This profile summarizes the demographic, social, and economic characteristics of the 1,002,335 people in California’s science and engineering (S&E) labor force. In 2005, the unemployment rate for California’s S&E labor force was 4% and median earnings were $66,220. California ranked number 7 out of 50 states and DC in the share of people working in S&E occupations.
In 2005, IT workers accounted for the largest share of California's S&E labor force (41%). Median earnings for IT workers in California were $67,750, compared with $60,470 for IT workers nationwide. 48% of California's IT workers were racial or ethnic minorities.

### Median earnings of the S&E Labor Force in California

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Information Technology</th>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>Architecture</th>
<th>Engineering</th>
<th>Life Sciences</th>
<th>Physical Sciences</th>
<th>Social Sciences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S&amp;E Labor Force</td>
<td>1,002,335</td>
<td>409,410</td>
<td>23,305</td>
<td>35,935</td>
<td>356,785</td>
<td>39,535</td>
<td>59,695</td>
<td>58,335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Highest Degree

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Information Technology</th>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>Architecture</th>
<th>Engineering</th>
<th>Life Sciences</th>
<th>Physical Sciences</th>
<th>Social Sciences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Percent Female | 25% | 24% | 58% | 25% | 15% | 44% | 34% | 58% |
| Percent Minority* | 45% | 48% | 51% | 28% | 46% | 48% | 38% | 27% |
| Percent Foreign-born | 36% | 38% | 18% | 26% | 38% | —  | 39% | 16% |

* includes all those who are not non-Hispanic white, including Asian Americans.

### Median S&E Earnings By Highest Degree

#### California

- Total: $66,220
- Associate: $56,015
- Bachelor’s: $69,515
- Master’s: $80,080
- PhD: $83,210

#### U.S.

- Total: $58,760
- Associate: $49,880
- Bachelor’s: $61,690
- Master’s: $71,375
- PhD: $75,345

### Median S&E Earnings By Occupation

#### California

- Total: $66,220
- Information Technology: $67,750
- Mathematics: $59,555
- Architecture: $60,060
- Engineering: $70,205
- Life Sciences: $51,840
- Physical Sciences: $60,785
- Social Sciences: $57,025

- 25 to 34: $57,700
- 35 to 44: $72,385
- 45 to 54: $73,555
- 55 to 64: $72,445

#### U.S.

- Total: $58,760
- Information Technology: $60,470
- Mathematics: $63,825
- Architecture: $52,035
- Engineering: $60,890
- Life Sciences: $45,025
- Physical Sciences: $52,495
- Social Sciences: $51,700

### Sources and Notes

**Source:** Population Reference Bureau analysis of the 2005 American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Samples. The American Community Survey (ACS), conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, is a nationwide annual survey designed to provide communities with reliable and timely demographic, housing, social, and economic data each year. For more information about the ACS, see www.census.gov/acs/www/index.html.

**Notes:** The S&E labor force includes people employed or unemployed (based on their last job) in information technology, engineering, architecture, life sciences, physical sciences, or social sciences. ACS estimates are based on a survey of the population and are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. An “N/A” or “—” indicates that the sample size was too small to produce a reliable estimate.

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