

Career Outcomes of Life Science PhD Graduates 2003-2020



Coalition for Next Generation Life Sciences

Sector Upon Graduation (N=3,823)

	Academia		For-Profit		Government		Nonprofit		Not found	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	44	46	12	13	13	14	5	5	22	23
Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology	170	44	73	19	29	7	28	7	87	22
Biological Chemistry	22	33	7	11	3	5	8	12	26	39
Biology	106	37	61	21	20	7	22	8	77	27
Biomedical Engineering	129	36	108	30	28	8	18	5	77	21
Biophysics	38	46	12	15	6	7	3	4	23	28
Biophysics and Biophysical Chemistry	4	67	2	33	0	0	0	0	0	0
Biostatistics	71	58	27	22	4	3	0	0	21	17
Cellular and Molecular Medicine	135	45	50	17	13	4	22	7	83	27
Cellular and Molecular Physiology	21	58	3	8	0	0	2	6	10	28
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	54	30	72	40	10	6	10	6	32	18
Chemical Biology	11	35	9	29	4	13	2	6	5	16
Chemical Engineering	4	40	3	30	1	10	0	0	2	20
Chemistry	114	42	68	25	24	9	9	3	56	21
Clinical Investigation	67	61	3	3	2	2	5	5	33	30
Environmental Health and Engineering	15	56	2	7	3	11	1	4	6	22
Epidemiology	188	49	47	12	40	10	21	5	88	23
Functional Anatomy and Evolution	21	70	0	0	1	3	0	0	8	27
Geography and Environmental Engineering	30	27	26	23	9	8	3	3	45	40
Human Genetics	14	37	5	13	3	8	2	5	14	37
Human Genetics and Molecular Biology	53	40	21	16	13	10	11	8	35	26
Immunology	39	41	10	11	6	6	11	12	29	31
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology	51	36	26	18	20	14	12	9	32	23
Neuroscience	84	40	36	17	6	3	18	9	66	31
Pathobiology	32	35	18	20	7	8	5	5	29	32
Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences	58	39	32	21	17	11	14	9	28	19
Program in Molecular Biophysics	29	43	12	18	7	10	7	10	12	18

Sector Five Years After Graduation (N=2,647)

	Academia		For-Profit		Government		Nonprofit		Not found	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	20	28	16	23	7	10	5	7	23	32
Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology	90	32	68	24	23	8	18	6	83	29
Biological Chemistry	10	20	6	12	4	8	7	14	23	46
Biology	63	33	47	24	13	7	14	7	55	29
Biomedical Engineering	59	25	75	32	22	9	13	6	63	27
Biophysics	25	38	7	11	8	12	6	9	19	29
Biophysics and Biophysical Chemistry	0	0	1	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
Biostatistics	36	49	14	19	3	4	1	1	20	27
Cellular and Molecular Medicine	65	33	43	22	9	5	17	9	65	33
Cellular and Molecular Physiology	10	38	3	12	0	0	2	8	11	42
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	23	20	55	49	4	4	6	5	25	22
Chemical Biology	2	22	2	22	2	22	0	0	3	33
Chemical Engineering	4	40	3	30	1	10	0	0	2	20
Chemistry	46	24	67	35	24	13	6	3	47	25
Clinical Investigation	31	40	2	3	0	0	5	6	39	51
Environmental Health and Engineering	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemiology	132	43	31	10	27	9	10	3	105	34
Functional Anatomy and Evolution	12	55	0	0	0	0	1	5	9	41
Geography and Environmental Engineering	21	25	10	12	6	7	1	1	46	55
Human Genetics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Human Genetics and Molecular Biology	42	36	14	12	10	9	12	10	39	33
Immunology	27	40	8	12	6	9	6	9	21	31
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology	26	26	23	23	15	15	11	11	25	25
Neuroscience	44	32	17	12	7	5	10	7	60	43
Pathobiology	22	36	13	21	4	7	3	5	19	31
Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences	27	24	38	34	12	11	5	4	30	27
Program in Molecular Biophysics	14	29	17	35	5	10	2	4	11	22

Sector Ten Years After Graduation (N=1,455)

