	92,000
Very satisfied	524,000	69,000	129,000	83,000	71,000	50,000	43,000	30,000	50,000
Somewhat satisfied	552,000	97,000	134,000	89,000	81,000	46,000	47,000	24,000	35,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	104,000	S	26,000	17,000	18,000	6,000	S	S	S
Very dissatisfied	25,000	3,000	6,000	3,000	S	D	D	D	D
Physical and related scientists	159,000	39,000	40,000	27,000	19,000	10,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
Very satisfied	64,000	14,000	14,000	12,000	9,000	4,000	5,000	2,000	4,000
Somewhat satisfied	78,000	20,000	21,000	11,000	8,000	5,000	3,000	6,000	5,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	12,000	4,000	3,000	S	S	S	D	D	D
Very dissatisfied	5,000	D	S	S	D	D	D	D	D
Social and related scientists	390,000	98,000	92,000	68,000	51,000	23,000	22,000	22,000	13,000
Very satisfied	171,000	36,000	43,000	30,000	21,000	11,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Somewhat satisfied	169,000	52,000	35,000	22,000	26,000	10,000	9,000	S	3,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	34,000	8,000	12,000	9,000	S	S	S	D	D
Very dissatisfied	16,000	2,000	3,000	D	D	D	D	D	D
Engineers	411,000	111,000	112,000	54,000	38,000	34,000	28,000	16,000	17,000
Very satisfied	202,000	53,000	50,000	30,000	17,000	18,000	17,000	10,000	7,000
Somewhat satisfied	174,000	45,000	54,000	22,000	16,000	13,000	9,000	5,000	9,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	27,000	S	6,000	2,000	3,000	2,000	D	D	D
Very dissatisfied	7,000	D	S	D	D	D	D	D	D
S&E-related occupations	6,645,000	1,431,000	1,550,000	1,092,000	676,000	557,000	439,000	361,000	540,000
Very satisfied	2,838,000	468,000	637,000	447,000	295,000	250,000	227,000	192,000	320,000
Somewhat satisfied	3,130,000	757,000	753,000	528,000	313,000	256,000	172,000	155,000	196,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	549,000	169,000	116,000	94,000	59,000	50,000	31,000	11,000	19,000
Very dissatisfied	128,000	36,000	44,000	23,000	S	D	S	D	D

* = 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 Gender identity estimates are tabulated based on "mark all that apply" responses to the following question, "How do you currently describe yourself? 1. Male, 2. Female, 3. Transgender, and 4. I use a different term." Thus, these four gender identity categories are not mutually exclusive.

^b Years since highest degree is calculated as the difference between academic years of highest degree attainment and survey reference year and therefore is a whole number.

Note(s):

Numbers are rounded to the nearest 1,000. Detail may not add to total because of rounding and multiple response options for the gender identity question.

Source(s):

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