

TABLE 6-3

**Employed college graduates, by sex, level of highest degree, and major occupation: 2003–23**

(Number)

| Sex, level of highest degree, and occupation        | 2003       | 2010       | 2013       | 2015       | 2017       | 2019       | 2021       | 2023 <sup>a</sup> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| Both sexes                                          | 32,574,000 | 40,623,000 | 43,839,000 | 45,941,000 | 48,223,000 | 50,524,000 | 51,764,000 | 56,061,000        |
| S&E occupations                                     | 4,588,000  | 5,374,000  | 5,766,000  | 6,407,000  | 6,769,000  | 7,466,000  | 7,894,000  | 8,711,000         |
| Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists | 421,000    | 602,000    | 638,000    | 631,000    | 610,000    | 698,000    | 794,000    | 813,000           |
| Computer and mathematical scientists                | 1,930,000  | 2,396,000  | 2,653,000  | 3,156,000  | 3,419,000  | 3,774,000  | 4,031,000  | 4,573,000         |
| Physical and related scientists                     | 298,000    | 327,000    | 324,000    | 331,000    | 366,000    | 409,000    | 408,000    | 430,000           |
| Social and related scientists                       | 477,000    | 518,000    | 596,000    | 570,000    | 646,000    | 663,000    | 712,000    | 631,000           |
| Engineers                                           | 1,463,000  | 1,531,000  | 1,554,000  | 1,719,000  | 1,728,000  | 1,921,000  | 1,949,000  | 2,263,000         |
| S&E-related occupations                             | 5,155,000  | 6,966,000  | 7,508,000  | 7,867,000  | 8,271,000  | 8,893,000  | 9,522,000  | 11,253,000        |
| Non-S&E occupations                                 | 22,831,000 | 28,282,000 | 30,566,000 | 31,667,000 | 33,183,000 | 34,165,000 | 34,349,000 | 36,097,000        |
| Bachelor's                                          | 20,365,000 | 25,354,000 | 27,802,000 | 28,509,000 | 30,131,000 | 31,373,000 | 31,688,000 | 34,311,000        |
| S&E occupations                                     | 2,529,000  | 2,980,000  | 3,288,000  | 3,518,000  | 3,846,000  | 4,176,000  | 4,438,000  | 5,052,000         |
| Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists | 146,000    | 233,000    | 264,000    | 241,000    | 230,000    | 277,000    | 295,000    | 314,000           |
| Computer and mathematical scientists                | 1,243,000  | 1,564,000  | 1,785,000  | 1,978,000  | 2,219,000  | 2,403,000  | 2,574,000  | 2,989,000         |
| Physical and related scientists                     | 119,000    | 126,000    | 128,000    | 126,000    | 164,000    | 189,000    | 177,000    | 185,000           |
| Social and related scientists                       | 101,000    | 96,000     | 124,000    | 90,000     | 172,000    | 147,000    | 170,000    | 165,000           |
| Engineers                                           | 920,000    | 960,000    | 988,000    | 1,083,000  | 1,061,000  | 1,158,000  | 1,222,000  | 1,400,000         |
| S&E-related occupations                             | 2,779,000  | 3,784,000  | 4,065,000  | 4,222,000  | 4,338,000  | 4,794,000  | 5,031,000  | 5,852,000         |
