

TABLE 22. Timing of community college attendance among recent graduates with master'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	133,000	29,000	55,000	54,000	14,000	41,000
Science	58,000	13,000	24,000	20,000	6,000	18,000
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	9,000	2,000	3,000	4,000	*	3,000
Agricultural/food sciences	1,000	D	D	*	D	D
Biological sciences	7,000	2,000	2,000	3,000	*	2,000
Environmental life sciences	1,000	D	*	1,000	D	1,000
Computer and information sciences	12,000	2,000	5,000	4,000	2,000	5,000
Mathematics and statistics	3,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	*	1,000
Physical and related sciences	3,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	*	1,000
Chemistry, except biochemistry	1,000	*	*	*	D	*
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences ^a	1,000	*	1,000	*	D	*
Physics/astronomy	*	D	D	*	D	*
Psychology	20,000	4,000	10,000	7,000	2,000	4,000
Social and related sciences	12,000	3,000	5,000	3,000	2,000	4,000
Economics	1,000	*	*	*	D	*
Political and related sciences	4,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	*	1,000
Sociology/anthropology	2,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	*	1,000
Other social sciences	4,000	1,000	2,000	1,000	1,000	2,000
Engineering	15,000	5,000	4,000	6,000	1,000	4,000
Chemical	*	*	*	*	D	*
Civil/architectural	2,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	*	*
Electrical/computer	5,000	2,000	1,000	2,000	*	1,000
Industrial	1,000	*	*	*	*	*
Mechanical	2,000	*	*	1,000	D	*
Other	5,000	2,000	1,000	2,000	*	2,000
Health	60,000	11,000	27,000	28,000	7,000	19,000

* = value < 500; D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

^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.