

People of Science

Science is everyone and everywhere. **And science is the American economy.**

More than 67 million workers in the United States are STEM professionals—people who spend the vast majority of their job tasks engaged in science, technology, engineering, math and medicine. They make up 34.3% of the nation's workforce.

The types of U.S. STEM jobs available are more varied than many people assume—starting with the level of education necessary to pursue a STEM career. In fact, the majority of U.S. STEM professionals—55.4 percent—do not hold a bachelor's degree.

STEM careers are plentiful at virtually every level of education. Notably, the same percent of U.S. workers with associate's (41%) and bachelor's (42%) degrees are employed in STEM jobs. Overall, people with graduate degrees—master's degrees and higher—comprise just 17% of the nation's STEM workforce. And a similar percentage of STEM workers have less than a high school diploma (4.9%) as have doctoral degrees (5.3%).

Not only do STEM occupations provide fulfilling, well-paid jobs regardless of a person's educational attainment, STEM drives an outsized share of the U.S. economy. Direct STEM economic activity accounted for \$9.45 trillion in 2021 equal to 40.5% of U.S. GDP.

Ours is a STEM economy and those in STEM professions have an edge. They have fulfilling and dynamic careers that pay more and produce more. They are vital to America's success and our leading role as a global innovator.

Science is US

Website: <https://www.scienceisUS.org>

U.S. STEM Employment Continues to Grow

2021

67,105,479
STEM Jobs

34.3%
of U.S. workers

2017

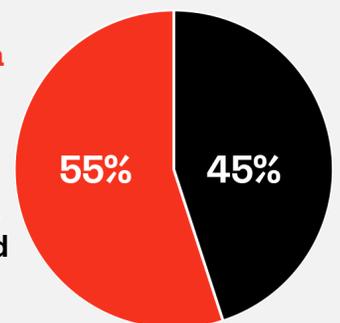
64,080,198
STEM Jobs

32.7%
of U.S. workers

The Majority of U.S. STEM Professionals Do Not Hold a Bachelor's Degree

Less than a bachelor's degree

Bachelor's degree and higher



Source: Science is US, *People of Science: An inclusive analysis of the U.S. STEM workforce and its economic impact.* (<https://scienceisus.org/people-of-science>)