| Non-S&E occupations                                 | 15,057,000 | 18,589,000 | 20,449,000 | 20,769,000 | 21,946,000 | 22,403,000 | 22,219,000 | 23,407,000        |
| Master's                                            | 8,677,000  | 11,118,000 | 11,728,000 | 12,888,000 | 13,260,000 | 14,158,000 | 14,688,000 | 15,719,000        |
| S&E occupations                                     | 1,406,000  | 1,644,000  | 1,689,000  | 2,076,000  | 2,069,000  | 2,286,000  | 2,411,000  | 2,593,000         |
| Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists | 94,000     | 152,000    | 158,000    | 169,000    | 149,000    | 152,000    | 188,000    | 205,000           |
| Computer and mathematical scientists                | 581,000    | 717,000    | 744,000    | 1,048,000  | 1,039,000  | 1,168,000  | 1,251,000  | 1,353,000         |
| Physical and related scientists                     | 82,000     | 87,000     | 83,000     | 85,000     | 98,000     | 97,000     | 105,000    | 117,000           |
| Social and related scientists                       | 205,000    | 218,000    | 249,000    | 249,000    | 235,000    | 249,000    | 283,000    | 239,000           |
| Engineers                                           | 443,000    | 472,000    | 456,000    | 525,000    | 548,000    | 619,000    | 584,000    | 679,000           |
| S&E-related occupations                             | 1,208,000  | 1,765,000  | 1,945,000  | 2,064,000  | 2,262,000  | 2,332,000  | 2,578,000  | 3,059,000         |
| Non-S&E occupations                                 | 6,063,000  | 7,709,000  | 8,093,000  | 8,749,000  | 8,929,000  | 9,540,000  | 9,699,000  | 10,068,000        |
| Doctorate                                           | 1,271,000  | 1,500,000  | 1,551,000  | 1,641,000  | 1,796,000  | 2,090,000  | 2,141,000  | 2,488,000         |
| S&E occupations                                     | 605,000    | 692,000    | 724,000    | 751,000    | 786,000    | 938,000    | 962,000    | 995,000           |
| Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists | 164,000    | 199,000    | 202,000    | 207,000    | 217,000    | 254,000    | 291,000    | 271,000           |
| Computer and mathematical scientists                | 95,000     | 108,000    | 112,000    | 117,000    | 150,000    | 189,000    | 185,000    | 211,000           |
| Physical and related scientists                     | 94,000     | 114,000    | 112,000    | 119,000    | 101,000    | 121,000    | 125,000    | 127,000           |
| Social and related scientists                       | 154,000    | 173,000    | 190,000    | 201,000    | 201,000    | 235,000    | 221,000    | 203,000           |
| Engineers                                           | 97,000     | 97,000     | 108,000    | 107,000    | 116,000    | 139,000    | 141,000    | 184,000           |
| S&E-related occupations                             | 123,000    | 224,000    | 236,000    | 229,000    | 267,000    | 387,000    | 374,000    | 576,000           |
| Non-S&E occupations                                 | 543,000    | 584,000    | 590,000    | 662,000    | 743,000    | 765,000    | 805,000    | 917,000           |

