This profile summarizes the demographic, social, and economic characteristics of the 171,000 Industrial Engineers in the United States. In 2007, the unemployment rate for Industrial Engineers was 2% and median earnings were $66,000.
## Science and Engineering Occupations in the United States, Ranked by 2007 Earnings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Labor force (margin of error)</th>
<th>Median earnings (margin of error)</th>
<th>Labor force (margin of error)</th>
<th>Median earnings (margin of error)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Petroleum, mining and geological engineers</td>
<td>26,000 (+/-4,000)</td>
<td>92,000 (+/-6,000)</td>
<td>Chemists and materials scientists</td>
<td>95,000 (+/-8,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actuaries</td>
<td>21,000 (+/-4,000)</td>
<td>86,000 (+/-6,000)</td>
<td>Computer scientists and systems analysts</td>
<td>781,000 (+/-23,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economists</td>
<td>26,000 (+/-4,000)</td>
<td>86,000 (+/-6,000)</td>
<td>Environmental scientists and geoscientists</td>
<td>76,000 (+/-7,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical engineers</td>
<td>59,000 (+/-6,000)</td>
<td>84,000 (+/-4,000)</td>
<td>Network and computer systems administrators</td>
<td>234,000 (+/-13,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Astronomers and physicists</td>
<td>14,000 (+/-3,000)</td>
<td>83,000 (+/-8,000)</td>
<td>Market and survey researchers</td>
<td>165,000 (+/-11,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aerospace engineers</td>
<td>137,000 (+/-10,000)</td>
<td>81,000 (+/-2,000)</td>
<td>Urban and regional planners</td>
<td>24,000 (+/-4,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer software engineers</td>
<td>794,000 (+/-23,000)</td>
<td>81,000 (+/-500)</td>
<td>Network systems and data communications analysts</td>
<td>353,000 (+/-16,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>miscellaneous engineers, incl. nuclear engineers</td>
<td>456,000 (+/-18,000)</td>
<td>79,000 (+/-2,000)</td>
<td>Agricultural and food scientists</td>
<td>25,000 (+/-4,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical and electronic engineers</td>
<td>234,000 (+/-13,000)</td>
<td>77,000 (+/-2,000)</td>
<td>Psychologists</td>
<td>173,000 (+/-11,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer hardware engineers</td>
<td>65,000 (+/-7,000)</td>
<td>75,000 (+/-3,000)</td>
<td>Conservation scientists and foresters</td>
<td>27,000 (+/-4,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine engineers and naval architects</td>
<td>13,000 (+/-3,000)</td>
<td>74,000 (+/-3,000)</td>
<td>Geology and petroleum technicians</td>
<td>18,000 (+/-4,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomedical and agricultural engineers</td>
<td>14,000 (+/-3,000)</td>
<td>73,000 (+/-4,000)</td>
<td>Biological scientists</td>
<td>91,000 (+/-8,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil engineers</td>
<td>318,000 (+/-15,000)</td>
<td>71,000 (+/-2,000)</td>
<td>Surveyors, cartographers, and photogrammetrists</td>
<td>44,000 (+/-6,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental engineers</td>
<td>32,000 (+/-5,000)</td>
<td>71,000 (+/-3,000)</td>
<td>Engineering technicians</td>
<td>442,000 (+/-17,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical engineers</td>
<td>238,000 (+/-13,000)</td>
<td>71,000 (+/-1,000)</td>
<td>Computer support specialists</td>
<td>466,000 (+/-18,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atmospheric and space scientists</td>
<td>10,000 (+/-3,000)</td>
<td>69,000 (+/-10,000)</td>
<td>Chemical technicians</td>
<td>75,000 (+/-7,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials engineers</td>
<td>31,000 (+/-5,000)</td>
<td>69,000 (+/-3,000)</td>
<td>Social scientists</td>
<td>45,000 (+/-6,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Database administrators</td>
<td>100,000 (+/-8,000)</td>
<td>68,000 (+/-2,000)</td>
<td>Drafters</td>
<td>219,000 (+/-12,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer programmers</td>
<td>529,000 (+/-19,000)</td>
<td>66,000 (+/-1,000)</td>
<td>Biological technicians</td>
<td>21,000 (+/-4,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial engineers</td>
<td>171,000 (+/-11,000)</td>
<td>66,000 (+/-2,000)</td>
<td>Surveying and mapping technicians</td>
<td>93,000 (+/-8,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematicians and statisticians</td>
<td>40,000 (+/-5,000)</td>
<td>66,000 (+/-3,000)</td>
<td>Agricultural and food science technicians</td>
<td>27,000 (+/-4,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations research analysts</td>
<td>112,000 (+/-9,000)</td>
<td>66,000 (+/-3,000)</td>
<td>Life, physical, and social science technicians</td>
<td>174,000 (+/-11,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical scientists, all other</td>
<td>140,000 (+/-10,000)</td>
<td>66,000 (+/-1,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical scientists</td>
<td>101,000 (+/-8,000)</td>
<td>63,000 (+/-3,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architects</td>
<td>200,000 (+/-12,000)</td>
<td>61,000 (+/-2,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Sources and Notes

**Source:** Population Reference Bureau analysis of the 2005 and 2007 American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Samples. The 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.

**Notes:** The science and engineering 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.

This project was funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. The information presented in this profile was not provided by and does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Foundation.

© 2008 Population Reference Bureau. All rights reserved.