

TABLE 5-2

College graduates, by broad occupation, labor force status and characteristics, sex, ethnicity, race, and disability status: 2023

(Number)

Occupation and labor force status and characteristics	Total	Female	Male	Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino						Without disability	With disability
					American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	White	More than one race		
All occupations	70,944,000	38,519,000	32,425,000	7,211,000	143,000	7,334,000	5,522,000	62,000	48,766,000	1,907,000	61,186,000	9,757,000
Full-time employment status	47,357,000	23,700,000	23,657,000	5,204,000	76,000	5,286,000	3,867,000	31,000	31,567,000	1,326,000	42,000,000	5,357,000
Part-time employment status	8,704,000	5,903,000	2,800,000	812,000	35,000	848,000	656,000	S	6,103,000	239,000	7,379,000	1,324,000
Preference for full-time status												
Did not want full-time employment	7,036,000	4,841,000	2,196,000	571,000	29,000	586,000	442,000	S	5,205,000	193,000	6,078,000	959,000
Wanted full-time employment	1,667,000	1,063,000	605,000	241,000	S	261,000	214,000	D	898,000	45,000	1,302,000	365,000
Reason for part-time status												
Reason worked part time: did not need or want to work full-time	4,509,000	3,150,000	1,358,000	290,000	S	296,000	192,000	S	3,583,000	139,000	4,007,000	502,000
Reason worked part time: family responsibilities	3,202,000	2,610,000	592,000	308,000	3,000	392,000	196,000	D	2,237,000	61,000	2,752,000	450,000
Reason worked part time: full-time job not available	1,622,000	1,055,000	567,000	165,000	S	190,000	152,000	D	1,043,000	64,000	1,345,000	276,000
Reason worked part time: held another job	1,083,000	726,000	358,000	77,000	S	112,000	84,000	D	717,000	S	923,000	160,000
Reason worked part time: hours or work reduced	987,000	617,000	370,000	116,000	D	120,000	114,000	D	610,000	25,000	783,000	204,000
Reason worked part time: previously or semiretired	2,324,000	1,288,000	1,036,000	106,000	S	101,000	157,000	S	1,930,000	19,000	1,843,000	481,000
Reason worked part time: student	837,000	586,000	251,000	122,000	D	148,000	93,000	D	407,000	S	736,000	101,000
Reason worked part time: other	1,157,000	740,000	416,000	174,000	21,000	136,000	155,000	D	637,000	34,000	880,000	277,000
Not working, not looking for work	13,432,000	8,070,000	5,362,000	963,000	28,000	1,020,000	806,000	17,000	10,320,000	279,000	10,639,000	2,794,000
Not working, looking for work	1,451,000	846,000	605,000	232,000	S	181,000	193,000	D	776,000	64,000	1,169,000	282,000
Reason for not working												
Reasons for not working: illness or disability	1,415,000	782,000	633,000	168,000	10,000	68,000	172,000	D	924,000	73,000	436,000	979,000
Reasons for not working: did not need or want to work	2,799,000	1,928,000	871,000	215,000	S	241,000	102,000	D	2,158,000	75,000	2,262,000	537,000
Reasons for not working: family responsibilities	2,487,000	2,034,000	454,000	334,000	S	325,000	176,000	S	1,584,000	61,000	2,113,000	374,000
Reasons for not working: layoff from a job	635,000	323,000	312,000	101,000	D	77,000	86,000	D	345,000	22,000	533,000	102,000
Reasons for not working: retired	9,706,000	5,181,000	4,525,000	513,000	22,000	527,000	534,000	9,000	7,950,000	151,000	7,777,000	1,929,000
Reasons for not working: student	677,000	434,000	243,000	80,000	D	89,000	80,000	D	383,000	45,000	566,000	111,000
Reasons for not working: suitable job not available	974,000	588,000	386,000	142,000	D	147,000	86,000	D	539,000	53,000	715,000	259,000
Reasons for not working: other	922,000	594,000	328,000	153,000	D	122,000	119,000	D	490,000	28,000	721,000	201,000
S&E occupations	10,404,000	3,173,000	7,231,000	948,000	14,000	2,038,000	553,000	13,000	6,581,000	258,000	9,152,000	1,251,000
Full-time employment status	8,086,000	2,289,000	5,796,000	785,000	11,000	1,648,000	462,000	6,000	4,958,000	215,000	7,222,000	864,000
Part-time employment status	626,000	296,000	330,000	66,000	D	123,000	25,000	D	395,000	14,000	538,000	87,000
Preference for full-time status												
Did not want full-time employment	494,000	228,000	266,000	46,000	D	82,000	15,000	D	339,000	11,000	425,000	70,000
Wanted full-time employment	131,000	68,000	63,000	20,000	D	41,000	10,000	D	57,000	3,000	114,000	18,000
Reason for part-time status												
Reason worked part time: did not need or want to work full-time	289,000	136,000	152,000	22,000	D	26,000	5,000	D	228,000	8,000	256,000	33,000
Reason worked part time: family responsibilities	177,000	104,000	73,000	23,000	D	33,000	4,000	D	115,000	1,000	151,000	25,000

TABLE 5-2

College graduates, by broad occupation, labor force status and characteristics, sex, ethnicity, race, and disability status: 2023

(Number)

