

Career outcomes job categories and definitions

Sector	
Academia	Academic institutions of higher education, including colleges, universities, some medical centers, or free-standing research institutions where training occurs. This does not include VA hospitals, but does include teaching, for-profit, and other types of hospitals.
Government	Any organization operated by federal, state, local or foreign governments. Includes VA hospitals.
For-Profit	Any organization that operates to make a profit, including some industry research.
Nonprofit	Any non-governmental organization that does not operate to make a profit. Includes K-12 institutions.
Other	Individuals who are unemployed, full-time caretaker or parent, on extended medical leave or employed at an organization not included in other options.
Unknown	Unknown
N/A	Not applicable

Career Types	
Primarily Research	The primary, although not necessarily the only, focus is the conduct or oversight of scientific research. Includes academic faculty titles at R1-R3 institutions as identified through Carnegie classifications.
Primarily Teaching	The primary, although not necessarily the only, focus is education and teaching. Includes academic faculty at all other institutions.
Science-related	Career that is relevant to the conduct of scientific research, but does not directly conduct or oversee research activities.
Not Related to Science	Career that is not directly relevant to the conduct of scientific research.
Further Training or Education	Temporary training position. Examples include: postdoctoral research, completing medical residency, or pursuing an additional degree.
Unknown	Unknown
N/A	Not applicable

Job Function	
Administration	Administrative-intensive roles. Examples include: Faculty affairs, graduate program administrators, human resources, academic admissions, career development offices, grant and contracts management, research development, PhD-level program development.
Business Development, Consulting, and Strategic Alliances	Role that involves the development, execution, management, or analysis of a business. Role may include relationship management, refinement of operational efficiency, or fee-based advisory services. Examples include management consultant, business development professional, market researcher, investment analyst, venture capitalist.

Job Function	
Clinical Research Management	Role that is responsible for the oversight, management, or design of clinical research trials. Examples include clinical research project/trials manager or coordinator.
Clinical Services	Role that involves that administration of clinical services or research. Examples include genetics counselor, testing specialist, and clinical laboratory staff.
Data Science, Analytics, and Software Engineering	Role that may combine programming, analytics, advanced statistics, data communication, and/or software development.
Entrepreneurship	Founder, co-founder, CEO or other role that develops, manages, and provides/obtains capital to initiate a business or enterprise. This function does not include staff at a start-up business.
Faculty: Nontenure Track	Leading an academic research team and ineligible for tenure. Examples include: Research assistant professor, research associate professor, research professor.
Faculty: Tenured/Tenure Track	Leading an academic research team and eligible for or already tenured. Examples include: assistant professor, associate professor, professor.
Faculty: Tenure Track Unclear or Not Applicable	Leading an academic research team at an institution where tenure is not granted or tenure status is unknown. For those tracking down alumni and binning them into job functions, whether someone is or is not on a tenure track is often not clear and should be sorted here.
Full-time Teaching Staff (Instructor/Lecturer)	Full-time institutionalized teaching position with no research responsibilities. Examples include Instructor, Lecturer. Distinct from "Primarily teaching, faculty," these are people teaching at a single university without a faculty appointment.
Group Leader (Research)	Leading a research team in a nonacademic setting. Anyone working in industry, non-profit or government who is running a somewhat independent research group. This includes those with "Faculty" titles at VA hospitals and other government research institutions.
Healthcare Provider	Role where the primary responsibility is providing healthcare. Examples include doctor, nurse, medical residents, and veterinarian.
Intellectual Property and Law	Role that involves the curation, management, implementation or protection of intelligence and creation, including trademarks, copyrights, patents, or trade secrets. Examples include patent agent, patent attorney, and technology transfer specialist.
Part-time Teaching Staff (Adjunct)	Contingent teaching role that is contracted on a single-semester, short-term, or non-permanent basis with no research responsibilities. Examples include instructor, lecturer. Distinct from "Primarily teaching, faculty," these could include people teaching at multiple universities, indicating contingent status.
Postdoctoral (Research)	Temporary mentored training position in scientific research environment following completion of doctoral degree.
Regulatory Affairs	Role that involves controlling or evaluating the safety and efficacy of products in areas including pharmaceuticals, medicines, and devices. Examples include institutional regulatory affairs professional, quality control specialist, compliance officer.