	Academia		For-Profit		Government		Nonprofit		Not found	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	9	21	16	37	2	5	3	7	13	30
Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology	56	34	40	24	12	7	12	7	47	28
Biological Chemistry	8	24	6	18	2	6	4	12	13	39
Biology	40	35	38	33	3	3	2	2	32	28
Biomedical Engineering	31	30	38	36	6	6	7	7	23	22
Biophysics	15	41	8	22	4	11	0	0	10	27
Biophysics and Biophysical Chemistry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Biostatistics	24	49	11	22	1	2	0	0	13	27
Cellular and Molecular Medicine	35	37	23	24	4	4	6	6	27	28
Cellular and Molecular Physiology	4	44	1	11	0	0	1	11	3	33
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	7	16	24	53	2	4	1	2	11	24
Chemical Biology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chemical Engineering	4	40	2	20	1	10	0	0	3	30
Chemistry	23	20	49	43	13	11	5	4	25	22
Clinical Investigation	18	44	1	2	0	0	2	5	20	49
Environmental Health and Engineering	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemiology	76	39	27	14	23	12	9	5	58	30
Functional Anatomy and Evolution	4	36	0	0	0	0	1	9	6	55
Geography and Environmental Engineering	12	22	7	13	2	4	1	2	32	59
Human Genetics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Human Genetics and Molecular Biology	16	30	11	21	5	9	2	4	19	36
Immunology	16	43	6	16	3	8	2	5	10	27
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology	13	22	16	27	11	19	5	8	14	24
Neuroscience	36	51	5	7	2	3	5	7	23	32
Pathobiology	7	30	7	30	1	4	0	0	8	35
Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences	15	26	22	38	6	10	4	7	11	19
Program in Molecular Biophysics	8	25	12	38	2	6	1	3	9	28

Sector Fifteen Years After Graduation (N=470)

	Academia		For-Profit		Government		Nonprofit		Not found	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	3	18	7	41	0	0	0	0	7	41
Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology	14	21	17	26	6	9	6	9	23	35
Biological Chemistry	2	29	0	0	1	14	1	14	3	43
Biology	13	32	8	20	2	5	1	2	17	41
Biomedical Engineering	7	23	10	32	3	10	2	6	9	29
Biophysics	3	43	1	14	1	14	0	0	2	29
Biophysics and Biophysical Chemistry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Biostatistics	5	42	4	33	0	0	0	0	3	25
Cellular and Molecular Medicine	9	36	8	32	0	0	2	8	6	24
Cellular and Molecular Physiology	2	50	0	0	0	0	1	25	1	25
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	2	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	50
Chemical Biology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chemical Engineering	4	40	3	30	1	10	0	0	2	20
Chemistry	6	16	14	38	4	11	2	5	11	30
Clinical Investigation	4	36	1	9	0	0	1	9	5	45
Environmental Health and Engineering	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemiology	21	35	8	13	6	10	3	5	22	37
Functional Anatomy and Evolution	1	17	0	0	0	0	1	17	4	67
Geography and Environmental Engineering	5	20	2	8	0	0	0	0	18	72
Human Genetics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Human Genetics and Molecular Biology	5	21	3	13	3	13	1	4	12	50
Immunology	1	9	3	27	1	9	1	9	5	45
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology	3	21	1	7	4	29	1	7	5	36
Neuroscience	7	35	3	15	0	0	3	15	7	35
Pathobiology	0	0	2	50	0	0	0	0	2	50
Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences	3	14	9	43	1	5	1	5	7	33
Program in Molecular Biophysics	3	23	5	38	0	0	0	0	5	38

Job Type Upon Graduation (N=3,823)