TABLE 6-3

**Employed college graduates, by sex, level of highest degree, and major occupation: 2003–23**

(Number)

| Sex, level of highest degree, and occupation        | 2003       | 2010       | 2013       | 2015       | 2017       | 2019       | 2021       | 2023 <sup>a</sup> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| Professional                                        | 2,261,000  | 2,651,000  | 2,758,000  | 2,903,000  | 3,036,000  | 2,903,000  | 3,246,000  | 3,543,000         |
| S&E occupations                                     | 49,000     | 58,000     | 64,000     | 63,000     | 67,000     | 67,000     | 82,000     | 71,000            |
| Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists | 17,000     | 17,000     | 14,000     | 14,000     | 15,000     | 14,000     | 20,000     | 24,000            |
| Computer and mathematical scientists                | 11,000     | 7,000      | 11,000     | 13,000     | 11,000     | 14,000     | 22,000     | 21,000            |
| Physical and related scientists                     | 2,000      | *          | 1,000      | *          | 2,000      | 2,000      | 1,000      | S                 |
| Social and related scientists                       | 17,000     | 31,000     | 35,000     | 30,000     | 37,000     | 32,000     | 38,000     | 25,000            |
| Engineers                                           | 2,000      | 1,000      | 2,000      | 5,000      | 2,000      | 5,000      | S          | S                 |
| S&E-related occupations                             | 1,045,000  | 1,193,000  | 1,262,000  | 1,353,000  | 1,404,000  | 1,380,000  | 1,538,000  | 1,766,000         |
| Non-S&E occupations                                 | 1,167,000  | 1,399,000  | 1,433,000  | 1,487,000  | 1,565,000  | 1,456,000  | 1,626,000  | 1,705,000         |
| Female                                              | 15,111,000 | 19,978,000 | 22,052,000 | 23,218,000 | 24,900,000 | 26,341,000 | 26,493,000 | 29,603,000        |
| S&E occupations                                     | 1,203,000  | 1,486,000  | 1,681,000  | 1,818,000  | 1,966,000  | 2,193,000  | 2,300,000  | 2,586,000         |
| Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists | 164,000    | 292,000    | 311,000    | 302,000    | 292,000    | 337,000    | 367,000    | 405,000           |
| Computer and mathematical scientists                | 552,000    | 602,000    | 673,000    | 833,000    | 919,000    | 975,000    | 1,053,000  | 1,214,000         |
| Physical and related scientists                     | 83,000     | 98,000     | 100,000    | 92,000     | 107,000    | 142,000    | 135,000    | 160,000           |
| Social and related scientists                       | 251,000    | 295,000    | 363,000    | 341,000    | 379,000    | 428,000    | 433,000    | 398,000           |
| Engineers                                           | 154,000    | 200,000    | 235,000    | 250,000    | 269,000    | 310,000    | 312,000    | 409,000           |
| S&E-related occupations                             | 2,814,000  | 3,877,000  | 4,223,000  | 4,558,000  | 4,764,000  | 5,109,000  | 5,494,000  | 6,669,000         |
| Non-S&E occupations                                 | 11,094,000 | 14,615,000 | 16,147,000 | 16,842,000 | 18,170,000 | 19,040,000 | 18,699,000 | 20,349,000        |
| Bachelor's                                          | 9,522,000  | 12,592,000 | 13,904,000 | 14,206,000 | 15,524,000 | 16,021,000 | 15,827,000 | 17,802,000        |
| S&E occupations                                     | 605,000    | 720,000    | 832,000    | 818,000    | 979,000    | 1,034,000  | 1,099,000  | 1,312,000         |
| Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists | 62,000     | 136,000    | 139,000    | 127,000    | 119,000    | 129,000    | 140,000    | 156,000           |
| Computer and mathematical scientists                | 363,000    | 383,000    | 435,000    | 456,000    | 570,000    | 568,000    | 612,000    | 731,000           |
| Physical and related scientists                     | 40,000     | 43,000     | 49,000     | 39,000     | 49,000     | 78,000     | 62,000     | 82,000            |
| Social and related scientists                       | 50,000     | 51,000     | 74,000     | 53,000     | 92,000     | 95,000     | 106,000    | 96,000            |
| Engineers                                           | 89,000     | 106,000    | 134,000    | 143,000    | 149,000    | 163,000    | 179,000    | 247,000           |
| S&E-related occupations                             | 1,719,000  | 2,335,000  | 2,494,000  | 2,567,000  | 2,654,000  | 2,845,000  | 3,044,000  | 3,609,000         |
| Non-S&E occupations                                 | 7,198,000  | 9,538,000  | 10,579,000 | 10,821,000 | 11,891,000 | 12,142,000 | 11,685,000 | 12,881,000        |
| Master's                                            | 4,431,000  | 5,838,000  | 6,479,000  | 7,196,000  | 7,359,000  | 8,141,000  | 8,314,000  | 9,074,000         |
| S&E occupations                                     | 407,000    | 516,000    | 575,000    | 708,000    | 670,000    | 757,000    | 816,000    | 884,000           |
| Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists | 41,000     | 74,000     | 84,000     | 80,000     | 75,000     | 83,000     | 100,000    | 118,000           |
| Computer and mathematical scientists                | 166,000    | 192,000    | 211,000    | 340,000    | 298,000    | 340,000    | 384,000    | 426,000           |
| Physical and related scientists                     | 27,000     | 33,000     | 28,000     | 33,000     | 39,000     | 37,000     | 43,000     | 46,000            |
| Social and related scientists                       | 119,000    | 141,000    | 170,000    | 164,000    | 155,000    | 171,000    | 180,000    | 164,000           |
| Engineers                                           | 54,000     | 77,000     | 82,000     | 91,000     | 104,000    | 126,000    | 108,000    | 130,000           |
| S&E-related occupations                             | 729,000    | 1,043,000  | 1,156,000  | 1,338,000  | 1,405,000  | 1,469,000  | 1,580,000  | 1,915,000         |
| Non-S&E occupations                                 | 3,295,000  | 4,279,000  | 4,748,000  | 5,150,000  | 5,284,000  | 5,915,000  | 5,918,000  | 6,275,000         |

TABLE 6-3

**Employed college graduates, by sex, level of highest degree, and major occupation: 2003–23**

(Number)

