

Table 37. Importance of various job attributes to doctoral scientists and engineers, by field of doctorate: 2001

Job attributes and level of importance	Field of doctorate								
	All fields	Computer and information sciences	Mathematical sciences	Biological and agricultural sciences	Health sciences	Physical and related sciences	Social sciences	Psychology	Engineering
Total employed (number).....	574,900	10,800	26,000	140,800	21,400	111,300	76,200	88,900	99,600
					Percent				
Salary:									
Very important.....	45	43	43	43	48	42	43	52	46
Somewhat important.....	52	54	52	54	49	55	53	45	51
Somewhat unimportant.....	3	S	3	3	S	3	3	2	2
Not important at all.....	1	S	S	1	S	1	1	1	1
Benefits:									
Very important.....	49	39	47	51	59	48	51	48	45
Somewhat important.....	46	55	48	45	37	47	43	43	50
Somewhat unimportant.....	3	S	4	2	3	3	3	6	3
Not important at all.....	2	S	S	1	S	1	2	3	1
Job security:									
Very important.....	47	36	49	51	51	47	51	47	41
Somewhat important.....	45	52	45	43	43	46	40	45	49
Somewhat unimportant.....	6	10	5	4	4	6	6	7	8
Not important at all.....	2	S	S	2	S	2	3	2	3
Job location:									
Very important.....	50	48	51	51	53	47	52	52	49
Somewhat important.....	44	46	45	44	43	47	42	42	46
Somewhat unimportant.....	5	5	4	4	3	5	4	5	5
Not important at all.....	1	S	S	1	S	1	1	1	1
Opportunity for advancement:									
Very important.....	41	42	36	46	45	40	40	32	46
Somewhat important.....	47	46	50	45	45	49	47	49	44
Somewhat unimportant.....	9	10	10	6	8	8	10	14	8
Not important at all.....	3	S	4	2	3	3	4	5	3
Intellectual challenge:									
Very important.....	79	81	74	80	83	78	83	82	77
Somewhat important.....	20	19	24	19	16	22	17	18	22
Somewhat unimportant.....	1	S	S	1	S	1	1	S	1
Not important at all.....	0	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Level of responsibility:									
Very important.....	48	43	32	51	55	44	47	53	47
Somewhat important.....	45	50	54	44	39	48	44	42	46
Somewhat unimportant.....	6	7	11	5	5	7	7	4	6
Not important at all.....	1	S	3	1	S	2	2	1	1

See explanatory information and SOURCE at end of table.

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	All fields	Computer and information sciences	Mathematical sciences	Biological and agricultural sciences	Health sciences	Physical and related sciences	Social sciences	Psychology	Engineering
Total employed (number).....	574,900	10,800	26,000	140,800	21,400	111,300	76,200	88,900	99,600
					Percent				
Degree of independence:									
Very important.....	73	71	66	73	81	69	80	81	66
Somewhat important.....	25	27	30	25	18	29	19	18	31
Somewhat unimportant.....	2	S	3	1	S	2	1	1	3
Not important at all.....	0	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Contribution to society:									
Very important.....	54	42	41	59	69	43	64	68	43
Somewhat important.....	39	46	50	37	30	48	32	29	48
Somewhat unimportant.....	5	10	7	4	S	8	3	3	8
Not important at all.....	1	S	2	1	S	1	1	1	1

KEY: S = Suppressed due to too few cases (fewer than 500 weighted cases).

NOTES: Numbers are rounded to nearest hundred. Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number. Details may not add to totals because of rounding. Survey of Doctorate Recipients includes persons who had earned a science or engineering research doctorate from an U.S. institution and resided in U.S. as of April 2001.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation/Division of Science Resources Statistics, 2001 Survey of Doctorate Recipients