	Further training or education		Primarily research		Primarily teaching		Science-related		Not related to science		Not found	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	40	42	15	16	5	5	10	10	4	4	22	23
Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology	167	43	64	17	17	4	25	6	33	9	81	21
Biological Chemistry	20	30	13	20	1	2	4	6	2	3	26	39
Biology	113	40	42	15	14	5	12	4	35	12	70	24
Biomedical Engineering	91	25	91	25	22	6	38	11	47	13	71	20
Biophysics	35	43	10	12	3	4	5	6	8	10	21	26
Biophysics and Biophysical Chemistry	2	33	2	33	1	17	0	0	1	17	0	0
Biostatistics	21	17	40	33	28	23	7	6	6	5	21	17
Cellular and Molecular Medicine	96	32	54	18	20	7	37	12	17	6	79	26
Cellular and Molecular Physiology	14	39	4	11	2	6	4	11	2	6	10	28
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	54	30	62	35	4	2	12	7	19	11	27	15
Chemical Biology	15	48	9	29	0	0	1	3	2	6	4	13
Chemical Engineering	4	40	0	0	1	10	1	10	2	20	2	20
Chemistry	105	39	64	24	14	5	10	4	25	9	53	20
Clinical Investigation	0	0	18	16	41	37	14	13	5	5	32	29
Environmental Health and Engineering	11	41	6	22	1	4	3	11	1	4	5	19
Epidemiology	65	17	128	33	54	14	31	8	18	5	88	23
Functional Anatomy and Evolution	6	20	5	17	11	37	0	0	1	3	7	23
Geography and Environmental Engineering	12	11	19	17	13	12	11	10	14	12	44	39
Human Genetics	13	34	6	16	0	0	2	5	3	8	14	37
Human Genetics and Molecular Biology	43	32	23	17	9	7	10	8	13	10	35	26
Immunology	35	37	17	18	6	6	6	6	2	2	29	31
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology	57	40	23	16	6	4	11	8	10	7	34	24
Neuroscience	57	27	28	13	11	5	31	15	18	9	65	31
Pathobiology	30	33	12	13	6	7	11	12	3	3	29	32
Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences	57	38	34	23	10	7	11	7	11	7	26	17
Program in Molecular Biophysics	31	46	15	22	2	3	2	3	6	9	11	16

Job Type Five Years After Graduation (N=2,647)

	Further training or education		Primarily research		Primarily teaching		Science-related		Not related to science		Not found	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	14	20	12	17	6	8	8	11	8	11	23	32
Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology	63	22	73	26	19	7	26	9	22	8	79	28
Biological Chemistry	10	20	10	20	3	6	3	6	2	4	22	44
Biology	42	22	46	24	14	7	12	6	27	14	51	27
Biomedical Engineering	19	8	64	28	22	9	27	12	43	19	57	25
Biophysics	14	22	18	28	1	2	6	9	5	8	21	32
Biophysics and Biophysical Chemistry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100	0	0
Biostatistics	0	0	24	32	20	27	8	11	3	4	19	26
Cellular and Molecular Medicine	36	18	33	17	20	10	22	11	25	13	63	32
Cellular and Molecular Physiology	7	27	4	15	2	8	0	0	2	8	11	42
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	11	10	39	35	13	12	11	10	16	14	23	20
Chemical Biology	3	33	1	11	0	0	1	11	1	11	3	33
Chemical Engineering	2	20	0	0	2	20	2	20	2	20	2	20
Chemistry	18	9	72	38	18	9	17	9	20	11	45	24
Clinical Investigation	0	0	8	10	21	27	7	9	2	3	39	51
Environmental Health and Engineering	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemiology	12	4	94	31	61	20	21	7	15	5	102	33
Functional Anatomy and Evolution	1	5	6	27	6	27	0	0	0	0	9	41
Geography and Environmental Engineering	4	5	16	19	11	13	5	6	7	8	41	49
Human Genetics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Human Genetics and Molecular Biology	21	18	26	22	16	14	8	7	7	6	39	33
Immunology	14	21	18	26	11	16	4	6	1	1	20	29
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology	12	12	30	30	9	9	17	17	8	8	24	24
Neuroscience	24	17	19	14	14	10	10	7	12	9	59	43
Pathobiology	10	16	16	26	7	11	10	16	0	0	18	30
Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences	15	13	29	26	9	8	16	14	14	13	29	26
Program in Molecular Biophysics	8	16	13	27	4	8	6	12	8	16	10	20

Job Type Ten Years After Graduation (N=1,455)

