



APPENDIX TABLE 3-5 

### Employment sector of S&E highest degree holders, by level and field of highest degree: 2015

(Percent distribution)

Highest degree field and level	Total (number)	Education (%)		Business or industry (%)			Government (%)	
		4-year institutions	2-year and precollege institutions	For-profit businesses	Self-employed, unincorporated businesses	Nonprofit businesses	Federal government	State or local government
All S&E highest degree holders	13,497,000	8.8	7.1	58.9	6.1	7.3	5.3	6.5
Computer and mathematical sciences	2,346,000	6.6	6.2	69.8	3.6	4.8	5.1	3.8
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	2,116,000	15.3	7.5	47.8	6.7	10.4	5.4	7.0
Physical and related sciences	789,000	17.7	8.5	54.8	4.3	3.7	5.4	5.4
Social and related sciences	5,056,000	8.1	10.8	48.0	8.6	11.0	4.7	8.8
Engineering	3,190,000	5.0	1.0	76.5	4.2	2.0	6.5	4.8
Highest degree: bachelor's	9,539,000	5.0	6.3	63.0	6.8	7.1	4.9	6.8
Computer and mathematical sciences	1,540,000	4.0	5.6	72.7	4.4	4.4	5.3	3.6
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	1,499,000	7.6	7.5	53.6	8.1	11.3	4.4	7.5
Physical and related sciences	454,000	9.0	9.0	61.7	5.3	2.6	4.4	7.9



Highest degree field and level	Total (number)	Education (%)		Business or industry (%)			Government (%)	
		4-year institutions	2-year and precollege institutions	For-profit businesses	Self-employed, unincorporated businesses	Nonprofit businesses	Federal government	State or local government
Social and related sciences	3,826,000	5.0	8.9	54.1	8.7	10.0	4.3	8.9
Engineering	2,219,000	3.1	1.2	78.0	4.7	1.9	6.4	4.8
Highest degree: master's	2,934,000	10.6	10.6	53.6	4.0	8.0	6.3	6.9
Computer and mathematical sciences	719,000	7.6	7.9	66.8	2.4	6.0	4.3	4.9
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	345,000	24.9	11.3	36.8	2.9	8.1	8.1	7.8
Physical and related sciences	163,000	17.2	12.3	52.8	3.7	4.3	5.5	3.7
Social and related sciences	918,000	10.2	20.5	31.2	6.3	15.4	6.4	10.2
Engineering	788,000	6.0	0.9	75.1	3.0	2.3	7.4	5.3
Highest degree: doctorate	992,000	39.6	3.6	36.2	5.2	6.9	6.5	2.0
Computer and mathematical sciences	87,000	43.7	2.3	43.7	1.1	1.1	6.9	s
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	272,000	45.2	2.9	29.4	2.9	8.5	7.7	2.9
Physical and related sciences	171,000	40.9	3.5	38.6	2.3	5.8	8.2	0.6
Social and related sciences	278,000	42.8	6.8	20.9	11.5	10.1	5.0	2.9



Highest degree field and level	Total (number)	Education (%)		Business or industry (%)			Government (%)	
		4-year institutions	2-year and precollege institutions	For-profit businesses	Self-employed, unincorporated businesses	Nonprofit businesses	Federal government	State or local government
Engineering	183,000	23.5	0.5	63.9	3.3	2.7	4.9	1.1

s = suppressed for reasons of confidentiality and/or reliability.

**Note(s)**

All S&E highest degree holders includes professional degree holders not reported separately. The 2-year and precollege institutions include 2-year colleges and community colleges or technical institutes and also preschool, elementary, middle, and secondary schools. The 4-year institutions include 4-year colleges or universities, medical schools, and university-affiliated research institutes. The education sector includes public and private institutions. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Numbers are rounded to the nearest 1,000. Percentages are based on rounded numbers.

**Source(s)**

National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Survey of College Graduates (NSCG) (2015), <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvygrads/>.

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