

TABLE 50. Median salary of full-time employed recent graduates with master's degrees in science, engineering, or health, by sector of employment and major field of degree: October 2008

(Dollars)

Major field	All full-time employed	Sector		
		Educational institution <sup>a</sup>	Government <sup>b</sup>	Private industry and business <sup>c</sup>
All fields	62,000	48,000	60,000	68,000
Science	54,000	46,000	55,000	60,000
Biological, agricultural, and environmental life sciences	48,000	40,000	48,000	53,000
Agricultural/food sciences	44,000	D	D	49,000
Biological sciences	47,000	40,000	46,000	52,000
Environmental life sciences	50,000	D	53,000	51,000
Computer and information sciences	74,000	51,000	62,000	77,000
Mathematics and statistics	65,000	48,000	D	72,000
Physical and related sciences	54,000	45,000	54,000	60,000
Chemistry, except biochemistry	58,000	43,000	D	59,000
Earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences <sup>d</sup>	48,000	47,000	48,000	56,000
Physics/astronomy	51,000	42,000	D	64,000
Psychology	43,000	46,000	45,000	38,000
Social and related sciences	55,000	45,000	61,000	55,000
Economics	64,000	S	55,000	65,000
Political and related sciences	58,000	43,000	58,000	59,000
Sociology/anthropology	43,000	44,000	42,000	42,000
Other social sciences	48,000	43,000	65,000	45,000
Engineering	72,000	65,000	75,000	72,000
Chemical	70,000	40,000	79,000	70,000
Civil/architectural	61,000	S	67,000	61,000
Electrical/computer	76,000	69,000	75,000	78,000
Industrial	72,000	D	80,000	70,000
Mechanical	71,000	45,000	72,000	71,000
Other	73,000	58,000	69,000	75,000
Health	64,000	51,000	60,000	70,000

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

<sup>a</sup> Educational institution includes elementary and secondary schools, 2-year and 4-year colleges and universities, medical schools, university-affiliated research organizations, and all other educational institutions.

<sup>b</sup> Government includes local, state, and federal government; military; and commissioned corps. However, it does not include those reported as educational institutions.

<sup>c</sup> Private industry and business includes all private for-profit and private not-for-profit companies, businesses, and organizations, except those reported as educational institutions. It also includes persons reporting they were self-employed.

<sup>d</sup> Other physical sciences is included in earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences.

NOTES: Salaries are rounded to nearest \$1,000. Salary data are for principal job only. Full-time employed are those working at least 35 hours per week at their principal job. Self-employed persons and full-time students are excluded from salary data. Estimates are from survey of college graduates who received bachelor's or master's degrees in science, engineering, or health fields in 2006 and 2007 academic years.

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