	Further training or education		Primarily research		Primarily teaching		Science-related		Not related to science		Not found	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	2	5	10	23	5	12	9	21	5	12	12	28
Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology	10	6	51	31	27	16	18	11	18	11	43	26
Biological Chemistry	4	12	7	21	6	18	0	0	3	9	13	39
Biology	4	3	29	25	19	17	12	10	22	19	29	25
Biomedical Engineering	2	2	29	28	19	18	16	15	17	16	22	21
Biophysics	2	5	10	27	5	14	3	8	5	14	12	32
Biophysics and Biophysical Chemistry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Biostatistics	0	0	20	41	10	20	5	10	1	2	13	27
Cellular and Molecular Medicine	2	2	20	21	22	23	14	15	12	13	25	26
Cellular and Molecular Physiology	1	11	1	11	3	33	1	11	0	0	3	33
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	2	4	12	27	4	9	3	7	14	31	10	22
Chemical Biology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chemical Engineering	1	10	0	0	3	30	1	10	3	30	2	20
Chemistry	3	3	38	33	8	7	12	10	31	27	23	20
Clinical Investigation	0	0	3	7	13	32	3	7	2	5	20	49
Environmental Health and Engineering	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemiology	3	2	55	28	41	21	23	12	12	6	59	31
Functional Anatomy and Evolution	0	0	2	18	4	36	0	0	1	9	4	36
Geography and Environmental Engineering	1	2	8	15	6	11	3	6	5	9	31	57
Human Genetics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Human Genetics and Molecular Biology	1	2	15	28	11	21	3	6	5	9	18	34
Immunology	4	11	11	30	7	19	2	5	3	8	10	27
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology	1	2	18	31	5	8	12	20	9	15	14	24
Neuroscience	1	1	12	17	21	30	5	7	11	15	21	30
Pathobiology	1	4	7	30	4	17	2	9	2	9	7	30
Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences	3	5	13	22	10	17	9	16	12	21	11	19
Program in Molecular Biophysics	1	3	6	19	4	13	4	13	8	25	9	28

Job Type Fifteen Years After Graduation (N=470)

	Further training or education		Primarily research		Primarily teaching		Science-related		Not related to science		Not found	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	1	6	3	18	2	12	2	12	2	12	7	41
Biochemistry, Cellular and Molecular Biology	2	3	11	17	10	15	13	20	8	12	22	33
Biological Chemistry	0	0	2	29	2	29	0	0	0	0	3	43
Biology	0	0	7	17	10	24	2	5	7	17	15	37
Biomedical Engineering	0	0	5	16	6	19	4	13	8	26	8	26
Biophysics	1	14	1	14	1	14	1	14	1	14	2	29
Biophysics and Biophysical Chemistry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Biostatistics	0	0	5	42	2	17	2	17	0	0	3	25
Cellular and Molecular Medicine	1	4	2	8	9	36	3	12	4	16	6	24
Cellular and Molecular Physiology	0	0	1	25	2	50	0	0	0	0	1	25
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	0	0	0	0	2	50	0	0	0	0	2	50
Chemical Biology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chemical Engineering	0	0	0	0	3	30	3	30	2	20	2	20
Chemistry	2	5	8	22	2	5	5	14	11	30	9	24
Clinical Investigation	0	0	1	9	2	18	2	18	1	9	5	45
Environmental Health and Engineering	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemiology	0	0	7	12	18	30	12	20	2	3	21	35
Functional Anatomy and Evolution	0	0	1	17	2	33	0	0	0	0	3	50
Geography and Environmental Engineering	0	0	2	8	3	12	1	4	1	4	18	72
Human Genetics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Human Genetics and Molecular Biology	0	0	5	21	4	17	1	4	2	8	12	50
Immunology	1	9	2	18	1	9	1	9	1	9	5	45
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology	0	0	4	29	1	7	2	14	4	29	3	21
Neuroscience	0	0	0	0	6	30	3	15	4	20	7	35
Pathobiology	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	25	1	25	2	50
Pharmacology and Molecular Sciences	2	10	3	14	2	10	3	14	3	14	8	38
Program in Molecular Biophysics	0	0	3	23	1	8	1	8	3	23	5	38