Job Function	
Research Staff or Technical Director	Role that directly involves performing or managing research. Examples include research staff, staff scientists, lab/core managers, directors of research facilities, public health analyst, and epidemiologists.
Sales and Marketing	Non-technical role that is related to the sales or marketing of a science-related product or service. Examples include medical science liaison, technical sales representative, and marketing specialist.
Science Education and Outreach	Role that involves K-12 teaching or public outreach at a primary/secondary schools, science museum, scientific society, or similar. Examples include high school teacher, museum curriculum development, outreach program administrator.
Science Policy and Government Affairs	Role that involves policy or program development and review, including analysis, advisory, or advocacy. Examples include program officer, public affairs or government affairs staff at scientific societies, foundations, government entities, or think tanks.
Science Writing and Communication	Role that involves the communication of science-related topics. Examples include science, medical, or technical writer, journalist, science editor, science publisher.
Technical Support and Product Development	Role that requires specialized technical knowledge of a science-related product. Examples include technical support specialist, field application specialist, product development scientist or engineer.
Other	Role that does not require scientific training or involve the direct implementation or communication of science. Examples include full-time homemaker, caretaker, chef, food or hospitality services, some types of military service or mission work, or currently unemployed.
Completing Further Education	Pursuing additional education that usually results in graduation with conferment of a degree or certificate; this does <i>not</i> include postdoctoral research. Examples include: pursuing an additional degree in medicine, law, business, or other area.
Deceased/retired	Deceased or retired
Unknown	Unknown
N/A	Not applicable

Career Types – Guidance Grids

Legend:	
Appropriate for Career Type	
Not appropriate for Career Type	
Further training or education non-Postdoctoral	

Academia	Primarily research	Primarily teaching	Science-related	Further training or education	Not related to science	Unknown
Administration						
Business Development, Consulting, and Strategic Alliances						
Clinical Research Management						
Clinical Services						
Data Science, Analytics, and Software Engineering						
Entrepreneurship						
Faculty member - Nontenure track						
Faculty member - Tenure/Tenure track						
Faculty member – Track unclear or not applicable						
Full-time teaching staff (Instructor/Lecturer)						
Healthcare Provider						
Intellectual Property and Law						
Part-time teaching staff (Adjunct)						
Postdoctoral (research)						
Regulatory Affairs						
Research Staff or Technical Director						
Sales and Marketing						
Science Education and Outreach						
Science Policy and Government Affairs						
Science Writing and Communication						
Technical Support and Product Development						
Completing further education						
Other						
Unknown						

Government	Primarily research	Primarily teaching	Science-related	Further training or education	Not related to science	Unknown
Administration						
Business Development, Consulting, and Strategic Alliances						

Government	Primarily research	Primarily teaching	Science-related	Further training or education	Not related to science	Unknown
Clinical Research Management						
Clinical Services						
Data Science, Analytics, and Software Engineering						
Entrepreneurship						
Group Leader (research)						
Healthcare Provider						
Intellectual Property and Law						
Postdoctoral (research)						
Regulatory Affairs						
Research Staff or Technical Director						
Sales and Marketing						
Science Education and Outreach						
Science Policy and Government Affairs						
Science Writing and Communication						
Technical Support and Product Development						
Completing further education						
Other						
Unknown						

For-profit	Primarily research	Primarily teaching	Science-related	Further training or education	Not related to science	Unknown
Administration						
Business Development, Consulting, and Strategic Alliances						
Clinical Research Management						
Clinical Services						
Data Science, Analytics, and Software Engineering						
Entrepreneurship						
Group Leader (research)						
Healthcare Provider						
Intellectual Property and Law						
Postdoctoral (research)						
Regulatory Affairs						
Research Staff or Technical Director						
Sales and Marketing						
Science Education and Outreach						

For-profit	Primarily research	Primarily teaching	Science-related	Further training or education	Not related to science	Unknown
Science Policy and Government Affairs						
Science Writing and Communication						
Technical Support and Product Development						
Completing further education						
Other						
Unknown						

Nonprofit	Primarily research	Primarily teaching	Science-related	Further training or education	Not related to science	Unknown
Administration						
Business Development, Consulting, and Strategic Alliances						
Clinical Research Management						
Clinical Services						
Data Science, Analytics, and Software Engineering						
Entrepreneurship						
Group Leader (research)						
Healthcare Provider						
Intellectual Property and Law						
Postdoctoral (research)						
Regulatory Affairs						
Research Staff or Technical Director						
Sales and Marketing						
Science Education and Outreach						
Science Policy and Government Affairs						
Science Writing and Communication						
Technical Support and Product Development						
Completing further education						
Other						
Unknown						

Other	Primarily research	Primarily teaching	Science-related	Further training or education	Not related to science	Unknown
Administration						
Business Development, Consulting, and Strategic Alliances						
Clinical Research Management						
Clinical Services						

Other	Primarily research	Primarily teaching	Science-related	Further training or education	Not related to science	Unknown
Data Science, Analytics, and Software Engineering						
Entrepreneurship						
Group Leader (research)						
Healthcare Provider						
Intellectual Property and Law						
Postdoctoral (research)						
Regulatory Affairs						
Research Staff or Technical Director						
Sales and Marketing						
Science Education and Outreach						
Science Policy and Government Affairs						
Science Writing and Communication						
Technical Support and Product Development						
Completing further education						
Other						
Unknown						