| Sex, level of highest degree, and occupation        | 2003       | 2010       | 2013       | 2015       | 2017       | 2019       | 2021       | 2023 <sup>a</sup> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| Doctorate                                           | 422,000    | 521,000    | 597,000    | 646,000    | 734,000    | 900,000    | 887,000    | 1,085,000         |
| S&E occupations                                     | 170,000    | 215,000    | 239,000    | 261,000    | 279,000    | 365,000    | 343,000    | 351,000           |
| Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists | 55,000     | 74,000     | 80,000     | 88,000     | 90,000     | 118,000    | 118,000    | 117,000           |
| Computer and mathematical scientists                | 20,000     | 24,000     | 25,000     | 30,000     | 46,000     | 61,000     | 51,000     | 48,000            |
| Physical and related scientists                     | 15,000     | 22,000     | 22,000     | 20,000     | 19,000     | 28,000     | 30,000     | 32,000            |
| Social and related scientists                       | 70,000     | 79,000     | 94,000     | 107,000    | 108,000    | 139,000    | 120,000    | 122,000           |
| Engineers                                           | 10,000     | 17,000     | 18,000     | 15,000     | 16,000     | 20,000     | 25,000     | 32,000            |
| Non-S&E occupations                                 | 200,000    | 220,000    | 258,000    | 278,000    | 328,000    | 346,000    | 347,000    | 429,000           |
| Professional                                        | 736,000    | 1,027,000  | 1,072,000  | 1,170,000  | 1,283,000  | 1,280,000  | 1,466,000  | 1,641,000         |
| S&E occupations                                     | 21,000     | 35,000     | 35,000     | 31,000     | 37,000     | 36,000     | 42,000     | 39,000            |
| Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists | 6,000      | 8,000      | 7,000      | 6,000      | 7,000      | 7,000      | 9,000      | 13,000            |
| Computer and mathematical scientists                | 3,000      | S          | S          | S          | S          | 6,000      | 6,000      | S                 |
| Physical and related scientists                     | D          | D          | D          | D          | D          | D          | D          | D                 |
| Social and related scientists                       | 11,000     | 23,000     | 24,000     | 17,000     | 25,000     | 22,000     | 27,000     | 17,000            |
| Engineers                                           | D          | D          | D          | D          | D          | D          | D          | D                 |
| Non-S&E occupations                                 | 314,000    | 413,000    | 474,000    | 546,000    | 579,000    | 607,000    | 674,000    | 839,000           |
| Male                                                | 17,463,000 | 20,644,000 | 21,787,000 | 22,723,000 | 23,323,000 | 24,183,000 | 25,271,000 | 26,458,000        |
| S&E occupations                                     | 3,385,000  | 3,888,000  | 4,084,000  | 4,590,000  | 4,803,000  | 5,274,000  | 5,594,000  | 6,126,000         |
| Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists | 257,000    | 310,000    | 328,000    | 329,000    | 319,000    | 361,000    | 427,000    | 408,000           |
| Computer and mathematical scientists                | 1,378,000  | 1,795,000  | 1,980,000  | 2,323,000  | 2,500,000  | 2,799,000  | 2,979,000  | 3,360,000         |
| Physical and related scientists                     | 215,000    | 229,000    | 224,000    | 239,000    | 259,000    | 267,000    | 273,000    | 270,000           |
| Social and related scientists                       | 226,000    | 223,000    | 234,000    | 229,000    | 266,000    | 235,000    | 279,000    | 233,000           |
| Engineers                                           | 1,309,000  | 1,331,000  | 1,319,000  | 1,469,000  | 1,459,000  | 1,612,000  | 1,636,000  | 1,855,000         |
| Non-S&E occupations                                 | 11,736,000 | 13,667,000 | 14,418,000 | 14,824,000 | 15,013,000 | 15,125,000 | 15,649,000 | 15,748,000        |
| Bachelor's                                          | 10,843,000 | 12,761,000 | 13,898,000 | 14,303,000 | 14,606,000 | 15,353,000 | 15,861,000 | 16,508,000        |
| S&E occupations                                     | 1,925,000  | 2,260,000  | 2,457,000  | 2,700,000  | 2,867,000  | 3,142,000  | 3,339,000  | 3,740,000         |
| Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists | 84,000     | 98,000     | 125,000    | 114,000    | 110,000    | 148,000    | 155,000    | 158,000           |
| Computer and mathematical scientists                | 880,000    | 1,181,000  | 1,350,000  | 1,522,000  | 1,649,000  | 1,835,000  | 1,961,000  | 2,258,000         |
| Physical and related scientists                     | 79,000     | 83,000     | 79,000     | 87,000     | 115,000    | 112,000    | 116,000    | 103,000           |
| Social and related scientists                       | 51,000     | 44,000     | 49,000     | 37,000     | 80,000     | 52,000     | 64,000     | 69,000            |
| Engineers                                           | 831,000    | 854,000    | 853,000    | 940,000    | 912,000    | 995,000    | 1,043,000  | 1,153,000         |
| Non-S&E occupations                                 | 1,060,000  | 1,450,000  | 1,571,000  | 1,655,000  | 1,685,000  | 1,949,000  | 1,988,000  | 2,242,000         |
| Non-S&E occupations                                 | 7,858,000  | 9,052,000  | 9,871,000  | 9,948,000  | 10,055,000 | 10,262,000 | 10,534,000 | 10,526,000        |

