TABLE 3-12

Scientists and engineers who are working involuntarily out of field, by S&E degree field: Selected years, 2003–15

(Percent)

S&E degree field	2003	2006	2008	2010	2013	2015
All scientists and engineers	5.9	6.2	5.3	6.4	6.7	6.3
Highest degree in S&E field	7.8	8.1	7.1	8.4	8.3	7.9
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	10.1	9.7	10.1	10.1	9.4	10.4
Computer and mathematical sciences	4.9	5.7	4.5	5.1	4.1	4.0
Physical sciences	8.8	8.6	7.1	8.2	8.3	9.3
Social sciences	10.1	10.6	9.2	11.3	11.8	11.4
Engineering	4.2	4.5	3.6	4.9	4.6	3.2

Note(s)

Scientists and engineers include those with one or more S&E or S&E-related degrees at the bachelor's level or higher or those who have only a non-S&E degree at the bachelor's level or higher and are employed in an S&E or S&E-related occupation. The involuntarily out-of-field rate is the proportion of all employed individuals who report that their job is not related to their field of highest degree because a job in their highest degree field was not available.

Source(s)

National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Scientists and Engineers Statistical Data System (SESTAT) (2003–13), https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/sestat/, and the National Survey of College Graduates (NSCG) (2015), https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvygrads/.

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