

Bullet Points: Field of Degree Report

- Forty percent or more of the college graduates in the District of Columbia and the states of California, Washington, and Maryland held a science and engineering degree. The Atlantic coastal areas of Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Virginia were home to 28.1 percent of the nation's science and engineering degree holders. Nineteen point one percent of all science and engineering degree holders lived in the Pacific coast states of California, Oregon, and Washington.
- The college-educated native-born were about twice as likely a foreign-born, naturalized citizens and more than twice as likely as foreign-born non-citizens to have a degree in an education field.
- Although men held just 49.0 percent of all bachelor's degrees, they held 87.2 percent of all bachelor's degrees in engineering. Women held 75.7 percent of all bachelor's degrees in education.
- Women held 44.4 percent of the bachelor's degrees in the 65 years and over age group, but held 54.7 percent of the bachelor's degrees in the 25 to 39 years age group. Women in the 65 years and older age group held just 3.2 percent of the bachelor's degrees in engineering, but women in the 25 to 39 years age group held 20.1 percent of the engineering degrees.
- The proportion of bachelor's degrees in an education field was 20 percent or more in some Midwestern and Southern states. North Dakota was among the highest percentages (23 percent), making an education degree more than three times as common among college graduates there than in the area with the smallest percentage of degrees in an education field (the District of Columbia at 6 percent).
- People with a bachelor's degree in physical and related sciences were the most likely to also hold an advanced degree. Sixty percent of these people also held either a master's, professional, or doctoral degree, but not necessarily in physical and related sciences field.
- Education degrees were associated with the lowest median earnings, while science and engineering degrees were associated with the highest earnings. People with only a bachelor's degree in an education field earned just \$42,000, while people with a bachelor's degree in a science and engineering field earned much more at \$63,000. This difference in earnings was more pronounced among advanced degree holders, with the science and engineering fields being associated with median earnings about \$30,000 greater than the median earnings associated with the education fields.