Scientists and Engineers in Illinois, 2005

This profile summarizes the demographic, social, and economic characteristics of the 300,275 people in Illinois's science and engineering (S&E) labor force. In 2005, the unemployment rate for Illinois's S&E labor force was 4% and median earnings were $60,335. Illinois ranked number 15 out of 50 states and DC in the share of people working in S&E occupations.

S&E Occupations in Illinois

- Social Sciences 6%
- Physical Sciences 6%
- Life Sciences 3%
- Engineering 31%
- Architecture 4%
- Mathematics 2%
- Unclassified 2%

Information Technology 46%

Percent of Total and S&E Labor Force That is Female

- Illinois: 27%
- U.S.: 46%

Racial/Ethnic Composition and Nativity Status of the Labor Force in S&E Occupations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Racial/Ethnic Composition</th>
<th>Illinois (%)</th>
<th>U.S. (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White*</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American*</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian*</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian*</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Race*</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or More Races*</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign-born*</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Non-Hispanic

Educational Attainment of the S&E Labor Force

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Level</th>
<th>Illinois</th>
<th>U.S.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Some college</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's only</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master's only</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In 2005, IT workers accounted for the largest share of Illinois’s S&E labor force (46%). Median earnings for IT workers in Illinois were $61,915, compared with $60,470 for IT workers nationwide. 31% of Illinois’s IT workers were racial or ethnic minorities.

**Median earnings of the S&E Labor Force in Illinois**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<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>300,275</td>
<td>138,805</td>
<td>7,400</td>
<td>11,170</td>
<td>91,605</td>
<td>8,705</td>
<td>18,780</td>
<td>17,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Highest Degree**

- Bachelor’s: 44% 49%
- Master’s: 20% 19%
- PhD: 6% 2% 6%

| Percent Female | 27% 27% |
| Percent Minority* | 27% 31% 26% 15% 22% 32% 33% 15% |
| Percent Foreign-born | 23% 26% 12% 20% |

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

**Median S&E Earnings By Highest Degree**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Illinois</th>
<th>U.S.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$60,335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate</td>
<td>$52,605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s</td>
<td>$61,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s</td>
<td>$71,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>$67,720</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Median S&E Earnings By Occupation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Illinois</th>
<th>U.S.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$60,335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>$61,915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>$68,945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architecture</td>
<td>$50,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>$60,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Sciences</td>
<td>$47,430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Sciences</td>
<td>$50,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>$55,450</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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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