Occupation and labor force status and characteristics	Total	Female	Male	Hispanic or Latino	Not Hispanic or Latino						Without disability	With disability
					American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	White	More than one race		
Reasons for not working: illness or disability	264,000	169,000	94,000	40,000	D	13,000	25,000	D	172,000	9,000	79,000	184,000
Reasons for not working: did not need or want to work	466,000	313,000	153,000	44,000	D	33,000	22,000	D	354,000	10,000	391,000	75,000
Reasons for not working: family responsibilities	389,000	335,000	54,000	54,000	D	50,000	31,000	D	240,000	11,000	327,000	62,000
Reasons for not working: layoff from a job	79,000	41,000	38,000	16,000	D	15,000	11,000	D	35,000	S	60,000	19,000
Reasons for not working: retired	1,687,000	942,000	744,000	96,000	6,000	113,000	77,000	D	1,360,000	35,000	1,357,000	329,000
Reasons for not working: student	201,000	134,000	67,000	21,000	D	36,000	9,000	D	122,000	13,000	166,000	35,000
Reasons for not working: suitable job not available	119,000	73,000	47,000	31,000	D	16,000	10,000	D	56,000	5,000	82,000	37,000
Reasons for not working: other	171,000	126,000	45,000	23,000	D	32,000	9,000	D	97,000	S	148,000	23,000
Non-S&E occupations	46,713,000	27,059,000	19,654,000	4,905,000	103,000	3,393,000	3,939,000	32,000	33,126,000	1,216,000	39,849,000	6,864,000
Full-time employment status	29,935,000	16,235,000	13,700,000	3,436,000	56,000	2,205,000	2,647,000	15,000	20,756,000	819,000	26,346,000	3,589,000
Part-time employment status	6,161,000	4,113,000	2,048,000	587,000	30,000	494,000	500,000	S	4,401,000	140,000	5,135,000	1,026,000
Preference for full-time status												
Did not want full-time employment	4,917,000	3,315,000	1,602,000	399,000	25,000	340,000	337,000	S	3,702,000	105,000	4,191,000	726,000
Wanted full-time employment	1,244,000	798,000	445,000	188,000	S	154,000	163,000	D	699,000	34,000	944,000	300,000
Reason for part-time status												
Reason worked part time: did not need or want to work full-time	3,099,000	2,128,000	972,000	212,000	S	184,000	134,000	S	2,502,000	60,000	2,738,000	361,000
Reason worked part time: family responsibilities	2,202,000	1,779,000	424,000	210,000	S	266,000	153,000	D	1,532,000	35,000	1,864,000	338,000
Reason worked part time: full-time job not available	1,246,000	820,000	426,000	116,000	S	124,000	123,000	D	820,000	56,000	1,028,000	218,000
Reason worked part time: held another job	739,000	471,000	268,000	51,000	D	70,000	75,000	D	499,000	40,000	610,000	129,000
Reason worked part time: hours or work reduced	699,000	432,000	267,000	82,000	D	78,000	95,000	D	422,000	21,000	551,000	148,000
Reason worked part time: previously or semiretired	1,827,000	1,028,000	799,000	81,000	S	72,000	130,000	D	1,521,000	15,000	1,442,000	385,000
Reason worked part time: student	463,000	330,000	133,000	68,000	D	64,000	66,000	D	249,000	11,000	400,000	63,000
Reason worked part time: other	880,000	555,000	325,000	144,000	20,000	70,000	124,000	D	497,000	25,000	655,000	224,000
Not working, not looking for work	9,547,000	6,051,000	3,496,000	698,000	15,000	591,000	647,000	8,000	7,388,000	201,000	7,509,000	2,038,000
Not working, looking for work	1,069,000	659,000	410,000	184,000	D	103,000	145,000	D	581,000	56,000	858,000	211,000
Reason for not working												
Reasons for not working: illness or disability	1,035,000	575,000	460,000	113,000	D	45,000	137,000	D	678,000	56,000	314,000	721,000
Reasons for not working: did not need or want to work	2,016,000	1,475,000	541,000	156,000	D	169,000	77,000	D	1,552,000	58,000	1,618,000	398,000
Reasons for not working: family responsibilities	1,874,000	1,560,000	314,000	258,000	D	211,000	137,000	D	1,221,000	44,000	1,598,000	276,000
Reasons for not working: layoff from a job	442,000	242,000	200,000	70,000	D	31,000	56,000	D	268,000	16,000	378,000	64,000
Reasons for not working: retired	6,867,000	3,922,000	2,946,000	381,000	15,000	313,000	437,000	S	5,615,000	100,000	5,476,000	1,391,000
Reasons for not working: student	396,000	266,000	130,000	51,000	D	25,000	67,000	D	222,000	31,000	329,000	67,000
Reasons for not working: suitable job not available	752,000	478,000	274,000	102,000	D	101,000	74,000	D	425,000	47,000	548,000	204,000
Reasons for not working: other	638,000	432,000	206,000	118,000	D	59,000	100,000	D	337,000	23,000	472,000	166,000

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

S&E = science and engineering.

Note(s):

Numbers are rounded to the nearest 1,000. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. This table does not include individuals who have never worked for pay or profit. If respondent was not employed during survey reference period, occupation when last employed was reported. All individuals who report working part time, regardless of their preference for working part time, are asked their reasons for working part time. Full-time employed college graduates are individuals working at least 35 hours in a typical week. All individuals who report not working, regardless of if they are looking for work, are asked their reasons for not working. Estimates by sex were based on responses to the question, "What sex were you assigned at birth, on your original birth certificate? 1. Male, 2. Female," which was a change from prior survey cycles. In 2021, the question was "What is your sex? 1. Male, 2. Female," and in 2019 and earlier years, the question was "Are you ... 1. Male, 2. Female." Hispanic or Latino may be any race; race categories exclude Hispanic origin. The National Survey of College Graduates asks the degree of difficulty—none, slight, moderate, severe, or unable to do—an individual has in seeing (with glasses), hearing (with hearing aid), walking without assistance, lifting 10 pounds, or concentrating, remembering, or making decisions. Those respondents who answered "moderate," "severe," or "unable to do" for an activity were classified as having a disability.

Source(s):

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