TABLE 6-3

**Employed college graduates, by sex, level of highest degree, and major occupation: 2003–23**

(Number)

| Sex, level of highest degree, and occupation        | 2003      | 2010      | 2013      | 2015      | 2017      | 2019      | 2021      | 2023 <sup>a</sup> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|
| Master's                                            | 4,247,000 | 5,280,000 | 5,249,000 | 5,692,000 | 5,901,000 | 6,017,000 | 6,375,000 | 6,645,000         |
| S&E occupations                                     | 999,000   | 1,129,000 | 1,114,000 | 1,367,000 | 1,399,000 | 1,529,000 | 1,595,000 | 1,709,000         |
| Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists | 54,000    | 78,000    | 74,000    | 88,000    | 74,000    | 69,000    | 88,000    | 87,000            |
| Computer and mathematical scientists                | 415,000   | 525,000   | 533,000   | 708,000   | 741,000   | 828,000   | 867,000   | 926,000           |
| Physical and related scientists                     | 55,000    | 54,000    | 55,000    | 53,000    | 59,000    | 60,000    | 61,000    | 71,000            |
| Social and related scientists                       | 86,000    | 77,000    | 79,000    | 85,000    | 80,000    | 78,000    | 102,000   | 75,000            |
| Engineers                                           | 389,000   | 395,000   | 374,000   | 434,000   | 445,000   | 493,000   | 476,000   | 549,000           |
| Non-S&E occupations                                 | 479,000   | 721,000   | 790,000   | 726,000   | 857,000   | 864,000   | 998,000   | 1,144,000         |
| Doctorate                                           | 2,769,000 | 3,430,000 | 3,346,000 | 3,599,000 | 3,645,000 | 3,625,000 | 3,781,000 | 3,793,000         |
| S&E occupations                                     | 849,000   | 979,000   | 954,000   | 996,000   | 1,062,000 | 1,190,000 | 1,254,000 | 1,403,000         |
| Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists | 434,000   | 477,000   | 485,000   | 490,000   | 507,000   | 573,000   | 619,000   | 645,000           |
| Computer and mathematical scientists                | 109,000   | 125,000   | 122,000   | 119,000   | 127,000   | 137,000   | 173,000   | 154,000           |
| Physical and related scientists                     | 75,000    | 85,000    | 87,000    | 87,000    | 104,000   | 128,000   | 134,000   | 163,000           |
| Physical and related scientists                     | 79,000    | 92,000    | 90,000    | 99,000    | 82,000    | 94,000    | 95,000    | 95,000            |
| Social and related scientists                       | 84,000    | 94,000    | 95,000    | 94,000    | 93,000    | 95,000    | 101,000   | 81,000            |
| Engineers                                           | 88,000    | 81,000    | 90,000    | 92,000    | 101,000   | 119,000   | 116,000   | 152,000           |
| Non-S&E occupations                                 | 72,000    | 138,000   | 136,000   | 122,000   | 140,000   | 199,000   | 177,000   | 271,000           |
| Professional                                        | 343,000   | 364,000   | 333,000   | 384,000   | 415,000   | 419,000   | 458,000   | 488,000           |
| S&E occupations                                     | 1,524,000 | 1,624,000 | 1,686,000 | 1,732,000 | 1,754,000 | 1,623,000 | 1,781,000 | 1,901,000         |
| Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists | 27,000    | 23,000    | 29,000    | 32,000    | 30,000    | 30,000    | 41,000    | 33,000            |
| Computer and mathematical scientists                | 11,000    | 9,000     | 7,000     | 8,000     | 8,000     | 7,000     | 11,000    | 10,000            |
| Computer and mathematical scientists                | 8,000     | 4,000     | 9,000     | 7,000     | 7,000     | 8,000     | 15,000    | 13,000            |
| Physical and related scientists                     | S         | *         | D         | D         | 2,000     | 1,000     | S         | S                 |
| Social and related scientists                       | 5,000     | 8,000     | 11,000    | 13,000    | 12,000    | 10,000    | 12,000    | 8,000             |
| Engineers                                           | 1,000     | S         | 2,000     | 4,000     | 1,000     | 5,000     | S         | D                 |
| Non-S&E occupations                                 | 730,000   | 780,000   | 788,000   | 807,000   | 825,000   | 773,000   | 865,000   | 927,000           |
| Non-S&E occupations                                 | 767,000   | 821,000   | 870,000   | 893,000   | 898,000   | 819,000   | 876,000   | 942,000           |

\* = 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.

<sup>a</sup> The 2023 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."

**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.