

TABLE 21. Timing of community college attendance among recent graduates with bachelor's degrees in science, engineering, or health, by major field of degree: October 2008

Major field	All graduates attending community college	Timing of community college attendance				
		Before high school graduation	After high school graduation, before 4-year college enrollment	While enrolled in 4-year college, before first bachelor's degree	After leaving 4-year college without earning first bachelor's degree	After earning first bachelor's degree
All fields	589,000	182,000	256,000	271,000	65,000	116,000
Science	397,000	137,000	165,000	181,000	43,000	78,000
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	87,000	36,000	30,000	42,000	9,000	23,000
Agricultural/food sciences	8,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	S	1,000
Biological sciences	73,000	30,000	24,000	36,000	7,000	21,000
Environmental life sciences	5,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	1,000	1,000
Computer and information sciences	43,000	11,000	22,000	17,000	7,000	3,000
Mathematics and statistics	14,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	2,000	1,000
Physical and related sciences	15,000	6,000	5,000	6,000	1,000	3,000
Chemistry, except biochemistry	8,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	1,000	1,000
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences ^a	4,000	1,000	1,000	2,000	*	1,000
Physics/astronomy	3,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	*	1,000
Psychology	95,000	32,000	42,000	45,000	9,000	19,000
Social and related sciences	143,000	47,000	60,000	66,000	15,000	28,000
Economics	19,000	6,000	7,000	11,000	1,000	2,000
Political and related sciences	46,000	18,000	14,000	22,000	5,000	7,000
Sociology/anthropology	46,000	13,000	23,000	19,000	4,000	12,000
Other social sciences	32,000	10,000	17,000	13,000	6,000	7,000
Engineering	56,000	19,000	20,000	29,000	3,000	6,000
Chemical	4,000	2,000	1,000	2,000	D	1,000
Civil/architectural	8,000	3,000	3,000	5,000	1,000	1,000
Electrical/computer	16,000	5,000	6,000	8,000	1,000	2,000
Industrial	3,000	*	1,000	1,000	D	D
Mechanical	14,000	4,000	6,000	7,000	1,000	1,000
Other	11,000	5,000	3,000	6,000	*	1,000
Health	136,000	27,000	70,000	61,000	19,000	32,000

* = value < 500. D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information. S = suppressed for reliability; coefficient of variation exceeds publication standards.

^a Other physical sciences are included in earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences.

NOTES: Numbers are rounded to nearest 1,000. Detail may not add to total because of multiple responses. Estimates are from sample survey of college graduates who received bachelor's or master's degrees in science, engineering, or health fields in 2006 and 2007 academic years; estimates may differ from degree counts published elsewhere.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation/National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Survey of Recent College Graduates, 2008.